



**United Nations Environment Programme
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean**

PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONNES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT
PROGRAMA DAS NAÇOES UNIDAS PARA O MEIO AMBIENTE

**Regional Meeting of the Civil Society of Latin America
and the Caribbean in preparation for the twenty-third
session of the UNEP Governing Council/
Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

**Panama City, Panama
22 and 23 November 2004**

Distribution:
General
UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/9
Wednesday, November 24, 2004
Original: Spanish

**Final Report of the Regional Meeting of the
Civil Society of Latin America and the Caribbean
in preparation for the twenty-third session of the
UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial
Environment Forum**

**Panama City, Panama
22 and 23 November, 2004**

I. Introduction

1. The UNEP summoned the Regional Meeting of the Civil Society of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Panama City on November 22nd and 23rd, 2004, as a preparatory phase for the 23rd period of sessions of the UNEP Governing Council (GC-23), the Sixth Global Civil Society Forum and the Sixth Global Ministerial Environment Forum, to be held on November 22nd and 23rd, 2004 in Panama City ⁽¹⁾.

2. The civil society proposed a valuable contribution referring to the following issues:

- a) A larger participation by the civil society and the strengthening of the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society Platform.
- b) A universal membership for the strengthening of the UNEP.
- c) The participation of civil society in intergovernmental meetings.
- d) Preliminary contributions on the document entitled "Revision of the Preliminary Work Programme of the UNEP 2006-07, from the perspective of the civil society" (**UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/5**).
- e) Organization proposal by the Civil Society of Latin America and the Caribbean for its relation with UNEP/ROLAC and the UNEP Governing Council.

3. The following were the basic documents to centre the feedback process of the regional meeting⁽²⁾:

- a) "Committing the Civil Society in the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum" (**UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/2**).
- b) "Accreditation Process and the NGOs" (**UNEP-LAC-CS-GC/3**).
- c) "International Environmental Governance (IEG) and the Strategic Governmental Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building (**UNEP-LAC-CS-GC/4**).
- d) "Revision of the UNEP's Preliminary Work Programme 2007-07, from the Perspective of Civil Society (**UNEP-/LAC-CS-GC/5**).
- e) "Decision No. 6: Civil Society Participation." Final Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Environment Ministers Forum. Panama City, Panama, November 20th to 25th, 2003. (**UNEP-LAC-IG.XIV/4**).
- f) "Minutes of the Civil Society Meeting, Panama City, Panama, November 22nd, 2003." (**UNEP-LAC-CS-CG/6**)

II. Objectives of the Meeting

4. The objectives were the following:

- a) To assess the agreements of the last Civil Society meeting, held on November 22nd, 2003 in Panama City, Panama; mainly on the implementation of the Civil Society Platform.
- b) To make contributions that could improve the Work Plan between the Civil Society and the UNEP for the 2006-07 biannual period.

¹ The agenda that corresponds to the two-day meeting is shown as **Annex 1** of this report.

² The list of documents is outlined in **Annex II** of this report.

- c) To achieve lines of institutional-cooperation strengthening with the Civil Society. In order to do so, a civil society position must be analyzed and created to strengthen the General Policies on International Environmental Governance;
- d) Drafting of a regional proposal outlining the priority issues of the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society Platform (2005-2006).
- e) Drafting of the Latin American and Caribbean document for the Nairobi meeting.
- f) Election of two civil society members who will attend the preparatory meeting (Nairobi, Kenya, December 2nd to 4th, 2004) to draft the civil society document that will be presented at the Sixth Global Civil Society Forum, and the election of four representatives of the region's civil society who will attend the Sixth Forum and the 23rd period of sessions of the UNEP Governing Council.

III. Participants

5. A total of 25 people attended the Civil Society meeting, representing various nongovernmental organizations (NGO) and various organizations from twelve Latin American and Caribbean countries, such as the Law and Ecology Association (DEECO); the Latin American Radio Association (ALER); the World Community Radio Stations Association of Latin America and the Caribbean (AMARC/LAC), Caretakers of the Environment International/Tunza Youth Advisory Council (UNEP/TYAC) / Youth Environmental Organization (OJA); the Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD); the State Ecology Council (COEECO) / Michoacan Society for Sustainability, S.C.; Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI); Consumers International (CI); Coordinator of the Cities for the Weather Protection Programme (AMMAC/ICLEI); Environment and Development (CPDC); Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities, and Local Government Associations (FLACMA); Brazilian Forum of NGOs and Social Movements for the Environment and Development (FBOMS); CCAD Civil Society Forum; Antonio Nunez Jimenez Foundation for Nature and Mankind (FANJ); Eugene Eisenmann Bird-Fauna Foundation/Latin American Environmental Journalists Network; Universal Ecological Foundation (FEU); Tlaloc Foundation; NGO Steering Committee to the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD); Ecological and Environmental Observatory for Latin America (COEPAL)/Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Communicators Network; Green Panama – GEO Youth; Sustainable Chile Programme; National Ecological Action Network (RENACE); WEDO / Caribbean WAVE⁽³⁾.

IV. Opening of the Meeting

6. Dr. Ligia Castro, Administrator General of Panama's National Authority for the Environment (ANAM), began her speech by pointing out that she is a strong believer of the participation of all segments of the organized society; without it, sustainable development will be not be possible. The consultation process is essential to accomplish sustainable development management. She said that she valued the work that the civil society will accomplish during the regional meeting summoned by the UNEP. She expressed her hope that the agreements reached will contribute to the sustainable development in the region.

³ The Final List of Participants is shown as **Annex III** of this report.

7. In turn, Mr. Ricardo Sánchez, UNEP Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, thanked participants for their presence and for having accepted the invitation from UNEP to actively participate in the civil society meeting. Mr. Sánchez outlined the significance of this meeting, where he reiterated the following objectives:

- a) To gather the contributions made by the main civil society networks to the preparation of the 23rd Period of Sessions on the UNEP Governing Council, since this Programme has given further opportunities to civil society organizations.
- b) To strengthen the Strategic Intergovernmental Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-Building.
- c) To promote the consolidation of UNEP world tasks to strengthen environmental administration.
- d) To reflect on the role of women as a special focus for development and the environment. Sustainable development would not be possible without the full incorporation of women. Broach on the issue and make considerations on it.

8. Ricardo Sánchez thanked the participants for attending and congratulated Dr. Ligia Castro for opening the meeting.

V. Presentation of and analysis on the basic documents

9. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Alvaro Gomez Concha, Coordinator of the UNEP Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society, an appointment made at the Fifth Regional Civil Society Forum held on November 22nd, 2003 in Quito, Ecuador.

10. Mr. Mateo A. Castillo Ceja was appointed to support the activities of the Secretariat to prepare the Final Report and the Declaration of the Regional Meeting.

11. The documents were presented in the following order:

- a) Mrs. Lorena San Roman, Coordinator of the Global Environmental Citizenship Programme, presented the following documents to be analyzed: UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/2; UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/3; UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/4. Ricardo Sánchez made comments on these documents to explain them further.
- b) Mr. Carlos Mendieta presented the Minutes of the Civil Society Meeting held on November 23rd, 2003 (**UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/6**).
- c) Mr. Alvaro Gomez presented the document entitled "Declaration of the Fifth Civil Society Forum, Eighth Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum" (Jeju Island, South Korea – March 28th, 2004 -- **UNEP/LAC-CS-GS/8**).
- d) Mr. Kenneth Ochoa Vargas presented the document entitled "Revision of the Preliminary Work Programme of the UNEP 2006-2007, from the perspective of Civil Society" (**UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/5**).
- e) The meeting's rapporteurs were Mateo Castillo Ceja and Carlos Tamez Luna.

VI. Organization of the works

12. The meeting began with a broad discussion and wide feedback on the previously mentioned documents, and later proceeded to create three work groups in order to get to a consensus on the answer to the following basic questions:

- a) How would you like the Civil Society to participate at the intergovernmental meetings, and what activities do you propose to carry out between the two meetings?
- b) Analyze and make preliminary indications to the UNEP on the document entitled "Revision of the Preliminary Work Programme of UNEP 2006-2007, from the perspective of Civil Society," regarding opportunities, gaps, synergies, and duplications (**UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/5**).
- c) How should the structure of the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society be, and how should its relation with the UNEP/ROLAC, UNEP/Nairobi and its Governing Council be?

VII. Final Discussions and results of the works

13. The groups presented their consensus, which became a valuable input to draft the meeting's declaration⁽⁴⁾. The representatives then proceeded to elect the following:

- a) *Representatives to the preparatory meeting for the Sixth Global Civil Society Forum of the UNEP (December 2004):* Alvaro Gomez of the National Ecological Action Network (RENACE), Chile; and Mr. Gordon Bispham of the Caribbean Conservation Association (Barbados).
- b) *Representatives to the meeting of the Sixth Global Civil Society Forum of the UNEP to be held in February 2005:* Mateo A. Castillo Ceja of the State Ecology Council of Michoacan, Mexico; Ms. Maria del Carmen Solis of the Antonio Nunez Foundation of Cuba; Ms. Yolanda Diaz of the Latin American Environmental Journalists Network, Colombia; and Alvaro Gomez of the National Ecological Action Network (RENACE), Chile.

14. In compliance with the agreement to create the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society Coordinating Group, representatives were appointed according to the Latin American and Caribbean subregions. They are as follows:

Region	Main Representatives	Alternates
Caribbean	Mr. Gordon Bispham, Caribbean Conservation Association (Barbados). Ms. Maria del Carmen Solis, Antonio Nunez Jimenez Foundation for Nature and Mankind (Cuba).	Ms. Monique Essed-Fernandes, WEDO/Caribbean WAVE (Suriname). Mr. Lloyd Rankine, Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (Trinidad and Tobago).
Southern Cone	Mr. Alvaro Gomez, National Ecological Action Network (RENACE) (Chile). Ms. Esther Marianne Neuhaus, Brazilian Forum of NGO's and Social Movements for the Environment and Development (Brazil).	Ms. Elena Palacios, Universal Ecological Foundation (FEU) . (Argentina). Ms. Paula Castello, World Community Radio Stations Association, Latin America and the Caribbean (AMARC/LAC) (Argentina).
Mesoamerica	Mr. Mateo A. Castillo Ceja, State Ecology Council of Michoacan / Michoacan Society for Sustainability S.C. (Mexico).	Ms. Margarita del Socorro Cortez Hodgson, Civil Society Forum of the Central American Environment and Development Commission

⁴ The "Civil Society Declaration of the Regional Civil Society Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean" is shown as **Annex V** of this report.

Region	Main Representatives	Alternates
	Ms. Beatriz Schmitt, Eugene Eisenmann Bird-Fauna Foundation/Latin American Environmental Journalists Network (Panama).	(Nicaragua). Mr. Carlos Tamez Luna, Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI) (Mexico)
Andean Zone	Ms. Yolanda Diaz, Ecological and Environmental Observatory for Latin America (COEPAL) / Latin American Environmental Journalists Network (Colombia). Mr. Gaizko Cirion Zubiri, Latin American Radio Education Association (ALER) (Ecuador).	To be appointed

VIII. Closing of the meeting

15. During the closing speech, the UNEP/ROLAC Director, Mr. Ricardo Sánchez, thanked the attendants for having actively participated in the meeting and emphasized plurality as a sustainable development instrument.

16. The meeting closed at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, 23 November, 2004 in Panama City, Panama.

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Annex I. Agenda

Monday, 22 November, 2004

I. Institutional Strengthening – Cooperation with the Civil Society / II. Regional Aspects

- 8:00 am - 8:45 am** Registration of Participants
- 9:00 am - 9:30 am** Presentation of Mr. Ricardo Sánchez, Director, UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
- 9:30 am – 10:45 am** Presentations of items 1, 2 and 3 of the 22 November agenda, and items 1 and 4 of the 23 November agenda ([Documents UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/2 to UNEP/LAC-CS-GC/9](#)).
- 10:45 am – 11:00 am** *Coffee Break*
- 11:00 am – 1:00 pm** Presentations (continued).
- 1:00 pm. - 2:30 pm.** *Lunch*
- 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm** Presentations (continued).

Tuesday, 23 November 2004

I. Institutional Strengthening – Cooperation with the Civil Society / II. Regional Aspects

- 8:30 am – 10:45 am** Working Groups
- 10:45 am – 11:00 am** *Coffee Break*
- 11:00 am – 1:00 pm** Presentations of Working Groups
- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm** *Lunch*
- 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm** Presentation and discussion of the Draft Final Report

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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