



**Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America  
XXVI Regular Session of the CEC Council  
and  
Sessions of the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC)  
24–25 June 2019**

*Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (Semarnat)*  
Av. Ejército Nacional 223, Col. Anáhuac  
Miguel Hidalgo, México, D.F.

**Program of Public Events**

<b>Monday, 24 June 2019</b>
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**Building Disaster-Resilient Communities in North America**

Floods, drought, hurricanes, wildfires and other extreme weather events are on the rise across the continent, presenting unprecedented risks to human and natural ecosystems in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. As North American communities face the reality of increasing climate variability, building local resilience has become a shared priority for all three countries. A significant public health concern in this regard is food security and the challenge of enhancing resilience of the food production system in the era of extreme weather events.

This JPAC forum will focus on how strategic partnerships, collaborative networks, and socio-technological innovation for early preparedness and effective response are being utilized by diverse communities confronted with, or at risk of, extreme weather events. Food security will be addressed in a discussion segment dedicated to emergent agricultural practices and technologies that aim to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of the agri-food system.

The forum will highlight examples of community resilience from throughout North America and explore the significant efforts currently underway in all three countries to foster a culture of disaster prevention, early preparedness, and effective response. In addition to providing a platform for exchanging diverse public perspectives on extreme weather events, the forum will also consider emergent needs and new possibilities for trilateral cooperation on disaster resilience under the Commission for Environmental Cooperation.

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| <b>8:00–9:30</b>  | <b>Registration of Participants - (<i>Rooms 7 to 10, 3rd Floor</i>)</b>   |
| <b>9:30–9:40</b>  | <b>Opening and Introductory Remarks by Sabaa Khan, JPAC Chair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction of JPAC members, special guests, etc.</li><li>• Role and general, short history of JPAC</li><li>• Overview of public session theme</li></ul> |
| <b>9:40–10:00</b> | <b>CEC Presentation by César Rafael Chávez, CEC Executive Director</b>  |

- 10:00–10:30     Keynote Presentation: Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience**
- **Robin Cox**, Director, ResiliencebyDesign Lab, Royal Roads University
- 10:30–10:45     Break**
- 10:45–11:45     Resilience-building Perspectives, Part I: Community Viewpoints**
- Extreme weather events are impacting an increasing number of communities across North America, presenting distinct disaster risk-resilience challenges for populations living in different environmental contexts. This roundtable discussion will address the role of sustainability innovations in reducing the vulnerability of diverse communities and enhancing their resilience.
- Moderator:** *JPAC Member*
- **Gordon Planes**, Chief of the T’Sou-ke First Nation
  - **Lisa Cavicchia**, Program Director, Canadian Urban Institute
  - **Gian Carlo Delgado Ramos**, Research professor of the “City, Management, Land and Environment” research program at the *Centro de Investigaciones Interdisciplinarias en Ciencias y Humanidades* (Interdisciplinary Research Center on Sciences and Humanities), *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* (National Autonomous University of Mexico)
  - **Hilda Blanco**, Project Director, Center for Sustainable Cities, University of Southern California
- 11:45–12:45     Moderated Question and Answer Period** with experts, JPAC members and audience
- 12:45–14:00     Lunch** [provided] - (*Dining Room, 8th floor*)
- 14:00–15:00     Resilience-building Perspectives, Part II: Enhancing Agricultural and Food Security**
- Climate-related disasters can endanger food security and cause major disruptions to agri-food supply chains. This roundtable discussion will focus on emerging agricultural practices and technologies that are being used to strengthen the resilience of our food systems.
- Moderator:** *JPAC Member*
- **Jennifer Temmer**, Project Manager, SDG Knowledge, International Institute for Sustainable Development
  - **Zafar Adeel**, Executive Director, Pacific Water Research Centre, Simon Fraser University
  - **Gabriela Vargas Romero**, Founder, President and Director of *Huerto Tlatelolco*, Culticiudad
  - **Sarah Taber**, Host & Producer, Farm to Taber
- 15:00–16:00     Moderated Question and Answer Period** with experts, JPAC members and audience
- 16:00–16:15     Break**

- 16:15–16:30**    **Update on Submissions on Enforcement Matters** by **Robert E. Moyer**, Director, Submissions on Enforcement Matters and Legal Unit
- 16:30–16:45**    **Report from the National and Governmental Advisory Committee Representatives**
- 16:45–17:00**    **Closing Remarks** by **Sabaa Khan**, JPAC Chair
- 17:00–17:30**    Break
- 17:30–19:30**    **Welcoming Reception and Official Opening of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Council** – (*Lobby, Main Floor, Semarnat -TBC*)

<b>Tuesday, 25 June 2019</b>
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**Twenty-sixth Regular Session of the CEC Council - (*Rooms 7 to 10, 3rd Floor*)**

- 12:30–13:45**    Lunch [provided] - (*Dining Room, 8th floor*)
- 13:45–14:00**    Break
- 14:00–17:00**    **Council Public Meeting: From Oklahoma to Mexico City and Beyond**
- Accomplishments of OP 2017-2018
  - Progress Report on Oklahoma
  - Youth Engagement in the CEC
  - Dialogue on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency
  - Council Announcements
- 17:00–17:15**    **Council Session Closing**