



Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America

Comisión para la Cooperación Ambiental de América del Norte

Commission de coopération environnementale de l'Amérique du Nord

Montreal, 22 August 2002

Subject: Invitation to the Annual Meeting of the Consultative Group for the North American PRTR Project, and the Joint Public Meeting of the Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) Program and the PRTR Project, 16-17 October 2002, Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico

Dear Colleague,

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America is pleased to invite you to participate in a two-part public meeting to be held at the Hotel Villa Bejar in Cuernavaca on 16-17 October 2002.

The first part of the meeting, to be held during the afternoon of 16 October, will be an opportunity for the Consultative Group for the North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) Project to provide input into the development of the *Taking Stock 2001* report and other CEC PRTR activities. The second day of the meeting will be joint with the CEC's Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) program. Building on recommendations made by the PRTR Consultative Group last year in Montreal and the ongoing work of SMOC, the meeting will focus on opportunities for strengthening PRTR-SMOC linkages, with a focus on chemicals of common concern, including mercury, dioxins, furans and hexachlorobenzene.

Attached please find the preliminary agendas and registration form. Additional information and background documents will be provided in advance of the meetings. Please complete and return the registration form to the CEC by **13 September 2002**. Please note that we will be able to guarantee space only for those who have registered by that date.

The CEC has some funding available to assist with travel and accommodation expenses for a limited number of participants. If you would like to be considered for such support, please include a brief statement with your registration form indicating why you believe you may be eligible for assistance and how much funding you would require. We will review all requests received by **13 September 2002**, and let you know within one week if we are able to offer you support. Any requests received after that date will be considered only if there are remaining funds.

We look forward to seeing you in Cuernavaca.

Yours sincerely,

Erica W. Phipps
PRTR Program Manager

José Carlos Tenorio
SMOC Program Manager

Encl.