



ENGLISH SUMMARY OF MEETING RESULTS

Third Regional Meeting of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption in Latin America and the Caribbean

Managua, Nicaragua
August 3-5 2005

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1. BACKGROUND:

The World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg established as one key area of its Plan of Implementation the need to promote a 10- year framework of programs in support of national and regional initiatives to accelerate change towards Sustainable Production and Consumption.

The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean expressed the need to incorporate cleaner production and sustainable consumption practices in the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development presented in Johannesburg in 2002.

In response to trends in trade liberalization and economic integration it has become more relevant to work towards addressing the priorities related to trade, environment and market access established in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Summit of the Americas Process.



As a sign of will and engagement, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have held two *Meetings of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption* in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Managua, Nicaragua respectively. The principal results of these meetings were the creation of the *Regional Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption* and the design of a *Regional Strategy on Sustainable Production and Consumption*, which were presented and approved during the XIV Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean. They were also recognized as model actions in the XI Meeting of the Commission for Sustainable Development held in New York, in May 2003 and in the International Meeting of the 10-year framework of Programs on Sustainable Production and Consumption held in Marrakech, in June 2003.



For the continuity of this important process, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua (MARENA), the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP-ROLAC) and the Office for Sustainable Development and Environment of the Organization of American States (OAS) in

collaboration with UNEP-DTIE and UNDESA, organized ***The Third Meeting of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption in Latin America and the Caribbean***. This meeting took place in the city of Managua, Nicaragua from August 3rd to 5th, 2005. Funding for the event was provided by MARENA Nicaragua, UNEP/ROLAC, UNEP/DTIE/ETB, OAS and individual countries.

2. OBJECTIVES:

- Promote the integration of Sustainable Production and Consumption in the strategies of the governments of the region,
- Review and discuss the regional **Strategy** on Sustainable Consumption and Production to identify **priorities and concrete actions** to:
 - Promote the elaboration of action plans at a national level and identify pilot projects for the development of national policies and strategies on Sustainable Consumption and Production.
 - Identify opportunities for the integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production initiatives to meet the new trends in trade liberalization and market access.
 - Analyze the possibilities of organizing a regional round table on Sustainable Consumption and Production with the participation of: the private sector, civil society, consumer associations and governments.
 - Elaborate a regional action plan of technical assistance to be provided by “**UNEP/DTIE/ROLAC**” to the countries on the Latin America and the Caribbean region.
- Train Government’s experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption including on market access and trade and environment topics.
- Consolidate the work of the council of experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production and strengthen its work dynamics.
- Draft a Declaration to be released during the next the *Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean* as well as in the next meeting of the ‘Marrakech’s Process’ that will take place in Costa Rica.



3. RESULTS

The event was attended by 60 participants from 21 different countries of the region and with a good subregional representation. The participants included experts in Sustainable Consumption and Production from Ministries of Environment, specialists from other Ministries such as Industry, Trade and Finance, representatives of Subregional organizations such as the ‘Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), ‘the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute of the Caribbean Community (CEHI/CARICOM),.

Representatives of the following entities were also present: Public Entity for Environmental Management of País Vasco' (IHOBE), CETESB 'Companhia de Tecnologia de Saneamento Ambiental' of the State of Sao Paulo in Brazil, the 'North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)', the International Center for Economic Policy for Sustainable Development (CINPE), the 'Costa Rican Union of Chambers of Commerce and Private Enterprises (UCCAEP), the Center for Legal, Environmental and Social Action of Guatemala (CALAS), the Humboldt Center, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) of Nicaragua, as well as representatives from the OAS and PNUMA/ROLAC.

The Minister of Environment of Nicaragua Mr. Arturo Harding delivered the opening and closing remarks and the Regional Director of UNEP, Mr. Ricardo Sanchez, was present during the first two days of the meeting.

There was a full coverage of the event by electronic and printed media, articles on the meeting were published on the major newspapers and two interviews were aired by the main TV stations.

All of the participants reported that the outcomes of the meeting will help them in their jobs and 60% reported the results of the meeting as excellent while 40% considered them as very good.

The meeting was conducive to the discussion and initiation of a number of initiatives at national, subregional and regional level.

In addition to the aforementioned meeting objectives, the following was accomplished:

- Decision of the Nicaraguan Government to initiate the preparation of a National Policy, Strategy and Action plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production with the support of UNEP.
- Capacity building workshop to 61 participants on trade and environment with the support of UNEP/DTIE/ETB and OAS for the identification of opportunities for the integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production initiatives to meet the challenges of trade liberalization and market access.
- Drafting a regional action plan of technical assistance to be provided by UNEP to the countries on the Latin America and the Caribbean region.
- Capacity building of government's experts on eco-design and sustainable procurement.
- Consolidation of the Council of experts' on Sustainable Consumption and Production and revision of its work dynamics.
- Declaration to be released during the next the *Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean* as well as in the next meeting of the 'Marrakech's Process' that will take place in Costa Rica.



- Promotion of the integration of Sustainable Production and Consumption in the government of the region and dissemination of information, UNEP methodologies and the latest publications of ROLAC/DTIE.

4. FINAL DECLARATION:

Report of the Third Meeting of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Managua, Nicaragua

August 3-5 2005

THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION, CONVENED IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA, **RECOMMENDS** TO THE XV FORUM OF MINISTERS OF ENVIRONMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND TO THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF THE 10 -YEAR FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMS ON SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

1. Developing policies, national strategies and action plans for sustainable consumption and production in every country of the region.
2. Including sustainable consumption and production in the national and regional policies for sustainable development and poverty reduction.
3. Creating National Consultative Councils on sustainable consumption and production integrated by representatives the private sector, the government, universities, consumer associations and other civil society organizations; as a contribution to participatory development of policies, strategies and plans of action.
4. Integrating sustainable consumption and production policies, given their cross cutting nature into the policies and agendas of other ministries, in order to reduce environmental impacts, increase competitiveness, reduce poverty, eliminate negative health impacts and achieve sustainable development.
5. Capitalizing on the experience of countries that have developed and implemented cleaner production (CP) policies in the region, in order to elaborate integrated policies for sustainable consumption and production.
6. Including in the syllabus for all levels of education (elementary, secondary and higher education) the concepts of sustainable consumption and production in order to achieve a better understanding of these cross cutting concepts and create awareness regarding their importance.
7. Reinforcing collaboration with sub-regional organizations, such as the Central American Commission of Environment and Development (CCAD), the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) among others, to support and facilitate the adoption of sustainable consumption and production practices among their members.
8. Designing and implementing a cooperative program among the countries of the region, focused on capacity building, training and technical assistance on

sustainable consumption and production building upon the experience and existing knowledge in the region.

9. Establishing a specific area responsible for sustainable consumption and production within each Ministry of Environment in the region, given that this area integrates several aspects of environmental concern.
10. Studying, developing and/or adapting the tools and methodologies for sustainable consumption and production to the social, economic and environmental conditions of the region, such as: eco-design, life cycle analysis and sustainable procurement, among others, in order to guarantee their usefulness and successful implementation.
11. Including sustainable consumption and production indicators in national statistics.
12. Involving the private sector, the government, universities, consumer associations and other civil society organizations, in the generation, gathering and exchange of information on sustainable consumption and production.
13. Reinforcing the capacity of the Ministries of Environment to promote and follow up on the voluntary agreements with private companies, as well as on other tools to promote and improve the environmental management of companies.
14. Reinforcing the information sources and systems of the Ministries of Environment to include sustainable consumption and production information, and/or establishing specialized information centers on the subject.
15. Establishing economic incentives and other financial mechanisms to facilitate the implementation and adoption of sustainable consumption and production methodologies, tools and technologies for the productive sector.
16. Developing and adapting methodologies and instruments for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), in order to improve their competitiveness and environmental performance.
17. Implementing programs focused on MSMEs based on a sectoral and/or cluster approach to reduce costs and increase the efficiency and scope of sustainable consumption and production initiatives.
18. Executing pilot projects to develop and evaluate sustainable consumption and production methodologies in the region.
19. Implementing a recognition system to facilitate access to credit and/or social recognition of the businesses that advance in the implementation of sustainable consumption and production practices.
20. Developing a regional education and capacity building program on sustainable consumption directed to the youth.

21. Implementing in the Ministries of Environment of each country of the region, sustainable procurement and environmental public administration programs.
22. Conducting every six months' working sessions of the Regional Council of Experts for the monitoring and revision of the Regional Strategy, using teleconferences and other communication systems.
23. Organizing thematic meetings and workshops at the regional and sub-regional level on relevant aspects of sustainable consumption and production.
24. Modifying the structure of the Council of Experts in order for its Steering Committee to be integrated by a general coordinator selected by the Forum of Ministers, and four sub-regional coordinators, elected annually by the Council members.
25. Recognizing the technical and financial support of UNEP's Regional Office through its program in the creation of the Council, the elaboration of the Regional Strategy and monitoring of national actions; and the need to strengthening the technical-financial capacities of the Secretariat of the Council for adequate monitoring and support in the execution of the Regional Strategy and of the national and sub-regional initiatives in the future.
26. Requesting the Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua, Minister Carlos Arturo Harding Lacayo, to present to the XV Forum of Ministers of Environment of the Region, the results and the recommendations of the Third Meeting of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption, for consideration and approval.
27. Congratulating the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, through its Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, for the leadership in the theme of sustainable production and consumption and for his support in the conduction of the Third Meeting of the Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption.

5. AGENDA

Wednesday August 3

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Opening ceremony,
Mr. Arturo Harding, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA), Nicaragua.
- 9:30 Presentation of the meeting's objectives and methodology,
Diego Masera (PNUMA- ORPALC)
- 10:00 Progress in the implementation of the Marrakech's Process and in the preparations of the Second Meeting of the Process in Costa Rica. María Guzmán MINAE Costa Rica
- 10:30 Progress in the region, presentation of the report on cleaner production and sustainable consumption, Jose Wagner Faria Pacheco CETESB, Brazil
- 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:15 Results of the Global Meeting on sustainable Consumption and Production **SCP8**, Alfonso Flores, SEMARNAT México
- 11:45 Panel on national initiatives about Sustainable Consumption and Production, Argentina, Brazil, Panama, Ecuador, Cuba and Costa Rica
- 13:15 Lunch
- 14:15 Presentation of the Sustainable production and Consumption Information Centers,
Veronica Rodriguez, CIPMLCS, Argentina
- 14:45 Presentation of the Youth X Change project in Mexico, Tiahoga Ruge CECADESU Mexico
- 15:15 Workshops:
- Eco-design, Jose Maria Fernandez, IHOBE
- 16:15 *Coffee Break*
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- 16:30 Sustainable Procurement and Life cycle analysis, Luz Aida Martinez, SEMARNAT, México.
- 17:30 Selection of the drafting Committee of the Declaration to be released in the next *Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean*, as well as in the next meeting of the Marrakech's Process that would take place in Costa. (4 people, with sub regional representation)
- 17:45 Summary of first day
- 18:00 *Working session of the Drafting Committee for the declaration for the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean*
- 20.0 Dinner

Thursday August 4

- 9:00 Summary of the First Day, Marlon Miranda, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua. (MARENA)
- 9:15 Presentation of the Regional Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production in Latin America and the Caribbean. Diego Masera, UNEP-ROLAC
- 9:45 WORKING GROUPS: Definition of strategic and immediate sub-regional actions on Sustainable Consumption and Production

11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:15 WORKING GROUPS: Get acquainted with UNEP- NAP methodology and draft a National Action Plan

12:15 Presentation and plenary discussion.

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Elaboration of a regional action plan of technical assistance from "UNEP/ROLAC/DTIE" to the countries on the Latin America and the Caribbean region

15:00 Analyze the possibilities of organizing a regional round table on Sustainable Consumption and Production with the participation of: the private sector, civil society, costumer associations and governments.

15:30 *Coffee Break*

15:45 *Working session of the Drafting Committee for the declaration for the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean*

17:00 Reading and discussion of the draft declaration for the *Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean* and the Costa Rica Meeting.

17:30 Remarks by Ricardo Sanchez, Director of UNEP ROLAC

20:00 Dinner

Friday August 5

Capacity Building Workshop on Trade and Environment: Opportunities for Sustainable Production and Consumption

9:00 Opening Session

- Representatives of MARENA, OAS and UNEP
- Presentation of conclusions of Third Meeting of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption

9:30 Trade and Environment Concepts

- Environmental Protection in the Context of Free Trade,
Maria Antonieta Rivas, Director Trade and Environment, MARENA
- Environmental Assessments and a tool for policy planning,
Claudia S. de Windt, Office for Sustainable Development and Environment, OAS

10: 30 Challenges and Opportunities: Case Studies of Specific Sectors in Central America

- Environmental Assessments of Trade: The Experience of Melon and Sugar Cane in Costa Rica and Guatemala.
Randall Arce, CINPE
- Experience in the Cocoa Sector in Nicaragua.
Edgar Koepsell, Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Promotion of Entrepreneurial Competences, GTZ Nicaragua.

11: 30 Coffee Break

12:00 Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Production and Consumption with trade liberalization

- Environmental Goods and Services, trends and opportunities for trade
Chantal Line Carpentier, Head Trade and Environment Program, CEC
- Environmental Requirements for Market Access,
Jenny Suazo, Advisor, Secretariat of Natural Resources, SERNA, Honduras

12:30 Questions, Comments and Observations.

1:30 Lunch

2:30 Opportunities and Collaboration Mechanisms
Carlos Murillo, CINPE

2:45 Open Discussion

16:00 Closing remarks, Ing. Arturo Harding, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA), Nicaragua.