

Minutes

NAGPI Conference Call: Wednesday, 6 July 2005, 14:00–15:00 EDT

1. Welcome to participants and roll call

Participants

Amanda Barth	Loretta Legault
Sandra Cannon	Rahumathulla Marikkar
Chantal Line Carpentier	Luz Aída Martínez
Esther Maria Carrillo	Madeleine Plouffe
Elizabeth Etchells	John Polak
Germán González	Véronique Robichaud
Brian Johnson	Julie Shannon
Martha King	Rob Wing

2. Promotion Plan

Rob went over the changes proposed by the United States on the action plan for 2005. Many of them aimed at harmonizing the language with that used in the CEC's Trade and Environment strategic plan. Other changes were made in order to give a less prescriptive tone to the text and make it flow better. Here are some of the modifications:

- “*safer*” was replaced throughout the text by “*green*,” as the former might suggest that other purchases are unsafe;
- “*procurement*” was replaced with “*purchasing*,” as the latter embraces a broader range of buyers;
- buyers “*should*” was replaced with “*may*” to sound less prescriptive;
- “*endocrine disrupters*” was taken out since it is not clearly defined.

Participants noted that many people outside the group were not familiar with the concept of “green purchasing.” A suggestion was made to include a note on other terminology that is used to refer to the concept such as “responsible,” “smart” and “environmental.”

Finally, clarification on some aspects of the action plan is required. Each committee was thus asked to revise its sections to clarify these aspects as well as to make sure that changes in languages did not change the meaning or spirit of the text.

Some changes were made during the conference call and this revised version will be sent to all NAGPIers for review. All comments are due by Wednesday July 13, 2005.

3. Eco S.A.T/NAGPI – Comments received

Positive feedback was received regarding the usefulness of NAGPI's work and more specifically on the Eco S.A.T. tool. NAGPIers are invited to forward all feedback and

comments to the Secretariat so we can compile and add them to the NAGPI web site and perhaps use them at some point in our promotional plan.

4. Green services evaluation

One Eco S.A.T. user, in particular, asked the Secretariat if tools to assess service providers by their level of “greenness” existed. As TerraChoice has done some work on the issue, John agreed to give this person the relevant information.

5. Next Meeting

Next conference call: Wednesday 10 August, 14:00 EDT.