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**From:** JPlaut@aol.com [mailto:JPlaut@aol.com]

**Sent:** Monday, October 27, 2003 2:23 PM

**To:** Manon Pepin

**Subject:** NAFEC

To the Ministers:

Never have I felt stronger since the inception of the CEC that it would be a great mistake, breaking trust with the public and abandoning one of the CEC's best and most salutary programs, to de-fund NAFEC.

When NAFEC was created, Dr. John Wirth, a JPAC member, suggested to JPAC and the ministers that NAFEC would create a link to and a bond with the public that is to build and maintain the North American constituency of the CEC. Besides all the other reasons for maintaining NAFEC, even at a reduced level, enumerated by JPAC in their recent Advice to Council, this great advantage of NAFEC, which John Wirth predicted, should be carefully taken into account, if the CEC is not to become just another international agreement between governments.

I would be happy to discuss this history and advantage to the CEC with regard to NAFEC with the ministers or their alternates, or JPAC in an open forum with the public, before any action is taken which could have grave long-term consequences for the CEC's relationship with the public.

Jon Plaut, Summit, New Jersey (former Chair of JPAC).