



**OFFICIAL MEETING OF THE
NATIONAL AND GOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEES
(NAC/GAC)**

FINAL SUMMARY

April 20 – 21, 2016

William Jefferson Clinton South
EPA Conference Room 2138
1200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

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Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Call to Order and Introductions

Oscar Carrillo, National and Governmental Advisory Committees (NAC/GAC) Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee Management and Outreach (ODACMO), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Mr. Oscar Carrillo, NAC/GAC DFO, ODACMO, EPA, called the meeting to order and welcomed participants to the 46th meeting of the NAC and GAC committees. He invited Dr. Octaviana Trujillo (Pascua Yaqui Tribe), GAC member, to provide the opening invocation. Mr. Carrillo acknowledged that this would be the last face-to-face meeting for many of the members whose terms are drawing to a close, and thanked them for their hard work and dedication. He also thanked Ms. Donna Vizian, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM), EPA; Ms. Jane Nishida, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA), EPA; the OITA staff; the ODACMO staff; and the NAC/GAC Chairs and members for their continued support. Mr. Carrillo asked the meeting participants to introduce themselves. He then introduced Mr. Brian Houseal (State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry), Chair of the NAC, and Mr. Jeffrey Wennberg (City of Rutland, Vermont), Chair of the GAC, to provide an overview of the agenda and to present the charge for the meeting.

Welcome and Overview of the Agenda

Brian Houseal, Chair of the NAC
Jeffrey Wennberg, Chair of the GAC

Mr. Houseal welcomed and thanked the committee members for attending the meeting. He commented that the NAC has provided valuable input to EPA and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC). He pointed out that this would be his last face-to-face meeting and commented that he is honored to have been part of such an intelligent, engaged and active group. Mr. Houseal thanked Ms. Vizian for her support in arranging the face-to-face meeting. He also thanked Mr. Carrillo; the ODACMO staff; Ms. Nishida; Mr. Mark Joyce, Associate Director, ODACMO, OARM, EPA; Ms. Sylvia Correa, Senior Advisor, OITA, EPA; and Mr. Mark Kasman, Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs, OITA, EPA. Mr. Houseal reminded the committee members of their responsibility to provide the best advice on topics that will be discussed. He has described the NAC to EPA as its strongest ally and its most insightful critic with the goal in mind of improving North American environmental relations among the United States and its partners, Canada and Mexico.

Mr. Wennberg thanked the members for attending and conveyed his appreciation for the respect, admiration and support EPA has provided the committees. He commented on the value of preserving face-to-face meetings, which allow for the maximum exchange of ideas and interactions so that the committees can best provide valuable and important advice. He also thanked Ms. Vizian for overseeing the resources that made the meeting possible.

Mr. Wennberg commented on the obligation of the committees to follow the meeting's agenda. The charge for the meeting is to provide advice on this year's Council Session theme. The EPA Administrator has identified engaging youth in the CEC as one of the themes for the 2016 Council Session in Mexico. Ms. Nishida will present ideas at the April 2016 Alternative Representatives (Alt Reps) meeting. Additional issues for discussion are welcomed.

Opening Remarks

Donna Vizian, Acting Assistant Director, OARM, EPA

Ms. Vizian thanked the committees for the important work that they perform in advising the EPA Administrator and encouraging the CEC. The OARM supports all of the Agency's federal advisory committees, including the NAC and the GAC— they are important resources for EPA. She commented that the agenda is full, and she is anxious to hear the updates. Ms. Vizian thanked the OARM staff and welcomed the participants to the meeting.

Update on U.S. Priorities and Guidance

Jane Nishida, Acting Assistant Administrator, OITA, EPA

Ms. Nishida welcomed the members and thanked them for their service in providing advisory input to EPA. She reminded the committees of the charge and invited conversation on other issues beyond the charge. Ms. Nishida emphasized the importance of identifying the need for trilateral engagement in promoting the interests of indigenous populations in traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). This is an example of how the committees have been influential in advancing the CEC's agenda. That influence has led the three North American Ministers to the CEC to embrace TEK. In addition, a 15-member trinational Roster of Experts on TEK was created. She then recognized the members that will be leaving the committees and invited them to continue to remain a part of the NAC/GAC family. Ms. Nishida welcomed Mr. Cesar Rafael Chavez as the new CEC Secretariat and Ms. Lindsay Brumwell as the new Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) Chair. She extended her appreciation to the ODACMO and OITA staff for their support; Mr. Kasman, who has joined the NAC/GAC family; and other participants.

Ms. Nishida addressed issues that the members had regarding the readout of the recent 21st session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) held in Paris, France, in November 2015 and the signed *Memorandum of Understanding Among the Department of Energy of the United States, the Department of Natural Resources of Canada, and the Ministry of Energy of the United Mexican States Concerning Climate Change and Energy Collaboration* (hereafter referred to as the MOU on Climate Change and Energy Collaboration). She commented that Ms. Mausami Desai, an expert from the Climate Change Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), EPA, has been invited to provide a detailed report on COP21. Also, Ms. Kathleen Deutsch, Senior Advisor for Canada and Mexico, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has been invited to speak to the NAC/GAC regarding the MOU signed by the North American Energy Ministers.

In March 2016, President Barack Obama welcomed Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to the White House for an official state visit. The two leaders signed the U.S.-Canada Joint Statement on Climate, Energy, and Arctic Leadership. In April 2016, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy met with Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna, in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, to further advance the commitments made by the leaders. Some of the topics discussed in Ottawa included: deepening the commitment and coordination regarding hydrofluorocarbons through the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* and its amendments, advancing coordination on the reduction of methane emissions in the oil and gas sector, and adopting carbon neutral growth through the international aviation organization. The Environmental Ministers will meet again at the June 2016 Council Session, at which these issues also will be raised with representatives from Mexico. Consequently, the June 2016 North American Leaders' Summit also will be an opportunity to align with the CEC to advance its initiatives on climate change, regrowth and sustainable ecosystems, and communities.

Ms. Nishida commented that the CEC April 2016 Alt Reps meeting in Mexico will be another opportunity to engage in discussions about aligning the priorities and activities of the CEC with the North

American Leaders' Summit. Also, discussions regarding TEK and engaging Artic leaders will be included on the agenda. She emphasized that the conversations regarding climate on the global front with COP21, and regionally with the North American Leaders' Summit, are examples of how the CEC and the NAC/GAC have led the charge in advancing the agenda.

The June 2016 Council Session will be chaired by Mexico's Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources Rafael Alamán, and youth engagement has been identified as a priority. The charge to the NAC/GAC committees is to provide ideas for engaging youth in the CEC. A broad approach will be used that includes public awareness, university outreach and specific projects. A forward-thinking approach is needed to make the CEC more understandable to future generations. In addition, the Alt Reps meeting will include dialogue on how to encourage the Roster of Experts on TEK to engage youth. In closing, Ms. Nishida thanked the NAC/GAC Chairs for their leadership and expressed gratitude to the members that will be rotating off the committees.

Question and Answer Period

Ms. Brumwell asked for clarification regarding the scope of work that will be covered in the MOU on Climate Change and Energy Collaboration so that the JPAC is able to provide the appropriate advice. Ms. Nishida responded that energy, renewables and cleaner technology fall under the purview of the DOE in the United States, and the energy ministries act as the lead agencies in Canada and Mexico. The CEC is not expected to take on the energy topics.

In response to a query by Mr. Houseal, Ms. Nishida stated that the date of the Alt Reps meeting is April 27–28, 2016. Mr. Houseal suggested that the committees develop concise recommendations by the close of this meeting and provide preliminary informal feedback to Ms. Nishida. Subsequent to this feedback, a formal letter will be drafted with the recommendations for discussion at the Alt Reps meeting. Ms. Nishida acknowledged the deliberative process of the NAC/GAC and asked the committees to provide ideas on the potential areas for youth engagement that could be incorporated into the general concept in time for the meeting.

Mr. Houseal commented that there is an opportunity for the three Environmental Ministers to collaborate with EPA and the CEC on the critical points of the DOE MOU regarding a pollution emissions registry, and in addressing the transboundary and impact assessment process.

Mr. Wennberg discussed the logistics of providing informal recommendations in a short period of time and suggested that the committees provide the context of their individual meeting discussions and summarize the consensus ideas in an email. The formal procedure still must be completed.

Mr. Tracy Hester (University of Houston Law Center), NAC member, asked about EPA's position on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the effect it would have on the CEC. Ms. Nishida responded that the TPP still is in the congressional approval process, and issues regarding environmental positions or the role of the CEC are the only topics EPA could address now.

Mr. Timothy Bent (Bridgestone Americas, Inc.), NAC member, asked about any updates on the topic of spent lead acid batteries. Ms. Correa commented that an agreement had been signed with Mexico and Canada to ensure clarity in the procedures of sending batteries to these other countries. There have been continuing discussions, and she will forward a copy of the trilateral agreement to the committees. Mr. Nathan Wittstruck, Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM), EPA, added that there had been a binational meeting with OLEM, the Mexico Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), and waste offices to discuss battery recycling. The next step will be to hold a workshop.

Dr. Jodi Hilty (Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative), NAC member, asked about the monarch butterfly status. Ms. Nishida commented that monarch butterfly populations had increased partly because of conservation efforts and stated that this will be a topic at the North American Leaders' Summit. Dr. Vincent Nathan (San Antonio Metropolitan Health District), GAC member, commented that the populations flying to Mexico have actually decreased. He shared that the city of San Antonio, Texas, had opened its parks to milkweed pollination and encouraged others to do the same. Ms. Nishida said she will speak to the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) for more information and the actual numbers on the monarch butterfly population. Ms. Anna Romero Lizana (World Trade Center), NAC member, commented that the state of Missouri had added milkweed to its botanical gardens. Mr. Kirk Cook (Oregon Department of Agriculture), GAC member, highlighted progress made with Monsanto on the use of its Roundup[®] weed-killing product, which eradicates milkweed. The DOI, EPA and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have had success in helping to establish set-aside areas that are devoid of the use of Roundup.

Mr. Chavez commented that, as a former member of SEMARNAT, he had learned that efforts should be focused on forestry management and not just on preservation of the monarch butterfly. He added that the population locations change over time and are affected by changing weather patterns. Mr. Chavez will present further updates during his talk later in the agenda.

Ms. Brumwell pointed out that the June 2016 JPAC session will focus on pollinators and climate change. She requested ideas from the members for speakers. She also noted that the September 2016 JPAC session on clean energy and climate change will be in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Update on Tribal Issues

JoAnn Chase, Director, American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO), OITA, EPA

Mr. Houseal thanked Ms. JoAnn Chase, Director, AIEO, OITA, EPA, and commented that she was one of EPA's few Native American leaders. Ms. Chase shared that within the senior executive service at EPA, she is the only enrolled citizen of a tribal nation. She thanked EPA's leadership for its commitment to advancing the federal-tribal relationship, in respecting and honoring tribes as sovereign nations, and for continuing to advocate to increase programs for Native Americans from within the Agency. Ms. Chase acknowledged Ms. Nishida for her advocacy of the tribal agenda and recognized Ms. Gail Small (Native Action), Roster of Experts on TEK, for her efforts as well.

EPA has a robust consultation policy for engaging the tribal community and for advancing governmental relationships with tribes. The policy serves as a model for other federal agencies; however, opportunities for improvement exist. Ms. Chase highlighted the recent celebration of the 30th anniversary of the *EPA Policy for the Administration of Environmental Programs on Indian Reservations*, known as the 1984 Indian Policy. The 1984 Indian Policy has been embraced by the tribal community and serves as the foundation for EPA engagement with tribes. She commented that to maintain a robust consultation policy and keep the 1984 Indian Policy current, AIEO recently issued its first Tribal Treaty Rights Guidance. In addition, an internal guidance section was added to the 1984 Indian Policy. Ms. Chase offered to share copies of the new initiative and the updated consultation policy with the committees.

AIEO will brief EPA's Office of General Counsel about the new Tribal Treaty Rights Guidance, and other federal agencies have expressed interest in the guidance. Ms. Chase commented that Administrator McCarthy, in her address to the National Congress of American Indians, directed EPA staff to follow the Tribal Treaty Rights Guidance. A 2014 Executive Order establishing the White House Council on Native American Affairs was issued to improve coordination of federal programs to better use the resources available to tribal communities. Several subcommittees were established, including the Climate Change Subgroup co-chaired by Administrator McCarthy and DOI Secretary Sally Jewel.

Ms. Chase stated that AIEO had answered the charge to provide tangible deliverables, which include the following: creating a climate change tribal Web portal that consolidates resources, establishing partnerships with other agencies to provide more efficient access to funding and leveraging resources, and creating a climate change resource guide (tool box). EPA is in the process of expanding the Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network to include a partnership with tribal colleges and universities. A mobile application for LEO is available for download from the website. AIEO also partners with tribal colleges and universities on the Tribal ecoAmbassadors Program to work with professors and college students to address environmental challenges by applying the appropriate cultural lens. EPA supports the initiative, and recently the Bureau of Indian Affairs has added its support.

Ms. Chase met with Ms. Correa, Dr. Trujillo and the Roster of Experts on TEK in March 2016 for a discussion on TEK, pursuant to the ministerial statement, for the inclusion and advancement of TEK in institutional decision making. A report will be forthcoming. She commented that her opportunity to engage with the NAC/GAC committees will be limited as she transitions with the Obama administration. She stated that AIEO has a great staff and will continue to provide its support.

Mr. Houseal congratulated Ms. Chase on her leadership in the Agency on tribal issues and invited Dr. Trujillo to comment on TEK. Dr. Trujillo explained that it is important for the Roster of Experts on TEK to meet with representatives of indigenous peoples from the three countries. The message given to EPA staff and JPAC members in attendance was enlightening and heart-warming in spite of the language barriers. She stated that the indigenous people were strong in their message to do more, be consistent, and create avenues for the work to go forward. The political will must be committed and funding resources must be readily available to move the process forward. Dr. Trujillo also commented that this would be her last GAC meeting and she asked continuing committee members to provide their ongoing support.

Mr. Gerald Wagner (Blackfeet Nation Environmental Program), GAC member, commented that it was a real gift to have been given the opportunity to talk about TEK and present to tribes. He added that TEK is embraced heavily in Native American culture. The Tribal ecoAmbassadors at tribal colleges and universities play an important role in challenging and engaging younger generations. As a member of the EPA National Tribal Caucus, he thanked the AIEO for its work.

Question and Answer Period

Dr. Theresa Pardo (University of Albany, State University of New York), NAC member, commented that many participants may work with the United Nations (U.N.) Department of Economic Affairs and are familiar with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) process. She suggested that it would be a good model to follow with TEK. Dr. Pardo stated that the inclusion of TEK into institutional decision making across the three countries is exciting, and she offered her services as an academician in informatics to make connections with tribal colleges and universities.

Dr. Pardo asked about the nature of the impediments to AIEO's efforts as a consequence of the federal "silos" and the flow of information across agencies. Ms. Chase responded that access to resources and information was most affected by the silos, and the funding cycle differences added difficulty. Dr. Pardo commented that policy coherency helps to break down silos; she offered to share resources with the members and other participants.

Mr. Wennberg commented that experiences with the LEO Network and the Tribal ecoAmbassadors Program might be useful tools for addressing the topic of engaging youth. He asked what techniques are effective and what lessons have been learned for youth engagement. Ms. Chase will forward documents from the Tribal ecoAmbassador Program to the committees as well as a resource link that will highlight the efforts and progress. Tribal colleges and universities have involved youth in various projects in their communities, and the youth are very engaged with mobile applications. Ms. Chase commented that

President Obama visited Fort Yates, North Dakota, and was moved by what he saw. The White House invited more than 1,000 Native youth from tribes all over the country for a successful engagement with members of the federal family. This event will be repeated in the fall of 2016. It was reiterated that tribes are sovereign nations, and all youth engagement efforts should take this into consideration.

Ms. Brumwell commented that JPAC had been working with a subgroup and the Roster of Experts on TEK on a joint piece of advice, and that document is being translated and reviewed. The final document will be circulated to the March meeting participants, JPAC, and NAC/GAC members. She highlighted the key points of the joint advice: recognizing the U.N. SDGs and international framework and institutionalization of TEK that respectfully engages indigenous peoples. Dr. Trujillo stated that it would be important to share the report of the TEK meeting with the partners. She thanked Ms. Chase and AIEO for the policy changes.

Mr. Wagner commented that others experiencing the federal silo effect have utilized a bridging concept for connecting to solutions. He added that it was challenging for tribal nations to work with the different agencies, and he suggested that these agencies adopt one set of governing rules.

Update on COP21 (U.N. Climate Change Meeting in Paris)

Mausami Desai, Climate Change Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, OAR, EPA

Ms. Mausami Desai provided an update on COP21 and the 2015 Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement under the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Changes (UNFCCC) serves as the framework for actions before and after 2020 and replaces the Kyoto Protocol. The common features of the Paris Agreement include the global long-term goal to stay within 2 degrees Celsius of warming, take progressively ambitious action, conduct an assessment of collective actions and provide an enhanced “common” transparency system for all countries.

Ms. Desai commented that the progressive action and assessment for the Paris Agreement is of two forms: National Determined Contributions (NDCs) and implementation and mitigation mechanisms. NDCs have been submitted from 188 countries, which represent 98.7 percent of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission sources. The Paris Agreement uses a “bottom-up” structure, in which countries are allowed to submit agreements in the context of their own national circumstances, capabilities and priorities. Starting in 2020, countries will be required to provide updated NDCs every 5 years with the following caveats: show progression and the highest possible ambition, provide information for clarity and transparency, establish economy-wide targets, and allow linkages. Ms. Desai reminded the NAC/GAC of the Intended NDCs (INDCs) for Canada, Mexico and the United States to reduce GHG emissions. Canada targeted a 30 percent reduction by 2030; Mexico targeted a 25 percent reduction below business-as-usual levels by 2030; and the United States targeted a 26 to 28 percent reduction by 2025.

Countries have been asked to set mid-century, long-term low GHG emission development strategies by 2020 as an extended projection past the INDCs. In terms of mitigation, NDCs can include the use of international transferred mitigation outcomes, which allows for robust accounting. The Paris Agreement also establishes a new market mechanism to succeed the Kyoto Protocol’s Clean Development Mechanism and encourages voluntary cooperation between parties in achieving their NDCs. The Agreement also establishes a process for countries to regularly assess implementation and take stock of global climate action every 5 years against long-term goals, called the Global Stocktake.

The Paris Agreement has adopted a common guidelines approach for reporting on action in the enhanced transparency system, which will require biennial reporting. Transitioning to the enhanced reporting will include a national GHG inventory report using good practice methodologies, information necessary to track NDC progress, tracking support, and information on impacts and adaptation. Technical expert

review and tools to leverage existing reporting experiences under the UNFCCC also will be included in the enhanced transparency system.

Capacity building is another element of the Paris Agreement. Two new mechanisms have been established: The Paris Committee on Capacity Building and the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). The objectives of CBIT are to strengthen national institutes for transparency-related activities; provide relevant tools, training and assistance to meet the provisions of Article 13 of the Agreement; and assist in improving transparency over time. The Global Environmental Facility has been mandated by UNFCCC to implement CBIT and the funding of projects will begin in 2016.

Ms. Desai provided an overview of the U.S.-Canada Joint Statement on Climate, Energy, and Arctic Leadership. Canada and the United States will work together to implement the Paris Agreement and have committed to join and sign the agreement. The leaders also committed in 2016 to complete mid-century, long-term low emission development strategies; assist developing country partners in implementation of INDCs and adaptation efforts; promote the enhanced transparency framework with common themes; affirm the new CBIT; and robustly implement the carbon markets-related provisions.

The next steps will be to establish the *ad hoc* working group on the Paris Agreement to prepare for entry into force by drafting decisions and preparing guidelines and to prepare for the UNFCCC-sponsored special workshops to advance progress in key areas. Implications for EPA's work include engaging in mitigation by implementing programs and using the Agency's experience and expertise for transparency support and analysis.

Question and Answer Period

Mr. Robert Moyer, Director, Submissions on Enforcement Matters (SEM), CEC, asked about the U.S. intended contributions and the amount that would be derived from clean power plants. Ms. Desai responded that the amount from clean power plants was a significant portion. Mr. Justin Johnson (Vermont Agency of Natural Resources), GAC member, asked about reporting contributions by region versus by individual country. Ms. Desai answered that provisions allow for voluntary cooperation, and the European Union (EU) is one example. The individual EU countries, however, also set targets. Mr. Johnson asked whether reporting would be done by a single entity. Ms. Desai commented that countries currently report to the UNFCCC Secretariat, and evaluations are performed by international experts in working group settings. The enhanced transparency system will leverage the existing procedures. Mr. Bent asked about the indexing criteria for reporting. Ms. Desai responded that guidelines have been established for compiling the reports. The foundation and boundaries are well defined, but additional details still are needed.

Mr. Wennberg asked whether the targeted reductions in GHG emissions are based on real measures or policy-driven projections. Ms. Desai responded that the Paris Agreement has a tracking component to measure progress and the next course of actions.

Dr. Ivonne Santiago (University of Texas at El Paso), NAC member, asked whether good practice methodologies for the NDCs exist. Ms. Desai stated that flexibility was provided to accommodate the national scope of diversity and that the working groups would evaluate best practices and apply the appropriate guidelines.

Mr. Houseal commented that a copy of the presentation would be useful to the committees to share within their perspective networks. Ms. Desai agreed to forward a copy to Mr. Carrillo to distribute to the NAC/GAC members.

In response to a query by Dr. Hilty, Ms. Desai stated that Canada and the United States have submitted INDCs, and copies are available online.

Dr. Pardo commented on the Open Government Partnership for governments to be sustainably more transparent, more accountable and more responsive to the needs of their citizens. She suggested that there be resources for leveraging transparency initiatives.

Ms. Ginny Broadhurst (Northwest Straits Commission), GAC member, suggested that there might be other opportunities for reducing emissions. Mr. Houseal commented that the forestry and labor sectors and energy producers had made changes.

Dr. Hilty mentioned that other federal agencies have existing mitigation and adaptation mechanisms in place and asked whether EPA had considered how the Agency would leverage those resources. Ms. Desai responded that a framework had been developed, and EPA had coordinated efforts to collect data across agencies regarding climate change mitigation. Also, technical experts are collaborating across agencies in climate change directives.

Dr. Cecilia Martinez (Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy), NAC member, cautioned that concerns exist in the domestic and international communities regarding the targets and mechanisms proposed by the Paris Agreements.

Public Comment Period

No public comments were offered.

CEC Update on the Operational Plan and North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) Grants

Cesar Rafael Chavez, Executive Director, CEC Secretariat

Mr. Chavez discussed the CEC operational plan projects and the NAPECA grants. The CEC has 16 operational plan projects that cover 12 areas of work. The projects are cross-sectional and include partnerships with the departments of energy, forestry, health, transport, wildlife, fisheries/oceans and indigenous affairs. The themes are cross-cutting and include the following: information systems on climate change (e.g., the LEO Network), alignment of standards and processes for integration. The projects below are aligned within the four SDG categories:

- *Integrated Modeling and Assessment of North American Forest Carbon Dynamics and Climate Change Mitigation Options*
- *Helping North American Communities Adapt to Climate Change: A Pilot Syndromic Surveillance System for Extreme Heat*
- *North American Initiative on Food Waste Reduction and Recovery*
- *North American Initiative on Organic Waste Diversion and Processing*
- *North American Blue Carbon: Next Steps in Science for Policy*
- *Reducing Emissions From Goods Movement via Maritime Transportation in North America (Phase II)*
- *Enhancing North American Enforcement of the IMO Maritime Fuel Sulfur Limits*
- *Accelerating Adoption of ISO 50001 and Superior Energy Performance Certifications*
- *Strengthening Conservation and Sustainable Production of Selected CITES' Appendix II Species in North America*
- *Greening of Chemicals Management in North America*
- *Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI)—The Americas' Flyway Action Plan*

- *Engaging Farmers and Other Landowners to Support Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Conservation*
- *Monarch Butterfly Flyway: Communication, Participatory Conservation and Education*
- *Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network*
- *Using Ecosystem Function and Traditional Ecological Knowledge Together to Build Resilience and Adapt to Climate Change in North America*
- *Marine Protected Areas: Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Supporting Coastal Community Resilience*

The NAPECA grants program was established by Canada, Mexico and the United States in 2010. The objective is to build the capacity of local people and organizations to improve their health and environmental quality. To date, NAPECA has provided funding to 60 environmental community projects throughout North America, totaling \$4.2 million.

Question and Answer Period

Dr. Santiago encouraged the CEC to consider expanding the scope of the NAPECA grants to include academic and research institutions, and to have a more transparent grant review process. Mr. Chavez acknowledged that the NAPECA grants were structured differently than other granting mechanisms, and commented that the CEC will be working to improve the granting process. Dr. Pardo discussed the USDA Forest Service community grants model of directing a percentage of the project's funds into developing continuing and accessible community benefits. She suggested that it would be a model for the CEC to consider adopting for the NEPECA grants. In addition, the public library system could be used as a mechanism for building community awareness of the NEPECA grants. Dr. Santiago recommended producing a NAPECA grant video to share with the community to increase awareness. Dr. Hilty mentioned that narrowing the scope of the NAPECA grants would streamline the number of applicants and increase their chances of funding. She suggested that the CEC consider ways of encouraging grantees to remain engaged with the CEC and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) community after the projects have been completed. Dr. Trujillo asked about the NAPECA grant review process. Mr. Chavez responded that the CEC Executive Director and other staff, and the NAPECA selection committee were involved in the grant review process. The selection committee includes one general standing committee representative from each country, the JPAC Chair, and the CEC Executive Director. Mr. Moyer added that all proposals were reviewed using the same criteria, and that the Parties made the final decision.

Update on SEM and Status of Submissions

Robert Moyer, Director, SEM, CEC

Mr. Moyer updated the committees on SEM and the status of submissions. There have been a total of 87 submissions since the CEC started, and the vast majority have been from Canada and Mexico. Of the 87 submissions, the Secretariat has published 21 factual records, including one recently published in December 2015. One factual record publication currently is pending. There were no submissions in 2014 and four new submissions have been filed since July 2015. Mr. Moyer highlighted the recent actions taken by the Secretariat, which included enhancing the visibility of the SEM web page, increasing targeted outreach activities (e.g., continuing relationships with law schools in three different countries), continuing to develop more accessible factual records, and producing and publishing a video explaining the SEM process.

Mr. Moyer discussed the two factual records that currently are in progress. The Sumidero Canyon II factual record was published in December 2015, and a revision for a new activity is pending. The activity in question indicates that the operation of a limestone quarry in Sumidero Canyon National Park most

likely will be moved to another location outside of the park by the company, Cales y Morteros. The Wetlands in Manzanillo factual record regarding the construction of two gas infrastructure facilities in a wetlands area is due for comments in late April 2016, and the factual record is expected to be published by late summer 2016.

Mr. Moyer stated that of the four pending submissions, three are from Mexico and one from the United States. One Mexico submission, management of analog television waste, was filed by several submitters who asserted that televisions discarded as a result of the analog blackout were not being managed according to Mexico's law. Following a response from Mexico, the Secretariat will determine whether to recommend the production of a factual record. Another Mexico submission, La Primavera Forest, was filed by an individual submitter who asserted that the Santa Anita Hills housing project is causing destruction of a netleaf oak forest. Once the response from Mexico is submitted, the Secretariat will apply due process to determine whether to produce a factual record. The third Mexico submission, regarding agricultural waste in Senora, did not meet the Article 14 Section (1) criteria, and the submitter has until the end of May 2016 to provide the Secretariat with a revised submission. The U.S. submission, regarding municipal wastewater drop shafts, was filed by an individual submitter. The submitter asserted that the United States is failing to effectively enforce the Safe Drinking Water Act regarding sewer drop shafts used to convey municipal wastewater. The United States responded, and the Secretariat has 120 days to determine whether to recommend the production of a factual record. Mr. Moyer commented that this had been the first U.S. submission in 10 years.

Question and Answer Period

Ms. Broadhurst asked whether there had been a submission from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, regarding sewage. Mr. Moyer commented that presubmission questions sometimes are posed and issues do go forward. He stated that there had not been submissions from Canada in more than 3 years.

Dr. Santiago asked how many submissions had resulted in factual records and why there had been fewer U.S. submissions compared to Mexico and Canada. Mr. Moyer reiterated that the CEC had 87 total submissions, and 21 factual records had been published. The Council had voted only five or six times to reject a factual record. Submissions that have pending or active proceedings in other jurisdictions are not carried forward as new enforcements. The CEC is devoting resources to determine outcomes following published factual records. In regard to submissions by country, Mr. Moyer noted that the United States has other avenues, such as EPA, to address complaints, and the SEM process may not be as effective as other mechanisms of enforcement in the United States.

Dr. Nathan suggested that the Gulf of Mexico establish an organizational structure to oversee its actions similar to that of the Great Lakes and the International Joint Commission and asked for comments. Mr. Moyer responded that the CEC is not aware of any recommendations for the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Joyce commented that the International Boundary and Water Commission oversees actions on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Dr. Pardo commented that the video of the SEM process was a good idea and asked about the target audience (e.g., individuals, NGOs) for submissions and the level of legal expertise needed. Mr. Moyer answered that larger NGOs are less likely to use the SEM process compared to smaller, community-based NGOs. He added that the SEM process had been attractive to individuals who have been pursuing issues and are well versed in the legalities. Dr. Pardo suggested that an additional video could include a scenario of submitters discussing their options for enforcement with the CEC.

Mr. Wennberg commented that the SEM process has been a subject of frequent advice from the committees, and significant improvements have been made to the process of submissions.

JPAC Report-Out (TEK Mexico Meeting and Council)

Lindsay Brumwell, Chair, JPAC

Ms. Brumwell discussed JPAC actions. She acknowledged JPAC member Dr. Trujillo and Roster of Experts on TEK member Ms. Small, who had attended the March 2016 TEK Mexico meeting. Ms. Brumwell reported that the November 2015 JPAC planning session had been held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, in lieu of the normal session. The JPAC hosts three sessions each year, one in each of the three countries; 2015 was the first year that the three general sessions did not occur. During the November 2015 planning session, a teleconference also was conducted with the Roster of Experts on TEK. During the planning session, the JPAC reviewed the 2015–2016 operational plan, identified opportunities and collaborations for the public sessions, discussed the JPAC communications strategy, discussed the SEM update and held the conference call with the Roster of Experts on TEK.

The June 2015 JPAC session was held in Boston, Massachusetts, and the theme for the meeting was water and climate adaptation through green infrastructure. Discussions included: green infrastructure; land-use planning in North America addressing stormwater patterns in urban and rural settings; co-benefits of proposed approaches to human health related to sewage treatment, restoration, water quality, and clean water access and access reduction; and biodiversity. The advice letter based on the Boston meeting was submitted, and JPAC recently received a response from the Council regarding that letter.

In its advice letter from the November 2015 session, JPAC recommended that the CEC continue to refine its assessment efforts by including realistic indicators of impact (including, where possible, impact on governance institutions and environmental quality) and by assessing, where possible, the qualitative aspects of the CEC's work; increase communications; identify pursuant opportunities to engage relevant regional and international agencies; and expand social media connections by creating hyperlinks to the CEC. The JPAC also recommended that the CEC budget be returned to full funding. A response to the November advice is pending.

JPAC conducted a conference call regarding TEK on December 2015. Then-Chair, Mr. Gustavo Alanis Ortega invited Ms. Brumwell and Mr. Robert Varney (Normandeau Associates), JPAC member, to participate. This was a direct call with the Alt Reps from the three countries, and the agenda included operational guidelines for the Roster of Experts on TEK and future CEC planning sessions. The main comments from the meeting were to obtain clarification about EPA's terms of operation of the Roster of Experts on TEK, and achieve more clarity about the two-page document on TEK's terms of operation created by the Council on the Roster of Experts. Distinct differences were observed about EPA's expectations versus the CEC document. JPAC was concerned that the Roster of Experts on TEK was not being engaged effectively. The discussion was carried forward to the March 2016 meeting.

A meeting was conducted with the Roster of Experts on TEK in March 2016 to determine how best to engage the members in the CEC. JPAC volunteered to generate a joint piece of advice from the proceedings. The document currently is in translation and out for comments. The final version is expected to be released within 2 weeks. Included in the joint piece of advice are discussions on respectful engagement, guiding principles and the institutionalization of TEK.

On March 9, 2016, JPAC sent a congratulatory letter to the North American Energy Ministers regarding the MOU on Climate Change and Energy Collaboration. Ms. Brumwell commented that the CEC had been performing work on clean energy and energy conservation as well as climate change for quite some time. She emphasized that momentum exists to create greater transparency and public consultation for projects. The Energy Ministers were encouraged to leverage the fact that JPAC has been active for 21 years, has a history of success, and has provided valuable public and private advice. They also are excited

to leverage the investments made by the governments into the CEC for more than 20 years into joint science and research activities. An invitation was extended to the ministers to attend a JPAC meeting.

The June 2016 Regular Session of the Council and Meeting of the JPAC will be held in Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico. The theme of the JPAC session will focus on pollinators and climate change. The format was revised to include two expert panel sessions, a keynote speaker and an afternoon workshop to be more dynamic and uplifting. This change from the normal format better reflects Mexico's youth engagement agenda. Ms. Brumwell asked the committee members to submit ideas for speakers.

She also requested that the committees provide input on JPAC's value system that could be used to develop metrics and measures. Ms. Brumwell thanked the NAC/GAC for requesting that the CEC budget be restored in the advice letters, and JPAC agrees that water should be included as a strategic priority.

Question and Answer Period

Mr. Houseal thanked JPAC for the congratulatory letter to the Energy Ministers. He pointed out NAC/GAC's recommendations for a NAPECA grant to provide resources for the Roster of Experts on TEK and asked whether JPAC would be making budgetary recommendations to the CEC to follow through. Ms. Brumwell responded that budgetary resources had not been requested. She commented that the Roster of Experts on TEK had voiced its concerns, and revisiting of the 2004 baseline study would be in order.

Dr. Pardo suggested that the institutional review board process in regard to human subject research could be a model system for addressing respectful engagement. She shared her experience in studying JPAC in conjunction with the transnational knowledge network and will forward the reports to Mr. Carrillo for distribution to the committees.

Noting that Windsor, Ontario, Canada, is a strategic location in the trade market, Mr. Raymond Lozano (New Detroit), NAC member, suggested hosting a JPAC session at this location.

Update on MOU on Climate Change and Energy Collaboration

Kathleen Deutsch, Senior Advisor for Canada and Mexico, Office of International Affairs, DOE

Ms. Deutsch updated the committees on the MOU on Climate Change and Energy Collaboration. At the 2014 North American Leaders' Summit held in Toluca de Lerdo, State of Mexico, Mexico, one of the deliverables was for the North American Energy Ministers to meet to discuss opportunities to promote common strategies on energy issues. U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Energy of Mexico Pedro Joaquin Coldwell, and Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Greg Rickford met in December 2014 in Washington, D.C. The Energy Ministers agreed to collaborate in three strategic areas: (1) North American energy public data, statistics and mapping collaboration; (2) reasonable and sustainable best practices for the development of unconventional oil and natural gas; and (3) modern, resilient energy infrastructure for North America in all aspects. Ms. Deutsch commented that the DOE had developed webinars to share best practices and other topical information.

Ms. Deutsch joined the North American Energy Ministers for a second meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, in February 2015. The Ministers discussed progress made and were given a demonstration of the data initiative. She commented that updated information could be accessed from the North American Cooperation on Energy Information website (www.nacei.org/en/). The Energy Ministers signed an MOU to further cooperation and collaboration on climate change and clean energy. The areas of collaboration include: (1) reliable, resilient and low-carbon electricity grids; (2) modeling and deployment of clean-energy technologies, including renewables; (3) energy efficiency for equipment, appliances, industries and buildings, including energy management systems; (4) carbon capture, use and storage; (5) climate

change adaptation and resilience; and (6) emissions from the oil and gas sector, including methane and black carbon. The joint activities will support implementation of the clean energy and climate change goals of each of the three countries set forth by the Paris Agreement. Other energy collaborations include the bilateral agreements such as the MOU between the DOE and the Department of Natural Resources, Canada, and the U.S.-Mexico High Level Economic Dialogue.

Ms. Deutsch discussed other activities in which the DOE and North American partners are engaging. A 2014 Presidential Memorandum established the Quadrennial Energy Review (QER), which is being conducted through installments. The first installment focused on infrastructure for transporting, transmitting and delivering energy. The DOE played a lead role, with assistance from Canada and Mexico. The second installment focuses on modernization of the U.S. electric grid. Completed reports can be accessed from the DOE's website.

The Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) is a high-level global forum to share best practices and promote policies and programs to accelerate the global transition to clean energy. The first annual CEM meeting was held in June 2010 in Washington, D.C. The 23 participating governments include the United States and represent 90 percent of global clean energy investments and 80 percent of global GHG emissions. The overall objectives are to increase energy efficiency, expand clean energy supply and enhance clean energy access. Canada and Mexico are strong CEM supporters.

At COP21, Mission Innovation was launched by 20 country leaders, including the United States, Canada and Mexico. The aim is to reinvigorate and accelerate public and private global clean energy innovation with the objective of making clean energy widely affordable. Participating countries have committed to double investments in clean energy innovations during a 5-year span. A private-sector leadership component, Breakthrough Energy Coalition, is included.

Question and Answer Period

Ms. Brumwell asked about the definition of clean energy and the scope that it encompasses as identified by the United States or Canada. Ms. Deutsch responded that the definition of clean energy is broad and could include renewables, solar, wind and captured emissions. Ms. Brumwell invited the DOE to attend the September 2016 JPAC session on clean energy and climate change. Mr. Cook mentioned that the term "clean energy" is relative depending on the region. With regard to the definition of clean energy, Mr. Wennberg suggested moving away from a descriptive definition to setting a goal based on an environmental impact standard.

Dr. Hilty asked about the intersection of clean energy and biodiversity conservation and whether this has been discussed. Ms. Deutsch recognized that there are conflicts regarding biomass and energy developments and suggested that DOE may not be in the best position to provide an answer.

In response to a query by Dr. Hilty, Ms. Deutsch explained that the DOE has undertaken many efforts in U.S. grid modernization, many of which will be included in the second installment of the QER report. Dr. Santiago asked about centralized versus decentralized systems for energy grids. Ms. Deutsch replied that the Energy Ministers have not discussed this issue.

Dr. Pardo asked whether the data sharing agreements could be made available to the committees. Ms. Deutsch responded that the framework for the data sharing is included in the MOU.

Summary and Next Steps Discussion/Other

Mr. Carrillo explained the logistics for the following day and completion of the meeting agenda. The meeting was recessed at 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Call to Order

Mr. Carrillo called the meeting to order and reviewed the day's agenda, which focused on the business meeting of the NAC/GAC. Mr. Carrillo introduced Ms. Stephanie McCoy, ODACMO, OARM, EPA, to provide logistical information regarding travel vouchers and other matters.

Mr. Carrillo stated that the next Council Session will be held June 14–15, 2016, in Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico. He stated that the session will provide an opportunity to see the workings of the CEC and encouraged committee members to attend; however, EPA has limited funding to pay for members to attend sessions hosted outside of the United States. The next NAC/GAC meeting will be a 4-hour teleconference, tentatively scheduled for October 27, 2016.

Plenary: Joint Committee Meeting

Mr. Houseal noted that 50 percent of the members will be rotating off the NAC/GAC and he thanked them for their service. He stated that EPA is looking for candidates to serve on the committees and has asked members to contact colleagues who would be interested in serving. Mr. Houseal commented that the present cohort of the NAC/GAC began in 2010 under the current administration, and he highlighted the following accomplishments made in the CEC: development of a strategic plan that reflects global environmental issues, development of an annual operating budget, refinement of the NAPECA granting mechanism, development of a CEC map atlas, improvement in the SEM process and creation of the TEK network.

Mr. Houseal identified the following unfinished business: transboundary environmental impact assessments, overlapping EPA's mandate with other agreements (e.g., DOE MOU) and TPP. He pointed out that the CEC has been in existence for 20 years and should be more visible to a broader network of North American populations.

Mr. Houseal thanked Mr. Wennberg for co-chairing the committees. He also thanked Ms. Brumwell and JPAC for considering water as a trilateral trade issue. Mr. Houseal suggested that the NAC/GAC maintain continuity during the administration transition in the United States and continue to advocate for the face-to-face meeting.

Mr. Wennberg reiterated that EPA is seeking new participants for the committees and asked members to make recommendations of experts who would be willing to serve. He added operational plan project evaluations to the list of accomplishments. The move to add metrics for measuring effectiveness of success has seen notable progress, and benchmarks have been established.

Noting that the 30 minutes on the agenda for public comments likely would not be needed, Mr. Wennberg proposed using any time remaining after calling for public comments for a brainstorming lead-in on the charge question before the separate meetings.

Public Comment Period

No public comments were offered; as such, the NAC/GAC used the time to conduct an impromptu, joint brainstorming session on the charge question.

Mr. Wennberg stated that the charge question is about engaging youth, and the committees have been asked to provide recommendations. The procedure will be accelerated to provide comments to Ms. Nishida before the Alt Reps meeting that will be held April 27–28, 2016. Mr. Joyce asked whether

the plan would be to prepare a summary of the initial suggestions from the two committees and forward them to Mr. Carrillo. Mr. Wennberg replied that a one-page bulleted list will be prepared and forwarded to Ms. Nishida.

Mr. Carlos Perez (Galica, LLC), NAC member, asked about the definitions for “youth” and “engaging” in context of the charge. Mr. Carrillo responded that defining youth was important because the meaning differs by region. Mr. Chavez said that in Mexico, youth are considered to be individuals under 30 years of age. Mr. Bent commented that youth who are environmentally conscious probably already are engaged. He noted that the NAC/GAC may not be the best group to define youth and suggested obtaining input from other sources.

Dr. Pardo discussed the use of the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification at colleges and universities. The institutions must show evidence on circular engagement, with outreach and partnerships to be included. Students perform outreach and community-related projects. She proposed project ideas as one method for engaging youth. Also, money could be set aside on the NAPECA grants to fund youth projects. Mr. Houseal suggested leveraging existing NAPECA projects and discussions on including youth engagement in the CEC strategic plan. He recommended encouraging youth under 30 years of age to join the NAC/GAC. Ms. Broadhurst suggested that the target audience be defined and recommended climate change projects and Instagram campaigns for engaging youth. Dr. Nathan recommended using social media as one avenue for engaging youth.

Dr. Hilty discussed the CEC’s goals for engaging youth and suggested raising young leaders who think on a continental compass as a unique niche for the CEC. Mr. John Bernal (Pima County Government), GAC member, stated that informing and educating the youth about the CEC should be the first step. He suggested leveraging existing programs in other federal agencies. Ms. Lizana mentioned the Junior Chambers International (JCI) program of young active citizens, less than 40 years old, from all over the world and suggested that it could be a model for engaging youth in the CEC. Dr. Hilty expressed concerns about the CEC adopting other program ideas.

Committees Meet Separately

Mr. Wennberg explained that the NAC and GAC will meet separately and then reconvene for a report on their individual deliberations.

GAC Separate Meeting

Mr. Wennberg opened the GAC discussion by noting the charge for youth engagement and requested members to collectively provide a definition for youth before moving to the recommendations. Mr. Cook shared that college-aged young adults are more likely to be engaged in environmental issues and be aware of the impact these issues have on society; middle school- and high school-aged youth may be less knowledgeable of the role that the environment plays in their communities. Dr. Nathan suggested that youth be defined as individuals under 30 years of age and cited examples in which millennials had been more effective in engaging youth. Mr. Wennberg stated that in terms of defining youth, the committee first has to define the meaning of engagement in this context. Also, a clear identification of the beneficiary of youth engagement should be made known. Dr. Santos said that using a cutoff of less than 30 years of age is too broad and suggested that the age for youth be less than 20. She also highlighted that youth are exposed differently in the educational setting according to age. Mr. Wagner suggested engaging youth at the middle school level and providing measures for maintaining engagement onward through to high school.

Mr. Bernal was concerned that the members were dissecting the charge question differently. He offered two areas for youth engagement with the CEC: the work of the CEC and CEC processes. Engaging in CEC processes may not be appropriate for youth. The work of the CEC is where youth engagement would be beneficial. Mr. Cook recommended a mentoring type model in which older youth serve as mentors. The scope would extend beyond the United States to include Canada and Mexico. For example, youth mentors in one country engaged in a CEC project extend an invitation to a younger age group in another country to provide exposure to environmental work and share ideas (i.e., transnational engagement). Mr. Carrillo cited the goals for a youth engagement program in the CEC: increase an environment of North American consciousness and transform the regional and world view about the environment. He suggested engaging high school and college students in week-long projects that leverage the existing CEC projects.

Mr. Bernal recommended partnering with the LEO Network as an opportunity for youth engagement. Mr. Nathan pointed out that the Roster of Experts on TEK and the inclusion of TEK would be fundamental to the youth engagement strategy. Dr. Cook emphasized the need to reach indigenous peoples from all countries. Dr. Trujillo reiterated that the LEO Network would be a beneficial tool for engaging college students and agreed with the transnational approach. She also encouraged partnerships and leveraging.

Mr. Wennberg reminded the members of the CEC's limited budget. He expressed concerns that the resources to support additional activities, such as youth engagement, would not be available. Dr. Nathan suggested fundraising to support youth projects and using targeted messages to control costs. Ms. Broadhurst commented that leveraging existing programs for youth engagement would be more cost effective than building new ones. Also, targeted networking would be cost effective. Dr. Nathan encouraged adding youth engagement to the CEC strategic and operational plans.

Mr. Wennberg opened the discussion to items beyond the charge question, noting that the comments would not be included in the brief memorandum sent to Ms. Nishida. Dr. Nathan asked for a briefing on monarch butterflies. Members suggested that a representative from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service be invited to the next face-to-face meeting and teleconference to make a presentation on monarch butterflies.

Dr. Nathan added that the CEC communications had not been very active and suggested partnering with another federal entity.

NAC Separate Meeting

Mr. Houseal reminded the NAC members of the charge question. Mr. Joyce discussed the logistics of providing informal advice in a short period of time, noting that after the committees meet separately, the Chairs will compile the recommendations. A document containing a short paragraph explaining the rationale for youth engagement, along with the bullet points, will be transmitted to Ms. Nishida early next week.

Mr. Houseal commented that youth engagement should be reflected in the objectives and themes of the CEC's strategic plan. Dr. Hilty suggested clarity in the niche that the NAFTA has in youth engagement. She identified four filters: reflect the strategy of the CEC; promote early career environmentalists through the advisory committees (NAC, GAC, and JPAC); include youth engagement in the NAPECA guidelines; and develop a new youth engagement cohort through a targeted funding program. Dr. Santiago commented that any leveraged programs would need to have a trinational perspective. This would take some time so there is a need to present some short-term options. Members identified CEC projects on the monarch butterfly as one option. Dr. Hilty pointed out that CEC projects that have a youth component would be favored.

Ms. Lizana shared that JCI seeks partnerships and does not take on new projects. Mr. Houseal encouraged the CEC and Mr. Chavez to reach out to the JCI to make introductions. Mr. Houseal turned to the compendium idea previously discussed. The concept fits the database listserv model but would be difficult for the CEC to visualize. Also, the CEC would not have the funding available. Dr. Hilty agreed that introductions would be more effective. Mr. Houseal suggested ideas for a youth cohort, such as a North American trade environment fellows program or citizen scientists who are working to protect the monarch butterfly.

Mr. Houseal asked about the NAC and GAC counterparts in Canada and Mexico. Mr. Joyce commented that Canada once had a strong committee that collaborated with the United States, whereas Mexico never had an equivalent NAC and GAC structure. He suggested making a recommendation to the Canadian and Mexican environmental ministers to restore and/or create advisory committees.

Dr. Pardo suggested maximizing existing programs, noting that the NAPECA grants could be used to engage youth by including this as a requirement in the proposal guidelines. Mr. Houseal suggested a synergy with the Tribal ecoAmbassadors Program and TEK. Members recommended that the CEC narrow the focus, define engagement, develop a vision and goals document, and leverage international youth environmental programs. Dr. Hilty commented that the GAC should make recommendations to the CEC on the goals for youth engagement. Mr. Bent suggested that the NAPECA grants could be a channel for education and engagement by adding a youth component. Dr. Pardo proposed that the CEC could use a peer-review process for the NAPECA grants.

Mr. Bent commented that the CEC had not followed up with the previous recommendation to hire a communications specialist. Communications are foundational to the CEC's role. Mr. Houseal emphasized the need to include communications in the CEC budget.

Mr. Houseal opened the discussion to items beyond the charge question. Dr. Santiago commented that minimizing barriers and providing research support were critical for the TEK effort. Members suggested including TEK in the CEC budget. Dr. Santiago commented on the many concerns regarding the recent DOE MOU and its integration with COP21 and the Paris Agreement. She highlighted that clarity is needed regarding the definition of clean energy, biomass, and renewable energy portfolio standards. Dr. Pardo stated that the policy coherency issues and the consequences need to be clear.

Committees Reconvene in Plenary Session

Report-Outs From the NAC and GAC Chairs

Mr. Houseal reported on the NAC deliberations. The NAC suggests that the CEC define its mission, vision, goals and metrics of how to engage youth. The NAC recommends that the CEC inspire and engage youth in North American transboundary issues and thematic areas, develop NAC/GAC career awards and encourage Canada and Mexico to develop similar programs, investigate the NAPECA guidelines to promote youth engagement, and develop a youth cohort across North America if funds are available. The CEC should focus on tribal groups, underrepresented minorities and vulnerable groups; maximizing existing programs; defining the target population; and adding peer-review to the NAPECA grant review process. The NAC recommends that the CEC update communications to increase its awareness in the general population by hiring experts, increasing the budget and performing outreach to youth. Most importantly, the CEC needs compelling arguments for youth engagement and to provide a rationale for establishing a youth program.

Mr. Houseal summarized the other topics discussed by the NAC. Members suggested that the CEC provide TEK resources, remove barriers to the work of the TEK, and include a budget line item for TEK.

The energy and climate issues that have surfaced following the MOU on Climate Change and Energy Cooperation are significant and include the COP21 post-Paris actions; the definition of clean energy; the renewable portfolio standards and what they mean in a case such as the Manitoba Hydro project; and oil sand, nuclear and biomass issues. Additionally, the NAC discussed CEC issues, including the need to restore the CEC budget, increase the political awareness of the CEC, improve CEC communications, and increase the CEC budget for implementation of new programs.

Mr. Wennberg reviewed the GAC deliberations. The GAC concluded that the first order of business for the CEC would be to obtain feedback regarding how youth want to be engaged so that the CEC can identify the best methods to engage youth. Members surmised that bringing youth into the fold of the CEC to influence how the CEC involves youth was a goal of youth engagement. “Youth” was defined as those in middle and high school. Members thought that young adults or college-aged groups probably already are engaged in environmental issues. The development of a transnational mentoring program linked to an existing CEC project is one strategy to engage youth in the CEC. The example put forth was for older youth in one country to be engaged in CEC projects with younger youth in another country to promote cross-fertilization relative to the technical issues and cultural exchange.

The GAC suggested that the CEC could do more sharing of resources and raising its public profile by leveraging the LEO Network and the Tribal ecoAmbassadors Program within EPA. Social media is the best method to engage younger groups, and projects that focus on the environment and health are more attractive. Incorporating youth engagement into the CEC operational plan ensures sustainability. Also, engaging younger representatives in the GAC could be accomplished by appointment using specific qualifications. Tapping into the local universities would be the first phase of such an effort.

Mr. Wennberg summarized the other topics discussed by the GAC. The GAC suggested that the CEC continue briefings on the TPP and identify mechanisms for supplementing the TPP. Also, a briefing on the status of the monarch butterfly at the next meeting has been suggested. Members also expressed interest in the opportunity to comment on the JPAC recommendations from the March 2016 TEK Mexico meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Houseal adjourned the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

Action Items

- ❖ Ms. Correa will forward a copy of the trilateral agreement on spent lead acid batteries to the committees.
- ❖ Ms. Chase will forward documents and a resource link about the Tribal ecoAmbassador Program to the committees.
- ❖ Ms. Desai will forward a copy of her PowerPoint presentation to Mr. Carrillo to distribute to the NAC/GAC members.
- ❖ Dr. Pardo will forward the JPAC/transnational knowledge network reports to Mr. Carrillo for distribution.
- ❖ Mr. Houseal will forward his notes to Mr. Carrillo with context.
- ❖ Mr. Wennberg will forward his notes to Mr. Carrillo with context.

- ❖ Mr. Houseal will share his draft advice letter on youth engagement with the NAC members for their comments.
- ❖ Mr. Wennberg will share his draft advice letter on youth engagement with the GAC members for their comments.

Summary Certification

I, Jeffrey Wennberg, Chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee, and I, Brian Houseal, Chair of the National Advisory Committee, certify that the meeting minutes for the dates of April 20–21, 2016, as hereby detailed, contain a record of the persons present and give an accurate description of matters discussed and conclusions reached and copies of all reports received, issued or approved by the advisory committees. My signature date complies with the 90-day due date after each meeting required by the GSA Final Rule.



Jeffrey Wennberg
Chair, GAC

July 15, 2016

Date



Brian Houseal
Chair, NAC

July 14, 2016

Date

Appendix A: Meeting Participants

NAC Members

Brian L. Houseal, Chair

Director
Adirondack Ecological Center
State University of New York College of
Environmental Science and Forestry

Timothy A. Bent

Director Environmental Affairs
Bridgestone Americas, Inc.

Tracy Hester, J.D.

Professor of Practice
University of Houston Law Center

Jody Hilty, Ph.D.

President and Chief Scientist
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

Raymond Lozano

Director
Racial Justice and Cultural Collaboration
New Detroit

Cecilia Martinez, Ph.D.

Director of Research Programs
Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy

Theresa Pardo, Ph.D.

Director
Center for Technology in Government
Associate Professor of Public Administration
and Policy
University at Albany
State University of New York

Carlos Perez

Principal
Galica, LLC

Ana Romero-Lizana

Director
International Business Development
World Trade Center

Ivonne Santiago, Ph.D.

Professor
College of Engineering
University of Texas at El Paso

GAC Members

Jeffrey Wennberg, Chair

Commissioner of Public Works
City of Rutland, Vermont

John M. Bernal

Deputy County Administrator
Pima County Public Works Administration

Ginny Broadhurst

Executive Director
Northwest Straits Commission

Kirk Cook

Pesticide Stewardship Specialist
Oregon Department of Agriculture

Justin G. Johnson

Deputy Secretary
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Vincent R. Nathan, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Assistant Health Director
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District

Octaviana V. Trujillo, Ph.D.

Tribal Council Member
Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Cristina Viesca-Santos, J.D.

Assistant County Attorney
Environmental Crimes Unit
El Paso County Attorney's Office

Gerald Wagner

Environmental Director
Environmental Program
Blackfeet Nation

Designated Federal Officer

Oscar Carrillo

Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee
Management and Outreach
Office of Administration and Resources
Management
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Participants

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Office of Administration and Resources
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Olga Cano

Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

JoAnn Chase

Director
American Indian Environmental Office
Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Marian Cooper

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Sylvia Correa

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Mausami Desai

Climate Change Division
Office of Atmospheric Programs
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Shirley Jones

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Mark Kasman

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Sasha Koo-Oshima

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Jane Nishida

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Pam Teel

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Donna Vizian

Acting Assistant Administrator
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Dolores Wesson

Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Nathan Wittstruck

Office of Land and Emergency Management
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Other Participants

Laurie Bruiel

U.S. Department of Justice

Lindsay Brumwell

Chair
Joint Public Advisory Committee

Cesar Rafael Chavez

Executive Director
Commission for Environmental Cooperation
Secretariat

Kathleen Deutsch

Senior Advisor for Canada and Mexico
Office of International Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy

Nick Kristens

Bergeson & Campbell, P.C.

Robert Moyer

Unit Director
Submissions on Enforcement Matters
Commission for Environmental Cooperation

Contractor Staff

Carolyn J. Fisher, Ph.D.

The Scientific Consulting Group, Inc.

Appendix B: Meeting Agenda



Official Meeting of the
National and Governmental Advisory Committees to the
U.S. Representative to the Commission for Environmental Cooperation

April 20-21, 2016
U.S. EPA WJC South
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004
Tel: 202-564-2294 fax: 202-564-8129

FINAL
AGENDA

~EPA Conference Room 2138~

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. **Registration**
- 9:30 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
Oscar Carrillo, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), EPA
- 9:40 a.m. **Welcome and Overview of Agenda**
Brian Houseal, Chair of the National Advisory Committee (NAC)
Jeff Wennberg, Chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- 9:45 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Donna Vizian, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Administration and
Resources Management, EPA
- 9:55 a.m. **Update on U.S. Priorities and Guidance**
Jane Nishida, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of International and Tribal
Affairs (OITA), EPA
- 10:50 a.m. **BREAK**

Wednesday April 20, 2016 Continued...

- 11:00 a.m. **Update on Tribal Issues**
JoAnn Chase, Director, American Indian Environmental Office, OITA, EPA
Question & Answer Period
- 11:30 a.m. **Update on COP21 (United Nations Climate Change Meeting in Paris)**
Mausami Desai, Climate Change Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office
of Air and Radiation, EPA
Question & Answer Period
- 12:00 p.m. **Public Comment Period**
- 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH**
- 1:30 p.m. **Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Update on Operational Plan
and NAPECA Grants**
Cesar Chavez, Executive Director, CEC Secretariat
Question & Answer Period
- 2:15 p.m. **Update on Submissions on Enforcement Matters (SEM) and Status of
Submissions**
Robert Moyer, Director, SEM, CEC
Question & Answer Period
- 2:45 p.m. **Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) Report-Out (TEK Mexico Meeting and
Council Session)**
Lindsay Brumwell, Chair, JPAC
Question & Answer Period
- 3:15 p.m. **BREAK**
- 3:30 p.m. **Update on MOU on Climate Change and Energy Collaboration**
Kathleen Deutsch, Senior Advisor for Canada and Mexico, Office of International
Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy
Question & Answer Period
- 4:00 p.m. **Summary and Next Steps Discussion/ Other**
NAC/GAC Chairs
- 5:00 p.m. **RECESS**

Thursday April 21, 2016

BUSINESS MEETING:

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 9:00 a.m. **Call to Order**
Oscar Carrillo, DFO, EPA
- 9:05 a.m. **Plenary: Joint Committee Meeting**
Brian Houseal, Chair of the NAC
Jeff Wennberg, Chair of the GAC
- Discussion on October meeting and July Council Session dates
- 9:30 a.m. **Public Comment Period**
- 9:45 a.m. **Committees Meet Separately**
GAC stays in "2138" Conference Room
NAC meets in "1132" Conference Room
- 12:00 p.m. **LUNCH**
- 1:00 p.m. **Committees Reconvene in Plenary Session**
Report-outs from the NAC and GAC Chairs
- 3:00 p.m. **ADJOURN**

Appendix C: Charge Questions for April 20–21, 2016 NAC/GAC Meeting

CHARGE QUESTIONS: NAC/GAC MEETING

~ April 20-21 2016 ~

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear NAC & GAC Members,

Since our last meeting in October 2015, Canada appointed a new Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the *Honorable Catherine McKenna*. In addition, the CEC Council selected *César Rafael Chávez* as the new CEC Executive Director from Mexico, and the United States is in full swing Presidential election year.

To refresh your memory, the outcomes of the 2015 Council session in Boston still guide the work of the CEC: 1) the *CEC's Strategic Plan for 2015-2020*, 2) the *CEC's Operational Plan for 2015–2016*, 3) the *experts on traditional ecological knowledge* from Canada, Mexico and the United States; and finally 4) the third cycle of a *two-year grant program* that supports environmental action at the community level, by allocating C\$1.325 million of the CEC budget.

Therefore, the “charge” for this meeting will be to provide advice on this year’s Council Session theme. The EPA Administrator has identified engaging youth in the work of the CEC as one of the themes for the 2016 Council Session in Mexico. The Administrator would like the committees to consider how the U.S. can encourage and inspire youth to greater involvement in the CEC process to protect North America’s shared environment. For this charge, you will be briefed by Jane Nishida, Acting Assistant Administrator in the Office of International and Tribal Affairs. You will also be briefed by Mr. Cesar Chavez, the newly appointed CEC Executive Director. The Alternate Representative’s meeting will be held in Mexico on April 27, so your advice on the Council Session theme will need to be expedited.

Acting Assistant Administrator Nishida will also touch briefly on the COP21 UN Conference on Climate Change in Paris, and its possible bearing on tri-lateral North American progress. In addition, you will receive a presentation by Ms. Mausami Desai, from EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation, Climate Change Division, on the outcomes of COP21 UN Climate Change meeting. Finally, you will receive a regular update from the JPAC Chair, Lindsay Brumwell.

During the last portion of the meeting the committees will meet separately to develop their respective advice letters, based on the materials and presentations shared throughout the meeting. Finally, as always, the committees are welcome to provide advice on other trade and environment issues related to the NAAEC.