

Program of Public Events



Mérida 2016



8-9 September 2016

Council Session
Sesión de Consejo
Session du Conseil

XXIII



XXIII Regular Session of the CEC Council and Sessions of the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC)

Hotel Hyatt Regency Mérida
Avenida Colón esq. Calle 60, Centro
Mérida, Yucatán 97000, Mexico
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Thursday, 8 September 2016

Biodiversity and climate change are intricately connected. This relationship is recognized in several international initiatives, including the Paris Agreement on climate change, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the agenda for this year's Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP13).

These international efforts acknowledge the many ways biodiversity contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation: functioning as natural carbon sinks, providing human health benefits, and contributing to coastal protection and disaster risk reduction.

Climate change can also adversely affect biodiversity in many ways. Experts from around the world expect that climate change will degrade ecosystems, shift migratory patterns and ranges of plants and animals—including those of invasive species, disrupt ecosystem services, alter the synchronicity of key ecological processes, and increase exposure to pathogens and diseases.

This JPAC public forum will look at the impacts of climate change on biodiversity from an environmental and economic perspective. Participants convening in-person and via webcast will also consider the vital contribution biodiversity makes to climate change mitigation and adaptation. They will also have the opportunity to discuss ecosystem-based adaptation solutions.

(Central Daylight Time)

8:00–9:00 **Registration of Participants** – *Hotel Lobby*

9:00–9:10 **Opening and Introductory Remarks** by **Lindsay Brumwell**, JPAC Chair – *Regency I and II*

- Introduction of JPAC members, special guests, etc.
- Role and general, short history of JPAC
- Overview of public session theme

9:10–9:40 **CEC Presentation** by **César Rafael Chávez**, CEC Executive Director

- Overview of CEC's current work on Ecosystems and Climate Change

9:40–10:30 **Keynote Presentation: Ecosystems and Climate Change: A two-way relationship** by **Santiago Lorenzo**, Global Expert – Climate Finance, WWF International

10:30–10:45 Break

10:45–11:30 **Roundtable Discussion I: Mainstreaming the impacts of climate change on biodiversity** – *Regency I and II*

This session will address the questions: What are the impacts of climate change on biodiversity in North America from an environmental and economic perspective? How can mainstreaming climate change reduce these impacts?

Moderator: **Felicia Marcus**, JPAC member

Speakers:

- **Martín Cadena Salgado**, Coordinator: Project Resilience, *Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas* (Conanp) – UNDP
- **Chris Field**, Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment & **Katharine Mach**, Senior Research Associate, Carnegie Science Department of Global Ecology, Stanford University
- **Aerin Jacob**, Liber Ero Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Environmental Studies, University of Victoria

11:30–12:00 **Moderated Discussion Period** with experts, JPAC members and audience

12:00–12:15 Break

12:15–13:00 **Roundtable Discussion II: Mainstreaming the contribution of biodiversity towards climate change mitigation and adaptation**

This session will address the questions: What is the contribution of biodiversity to climate change mitigation and adaptation? How can mainstreaming biodiversity benefit climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives?

Moderator: Adriana Nelly Correa, JPAC member

Speakers:

- **Sylvie de Blois**, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Science, McGill University
- **Nélida Barajas Acosta**, Coordinator of International Affairs COP13, *Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad* (Conabio)
- **Louis Blumberg**, Director, California Climate Change Program, The Nature Conservancy

13:00–13:30 **Moderated Discussion Period** with experts, JPAC members and audience

13:30–14:30 Lunch [provided] – *Restaurant Peregrina Bistro*

14:30–16:30 **Workshop on Emerging Scientific Research Relating to Ecosystem-based Adaptation** – *Regency I and II*

This workshop will examine emerging research on ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA), i.e., conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems as strategy for adapting to negative effects of climate change at multiple geographic levels. Audience response, comments, and questions will be invited.

Chair: Eric Dannenmaier, JPAC member

16:30–16:45 Break

16:45–17:15 **Update on Submissions on Enforcement Matters**

17:15–17:25 **Report from the National and Governmental Advisory Committee Representatives**

17:25–17:30 **Closing Remarks and Session Adjournment**, by **Lindsay Brumwell**, JPAC Chair

17:30–18:30 Break

18:30–19:00 Travel to Official Opening

19:00–21:00 **Official Opening of the 23rd Regular Session of the Council and Welcoming Reception**

– *Salón de la Historia, Palacio de Gobierno, and Quinta Montes Molina*

- Welcoming remarks by the Governor of the State of Yucatán, **Rolando Zapata Bello**
- Introductory Remarks by **César Rafael Chávez**, CEC Executive Director
- Remarks by **Lindsay Brumwell**, Chair of the CEC Joint Public Advisory Committee
- Remarks by **Gina McCarthy**, Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency
- Remarks by **Catherine McKenna**, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Welcoming Remarks and Official Opening of the 23rd Regular Session of the Council by **Rafael Pacchiano Alamán**, Mexican Secretary for Environment and Natural Resources

Friday, 9 September 2016

(Central Daylight Time)

8:00–9:00 **Registration of Participants** – *Hotel Lobby*

9:00–9:10 **Welcome/Opening Remarks** – *Regency I and II*

9:10–10:00 **Presentation on the Biodiversity Strategy of the State of Yucatán**, by **Eduardo Batllori Sampedro**,
Minister of Urban Development and Environment, Government of the State of Yucatán

10:00–11:00 **Networking Session for the Public: Youth and the environment in North America**

Participants are invited to meet and exchange views on the topic of “Youth and the environment in North America,” and identify three key questions concerning our region to be raised with the Ministers. They will appoint three representatives, one per country, who will make a brief intervention during the Council Town Hall that will take place in the afternoon.

11:00–12:00 **CEC Exhibition** – *Regency Foyer*

12:00–13:30 Lunch [provided] – *Restaurant Peregrina Bistro*

13:30–14:20 **Council Public Meeting** – *Regency I, II and III*

- Welcome introduction by the Council
- Report from the Executive Director on the Operational Plan 2015–2016
- Progress from Boston to Mérida. What’s next?

14:20–14:30 Break

14:30–16:10 **Council Town Hall** – *Regency I, II and III*

- Parties’ Presentation: Youth and the environment in North America
- Q&A on youth and the environment in North America
- Photo contest winners

16:10–17:00 **Council Session Closing**

- Council Ministerial Statement
- Signing of Council Resolutions and Ministerial Statement
- Closing remarks by **Administrator McCarthy**
- Concluding remarks and Passing the Torch by **Secretary Pacchiano Alamán**
- New Council Chair and Announcement of 2017 Council Session by **Minister McKenna**



#CECMerida

