



Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America

Comisión para la Cooperación Ambiental de América del Norte

Commission de Coopération Environnementale de l'Amérique du Nord

27 September 2001

Dear Stakeholder:

The Working Group on the Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) welcomes your attendance at the public workshop of its 13th Regular Meeting which was rescheduled due to the unfortunate events of September 11, 2001. It will now be held on **Friday, 02 November 2001**, in Tucson, Arizona at the **Marriott University Park Hotel**.

The purpose of the public workshop is to seek comments from stakeholders on activities and initiatives being implemented under SMOC. The workshop agenda is attached for your reference.

Stakeholders who plan to attend the public workshop are requested to fill out the attached CEC registration form, which is used in making hotel and travel reservations as well as determining attendance. The form includes a box to identify those participants requesting financial assistance with travel and/or accommodations. Limited funding is available for such assistance. Therefore, requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. **It is important that you fill in and return this form to the CEC by 05 October** so that hotel reservations, airline itineraries and hotel facilities can be coordinated. Without receipt of this form, the CEC cannot guarantee your hotel reservation. Once participants have registered, they will receive documents relevant to this workshop.

The SMOC Working Group was created in 1995 to work with the CEC to implement the decisions and commitments included in Council Resolution #95-5 for the Sound Management of Chemicals. The resolution addresses substances of mutual concern to the CEC's member countries: Canada, Mexico and the United States. The initial focus under the Resolution is on substances that are persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic. The SMOC Working Group is comprised of two senior officials from each of the three countries whose duties pertain to the regulation or management of toxic substances. For more information you can visit our website at www.cec.org

The CEC was created under the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC) to address North American environmental concerns, help prevent potential trade and environmental conflicts and to promote the effective enforcement of environmental law within North America. To this end, the CEC facilitates cooperation and public participation to foster conservation, protection and enhancement of the North American environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

The CEC's governing council is composed of cabinet-level or equivalent representatives: Canadian Environment Minister David Anderson, Mexican Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources, Victor Lichtinger, and US EPA Administrator, Christine Todd Whitman.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

William H. Sanders III, Dr. P.H.
Chair, Working Group on the Sound
Management of Chemicals

Encl. Workshop provisional agenda
Registration form