



REPORT
THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE
GOVERNING COUNCIL

South Asia Co-operative Environment
Programme
(SACEP)

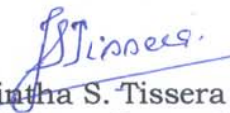
1 – 3 NOVEMBER 2010
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA



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CERTIFICATE

The Report of the Twelfth Meeting of the Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme held on 1 - 3 November 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka is herewith submitted to the members of the Governing Council and the Consultative Committee, in fulfilment of the financial and administrative procedures of SACEP.


Jacintha S. Tissera
Officiating Director General
30th November 2010

**Report of the Twelfth Meeting of the
Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme
(SACEP)**

**1 - 3 November 2010
Colombo, Sri Lanka**



SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

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**SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
TWELFTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC12.SACEP)
3RD NOVEMBER 2010
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Twelfth Meeting of the Governing Council of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (GC12.SACEP) was held on 3rd November 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka

2. ATTENDANCE

The Meeting was attended by representatives from the following Member Countries: - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

It was also attended by representatives from United Nations Environment Programme – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) and UNEP-Partnership for Clean Fuel and Vehicles (UNEP-PCFV). List of Participants is in **Annex I**.

3. INAUGURATION

The Chief Guest for the Inaugural Session of the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP was Hon' Mr. D. M. Jayaratne, Prime Minister of Government of Sri Lanka.

The welcome Address was delivered by Ms Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General, SACEP. (**Annex II**)

This was followed by the Statement of the Current Chair, Mr. Hem Pande, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Head of Delegation. (**Annex III**)

Hon' Mr. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Minister of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and the incoming Chair, then addressed the august gathering. (**Annex IV**)

The Chief Guest, Hon' Mr. D. M. Jayaratne, Prime Minister of Government of Sri Lanka then delivered his Inaugural Address. (**Annex V**)

The vote of thanks was given by Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka. (**Annex VI**)

4. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

In accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association of SACEP, Hon. Mr. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Minister of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka was elected as Chairman of the 12th Governing Council of SACEP. H. R. H. Prince Mostapha Zaher, Director General, National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), Government of Afghanistan and Hon' Mr. Mohamed Aslam, Minister of Housing and Environment, Government of Maldives were elected as the Vice Chairmen. Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka was elected as the Rapporteur.

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORGANISATION OF WORK

The Agenda of the Meeting was discussed and adopted by the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP. (**Annex VII**)

6. COUNTRY STATEMENTS / BRIEF OPENING REMARKS BY THE MEMBER STATES

The Heads of Delegations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan presented statements.

(The Country Statements are in **Annexes VIII – XIV**)

7. STATEMENTS BY THE OBSERVERS

Dr. Young-Woo Park, Regional Director and the Representative of the United Nations Environment Programme for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) presented his statement. (**Annexes XV**)

8. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS BY THE RAPPORTEUR

Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka, in his capacity as the Rapporteur, presented the Report of the Meeting of the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points (NFP) held on 1 – 2 November 2010 along with the recommendations to the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council for its endorsement. (**Annex XXI**)

9. DISCUSSIONS AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AGREED UPON AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

Based on the recommendations of the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points under the following categories;

- (1) Institutional Matters
- (2) Programme Matters
- (3) Financial Matters,

the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council, SACEP endorsed the decisions below.

9.1 INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SACEP

The Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points for the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP appointed a three member committee comprising of Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to resolve the matter of the Appointment of the Director General of SACEP on merit basis. Bhutan was requested to facilitate the negotiations.

Based on the recommendation of the sub-committee, it was decided that first option to propose a candidate as the Director General, SACEP to be given to Sri Lanka for a period of three years followed by Pakistan.

Thereafter, principle of rotation will be followed starting from the alphabetical order beginning from Afghanistan for a period of three years as per the decision of the High Level Meeting to Initiate the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, 18 – 25 February 1981 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

It was decided that the criteria for the selection of Director General and the Terms of Reference to be drafted by the SACEP Secretariat and to be circulated to the member countries for comments within one month.

9.2 PROGRAMME MATTERS

9.2.1 Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia

The meeting was informed by the SACEP Secretariat that an updated proposal on Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia was submitted and was taken

into discussion at the 7th Open Ended Working Group meeting of the Basel Convention held in May 2010.

In-house capacity building needs of SACEP and financial implications to establish such a center was discussed under the agenda Item.

SACEP Secretariat will continue to have deliberations with the Basel Regional Center established in Iran in this regard.

9.2.2 Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia

The Meeting was informed by the SACEP Secretariat that as per the recommendations of the 10th and 11th Meetings of the Governing Council of SACEP, a MoU was signed with UNEP Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific for the implementation of the Phase IV of the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia.

9.2.3 Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

10th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP adopted a resolution on SAICM and based on the decision, a Capacity Building Programme on chemical management for South Asia region was proposed. The SAICM Secretariat is still searching possible funding.

9.2.4 Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia

The meeting was informed that the SACEP Secretariat has already undertaken three local-level capacity building initiatives in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and discussions had been held with the Royal Belgium Institute of Natural Sciences and the CBD Secretariat in which they agreed to assist in mobilizing funds.

Delegates while complimenting Government of Sri Lanka for the collaborative efforts with SACEP to organize the national workshops stressed the need for extending this activity to the rest of the region.

SACEP's collaboration with Government of India was requested as India is hosting CBD CoP11.

9.2.5 International Day of Biodiversity

The Meeting was informed that, SACEP Secretariat in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka carried out activities to commemorate International Biodiversity day in year 2009 and 2010.

9.2.6 Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010

SACEP Secretariat informed the Meeting that this activity was undertaken on the request of UNEP-GPA Office and that the Global Report was launched at the CBD CoP10 held in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010.

Negotiations are underway to ensure funds to prepare a separate report for the South Asian Region.

The importance of this was highlighted as the region is needed to do more work on marine environmental issues.

9.2.7 Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)

The meeting was informed that SACEP Secretariat became a partner of the PCFV initiative of UNEP in 2008, which resulted in signing of a MoU to conduct a capacity building workshop for high-level officials in the member countries. The recommendations made by the country representatives were to be implemented by SACEP.

These recommendations were incorporated to the work programme 2011 – 2012 which is also incorporated in the Ministerial Statement.

GC12.SACEP agreed upon the wording of the Declaration on Cleaner Fuel and Vehicles prepared by the SACEP Secretariat based on the recommendations of the regional meeting.
(Annex XVI)

9.2.8 Environmentally Sustainable Transport System (EST)

The meeting was informed that the above activity was initiated as a result of a MoU signed between SACEP and the United Nations Center for Regional Development (UNCRD) to promote Environmentally Sustainable Transport in South Asia in 2008 and was approved by the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP.

SACEP in collaboration with UNCRD will be carrying out regional and national level workshops.

9.2.9 South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)

The Meeting was informed by the SACEP Secretariat that under the “Jaipur Declaration” adopted at the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP, it was agreed to establish a South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network and a Regional Strategic Plan on combatting wildlife trade in the region.

Due to unavoidable circumstance, the establishment of the expert group is pending.

9.2.10 Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management System and Waste Management

The above two proposals developed under a MoU signed between UNEP-ROAP and SACEP were approved at the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council. SACEP forwarded the approved project proposals to UNEP-ROAP requesting funds for implementation.

It has been informed by UNEP-ROAP that as an initial step, funds will be allocated to hold a Regional Workshop for the South Asian Region on Data Information Management in 2011.

9.2.11 South Asian Seas Programme (SASP)

The progress of the activities of the South Asian Seas Programme was reported as given below : -

- a) UNEP/ EU Funded Project on MCPAs in Coral Reef Ecosystems in South Asia
- b) Endorsement for the Formal Adoption of the Regional Oil and Chemical Pollution Contingency Plan for South Asia
- c) Regional Workshop on the Implementation & Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention – October 2009 - Malaysia
- d) On-board Training Workshop on Marine Resources Sampling, Data Collection and Interpretation for the South Asian Seas
- e) Regional HNS Operational Level Workshop, May 2010
- f) World Ocean Day Activity

- g) Blue Flag Beach Certification Programme for South Asia
- h) International Coastal Clean-up day
- i) 30th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation, 24- 29 April 2010 in Goa, India

SACEP Secretariat informed that the 5th Inter-governmental Meeting of Ministers of the South Asian Seas Programme is expected to be held in mid 2011.

9.2.12 WORK PROGRAMME (2011-2012)

The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP decided to continue on-going activities of SACEP and approved the Work Programme 2011 – 2012 as proposed in **Annex XVII**.

9.3 FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.3.1 Country Contributions

SACEP Secretariat thanked the member states for clearing the Arrears of the Country Contribution to a commendable rate. Further it was informed that Government of Afghanistan resumed contributing to the SACEP Country Contribution from Year 2008 after the Year 1989.

The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP was informed that the Secretariat will be contributing US \$ 100,000/- from the SACEP Country Contributions, towards the Trust Fund, which is a special saving during the period of January 2009 to-date.

9.3.2 External Funding

External financing secured during the period of 2009 - 2010 is annexed. (**Annex XVIII**).

9.3.3 Secretariat Budget (2011-2012)

The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP, as recommended by the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points approved the Secretariat Budget for the Years 2011 – 2012. (**Annex XIX**)

10. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL AUDITED REPORTS OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2007 AND 2008

The meeting approved the Audited Reports of Accounts for the years 2007 and 2008.

11. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP agreed upon the Ministerial Statement on 'South Asia's Biodiversity beyond 2010'.
(Annex XX)

12. VENUE AND DATE FOR THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF SACEP

Government of Pakistan agreed to host the 13th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP with the concurrence of Government of Pakistan.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 The Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points informed the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP that the Government of Maldives raised an issue of a termination of a Senior Staff Member of SACEP and that the Secretariat circulated the relevant documents and the Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meetings related to the termination and explained the sequence of events.

13.2 Government of Afghanistan informed the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP, that the Director General of the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) of Government of Afghanistan will be the National Focal Point of SACEP.

13.3 The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP agreed to incorporate the following under the Work Programme of SACEP proposed by the Delegate of Maldives:-

- a) Preparation of Project Proposals on low carbon technology and restoration of biodiversity and to be circulated among the member countries
- b) To Strengthen the linkage between SACEP and SAARC

14. ADOPTION OF REPORT

The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP considered the Report on 3rd day, of November 2010 and adopted the above recommendations.

15. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Head of Delegation, Royal Government of Bhutan thanked the Officiating Director General and the Secretariat for their excellent work in making the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP a success and placed on record the generous hospitality and co-operation extended by the Government of Sri Lanka.

The Chairman thanked all the Hon' Ministers and delegates for their valuable support and co-operation, and the Secretariat and the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka for all the hard work, in making the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP a success. He then declared the meeting close.

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

12TH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

3rd November 2010

Colombo, Sri Lanka

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Welcome Address by

Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera
Officiating Director General, SACEP
at the Inaugural Session of the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Hon' Mr. D. M. Jayaratne, Prime Minister, Government of Sri Lanka

Hon' Ministers, Leaders and Members of the Delegations of the SACEP Member countries

Your Excellencies, High Commissioners, Ambassadors and Representatives of the Embassies in Colombo

Dr. Young-Woo Park, Regional Director and the Representative of the United Nations Environment Programme for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP)

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Officiating Director General of SACEP, I am honoured to be here today to welcome you all to this very important event held in the commercial capital of the pearl of the Indian Ocean, Sri Lanka. Two years back many of us met in Jaipur, India where several important decisions were taken and now we are here today again to show our willingness as a region to address existing and emerging environment issues in a common platform.

I feel that, this is indeed a great opportunity for us to further strengthen our regional co-operation and friendship.

We owe special thanks to Government of Sri Lanka who graciously offered to provide host facilities for this meeting. Sri Lanka has hosted three Meetings of the Governing Council of SACEP and 3 Special Sessions in our 28 years of existence.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

In this 21st century, the whole world is facing a number of environmental challenges which are very common to our region as well.

The Glaciers of Himalayas are melting faster than anyone of us thought, due to climate change. Vast land areas of our maritime member countries and entire Maldives are facing the threat of sub-merging due to sea level rise.

Our natural wealth, biological diversity is degrading at an unprecedented rate, which was revealed last week at the CBD CoP10 held in Nagoya, Japan.

The atmosphere of our major cities are becoming un-breathable due to air pollution. Natural disasters like flash floods, landslides, and storms have become very frequent.

On the other hand, due to serious draughts and desertification, limited arable land resources for agriculture are becoming un-arable by placing millions of people in hunger.

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

At present, we have a vast responsibility in front of us which was never before, to protect our prestigious environment for the benefit of our own future generations.

As a pioneer regional organization SACEP is ready to play a pivotal role in addressing these environmental challenges and take the lead before they become too big to be dealt with effectively.

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

You are the leaders of this region

You are the pioneers in policy making

More importantly, you are the governors of this organization

We are confident that SACEP can deliver its mission obligations to the region with your eminent leadership

In conclusion, I wish the meeting a complete success.

Thank you.

Statement by

**Mr. Hem Pande
Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests & the
Outgoing Chair of the Governing Council of SACEP
at the Inaugural Session of the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka**

3rd November 2010

Your Excellency the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka,
Hon' Ministers from Member Countries
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

As the outgoing Chair of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, i.e., SACEP, India is grateful to the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka for inaugurating the 12th Governing Council meeting, which is taking place today at Colombo. This is a great moment for SACEP, which, I am sure, will be cherished for long. We are fortunate to have you here, Sir, amongst us, which augurs very well for both the ecology of the region and SACEP. Thank you, Sir.

It is a great honor and privilege for India to make a statement at the Inaugural Session of the 12th Governing Council Meeting of SACEP. India takes this opportunity to compliment Government of Sri Lanka for being an outstanding host.

As a member country, India has a vision of an inclusive, plural and rapidly developing South Asia, playing its role in an interdependent world's sustainable development. The countries of South Asian region, with common cultural heritage and similar geo-physical and natural resources endowments, face common environmental problems and challenges, some of which transcend the political boundaries and need to be addressed bi-laterally and regionally in order to meet the overarching goal of sustainable development and environmental sustainability, as envisaged in the Millennium Development Goals. We thus need to find common options and solutions for environmental protection and management in the region. Physical and economic connectivity has enabled us to use our geographical and resource endowments fully and at the same time, been the key to our region's peace and prosperity. South Asia has flourished most when connected to itself and the rest of the world.

The SACEP process is an excellent way to reaffirm our commitment to South-South co-operation, where it could reinforce the technical capacities of member countries by working as a platform for sharing of knowledge and best practices within the region. It should provide a forum for regional environmental co-operation by conceiving and operationalising good programmes.

India has four specific suggestions to make for SACEP before this august body, the General Council, namely, (1) focussed programme of work, which would mean taking up of priority programmes, where SACEP has comparative advantage, instead of taking up multiple programmes. This will, interalia, enhance SACEP's visibility among the member countries. The limited resources and capacity of the

organization further necessitate this; (2) a dynamic and capable full time Director General will definitely make a big difference and we are working towards it; (3) strong partnership with UNEP and other multilateral, regional organisations including SAARC, keeping in view the signing of SAARC Convention on Co-operation on Environment; (4) South Asian Seas, a flagship programme of SACEP, is leaderless today and needs an outstanding Co-ordinator.

We firmly believe that a regional environmental organization like SACEP, set-up in 1982 and comprising of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India is best place for promoting co-operative activities, which would be beneficial to member countries in the areas of common interest through extensive co-operation and exchange of technology, knowledge, skills and expertise.

India on its part is ready to share the technology and processes developed indigenously by us as well as assist in building capacities of the countries in the region to address their environmental concerns.

At this stage, we must accept that the tasks before us are quite challenging and we need to make concerted efforts on a regional basis for a harmonious and coherent environmental management. I wish to re-iterate India's commitment to strengthen SACEP as a good example of South-South Co-operation.

I take this opportunity to place on record the co-operation extended by member countries, while India was the chair of the Governing Council of SACEP from May 2008 to date. Thank you all.

I also take this opportunity to seek co-operation of all the member states present here in hosting of 193 member Eleventh Conference of Parties to Convention on Biological Diversity in October 1-19, 2012 in India.

Thank you.

Opening Remarks by

Hon' Mr. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa
Minister of Environment
Government of Sri Lanka
at the Inaugural Session of the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Ayubowan and Good Morning,
Hon' Prime Minister,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Minister of Environment of the host country for the 12th Governing Council of SACEP, it is a privilege for me to welcome all of you to the Inaugural Session of the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme.

At the outset, it is important to note that we are able to gather here today peacefully due to the able leadership of His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, the President of Sri Lanka who, through his vision and able leadership was able to eradicate terrorism from this country enabling us to live in peace and harmony.

Hon' Prime Minister,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Since, Sri Lanka is hosting this important meeting, I take great pleasure in welcoming Hon. D. M. Jayaratne, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka as the Chief Guest to the Inaugural Session of the 12th Governing Council. I thank you for your presence today with your busy schedule, since you have really understood the importance of this meeting, which will strengthen the regional co-operation in our region on environmental matters.

I further welcome all the Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Environment and Senior Officials representing respective Governments who are present here today for the 12th Meeting of the SACEP Governing Council. Their active participation clearly indicates the importance they have given to this meeting and also for regional co-operation.

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Due to the complex nature of certain problems that we face today, countries alone cannot find solutions to them. Regional approach is therefore, imperative. When we look at the world development trends, it seems globalization is inevitable. Therefore, the role of SACEP that has almost 30 years of experience since its

inception in 1981 as an organization in practicing regional activities is becoming more and more important for the region.

I think the deliberations during last two days of the senior officials of the National Focal Points have led to make necessary recommendations for the future of SACEP.

These include;

- 1) Appointment of the Director General of SACEP
- 2) Finalisation of the two year Work Programme of SACEP – 2011/2012
- 3) Policies related to Air Pollution, controlling urban air pollution through policies on Cleaner Fuel and Cleaner Vehicles, Sustainable Transport and pursuing actions on the next phase of the implementation of the Malé Declaration on trans-boundary movement of air pollutants in the South Asia.
- 4) Chemical Management in South Asian Region.
- 5) Policies on the conservation and how SACEP should proceed in the next couple of years. We were able to deliberate on many policy issues on its programme of activities, regional issues such as policies on Sustainable Transport, Clean fuels etc. and we think that during the deliberations of the Governing Council, we will be able to obtain the required political leadership to implement these policies.

In this regard SACEP should take more proactive role in facilitating member countries to face emerging challenges and I think that SACEP has the experience and the capacity to fulfill its mission in promoting and providing support for protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region.

Hon' Prime Minister,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Finally, I once again thank the Hon' Prime Minister for his participation at this event and all the Ministers, Deputy Ministers, senior officials and other delegates who participate at the meeting. I further like to thank the Secretary and all the officials of my Ministry, Officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Security officials and the SACEP Secretariat for facilitating excellent arrangement for this meeting. I wish that we will have fruitful deliberations of today's meeting.

Thank you.

Speech by the Chief Guest

Hon' Mr. D. M. Jayaratne
Prime Minister
Government of Sri Lanka
at the Inaugural Session of the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Hon' Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Minister of Environment, Sri Lanka

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to Hon' Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, the Minister of Environment for inviting me for the 12th meeting of the Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP). I am pleased to be associated with you at the inauguration of this regional gathering which has its focus on the protection and the management of environment in the South Asian Region.

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are inaugurating this meeting at a crucial moment of the destiny of our country. Under the able leadership of His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, the President of Sri Lanka, we were able to liberate our country from three decade long terrorism which affected every aspect of our socio-economic development in the country. Now, we are on a rapid development path where we will be able to put our strength for a sustainable development, especially focusing on our programmes for underdeveloped areas of our country. The economy of Sri Lanka is now growing at a healthy rate to meet this requirement.

Our society has had a long tradition of living in harmony with the nature while harvesting natural resources to meet its need. However, rapidly expanding human numbers have placed new pressures on the natural resource base, infrastructure, and socio-economic systems especially during the latter part of the last century. The challenge today for us is to achieve higher economic growth with minimum impacts on the natural environment, cultural norms and social systems of the country.

Several actions have been taken by the government to preserve environmental quality and ecosystem's health, by the development and implementation of National Action Plans under the leadership of His Excellency the President, and under the guidance of the Ministry of Environment. Haritha (Green) Lanka Programme is one such programme where action is taken to integrate environmental concerns in the development agenda under ten (10) thrust areas which cover broader issues such as biodiversity, climate change, water, land and coastal management. Knowledge Management has been given a high priority to facilitate decision making to address the challenging environmental issues.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

While focusing on the local issues, Sri Lanka actively participate in addressing global environmental issues as well. In today's context both local and global environmental issues are interlinked and regional co-operation is the key to sustainable global and local environmental management as all our countries in the region are vulnerable to the global environmental change. Countries in the region can collaborate and corporate to address these burning issues through SACEP. At the same time SACEP can facilitate countries to address the challenges by knowledge management, transfer of technology and many other key areas common to the region to ensure sustainable development of the countries in the region.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, once again I extend my sincere thanks to all the Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Senior Officials and all the other delegates present here today.

Also, I hope you would be able to enjoy the scenic beauty of our country and warmth hospitality of Sri Lanka's people during your stay in our country.

Now, I am pleased to declare open the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) in Colombo today.

I wish you all the best in your deliberations at the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council.

Thank you.

Vote of Thanks Delivered by

Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga
Secretary
Ministry of Environment
Government of Sri Lanka
at the Inaugural Session of the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Hon' Mr. D.M. Jayaratne, Prime Minister, Government of Sri Lanka

Hon Ministers, Leaders and Members of the Delegations of SACEP member countries

Your Excellencies, High Commissioners, Ambassadors and Representatives of the Embassies in Colombo,

Dr Young Woo Park, UNEP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to be here amongst this distinguished gathering to deliver the vote of thanks at the Inauguration of the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP.

Our visionary fore fathers took the lead role in establishing a pioneer regional environment organization for South Asia, when environment was not even concerned as a global priority. Therefore, it is now our obligation and responsibility to carry forward this message of an environmentally sustainable South Asia for the benefit of our future generations. We are all aware that only with the collaborative and co-operative efforts of our member Governments and other interested parties such as the donor community, that we can implement the necessary measures to tackle environmental challenges we face in our region today.

Your Excellences, Distinguished Delegates

This is the fourth time that the government of Sri Lanka is hosting the Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP and as the Secretary to the Ministry of Environment it is a great privilege for me to play a lead role in making this event a reality in collaboration with SACEP.

I take this opportunity to thank the Hon' Prime Minister for gracing this occasion despite of his very busy schedule. Your presence here indicates our Governments willingness to collaborate with our neighbouring countries to safe guard our region's environment.

I appreciate the able leadership of all of Environment Ministers, and the Heads of Delegations in providing necessary guidance and thank you for being here today with all your pressing commitments.

Also I take this opportunity to thank the SACEP Secretariat and the officials of the Ministry of Environment for their commitment for making this event a success.

I wish today's meeting a great success.

Thank you.

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

MEETING OF THE TWELFTH GOVERNING COUNCIL

Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
09.00 - 09.40	Opening Ceremony <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the Meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Statement by the current Chairman 1.2 Welcome address by the Officiating Director General, SACEP 1.3 Opening remarks by the host country 1.4 Address by the Chief Guest
09.40 - 10.00	TEA BREAK
10.00 - 10.10	2. Election of Office Bearers
10.10 - 10.20	3. Adoption of Agenda and Organisation of Work
10.20 - 10.40	4. Country Statements / Brief Opening Remarks by the Member States (3-5 Minutes)
10.40 - 11.00	5. Statements by Observers
11.00 - 11.30	6. Presentation of Report of the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points by The Rapporteur
11.30 - 12.00	7. Discussions & Endorsement of Recommendations Agreed Upon at the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7.1 Institutional Matters 7.2 Programme Matters 7.3 Financial Matters
12.00 - 12.15	8. Approval of the Annual Audited Reports of Accounts for the Financial Year Ending 31 st December, 2007 and 2008
12.15 - 12.30	9. Endorsement of the Draft Ministerial Statement proposed by the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
12.30 - 12.40	10. Any Other Business
12.40 - 12.50	11. Adoption of Report
12.50 - 13.00	12. Closure of Meeting

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

**MEETING OF THE TWELFTH GOVERNING COUNCIL
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**

3rd November 2010

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting will be called to order by the current Chairman of the Governing Council

- a. Statement by the current Chairman
- b. Welcome address by the Officiating Director General, SACEP
- c. Opening remarks by the Host Country
- d. Address by the Chief Guest

2. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council of SACEP, a new Chairman will be elected in a manner consistent with the Articles of Association of SACEP. One or more Vice Chairman, a Rapporteur and other officials may also be appointed by the Governing Council. The Officiating Director General shall function as the Secretary of the Council during its sessions.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORGANISATION OF WORK

The Meeting will consider the Provisional Agenda for adoption. Any matter regarding the Organisation of Work and the Sessions may also be considered.

4. COUNTRY STATEMENTS / BRIEF OPENING REMARKS BY THE MEMBER STATES (3-5 MINUTES)

The Heads of Country Delegations will present their country statements

5. STATEMENTS BY OBSERVERS

Under this Agenda Item, the representatives of United Nations Agencies, International / Regional Organisations and Aid Consortia may wish to make Statements on matters relating to the activities of their respective Organisations which may be of interest to the Governing Council regarding the Programme activities of the South Asia region.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS BY THE RAPPORTEUR

The Rapporteur would present to the meeting the report of the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points

7. DISCUSSIONS & ENDORSEMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS AGREED UPON AT THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

The meeting will be requested for endorsement of the recommendations from the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points.

- 7.1 Institutional Matters
- 7.2 Programme Matters
- 7.3 Financial Matters

8. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL AUDITED REPORTS OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2007 AND 2008

Under this agenda item, based on the recommendations of the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points, the meeting is requested to approve the Annual Audited Reports of Accounts for the years 2007 and 2008.

9. ENDORSEMENT OF THE DRAFT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT PROPOSED BY THE PREPARATORY MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

The 12th Governing Council Meeting may wish to endorse the draft Ministerial Statement on country commitments for programme implementation by SACEP, recommended by the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Under this Agenda Item, the 12th Governing Council Meeting may wish to discuss any other relevant matters that may be raised by the representatives participating at the Meeting or by the Secretariat.

11. ADOPTION OF REPORT

The Rapporteur will present the Draft Report of the 12th Governing Council Meeting for its consideration and adoption.

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Any representative participating in the Meeting may wish to make concluding statements regarding the deliberations at the Meeting and its achievements. The Chairman will finally declare the Meeting closed.



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اداره ملی حفاظت محیط زیست د چاپیریال ساتنې ملی اداره

*Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
National Environmental Protection Agency*



Country Statement by

**H.R.H Prince Mostapha Zaher
Director General, National Environmental Protection Agency
Head of Delegation
Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka**

3rd November 2010

IN THE NAME OF GOD

THE MERCIFUL – THE COMPASSIONATE

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be able to participate in this Meeting of 12th Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), and to make these remarks.

Please allow me first to express my deep gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to the Government and the proud and noble People of Sri Lanka for hosting this gathering in this wonderful and hospitable city of Colombo.

Please allow me equally to express on behalf of my Government, the people of Afghanistan and indeed on my behalf, the happiness to observe the return of peace in Sri Lanka after three decades of conflict and war.

The return of peace will go a long way to ensure the sustainable economic, social, health and educational growth of this beautiful country, that I proudly call the Paradise Island.

Mr. Chair, since 1981 South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) has come a long way, and provided a forum for all of us to share our environmental challenges and experiences in dealing with them and prioritize our areas of co-operation in mainstreaming environment, and conservation and management of natural resources in the region.

Since late 2001, Afghanistan has witnessed significant advances in many social and economic fronts.

We are moving towards developing a business climate that encourages and enables private investment.

Our priority programs like the “National-Regional Resource Corridor Initiative”, the “Extractive Industries Excellence Program”, the “National Energy Supply Program”, to name a few, and the pace with the urbanization that is taking place, Afghanistan is beginning to show many environmental challenges to deal with.

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen !

I wish to reaffirm the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan’s commitment to mainstreaming environmental sustainability into national development.

This fact is exemplified by the Afghanistan’s National Development Strategy (ANDS), the enactment of the historical Environmental Law in 2007, which was the most important piece of Legislation that was passed, unanimously, by both the Lower and Upper Houses of the Parliament, and the establishment of National Environmental Protection Agency as regulatory independent body with sweeping powers.

Mr. Chair, while the Government commitment is undoubted, there is a substantive technical and capacity building support needs, in order to achieve our goals on environmental mainstreaming.

Afghanistan is already a party to the RIO conventions (climate change, biodiversity and desertification) and a few other multilateral environmental agreements.

Afghanistan is also in the process of becoming party to hazardous waste and chemical related conventions like the BASEL, Stockholm and the Rotterdam conventions.

It is my firm belief that Afghanistan will benefit from the ongoing SACEP projects like the Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia, Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), Partnerships for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV), Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST), Establishment of South Asia Wildlife Trade Initiative (SAWTI), and planned projects on Environmental Data and Information Management System and Waste Management and would like to reaffirm our commitment towards the successful implementation of these projects.

We all are living in a region which is highly susceptible to natural disasters. We lose thousands of lives and billions of dollars worth of property every year and this trend is increasing over the years.

Whether it is the flooding in the coastal areas of Bangladesh, droughts in Pakistan, Afghanistan and parts of India, constant threats from oil spillage and rising sea levels in the Island Nations of Sri Lanka and the Maldives or glacier melting in Bhutan and Nepal.

It adds up for all of the members of SACEP.

The damages caused by the devastating floods this year in Pakistan and Afghanistan are immense and will take decades of efforts to overcome them.

Still a large proportion of our population lives in extreme poverty which especially makes our region more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

As a mountainous country, I would like to stress that the Himalayas have a significant influence on the climate and economy of the region.

The Himalayas are home to the region's glaciers, and studies have shown that they are receding more rapidly than the global average, leading to increased threats of glacial lake outburst floods and posing an unprecedented threat to water supplies, lives, and the economy of our region.

As our common goal is poverty reduction and alleviation, the challenge for us is to maintain high growth rates while being climate resilient, and environmentally sustainable.

Regional co-operation can be a powerful tool for increasing growth, reducing inequality, increasing environmental sustainability.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has played a key role in assisting SACEP.

Afghanistan is fully committed to SACEP.

We as member states should streamline SACEP for it to be meaningful to us all. I am sure that under a wise collective vision, we can achieve those noble goals that SACEP set a course in 1982.

I wish SACEP all the successes in its mission of environmental sustainability in the region as we embarked, together, in the second decade of the 21st Century.

Thank you very much indeed for your kind attention.



Country Statement by

His Excellency Mahbub uz Zaman
Bangladesh High Commissioner to Sri Lanka
Head of Delegation
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Hon' Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, MP

Minister of Environment of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and Chairman of 12th GC of SACEP

Hon' Ministers and Leaders of Delegation of SACEP Member Countries

Excellencies,

Members of the Diplomatic Corps,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

At the outset I would like to congratulate the Hon' Minister of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka for being elected as Chairman of the 12th Session of the Governing Council of SACEP. I am confident that your able stewardship will guide us to a successful conclusion of this important meeting.

I also take this opportunity to thank the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India for promoting the programmed SACEP activities during their chairmanship between 2008 and 2010.

2009 and 2010 have witnessed a continuum of some important environmental meetings. However a sustainable future, based on general welfare for mankind remains still an elusive dream due to non-implementation of the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility by many developed countries. All of these meetings however point to the need for an integrated approach and collective effort to face the challenges imposed by environment. Many of the programmes and activities of SACEP are in fact a follow up of the directions, recommendations and decisions of these meetings.

We have taken note of "The work plan of SACEP for the period 2010-2012". We feel that the potential and scope for organizing greater and diverse environment related activities and programmes under SACEP has remained largely unexplored. To make SACEP more effective, the recommendations and outcome of the programmes and activities need to be disseminated and shared with all countries on a regular basis.

We feel that more work could have been done by SACEP in 2008-2010 in the area of Climate Change Adaptation. Within SACEP we have LDCs having special needs that include Bangladesh, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Nepal and Maldives. These countries are much vulnerable to Climate Change. SACEP could have organized more Seminars, workshops, programmes and activities especially on issues related to adaptation to climate change in these countries.

In the vital area of climate change we would like to share Bangladesh's experience. Because of its geographical location, Bangladesh suffers from, a range of environmental problems arising from drought, flood and other natural hazards. According to the report of the IPCC; Bangladesh will be one of the countries and regions that will be affected by Climate Change. One of the prime objectives of the present government is to build capacity for disaster mitigation and adaptation due to Climate Change. The Government has chalked out a medium and long term strategy in this regard. For the year 2009-2010, an amount of 7000 Million Taka has been

allocated as 'Climate Change Trust Fund' to combat the adversities of Climate Change.

One of our significant achievements has been the formulation of the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan - 2009. The salient aspects of the plan are:

- (i) Food Security, Social Protection and Health
- (ii) Comprehensive Disaster Management
- (iii) Infrastructure
- (iv) Research and Knowledge Management
- (v) Mitigation and low carbon development
- (vi) Capacity building and strengthening.

The document outlines many action plans including strategy for flood protection and management schemes, coastal green belt, cyclone shelters, resilience of vulnerable groups, centre for research on climate change, climate change resilient crops, and coastal embankments.

At the conclusion, we would like to offer the following proposals to make SACEP, a more vibrant and effective organization:

Firstly: SACEP should locate through the National Focal Points "Centers of Excellence" in identified areas and fields conducting analytical and research work of high quality in the member countries. There should be networking including through exchange and dissemination of knowledge, experience and success stories.

Second: There should be greater linkage and interaction between SAARC and SACEP in accordance with the MOU on co-operation. Unless, we are backed by the political support and commitment of our leaders, SACEP can at best achieve only limited success.

Third: SACEP should be able to build up a matrix of Programme based on priorities and objectives. The programmes should not overlap with one another and duplication of efforts and resources should be avoided. Targets in terms of numbers of programmes and workshops to be organized should be delineated.

Fourth: SACEP should be able to secure more predictable and secure sources of funding. The capacity of the external relations wing of SACEP needs to be enhanced greatly.

Fifth: SACEP should prioritize more on projects rather than on building up additional programmes. Projects yield tangible benefits within a specified period of time.

Finally, we would like to convey our appreciation to the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for organizing the Governing Council Meeting of SACEP. We thank the Officiating Director General of SACEP and the officials of SACEP Secretariat for preparing the documents and working papers for the Governing Council Meeting.



Country Statement by

Hon' Dasho Paljor J. Dorji
Deputy Minister &
Special Advisor to National Environment Commission
Head of Delegation
Royal Government of Bhutan
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Mr. Chairman,
Honourable Colleagues,
Distinguished delegates,
Representatives from Bilateral and Multilateral Agencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Please accept Mr. Chairman, my delegation's congratulations on your election to the Chair of this very important 12th Governing Council of SACEP. We hope to make further strides in our co-operation under your wise guidance and leadership.

Bhutan would like to bring to the attention of the Hon' Members that, at the 9th GC meeting held in Bhutan, we agreed to focus on three major programme areas: 1) Waste management, 2) Adaptation to climate change and 3) Data management. We hope that under your leadership we will continue to make strides in these directions. Furthermore, issues that need special attention and adopted in this meeting should be the following:

- 1) Appointment of the Director General for the SACEP,
- 2) MoUs and Networking
- 3) SAARC Summit in Bhutan on Climate Change

Let me now briefly submit my details on the above points:

Firstly, we must seriously consider and agree on the deadline for the appointment of a new Director General. The further we delay the more complications and implications it will bring to the functioning of our organization. As agreed by the SACEP Focal Points at the Preparatory Meeting held from 1 – 2 November 2010, we should adopt the proposal as proposed. We would like to urge the member countries to support and extend full co-operation in appointing Director General as early as possible.

The Terms of Reference along with the entitlements needs to be revised according to current situation. In this connection, Bhutan would like to suggest that a working group of focal persons from member States be formed to develop clear and comprehensive "Terms of Reference" for the DG's responsibilities in SACEP. This should be submitted and circulated to the Hon' Members and GC Chairman for approval, at the earliest.

With regard to MoUs and Networks, keeping in mind the financial constraints and the in-house expertise and the capacity of the Secretariat, I want to urge that we be more realistic and focus on the priority areas of the region that were already identified at the last meeting. We approve the signing of several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with other agencies in the past. While appreciating the contributions of the previous Director Generals, I would like to suggest that any signing of MoUs in the future be limited to those that are mostly relevant to priority activities and include provision of both technical expertise and financial support to the Secretariat. Hence, I would like to urge the Secretariat to consider submitting details of any future signing of MoUs to the member States for review and endorsement before the final process is initiated.

Finally on the SAARC Summit with regard to climate change, we are all aware of the threat posed by climate change, due to which the SACEP GC has adopted “*adaptation to climate change*” as one of the priority programmes. Furthermore, the Heads of States and Governments at the Sixteenth SAARC Summit held in Thimphu, noted, that as all member States were seriously impacted by climate change, they agreed to formulate a common SAARC position on Climate Change. This common position will include issues such as garnering finance for adaptation and mitigation measures as well as technology transfer.

I request our member States to work in line with the Summit directives on these issues. I strongly urge that the SACEP Secretariat give due and special consideration to create an environment where member countries can learn, share and exchange experiences. Bhutan is keen to learn from the other member states that have already made successful attempts in adaptation and mitigation measures.

Bhutan is strongly committed to meeting the objectives of SACEP. As a member State, we fully extend our support to SACEP’s priority areas that are aimed at enhancing sustainable environmental development for its members. SACEP is one of the oldest regional institutions on environment established to help our member States to achieve mutually beneficial goals. It is, therefore, in our hand to steer the progress of SACEP. I am sure we will be able, under your leadership Mr. Chairman, to achieve further successes.

Bhutan would like to go down on record in thanking the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and all other donors, with special mention to SIDA for their support in SACEP activities. I would also like SACEP to continue to seek further support from Donors.

I would like to convey my appreciation for the hard work done by the SACEP Secretariat in the preparation for this very important meeting. In particular, I would like to thank Mrs. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General, for so efficiently undertaking the responsibilities of administration and management of the Secretariat.

On behalf of the Bhutanese delegation, I would like to thank the Government of Sri Lanka for their traditionally warm hospitality in this beautiful capital city of Colombo and wish all my colleagues a fruitful deliberations and pleasant stay.

Thank you and Tashi Delek.

Country Statement by

Mr. Hem Pande
Head of Delegation
Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

India again takes this opportunity to welcome you all to the 12th Governing Council Meeting of SACEP.

National Focal Points have discussed all the Institutional, Financial and Programmatic issues at a great length in an extremely cordial and constructive manner and a consensus reached on all issues.

In order to realize the potentials of the organization as a catalyst for regional environmental co-operation, the financial position of the organization needs to be further augmented. SACEP needs to look for innovative ways to augment resources besides mobilizing financial support from international donor agencies.

Sustainable development concerns in the sense of enhancement of human well-being, broadly conceived, are a recurring theme in India's development philosophy. The present day consensus reflects three foundational aspirations: First, that human being should be able to enjoy a decent quality of life; second, that humanity should become capable or respecting the finiteness of the biosphere; and third, that neither the aspiration for the good life, nor the recognition of biophysical limits should preclude the search for greater justice in the world. For this to occur there is a need for balance and harmony between economic, social and environmental needs of the country.

So far as India is concerned, the National Environment Policy (2006) has provided the guidelines for environmental management in the country. The policy is intended to be a statement of India's commitment to making a positive contribution to international affairs.

India has already committed itself to a path of sustainable development based on a graduated shift to the extent possible from the use of fossil fuels to renewable and clean energy.

Within the ambit of our National Action Plan on Climate Change (2008), India has already unveiled one of the world's most ambitious plans for promoting solar energy, targeting an installed capacity of 20,000 MW by the year 2022.

We have also launched an ambitious National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency that will put in place an innovative policy and regulatory regime to unlock the market for energy efficiency, estimated at over US\$ 15 billion. It is expected that the initiative will lead to avoidance of capacity addition of nearly 20,000 MW and reduced carbon dioxide emissions of almost 99 million tons.

India has around 22% of its land area under forests. This is significant, given India's growing population and high population density and this

sequesters around 10% of our annual greenhouse gas emissions. Our objective over the next decade under “the Green India Mission” will be to increase not just the quantity but the quality of our forest cover, since about 40% of it is degraded forest with little tree canopy and cover. This will enable us to at least maintain this level of carbon sequestration even as we maintain an 8-9% annual rate of real GDP growth.

It is becoming clear that the roots of the problem we face today are in the current patterns of global production and consumption, which are not sustainable. We are living on an overdraft on Nature’s resources and this is already threatening the ecological balance, which is the basis of our survival. India is mindful of the challenge we face, not as nations divided by frontiers, but as a world united as one common humankind. India also plays an important role in several significant international initiatives concerned with the environment including SACEP. It is party to the key multilateral agreements and recognizes the inter dependencies among, and trans-boundary character of, several environmental problems.

The National Environment Policy furthers this goal by committing us to multilateral and bilateral co-operation programmes for capacity building in environmental management, participate in mechanisms and arrangements under multilateral agreements for enhancing flows of resources for sustainable development and provide assistance to other developing countries, in particular for scientific and technical capacity building for environmental management.

I hope and wish that SACEP strengthens the South Asian Regional Environmental Co-operation in accordance with the decisions taken in this Governing Council Meeting showing desired results before the next Governing Council Meeting.

India places on record our appreciation to the excellent efforts made by Ms Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating DG, SACEP and her team in making the 12th Governing Council Meeting a great success and in taking up various activities under the aegis of SACEP. A big ‘thank you’ to you all.

India also thanks all the member countries and Consultative Committee of SACEP for extending full co-operation to India, while on Chair of SACEP Governing Council from May 2008.

We are grateful to Government of Sri Lanka for immaculate arrangements and outstanding hospitality.

Thank you.

Country Statement by

Hon' Mr. Mohamed Aslam
Minister of Housing and Environment
Head of Delegation
Republic of Maldives
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Dear Ministers,
Colleagues,
Good morning

We are living through the most challenging times that the mankind has ever faced since we evolved on the face of the earth. Perhaps I should not say that on the face of earth, because there are different beliefs that life existed in different forms in earlier than that.

Climate change and the loss of biodiversity, these two issues are the most important. Just recently we were in Nagoya discussing the issues of loss of biodiversity. For the past 10 -12 years we have been discussing on both climate change and loss of biodiversity with little progress to find solutions to problems we have. As politicians we should be ashamed of the achievements. We should not be parsing ourselves for failing to find a solution to the global challenges we have on climate change and loss of biodiversity.

I read that over exploitation of the species is the biggest cause of the problem we face on the loss of biodiversity. It's not all of us who are consuming these things or over exploiting them – it's just few greedy companies and groups across the globe that does this. I understand that, from WWF reports that over 90% of the world's large marine fish species have been already fished out. The ecosystem cannot rebound or regenerate itself at the rate we are consuming it. If we continue this lifestyle we are distinct to be doomed. This is an absolute certainty. The science of climate change is absolute - we all know what is causing it. We all know it is the development path we chose since the industrial revolution that has brought us to this stage. But we also have to acknowledge that it has brought a lot of development and lots of advancement. The industrial revolution and the burning of fossil fuels, has brought us, all what we enjoy – riding air-conditioned luxury cars, the air-conditioned homes and the comforts it provides also we all enjoy the fast travel between long distance countries;

Therefore we cannot go back to the age before the industrial revolution. We are not advocating that we should track back. But there must be an alternative way of maintaining this life style and continuing to enjoy what we have. There is a solution to the problems we have. We just need to make a commitment to do things. It may be difficult to start with, but unless we start from somewhere it's never going to happen. We all know that we are going to run out of fossil fuels. That is going to happen – and perhaps only then some of us will realize that we need to find a solution.

But if we want to be winners of this century, we have to choose the alternative path before we run out of fossil fuels. We just heard the Indian commitment on renewable energy. Some of you may be aware that we have made a commitment to go completely carbon neutral and choose a path of green development and transform our energy sector completely. It is not going to be easy but this is the

right choice and this is the right thing to do. We have to do it. After we announced our policy on this, about a year ago, we have been receiving lot of interest from various companies and firms and countries who are trying to assist us. Governments don't have to put big investments in power generation but should just make way for things. We must leave the old ways of doing things and make way for new technology. We must phase out the methods of energy production that we have been using since the industrial revolution. That is right thing to do and that is what we want to advocate.

On the subject of SACEP, although I have been in office during the past two years, I haven't heard much about it. This is my first meeting with SACEP at any level. I understand the reason for this may be not having a permanent Director General. Yesterday we resolved that issue - we are going to have a permanent Director General. But we must set clear goals and clear targets for ourselves. It cannot be just an organization that has meetings. The purpose of this should be that we achieve things, having agreements, which most of times is actually achieving nothing. I am not just talking about SACEP, I am talking about most organizations. Acknowledging what needs to be done in the end of the day is really nothing.

We must make a concrete plan for doing things. I have a request for member countries of SACEP including ourselves. We should focus ourselves in doing a few things. I request, that we focus mainly on two things: developing low carbon development path and on regenerating global biodiversity. It can be done - there are various ways of doing this.

I had a chance to see the film called the End of life - it's about the status of global fish stock in the ocean. There is a very alarming message in it. By 2100, which is about the time that it is said that Maldives will go under water, that we will run out of fish in the oceans. Good message in it was that they showed ways of regenerating the fish stocks by creating no take zones. They did make a proposal to us, we are evaluating that.

To come back to climate change, there is no point in talking about impacts of climate change and the impacts we are going to face because of climate change, but really we should talk about is what are the solutions to that. The only solution I can think is to choose an alternative energy path. To choose that, we should have a clear policy, a clear action plan, how we should do on renewable energy and alternative energy firstly and secondly on regenerating biodiversity.

We have to become believers first. Most of the countries around here in the SACEP region, we happen to be faithful believers of one religion or another. Most of us believe that we are the custodians of the world. God has put us as custodians of the world. We should not make mischief on earth. Making mischief on earth is not just killing people, making mischief on earth is not making quarrel between people, it's also about destructing the ecosystem. So if we don't do that we are not faithful believers, whether we are Muslims, or Christians, or Buddhists or Hindus. So I would really like our clerics, the monks, the imams and the priests, to take up this

subject and preach it our common people, tell the people not to consume more than what is required.

The way politics work is, unless people demand nothing will happen. It is the people who make the governments do things. Every community gets their opportunity to make sure that their governments listen to them. When they go for elections that's what really matter for the governments. They want to be re-elected and they will do anything to get re-elected. So the message, I like to give to the people of the globe makes sure that the governments listen to you. This cannot be resolved just by the governments, it has to be done by everyone as it is everyone's responsibility.

The last thing I want to say is that, we have to integrate SACEP and SAARC. So we must integrate and try to work together collectively and I am telling my officials that they should be more active in the activities of SACEP.

Mr Chair, you will be charring this organization for the next two years. We are just next door. I don't want to claim that we have too many resources, but anything you want from us will be there. I give you 100 percent political commitment to assist you to make this organization a fully functioning organization. Not just we come here and enjoy the meetings and the receptions. I really like to see something happening under this organization.

So thank you very much. It is all ways good to be in Sri Lanka. Hospitality is excellent.

Thank you very much.

Country Statement by

Mr. Suresh Adhikari
First Secretary to the Embassy of Nepal in Colombo
Head of Delegation
Government of Nepal
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Honourable Chairman

Honourable Ministers and Senior Officials of the member countries

Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a privilege for me to represent Nepal in this important meeting of the 12th Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP).

First of all, I wish to extend our sincere congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the Chair of the meeting. I wish to express my delegation's fullest support in leading the proceedings of the meeting to a success. Let me also thank the outgoing Chairman of the Governing Council for his excellent stewardship during the last years.

I would also like to thank the Government of Sri Lanka for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the meeting here in this beautiful city of Colombo.

Mr. Chairman, proper environment is the most basic necessity for every life; however, this is the time in the history of humanity when this very essential element is under constant threat. The issue of Climate Change has become a challenge to human existence with multidimensional threat to all living beings, global ecosystem and human civilization. The consequences of Climate Change have direct impact on our efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger and preserve ecological balance.

While the world, as a whole, is facing an unparalleled prolonged period of planetary warming and environmental degradation, however, geography and high population densities have rendered the South Asia region especially vulnerable to the impacts of the climate change. Floods and other natural disasters have become common and recurring phenomena in our region, every now and then causing innumerable loss of lives and destruction of already scarce resources.

Our country Nepal, a least developed and landlocked country with mountainous terrain, is highly vulnerable to the effects of the climate change. The Himalayas remain as the perennial source of fresh water for over a billion people of this Region. Global warming has precipitated melting of snow in the Himalayas and many of our glacial lakes are in the verge of outburst threatening unimaginable consequences and huge loss of lives and resources. Moreover, we already face extreme weather events, floods, soil degradation and desertification and quite visible symptoms of the climate change. Because of their fragility, mountain countries face special vulnerability to such phenomena and though countries like Nepal make least contribution to climate change yet they have to bear disproportionate impact. And it is the poor and vulnerable people among us who face its most severe effects.

At the national level, we are pursuing several measures to mitigate the adverse effects of the environmental degradation and climate change – such as afforestation programmes, promoting use of alternative sources of energy as well as hydropower generation. However, there is a need for collaborative efforts. Poor countries need assistance in capacity-building and other resources to cope with such issues.

SACEP, being the oldest regional player in the environmental co-operation in South Asia, must come up with innovation and dynamism to tackle the burning issues of environment in this Region, and it's up to us to guide and steer the institution for the benefit of the Region. When we reaffirm Nepal's commitment to face the environmental issues together with other fellow countries in the region, we also believe that together we can achieve the target of making our region a safe place for the future generation.

We thank the officials at the SACEP Secretariat for their hard work towards the preparation for the organization of this meeting.

We wish SACEP every success in all its future endeavours.

Thank you.

Country Statement by

**Mr. Muhammad Javed Malik
Secretary, Ministry of Environment
Head of Delegation
Government of Pakistan
at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka**

3rd November 2010

Honourable Minister Environment, Government of Democratic Socialist Republic Sri Lanka,

Honourable Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Assalamo Alaikum and Good Morning to all of you,

It is indeed a matter of great pride and privilege for me to represent Pakistan on the occasion of the 12th Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme here in this beautiful city of Colombo.

At the very outset, I would like to express gratitude to the Government of Sri Lanka and to SACEP for making excellent arrangements for this meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to us.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The issue of environment is a transformational challenge of our times.

Today it stands as a multi-dimensional developmental challenge. Environmental degradation is both a challenge and a reality for thinkers, planners, policy makers and professionals across the board. As home to the highest number of people living below poverty line, South Asia is a region where we already confront serious and difficult development challenges. A rapidly changing climate and fast deteriorating and depleting land, water and air resources is unfortunately further exacerbating the situation, as the poor are usually the hardest hit, being the most vulnerable group.

The IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report on Climate Change, identified South Asia as a region most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Challenge of the Environment is not a remote theoretical idea any more. With all its severity and unpredictability, the concept of environmental disaster has already become a reality for over 180 million Pakistanis, this year.

The massive devastation caused by the recent floods in Pakistan reconfirms South Asia's vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change.

More than 20 million people have been affected; 8 million are still homeless; 1.8 million houses destroyed; 2 million hectares of cultivatable land damaged; 1.3 million hectares of cotton, rice, sugarcane, maize and orchards destroyed; 1.2 million large and small cattle and 6 million poultry perished.

The issue of environment has remained a neglected subject in the past in our part of the World, yet it is this neglect which is polluting and poisoning our rivers, our land and air, resulting in loss of habitat for animals, plants and humans alike. In a study conducted by the World Bank, the economic cost of environmental degradation in Pakistan was estimated at Rs. 365

billion per year, or 6% of the GNP. I will not be surprised if the figure is similar in the region.

But while the issue of environment is a challenge, it also presents an opportunity. In recent years, the issue of environment has taken center stage in international affairs, with the recognition that climatic and the associated environmental changes will fundamentally alter the way of life known to man for generations. This is compelling reason to act, and to act NOW.

We at SACEP have our work cut out for us, we must actively endeavor to create a framework which can spark relevant and specific policies and interventions needed to address the issue of environment through increased institutional capacity, mainstreaming environmental concerns in development planning for sustainable growth, South-South Co-operation in Environmentally Sustainable Technologies (EST) and sharing of information and generally improving the quality of life by decreasing poverty and arresting environmental degradation.

Through this meeting, and with our common heritage and experience as our guide, we hope to evolve a common understanding to meet the challenges and threats posed by environmental degradation.

I thank you all.

Statement Delivered by

Dr. Young-Woo Park
Regional Director and Representative
United Nations Environment Programme for
Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) at the
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Colombo, Sri Lanka

3rd November 2010

Your Excellencies (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka)

Distinguished Senior Officials from SACEP member countries

Distinguished Representatives from UN and other agencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Government of Sri Lanka for hosting the 12th Governing Council (GC) of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) and for the warm hospitality in Colombo. I would like to thank the SACEP Secretariat for inviting UNEP to the GC. I understand the GC is meeting after 2 years and therefore, the expectation is high from the meeting.

Sustainable Development in South Asia

I would like to highlight some of the sustainable development challenges in South Asia.

- § About 1.33 billion people live there – The third of all Asians and the fifth of all the people in the world. South Asia remains among the world's poorest region, with more than half a billion poor people.
- § The South Asian economy has grown at an average of 5.2 per cent during the 1991-2000 period and is projected to achieve higher economic growth during the 2002-2015 period.
- § According to State of the Environment (SOE) and Global Environment Outlook (GEO) reports,
 - South Asia occupies 4.8% of the world's total land area, and land degradation is a major problem in all South Asian countries;
 - 18.6% of the land area of South Asia is under forests; arable land per capita is decreasing in South Asia;
 - Water quality in rivers across South Asia has been consistently deteriorating; water availability per capita has decreased in most of the countries in South Asia except in Nepal and Sri Lanka where it has increased in the past decade;
 - Air quality in major cities in South Asia has deteriorated in the past decade; and
 - South Asia accounts for nearly 15.6% of the global floral and 12% of the faunal diversity.

- § The South Asia Environment Outlook 2009 identified the key environmental concerns: i) Climate Change; ii) Food Security; iii) Water Security; iv) Energy Security; and v) Managing Urbanization.

UNEP's mandate

UNEP has the following mandate in the region:

- § Provide leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples in Asia and the Pacific
- § Provide service to the region so that UNEP's technical expertise and resources better accessed in the region
- § Representation and Visibility
- Decisions of the UNEP Governing Council effectively implemented in the region
 - Regional concerns and priorities reflected in UNEP's programme
 - Regional Office is the face of UNEP in the region and strategically placed to identify and address national environmental priorities.
- § Partnerships forged with intergovernmental bodies to strengthen collective environmental management and address common and trans-boundary issues at the sub regional level.
- § UNEP's Programme of Work is covering 6 thematic areas
- Climate change
 - Disaster and Conflicts
 - Ecosystem Management
 - Environmental Governance
 - Hazardous Substance and Hazardous Waste
 - Resource Efficiency – sustainable production and consumption

SACEP – UNEP Co-operation

- § SACEP is one of the foremost intergovernmental agencies committed to promoting environment and sustainable development in the region. Through its 28 years of existence, the agency has strived to address environmental issues through the promotion of sub-regional co-operation. UNEP has been supporting the Secretariat since its inception and have implemented many programme in collaboration with SACEP.
- § UNEP assisted SACEP with preparation of SACEP Programme of Work 2006-07 and 07-08; developing concept papers on Climate Change, Waste Management and Data and Information Management, and assisted in organizing Senior Officials and Ministerial meetings.

- § UNEP has worked closely with SACEP Secretariat to deliver services to countries in South Asia, namely preparation of State of the Environment Reports, Male' Declaration on transboundary air pollution, environment education, MEAs, etc.
- § I understand that the 2nd Task Force Meeting of the Male' Declaration will jointly be organized by UNEP and SACEP and is scheduled on 29-30 Nov 2010 in Colombo.
- § I strongly believe that this co-operation is crucial in enhancing environmental sustainability in the region. UNEP remains committed to supporting the South Asian countries in environmental conservation through the partnership.
- § I am hopeful that the 12th GC will take a decision on the following:
- Strengthen the Secretariat through appointing a new Director General as soon as possible;
 - An early appointment of a Co-ordinator for the South Asian Seas programme; and
 - Finalize a new programme of work for 2011-13.
- § At the end, I would like to thank once again to Excellency Chair and the Secretariat for the invitation and looking forward to the successful deliberation.

12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP
Decision No. 9.2.7

Clean Fuels and Vehicles

Realizing the significant and increasing impacts that air pollutants can have on health, crops, natural ecosystems, man-made environment and their socio-economic consequences for South Asian countries,

Recalling the recommendations of representatives of governments at the Regional Workshop on Clean Fuels and Vehicles held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 22 – 23 March 2010 organized by SACEP in collaboration with UNEP's PCFV,

Mindful that vehicles, both gasoline and diesel, emit significant quantities of nitrogen oxides, Sulphur oxides, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons which are harmful to human beings, other forms of life and the environment,

Understanding the strong linkages between emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases and its connection to Global warming and climate change,

Commending the South Asian countries' efforts to successfully phase out leaded gasoline and the significant steps taken by individual countries to improve fuel quality and vehicle standards,

Considering that the introduction of cleaner fuels along with policies and programmes for more efficient vehicles would minimize the air pollution in the region,

Recognizing that air pollution takes a high toll on the health, environment and economies of South Asian countries, and that the transport sector is one of the sources responsible for rapidly increasing emissions,

Mindful that political and technological solutions exist and have proven their effectiveness in many places around the world and that it is necessary to provide financial support and transfer of technology to the developing countries like South Asia's

DECIDE:

1. Promote low Sulphur fuels within Countries of the South Asia region:
 - ü Work towards an ultimate goal for the region to be 10ppm Sulphur in fuel, with the intermediary goal of 50ppm Sulphur;
 - ü Develop a road map, with a timeframe, on the necessary steps to achieve these goals, including refinery upgrades (where appropriate), and changes in regulations governing fuel quality, emission standards and vehicle fuel economy etc;

- ü Develop an innovative and strategic financial mechanism, and incremental funding through bilateral/multi-lateral aid;
 - ü Each country to develop clean development mechanism and to promote public – private partnership in order to promote cleaner fuels and vehicles;
 - ü Ensure that all policies, programmes and taxes are harmonised to eliminate negative signals that promote dirtier fuel and vehicles;
 - ü SACEP countries to eventually harmonise fuel and vehicle standards across the region;
2. Promote clean vehicles within Countries of the South Asia region:
- ü Develop a policy, or update an existing policy, on the importation of second hand vehicles;
 - ü Ensure that the vehicle fleet within the country meets ever-tightening standards with regards to age and / or emissions, fuel efficiency etc;
 - ü Establish an inspection programme linked to emission standards of in-country vehicles, as well as ensuring that imported vehicles meet certain requirements (based on age and / or technology, such as catalytic converters etc);
3. Promote clean transport systems within Countries of the South Asia region:
- ü Develop a holistic transport policy that promotes public and non-motorised transport;
 - ü Establish a platform for coordinating the different government departments and agencies that are involved in transport or in issues that impact transport;
 - ü Ensure that all transport and road related projects include funds and space to provide facilities and infrastructure for non-motorised, people-friendly transport (sidewalks, protected bike lanes, bicycle rickshaw lanes etc), as recommended by UNEP's Share the Road programme;
 - ü Initiate awareness raising for public support of clean transport initiatives;
4. SACEP to create platforms for technical assistance and capacity building between countries, through technical meetings and case studies, in which countries can share best practices and advances in research and development, thus contributing to regional advancement as well as development and adoption of new fuel and vehicle technologies.
5. SACEP to facilitate promotion and enhance transfer of technology among member countries and from developed countries as well.

APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME OF SACEP YEAR 2011 - 2012

PROGRAMME AREAS		FUNDING
5.1.1 Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia		US \$ 100,000.00 (In Kind Contribution of SACEP)
5.1.2 - Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia. SACEP signed an MoU with UNEP within the framework of the 'Phase IV of the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia'.		US \$ 20,000.00
5.1.3 - Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM) SACEP has proposed to hold a Capacity Building Programme, on chemical management for South Asia region		US \$ 40,000.00 (Estimated Budget) SAICM secretariat still searching possible funding.
5.1.4 - Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia Three local capacity building workshops in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Sri Lanka with the financial assistance of Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and UNESCO. Held bi-lateral discussions with Belgian CHM National Focal Point and CBD secretariat to implement the project proposal on establishment of South Asia regional CHM.		US \$ 245,196.00 (Estimated Budget) Funding for National Activities (Completed) US \$ 17,500.00
5.1.5 - International Day of Biodiversity		Commitment expressed from the US Embassy in Colombo for Year 2011 to organize the activity in Sri Lanka US \$ 5,000.00
5.1.6 - Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010 UNEP entrusted SACEP to prepare the Outlook Report for the South Asian Seas Region and the Report was launched at the CDB Cop 10, Nagoya, Japan in October 2010. Negotiations are underway to secure funds to prepare a Separate Report for the South Asian Region		Completed

Annex XVII
GC 12.SACEP

**APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME OF SACEP
YEAR 2011 - 2012**

PROGRAMME AREAS	FUNDING
<p>5.1.7 - Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)</p> <p>SACEP became a partner of the PCFV in 2008 with the view of assisting the member countries to build their capacity in the area concerned. SACEP participated at the 7th Global Partnership Meeting of PCFV held from 28 to 30 April 2009. As a result of this forum SACEP secured funds from UNEP to organize a Capacity Building Regional Workshop for Senior Officials of South Asia</p> <p>These recommendations were considered and incorporated to the work programme 2010 – 2011 which will also be in the ministerial statement.</p>	
<p>5.1.8 - Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)</p> <p>SACEP proposed to hold National EST training workshops in its member countries followed by a Regional Workshop to develop a Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Strategy and Action Plans for South Asia. An estimated budget was submitted to the UNCRD in this regard.</p> <p>UNCRD agreed to organize a Regional Training Workshop in collaboration with SACEP as the first phase and in the 2nd Phase to assist in organizing National Level Training Programmes.</p>	<p>US \$ 35,000.000</p>
<p>5.1.9 - South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)</p> <p>Through the “JAIPUR DECLARATION” adopted at the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP at Jaipur, India on 22 May 2008, it has been agreed to the establishment of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) and the South Asia Regional Strategic Plan on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade (2008 –2013) subject to dropping all references to Sustainable Livelihood Security, Market, Trade Mechanisms etc to bring it in line with the CITES.</p> <p>Government of Nepal agreed to host the 1st meeting of the Experts Group meeting to establish SAWEN in which the structure and focus of SAWEN will be decided. SACEP sent official notification to all its 8 member countries for requesting nominations for the Expert Group and one member state has expressed reservation.</p>	<p>On hold</p>

APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME OF SACEP YEAR 2011 - 2012

PROGRAMME AREAS	FUNDING
<p>5.1.10 - Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management Systems and Waste Management</p> <p>The above two proposals developed under a MoU signed between UNEP-ROAP and SACEP were approved at the 11GC.SACEP as a future programme activity of the organization.</p> <p>SACEP forwarded the approved project proposals to UNEP-ROAP requesting funds for implementation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has been informed by UNEP that as an initial step funds will be allocated to hold a Regional Workshop for the South Asian Region on Data Information Management by the first quarter of 2011. 2. Waste Management Proposal 	<p style="text-align: right;">US \$ 2,847,000.00 (Estimated Budget)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">US \$ 35,000.00 (Committed)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">US \$ 331,000.00 (Estimated Budget)</p>

Annex XVII
GC 12.SACEP

PROJECTS SANCTIONED FROM 2009 - 2010

Activity	Donor	Budget US \$
Project Sanctioned by European Commission for the SACEP/ICRAN Coral Reef Work in South Asia	European Commission	24,734.00
MoU between UNEP SACEP for UNEP's Asian Tsunami Disaster Task Force	UNEP	5,000.00
MoU between SACEP and UNEP, Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC-AP) / On Agreed Programme under Phase IV implementation of the Male' Declaration	UNEP-RRC-AP	20,000.00
Training Workshop on Marine Resources Sampling, Data Collection & Interpretation for the South Asian Seas, India	UNEP	25,000.00
Same as above	Government of India - In kind Contribution	80,000.00 (Approx)
Agreement between SACEP and UNEP-WCMC for preparation of the Outlook Report for the South Asian Seas Region	UNEP	10,000.00
National Workshops on Blue Flag Beach Certification Programme for South Asia	UNEP	10,000.00
Regional Workshop on Clean Fuels & Vehicles	UNEP	35,361.00
MoU between SACEP and UNEP - ROAP / Assistance to conduct 12 th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP	UNEP	15,000.00
Funds received for Meeting/Conference participation - Year 2009 - 2010	From Donors (UNEP/World Bank)	26,909.73
TOTAL		252,004.73

APPROVED SECRETARIAT BUDGET FOR 2011 - 2012

	INCOME US \$	EXPENDITURE US \$
1 ANTICIPATED INCOME		
1.1 BANGLADESH	21,300.00	
BHUTAN	3,555.00	
INDIA	31,850.00	
MALDIVES	14,575.00	
NEPAL	8,050.00	
PAKISTAN	31,850.00	
SRI LANKA	16,220.00	
SUB TOTAL COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS	127,400.00	
AFGHANISTAN	8,050.00	
TOTAL COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS	135,450.00	
1.2 Interest earned (SACEP-CC)	10,000.00	
1.3 Secretariat Cost from Sri Lanka	45,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	190,450.00	
2 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE		
2.1 Salary Director General		54,000.00
2.2 Salaries of Local Staff		47,000.00
2.3 International Travel		20,000.00
2.4 Secretariat Cost		60,000.00
SUB TOTAL		181,000.00
3 Capital Costs		17,500.00
4 TOTAL EXPENDITURE		198,500.00
5 INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		(8,050.00)

12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP
Decision No 11

South Asia's Biodiversity Beyond 2010

We, the Environmental Ministers of South Asian Countries viz. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka assembled in Colombo, Sri Lanka at the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP on 3rd November 2010;

Aware that Biodiversity is essential for human life which generates goods and services including the provision of food and medicine, regulation of climate and water flow, supporting of soil formation and cultural values;

Emphasizing the role played by healthy ecosystems at the global, regional and national levels in moderating the effects of climate change;

Noting that the biodiversity loss has negative impacts on climate change and that the two are among the main global environmental challenges

Recognizing the important role of South Asia's Biodiversity towards economic development and ecosystem services for the well being of our people and the world community at large;

Acknowledging the positive steps taken by governments of South Asia and the other various institutions and organizations to conserve the region's rich biodiversity individually and collectively and understanding that much more need to be done;

Appreciating the initiatives taken by world leaders in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Expressing grave concern that the 2010 Biodiversity targets to halt the loss of biodiversity has not been reached;

Noting that the limited technical and financial resources had been an obstacle to achieving the 2010 target in South Asian countries;

Noting the 2020 targets and the Strategic Plan for the Period 2011 – 2020 adopted by the CBD CoP10 on 29th October 2010 at Nagoya, Japan;

Recognizing that the current rate of loss is a serious threat to the existing Biodiversity and immediate measures are required to reverse the loss of biodiversity

Emphasizing the importance of a holistic ecosystem management approach to biodiversity, poverty alleviation and economic development, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

Conscious that public awareness achieved through information, educational and motivational programmes on sustainable use of biodiversity positively contribute towards biodiversity conservation, human health and wellbeing, as well as economic development

Urge South Asian Governments and stakeholders to take necessary measures in conjunction with the international community to implement decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CBD and the actions identified in the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook to curb the continuing loss of biodiversity;

Emphasize the need for increased support to strengthen capacity for the implementation of the obligation of the Convention, in line with the updated Strategic Plan 2011-2020, including support for the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans

Urge SACEP to forge greater links and interaction with SAARC in line with the MoU signed between the two and also to take note of the signing of the SAARC Convention on Co-operation on Environment.

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Report of the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points For the Twelfth Meeting of the Governing Council 1st and 2nd November 2010 Colombo, Sri Lanka

1. 1 INTRODUCTION

The Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points for the Twelfth Governing Council Meeting was held on 1st and 2nd November 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

It was agreed that the Report of the Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points on the various Agenda items would form the basis of discussion for the Twelfth Governing Council Meeting.

1. 2 ATTENDANCE

The Meeting was attended by representatives from the following Member Countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

It was also attended by representatives from United Nations Environment Programme – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) and UNEP-Partnership for Clean Fuel and Vehicles (UNEP-PCFV).

List of Participants is in **Annex 1**.

1. 3 INAUGURATION

The welcome Address was delivered by Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General, SACEP (**Annex 2**)

Opening Remarks was delivered by Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka. (**Annex 3**)

Inaugural Address was delivered by Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Minister of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka. (**Annex 4**)

Closing Remarks was delivered by the Out-going Chairman, Mr. Hem Pande, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, India. (**Annex 5**)

2. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

In conformity with the Rules of Procedures of the Governing Council of SACEP, the following Office Bearers were elected.

Chairman	-	Dr. R.H.S Samaratunga, Sri Lanka
Vice Chairmen	-	Hon. Dasho Paljor J. Dorji, Bhutan
Vice Chairman	-	Mr. Muhammad Javed Malik, Pakistan
Rapporteur	-	Mr. Anura Jayathilake, Sri Lanka

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORGANISATION OF WORK

Under this agenda item, the Provisional Agenda for the Meeting was discussed and adopted. (**Annex 6**)

4. INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SACEP

The meeting appointed a three member committee comprising of Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to resolve the matter of the Appointment of DG-SACEP on merit. Bhutan was requested to facilitate the negotiations.

Based on the recommendation of the sub-committee, it was decided that first option to propose a candidate as DG-SACEP to be given to Sri Lanka for a period of three years followed by Pakistan.

Thereafter, principle of rotation will be followed starting from the alphabetical order beginning from Afghanistan for a period of three years as per the decision of the High Level Meeting to Initiate the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme in February 1981, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

It was decided that the criteria for the selection of Director General and the Terms of Reference are to be drafted by the SACEP Secretariat and to be circulated to the member countries for comments within one month.
(**Annex 7**)

5. PROGRAMME MATTERS

5.1 PRESENTATION OF PROJECT STATUS REPORT BY THE OFFICIATING DIRECTOR GENERAL, SACEP

The Officiating Director General presented the project implementation status report under each Agenda Item. (**Annex 8**)

5.1.1. Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia

The meeting was informed by the SACEP Secretariat that an updated proposal on Establishment of Basel Convention

Regional Centre for South Asia was submitted and was taken into discussion at the 7th Open Ended Working Group meeting of the Basel Convention held in May 2010.

In-house capacity building needs of SACEP and financial implications to establish such a center was discussed under the agenda Item.

SACEP Secretariat will continue to have deliberations with the Basel Regional Center established in Iran in this regard.

5.1.2. Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia

The Meeting was informed by the SACEP Secretariat that as per the recommendations of the 10th and 11th GC-SACEP, a MoU was signed with UNEP Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific for the implementation of the Phase IV of the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia.

5.1.3. Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

10th GC-SACEP adopted a resolution on SAICM and based on the decision a Capacity Building Programme on chemical management for South Asia region was proposed. The SAICM Secretariat is still searching possible funding.

5.1.4 Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia

The meeting was informed that the SACEP Secretariat has already undertaken three local - level capacity building initiatives in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and discussions had been held with the Royal Belgium Institute of Natural Sciences and the CBD Secretariat in which they agreed to assist in mobilizing funds.

Delegates while complimenting Government of Sri Lanka for the collaborative efforts with SACEP to organize three national workshops stressed the need for extending this activity to the rest of the region.

SACEP's collaboration with Government of India was requested as India is hosting CBD CoP11.

5.1.5. International Day of Biodiversity

The Meeting was informed that, SACEP Secretariat in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka carried out activities to commemorate International Biodiversity day in year 2009 and 2010.

5.1.6. Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010

SACEP Secretariat informed the Meeting that this activity was undertaken on the request of UNEP-GPA Office and that the global report was launched at the CBD COP 10 held in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010.

Negotiations are underway to ensure funds to prepare a separate report for the South Asian Region.

The importance of this work was highlighted as the region is needed to do more work on marine environmental issues.

5.1.7. Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)

The meeting was informed that SACEP Secretariat became a partner of the PCFV initiative of UNEP in 2008, which resulted in signing of a MoU to conduct a capacity building workshop for high-level officials in the member countries. The recommendations made by the country representatives were to be implemented by SACEP.

These recommendations were incorporated to the work programme 2011 – 2012 which will also be in the ministerial statement.

Further a presentation was made by Dr Thusitha Sugathapala, Sri Lanka country partner of Clean Air, representing UNEP - PCFV, highlighted the contribution of transport sector for Global CO₂ emission. It was stressed that the importance of looking at systematic approach where mechanized transport and fuels are considered in an integrated manner. The need for fuel quality improvement; Lower sulfur fuels; Adopt cleaner vehicles and technologies – emission control by regulations and Fuel efficiency policies were also mentioned.

With a few amendments, the meeting agreed upon the wording on the Declaration on Cleaner Fuel and Vehicles prepared by the SACEP Secretariat based on the recommendations of the regional meeting. (**Annex 9**)

5.1.8. Environmentally Sustainable Transport System (EST)

The meeting was informed that the above activity was initiated as a result of a MoU signed between SACEP and the United Nations Center for Regional Development (UNCRD) to promote Environmentally Sustainable Transport in South Asia in 2008 and was approved by the 11th GC-SACEP.

SACEP in collaboration with UNCRD will be carrying out regional and national level workshops.

5.1.9. South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)

The Meeting was informed by the SACEP Secretariat that under the “Jaipur Declaration” adopted at the 11th GC-SACEP, it was agreed to establish a South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network and a Regional Strategic Plan on combatting wildlife trade in the region.

Due to unavoidable circumstance, the establishment of the expert group is pending.

5.1.10 Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management System and Waste Management

The above two proposals developed under a MoU signed between UNEP-ROAP and SACEP were approved at the 11th GC-SACEP. SACEP forwarded the approved project proposals to UNEP-ROAP requesting funds for implementation.

It has been informed by UNEP-ROAP that as an initial step funds will be allocated to hold a Regional Workshop for the South Asian Region on Data Information Management in 2011.

5.1.11 South Asian Seas Programme (SASP)

The progress of the activities of the South Asian Seas Programme was reported as given below : -

- a) UNEP/ EU Funded Project on MCPAs in Coral Reef Ecosystems in South Asia
- b) Endorsement for the Formal Adoption of the Regional Oil and Chemical Pollution Contingency Plan for South Asia
- c) Regional Workshop on the Implementation & Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention – October 2009 – Malaysia

- d) On-board Training Workshop on Marine Resources Sampling, Data Collection and Interpretation for the South Asian Seas
- e) Regional HNS Operational Level Workshop, May 2010
- f) World Ocean Day Activity
- g) Blue Flag Beach Certification Programme for South Asia
- h) International Coastal Clean-up day
- i) 30th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation, 24- 29 April 2010 in Goa, India

The SACEP Secretariat informed that the 5th Inter-governmental Meeting of Ministers of the South Asian Seas Programme is expected to be held in mid 2011.

5.2. WORK PROGRAMME (2011-2012)

The meeting reviewed the Proposed Work Programme for 2011 - 2012 and recommended to 12th GC-SACEP for approval.
(**Annex 10**)

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS

SACEP Secretariat thanked the member states for clearing the Arrears of the Country Contribution to a commendable rate. Further it was informed that Government of Afghanistan resumed contributing to the SACEP Country Contribution from Year 2008. (**Annex 11**)

6.2 EXTERNAL FUNDING

External financing secured during the period of 2009 - 2010 is in **Annex 12**.

6.3 DRAFT SECRETARIAT BUDGET (2011-2012)

The meeting reviewed the Draft Secretarial Budget for 2011 - 2012 and recommended to 12th GC-SACEP for endorsement.
(**Annex 13**)

6.4 PRESENTATION OF AUDITED REPORT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2007 / 2008

The meeting recommended to the 12th GC-SACEP, the Audited Report of Accounts for the year 2007 and 2008 for approval.

7. DRAFT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

The meeting agreed on a Ministerial Statement on 'South Asia's Biodiversity beyond 2010' and recommended to 12th GC-SACEP for endorsement. (**Annex 14**)

8. VENUE AND DATE FOR THE 13TH GOVERNING COUNCIL

SACEP Secretariat informed the meeting the tradition of hosting Meeting of the Governing Councils on rotation basis. Representative of Pakistan agreed to host the 13th GC-SACEP with the concurrence of the Government of Pakistan.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Under this Agenda Item, the Delegate from Maldives raised the issue of termination of a Senior Staff Member of SACEP. The Secretariat circulated the relevant documents and the Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meetings related to the termination and explained the sequence of events. (**Annex 15**)

Delegates placed on record that the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made by SACEP Secretariat and the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka to make this event a success.

11. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Meeting adopted the above recommendations for submission to the 12th Governing Council for its endorsement.

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points for

12th Meeting of the Governing Council

1 - 2 November 2010

Colombo, Sri Lanka

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**Inaugural Session of
Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points for
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)**

**Colombo, Sri Lanka
1st November 2010**

**Welcome Address by
Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera
Officiating Director General of SACEP**

Distinguished Delegates from All the Member Countries of SACEP

Honoured Delegates from UN and other International Agencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Officiating Director General of SACEP it is a great privilege and honour to welcome you on behalf of SACEP for the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points for the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP.

At the very outset, let me thank Government of Sri Lanka for so graciously offering to host this important event. I am also grateful to our National Focal Points and to the Consultative Committee Members for their co-operation in making this meeting a reality.

I particularly recognise the role played by UNEP in assisting SACEP for undertaking our programme activities within our region.

Distinguished delegates,

As you are aware, we are in our 28th Year of existence and throughout the past 28 years, SACEP has had many milestones but unfortunately time does not allow me to list all our initiatives.

From our last Governing Council held in Jaipur, India to date, SACEP as an institution has gone through many transformations and now we need your expert guidance to go forward catering to the needs of the region to achieve sustainable development.

Incorporating environmental concerns to the development agenda is a challenge we are facing today as a region, especially at a time when our governments are striving to accelerate economic growth to meet the needs of the growing population. Our region has many goals to meet, including eliminating extreme poverty to be on par with the developed world.

On the other hand, our natural environment provides us with the basics of survival – the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink, and the fuels we use. The natural environment plays an important role in climate, flood and disease regulation. It also contributes to the cultural, educational and recreational aspects of our lives. As we are well aware the current impacts of environmental degradation are not only felt locally.

The effects of climate change, depletion of the ozone layer, acid rain and trans-boundary air pollution have all increasingly been felt on a more global scale.

Further countries need to join hands to protect migratory species such as turtles, birds, dolphins and whales. Some of our countries also share important habitats such as mangroves and coral reefs, where inter-governmental conservation efforts are needed to safeguard these biodiversity repositories for our future generations.

When you consider the environment field in the international context, it is a field where there is constant change and is always in a state of flux. For example now we have to look beyond the 2010 target for biodiversity conservation and gear ourselves to meet new strategies proposed for 2020. We have to learn and adopt to meet these changing scenarios at national levels.

I wish to place on record the support we have received from our National Focal Points, UNEP and related UN agencies in taking this programme forward and I look forward to their continued support.

In conclusion I must say that only with the collaborative efforts of the Governments and every individual in society that we can implement the necessary measures to tackle environment challenges we face in our region today.

I wish today's meeting a great success and I thank each and every one of you for being present here in spite of your busy schedules and other pressing commitments.

**Inaugural Session of
Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points for
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)**

**Colombo, Sri Lanka
1st November 2010**

**Opening Remarks by
Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunge, Secretary
Ministry of Environment
Government of Sri Lanka**

Ayubowan and Good Morning

Hon' Anura Priyadarashana Yapa, Minister of Environment, Sri Lanka,
Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, it is a privilege and honour for me as the Secretary – Ministry of Environment on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka to welcome all of you this morning to the Inaugural Session of the Preparatory Meeting of the Senior Officials of the National Focal Points of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme.

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) is an inter-governmental organization established by the Governments of South Asia namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Its mission is to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region. The Colombo Declaration and Articles of Association of SACEP constitute the legal basis for SACEP.

The principle organs of the governance structure of SACEP are the Governing Council (GC), Consultative Committee (CC), National Focal Point (NEP), Subject Area Focal Points and the SACEP Secretariat.

The Governing Council consists of the Environment Ministers of all the membership of SACEP. The Governing Council is the principal review and deliberative body of SACEP, who is responsible for determining policies and programmes. The decisions of the Council shall be preceded in a co-operative spirit, and shall endeavour at all times to reach agreement by consensus.

Hon' Minister,
Distinguished Delegates,

Since, Sri Lanka is hosting this important meeting, I take great pleasure in welcoming Hon' Anura Priyadarashana Yapa, Minister of Environment as the Chief Guest to the

Inaugural Session of the Preparatory Meeting of the Senior Officials of the National Focal Points. Your presence today at this inauguration shall give us added strength to discuss the various agenda items listed for discussion, today and tomorrow.

I am glad to welcome all the Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Environment and Senior Officials representing respective Governments who are present here today for this preparatory meeting for the SACEP Governing Council. Your co-operation and active participation at this meeting would clearly indicate your commitment, dedication you have attached to the importance of regional co-operation on protection and management of the environment of the region.

Hon Minister, Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

There are many items listed in the agenda for the deliberations during these two days. These agenda items mainly focus on how SACEP should direct its activities during next couple of years. The regional issues on biodiversity, climate change, air pollution, sustainable transport, chemicals and hazardous waste management, clean fuel etc are some of the key thematic areas which our deliberations should be focused at. I hope that we would be able to arrive at recommendations to be further decided at the Governing Council.

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I would like to thank Hon' Minister of Environment for his participation at this Inaugural Meeting and would also thank all the Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Senior Officials and other delegates who participate at the meeting. I further would like to thank all the officials of my Ministry, Officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministerial Security Division officials and the officials of the SACEP Secretariat for facilitating and making excellent arrangement for this meeting.

I hope we will have fruitful deliberations during the coming two days on SACEP future programme of Work.

Thank you.

**Inaugural Session of
Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points for
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)**

**Colombo, Sri Lanka
1st November 2010**

**Inaugural Address by
Hon' Mr. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Minister of Environment
Government of Sri Lanka**

Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all I take this opportunity to warmly welcome all of you to Sri Lanka, and to the Preparatory Meeting of the Senior Officials of the National Focal Points of SACEP for the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council. It is indeed a great honour and privilege for my Ministry to host this important meeting in Colombo and I hope, that we will have a successful outcome from it.

Distinguished Delegates,

Today, we are inaugurating this meeting at a very special juncture of our history. As a country we have been able to eliminate the terrorism from our motherland under the able leadership of H. E. The President, Mahinda Rajapaksa, and the country has been liberated to carry forward our development efforts for the well being of the people of this country. We have been able to overcome the terrorism which has become a bane for our development efforts for the last 30 years.

Ladies and gentlemen,

SACEP being an inter-governmental organization has almost 30 years of history in respect of regional co-operation toward the environmental issues, it has a commendable record of achievements. From the date of SACEP being established in 1981 in Colombo, we, the members of the SACEP have been able to carry out many programmes for the protection and management of the environment of the South Asian region. Implementation of Malé Declaration on the control of trans-boundary air pollutants of the region, South Asian Seas programme etc are some of the major programmes where SACEP is actively promoting.

Your excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At this meeting we are scheduled to discuss on key issues related to the future of SACEP and its two year work programme. We have identified that the SACEP secretariat is a key factor to liaise with SACEP Focal Points, donor and other International Agencies and also efficient co-ordination and programme implementation. I have no doubt that this meeting would be able to recommend unresolved issues of the organization of the SACEP.

It is also necessary for the countries in the region to discuss and work out the following key issues lined up in the agenda mainly on actively pursuing, the policies related to sustainable transport, clean fuels etc. Further we should give further attention in the area of capacity building and technology transfer among the countries in the region.

Your excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the deliberations of today and tomorrow we hope that, as Senior Official of the National Focal Points of SACEP you will be able to arrive at recommendations to the Governing Council for the successful management and protection of the environment of our region. I am proud to say that as a nation, we have been able to give our whole hearted co-operation and contribution fully towards engagement on regional environmental issues through SACEP.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, I complement SACEP in its endeavour to promote and support the protection, management and enhancement of the environment, both natural and human, of the countries of South Asia, individually, collectively and co-operatively.

I believe this meeting will result in fruitful deliberations and I wish this meeting every success. Further hope that you will experience the warmth, hospitality of the Sri Lankan people during your stay in our country.

Thank you.

**Inaugural Session of
Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points for
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of
South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)**

**Colombo, Sri Lanka
1st November 2010**

**Closing Remarks by
Mr. Hem Pande, Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests and
National Focal Point of SACEP**

Good Morning,

Your Excellency Minister of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka; Secretary, Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and Acting DG, SACEP,

Honourable Ministers from member countries, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen

May I at the outset convey our gratitude to our hosts, the Government of Sri Lanka, for organizing the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP. Thank you so much Your Excellency for the outstanding arrangements.

As the National Focal Point (NFP) for SACEP in India, it gives me immense pleasure in participating in the Preparatory Meeting of the NFPs of the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP.

Members would recall that we had last met at Jaipur in the State of Rajasthan in Western India in May 2008. That was on the eve of 11th Governing Council Meeting.

In the meantime, we in the South Asian Association for the Regional Cooperation (SAARC) have met at the Environment Ministers level, in October 2009, which was followed by SAARC Summit at Bhutan in April 2010, where an important Convention on Cooperation on Environment was signed at the Ministerial level in presence of the Heads of the States of each member country.

The SAARC Convention on Co-operation on Environment (SCCE), once ratified by all the member states will be an important instrument in guiding the regional co-operation in the field of environment. India has already ratified the SCCE. SACEP has the potential of becoming an important mechanism for realizing the regional co-operation envisaged therein.

Excellencies, friends you will recall that since 1987, the Heads of States of Governments of SAARC at successive summits have reiterated the need to strengthen and intensify regional co-operation to preserve, protect and manage the diverse and fragile ecosystems of the region including need to address the challenges posed by climate and loss of biological diversity. Most of us have just

come back from 10th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held at Nagoya, where two important landmark protocols were adopted, namely, Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; and Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) under the CBD.

More and more co-operation among regional member countries in the region will be a prerequisite for uniform application and implementation of these two protocols, once signed and ratified by the Parties to the CBD.

In this regard I will like to inform all the distinguished delegates here, that India will be hosting the 11th COP to CBD from October 1-19, 2012. I take this opportunity to seek the co-operation of all of you present here and through you of your respective governments, for successfully addressing the issues that concern all of us in the region, during the run up to the COP-11.

I know all the member countries are now gearing up to Cancun COP-16 to UNFCCC, pre-COP of which is taking place at Cancun on Nov 4 - 5, 2010.

South Asia is unique in many ways and we need unique solutions for improving the quality of life in the region.

Thank you all.

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points for 12th Governing Council Meeting of SACEP

Colombo, Sri Lanka
1 - 2, November 2010

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
9.00 – 9.30	1 Opening of the Meeting
09.30 – 10.00	TEA BREAK
10.00 – 10.10	2 Election of Office Bearers
10.10 – 10.30	3 Adoption of Agenda and Organisation of Work
10.30 – 12.00	4 Institutional Matters Appointment of Director General of SACEP
12.00 – 1.30	LUNCH
1.30 – 3.00	5 Programme Matters 5.1 Presentation of Project Status Report by the Officiating Director General, SACEP 5.1.1 Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia 5.1.2 Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia 5.1.3 Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) 5.1.4 Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia 5.1.5 International Day of Biodiversity 5.1.6 Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
	<p>5.1.7 Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)</p> <p>5.1.8 Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)</p> <p>5.1.9 South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)</p> <p>5.1.10 Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management Systems and Waste Management</p> <p>5.1.11 South Asian Seas Programme (SASP)</p>
3.00 – 3.30	TEA BREAK
3.00 – 3.45	5.2 Work Programme (2011 - 2012)
4.00 – 4.45	<p>6 Financial Matters</p> <p>6.1 Review of Country Contributions</p> <p>6.2 External Funding</p> <p>6.3 DRAFT Secretariat Budget (2011 -2012)</p> <p>6.4 Presentation of Audited Report of Accounts for the year 2007 & 2008</p>
4.45 – 5.00	7 Draft Ministerial Statement
5.00 – 5.15	8 Venue and Date for the 13 th Governing Council
5.15 – 5.30	9 Any Other Business
5.30 – 5.45	10 Adoption of Report
5.45	11 Closure of Meeting

SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Preparatory Meeting of National Focal Points for 12th Governing Council Meeting of SACEP

Colombo, Sri Lanka
1 - 2, November 2010

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
9.00 – 9.30	<p>1 OPENING OF THE MEETING</p> <p>It is expected that a Senior Dignitary from the Government of Sri Lanka will inaugurate the Meeting.</p>
9.30 – 10.00	TEA BREAK
10.00 – 10.10	<p>2 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS</p> <p>In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council of SACEP, a new Chairman will be elected in a manner consistent with the Articles of Association of SACEP. One or more Vice Chairman, a Rapporteur and other officials may also be appointed by the Meeting. The Officiating Director General shall function as the Secretary of the Governing Council during its sessions.</p>
10.10 – 10.30	<p>3 ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORGANISATION OF WORK</p> <p>The Meeting will consider the Provisional Agenda for adoption. Any matter regarding the Organisation of Work and the Sessions may also be considered.</p>
10.30 – 12.00	<p>4 INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS</p> <p>Under this Agenda Item, the meeting will consider and submit its recommendations to the Governing Council regarding the Appointment of the Director General of SACEP</p>

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
12.00 – 1.30	LUNCH
1.30 – 3.00	<p>5 PROGRAMME MATTERS</p> <p>5.1 The Officiating Director General will present the project implementation status report under each of the projects listed below:</p> <p>5.1.1 Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia</p> <p>5.1.2 Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia</p> <p>5.1.3 Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)</p> <p>5.1.4 Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia</p> <p>5.1.5 International Day of Biodiversity</p> <p>5.1.6 Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010</p> <p>5.1.7 Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)</p> <p>5.1.8 Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)</p> <p>5.1.9 Establishment of the South Asia Wildlife Trade Initiative (SAWTI) for Combating Illegal Trade in Wildlife and Strengthening Enforcement of CITES in the Region</p> <p>5.1.10 Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management Systems and Waste Management</p> <p>5.1.11 South Asian Seas Programme (SASP)</p>
3.00 – 3.30	TEA BREAK

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
3.30 – 3.45	<p>5.2 WORK PROGRAMME (2011-2012)</p> <p>Under this Agenda Item, the meeting will consider the approved work programme for 2008-2010 and make suggestions for its continuance through 2011-2012</p>
4.00 – 4.45	<p>6 FINANCIAL MATTERS</p> <p>Under this agenda item, the meeting will consider the review of the Country Contributions, External Funding, the Draft Secretarial Budget for 2011-2012. It will also consider the Audit Reports of Accounts for the year 2007 and 2008 for endorsement.</p>
4.45 – 5.00	<p>7 DRAFT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT</p> <p>Under this Agenda Item, the meeting will review the Statement from the region to continuation of programme implementation by the Secretariat, both financial and technical aspects. The meeting will make necessary recommendation to the Governing Council for endorsement.</p>
5.00 – 5.15	<p>8 VENUE AND DATE FOR THE 13th GOVERNING COUNCIL</p> <p>Under this Agenda Item, the meeting will decide on the venue and tentative dates for the 13th Governing Council meeting, which will be submitted to the Ministerial meeting for formal agreement.</p>
5.15 – 5.30	<p>9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Under this Agenda Item, the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points may wish to discuss any other relevant matters that may be raised by the representatives participating at the Meeting or by the Secretariat.</p>
5.30 – 5.45	<p>10 ADOPTION OF REPORT</p> <p>Under this Agenda Item the Preparatory Meeting of the National Focal Points will consider and Adopt the Report which will be submitted to the Ministerial meeting</p>

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
5.45	<p>11 CLOSURE OF MEETING</p> <p>Any representative participating in the Meeting may wish to make concluding statements regarding the deliberations at the Meeting and its achievements. The Chairman will finally declare the Meeting closed.</p>

Appointment of Director General of SACEP

Below quoted is the decision pertaining to the appointment of the Director General of SACEP recommended at the 11 GC-SACEP.

9.1.2 'Status of the implementation of Decision No 11.2 of 10-GC/SACEP on appointment of Director General on Merit Basis'.

The Governing Council reconsidered its decision of the Agenda Item 11.2 of 10-GC/SACEP and decided that the term of Director General of SACEP should be for a fixed period of three years without any provision for extension.

It also decided not to grant any extension to the present incumbent and that the process for selection of the new Director General should start immediately after the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP. However, since this process is likely to take some time, the term of present Director General be extended, as an interim measure, only upto 31st December 2008, to enable completing selection process of the new Director General, or till such time as the new Director General is selected, whichever is earlier

Also in future selection process of the new Director General should start at the end of two years of the term of the Director General so that selection is completed well before the completion of the stipulated / fixed three year term.

As directed by the 11GC-SACEP the Interviews for post of DG-SACEP was held on 9 – 10 October 2008. The members of the selection board under the distinguished chairmanship of the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka recommended the following candidates in order of merit for the post of DG-SACEP on 10th October 2008 ;

1. Mr. Hammad Naqi Khan - Pakistan
2. Dr. B. M. S. Batagoda – Sri Lanka
3. Dr. Mohamed Ali - Maldives

The 110th Meeting of the Consultative Committee of SACEP unanimously decided to confirm the selection done by the interview panel on 10th October 2008 for the selection of the next Director General of SACEP, subject to the confirmation sought from various agencies of Mr. Hammad Naqi Khan who was placed first in order of merit.

After receiving necessary confirmation from relevant authorities, on 28th November 2008, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka and Chairman of the Consultative Committee of SACEP forwarded the recommendation of the Interview Panel to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India to be placed before the Hon' Minister of State for Environment & Forests, Government of India in his capacity as the present Chairman of the Governing Council of SACEP, for consideration and approval to the appointment of Mr. Hammad Naqi Khan as the Director General of SACEP for a period of 3 years commencing from the date of appointment.

Under the direction of the Chairman of the Governing Council of SACEP, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India with letter No. 3(3)/23/2008-IC & SD.1 dated 30th December 2008 to Chairman of CC-SACEP, appointed Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, the Administrative Officer of SACEP to officiate as DG-SACEP, till decision is taken regarding the selection of the next Director General as the tenure of the incumbent Director General was completed on 31st December 2008.

Hon' Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Government of India and Chairman of the Governing Council of SACEP with his letter Ref D.O.No 3(3)/23/2008-IC&SD-1, dated 30th January 2009 approved the appointment of DG-SACEP with a revision of the Merit order of the recommended candidates by the Selection Panel.

In continuation to the above, as the 112 CC-SACEP held on 13th February 2009 could not reach agreement by consensus, the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka and Chairman CC – SACEP with his letter dated 2nd April 2009 requested the Members of the Governing Council of SACEP for guidance from the respective member states regarding the decision of the Chairman of the Governing Council of SACEP for the subject matter.

The 113 CC-SACEP held on 23rd June 2009 discussed the selection of DG-SACEP in detail and unanimously agreed to place the status before the present Chairman of the Governing Council of SACEP and seek further directions and guidance. The members of the Consultative Committee were of the view that, the problem be resolved at a Ministerial Level discussion.

Chairman of CC-SACEP with his letter 01/01/SACEP/46 dated 4th August 2009 sent a letter to the Chairman GC-SACEP expressing the views of the Member States regarding the revision of the Merit Order of the recommended candidates for the post of Director General, SACEP by the Selection Panel. The Chairman of GC-SACEP with his letter Ref 3(3)/23/2008-IC&SD-I dated 18th September 2009 confirmed the decision conveyed with the Ministry's letter No 3(3)/23/2008-IC&SD-1 dated 30th January 2009 for appointing Dr B. M. S. Batagoda of Sri Lanka as DG SACEP after reviewing the matter in the light of the recent events.

At the Emergency Consultative Committee Meeting held on 15th February 2010, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka and Chairman CC – SACEP stated that as it had been over an year that the CC-SACEP had been trying to resolve the issue regarding the appointment of the DG-SACEP in consultation with the member states of SACEP, proposed to convene a Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP. The members of the Consultative Committee unanimously agreed to the proposal of the Chairman of CC-SACEP.

Related Decisions : -

- Annex 1: Appointment of Director General – SACEP on Rotation -
Decision of the High Level Meeting to initiate the South Asia
Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) held on 18 –
25 February 1981

Annex 2: Appointment of Director General – SACEP on Merit Basis -
Decision of the Meeting of the 3rd Special Session of the
Governing Council of SACEP held on 6 November 2003

Annex 3: Approved Guidelines and Procedure for the Recruitment of
Director General, SACEP on Merit Basis dated 2 August 2004

The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP is requested to take a decision
on the appointment of the Director General of SACEP considering the Names
indicated below :-

Mr. Hammad Naqi Khan - Pakistan

Dr. B. M. S. Batagoda – Sri Lanka

Dr. Mohamed Ali - Maldives

Or considering the above three Related Decisions, a suitable procedure may be
introduced or an appropriate alternative process be adopted



**REPORT
OF THE
HIGH LEVEL MEETING
TO INITIATE THE
SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
18 - 25 FEBRUARY 1981
BMICH , COLOMBO , SRI LANKA**

7. Other matters

Secretariat: Director and staff

The principle was accepted that the Director would be appointed in rotation, from countries in alphabetical order, subject to starting with the host country, Sri Lanka. The appointment would be for a period of three years. In the case of the first one, the term would include the period of tenure of the *pro tem* Director.

Regarding the other international staff they would be recruited as provided in rules and regulations, which may be framed by the Consultative Committee and on the recommendation of the Director.

The representative of Sri Lanka announced the appointment of a *pro tem* Director and introduced the candidate, Dr. Leslie Karath, Chairman of the Water Resources Board to the Meeting.

For purposes of appointing a regular Director, a note setting out the type of background, experience and other broad criteria would be prepared by the SACEP Secretariat and circulated. The country from which the Director was chosen would, in nominating the candidate, furnish his background data, which would be circulated. The Director will be appointed by circulation by the Governing Council. The first regular Director shall be appointed as soon as possible, preferably within three months and within a maximum period of six months from the date of appointment of the *pro tem* Director.

Financial contributions

It was noted that Sri Lanka would begin to make its contribution to SACEP Secretariat under the suggested provisions as made in background paper UNEP/SACEP/HLM/HP/III, made available to the Officials' Meeting. It was agreed that all countries accept the principles of giving contributory support to SACEP Secretariat and would announce and make contributions as decided upon by their Governments as soon as possible. Such contributions may be without prejudice to the formula for contributions that may be accepted in due course by the Governing Council.

/Focal points



REPORT

**THE THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme
(SACEP)**

**6 NOVEMBER 2003
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**

E. Capacity Development in SACEP

- Subject to availability of concurrence in writing within one month, by the member government that expressed its reservation, the Chairman, GC/SACEP was authorised to take necessary steps for the recruitment of DG, SACEP on merit basis from the South Asia Region for a non-renewable term of five years, following internationally accepted norms and practices and in close consultation with the members of the Governing Council.
- In the event the reservation is expressed in writing to the Chair of GC, the recruitment will be made on the existing procedure.
- The capacity building measures for secretariat staff (Para 6.7 of the Report of SACEP Strategy and Work Programme-*Annex XIII*) was endorsed.

F. Implementation Plan

- It was recommended that SACEP Secretariat should revise the implementation plan based on decisions and guidance of the NFP and GC Meetings.

6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The SS3.GC/SACEP approved the SACEP Strategy and Work Programme with the above recommendations.

7. CONCLUDING SESSION

The Chairman, Hon Mr. Rukman Senanayake, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka in his concluding remarks thanked all the Environment Ministers, the country delegations and the Director General and the SACEP Secretariat for their wholehearted co-operation in ensuring the success of this meeting.



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சுற்றுலா, இயற்கை வளங்கள் அமைச்சு
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

"සම්පත්පාය", අංක 82, රජමල්වත්ත පාර, බත්තරමුල්ල.
 "சம்பத்தபாய", இல. 82, ரஜமல்வத்த வீதி, பத்தரமுல்ல.
 "Sampathpaya", No. 82, Rajamalwatta Road, Battaramulla.

Annex 7
GC 12.SACEP / NFP

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எனது இல.
My No.

04/01/08/01(ii)-Vol.III

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல.
Your No.

12 GC.SACEP / NFP
 Agenda Item 4 - Annex 3
 Page 1 of 3

දිනය
திகதி
Date

02.08.2004

Mr. No. 12
J. L.
02.08.2004

Mr. Mahboob Elahi,
 Director General,
 South Asia Co-operative Environment Program,
 # Anderson Road,
 Colombo 05.

Dear Mr. Elahi,

Advertisement for the Direct Recruitment of Director General, SACEP

This has reference to your letter dated 20.07.2004 on the above.

I am pleased to inform that Hon. A.H.M. Fowzie, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources in his capacity as the Chairman, GC-SACEP has approved the draft Advertisement and the Guidelines & Procedure for the recruitment of the Director General, SACEP.

Regards,

Sincerely,

W.R.M.S. Wickramasinghe
 W.R.M.S. Wickramasinghe,
 Addl. Secretary,
 Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and
 NFP-Sri Lanka.



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கௌரவ அமைச்சர்
Hon. Minister

හරු නියෝජ්‍ය අමාත්‍යතුමා
கௌரவ பிரதிஅமைச்சர்
Hon. Deputy Minister

ලේකම්
செயலாளர்
Secretary

කාර්යාලය
அலுவலகம்
Office

ෆැක්ස්
பெக்ஸ்
Fax



Guidelines and Procedure for the Recruitment of Director General, SACEP

A. Guidelines

1. The recruitment (Vacancy Announcement attached) will be strictly on merit basis for a non-renewable term of 3 years.
2. The post will be open to all nationals of the member countries.
(The employees from the public sector shall follow their own procedures in sending the applications and seeking the release on selection.)
3. The initial selection of DG, SACEP will be open to all member countries of SACEP. The subsequent selection will be made from the nationals of the remaining countries.
4. All applications received against the advertisement will have equal standing and no preference will be given to anyone.
5. Each stage of processing the applications will follow pre-laid down criteria.

B. Procedure

1. The advertisement will be published in the following national newspapers:

India:	The Hindu
Pakistan:	The Dawn
Bangladesh:	The News Today
Bhutan:	Kuensel
Maldives:	Hayeeru Daily
Nepal:	The Rising Nepal
Sri Lanka:	Sunday Observer

The advertisement will also be given publicity through selected websites. A copy of the Vacancy Announcement will also be supplied to the National Focal Points of SACEP for giving additional publicity nationally.

2. The Consultative Committee of SACEP will be responsible to scrutinize and shortlist the applications. For this purpose, the CC/SACEP may lay down its own criteria. The Consultative Committee may seek the advice from experts/consultants to facilitate its work. The Secretarial support to this committee will be provided by SACEP.
3. At present six members attend CC/SACEP meetings. In the event that all six members may not be able to attend all meetings, a three-member core committee to be headed by its Chairman, will be assigned this task on behalf of CC/SACEP.

It will however be an open-ended committee and all members will be entitled to attend the meeting.

4. The Administrative Officer, SACEP will be the focal point of SACEP.
5. The present Director General, SACEP will be assisting the CC/SACEP and other Committees during the recruitment process.
6. Short-listed (3-5) candidates will be called for interview and they will be required to come to Colombo for this purpose at their own cost.
7. CC/SACEP, assisted by 1-2 experts will constitute the Interview Panel and finalize the recommendations.
8. Information on the selected candidate will be forwarded to the concerned NFP for approval.
9. The recommendation of the Interview Panel will be forwarded to the Chairman, GC/SACEP for approval.
10. The letter of offer of appointment will be issued by SACEP under the signature of Chairman, CC/SACEP, as per existing practice.



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03/8/04

Amended Guidelines and Procedure for the Recruitment of Director General, SACEP on Merit Basis

A. Guidelines

1. The recruitment (*Vacancy Announcement attached*) will be strictly on merit basis for a non-renewable term of 3 years.
2. The post will be open to all nationals of the member countries.
(*The employees from the public sector shall follow their own procedures in sending the applications and seeking the release on selection.*)
3. The initial selection of DG, SACEP will be open to all member countries of SACEP. The subsequent selection will be made from the nationals of the remaining countries.
4. All applications received against the advertisement will have equal standing and no preference will be given to anyone.
5. Each stage of processing the applications will follow pre-laid down criteria.

B. Procedure

1. The advertisement will be published in the following national newspapers:

India: The Hindu
Pakistan: The Dawn
Bangladesh: The News Today
Bhutan: Kuensel
Maldives: Haveeru Daily
Nepal: The Rising Nepal
Sri Lanka: Sunday Observer
Afghanistan (A News Paper to be Nominated)

Inclusion

The advertisement will also be given publicity through selected websites. A copy of the Vacancy Announcement will also be supplied to the National Focal Points of SACEP for giving additional publicity nationally.

2. The Consultative Committee of SACEP will be responsible to scrutinize and shortlist the applications. For this purpose, the CC/SACEP may lay down its own criteria. The Consultative Committee may seek the advice from experts/consultants to facilitate its work. The Secretarial support to this committee will be provided by SACEP.
3. At present six members attend CC/SACEP meetings. In the event that all six members may not be able to attend all meetings, a

three-member core committee to be headed by its Chairman, will be assigned this task on behalf of CC/SACEP.

It will however be an open-ended committee and all members will be entitled to attend the meeting.

Inclusion

4. Preliminary Interview will be held for highest ranking (15 - 20) shortlisted candidates by the panel comprising of the Consultative Committee through Video Conference / online.

Amendment

5. Highest scored candidates (3 – 5) of the Preliminary Interview will be called for the Final Interview and they will be required to come to Colombo for this purpose at their own cost.
(Refer Item B. 6 of originally approved Guidelines & Procedure – 4 Aug 2004)

Amendment

6. CC/SACEP, assisted by 1-2 experts, to be presided over by the Chairman, GC/SACEP or his / her representative will constitute the Final Interview Panel and select the most suitable candidate for the post.
(Refer Item B. 7 of originally approved Guidelines & Procedure – 4 Aug 2004)

Amendment

7. Information on the selected candidate will be forwarded to the concerned NFP for clearance. *(Instead of approval)*
(Refer Item B. 8 of originally approved Guidelines & Procedure – 4 Aug 2004)

8. The letter of offer of appointment will be issued by SACEP under the signature of Chairman, CC/SACEP as per existing practice.
(Refer Item B. 10 of originally approved Guidelines & Procedure – 4 Aug 2004)

9. The Administrative Officer, SACEP will be the focal point of SACEP.
(Refer Item B. 4 of originally approved Guidelines & Procedure – 4 Aug 2004)

10. The present Director General, SACEP will be assisting the CC/SACEP and other Committees during the recruitment process.
(Refer Item B. 5 of originally approved Guidelines & Procedure – 4 Aug 2004)

PROGRESS REPORT OF SACEP

FROM JUNE 2008 – OCTOBER 2010

5.1.1 - Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia

As directed by the CoP IX of the Basel Convention held in June 2008 SACEP submitted an updated proposal for establishment of a Regional Centre for South Asia, to be located in SACEP Secretariat, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The updated proposal was taken into discussion at the 7th Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) meeting held from 10 – 14 May 2010.

The issue regarding the overlap with the Iranian Centre was raised and as there was no Iranian delegation, the permanent Representative of Iran to the UN suggested both parties to have more deliberations in this regard.

SACEP will undertake a mission to Iran in near future to discuss the issue and the outcome of the deliberations will have to be submitted to the next CoP.

5.1.2 - Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia.

Phase I, II and III of the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia was implemented successfully by UNEP in partnership with SACEP with the financial support from SIDA.

At the 11th Intergovernmental Meeting of Malé Declaration (IG-11) held in Bangladesh on 20-21 January 2010, the implementation plan for phase IV (2010-2012) was presented and adopted. Further in line with the decision taken at the 9th Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG 9) held in Maldives in 2007 the schedule of activities for the Task Force on Future Development of Malé Declaration was adopted.

As per recommendations of the 10th and 11th Governing Councils, SACEP signed a MoU with UNEP in April 2010, within the framework of the 'Phase IV of the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia'.

Under the MoU SACEP is committed to carry out the following tasks :-

- Assist in conducting the feasibility study on the establishment of specialized regional centers
- Assist in conducting the feasibility study on developing a regional framework such as convention on air pollution in South Asia

- Compile a report on the implementation of the Malé Declaration for the Governing Council of SACEP in consultation and consensus with the Malé Declaration Secretariat
- In collaboration with the Malé Declaration Secretariat, present the progress in the implementation of the Malé Declaration to the SACEP Governing Council.
- Compile good practices for the reduction of air pollution in South Asia.

In August 2010, the first meeting of the Task Force on Future Development of Malé Declaration was held in Thailand. In that meeting the members of the Task Force agreed on to the following :-

- 1) To develop a mechanism for sustainable financing;
- 2) To Conduct a feasibility study on establishing regional centers according to the meeting discussions and the regional centers to be retained as proposed during the IG8 but will be developed in a phased manner;
- 3) To conduct a feasibility study on developing a regional framework on air pollution reduction in South Asia (based on the discussions during the Meeting to strengthen the Malé Declaration framework.)

The Second Meeting of the Task Force will be held on 29-30 November 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka in collaboration with SACEP. The objectives of the Meeting are:

- a) to discuss further steps on the establishment of a sustainable financing mechanism for Malé Declaration;
- b) to discuss the further on the feasibility study for establishing regional technical centres; and
- c) to discuss the feasibility study on strengthening the Regional framework for air pollution reduction in South Asia.

5.1.3 - Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is an UNEP initiative to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle so that, by 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on human health and the environment. This “2020 goal” was adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 as part of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

In considering the importance of the sound chemical management in the region, the 10th GC of SACEP adopted a resolution on SAICM which requested SACEP secretariat to incorporate the implementation of SAICM into SACEP’s work

programme. Based on the 10 GC decision, SACEP has proposed to hold a Capacity Building Programme, on chemical management for South Asia region which to the SAICM secretariat still searching possible funding.

5.1.4 - Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia

Under this activity, SACEP has been able to hold three local capacity building workshops in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Sri Lanka with the financial assistance of Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and UNESCO.

5.1.5 – International Day of Biodiversity

- a) **International Day of Biodiversity 2009** - National Symposium on Alien Invasive Species: Strengthening Capacity to Control the Introduction and Spread of Alien Invasive Species in Sri Lanka was organized jointly with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Sri Lanka and UNDP on 21 - 22 May 2009 in Negambo, Sri Lanka
- b) **International Day of Biodiversity 2010** - SACEP jointly with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Sri Lanka and the University of Wayamba, Sri Lanka organized an awareness seminar in various issues of Biodiversity on 21st May 2010 at the Wayamba University. A mango festival was also organized to demonstrate the importance of conserving biodiversity towards society's well being.

5.1.6 - Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010

In line with the International Year of Biodiversity and the upcoming Conference of Parties (COP) 10 of the Convention on Bio-logical Diversity (CBD) to be held in Japan, UNEP decided to prepare a Marine Biodiversity Outlook Report which covers all 18 Regional Seas Areas. The objective of this project is to enhance the understanding of key regional and global issues for marine biodiversity conservation through the issuance of outlook reports on the coastal areas covered by the Regional Seas Programmes. Furthermore, these outlook reports will contribute to the discussions on marine and coastal biodiversity at the COP 10 of the CBD.

UNEP entrusted SACEP to prepare the Outlook Report for the South Asian Seas Region and the Report was launched at the CDB Cop 10, Nagoya, Japan in October 2010.

5.1.7 - Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)

The Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles was launched at the WSSD in Johannesburg in 2002 by the UNEP with the aims to encourage countries to adopt overall clean fuel and vehicles strategies, including vehicle and fuel standards, inspection and maintenance, development of public transport systems – including both motorised and non-motorised options – and transportation demand management. One of the objectives of the PCFV is to Assist developing countries in developing action plans to complete the global elimination of leaded gasoline and start to phase down sulphur in diesel and gasoline fuels, concurrent with adopting cleaner vehicle requirements.

It is evident that many of the major cities of South Asian countries are facing the problem of vehicular air pollution. Vehicles, both gasoline and diesel, emit significant quantities of nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, particles, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons. The number of vehicles in the cities of South Asia has seen a rapid increase in the last ten years. In Delhi alone, the vehicular population has increased around tenfold in 20 years and accounts for more than 60 per cent of the particulate pollution. Especially two-wheelers and diesel driven heavy trucks – is a significant source of urban air pollution. These pollutants can be reduced by using lower-sulphur and lead-free fuels and by introducing the new vehicle technologies and emission control devices that require such fuels.

SACEP became a partner of the PCFV in 2008 with the view of assisting the member countries to build their capacity in the area concerned. SACEP participated at the 7th Global Partnership Meeting of PCFV held from 28 to 30 April 2009 in Szentendre, Hungary which was fully funded.

As a result of this forum SACEP secured funds from UNEP to organize a Capacity Building Regional Workshop for Senior Officials of South Asia. A MoU was signed between SACEP and UNEP's PCFV to conduct a 2 day workshop in Colombo, Sri Lanka and the workshop was held on 22 – 23 March 2010. This was an ideal opportunity to discuss and develop a future activity plan with regard to PCFV in the region. At the end of the workshop, there were a number of recommendations made by the country representatives for SACEP to implement.

These recommendations were considered and incorporated to the work programme 2010 – 2011 which will also be in the ministerial statement.

5.1.8 - Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)

This activity was initiated as a result of a MoU signed between SACEP and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) to promote Environmentally Sustainable Transport in South Asia in March 2008.

As an outcome of this MoU, SACEP put forward a working paper to the 11th GC-SACEP, requesting the member countries to adopt Aichi Statement of 2005 which facilitate the establishment of a regional forum for the promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) in Asia. While appreciating the proposed initiative, the 11 GC-SACEP decided that the endorsement of the Extended Aichi Statement would be considered only after consultation with the respective Ministries of Transport and Urban Development.

Further to this, the Seoul Statement on EST, 'Towards the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) for a Low-Carbon Society and Green Growth in Asia' was adopted at the 4th Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) Forum in Seoul, Korea from 24 - 26 February 2009, in which SACEP and its member states were also present.

The 5th Regional EST Forum with the theme "A New Decade in Sustainable Transport"

was held from 23 – 25 August 2010 at Bangkok, Thailand where SACEP and its all member countries participated.

As a way forward, a bilateral discussion took place between SACEP and UNCRD during the meeting and SACEP proposed to hold National EST training workshops in its member countries followed by a Regional Workshop to develop a Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Strategy and Action Plans for South Asia. An estimated budget was submitted to the UNCRD in this regard.

UNCRD agreed to organize a Regional Training Workshop in collaboration with SACEP as the first phase and in the 2nd Phase to assist in organizing National Level Training Programmes.

5.1.9 - South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)

Through the "JAIPUR DECLARATION" adopted at the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP at Jaipur, India on 22 May 2008, it has been agreed to the establishment of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) and the South Asia Regional Strategic Plan on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade (2008 – 2013) subject to dropping all references to Sustainable Livelihood Security, Market, Trade Mechanisms etc to bring it in line with the CITES.

Government of Nepal agreed to host the 1st meeting of the Experts Group meeting to establish SAWEN in which the structure and focus of SAWEN will be decided. SACEP sent official notification to all its 8 member countries for requesting nominations for the Expert Group and one member state has expressed reservation.

Further SACEP was also represented at a Workshop titled "A Forgotten Crisis: Arresting Wildlife Depletion in Asia through Strengthened Regional Cooperation

and Effective Partnerships" in Pattaya, Thailand April 10-13, 2009 which was fully funded by the World Bank.

Two workshops were held in Kathmandu, Nepal which was in similar line with the proposed SAWEN by SACEP;

1. Kathmadu Global Tiger Workshop 2009 in October 2009
2. First Meeting of the South Asia Experts Group on Illegal Wildlife Trade in March 2010

SACEP also participated at the 2 workshops as an observer on invitation of the Government of Nepal.

5.1.10 - Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management Systems and Waste Management

The above two proposals developed under a MoU signed between UNEP-ROAP and SACEP were approved at the 11GC.SACEP as a future programme activity of the organization. SACEP forwarded the approved project proposals to UNEP-ROAP requesting funds for implementation.

It has been informed by UNEP that as an initial step funds will be allocated to hold a Regional Workshop for the South Asian Region on Data Information Management by the first quarter of 2011.

5.1.11 – South Asian Seas Programme (SASP)

a) UNEP/ EU Funded Project on MCPAs in Coral Reef Ecosystems in South Asia

This project was successfully completed in December 2008 and relevant reports were submitted on 31st March 2009. The activities undertaken with the Small Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) on Educational Awareness in member countries in MCPAs were very successful.

Under the SSFA the following documents were produced and published by the SACEP Secretariat:

- Regional Communication Strategy for Coral Reef Management in South Asia
- Regional Strategy for Coral Reef Management in South Asia

In view of the regional importance of this initiative, SACEP Secretariat is actively searching for possible donors to take the project activities forward. In this regard a meeting was held with UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in April 2009 and requested UNEP to support a small funded project to keep the SACRTF active.

b) Endorsement for the Formal Adoption of the Regional Oil and Chemical Pollution Contingency Plan for South Asia

A Regional Oil and Chemical Pollution Spill Contingency Plan and associated MoU were developed in association with the International Maritime Organization for enhanced cooperation in the event of an Oil or Chemical spill in South Asian Seas region. The final adaptation of the same has been pending since the year 2000. The 4th Inter-governmental Meeting of Ministers (IMM) held in Jaipur, India on 22nd May 2008, requested SACEP to finalise the Regional Plan and MoU as a matter of High Priority .

As Governments of Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka had no objection to the text of the documents, SACEP undertook missions to Pakistan in May 2009 and to India in July 2009 to finalize the text in the Regional Plan and the MoU. As all member countries agreed on the Text of the documents the Regional Plan and MoU was sent to the member countries for signature.

Three member countries viz. Bangladesh, Maldives and Pakistan have already signed the MoU. Status with respect to the signing of MOU by India and Sri Lanka is at an advanced stage and would get cabinet sanction in due course. It is expected that SACEP Secretariat would receive the Signed MOU shortly.

It is envisaged that once the Secretariat received the signed MOU from all countries a Meeting of Plenipotentiaries will be convened.

c) Regional Workshop on the Implementation & Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention – October 2009 - Malaysia

Within the framework of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) a Regional Workshop on the Implementation & Enforcement of the MARPOL Convention was held in Malaysia in October 2009. 14 countries participated which included the 5 South Asian Seas Countries. The aim of the workshop was to enhance capacity and capability of the participating countries to implement and enforce the MARPOL Convention.

d) On-board Training Workshop on Marine Resources Sampling, Data Collection and Interpretation for the South Asian Seas

The training workshop was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India and UNEP. UN Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of Sea and UNEP-GRID Arendal were the other partners in this activity. 10 mid-level managers from the five SAS countries participated in this training programme which was held from 18-22 September in India.

Outputs Achieved :-

- Strengthened the collaboration and interaction among the participants and with experts which will contribute to develop and implement future regional activities. The Government of India offered to support the SAS member countries in Mapping Coral Reef Ecosystem as it is presently being executed in India by INCOIS and CholoGEN Project.
- The participants could enhance their skills and knowledge relevant to Ocean policy making from the hands-on experience and the lectures delivered by eminent resource persons from the UNEP, UNDOALOS, UNEP GRID Arendal and number of Indian Research Institutions such as ICMAM PD - Chennai, NCAOR - Goa and INCOIS – Hyderabad, and the Indian Coast Guard Enabled the participants to understand the importance of Ocean Data Collection and Interpretation which would benefit them to define policies and programmes.
- The Training Manual which was launched at the Opening of the Workshop in Chennai, provides detailed information with research articles presented in Five Thematic Areas, can be a reference reading material in the field of Ocean Management. This document can be downloaded from the SACEP website.

The Government of India offered to support the SAS member countries in Mapping Coral Reef Ecosystem as it is presently being executed in India by INCOIS and CholoGEN Project

The Secretariat has initiated a dialogue with UNDOALOS and UNEP GRID Arendal for follow up of the Training Workshop

e) Regional HNS Operational Level Workshop, May 2010

Within the framework of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for the 2009 -2010 biennium, a Regional HNS Operational Level Workshop was organized from 3 – 6 May 2010, with a view to enhancing the awareness, capacity and capabilities of participating countries of Southeast and South Asia to facilitate the ratification, implementation and enforcement of the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC) - Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) Protocol.

The above Workshop was organised by Ministry of Housing, Transport & Environment, Maldives, IMO and SACEP / SASP. There were 33 participants from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Korea, Maldives, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines Thailand, Sri Lanka, & Viet Nam.

Among the objectives of the workshop was to train national authorities and industry in the operational and incident management aspects of a HNS spill response and provide an overview of the applicable international Legislation for HNS incidents such as the OPRC-HNS protocol & the HNS Convention

During this Regional OPRC-HNS Operational Level Workshop, the participants identified the following recommendations to facilitate the ratification and effective implementation of the OPRC-HNS Protocol and its requirements throughout the region:

1. Raise awareness and promote the importance of the OPRC-HNS Protocol and of its requirements to Ministers and senior level managers of National Competent Authorities in order to promote ratification and implementation. Participants have suggested that seminars be held to develop an information package aimed at informing senior level managers about the benefits of ratifying this important instrument.
2. Develop a training programme to assist countries in producing their National HNS Contingency Plan. Participants believe that technical support is needed to identify the information necessary to effectively implement the requirements of the OPRC-HNS Protocol and to develop a National HNS Contingency Plan. The development of a model contingency plan for HNS was also mentioned as a potentially useful tool to assist national authorities.
3. Encourage the participation of National representatives to the meetings of the OPRC-HNS Technical Working Group. The OPRC-HNS TG aims at facilitating the implementation of the OPRC Convention and OPRC-HNS Protocol by developing technical tools and manuals. It is composed of technical experts from various countries and meets once or twice a year at the IMO headquarter in London. Participation of representatives from the region would raise awareness about the needs of the region and consequently influence the development of adapted technical tools.

This workshop also clearly demonstrated the interest and motivation of all countries in the SAS region to work together and to improve their capacity to deal with a marine HNS spill and to minimize its effects on local population, the environment and their economy.

f) World Ocean Day Activity

The United Nations General Assembly declared from 2009, for 8th June to be designated by the United Nations as “World Oceans Day” (resolution 63/111, paragraph 171). The theme of the inaugural observance of the World Oceans Day by the United Nations in 2009 was “Our Oceans, Our Responsibility”.

UN requested SACEP as the Secretariat of UNEP’s Regional Seas Programme for the Secretariat to organise events to bring awareness of importance of ocean.

As a first attempt we took the message of “A Clean beach – A Tourist Haven” for sustainable tourism.

SACEP in collaboration with Sri Lanka Tourist Board organised a mini-workshop for their officials to convey the message on the importance to protect and conserve marine environment.

Here in SACEP presented to the august gathering on the efforts taken by Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) Denmark, with their flagship programme on Blue Flag to certify beaches. The Blue Flag is a voluntary and exclusive eco-label awarded in 2008 to more than 3200 beaches and marinas in 38 countries worldwide.

This was a first attempt by SACEP to initiate this awareness exercise for the Tourism Industry in Sri Lanka and in future to extend to our South Asian Seas member countries such as Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Pakistan. This was an effort to bring tourism Industry and environment together for a common cause.

g) Blue Flag Beach Certification Programme for South Asia

Under this activity, SACEP/SASP in collaboration with the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) Denmark, and the financial support of UNEP took the message of “A Clean beach – A Tourist Haven” for promoting sustainable tourism in the SAS region.

The Blue Flag is a voluntary exercise and certification is awarded by FEE. This exclusive eco-label is presently awarded to more than 3200 beaches and marinas in 38 countries worldwide. This is highly relevant as the five maritime countries of South Asia, are endeavoured with coastal and marine resources which have enormous potential to develop sustainable tourism industry. The costs associated with unplanned and/or poorly managed tourism not only involves economic loss to the industry but also leads to the loss of traditional and indigenous ways of life, environmental quality, and the natural resource base. Governments as well as businesses are gradually incorporating sustainability principles as one of the core values to drive the tourism industry forward with the attempt of being more responsive to environment and community requirements. In this regard, as a first step, the application of a voluntary beach certification programme can be successfully used as one of the management tools.

SACEP organized National Workshops in Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka in February – in March 2010 in collaboration with the National Focal Points to have discussions with stakeholder in member countries to propagate the idea of beach certification. These workshops provided a platform to further development of national programmes. Individual countries have agreed to pursue a follow up on the Beach Certification Programme.

h) International Coastal Clean-up day

In the International Environment Calendar for each year, Saturday of 3rd week of September marks the International Coastal Cleanup Day, where events are organized to make the public aware of the growing problem of debris accumulated in coastal areas. Litter such as plastic bags, soda cans and broken glass are slow to degrade. Studies have shown that marine debris threatens over 265 different species of marine and coastal wildlife through entanglement, smothering, and interference with digestive systems. It is a problem that not only damages our marine and coastal ecosystems, but also affects the coastal tourism and public health.

In 1986, the Ocean Conservancy, an NGO ran its first Coastal Cleanup event in Texas, USA and in later years became the coordinating agency for the International Coastal Cleanup, helping to spread the concept to nations around the world. This year (2010), it celebrates the 25th year of the International Coastal Cleanup Day.

The International Coastal Cleanup engages people to remove trash and debris from the world's beaches and waterways, to identify the sources of debris and to change the behaviours that cause pollution.

Since 2008, SACEP has been organizing many activities to commemorate the Coastal Cleanup Day. Last year, SACEP and Indian Coast Guard jointly organized the event in Chennai, India.

This year, SACEP in collaboration with US Embassy in Colombo and Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka organized the beach cleanup programme on Saturday the 25th September 2010 at a selected beach stretch in Negombo, Sri Lanka. On 24th September 2010, an awareness programme was organized for the participating school children on the importance of maintaining a clean beach.

More than 500 school children and people from hotel industry contributed towards this activity.

i) 30th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation, 24 - 29 April 2010 in Goa, India

The 30th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation convened by the International Sea Turtle Society was held from 27 – 29 April 2010 in Goa, India. SACEP was a co-partner in organizing the Symposium in collaboration with the International Sea Turtle Society and the Indian institute of Science in Bangalore.

This important gathering brought together around 700 participants from 70 countries around the world for promoting the exchange of information that advances the global knowledge of sea turtle conservation.

A South Asia Mini Symposium, was held on 26th April 2010 which was partly funded by SACEP, where representatives of member states, NGO and Academia sectors came together to discuss the present situation and how to come up with a united regional response to sea turtle conservation in the sub region. In this regard the role that can be played by SACEP/SASP as an intergovernmental partner was also discussed. A presentation titled “Collaborating for the Conservation of Marine Turtles and their Habitats in the South Asian Seas Region” was made by SACEP at this event.

An important event that took place at this mini symposium was the signing of the Indian Ocean and South East Asia (IOSEA) Marine Turtle MoU by the Government of Maldives, which made all five member states of the South Asian Seas Programme (SASP) in this multilateral agreement established under the auspicious of Bonn Convention on Migratory Species.

SACEP/SASP plans to play more active role in turtle conservation activities in the region in the future and is looking at the possibilities of conducting a sub-regional meeting to enhance the knowledge on how to conserve this highly migratory, threatened species.

Lecture Series

SACEP organized a series of lectures by eminent experts on timely topics. Three such lectures were well held at the SACEP Secretariat during year 2009.

1. New Initiatives in Marine Environment Protection

By Mr. Ranjit Kularatne, Chairman, Marine Environment Protection Authority, Sri Lanka

2. Climate Change Dialogues

By Dr. W. L. Sumathipala, Director - National Ozone Unit, Ministry Environment & Natural Resources, Sri Lanka

3. Fisheries Governance in South Asia

By Prof. Marten Bavinck, Director - Marine Science Department, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Representation in International Committees

SACEP / SASP has been nominated to be part of the below given international committees in the recent past.

1. Bio Fouling Invasive Species BLG 13 by International Maritime Organisation
2. International Coral Reef Initiative – Sub Committee
3. Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles

Reduction of Sulphur Content in Fuel

Air pollution in many cities in the developing world is reaching crisis proportions. According to the World Health Organisation, only 15% of the largest cities in developing countries have acceptable air quality. High levels of urban air pollution has attracted growing attention from the Governments, Civil Society, and Industries, as poor air quality is related to many deaths each year, and contributes to the plight of thousands more who suffer from asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cardiovascular disease, and lung cancer. Lead emissions are extremely harmful to children under the age of six, interfering with the developing brain and other organs and systems. These pollutants can be reduced by using lower-sulphur and lead-free fuels and by introducing new vehicle technologies and emission control devices that require such fuels.

Air quality deterioration in South Asia can be attributed to rapid urbanization couples with expansion in transportation and industrialization. Vehicles, both gasoline and diesel, emit significant quantities of nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, particles, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons. The number of vehicles in the cities of South Asia has rapidly increased in the last ten years. In Delhi alone, the vehicular population has increased around tenfold in 20 years and accounts for more than 60 per cent of the particulate pollution. Especially two-wheelers and diesel driven heavy trucks – is a significant source of urban air pollution. Another issue leading to this problem is the poor road infrastructure development, which had lead to traffic congestions which is the norm in most South Asian cities.

A number of research studies reveals that the health effects due to exposure to sulphur dioxides may range from discomfort through physiological deviations from the norm, prevalence of symptoms, appearance of illness, loss of working time, and premature retirement to complete incapacity and death (**Annex I**).

The United Nations Environment Programme launched the “Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles” (PCFV) at the WSSD in Johannesburg in 2002 to assist developing countries in this regard. It aims to encourage countries to adopt overall clean fuel and vehicles strategies, including vehicle and fuel standards, inspection and maintenance, development of public transport systems – including both motorized and non-motorized options – and transportation demand management.

The status of sulphur in diesel fuel of South Asian countries as well as in other regions is given in **Annex 2**.

SACEP became a partner of the UNEP initiated Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles or PCFV in 2008 with a view of assisting the member countries to build their capacity in reducing vehicular air pollution through promotion of lead-free, low sulphur fuels and cleaner vehicle standards and technologies.

SACEP in collaboration with UNEP – PCFV organized a regional workshop in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 22 – 23 March 2010. The objective of this workshop was to enhance knowledge among policy makers on the environmental and health

benefits of clean fuels and vehicles, discuss necessary capacity building and technology transfer needs and explore a common position in SACEP countries on the 50 ppm sulfur level in diesel fuel which was recommended to be submitted to the next Governing Council of SACEP for adoption. The workshop made a number of recommendations for SACEP to work further on this area to assist member countries for phasing down the sulphur content of their diesel fuel (**Annex 3**)

The draft resolution (**Annex 4**) is submitted to the 12th meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP to consider for endorsement.

Health Effects of Sulfur Dioxide

Issue Brief

Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) is one of the seven criteria air pollutants regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The current primary standard is an annual average of 0.03 parts per million (ppm), and a 24-hour average of 0.14 ppm not to be exceeded more than once per year. Neither of these is currently exceeded at any U.S. monitoring station. This standard is currently under review by EPA.

Sources of SO₂

SO₂ is emitted from multiple sources, but fossil fuel-fired power plants are among the largest sources in the United States, contributing about 66% of all anthropogenic emissions. Industry and transportation are other significant emitters with about 29% and 5% of total emissions, respectively. However, at specific locations other sources (e.g., shipping and port activities) can be important contributors to locally measured concentrations. After being emitted, SO₂ is oxidized and can produce sulfuric acid and particulate sulfate, which are regulated under the NAAQS for particulate matter (PM). SO₂ oxidizes to sulfate at the rate of about 0.5 to 2% per hour in the absence of clouds or fog; hence, its lifetime in the ambient environment ranges from 2 days to one week.

Ambient SO₂ Concentrations

Average annual ambient concentrations of SO₂ in the United States have declined by about 48% from 1990 to 2005. The highest recorded annual average of SO₂ in the 2003–2005 period was 0.015 ppm and the highest 24-hour average was 0.146 ppm. SO₂ concentrations can vary seasonally depending upon the location; for example, in Philadelphia SO₂ peaks occur during the winter months, but in Phoenix peaks tend to occur in the summer months. The spatial distribution of SO₂ is generally not homogeneous within a

region, but is concentrated in plumes emanating from specific sources.

Indoor SO₂ concentrations tend to be lower than outdoor levels as there are few indoor sources of SO₂, with kerosene heaters being one significant indoor source. Indoor SO₂ levels are influenced by air exchange rates but also by the tendency of SO₂ to be consumed by reactions on indoor surfaces. Studies of the relationship between personal exposures and ambient levels of SO₂ have been hampered by the low levels of SO₂ relative to its monitoring detection limit, but by and large these studies show personal exposures to be substantially less than measured ambient levels. In some cases the correlations between personal exposures and ambient levels were negative. If correlations are consistently negative or small in all U.S. locations, there could be implications for the results of epidemiological studies which report an association between SO₂ and health.

Health Effects of SO₂

Evidence for health effects of SO₂ is drawn from toxicological, human clinical, and epidemiological studies.

Toxicological Studies

Most of the published toxicological studies of SO₂ are at least twenty years old. Exposure concentrations in these studies were many times higher than ambient levels. As a result, extrapolation of results across concentration, as well as across species, is subject to considerable uncertainty. These studies do, however, suggest the plausibility of some mechanisms that could explain responses in human studies. In particular, repeated high exposures (e.g., 1 ppm, 8 hr/day for 5 days) led to bronchoconstriction, airway inflammation and hyperresponsiveness in test animals. There were also some experiments with joint exposures to SO₂ and zinc oxide particles that led to severe responses (including death) in laboratory animals, but the exposures were too high to be

meaningful (6 mg/m³ Zn oxide with 1 ppm SO₂, 3hr/day, for 6 days).

Epidemiological Studies

Several epidemiological studies have related SO₂ exposure to health effects. The results of these studies have been mixed; when significant associations between SO₂ and health effects were found, the health effects were most often related to respiratory endpoints (e.g., respiratory symptoms, changes in lung function). In these studies the most consistent associations were between SO₂ exposures and responses in asthmatics, and typically the SO₂ exposures considered were 24-hour average exposures. Most of the epidemiological studies did not systematically investigate the issue of multiple pollutants in an effort to determine if SO₂ could be serving as a surrogate for other pollutants.

Human Clinical Studies

These studies involve the exposure of subjects to known concentrations of SO₂ in a chamber under specified activity and environmental conditions, and markers of health response (e.g., symptoms, changes in lung function) are evaluated. These studies were conducted before 1980, but remain relevant as the study designs are well-accepted and the results are specific to SO₂. Studies were conducted for several groups of individuals: healthy adults, adult asthmatics, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients, and atopics (those with demonstrated respiratory sensitivity not related to any chronic disease). These studies identified the most sensitive group as exercising unmedicated asthmatics; this group demonstrated changes in lung function and in symptoms with exposures of 5 minutes at concentrations of 0.2ppm and above. Most of the research was undertaken with mild to moderate asthmatics; more severe asthmatics can have difficulty attaining the level of exercise of the study protocol or they are medicated. Studies showed that medicated asthmatics do not appear to respond to SO₂ exposure, except at much higher levels.

EPRI Research

EPRI has undertaken both epidemiological and human clinical studies on SO₂. The Atlanta ARIES (Aerosol Research and Inhalation Epidemiology Study) does not indicate any persistent statistically significant association between SO₂ and any health effect. The only statistically significant association between SO₂ and a health response was with emergency department

admission visits for cardiovascular disease. However, when other pollutants were included in the analyses, these associations went away when considered jointly with carbon monoxide, elemental carbon, or ozone. The extant epidemiological literature does not support an association between SO₂ and cardiovascular outcomes; hence, the single pollutant model for SO₂ and emergency department visits is likely a chance outcome. SO₂ was not implicated in any other ARIES outcomes.

EPRI was the major sponsor of many human clinical studies undertaken with SO₂, with over 20 published papers documenting research on this topic. These studies examined the impact of health status, breathing mode (free-breathing vs. facemask), exercise, medication use, heat, humidity, repeated exposures, cold weather, and exposures to several co-pollutants. These studies demonstrated that the most sensitive group was exercising unmedicated asthmatics.

Conclusions

Ambient SO₂ standards are currently under review. One issue that may affect the outcome is the impact on exercising asthmatics who can react after exposures as short as 5 minutes. The key question is whether any exercising asthmatics are exposed to SO₂ levels sufficient to elicit response in today's environment in which SO₂ levels are markedly less than those experienced 25 years ago.

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4 Sulphur dioxide

Annex 9
GC 12.SACEP / NFP

Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) is a colourless, water-soluble gas that is reactive and has a pungent odour. Sulphur dioxide is detectable to the human nose at concentrations of around 0.5–0.8 parts per million (1400–2240 µgm⁻³). Concentrations of SO₂ in ambient air typically occur as a result of combustion processes, in particular the burning of high sulphur fuels, although specific industries such as manufacturing fertiliser also discharge SO₂. Sulphur dioxide is subject to a series of transformation processes in the atmosphere, which can result in, sulphurous and sulphuric acids, sulphites and sulphates being formed.

4.1 Guideline values

The ambient air quality guideline values (Ministry for the Environment, 2002) for SO₂ are:

- 350 µgm⁻³ (one-hour average)
- 120 µgm⁻³ (24-hour average).

Previously, the 1994 ambient air quality guideline values for New Zealand (Ministry for the Environment, 1994) included a 10-minute average SO₂ guideline value of 500 µgm⁻³.

4.2 Concentrations

Concentrations of SO₂ measured at ambient air quality monitoring sites in New Zealand indicate compliance with both 24-hour and one-hour average guideline values. It is possible that some locations within New Zealand have breached the short-term (10-minute) 1994 guideline value for SO₂. For example, this value has been exceeded at an ambient air quality monitoring site in Hornby, Christchurch on a few occasions.

4.3 Health effects of sulphur dioxide

Sulphur dioxide causes its irritant effects by stimulating nerves in the lining of the nose and throat and the lung's airways. This causes a reflex cough, irritation, and a feeling of chest tightness, which may lead to narrowing of the airways. This latter effect is particularly likely to occur in people suffering from asthma and chronic lung disease, whose airways are often inflamed and easily irritated (Department of Environment, 1995).

Asthmatics are generally considered the most sensitive group in the community to concentrations of SO₂. Other sensitive groups include those exercising. This is because SO₂ is very reactive and consequently the distribution of SO₂ along the conductive airways of the respiratory tract is non-uniform, depending on breathing volumes and types. For nasal breathing with low to moderate volumes the penetration into the lungs is negligible. For oral inhalation and larger volumes, doses may reach the segmental bronchi (World Health Organisation, 2000).

The health effects of concentrations of SO₂ have been studied in a number of ways including exposure of volunteers to sulphur dioxide in the air they are breathing in a laboratory situation and by examination of the effects on members of the population who have been exposed to episodes of atmospheric pollution. In the controlled laboratory situation, acute responses occur within the first few minutes of exposure and further inhalation does not increase effects.

Short-term (less than 24-hour exposure) guideline values for SO₂ have been developed based on the minimum concentrations associated with adverse effects in asthmatic patients exercising in a laboratory situation (World Health Organisation, 2000). Thus the guideline values represent a protective level for vulnerable groups within the community.

Information on the effects of exposure for longer periods (e.g. 24-hour) is obtained from epidemiological studies, which show associations between contaminants such as SO₂ and health impacts in communities and selected panels. In evaluating the health evidence relating to SO₂ exposure for the New Zealand ambient air quality guideline values, Dennison et al (2002) concludes that because of the correlations between SO₂ and other contaminants in the air it is difficult to confidently attribute the observed effects in the epidemiological studies to SO₂ alone. Experimental studies were therefore used to derive the dose-response relationships underpinning the ambient air quality guideline values for SO₂ for New Zealand.

4.3.1 Implications for New Zealand

Annex 9
GC 12.SACEP / NFP

Results of air quality monitoring would suggest that there are unlikely to be major health impacts associated with SO₂ exposure in New Zealand as concentrations in most areas are well within the ambient air quality guideline values. Some exceptions may occur on occasion in localised areas if significant industrial SO₂ concentrations exceed around 500 µg m⁻³ (10-minute average). These effects should be considered and addressed as a part of the resource consent process for industrial discharges.

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/air/air-quality-tech-report-43/html/page7.html> 8/5/2010

Asia-Pacific 50ppm Diesel Sulphur Matrix

COUNTRY	Sulphur Level (max, ppm) Diesel	50ppm Target Date	COMMENT	Source
Afghanistan	10,000	No date	No standards or ongoing plans	MW
Bangladesh	5,000	No date	The country adopted Bangladesh 1 and 2 emission standards in line with the Euro emission norms (Euro 1 and 2) in March 2006.	CAI-Asia, cse.polyu.edu.hk
Bhutan	500	Unknown	Euro 2 Vehicle emission standards came into force in March 2008. Import licenses only given for vehicles that meet the Euro 2 standards or above.	kuenselonline.com
Brunei Darussalam	1,000	Unknown	By law it is 5,000ppm	ASCOPE
Cambodia	1,500	No date	Formal emission standards for petrol and diesel fuels exist. Emission standards for 2 and 4 stroke motorcycles and vehicles are provided for under Cambodian law.	CAI-Asia
China (nationwide)	2000	2010	Average commonly in-use Fuel is between 600-1000ppm whilst legal maximum is 2000 ppm. Plans to adopt Euro 3 (350ppm) by 2010. The State Council on 18/05/2009 released and issued detail plan to boost the petrochemical industrial sector. Plan stated would implement in 2009 China III gasoline (150ppm) and 2010 China III diesel (350 ppm) see detail in Chinese at: http://www.gov.cn/zwgk/2009-05/18/content_1317790.htm	dieselnet.com
China (Beijing)	50	Done	Adopted 50 ppm in 2008. Plans to adopt Euro 5 emission standards by 2012 (Fuel sulphur level 10ppm)	dieselnet.com
China Hong Kong	50	Done	Plans to adopt Euro 5 emission standards are under discussion (Fuel sulphur level at 10ppm)	dieselnet.com
China, Macao Sar	50	Done	The Government passed an Administrative Order – No. 4/2006– to further limit the sulphur content of commercial light diesel oil for car use from no more than 0.05% (500ppm) to under 0.005%(50ppm) of its weight.	Macao government website
China, Taiwan	50	Done	The allowable sulphur content in diesel fuel was gradually reduced from 5,000ppm in 1989 to 50 ppm in 2005. A 50ppm cap was put on gasoline fuel, effective 1 January 2007. Gasoline vehicles: Phase 4 emission standards went into effect on 1 January 2008. Diesel engine vehicles: Phase 4 standards went into effect on 1 October 2006. Motorcycle standards: Phase 5 standards went into effect on 1 July 2007. inspection and maintenance programmes and clean vehicle technologies have been adopted. Diesel fuel to meet Euro 5 (10ppm) from 1 July 2011 and petrol to meet Euro 5 from 1 January	Taiwan environmental protection agency (EPA) website



			2012. Plan to implement Euro 5 diesel emission standards from 1 January 2012.	
Cook Islands		Unknown		
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		Unknown		
Fiji	500		In March 2007, the Cabinet approved the gazettal of the Trade Standards (Fuel Standards) Order 2007, which introduced mandatory standards for automotive diesel fuel and petrol fuel.	Fiji government website
India (nationwide)	500	No date	The adopted emission standards (Bharat standards) correspond to Euro emission standards. The Indian government in 2008 issued a notification to introduce Euro 3 emission standards (Fuel sulphur level at 350ppm) by April 1, 2010.	The gazette of India, Part II-section 3 sub-section (i) of 15 th July 2008
India (metros)	350	2010	The Indian government has issued a notification to introduce Euro IV standards and 50ppm sulphur fuel in eleven cities by April 1, 2010.	The gazette of India, Part II-section 3 sub-section (i) of 15 th July 2008
Indonesia	3,500 (average) / 500ppm	No date	Adopted the Euro 2 emission standards in 2007, but sulphur levels are above 4000ppm due to high sulphur imports and standard not met. Small amounts of Euro 2 (500ppm) fuel available in Jakarta only in packages. Plan to adopt Euro 3 standard in 2016.	Ministry of Energy & Mineral Resources
Kazakhstan	2,000	2010	In 2008 Euro 2 fuel grade standard introduced, plans to move to 10 ppm by 2010.	
Kiribati		Unknown		
Kyrgyzstan	2,000 – 5,000	Unknown	In 2008 'Euro 3' grade fuels were introduced by Gazprom (150 ppm for petrol, 350 ppm for diesel). The country imports fuel from Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan.	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2,500	No date	Imports from Thailand, Vietnam & Malaysia. Currently developing an environmental sustainable transport strategy where Fuel Quality Standards are to be addressed	PCFV workshop 4-5 th August, 2008.
Malaysia	500	2012	IN 2005 adopted Plans to adopt Euro 4 standards (50 ppm) by 2010 and 10ppm by 2015.	CAI-Asia
Maldives		Unknown		
Marshall Islands		Unknown		
Micronesia, Fed. States of		Unknown		
Mongolia	5,000	No date	In 2008 committed to consider moving to 500 ppm in own timeline.	PCFV workshop 30-31 st July 2008
Myanmar	2,000	Unknown		
Nauru		Unknown		
Nepal	500	No Date	Imports from India at 500ppm (which will be 350ppm in 2010 – same as India) though National specifications as per standard still retains 10,000 ppm as sulphur limit. Vehicles at Euro 1 standards. Second Hand vehicle imports banned from 2005/6?	ADB
Niue				
Pakistan	5,000-7,000	No date	Refineries being upgraded to produce Euro II (500ppm) diesel by June 2012	CAI-Asia, cse.polyu.edu.hk



Palau		Unknown		
Papua New Guinea		Unknown		
Philippines	500	2010	Implementing Euro II. Discussions ongoing in 2009 on adopting Euro IV standards (50 ppm) by 2012	CAI-Asia
Republic of Korea	50	Done	Plans to adopt Euro 4 standards (10-15 ppm) by 2010	CAI-Asia
Samoa		Unknown		
Singapore	50	Done	Adopted 50 ppm in 2007.	CAI-Asia
Solomon Islands		Unknown		
Sri Lanka	500	No Date	Standards in place, no decisions to lower sulphur levels	CAI-Asia
Tajikistan	2,000	Unknown	Follows GOST standards.	CAI-Asia
Turkmenistan	2,000	Unknown	Follows GOST Standards.	CAI-Asia
Thailand	350	2012	In 2006 planned to adopt Euro 4 standards (50 ppm now modified to 2012.	CAI-Asia
Timor-Leste		Unknown		
Tokelau		Unknown		
Tonga		Unknown		
Tuvalu		Unknown		
Uzbekistan	5,000	Unknown	Although the standard is 5,000 ppm, the measured levels are between 400 – 2,000 ppm	CAI-Asia
Vanuatu		Unknown		
Vietnam	500	No date	Plans in discussion to lower sulphur levels to Euro IV by 2018. Euro II emissions standards for new vehicle effected from 2005. No standards for in-use vehicles. Scrappage policy for 25yr old cars. Developing motorcycle standards.	CAI-Asia
Total: 46 countries				

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ADB: Asian Development Bank (2007): A Roadmap for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles in Asia; second consultative Draft, 19 December, 2007

ASCOPE: Asian Council on Petroleum

CAI-Asia: http://www.cleanairnet.org/caiasia/1412/articles-40711_SulfurDiesel.pdf; accessed on July 28, 2008

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Indonesia: <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2008/05/12/fuel-quality-comes-price-hike-govt-told.html>; accessed on August 1, 2008

India: Email memo sent on 12/8/08 from Anumita Roychowdhury; Associate Director, Research and Advocacy Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi

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Current status of Lead and Sulphur in Fuels in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
Albania	Unleaded	Imports of leaded petrol banned 07/2005. National legislation limit is 0.005 g/l for lead.	2,000	150	2000 ppm domestic refinery production (20 percent market share), 350 ppm diesel imported. The Ballsh refinery has been privatized in 2008. Two Decrees of the Council of Ministers (2008 and 2009) have been issued regarding fuel quality, with plans as follows: 01/01/2009 - 31/12/2009: max 350 ppm diesel (allowing up to 2000 ppm for domestic products); 01/01/2010 - 31/12/2010: max 350 ppm diesel 01/01/2011 - 31/12/2011: max 150 ppm diesel; 01/01/2012 - onwards: max 10 ppm diesel
Armenia	Unleaded	Unleaded from October 2001.	350	150/500	Armenia imports; 150 ppm petrol also available on market. Plans to transition to 50 ppm then 10 ppm petrol and diesel sulphur from 1 January 2010
Azerbaijan	Unleaded	Has not produced leaded petrol since 1995. Has not been available since	2,000	1000	Follows GOST standards 305-82 for diesel fuels.** Reduction of diesel sulphur content to 500

Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
		January 1 st , 1997			ppm by 2015. Gasoline produced meets 'Euro 2' grade standard. GOST 2084-77 for Petrol Automotive.
Belarus	Unleaded	Ban since 1998.	350	500	Adopted EN 228:1993 since 09/1993. Draft state standard EN 228-2004 for unleaded gasoline requires sulphur content of 150ppm up to 01/01/2010, with a switch to 10ppm from 2011. Technical regulation TR 2008/011/BY will be introduced from 01.01.2010 and set up 50 ppm as a limit for sulfur content in diesel with switch to 10ppm from 2011.
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dual	Deadline for leaded petrol to be banned as of January 1, 2010 passed without official confirmation from government. Imports some unleaded.	350	150	Over 97 percent of fuel imported from neighboring countries, including Serbia. Certain leftovers of leaded fuel allowed on the market until March 2010, although still without confirmation of official ban. Target date of 2012 for production of Euro 5 fuel due to modernization of refinery



Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
Bulgaria	Unleaded	Ban since 2004.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Croatia	Unleaded	Ban since 2006.	10	10	New regulation adopted May 2006 transposing 98/70/EC and 1999/32/EC. Rijeka and Sisak refinery upgrades have started, will continue to 2012 and will cost EUR 750 million. Plans 10ppm fuel introduction in 2009. Petrol and diesel fuel sulphur grades 11-50 ppm is placed on the market according to Governmental decision.
Cyprus	Unleaded	Ban since May 2004.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Czech Republic	Unleaded	Ban since 2001.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Estonia	Unleaded	Ban since May 2001.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Georgia	Unleaded	Ban since 2000.	350	500	Imports fuel. Gradual move to 50 ppm petrol by 2011; 50 ppm diesel by 2010. Introduction of new sulphur standard for gasoline - 250ppm - from 01/01/2009, 100ppm from 01/01/2010.
Hungary	Unleaded	Ban since 1999.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Kazakhstan	Unleaded		2,000	500	In 2008 Euro 2 fuel grade standard



Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
					introduced, plans to move to 10 ppm by 2010.
Kyrgyzstan	Unleaded	Ban since 2002.	2,000	1,000	In 2008 'Euro 3' grade fuels were introduced by Gazprom (150 ppm for petrol, 350 ppm for diesel). The country imports fuel from Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan.
Latvia	Unleaded	Ban since 2001.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Lithuania	Unleaded	Ban since 2001.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Montenegro	Dual	Imports from Serbia. Leaded fuel to be banned 01/01/2011, with lead level < 5 mg/l.	2000	1,000	Imports from Serbia. Leaded petrol with market share of approximately 25%, and plans to go completely unleaded by 1/1/2011. The market of fuels in Montenegro is divided between Jugopetrol-Kotor, which covers about 90% of the imported and distributed fuels, Montenegro Bonus, which participates with less than 5%, while the other 5% is divided between 40 smaller importers/distributors. Majority of leaded fuels is distributed and owned by the smaller importers.

Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
Poland	Unleaded	Ban since 2003.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Moldova	Unleaded	Ban since 2002.	2,000	500	From 2007 Lukoil Moldova started to sell EN-590 Euro diesel (10ppm) and 'Euro 4' (50 ppm) grade diesel. Rompetrol Moldova sells 'Euro 4' grade fuel, while Petrom Moldova 'Euro 5' (10 ppm) grade gasoline.
Romania	Unleaded	Ban since 2004.	10	10	
Russia	Unleaded	Ban since 2003.	350	150	Various grades on the market: Lukoil has launched Euro 4 diesel production (50 ppm) in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Petrol standards allow 'Euro 2' grade fuel through 2010, with plans for upgrades to 'Euro 3' from 2012, 'Euro 4' from 2014. 2,000 ppm diesel to be allowed through 2014. Sulphur levels of 50 mg/kg to be allowed by law until 31 Dec. 2012
Serbia	Dual	Ban planned for 2012.	10,000	2,000	Domestic refineries produce 10,000 ppm diesel and a 350 ppm 'EKO' diesel grade, with very small



Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
					quantities of 50 ppm diesel produced at Pancevo refinery. Lower sulphur diesel is imported in limited quantities. Plans underway to introduce 2003/17/EC fuels in 2010. Multiple grades of diesel available on the market: -Euro 3 Diesel max 350 ppm -Diesel Oil D2 max 10000 ppm -Diesel D2S max 2000 ppm -Diesel D1E max 5000 ppm Multiple grades of petrol available on the market: 650 ppm unleaded gasoline BMB 95 and 1000 ppm leaded gasoline MB 95. If the lead phase-out goes as planned, it will constitute two phases: reduction from 0,6 mg/l to 0,13 and then to 0,005ml/l by 2012. Though by industry standards, Serbia may be completely unleaded before 2012.
Slovakia	Unleaded	Ban since 1995.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Slovenia	Unleaded	Ban since 2001.	10	10	Follows EU Fuel and Vehicle Directives
Tajikistan	Unleaded	Fully unleaded 2010	2,000	1,000	Follows GOST



Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
					standards.
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Unleaded	Leaded petrol import and production banned in July 2009	10	10	5% bio diesel allowed in diesel Д-Е III grade. OKTA Macedonia produces 'Euro 4' grade diesel and unleaded petrol.
Turkey	Unleaded	Ban since 2006. Phase-out began in 2002.	1000	10	Effective January 1, 2008, new limits were introduced for sulfur in diesel fuels. Petrol Ofisi sells V/MAX Eurodiesel at 10ppm, along with Tupras. Although the Regulation on Petrol and Diesel Quality (OJ:25489) defines the maximum allowable sulfur level for diesel fuel as 10 ppm; high sulfur level diesel is still available on the market with a significant share of 70%. On the domestic market there are two grades of diesel fuel available: 1-Low sulfur diesel (Sulfur content LESS than 10 ppm) 2-Rural diesel (Sulfur content between 10-1000 ppm)
Turkmenistan	Unleaded	Ban since 2003	2,000	1,000	Follows GOST standards.
Ukraine	Unleaded	Ban since 01/01/2003.	2,000	150	'Euro 3' petrol planned for 2011.



Country	Lead		Sulphur max allowable by law		
	Current Status	Comments	Diesel	Petrol	Comments
					standards.
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Unleaded	Leaded petrol import and production banned in July 2009	10	10	5% bio diesel allowed in diesel Д-Е III grade. OKTA Macedonia produces 'Euro 4' grade diesel and unleaded petrol.
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Turkmenistan	Unleaded	Ban since 2003	2,000	1,000	Follows GOST standards.
Ukraine	Unleaded	Ban since 01/01/2003.	2,000	150	'Euro 3' petrol planned for 2011.



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LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SULPHUR LEVELS IN DIESEL FUEL

Country	Diesel Sulphur Level (ppm), max allowable	Petrol Sulphur Level (ppm)	Comments	Reference
Anguilla				
Antigua and Barbuda			Imports petroleum products and oil.	
Argentina	2500	500	<p>Multiple grades available on market depending on population density zone;</p> <p>Diesel: 500 ppm diesel available. 2012 target of 50 ppm city/1500 ppm national diesel coincide with Euro IV standards for diesel passenger vehicles.</p> <p>Gasoline: 300 ppm gasoline available. and 50ppm cities /300 ppm nationwide gasoline by 2012</p> <p>9 refineries – no plans to invest in upgrades.</p>	Resolution 1283/2006, Secretary of Energy
Aruba			One refinery – Lago, heavy sour crude oil.	
Bahamas			Imports oil for domestic processing of petrol.	
Barbados	5000	1000	Imports fuel from Trinidad which refines Barbados' oil. Barbados National Oil Co. Ltd. produces crude oil. Mobil Oil Barbados Ltd. refines oil.	
Belize			Imports crude oil and petrol from US, Venezuela, Mexico and Cuba. Oil found and being exported. No refineries.	Govt. of Belize – March 2010
Bermuda			Fuels are imported from US, Canada, Italy and UK	
Bolivia	5000	500	Diesel: 2000 ppm diesel also available on market	ARPEL 2007; EIA



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			2 refineries;	
Brazil			<p>Diesel: 500 ppm also available. <i>1800ppm planned for 2010</i>, 500ppm planned for 2014 nationwide.</p> <p>USD 6 billion refinery upgrade planned, 13 refineries (2 private, 11 state owned Petrobras).</p> <p>Petrobras plans to produce 50 ppm diesel from 2009 - 2012, and 10 ppm diesel from 2013 for urban areas.</p> <p>55% of all fuel is ethanol. All new Brazilian cars are equipped with "flex-fuel" engines. 15 billion gallons, or 10% of all fuel sold by 2015. Total use of biofuels could grow to 20% by 2022. From Jan 2010, Brazil's National Energy Policy Council (CNPE) will require all diesel fuel in the country to contain 5 percent biofuel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The goal of 50 ppm diesel in metropolitan Brazil has not been achieved as planned for January 2009; Technical problems at refineries and the automotive industry were not solved in time, so CONAMA (National Council on the Environment) issued a new resolution, number 403, on November 11, 2008, which established that, at 1st January 2012, the maximum level of sulfur in diesel fuel sold in Brazil will be 10 ppm; <p>The ANP (National Agency of Petroleum, Natural Gas And Biofuels), the Brazilian regulatory agency for fuels, is trying to solve</p>	<p>CONAMA Resolution 315, of 2002</p> <p>Judicial Agreement Nov 2008</p> <p>Coalition for Clean Air, Brasil</p> <p>latimes.com/business/la-fi-biofuels4-2009nov04,0,2435171.st ory Chris Kraul</p> <p>SECRETARIA DE ESTADO DO AMBIENTE - SEA. Supeintendência de Clima e Mercado de Carbono - via email March 2010</p>
	2000	1000		



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			<p>the technical problems, so they have issued a resolution - ANP Nr 42, from December 2009, which established:</p> <p>1. Diesel 50 ppm is sold, from January, in some metropolitan areas of cities like (a) Belem at Para State; (b) Fortaleza at Ceara State and (c) Recife at Pernambuco State. Also used by some private bus fleets from Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Parana States. The diesel sulphur level for public transport buses will follow a schedule in major metropolitan areas of Rio and Sao Paulo by 2011.</p> <p>2. Related to diesel in rural areas currently 2000 ppm. In some cities of states like: Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Espirito Santo, Minas Gerais, Parana, Maranhao e Piaui, it is sold with 500 ppm sulphur, since January 2010.</p>	
Cayman Islands (BVI)	5000		<p>Diesel: Currently between 1000 to 5000ppm</p> <p>Esso and Chevron only licensed companies. Caribbean Utilities Company CUC is the largest buyer thus dictates the grade of diesel fuel at the pumps</p>	
Chile	50	30	<p>Diesel: From January 1, 2010 - 50 ppm diesel nationwide</p> <p>Gasoline: Expected to fall to 15 ppm sulfur in the metropolitan area in the coming months and diesel down to 15 ppm in early 2011; Santiago</p>	<p>CONAMA Chile, ARPEL 2007 Centro Mario Molina Chile, national survey 2009</p> <p>Marcelo Fernández G. Control de Contaminación Atmosférica - Jan 2010</p>

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			region 50 ppm from July 2004, plan to go to 15ppm in 2011. USD 1 billion investment planned in upgrades; 2 state owned refineries ENAP	
Colombia	2500	900	Diesel: 2500 ppm nationwide to go to 500ppm from Jan 2010, and 50ppm from Jan 2013. Confirmed: Bogota 300 ppm gasoline, 50 ppm diesel from January 2010. Gasoline : sold with 10% ethanol. Medellín and the Metropolitan area of Valle de Aburrá improve 90% from 500 ppm to 50 ppm. 300ppm gasoline to be Dec 2010 in these areas.. USD 1 billion investment planned for refineries 5 state refineries	National University of Colombia; ARPEL 2007 Centro Mario Molina Chile, - national survey 2009 Economía 1 Jul 2010 http://www.elespectador.com/economia/articulo-211259-entregar-acpm-mas-limpio-ecopetrol-invierte-us8000-millones
Costa Rica	500	1000	Imports crude oil from Mexico and Venezuela.	
Cuba	8000	1200	Has some oil reserves and produces petrol. Dependant on oil imports from neighboring countries and Venezuela.	
Dominica			Imports its fuel.	
Dominican Republic	7500	1500	Net importer of petrol, 75% comes from Venezuela, rest from Colombia and Mexico. 2 Refineries on the island. Proposal for 50ppm limit *	* Battelle – USEPA 2009
Ecuador	500/7000	2000	500 ppm fuel available in Quito and Cuenca. Plans for national reduction to 500 ppm in 2009. USD 1 billion investment required to reach 50 ppm diesel and petrol. 3 refineries. Member of OPEC	ARPEL 2007
El Salvador	5000	1000	Imports its petroleum products from Ecuador, Chile, the US, and the Caribbean. Plan to decrease sulphur to 500 ppm by 2010. Petrol vehicles should be equipped	



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			with catalytic converters.	
French Guiana			No refineries	
Grenada			Imports petrol from Venezuela.	
Guatemala	5000	1000	Has oil reserves and produces fuel. Plan to have maximum 500 ppm diesel and petrol by 2010.	
Guyana			No refineries	
Haiti			Refined petroleum products are imported. Exxon, Royal Dutch Shell, and Texaco operate petrol stations in Haiti.	
Honduras	5000	1000	Imports its fuel. Plan to decrease fuel sulphur to 500 ppm by 2010.	
Jamaica	5000	1500	Imports part of its fuel. Petrojam refinery produces diesel oil, unleaded petrol and some bioethanol.	Jamaica aims to require 2% biodiesel additive.
Mexico	500	500	<p>Diesel: 15ppm in Mexico City. In other cities 250 ppm diesel plan to go 15ppm by end of 2009 however - PEMEX has <i>not</i> complied with the 2009 timeline to introduce 50 ppm diesel across the country- no new deadline given 3.9% diesel imported</p> <p>Gasoline: Currently 30 ppm average /80 ppm max (Premium UBA) in all country from Oct 2006 and 500ppm (Magna UBA) in major cities planned to be available in all country end 2013 40% of gasoline imported</p> <p>Six refineries. PEMEX monopoly. Non-OPEC</p>	<p>SEMARNAT, PEMEX</p> <p>INE - March 2010</p>
Montserrat				
Nicaragua	5000	1000	Net importer of fuel from Venezuela. One refinery. Plan to have maximum 500ppm fuel by 2010.	ARPEL 2005
Panama	5000*	1000	Almost all fuel is imported. Diesel: <i>Plan to decrease sulphur content to</i>	* Also has Diesel Liviano Grado 2D (500) with max sulfur of 500ppm -

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			1000 ppm in diesel by Jan 2010 <i>Still to verify</i> Gasoline: 500ppm gasoline by Oct 2009. <i>Still to verify</i>	Battelle – USEPA 2009
Paraguay	5000	1000	No refineries PDVSA major provider of fuels. 78% of vehicles are diesel and 22% gasoline or flex	ARPEL 2007 PCFV national survey 2009
Peru	5000	2000	Diesel: Government decree of July 2005 provides for reduction to 50 ppm metropolitan, 1500 nationwide diesel as of 2010 – <i>still to be confirmed</i> . Only Lima and Callao are 50ppm from March 1 st 2010. 7 refineries, USD 1 billion required for upgrades. USD \$330 million loan from World Bank to assist	USEPA Daily Environment Report 'Peru Cracks Down on 'Dirty' Diesel Fuel, Sets Deadline for Cutting Sulfur Content' Centro Mario Molina Chile, - national survey 2009 International Fuel Quality Center ifqc@ifqc.org
Puerto Rico	15	15	US current fuel standards used.	
St Kitts and Nevis			Net importer of fuel (mainly diesel).	
Saint Lucia			Imports all its fuel. Plans to construct a refinery.	
St Vincent and the Grenadines			Net importer of fuel from US and Venezuela.	
Suriname	5000	300	Net importer of fuel.	ARPEL 2005
Trinidad and Tobago	1500	500	Own reserves of oil, produces diesel and petrol. Petrotrin plans 3 year investments to launch low sulphur fuel production.	ARPEL 2005
Turks and Caicos Islands				
Uruguay	8000	1000	Diesel: 50 ppm diesel, planned for 2010 nationally - <i>Still to verify</i> Gasoline: 300 ppm petrol planned for 2010 nationally - <i>Still to verify</i> 1 refinery	ARPEL 2007

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Venezuela	5000	1500	<p>Diesel: 2000 ppm diesel, planned for 2010 - <i>Still to verify</i></p> <p>Gasoline: 400 ppm petrol planned for 2010, - <i>Still to verify</i></p> <p>5 refineries. Member of OPEC Only 20% of oil production is light, announced in September 2009 that it would invest \$17bn to improve facilities to refine its large reserves of ultra-heavy oil.</p>	ARPEL 2007 APS Review Downstream Trends 2009
Virgin Islands	15	15	15 ppm USA diesel rule 500 ppm non-road sulphur limit are applied.	
Total: 42 countries				

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Last updated on March 2010

Sub-Saharan Africa Sulphur Levels in Diesel Fuel

COUNTRY	Sulphur Level (max, ppm)	COMMENTS	SOURCE
Angola	3000		Country Standards
Benin	10000	Imports mainly from Ivory Coast and Nigeria	PCFV meeting in Togo (June 2008)
Botswana	500	Supplied by South Africa	
Burkina Faso	5000		Country contact (Zéphirin Ouedraogo)
Burundi	5000	Imports from Tanzania and Kenya	
Cameroon	5000		Country Standards/Country contact (Molo Yenwo)
Cape Verde	3000	Imports from Angola	
Central African Republic	3000-5000	Imports petrol from Cameroon	
Chad	5000	Imports petrol from Cameroon and Nigeria	
Comoros			No information
Congo (Brazzaville)	10000	Actual level from country contact is 1000ppm	National contacts (Seraphin Ele)
Democratic Republic of Congo	5000		Country contact (Kabala Mwambuyu)
Côte d'Ivoire	5000		Country standards
Djibouti	5000		Country Standards
Equatorial Guinea	5000-8000	Supplied by Cameroon and Gabon	
Eritrea	7000		Country Standards
Ethiopia	10000	Imports mainly 5000ppm	Country Standards
Gabon	8000		
Ghana	5000		Country Standards
Guinea	5000	Supplied by Senegal	
Guinea-Bissau	5000	Supplied by Senegal	
Kenya	10,000	Imported levels at 5000ppm	Country standards
Lesotho	500	Supplied by South Africa	
Liberia	5000	Supplied mainly by Senegal	
Madagascar	5000		Country Standards
Malawi	500	Imports mainly through Mozambique	Country Standards to be changed
Mali	10000	Imports from Senegal and Ivory Coast	
Mauritania	5000		Fred Sexsmith
Mauritius	2500		Country Standards
Mozambique	500		Country Standards
Namibia	500	Imports from South Africa	
Niger	10000		Fred Sexsmith
Nigeria	5000	(actual level 1330)	Country contact (Aminu Jalal)



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Réunion			No information
Rwanda	5000	Imports through Kenya and Tanzania	
Sao Tome and Principe	3000		
Sénégal	5000		Country standards
Seychelles			No information
Sierra Leone	5000	Imports from Senegal	
Somalia			No information
South Africa	500	Already 50ppm grade is available	Country Standards/country contact (Stuart Rayner)
Sudan	11000		From oil company contact
Swaziland	500	Imports from South Africa	
Tanzania	5000		Country Standards
The Gambia	5000	Imports from Cote d'Ivoire	PCFV meeting
Togo	10000	Imports mainly from Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria	Country Standards
Uganda	5000	Imports through Kenya and Tanzania	Country Standards
Zambia	7500		Country standards
Zimbabwe	500	Imports through Mozambique	
Total: 49 countries			

References:

Fred Sexsmith

CITAC

Various Country Standards and contacts

UNEP/PCFV sponsored meetings

April 2010....



West Asia, Middle East & North Africa Diesel Sulphur Matrix

COUNTRY	CURRENT STATUS Diesel Sulphur Content (ppm)	COMMENT
Algeria	900	Very sweet crude. No plans to process crude further.
Bahrain (GCC)	500/10	Effective April 2008. Produces up 10ppm for export demand. Local available is 500ppm.
Egypt	5,000	No Plans to reduce levels, Standard 10,000ppm.
Iran	5,000	Standard 10,000 ppm
Iraq	10,000	Standards 25,000 ppm. No plans. Significant quantities of fuels imported from Kuwait and actual quality estimated to be 2,000ppm
Israel	10	Follows EU standards and from January 2009 effected 10ppm
Jordan	7,000-10,000	Actual Standard is 350ppm based on international standard 14596 but operating on government waiver. Plan to be reduced to 50 ppm after planned refinery expansion is completed
Kuwait (GCC)	2,000	Imported 50ppm Cargo in March 2009 from European refinery. Announced plans in 2008 for Clean fuels project for 2012 for 10 ppm delayed to 2013.
Lebanon	Industrial grade 5,000 Vehicle grade 500	Imported. Information gathered from traders suggest two grades marketed
Libyan Arab Jumhuriya	1,000	Standards at about 1,500 ppm
Morocco	50	Effective January 2009
Oman (GCC)	50	Oman oil refinery company has installed a diesel-hydro-sulphurisation unit and adopted the ISO-14001:2004 standard on environmental management that provides for the reduction of sulphur from the fuels. Official specification standard is 500 but actual fuels quality is less than 50ppm from July 2008.
Palestine	10,000	Gets fuel from Jordan which is at 10,000 ppm
Qatar (GCC)	500	Announced Road map plans in 2006 for 10ppm by 2010 now postponed possibly to 2012.
Saudi Arabia (GCC)	5,000	Current Standards 10,000 ppm. Announced a 2020 Road Map in 2008 to go to 50ppm and lower by 2013/2014. Plans to go to 500ppm by end 2010 and most cities at 800ppm.
Syria	7000(6,500)	Actual Standards 7,000 ppm. Announced Plans in 2008 to go to 50 ppm 2015. Import of 50ppm for selected cities planned in 2009.
Tunisia	5,000	National standards (NT 04.47), 2003 reduction of Sulfur from 10.000ppm to 350ppm effective 2007. Actual refinery production is 5,000ppm and expected to change in 2011. Effective 2009 a new standard (EN 590 January 2005+AC) adopted for gasoil 50ppm and gasoil 10ppm to conform to European standards. Since 1st January 2009: all imported gas oil contains less than 10ppm of sulfur. <i>[Ministry of Environment, April</i>

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		<i>2010/</i>
United Arab Emirates (GCC)	500	Announced Plan in 2007 is for 50ppm by 2010. Have commenced 50 ppm in Dubai city with introduction of Euro IV buses in 2009.
Yemen	10,000	No current Standards. Domestic crude is somewhat sweet, but exported. Plans to build new refinery and looking to modernise existing ones. Time frame not known.
Total: 19 countries		

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International Fuel Quality Center (IFQC)

Regional Workshop for SACEP
Cleaning Up Transport
Colombo, Sri Lanka
March 22 – 23, 2010

Annex 9
GC 12.SACEP / NFP

1. Opening Session, March 22

- 1.1 After an opening ceremony to expel the darkness, Ms. Jacintha Tissera (SACEP) welcomed participants and introduced SACEP. This was followed by a welcome from Mr. M.A.R.D. Jayathilake, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources, Sri Lanka
- 1.2 Mr. Mahesh Pradhan (UNEP's Regional Office for Asia-Pacific) then provided a regional perspective, and made clear the connection between this workshop and other initiatives and meetings (for example EANET, Male Declaration etc). He also raised the issues of urban pollution, trans-boundary pollution, health impacts and the co-benefit approach.
- 1.3 Mr. W.K. Rathnadeera (SACEP) introduced the workshop and the agenda (Appendix 1).
- 1.4 Mrs. Vered Ehsani (UNEP's Transport Unit) described the current trends to more energy and space intensive transport options, and their various impacts on health, environment and mobility. After stressing that cleaning up fuels and vehicles, although important, is not enough, she outlined the various aspects of cleaner transport and suggested that we have a broader vision of the kind of urban centres we want to create – cities that are people-centred not car-centred. This introduced the next session of the workshop: 'shift and avoid'.

2. Shift & Avoid

- 2.1 A short video clip highlighted the challenges of cycling in the city when proper infrastructure is not in place.
- 2.2 Mrs. Anumita Roychowdhury (CSE India) gave a presentation on public transport, non-motorised transport and safety. After highlighting air quality trends and health impacts, she then outlined the positive health benefits from air quality management, but warned of second generation threats that are emerging due to the explosive increase in vehicles. Asian cities are more dense, more walkable, have high public transport usage and have a greater diversity of transport modes than European cities. We need to protect these advantages. She suggested ways that this could be done, and urged greater protection for zero-emission transport modes: walking, bicycles, rickshaws, bus-bike integration etc.
- 2.3 Ms. Joe Bailey (CAI-Asia) described a walkability survey done in Colombo. Volunteers walked an assigned route and gave personal assessments, took photos, and interviewed pedestrians and government agencies. The survey noted how sidewalks are 'invaded' for other usages (garbage, parking, vendors), and recommended: long term planning for road development; create a platform to coordinate projects of various government agencies; expand pilot projects on bike lanes; create buffer zone between highways and sidewalks; improve access for disabled persons; and provide driver education on road use ethics.
- 2.4 During the discussion session, the need to value walking and other traditional transport means was stressed, as well as the importance of multi-modal integration. Countries should consider creating a platform for conversation between agencies to allow for integration of different transport means (common ticketing systems, infrastructure etc) and to encourage improvement in optimal performance of each 'sub-system'.

3. Clean fuels & vehicles overview

- 3.1 Mrs. Vered Ehsani (UNEP) described the systems approach to clean fuels and vehicles,

emphasising that both clean fuels and efficient, clean technology vehicles are required for optimum emission reductions. She introduced the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV), a programme of UNEP's Transport Unit, and outlined PCFV's campaigns: eliminating lead from fuel; reducing fuel Sulphur levels; promoting clean vehicle technologies and standards; and developing improved fuel efficiency policies.

- 3.2 After introducing the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia), Mr. Mike Co presented the challenges and opportunities for promoting cleaner fuels and vehicles. One of the greatest challenges is the explosive growth in private vehicle use in Asia, which will reverse the progress achieved in improving urban air quality and thus lead to related health impacts. He then suggested possible components of a road map for cleaner transport, including: transport planning and demand management; promotion of public and non-motorised transport; cleaner fuels and vehicles; development of a strict time-line of activities.
- 3.3 The link between dirty fuels, Black Carbon and climate change was emphasised by Dr. Maheswar Rupakh (UNEP's Regional Resource Centre for Asia-Pacific), thus highlighting the co-benefits of cleaner transport and climate change (in addition to health, mobility etc mentioned by previous presenters). Fuel with high Sulphur levels has higher levels of Black Carbon, which absorbs heat from above (unlike CO₂, which traps heat from below) and darkens snow so it doesn't reflect heat but absorbs it. Although relatively short lived, Black Carbon is 2,000 more potent than CO₂ as a 'greenhouse gas', and the transport contribution to Black Carbon emissions is significant. Conversely, a reduction in Black Carbon could result in immediate climate benefits in a short period.
- 3.4 In discussing fuel efficiency, Anumita Roychowdhury mentioned that Indian vehicles are mostly small, light cars with small engines. However this advantage could be eroded if strict efficiency standards aren't in place: as people get richer, there is a shift to bigger vehicles, and more vehicles. Voluntary targets don't work. We should learn from existing programmes and regularly update and change the regulations to reflect the market. She emphasised that we must avoid trade-off between emissions and efficiency: diesel may be better in efficiency / CO₂, but can be worse in other emissions (NO_x, PM, toxics) if we don't have low Sulphur diesel and clean vehicle technology. Fuel economy standards should also be developed for 2-wheelers (Taiwan is the only country with one) and heavy duty vehicles (Japan regulates fuel economy of buses and trucks).

4. Moving towards cleaner transport

- 4.1 Dr D.S. Jayaweera (Ministry of Finance & Planning, Sri Lanka) discussed the Sri Lanka case as the country moves towards cleaner fuels and a more efficient vehicle fleet. After providing detailed statistics on the country's vehicle fleet, including annual vehicle mileage and fuel consumption of different vehicle categories, he highlighted the various strategies Sri Lanka was using, including: tighter emission standards; tax reform to promote cleaner vehicles; converting 3-wheelers to LPG/CNG/electric; and the construction of a refinery that can produce Euro IV diesel by 2012. Colombo is also looking at developing a Bus Rapid Transport network.
- 4.2 Dr. Rashid Hasan (Ministry of Environment & Forest, India) presented the roadmap of Sulphur phase-down in India. After reviewing the impacts from higher Sulphur levels on health, environment and vehicles, he described the vehicle profile of the country. An Auto Fuel Policy was approved in 2003, which looked at fuel quality, automobile technologies and monitoring. There are two parallel roadmaps for the adoption of Euro standards: one for the country as a whole, and another for the mega-cities that face serious pollution problems.
- 4.3 Mr. Quazi Hashmi (Department of Environment, Bangladesh) described the phase-out of 2-stroke, 3-wheelers in Dhaka. Initially, the government stopped registering them, then increased the duty dramatically, thus encouraging phase out. There was a lot of stakeholder involvement to avoid conflict and disruption. This had to be handled well, as a lot of people's livelihoods were involved, and the 3-wheelers are an important mode of transport. To promote the 4-stroke 3-wheelers, the duty was significantly

reduced for 4-stroke, CNG 3-wheelers. Mechanics and drivers received training in better maintenance to further decrease emissions. Since phase-out, there has been a dramatic decline in particulate matter.

4.4 Mr. Mike Co presented the Clean Fleet Management Toolkit. This practical, easy to use tool can assist government agencies and private companies to reflect on the various options to clean up their vehicle fleets, and to develop a strategy to do so. It also allows users to see the great value of cleaning up fuels and vehicles. (To view and use the Toolkit, go to <http://www.unep.org/tnt-unep/toolkit/>).

4.5 The first day of the workshop closed with a discussion session.

5. Opening session, March 23

5.1 A brief summary was given, highlighting the topics and lessons learned from the first day. The discussion groups were introduced.

6. What next: Discussion groups

6.1 The participants were divided into 2 groups: countries with high Sulphur levels and those with lower (below 500ppm) Sulphur levels.

6.2 Each group was asked to cover a number of topics, particularly highlighting the main transport initiatives and challenges in each country, and devise a list of recommendations. See Appendix 2 for the summary of the country profiles.

7. Workshop recommendation

7.1 Each group gave a brief presentation on the recommendations that were generated, based on the input from the previous day.

7.2 There was a plenary discussion, leading to the eventual approval of a consolidated list of recommendations (see Appendix 3), to be forward to SACEP's Ministerial Meeting.

7.3 All participants were thanked for their lively and informative participation, and the workshop was officially closed.

APPENDIX 1: Agenda

22nd March 2010	
Opening Session	
9:00 – 9:05	Welcoming address: SACEP
9:05 – 9:10	Welcoming address: Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources, Sri Lanka
9:10 – 9:20	Regional perspective (Mahesh Pradhan, ROAP)
9:20 – 9:30	Introduction to the workshop (W.K. Rathnadeera, SACEP)
9:30 – 9:45	Cleaner Transport: Clean-Shift-Avoid (Vered Ehsani, UNEP)
Shift & Avoid	
9:45 – 9:50	Cycling video clip
9:50 – 10:10	Public transport, non-motorised transport & safety (Anumita Roychowdhury, CSE India)
10:10 – 10:25	To Walk or Not to Walk (Joy Bailey, CAI-Asia)
10:25 – 10:30	Questions, answers & discussion
10:30 – 11:00	Tea Break
Clean Fuel and Vehicles Overview	
11:00 – 11:20	Clean Fuels and Vehicles: A systems approach (Vered Ehsani, UNEP)
11:20 – 11:40	Designing a Road Map for Cleaner Transport: The challenges and opportunities for promoting cleaner fuels and vehicles (Mike Co, CAI-Asia)
11:40 – 12:00	Dirty fuels, Black Carbon & climate change (Dr. Maheswar Rupakheti, RRC.AP)
12:00 – 12:20	Fuel Efficiency (Anumita Roychowdhury, CSE India)
12:20 – 12:30	Questions, answers & discussion
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
Moving Towards Cleaner Transport	
14:00 – 14:20	Cleaner fuels and a more efficient vehicle fleet for Sri Lanka (Dr D.S. Jayaweera, Ministry of Finance & Planning)
14:20 – 14:40	Roadmap of Sulphur reduction in India (Dr Rashid Hasan, Ministry of Environment & Forest)
14:40 – 15:00	Bangladesh Case Study (Quazi Hashmi, Department of Environment)
15:00 – 15:40	The Clean Fleet Management Toolkit: A quick training (Mike Co, CAI-Asia)
15:40 – 16:00	Questions, answers & discussion
16:00	Tea Break
Close of Day 1	

23rd March 2010	
Opening Session	
9:00 – 9:10	Summary of Day 1 & Introduction to Discussion Groups
What Next: Discussion Groups	
9:10 – 10:30	<p>Group 1: High Sulphur Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Policy & programme implications for introducing low Sulphur fuel</i> • <i>National level follow-up for developing a clean fuels road map</i> • <i>Financing options</i> • <i>Regional initiatives needed to support national efforts to clean up transport</i> • <i>Regional recommendations for SACEP</i> <p>Group 2: Lower Sulphur Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Policy & programme implications for introducing cleaner transport</i> • <i>National level follow-up for developing cleaner transport</i> • <i>Financing options</i> • <i>Regional initiatives needed to support national efforts to clean up transport</i> • <i>Regional recommendations for SACEP</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Tea Break
Workshop Recommendation	
11:00 – 11:30	Group presentations
11:30 – 12:00	Plenary discussion and approval of recommendations
12:00 – 12:10	Closing Remarks
Close of Day 2	
12:30	Lunch

APPENDIX 2: Summary of Country Transport Profiles

The participants were divided into two discussion groups on the second morning of the workshop. The following points were generated during the discussions.

High Sulphur Group: countries with Sulphur levels above 500ppm

Afghanistan

- ✓ There is a need to replace old cars with new: many cars from 70's and 80's
- ✓ Transport plans 2010 – 2015 include banning imports of 'old' cars being discussed (Ministries of Transport, Commerce and Finance)
- ✓ Proposes important standard for oil: currently 50% from Turkmenistan, 20 – 30% from Kazakhstan and 20 – 30% from Iran. Total imports = 5 million tonnes (1.5 tonnes for foreign armies)
- ✓ Challenges: 83% green spaces lost; 30 year war; unpaved roads

Bangladesh

- ✓ High sulphur emissions from coal burning and brick kilns
- ✓ 20 year plan for transport (2004 – 2024) includes: BRT; bus corridors; auto signalling system; limit on imports of cars older than 5 years; Euro 3 buses
- ✓ Currently: 20 year old buses already banned; unleaded since 1997; diesel from Kuwait at 200ppm, from Philippines at 2,500ppm; 80% vehicles in Dhaka run on CNG
- ✓ Refinery produces 2,500ppm and needs upgrading
- ✓ Transit not organised and there is a mix of motorised and non-motorised transport – there needs to be an action plan to organise traffic system
- ✓ Road makes up 7 – 8% land area of Dhaka
- ✓ Footpaths: there are footpaths in Dhaka and other cities, but they are not sufficient and most are occupied by hawkers
- ✓ CASE project has awareness activities included

Sri Lanka

- ✓ Transportation plans to 2020 include BRT system for Colombo and surrounding areas, 4 lane highway being constructed
- ✓ Major development in North and Eastern provinces
- ✓ In Western province, electric railway (metro) being constructed – currently they use diesel train
- ✓ Extension of existing rail throughout country
- ✓ Importation of 2-stroke vehicles already banned, and plan to convert to LPG
- ✓ Flyovers being constructed (8 already done)
- ✓ Euro 4 by 2012
- ✓ Ongoing inspection programme: annually, 5% of vehicles to fail and be removed from fleet
- ✓ Need stricter emission standards for new and in-use vehicles
- ✓ Feasibility study being done for expansion of refineries (originally to be funded by Iran, but now there is a funding problem, although reduction of war expenditures is helping)

- ✓ Need tax policies for cleaner vehicles: diesel has higher taxes; buses lower taxes; vans higher taxes; eco-friendly vehicles lower taxes
- ✓ Proposal: Awareness for people; Clean Air 2015 Action Plan for Sri Lanka; Fuel from plastic & Butanol – straw petrol blend

Lower Sulphur Group: below 500ppm

General Challenges

- ✓ Relaxed or lack of stringent regulations on import of second hand vehicles
- ✓ Cross subsidy of fuels
- ✓ Transport policy needs to be implemented and constantly revisited according to current situation
- ✓ Lack of emission standards
- ✓ Need to tighten the regulation on emission standards and fuel quality, plus more awareness and education
- ✓ Process of converting into CNG
- ✓ Timely availability of Euro III and IV
- ✓ Non-uniformity of Euro standard in Indian metro cities
- ✓ Upgrading of refineries
- ✓ Ensure fuel efficiency goal does not compromise decreasing emissions (ex increase use of diesel engines, but using dirty diesel with high particulate matter)
- ✓ Lack of public transport
- ✓ Investments and market-based instruments
- ✓ Old vehicle fleets

Plans & Policies:

Maldives

- ✓ The Transport Authority plans to cap the number of motorbikes allowed (currently there are 40,000 bikes and 600 cars in Male', which is 2 sq km). Each inhabited island will have a predetermined cap, to restrict the number of motor vehicles
- ✓ There is a good plan for public transport for Male', however it has not been implemented due to pressure from taxi drivers
- ✓ There are no emission standards in place, however a road worthiness test is done for vehicles, and includes testing for emission levels

Pakistan

- ✓ Decrease PM in the air – serious health hazard
- ✓ Action plan for CNG
- ✓ Reduce Sulphur content to 0.05 by 2011

Nepal

Sustainable urban transport policy is currently being planned with support from the Asian Development Bank. The project will likely start in July 2010 and will include:

- ✓ Improvement of infrastructure (cycle path, footpaths etc)
- ✓ Setting route permits for different vehicles
- ✓ Revise Euro standard I to Euro II
- ✓ Change existing mechanism of enforcement

Bhutan

- ✓ Expansion / promotion of rural and urban transportation
- ✓ Promotion of non-motorised transport: Walking is widely practiced in both urban and rural areas. Bicycling is not as popular, although some people are taking up mountain biking as a sport. The Transport Policy supports non-motorized transport in Bhutan
- ✓ Strict implementation of emission standard: Emission standards are already in place. Motor emission tests are conducted on a yearly basis for private vehicles and on half yearly basis for commercial vehicles (buses, taxis and trucks)

India

- ✓ Specific auto fuel policy and urban transport policy
- ✓ Strict ambient quality
- ✓ National action plan and several national level programmes and policies from three different ministries for sustainable transport system
- ✓ Working on post-2010 emission standard road map

APPENDIX 3: Recommendations

1. Promote clean fuels, vehicles and transport systems within SACEP region:
 - ✓ The ultimate goal for the region to be 10ppm Sulphur in fuel, with the intermediary goal of 50ppm Sulphur;
 - ✓ Each country to develop a road map, with a timeframe, on the necessary steps to achieve these goals, including refinery upgrades (where appropriate), and changes in regulations governing fuel quality, emission standards and vehicle fuel economy etc;
 - ✓ Each country to develop a fiscal strategy, which could include public-private partnerships, Clean Development Mechanisms and other financing means, and would include differential tax systems and other tools to promote clean fuels and vehicles;
 - ✓ Each country to ensure that all policies, programmes and taxes are harmonised to: eliminate negative signals that promote dirtier fuel and vehicles; provide the right message towards cleaner transport options; avoid trade-offs between efficiency and emissions (for example, in the case of diesel which is more efficient than petrol but could potentially produce more emissions if it is high Sulphur); include facilities and funds for non-motorised transport (walking, biking etc) which is an integral part of the transport system;
 - ✓ Each country to develop a holistic transport policy (including fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure for public and non-motorised transport), with a platform for coordinating the different government departments and agencies that are involved in transport or in issues that impact transport;
 - ✓ SACEP countries to eventually harmonise fuel and vehicle standards across the region;
2. Each country to develop a policy, or update an existing policy, on the importation of second hand vehicles, ensuring that the vehicle fleet within the country meets ever-tightening standards with regards to age and / or emissions, fuel efficiency etc;
3. Each country to have an inspection programme linked to emission standards of in-country vehicles, as well as ensuring that imported vehicles meet certain requirements (based on age and / or technology, such as catalytic converters etc);
4. Each country to be encouraged to initiate awareness raising for public support of clean transport initiatives;
5. SACEP to create platforms for technical assistance and capacity building between countries, through technical meetings in which countries can share best practices and advances in research and development, thus contributing to regional advancement as well as development and adoption of new fuel and vehicle technologies;
6. Transportation infrastructure and systems should be about people. Therefore each country to ensure that all transport and road related projects must include funds and space to provide facilities and infrastructure for non-motorised transport (sidewalks, protected bike lanes, bicycle rickshaw lanes etc), as recommended by UNEP's Share the Road programme.

Decision No
12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP

Clean Fuels and Vehicles

Realizing the significant and increasing impacts that air pollutants can have on health, crops, natural ecosystems, man-made environment and their socio-economic consequences for South Asian countries,

Recalling the recommendations of representatives of governments at the Regional Workshop on Clean Fuels and Vehicles held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 22 – 23 March 2010 organized by SACEP in collaboration with UNEP's PCFV,

Mindful that vehicles, both gasoline and diesel, emit significant quantities of nitrogen oxides, Sulphur oxides, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons which are harmful to human beings, other forms of life and the environment,

Understanding the strong linkages between emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases and its connection to Global warming and climate change,

Commending the South Asian countries' efforts to successfully phase out leaded gasoline and the significant steps taken by individual countries to improve fuel quality and vehicle standards,

Considering that the introduction of cleaner fuels along with policies and programmes for more efficient vehicles would minimize the air pollution in the region,

Recognizing that air pollution takes a high toll on the health, environment and economies of South Asian countries, and that the transport sector is one of the sources responsible for rapidly increasing emissions,

Mindful that political and technological solutions exist and have proven their effectiveness in many places around the world and that it is necessary to provide financial support and transfer of technology to the developing countries like South Asia's

DECIDE:

1. Promote low Sulphur fuels within Countries of the South Asia region:
 - ü Work towards an ultimate goal for the region to be 10ppm Sulphur in fuel, with the intermediary goal of 50ppm Sulphur;
 - ü Develop a road map, with a timeframe, on the necessary steps to achieve these goals, including refinery upgrades (where appropriate), and changes in regulations governing fuel quality, emission standards and vehicle fuel economy etc;

- ü Develop an innovative and strategic financial mechanism, and incremental funding through bilateral/multi-lateral aid;
 - ü Each country to develop clean development mechanism and to promote public – private partnership in order to promote cleaner fuels and vehicles;
 - ü Ensure that all policies, programmes and taxes are harmonised to eliminate negative signals that promote dirtier fuel and vehicles;
 - ü SACEP countries to eventually harmonise fuel and vehicle standards across the region;
2. Promote clean vehicles within Countries of the South Asia region:
- ü Develop a policy, or update an existing policy, on the importation of second hand vehicles;
 - ü Ensure that the vehicle fleet within the country meets ever-tightening standards with regards to age and / or emissions, fuel efficiency etc;
 - ü Establish an inspection programme linked to emission standards of in-country vehicles, as well as ensuring that imported vehicles meet certain requirements (based on age and / or technology, such as catalytic converters etc);
3. Promote clean transport systems within Countries of the South Asia region:
- ü Develop a holistic transport policy that promotes public and non-motorised transport;
 - ü Establish a platform for coordinating the different government departments and agencies that are involved in transport or in issues that impact transport;
 - ü Ensure that all transport and road related projects include funds and space to provide facilities and infrastructure for non-motorised, people-friendly transport (sidewalks, protected bike lanes, bicycle rickshaw lanes etc), as recommended by UNEP's Share the Road programme;
 - ü Initiate awareness raising for public support of clean transport initiatives;
4. SACEP to create platforms for technical assistance and capacity building between countries, through technical meetings and case studies, in which countries can share best practices and advances in research and development, thus contributing to regional advancement as well as development and adoption of new fuel and vehicle technologies.
5. SACEP to facilitate promotion and enhance transfer of technology among member countries and from developed countries as well.

PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME OF SACEP YEAR 2011 - 2012

PROGRAMME AREAS		FUNDING
5.1.1 Establishment of Basel Convention Regional Centre for South Asia		US \$ 100,000.00 (In Kind Contribution of SACEP)
5.1.2 - Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia. SACEP signed a MoU with UNEP within the framework of the 'Phase IV of the Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely Trans-boundary Effects for South Asia'.		US \$ 20,000.00
5.1.3 - Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM) SACEP has proposed to hold a Capacity Building Programme, on chemical management for South Asia region		US \$ 40,000.00 (Estimated Budget) SAICM secretariat still searching possible funding.
5.1.4 - Capacity building for the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity in South Asia Three local capacity building workshops in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Sri Lanka with the financial assistance of Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and UNESCO. Held bi-lateral discussions with Belgian CHM National Focal Point and CBD secretariat to implement the project proposal on establishment of South Asia regional CHM.		US \$ 245,196.00 (Estimated Budget) Funding for National Activities (Completed) US \$ 17,500.00
5.1.5 - International Day of Biodiversity		Commitment expressed from the US Embassy in Colombo for Year 2011 to organize the activity in Sri Lanka US \$ 5,000.00
5.1.6 - Marine Biodiversity Assessment and Outlook 2010 UNEP entrusted SACEP to prepare the Outlook Report for the South Asian Seas Region and the Report was launched at the CDB Cop 10, Nagoya, Japan in October 2010. Negotiations are underway to secure funds to prepare a Separate Report for the South Asian Region		Completed

PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME OF SACEP YEAR 2011 - 2012

Annex 10 GC 12.SACEP / NFP		GC 12.SACEP / NFP Agenda Item 5.2 Page 2 of 3	
PROGRAMME AREAS	FUNDING		
<p>5.1.7 - Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)</p> <p>SACEP became a partner of the PCFV in 2008 with the view of assisting the member countries to build their capacity in the area concerned. SACEP participated at the 7th Global Partnership Meeting of PCFV held from 28 to 30 April 2009. As a result of this forum SACEP secured funds from UNEP to organize a Capacity Building Regional Workshop for Senior Officials of South Asia</p> <p>These recommendations were considered and incorporated to the work programme 2010 – 2011 which will also be in the ministerial statement.</p>			
<p>5.1.8 - Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST)</p> <p>SACEP proposed to hold National EST training workshops in its member countries followed by a Regional Workshop to develop a Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Strategy and Action Plans for South Asia. An estimated budget was submitted to the UNCRD in this regard.</p> <p>UNCRD agreed to organize a Regional Training Workshop in collaboration with SACEP as the first phase and in the 2nd Phase to assist in organizing National Level Training Programmes.</p>	US \$ 35,000.000		
<p>5.1.9 - South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)</p> <p>Through the “JAIPUR DECLARATION” adopted at the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP at Jaipur, India on 22 May 2008, it has been agreed to the establishment of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) and the South Asia Regional Strategic Plan on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade (2008 –2013) subject to dropping all references to Sustainable Livelihood Security, Market, Trade Mechanisms etc to bring it in line with the CITES.</p> <p>Government of Nepal agreed to host the 1st meeting of the Experts Group meeting to establish SAWEN in which the structure and focus of SAWEN will be decided. SACEP sent official notification to all its 8 member countries for requesting nominations for the Expert Group and one member state has expressed reservation.</p>	On hold		

PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME OF SACEP YEAR 2011 - 2012

PROGRAMME AREAS	FUNDING
<p>5.1.10 - Project Proposals on Environmental Data and Information Management Systems and Waste Management</p> <p>The above two proposals developed under a MoU signed between UNEP-ROAP and SACEP were approved at the 11GC.SACEP as a future programme activity of the organization.</p> <p>SACEP forwarded the approved project proposals to UNEP-ROAP requesting funds for implementation.</p> <p>1. It has been informed by UNEP that as an initial step funds will be allocated to hold a Regional Workshop for the South Asian Region on Data Information Management by the first quarter of 2011.</p> <p>2. Waste Management Proposal</p>	<p>US \$ 2,847,000.00 (Estimated Budget)</p> <p>US \$ 35,000.00 (Committed)</p> <p>US \$ 331,000.00 (Estimated Budget)</p>

6 Financial Matters :

- 6 The recovery of Country Contribution arrears was taken up as a priority. We were able to realize the following amounts till date.

Payment of arrears and Country Contributions by the Countries of SACEP **SACEP Country Contribution Status from 2006 to October 2010**

Country	Arrears upto 2006	Agreed CC 2007	Received CC 2007	Arrears upto Dec 2007	Agreed CC for 2008	Received CC 2008	Arrears upto Dec 2008
	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$
Bangladesh	126,863.00	21,300.00		148,163.00	21,300.00	148,163.00	21,300.00
Bhutan	3,555.00	3,555.00	7,110.00	0.00	3,555.00		3,555.00
India	37,121.00	31,850.00	31,850.00	37,121.00	31,850.00		68,971.00
Maldives	-	14,575.00		14,575.00	14,575.00		29,150.00
Nepal	56,350.00	8,050.00	48,300.00	16,100.00	8,050.00		24,150.00
Pakistan	14,192.68	31,850.00		46,042.68	31,850.00	31,925.79	45,966.89
Sri Lanka	692.70	16,220.00		16,912.70	16,220.00	16,912.70	16,220.00
Afghanistan					8,050.00	8,050.00	-
TOTAL	238,774.38	127,400.00	87,260.00	278,914.38	135,450.00	205,051.49	209,312.89

Country	Arrears upto Dec 2008	Agreed CC for 2009	Received CC 2009	Arrears upto Dec 2009	Agreed CC for 2010	Received CC upto Aug 2010	Arrears upto Oct 10
	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$
Bangladesh	21,300.00	21,300.00	21,300.00	21,300.00	21,300.00		42,600.00
Bhutan	3,555.00	3,555.00	7,110.00	0.00	3,555.00	3,555.00	0.00
India	68,971.00	31,850.00	58,935.00	41,886.00	31,850.00	450.00	73,286.00
Maldives	29,150.00	14,575.00	43,725.00	0.00	14,575.00	14,575.00	0.00
Nepal	24,150.00	8,050.00		32,200.00	8,050.00	40,250.00	0.00
Pakistan	45,966.89	31,850.00	31,810.00	46,006.89	31,850.00	31,889.35	45,967.54
Sri Lanka	16,220.00	16,220.00	16,277.00	16,163.00	16,220.00	32,383.00	0.00
Afghanistan	0.00	8,050.00	0.00	8,050.00	8,050.00		16,100.00
TOTAL	209,312.89	135,450.00	179,157.00	165,605.89	135,450.00	123,102.35	177,953.54

Interest Earned	Year 2005	US \$	237.52
Fixed Deposit Interest Earned	Year 2006	US \$	3,051.68
Fixed Deposit Interest Earned	Year 2007	US \$	28,009.92
Fixed Deposit Interest Earned	Year 2008	US \$	9,425.58
Fixed Deposit Interest Earned	Year 2009	US \$	13,436.09
Fixed Deposit Interest Earned	Year 2010	US \$	11,492.15
Total Interest - SACEP CC		US \$	65,652.94

PROJECTS SANCTIONED FROM 2009 - 2010

Activity	Donor	Budget US \$
Project Sanctioned by European Commission for the SACEP/ICRAN Coral Reef Work in South Asia	European Commission	24,734.00
MoU between UNEP SACEP for UNEP's Asian Tsunami Disaster Task Force	UNEP	5,000.00
MoU between SACEP and UNEP, Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC-AP) / On Agreed Programme under Phase IV implementation of the Male' Declaration	UNEP-RRC-AP	20,000.00
Training Workshop on Marine Resources Sampling, Data Collection & Interpretation for the South Asian Seas, India	UNEP	25,000.00
Same as above	Government of India - In kind Contribution	80,000.00
		(Approx)
Agreement between SACEP and UNEP-WCMC for preparation of the Outlook Report for the South Asian Seas Region	UNEP	10,000.00
National Workshops on Blue Flag Beach Certification Programme for South Asia	UNEP	10,000.00
Regional Workshop on Clean Fuels & Vehicles	UNEP	35,361.00
MoU between SACEP and UNEP - ROAP / Assistance to conduct 12 th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP	UNEP	15,000.00
Funds received for Meeting/Conference participation - Year 2009 - 2010	From Donors (UNEP/World Bank)	26,909.73
TOTAL		252,004.73

PROPOSED SECRETARIAT BUDGET FOR 2011 - 2012

	INCOME US \$	EXPENDITURE US \$
1 ANTICIPATED INCOME		
1.1 BANGLADESH	21,300.00	
BHUTAN	3,555.00	
INDIA	31,850.00	
MALDIVES	14,575.00	
NEPAL	8,050.00	
PAKISTAN	31,850.00	
SRI LANKA	16,220.00	
SUB TOTAL COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS	127,400.00	
AFGHANISTAN	8,050.00	
TOTAL COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS	135,450.00	
1.2 Interest earned (SACEP-CC)	10,000.00	
1.3 Secretariat Cost from Sri Lanka	45,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	190,450.00	
2 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE		
2.1 Salary Director General		54,000.00
2.2 Salaries of Local Staff		47,000.00
2.3 International Travel		20,000.00
2.4 Secretariat Cost		60,000.00
SUB TOTAL		181,000.00
3 Capital Costs		17,500.00
4 TOTAL EXPENDITURE		198,500.00
5 INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		(8,050.00)

DRAFT

South Asia's Biodiversity Beyond 2010

We, the Environmental Ministers of South Asian Countries viz. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka assembled in Colombo, Sri Lanka at the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP on 3rd November 2010;

Aware that Biodiversity is essential for human life which generates goods and services including the provision of food and medicine, regulation of climate and water flow, supporting of soil formation and cultural values;

Emphasizing the role played by healthy ecosystems at the global, regional and national levels in moderating the effects of climate change;

Noting that the biodiversity loss has negative impacts on climate change and that the two are among the main global environmental challenges

Recognizing the important role of South Asia's Biodiversity towards economic development and ecosystem services for the well being of our people and the world community at large;

Acknowledging the positive steps taken by governments of South Asia and the other various institutions and organizations to conserve the region's rich biodiversity individually and collectively and understanding that much more need to be done;

Appreciating the initiatives taken by world leaders in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Expressing grave concern that the 2010 Biodiversity targets to halt the loss of biodiversity has not been reached;

Noting that the limited technical and financial resources had been an obstacle to achieving the 2010 target in South Asian countries;

Noting the 2020 targets and the Strategic Plan for the Period 2011 – 2020 adopted by the CBD CoP10 on 29th October 2010 at Nagoya, Japan;

Recognizing that the current rate of loss is a serious threat to the existing Biodiversity and immediate measures are required to reverse the loss of biodiversity

Emphasizing the importance of a holistic ecosystem management approach to biodiversity, poverty alleviation and economic development, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

Conscious that public awareness achieved through information, educational and motivational programmes on sustainable use of biodiversity positively contribute towards biodiversity conservation, human health and wellbeing, as well as economic development

Urge South Asian Governments and stakeholders to take necessary measures in conjunction with the international community to implement decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CBD and the actions identified in the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook to curb the continuing loss of biodiversity;

Emphasize the need for increased support to strengthen capacity for the implementation of the obligation of the Convention, in line with the updated Strategic Plan 2011-2020, including support for the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans

Urge SACEP to forge greater links and interaction with SAARC in line with the MoU signed between the two and also to take note of the signing of the SAARC Convention on Co-operation on Environment.

**Status of Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene
Former Advisor SACEP / SAS (Temporary Basis)**

The 116th Meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 25th October 2010 recommended that the status of Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene, Former Advisor SACEP / SAS (Temporary Basis) to be submitted to the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP for information.

Annexes : -

1. Decision of the 115th CC-SACEP – 23.09.2010
2. Minutes of the 114th CC-SACEP – 28.07.2010
3. Minutes of the 111th CC-SACEP – 12.01.2009
4. Minutes of the 88th CC-SACEP – 12.02.2004
5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Sub Committee of CC-SACEP – 28.10.2002
6. Service Contracts – Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene – 01.01.2003 and 31.12.2006



**MINUTES OF THE 115TH MEETING OF
THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF SACEP**

1530 hrs SACEP Secretariat
23rd September 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and
Chairman CC-SACEP

Mr. Mir Akram U. Ahammad, Third Secretary
High Commission of People's Republic of Bangladesh

Mr. Manish, Counsellor (Eco & Com)
High Commission of India

Mr. Suresh Adhikari, First Secretary
Embassy of Nepal

Mr. Bilal Akram Shah, Third Secretary
High Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

ABSENT

Mr. Moosa Naseem, First Secretary
High Commission of Republic of Maldives

SACEP

Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer

The 115th Meeting of the Consultative Committee of SACEP was held on 23rd September 2010 at
1530 hrs at the SACEP Secretariat, Colombo.

Agenda Item No. 1 : Adoption of Agenda

The Consultative Committee adopted the proposed meeting agenda.

**Agenda Item No. 2 : Opening remarks by Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of
Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and Chairman CC-SACEP**

Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and
Chairman of the Consultative Committee of SACEP, welcomed the members of the Consultative
Committee to the 115th Meeting of the CC-SACEP.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation / Adoption of the Minutes of the 114th Consultative Committee Meeting held on 28th July 2010

The meeting confirmed the minutes of the 114th Meeting of the Consultative Committee of SACEP.

Agenda Item No. 4 : 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP

The Revised Working Papers of the 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP which is scheduled to be held from 1 – 3 November 2010, were presented under this Agenda Item.

(1) Appointment of Director General of SACEP

Mr. Bilal Akram Shah, Third Secretary, High Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan considering the options and the alternatives included in the Working Paper as recommended by the 114th CC-SACEP, stated that the last two paragraphs of the Working Paper to be revised in order to read as follows :

- a) *'The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council of SACEP is requested to take a decision on the appointment of the Director General of SACEP considering the Names indicated below :-*

*Mr. Hammad Naqi Khan - Pakistan
Dr. B. M. S. Batagoda – Sri Lanka
Dr. Mohamed Ali - Maldives*

- b) *Or considering the above three Related Decisions, a suitable procedure may be introduced or an appropriate alternative process be adopted'*

(Annex 1)

Mr. Mir Akram U. Ahammad, Third Secretary, High Commission of People's Republic of Bangladesh and Mr. Bilal Akram Shah, Third Secretary, High Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan further emphasised that, to resolve the prevailing problem of the appointment of DG-SACEP, it is necessary to amend the Guidelines and Procedure approved for appointment of the DG of SACEP to prevent such deadlocks in future for smooth functioning of the organization and requested the secretariat to prepare such Guidelines and Procedure to be perused at the 116 CC-SACEP which is proposed to be held prior to 12 GC-SACEP. The members of the 115 CC-SACEP agreed to the proposal made by Mr. Bilal Akram Shah.

Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General/Administrative Officer briefed the 115th CC-SACEP regarding the logistical arrangements made by SACEP in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka. The 115 CC-SACEP unanimously agreed to hold the 12 GC-SACEP at Ceylon Continental Hotel, considering the comparative statement presented by SACEP Secretariat with regard to rates quoted for accommodation / meeting facilities etc, by the Cinnamon Grand Hotel and Ceylon Continental Hotel.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Status of the Advisor SACEP / SAS

The 115 CC-SACEP discussed Agenda Item No 5 regarding the unlawful use of the address of SACEP which is No.10, Anderson Road, Colombo 05 and Fax Number – 2589369, by Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene, Advisor SACEP / SAS (Temporary Basis) for his private business. 115 CC-

SACEP was of the opinion that as Mr. Abeyegunawardene had been given clear instructions on a similar observation made by the organization in October 2005, regarding a Newspaper Advertisement of a 'Mrs Sri Lanka event' on his acceptance of the irregularity, the repetition of such behaviors cannot be accepted. It was placed on record that the explanation given to the Show Cause Notice issued on 2nd September 2010 on the above misconduct was contradictory to the previous acceptance by him.

It was also noted that on request of SACEP, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka, upon an inquiry, has identified the concern party as Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene, through the Chairman of the Ballroom Dancers Federation International who was unlawfully using the address of SACEP. Further Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed SACEP with their letter reference PR/1/5/DPSEC/01 and No.PR/256/2010, that the issue was an internal matter of SACEP and to take remedial action independently in accordance with the administrative procedures of the organization. **(Annex 2)**

To a query made by Dr. R. H. S. Samaratinga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and Chairman CC-SACEP regarding the status of Advisor SACEP / SAS, the Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer informed the meeting that SACEP has recovered the total sum of US \$ 13,047/- in installments which was the balance of the advance of US \$ 55,600/- carried for the AFS Workshop, held in Chennai, India in October 2005, from Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene and also stated that his assignment is on temporary basis.

Analyzing the facts, the members of the 115 CC-SACEP unanimously agreed to terminate the services of Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene, Advisor SACEP / SAS and instructed Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer to issue the Letter of Termination accordingly to be effective on 30th September 2010.

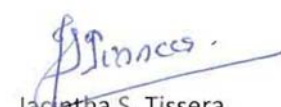
Agenda Item No. 6 : Any Other Matters

Under this Agenda Item Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer informed the meeting that the Vacancy Announcement of the SASP Co-ordinator was published in SAS Member countries as recommended by the 114 CC-SACEP and also sent the Vacancy Announcement to the National Focal Points of the SAS Member States.

Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer proposed to transfer US \$ 100,000/- from SACEP Country Contribution Account to SACEP Trust Fund Account which is a special saving of SACEP from January 2009 to-date as a contribution of SACEP to the Corpus Fund. The members of the 115 CC-SACEP endorsed the proposal.

The members of the 115 CC-SACEP agreed to meet prior to the 12 GC-SACEP which is scheduled to be held from 1 – 3 November 2010.

The meeting concluded with thanks and well wishes to the Chair.


Jacintha S. Tissera
Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer





**MINUTES OF THE 116TH MEETING OF
THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF SACEP**

1500 hrs SACEP Secretariat
25th October 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. R. H. S. Samaratunga, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka and
Chairman CC-SACEP

Mr. Mir Akram U. Ahammad, Third Secretary
High Commission of People's Republic of Bangladesh

Mr. Manish, Counsellor (Eco & Com)
High Commission of India

Mr. Moosa Naseem, First Secretary
High Commission of Republic of Maldives

Mr. Suresh Adhikari, First Secretary
Embassy of Nepal

Mr. Bilal Akram Shah, Third Secretary
High Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Mr. Anura Jayathilake, Director, Global Affairs
Ministry of Environment, Government of Sri Lanka

SACEP

Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General / Administrative Officer

The 116th Meeting of the Consultative Committee of SACEP was held on 25th October 2010 at 1500
hrs at the SACEP Secretariat, Colombo.

**Agenda Item No. 3 : Confirmation / Adoption of the Minutes of the 115th Meeting of the
CC-SACEP held on 23rd September 2010**

The meeting confirmed the minutes of the 115th Meeting of the Consultative Committee
Meeting held on 23rd September 2010 with the following amendment.

Mr. Moosa Naseem, First Secretary, High Commission of Republic of Maldives, requested the
following to be amended to read as follows :

Agenda Item 5 - Para 5 - 'Analyzing the facts, the members *'present at'* the 115 CC-
SACEP agreed to terminate the services of Mr. P. N. D. Abeyegunawardene, Advisor
SACEP / SAS and instructed Ms. Jacintha S. Tissera, Officiating Director General /
Administrative Officer to issue the Letter of Termination accordingly to be effective on
30th September 2010'