Rio+20: From Outcome to Implementation

The First Universal Session of the Governing Council/
Global Ministerial Environment Forum

United Nations Environment Programme
Nairobi, 18-22 February 2013

The LAC process toward a regional instrument on P10
Introduction:

Eleven governments of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC): Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay signed the Declaration on the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The Declaration has launched a process to create a regional instrument to promote transparency, inclusiveness and accountability in environmental decision-making.

This Declaration is an important outcome of the Rio +20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development that took place in June 2012 in Brazil. The elaboration of a LAC Principle 10 Instrument offers great potential to strengthen access rights and environmental governance for sustainable development.

In November 2012 the Government of Chile and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in its role as Technical Secretariat of the process, organized the First Meeting of the focal points appointed by the signatory governments. The governments’ focal points present in this meeting reaffirmed their commitment to elaborate a LAC Instrument on Principle 10 and agreed on a Roadmap that defines the next steps of the process. The governments also appointed the governments of Chile, Dominican Republic and Mexico to a Panel that will coordinate the process.

Objectives of the Side Event:

1. To inform interested governments and stakeholders on the process leading toward a LAC Principle 10 Instrument.

2. To inform interested Latin American and Caribbean governments about this initiative, with a view to encouraging them to sign the Declaration and participate in the process leading to the LAC Principle 10 Instrument.

Proposed Agenda

8 mins. Welcome and Introduction of the LAC process:
• Representative of the Government of Chile.

8 mins. Road Map 2012-2014:
• Mrs. Tirsis Quezada, Directora de Planificación y Desarrollo del Ministerio del Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Dominican Republic. (to be confirmed)

8 mins. The LAC Principle 10 Instrument: Options and Objectives
• Dr. Marcos Orellana, Director, Environmental Health Program, Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL).

8 mins. Modalities for public participation in the regional process
• Mr. Lalanath De Silva, Director of The Access Initiative, World Resources Institute, or,
• Mrs. Carole Excell, Senior Associate World Resources Institute, Global secretariat of the Access Initiative.

8 mins. Closing remarks:
• Representative of the Government of Mexico. (to be confirmed)

20 min. Q&A