



Organization of
American States

CARIBBEAN CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM “TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAS”

LOCATION AND DATE

Location: Saint Lucia

Date: July 5th, 2010

Organizers: OAS – Department of Sustainable Development / Department of International Affairs

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on Sustainable Development “*Towards Sustainable Development in the Americas*” is the perfect opportunity to follow up on the actions identified by the Ministers and High-Level Authorities in 2006 during the First Ministerial Meeting on Sustainable Development, and the commitments to pursue a range of actions related to sustainable development and in particular to environmental sustainability in the hemisphere, as agreed by the Heads of State and Government from OAS Member States during the Fifth Summit of the Americas held in Trinidad and Tobago in April 2009.

The meeting aims at identifying priorities in the hemispheric agenda, established in previous commitments such as the Declaration of Santa Cruz +10 and the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development, and addressing emerging challenges in sustainable development and common opportunities for the countries of the region.

OBJECTIVE

This Caribbean Civil Society Forum “*Towards Sustainable Development in the Americas*” has as its objective to offer a space for civil society organizations to share experiences and ideas related to national and regional programs and policies in the areas of sustainable development, climate change and risk management, and to develop recommendations that will be presented for the consideration of Member States and the OAS General Secretariat prior to the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities on Sustainable Development that will take place in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on October 6-8, 2010.

It further has the following objectives:

1. Advance implementation of the actions agreed at the Fifth Summit of the Americas as they relate to energy and environmental sustainability.
2. Facilitate dialogue on new and emerging threats to environmental sustainability, and measures to overcome such threats within the context of risk management.
3. Benefit from the best practices efforts, including advocacy, of civil society and work on the ministerial theme to be analyzed during the meeting.

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. Share experiences about the challenges of sustainable development in the OAS Member States.
2. Generate recommendations to strengthen national and regional capacity to address the challenges faced in the Hemisphere related to sustainable development, climate change and risk management.
3. Mobilize civil society organizations’ support for the preparation of the Draft Declaration.

PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

The *Caribbean Civil Society Forum “Towards Sustainable Development in the Americas”* will be open to the participation of all civil society organizations in the Caribbean working on issues related to sustainable development and climate change.

PROGRAM

The *Caribbean Civil Society Forum “Towards Sustainable Development in the Americas”* will last one day and will consist of an inaugural session and four plenary sessions regarding the topics of the Ministerial Meeting, as well as a period of time for the formulation and compilation of recommendations by civil society.

Each session will see the participation of one moderator and two experts from civil society who will make brief presentations about the topics in their respective sessions. Following the presentations, there will be time for a dialogue among the participants. One or two rapporteurs will be elected who will be responsible for taking notes of the ideas expressed and drafting a summary of recommendations to be presented to the Member States.

At the end of the meeting, the rapporteurs will submit the summaries of recommendations to the Department of International Affairs and the Department of Sustainable Development to be compiled into one final document, which will be presented to the Member States for their consideration. The compilation document will also be published on the OAS Department of Sustainable Development Website and the OAS Civil Society Website and will be broadly disseminated among civil society.

DRAFT AGENDA

- 8:30 – 9:00am** **Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:25am** **Opening Remarks**
- Cletus Springer, Director, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS
 - Irene Klinger, Director, Department of International Affairs, OAS
 - Minister Leonard Montoute, Ministry of Social Transformation, Youth and Sports, Saint Lucia
- 9:25 – 9:30am** **Explanation of the Methodology**
- Irene Klinger, Director, Department of International Affairs, OAS
- 9:30 – 10:45am** **Plenary Session 1: Follow-up to the Declaration of Santa Cruz +10 and Implementation of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development 2006-2009**
- Presenters*
- Rodney Grant, BANGO, Barbados
 - Christine Wilson, CANROP, Trinidad and Tobago
- Moderator: Charlene Solozano, Project Coordinator, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS*
- Gia Gaspard, International Education and Resource Network, Trinidad and Tobago
- 10:45 – 11:00am** **Coffee Break**
- 11:00am – 12:15pm** **Plenary Session 2: Vulnerability in the Context of Sustainable Development**
- Presenters*
- Duane Rowe, CARILEC
 - Albert Deterville, Aldet Centre, Saint Lucia
- Moderator: Michelle Ann Williams, Legal Specialist, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS*
- Carol Faye George, Environmental Awareness, Group, Antigua and Barbuda
- 12:15am – 1:30pm** **Plenary Session 3: Risk Management and Planning**
- Presenters*
- Aurelia Jacqueline Armony, St. Christopher nacional Trust, St. Kitts and Nevis
 - Fr. Andrew Roache, Tobago Cays Marine Park, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Moderator: Carolina Peña, Energy Specialist, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS

- Henry Shillingford, Dominica Conservation Association, Dominica

1:30 – 3:00pm

Lunch

3:00 – 4:15pm

Plenary Session 4: Institutional Aspects in Climate Change Management

Presenters

- Yoland London, Caribbean Youth Environment Network, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Taffieny Conway, National Youth Development Network, Guyana

Moderator: Cletus Springer, Director, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS

- Folade Mutota, Women’s Institute for Alternative Development, Trinidad and Tobago

4:15 – 4:30pm

Coffee Break

4:30 – 5:50pm

Formulation and presentation of recommendations

5:50 – 6:00pm

Closing Remarks

- Cletus Springer, Director, Department of Sustainable Development, OAS
- Irene Klinger, Director, Department of International Affairs, OAS

Rapporteur for meeting Joseph Antoine, Friends of the Earth, Grenada