

## **SESSION 07-02 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES**

### **SUMMARY RECORD**

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council, represented by its Alternate Representatives, met via conference call on 7 February 2007. Mr. Enrique Lendo Fuentes (Mexico) chaired the meeting, Mr. Jerry Clifford and Ms. Jenna Mackay-Alie (on behalf of David McGovern) represented the United States and Canada, respectively. Mr. Adrian Vazquez, CEC executive director, represented the Secretariat, Ms. Irene Henriques, represented JPAC as its chair, and Ms. Nathalie Daoust, 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.

#### **Item 2 2007–2009 Operational Plan**

The Alternate Representatives congratulated both the GSC and the Secretariat for the extensive work accomplished over the last months in reviewing and negotiating the 2007–2009 Operational Plan. They expressed unanimous support and approved the final draft 2007–2009 Operational Plan and the corresponding budget for 2007.

Regarding next year's Operational Plan, the US Alternate Representative noted that he looked forward to an operational plan which would allow an even more strategic alignment of CEC priorities in 2008.

#### **Item 3 Next meeting of the Alternate Representatives**

The Alternate Representatives confirmed their availability for a face-to-face meeting in Montreal on 28 February (afternoon) and 1 March. The Canadian representative indicated however that she could only confirm the Canadian Alternate Representative's availability on 1 March. Given the difficulty encountered in arranging a meeting of the trade and environment officials in Montreal, the US Alternate Representative asked support from his counterparts in ensuring that it be scheduled on the margins of the next meeting of the Alternate Representatives, to be held in the spring. Both his counterparts assured him of their support for this.

The executive director indicated he was very pleased that the 2007–2009 Operational Plan had been approved and thanked the Parties for their efforts as well as their political willingness to getting issues resolved. He added that he looked forward to seeing them in Montreal.

On behalf of JPAC, the JPAC chair thanked the Alternate Representatives for their approval of the 2007–2009 Operational Plan and budget and mentioned that she looked forward to the next Council Session and to maximizing public participation at this event.

Referring to the upcoming visit of the executive director in Washington in March, the US Alternate Representative offered his assistance in arranging meetings with interested government officials and working group representatives. He also welcomed Mexico and Canada to send government representatives to these meetings.

In closing, the Mexican Alternate Representative informed everyone that, as of 8 February 2007, Elena Porrás would be replacing José Manuel Medina as Mexico's GSC representative. Both the US and Canadian representatives welcomed Elena Porrás to the CEC file and expressed gratitude for José Manuel Medina's work and support over the past year. These comments were echoed by the Secretariat.