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ADVICE TO COUNCIL: NO. 01-04

Re: Climate Change

The Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC);

IN ACCORDANCE with its mandate to provide advice to Council under Article 16(4) of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC);

CONSCIOUS that climate change is an urgent environmental issue facing North America requiring multiple strategies including market and conservation measures;

NOTING that the CEC can play a significant role in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

UNDERSTANDING that, because of its links to trade through NAFTA, the CEC is uniquely positioned to facilitate the development of market mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in North America; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that certain North American nongovernmental organizations and members of the business community are already working on the development of carbon-trading mechanisms;

RECOMMENDS that Council instruct the Secretariat to facilitate, within the 2002–2004 Program Plan, the development of market mechanisms within the North American context to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

APPROVED BY JPAC MEMBERS

28 June 2001