



## **Meeting of the Steering Group for the Development of North American Indicators of Children's Environmental Health**

**9-10 December 2002**

**Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America  
393 rue St. Jacques Ouest, Suite 200, Room A  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada**

### **Provisional Agenda**

**Meeting Objectives:** To decide upon the scope and content of the first report on North American indicators of children's environmental health, based on the results of the feasibility study conducted in 2002, and to discuss possible future directions for the project.

#### **Monday, 9 December 2002**

14:00 Welcoming remarks — *Doug Wright, Director of Programs, CEC*

14:05 Introductions — *all participants*

14:10 Review of agenda and meeting objectives

14:15 Background and rationale for the North American CEH indicators initiative

14:25 Update on relevant international developments

14:35 Overview of results of feasibility study — *Dawn Walker/Don Houston, CICH*

14:50 Review of public comments received — *Erica Phipps, CEC*

#### **Session 1: Objectives and target audience for the indicators report**

15:00 Clarifying the objectives and intended impact of the indicators report/initiative

15:10 Defining the target audiences, understanding their interests/needs

#### **Session 2: Scoping Issues**

15:30 Issue 2a: Definition of environment

16:00 Break

16:15 Issue 2b: Health endpoints/Areas of focus

- Areas proposed for inclusion:
  - o Asthma and other respiratory diseases/Air quality
  - o Lead poisoning and other effects of lead exposure
  - o Toxic substances including pesticides
  - o Waterborne diseases
  - o Other possible areas of focus

17:00 Issue 2c: Inclusion of “action” indicators

17:25 Issue 2d: Criteria for selection of indicators

17:45 Wrap-up of Session 1

18:00 Close of Day 1

19:30 Dinner at local restaurant (meet in hotel lobby at 19:10)

## **Tuesday, 10 December 2002**

### **Session 3: Selecting the framework**

- 9:00 Review and discussion of proposed options
- o Option 1: The DPSEEA Framework
  - o Option 2: The Media/Exposure Framework
  - o Option 3: The Layered Approach

10:00 Selection of framework

10:30 Break

### **Session 4: Defining the Content of the First Report**

10:45 Issue 4a: Selection of indicators

*For each health endpoint/area of focus, the Consultant will provide an overview of available data and possible indicators, based on which the steering group will discuss and decide upon the specific indicator(s) to be included in the first report, taking into account feasibility, data quality and comparability, and resource implications.*

12:30 Lunch (provided by CEC)

13:30 Selection of indicators, continued

14:45 Issue 4b: Contextual information

*The steering group will provide guidance on the level and type of explanatory and contextual information to be included in the report*

15:15 Break

## **Session 5: Future Actions and Directions**

15:30 Preparation of first report: division of responsibility among project partners; budget

15:50 Communicating the results: strategies for outreach, report dissemination and feedback

16:10 Discussion of possible future directions, e.g.:

- o Potential for analyses by geographic region, socio-economic status, urban-rural, etc.
- o Strategies for taking into account emerging knowledge of environment-health linkages
- o Possible future expansion of health endpoints/areas of focus
- o Actions to promote tri-national data comparability
- o Data collection (e.g. surveys)
- o Potential for involving other actors (e.g. state/provincial government, communities, schools, students, health care professionals)
- o Other

17:20 Wrap-up

17:30 Close of meeting