

NAGPI Conference Call (Teleconference)

Wednesday 11 June 2003, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Minutes

1. Welcome to participants and roll call

Participants

Loretta Legault
Agusti Bordas
Scot Case
John Polak
Julie Shannon
Robert Kerr
Rahumathulla Marikkar
Cameron Griffith
Luz Aída Martínez
Lorena Gómez Lafarga
Amalia Lelo

CEC:

Chantal Line Carpentier
Jane Barr

Unable to participate

Berny Latreille
Diane Wood
Lou Pagano
Alicia Culver
Israel Nuñez Birrueta
Chad Dobson

2. Fall NAGPI Strategy Meeting

Scot Case reported on behalf of the September 19 Strategy Workshop organizing committee that once revisions have been made to the invitation and a list of potential invitees, these will be shared with NAGPI members.

John Polak introduced his colleague, Madeleine Plouffe.

3. NAGPI Web Site

Chantal Line Carpentier reported that she had sent NAGPI members a PDF file of the web page, as revised by CEC staff.

A few changes were proposed and agreed upon:

1. There should be links to other institutions and organizations that support NAGPI (under the “Documents and Links” section), taken from the annex of the good stories report;
2. NAGPI members (the Steering Committee members) and their contact information should be listed (in the “About NAGPI” section);

3. Each country's national regulations or laws on the standardization of different themes related to green purchasing could be listed (under the "Documents and Links" section), but these need to be provided by each of the three countries first;
4. A box should be inserted on the left hand side of the CEC home page that links to the NAGPI web page.

Jane Barr will talk to Stephanie Gélinas of the CEC about inserting these items on the web page and will put her in contact with Robert Kerr to discuss using the domain name already owned by NAGPI (nagpi.net) for the NAGPI web page, to enable direct access to the site.

For the present, the CEC will maintain and update the web page; should it become too unwieldy, a decision will need to be taken about how to maintain the site. This can be discussed at the September strategy workshop.

4. Green Procurement Certification

John Polak reported that, since the last conference call, Kevin Gallagher has met with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, which was very enthusiastic about the idea of certification and offered to provide feedback on the concept. The contract for this project is being processed at the CEC, and John Polak and Madeleine Plouffe have already begun working on it.

Ramulthulla Marikkar mentioned the good work accomplished by the Scientific Certification System in California, which has a well-structured and comprehensive program on the certification of different products. John Polak will send the revised green procurement certification proposal to Jane Barr, who will pass it on to the group.

5. June Council Meeting

Julie Shannon provided some background information about the new Council agenda item regarding NAGPI, approved by a representative of the CEQ (Council on Environmental Quality) at the White House. It presents the report on good stories and provides the Ministers with an opportunity to express their interest. Participants agreed that the Ministers should rather work with the existing NAGPI initiative, so the language in this item still needs work. Loretta Legault will send some suggestions to Julie Shannon. A final version will be sent to the group.

Chantal Line Carpentier reported on a conference call with the GSC (General Standing Committee) taking place simultaneously and the status of the NAGPI agenda item. Fifteen minutes have been accorded to this item during the Council meeting. She proposed that Scot Case present NAGPI to the Council and that the government members of NAGPI work together on a five minute presentation during a conference call on Friday, 13 June, at a mutually convenient time. When the presentation is finalized, it will be shared with the group.

6. Lead up to Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference, 10–14 September in Cancun

Chantal Line Carpentier informed the group that the IATP (International Agricultural Trade and Policy Center) is organizing a sustainable trade symposium and fair trade fair to take place in Cancun two weeks prior to NAGPI's 19 September strategy

workshop. Kari Hamerschlag of IATP invited the CEC to organize a green procurement panel. Chantal Line Carpentier would like some members to be on the panel and will share the draft with the group once it is elaborated with Kari Hamerschlag at IATP.

7. Lifecycle Costing: Rahumathulla Marikkar

Rahumathulla Marikkar will meet with John Polak and Dr. Lee to work on more of the details and will send an update to everyone.

8. Next meeting

The next conference call will be held on 15 July, at 2 pm.