

## **SESSION 99-12 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES**

### **SUMMARY RECORD**

The Council, represented by its Alternate Representatives, met via conference call on 17 December 1999. Mr. William Nitze (United States) chaired the meeting. Ms. Norine Smith and Mr. José Luis Samaniego represented Canada and Mexico respectively. Mr. Jacques Gérin represented JPAC and Ms. Janine Ferretti, Executive Director, the Secretariat. Mr. Marc Paquin, Secretary to Council, acted as secretary of the session. Other officials of the Parties and the Secretariat also participated in the call.

#### **Item 1 Adoption of the agenda**

The Alternate Representatives adopted the agenda for the session at the beginning of the session based on the provisional agenda. The agenda as approved can be found in Annex A.

#### **Item 2 Notes from the Executive Director**

In the interest of time the Executive Director did not present any report to the Alternate Representatives.

#### **Item 3 Report by the JPAC Representative**

Mr. Jacques Gérin, representing the Chair of JPAC, provided an update to the Alternate Representatives on JPAC activities. Mr. Gérin informed the Alternate Representatives that Ms. Regina Barba had been elected Chair of JPAC for 2000. He also informed them that the next JPAC regular session will take place on 23 and 24 March 2000 in Guadalajara and will focus on the involvement of Indigenous people in the conservation of biodiversity. He then stressed the fact that the Working Group on the Sound Management of Chemicals had received comments from indigenous groups in support of reinforcing the Mercury NARAP and hoped that these comments will be considered. He also stressed that the credibility of the Articles 14 and 15 process rests in good part on its openness and transparency and that the Parties should keep this in mind as Council decisions are made with respect to the development of a factual record on the Oldman River submission.

Mr. Gérin then expressed his hope that the date and location for the next regular session of the Council were going to be selected rather soon so as to ensure the session is as participatory as possible. He also reminded the Alternate Representatives of the importance of selecting a location that is easily accessible, recalling the criticisms the choice of the venue of the last session in Banff had raised from the public. On the same note, Mr. Gérin also stressed the importance to firm up the date of the Symposium on Understanding the Linkages between Trade and Environment to be held next October.

Finally, Mr. Gérin indicated that should the Parties decide to adopt further guidelines in relation to the Articles 14 and 15 process, that the Council had made the decision to submit such guidelines to the public for a comment period.

On a more personal note, Mr. Gérin, whose term as a JPAC member finishes at the end of the year, thanked the Alternate Representatives for their strong commitment towards the institution. The Alternate Representatives in turn thanked Mr. Gérin for his contribution and dedication to the CEC.

**Item 4    Review and Approval of 2000-2002 Program Plan and 2000 Program and Budget**

The Alternate Representatives approved the Agenda for Action 2000-2002 and the 2000 Program and Budget, with the exception of certain activities which require further discussion among the Parties.

**Item 5    Update by the Parties**

The Alternate Representatives agreed to discuss the date and venue of the 2000 regular session of the Council during their next session.

**Item 6    Next sessions of Alternate Representatives**

The Alternate Representatives agreed to hold their next session via conference call during the week of 20 December 1999, in order to approve the outstanding activities of the 2000 Program and Budget and discuss the date and venue of the 2000 regular session of the Council.

**Item 7    Closure of the session**

The Chair closed the session.

Prepared by Marc Paquin  
Council Secretary

**SESSION 99-12 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES  
AGENDA**

Held via conference call on Friday, 17 December 1999  
from 11:30 AM to 1:45 PM, Eastern time (10:30 AM to 12:45 PM, Mexico time)

- Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda
- Item 2 Notes from the Executive Director
- Item 3 Report by the JPAC representative
- Item 4 Review and approval of 2000-2002 Program Plan and 2000 Program and Budget
- Item 5 Next sessions of Alternate Representatives
- Item 6 Other issues
- Item 7 Closure of the session

**SESSION 99-12 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES  
ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Item 1 Adoption of the agenda**

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (R. 9.6), the Council shall adopt the agenda for the session at the beginning of the session based on the provisional agenda. The Alternate Representatives are expected to adopt the agenda for the session.

DOCUMENTS:

a) Draft annotated agenda

C/C.01/99-12/AGEN/01/Rev.3

**Item 2 Notes from the Executive Director**

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (R. 5.3), the Executive Director may make oral and written statements to the Council. The Executive Director will report on Secretariat activities, including on the status of Article 14 submissions, and highlight matters requesting the attention of the Council.

DOCUMENTS: No documents

**Item 3 Report by the JPAC Representative**

Under this item the JPAC Chair will provide an update to the Alternate Representatives on JPAC activities.

DOCUMENTS: No document

**Item 4 Review and Approval of 2000-2002 Program Plan and 2000 Program and Budget**

**Item 4.1 2000-2002 Program Plan and 2000 Program and Budget**

The Alternate Representatives are expected to formally approve revision 2 of the 2000-2002 Program Plan (including the 2000 Program and Budget contained therein), with the understanding that the following outstanding projects which require further discussion before they are approved.

DOCUMENT(S):

a) 2000-2002 Program Plan Rev.2 (distributed 15-12-99)

**Item 4.2 Facilitating Conservation of Biodiversity as it relates to Trade in Wildlife Species (00.01.05):**

The Secretariat distributed a redraft of the project description on 6 December 1999 based on the November workshop on the topic. At the time of writing, the Secretariat has received no comments from the Parties.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Redraft of project description (distributed 6-12-99 and compared version on 15-12-99 )
- b) US comments (distributed 14-12-99)
- c) Mexico's comments (to be provided prior or during the call)

**Item 4.3 Sustainable Tourism in Natural Areas (00.01.06):**

The Secretariat distributed a redraft of the project description on 13 December 1999 further to comments received from Canada on 13 December 1999. To date, the Secretariat has received written comments from Canada.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Redraft of project description (distributed 13-12-99 and compared version on 15-12-99)
- b) Comments from Canada (distributed 13-12-99)

**Item 4.4 Cooperation on the Protection of Marine Ecosystems of North America (Aquatic Invasive Species) (00.02.03):**

On 14 December 1999, the United States distributed comments on the project description.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Comments from United States (distributed 14-12-99)

**Item 4.5 Facilitating Trilateral Coordination in Air Quality Management (00.03.01)**

The Secretariat distributed a redraft of the project description on 1 December 1999. At the time of writing, the Secretariat had received no comments from the Parties.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Redraft of project description (distributed 1-12-99 and compared version of initial draft distributed on 15-12-99)

**Item 4.6 Sound Management of Chemicals (00.03.04):**

The Secretariat transmitted a re-draft of the project description on 13 December 1999, following consultations with the Working Group.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Redraft of project description (distributed 13-12-99 and compared version on 15-12-99)

**Item 4.7 North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (00.03.05)**

The Secretariat distributed a redraft of the project description on 1 December 1999. Comments from Canada and Mexico were circulated on 1 December 1999 and comments from the US on 13 December 1999. The Secretariat prepared a revision 3 of the project description attempting to accommodate and reconcile the comments of the three Parties which was distributed on 15 December 1999.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Revised project description, Rev. 3 (distributed 15-12-99)

#### **4.8 Children's Health and the Environment**

Secretariat sent revised description of initiative on 3-12-99. Secretariat to clarify verbally how process will unfold.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Revised description of initiative (distributed 3-12-99 and compared version on 15-12-99)

#### **Item 4.9 Facilitating Trade in Green Goods and Services: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Production**

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Comments from Canada (distributed 16-12-99)

#### **Item 5 Update by the Parties**

Canada may wish to update the Parties and the Secretariat on the developments relating to the case before the Federal Court of Canada linked to the factual matters of the submission SEM-97-006: Friends of the Oldman River.

The United States may be in a position to propose a date and venue for the 2000 Regular Session of the Council. Considering the need to provide the public with adequate advance notice, the Secretariat suggested that the dates of the next Council session be established by the end of December 1999.

#### **Item 6 Next sessions of Alternate Representatives**

In accordance with the proposed schedule of sessions for the year 2000, the next session of Alternate Representatives will be held in Montreal on 10-11 February 2000. The morning of 10 February may be devoted to a joint meeting with the Enforcement Working Group. Bearing in mind the CEC's efforts for reducing costs, the Alternate Representatives are invited to assess interpretation requirements for the February meeting and to advise whether interpretation in one or two languages may be waived for that meeting.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Proposed schedule of sessions of Alternate Representatives for 2000 (distributed 25-11-99) C/C.01/99-11/PLAN/01/Rev.1

**Item 7    Closure of the session**

The Chairperson is expected to close the session.