

SESSION 02-03 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES

SUMMARY RECORD

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council, represented by its Alternate Representatives, met via conference call on 23 May 2002. Ms. Christine Guay (Canada) chaired the meeting. Ms. Olga Ojeda and Mr. Jerry Clifford represented Mexico and the United States respectively. Mr. Peter Berle represented the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) and Ms. Janine Ferretti, CEC Executive Director, represented the Secretariat. Mr. Cristóbal Vignal, Council Secretary, acted as secretary for the session. Other officials of the Parties and the Secretariat were also in attendance.

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

The Alternate Representatives adopted the agenda based on the provisional agenda, with the addition of a new item under “Other issues,” at the request of Mexico, relating to the recent staffing developments at the Secretariat (Annex A).

Item 2 Secretariat’s Article 13 report on Environmental Challenges and Opportunities of the Evolving North American Electricity Market

The Alternate Representatives informed the Secretariat that they supported the public release by the Secretariat of the Article 13 report on Environmental Challenges and Opportunities of the Evolving North American Electricity Market, as soon as practicable. The Alternate Representatives further asked that the comments provided by Mexico and the United States be made available to the public simultaneously. Canada indicated that it may be providing comments as well, and noted that it would do so, if deemed appropriate, at the beginning of the week of 27 May.

The Secretariat indicated that the report could be released by 14 or 15 June, as soon as the report is available in printed form. The Parties’ comments will be made available to the media at the time of the release and will be posted on the CEC homepage.

Item 3 2002 Regular Session of the Council

The Alternate Representatives agreed with the overall structure of the revised draft annotated agenda for the Council session. The representative from the United States noted that details relating to sub-items needed to be worked out. The Alternate Representatives instructed the GSC to sort out any outstanding issues on the Council’s agenda. The Parties agreed to revisit the agenda item related to the 2003 Environment and Trade Ministerial meeting following a conference call of the Article 10(6) Environment and Trade Working Group, to be held on 24 May.

Mexico expressed the need to plan some private time for the Ministers to discuss other substantive issues. Canada noted that a private dinner was planned on Monday, June 17, for the Council members.

Item 4 CEC contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The Secretariat provided an update on the organization of the CEC side event, to be held in the context of Prepcom IV in June 2002 in Bali. In light of the unavailability of the Council members to attend the CEC side event, and considering the importance of having high-level government representatives present in order to convey the governments' message, the Parties agreed that this event should be cancelled. The Parties agreed to explore the cost benefits and feasibility of holding a CEC side event in the context of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002.

Item 5 Other issues

Mexico expressed concerns relating to the recent staffing developments at the Secretariat. At the suggestion of the United States, the Alternate Representatives agreed to discuss this issue with the Secretariat in a separate conference call to be scheduled for 28 May.

The representative from the United States took the opportunity to inform his counterparts they were reviewing a proposed statement of qualifications for the position of executive director of the CEC Secretariat.

Item 6 Next session of Alternate Representatives

The Alternate Representatives asked the Secretariat to look into the possibility of scheduling a two-hour conference during the week of 3 June, to discuss any outstanding issues relating to the Regular Session of the Council.

Item 7 Closure of the session

The chairperson closed the session.

**SESSION 02-03 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES
AGENDA**

Held via conference call

On Thursday, 23 May 2002 from 12:30 to 1:30 PM, Eastern time
(6:30 to 7:30 PM, Paris time / 11:30 to 12:30 PM, Mexico time)

Chair: Canada

- Item 1 Adoption of the agenda
- Item 2 Secretariat's Article 13 report on Electricity Restructuring
- Item 3 2002 Regular Session of the Council
- Item 4 CEC Contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development
- Item 5 Other issues
- Item 6 Next session of Alternate Representatives
- Item 7 Closure of the session

**SESSION 02-03 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES
ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

The Council shall adopt the agenda.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Draft annotated agenda (distributed 22-05-2002) C.01/02-03/AGEN/01/Rev.1

Item 2 Secretariat's Article 13 report on Environmental Challenges and Opportunities of the Evolving North American Electricity Market

In accordance with Article 13 (3) of the NAAEC, the Secretariat submitted its Article 13 report on Environmental Challenges and Opportunities of the Evolving North American Electricity Market. The Alternate Representatives may wish to discuss the release of the report.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Article 13 Report on Environmental Challenges and Opportunities of the Evolving North American Electricity Market (distributed 25-03-2002)

Item 3 2002 Regular Session of the Council

The Alternate Representatives are invited to exchange views on the structure of the provisional annotated agenda, revised as per the Alt Reps discussion on May 2.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Provisional annotated agenda (distributed 10-05-2002) C/02-00/AGEN/01/Rev.4

Item 4 CEC Contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The Alternate Representatives may wish to discuss the feasibility of holding the the CEC side event to be held on 6 June 2002, from 1:15 to 2:45 PM, in the context of Prepcom IV in Bali, given the recent information indicating that Council members will not be attending the Bali meeting. The Alt Reps may also wish to discuss the status of the CEC "pamphlet" for WSSD.

Item 5 Other issues

Item 6 Next session of Alternate Representatives

The Alternate Representatives are invited to confirm the date of their next session. The purpose of the call would be to make the final decisions related to the substantive issues to be covered in the Council agenda.

DOCUMENTS:

a) Schedule of sessions of Alternate Representatives for 2002 (distributed 10-05-2002)

C/C.01/02-01/PLAN/01/Rev.2

Item 7 Closure of the session

The Chairperson is expected to close the session.