

NAGPI Conference Call

Wednesday, 21 April 2004, 14:00–15:00 EST

Minutes

1. Welcome to participants, and roll call

Participants

Archie Beaton
Chantal Line Carpentier
Scot Case
Martha King
Brian Johnson
Luz Aida Martínez Meléndez
Scott W. McDougall
John Polak
Mary Ann Remolador
Véronique Robichaud
Jeff Stephens

2. Special thanks to Mathieu Régnier

Mathieu Régnier left the CEC at the end of March. Chantal Line and Véronique will now handle the NAGPI administrative tasks.

3. Final papers from Center for a New American Dream

The latest versions of two papers prepared by Scot Case—“Environmental Purchasing Priorities” and “Environmental Purchasing Policies 101”—were sent to NAGPI participants. Additional comments should be sent directly to Scot Case by the end of the week.

It was noted that only the second one would be put on the NAGPI web site.

4. Product presentation at Council meeting

It was agreed that NAGPI will present to the Council a one-pager that will:

- set out that environmental procurement is not happening enough, mainly because of market constraints and other barriers;
- provide the context in which the three products were suggested;
- recommend that the Parties evaluate their procurement policies in those areas (themselves, through Eco-SAT or through NAGPI group) so they can set a target next year.

In an annex to this one-pager, NAGPI will present, for each product, the environmental attributes governments should be looking at, existing certification and a list of certified products. A first brainstorming session allowed identifying a few certifiers for each product:

- Cleaning products: Green Seal, Terra Choice
- Office supplies: TCO, Green Seal
- Electricity: Green-e, Scientific Certification Systems

John Polak volunteered to write a first draft that would be sent around for comments. The whole document should be completed by 3 May so that the documents will be ready in time for the alternate representatives' retreat at Playa del Carmen (5 May).

No decision was made as to who will present at the Council meeting. People interested should let the Secretariat know by 3 May.

5. NAGPI annual meeting in fall

San Francisco, Monterrey and Toronto were suggested as potential locations for the fall meeting. As it appeared more difficult for people from the East coast to fund their travel to the West coast than the other way around, it was proposed that the meeting be hosted on the East coast.

Secretariat suggested having this meeting in Montreal, as it will host a meeting on renewable energy in late October. Véronique will send more information to the NAGPI group about this event and a related project on extending the EPA Green Power Partnership to Canada and Mexico.

6. Other

7. Next Meeting

Next conference call: Thursday, 13 May, 15:00 EST.