

SESSION 98-06 OF THE COUNCIL
24 June 1998

SUMMARY RECORD

The Council, represented by the Alternate Representatives, met in Mérida on 24 June 1998. Mr. José Luis Samaniego (Mexico) chaired the meeting and Mr. Avrim Lazar and Mr. William Nitze represented Canada and the United States, respectively. Ms. Janine Ferretti, Interim Executive Director of the CEC represented the Secretariat and Mr. Marc Paquin acted as Council Secretary. Other government and Secretariat officials were also in attendance.

Item 1 Adoption of provisional agenda

The agenda was approved by the Alternate Representatives (the final agenda is attached as Annex A).

Item 2 1998 Annual Program and Budget

Item 2.1 Environment Economy and Trade

In order to complete the Environment, Economy and Trade program for 1998, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Parties and other appropriate bodies, will develop an activity to identify and assemble existing information related to the current legal and illegal markets for trade in North American wildlife and wildlife products.

Item 2.2 Centres of Excellence

The Alternate Representatives adopted Council Resolution 98-08 (see Annex B) instructing the Secretariat to prepare a report regarding cooperation with North American centres of excellence. This activity will be financed from the contingency fund.

Item 3 Strategic Vision

The Alternate Representatives revised the document entitled "Shared Agenda for Action" taking into account the Independent Review Committee Report. A new version incorporating agreed upon changes is to be submitted to the Council for its approval. In accordance with Article 10(1)(b) of the NAAEC and Council Resolution 97-06, it was agreed that the Shared Agenda for Action would constitute, *inter alia*, the Council's report and that it be included in the CEC 1997 Annual Report.

Item 4 Article 14 - BC Hydro (SEM-97-001)

The Alternate Representatives adopted Council Resolution 98-07 instructing the Secretariat to develop a factual record on the B.C. Hydro submission (SEM-97-001) (see Annex C).

Item 5 Meeting with JPAC

The Alternate Representatives informed JPAC that JPAC would be receiving the proposed modifications to the Articles 14 and 15 Guidelines for its review. This process will complement the Parties' own public consultation mechanisms which will be conducted during the same period. JPAC expressed its desire to be part of this parallel process.

The Alternate Representatives reaffirmed the role of JPAC as a representative of the public, and not a replacement, created to advise the Council, and proposed to hold bi-annual meetings with JPAC further to which the JPAC could provide its formal advice to Council.

On the Shared Vision Framework, JPAC stressed it considers it crucial that in future efforts, it be involved in the process as early on as possible.

Finally, the Alternate Representative of Mexico informed JPAC of the names of the two new JPAC members, they are Jesus Druck and Raul Tornel.

Item 6 Other business**Item 6.1 State of the Environment Report**

The Alternate Representatives approved the schedule for completion of the State of the Environment Report proposed by the Secretariat.

Item 6.2 CEC Budget

The Alternate Representatives adopted Council Resolution 98-10 amending the Financial Rules of the CEC as they relate to the management of obligated and non obligated funds of the CEC Budget (see Annex D).

Item 6.3 Efficiency, Effectiveness and Governance

The Alternate Representatives instructed the Secretariat to develop, no later than 30 September 1998, an action plan in response to the efficiency review of the Secretariat prepared by Deloitte & Touche.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

AGENDA

SESSION 98-06 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, 24 June 1998 from 12:30 to 6:00 PM Eastern time

Mérida

CHAIR: José Luis Samaniego (Mexico)

- Item 1 Adoption of provisional agenda
- Item 2 1998 Annual Program and Budget
 - Item 2.1 Environment, Economy and Trade
 - Item 2.2 Centres of Excellence
- Item 3 Strategic Vision
- Item 4 Articles 14 - BC Hydro (SEM 97-001)
- Item 5 Meeting with JPAC
- Item 6 Other business
 - Item 6.1 State of the Environment Report
 - Item 6.2 CEC Budget
 - Item 6.3 Efficiency, Effectiveness and Governance