**Minister Yapa, new SACEP Chairman**

[November 3 2010]

Minister of Environment Anura Priyadarshana Yapa has been appointed as the Chairman of the Governing Council of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP).

The 12th Governing Council meeting of SACEP is being held at the Ceylon Intercontinental Hotel, Colombo and the meeting concludes today.

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) is an inter-governmental organization, established in 1982 by the governments of South Asia to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region.

SACEP member countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Environment Ministers of South Asia countries represent the Governing Council and periodically meet to take decisions of strategic significance. The SACEP Secretariat was established in Colombo in 1982. (DY)