

JPAC meeting in Chicago – Submitted online comments

Dave Markell (dmarkell@law.fsu.edu), Florida State University College of Law

1. I have written quite a bit about the CEC and have tried to explain in my writing how the CEC can be improved. I co-edited a book on the CEC in 2003 to reflect on the CEC's first ten years. I also have written several articles about the CEC. My CV on the FSU Law website lists my publications. All of the articles are easily available electronically. If you have trouble accessing the CV, please let me know and I can send you links to them.
2. yes, see answer to # 1 above - I've listed many actions the CEC could take to improve its performance.
3. I considered this issue in an article I wrote for Environmental Law a few years ago.
4. see answer to # 1 above. I've offered many suggestions for improving public engagement.

Brian Houseal (blhouseal12@gmail.com), SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

1. 1) Define the protocols for Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessments, as called for in the original NAAEC. 2) Standardize environmental regulations and secure one inspection of goods at the point of origin, to avoid costly reopening and inspection of containers at individual state, provincial, or even national borders. 3) Institute a uniform North American 'cap-and-trade' mechanism to reduce carbon emissions, and use the proceeds to create a sustainable infrastructure fund to invest in renewable energy sources, improved infrastructure, and mass transportation.
2. 1) Increase each country's annual budget appropriation to support the CEC from the current \$3.0 million per partner country.
3. Yes, the European Union has a cap-trade-mechanism in place to reduce carbon emissions.
4. By refusing to undo the positive aspects of the NAFTA and NAAEC, and making minor improvements to each.

Mario Luna (laborconjunta@yahoo.com.mx), Labor Conjunta Para Un Desarrollo Sustentable AC

1. It is essential to incorporate environmental issues, and for this purpose it is necessary to organize a forum for the discussion of relevant topics. The CEC should act as a regular agency, homologating the environmental rules among the three countries. At the same time, a single environmental and commercial enforcement force needs to be created.
2. Training and homologation of the three countries' NGOs to act as transmitters of knowledge and awareness among the population in general and small-business exporters.
3. The most relevant in the European Community. A working group could be created with the EU. I have contacts with the European Delegation in Mexico and its programs. For example, the EU offered workshops to manufacturers and assembly plants through the Bancomext foreign trade bank, on waste management and European environmental standards.
4. Creating specialized, open environmental forums on key trade and environmental issues. Today, it is more important than ever to share experiences among the three countries and create specialized workshops depending on the industrial or commercial sector, to reach small and medium-sized businesses.

Jose Ines Loria Palma (sancrisanto@prodigy.net.mx), Fundacion San Crisanto A.C.

1. Amend the following objectives:
 - 4), as follows:
Support the FTA's environmental goals and objectives, in line with the sustainable development objectives.
 - 5) promote policies and practices for pollution prevention and the application of chemicals in any activity prohibited in any treaty country.
2. Establish the a compliance and noncompliance reporting mechanism regarding the progress and delays in achieving the CEC's goals and results.
3. N/A
4. It is necessary to reach out more by creating national forums by country. In the case of Mexico, it would be worthwhile to reestablish Semarnat's Sustainable Development Advisory Board.

Eduardo Nájera Hillman (eduardo@costasalvaje.com), WILDCOAST-COSTASALVAJE

1. Publicize more the positive impacts of the supporting projects and other achievements through social networks and traditional media. Make the general public aware of the CEC's role. Few people know the CEC.
2. Promote and sponsor more exchanges among key actors in ecosystem and natural resource conservation in the three countries. Dedicate a part of the resources to sponsoring these exchanges, especially in indigenous communities and communities that depend directly on well-preserved natural resources and ecosystems.
3. The European Union's climate change strategies are a good example and should be applied to North America, although this would appear to be quite difficult under the Trump administration.
4. NAPECA grants are very important and should continue to support the conservation of ecosystems that directly benefit indigenous and rural communities.

Celia América Nieto del Valle (america_811027@hotmail.com), Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo

(in translation)

1. La Comisión para la Cooperación Ambiental de América del Norte se observa como un ente que actúa de buena fe. El trabajo que elabora es invaluable, por ejemplo, los expedientes públicos están compuestos por una serie de elementos que permiten visualizar las omisiones de las partes. A partir de esas omisiones cada parte tiene que asumir y resolver las omisiones a las leyes ambientales Así que como parte de la modernización la Comisión tendrá que adaptarse la contexto que hoy día se vive. Particularmente el artículo 5 inciso 1) del ACMN habla de las medidas gubernamentales. Bajo este tenor sería conveniente ampliar esas facultades por ejemplo, dictar medidas seguridad previstas en sus legislaciones internas. Sólo para casos de un evidente desequilibrio ecológico, daño, deterioro grave de los recursos, casos de contaminación con repercusiones peligrosas para los ecosistemas, sus componentes, o, para la salud. En el caso de México, apegarse art. I 70 de la Ley General del Equilibrio Ecológico y la Protección del Ambiente.
2. Parte de las acciones es realizar convenios con escuelas de educación media superior y superior públicas y privadas, a efectos de difundir aún más este mecanismo que protege el ambiente. Se pensó en escuelas de educación media superior para que el alumnado tome conciencia y conozca qué mecanismos y

alternativas posee para proteger el ambiente. Para el caso de Universidades los jóvenes que integran ese nivel tienen ya más conciencia del impacto ambiental, y resaltarles que lo importante de todo esto es su participación ciudadana y que ellos forma parte de la solución. Otra situación que sin duda alguna ayudaría a la Comisión para la Cooperación Ambiental, es abreviar el proceso, (se estima que termina en 2 años y medio) , esto sólo se logrará con la buena disposición y compromiso de las partes de darle celeridad, que la información requerida se facilite.

3. N/A
4. Una forma de seguir participando es concientizando a la población, difundir información ambiental, aquella que les permite identificar sus riquezas naturales para que con ello se genere un sentido de pertenencia. Divulgar los efectos que se están viviendo en la madre tierra por el cambio climático. Dar a conocer los resúmenes ejecutivos en medios masivos de comunicación, redes sociales, etcétera.