



Organization of American States

SECOND INTER-AMERICAN MEETING OF MINISTERS AND HIGH LEVEL AUTHORITIES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

“Towards Sustainable Development: The Challenges of Climate Change and
Risk Management in the Americas”

Technical Meeting:
Santa Marta, Colombia
April 16, 2010

Background and Objectives: Following-up on a mandate from the Heads of State and Government of the Americas from the Fifth Summit of the Americas, OAS Member States officially convened the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on Sustainable Development. This meeting will be hosted by the Dominican Republic in Santo Domingo, October 6-8, 2010, in the framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI).

This Technical Meeting of experts will examine results from the Second Hemispheric Encounter on National Mechanisms and Networks for Disaster Risk Reduction, organized by the Government of Colombia, the OAS Department of Sustainable Development (OAS/DSD) and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR-Americas), and will identify technical inputs, strategies and priority actions that will be considered by the different delegations from OAS Member States as part of the preparatory process for the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on Sustainable Development. The discussions during the meeting will be focused on the theme proposed by the host country of the Ministerial Meeting with the vision of achieving an integrated approach in risk management and addressing the challenges of climate change in the framework of sustainable development.

Climate change and risk management experts will gather at this Technical Meeting and will work during sessions that will incorporate key elements from the Santa Marta Encounter, together with relevant technical elements to be considered by the Ministers and High Level Sustainable Development Authorities. The meeting report will be prepared by the DSD and distributed prior to the first preparatory meeting of the Ministerial Meeting, as an input for the development of the Meeting agenda. A concept note on the theme of the Meeting of Ministers will be prepared based on the inputs from this meeting, and will be used throughout the process.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1:30 Registration
- 2:00 **Opening Session**
- *Representative from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Colombia**
 - *Cletus Springer, Director, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS*
- 2:15 **First Session: Key aspects of the Santa Marta Encounter to be considered in the process for the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on Sustainable Development**
This session will highlight key elements from the Santa Marta Encounter to promote discussions on technical inputs relevant to the theme proposed for the Ministerial Meeting.
- *Ronald Jackson, Executive Director of the Office for Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management and Co-Chair of the Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation*
 - *Moderator: Pablo Gonzalez, Chief, Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation Section, OAS/DSD*
- 2:45 **Second Session: Integrating Risk Management to Address the Challenges of Climate Change**
This session will present national and regional perspectives and the political vision of vulnerability and strategies for risk management and climate change mitigation for planning in the framework of sustainable development. Furthermore, the legal, institutional and financing mechanisms for the implementation of the strategies will be discussed, including the need for information sharing. Lessons learned from the region will be included in the dialogue.
- *Carlos Costa, Minister of Environment, Colombia**
 - *Nelson Toca, Vice- Minister, Ministry of Economy, Development and Planning, Dominican Republic**
 - *Moderator: Claudia S. de Windt, Chief, Environmental Law, Good Governance and Policy Section, OAS/DSD*
- 4:30 **Third Session: Towards the Achievement of the Regional Commitments**
This session will discuss opportunities for moving forward with the commitments linked to risk management and climate change in the region in the framework of the OAS.
- *Cletus Springer, Director, DSD*
 - *Moderator: Cletus Springer, Director, DSD*
- 5:45 Closing

**To be confirmed*