

**ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES
SESSION 02-05
SUMMARY RECORD**

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council, represented by its Alternate Representatives, met in Ottawa, Canada, on 17 June 2002. Ms. Norine Smith (Canada) chaired the meeting. Ms. Olga Ojeda and the Honorable Judith E. Ayres represented Mexico and the United States respectively. Mr. Victor Shantora represented the Secretariat and Ms. Julie-Anne Bellefleur, 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 (Annex A).

Item 2 2002 Regular Session of the Council

The Alternate Representatives received a brief update from the General Standing Committee on the status of the draft Council Resolutions and session communiqué.

The Mexican Alternate Representative proposed some changes to the text of the draft communiqué and Council Resolutions relating to pollutant release and transfer registers (PRTR), in order to better reflect the practical reality of the new mandatory PRTR reporting system in Mexico. In response to a question from the Canadian representative relating to the Secretariat's capacity and the resources required to assist Mexico in its efforts, the Secretariat indicated that resource implications were dependent on the level of effort to be allocated and that it would proceed along those lines in the development of the 2003–2005 three-year program plan.

The Alternate Representatives exchanged views on how the Parties might share the North American experience gained through CEC at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in September 2002 in Johannesburg, showcasing the CEC as an example of regional environmental cooperation. The Alternate Representatives discussed the value of using a brochure or side event to profile the CEC. Noting the profusion of brochures that will be available at the summit, as well as the competing side events that will be taking place simultaneously, they agreed that these might not be the most efficient tools to showcase the CEC. The possibility of a virtual presentation (e.g. a video) was raised as one possible avenue to explore. In response to a question from the Parties on a presentation and participation by the Secretariat at WSSD, the Secretariat indicated that it had deemed appropriate to wait for guidance from the Parties before undertaking any action in that regard.

As a follow-up to the request made by the Council at its last session, held in Guadalajara, the Secretariat provided a brief update on initiatives undertaken to network with international organizations and the private sector in order to leverage funds for CEC work.

Item 3 Other issues

No other issues were discussed.

Item 4 Closure of the session

The chairperson closed the session.

**SESSION 02-05 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES
AGENDA**

Held in Ottawa on 17 June 2002

Chair: Canada

- Item 1 Adoption of the agenda
- Item 2 2002 Regular Session of the Council
- Item 3 Other issues
- Item 4 Closure of the session