



**REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN MAJOR GROUPS
AND STAKEHOLDERS**

8 October, Buenos Aires, Argentina

CINU – Centro de Información de las Naciones Unidas para Argentina y Uruguay

Junín 1940, First Floor - Buenos Aires

in preparation of the

**XXI MEETING OF THE FORUM OF MINISTERS OF ENVIRONMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN (Buenos Aires, Argentina 9-12 October 2018)**

**AND THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY and its preceding Global Major
Groups and Stakeholders Forum
(Nairobi, Kenya 11-15 March 2019)**

Background

The fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly will take place from 11-15 March 2019, in Nairobi, Kenya, under the overarching theme “Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production”. The Assembly is traditionally preceded by Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, a meeting of mainly accredited civil society organizations to prepare for the Assembly and discuss common positions and engage in a dialogue with the Executive Director, Member States representatives and UN Environment colleagues on the themes of the Assembly from a global civil society perspective.

The theme of the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly relates to Agenda 2030, particularly to Goal 12 on “ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns” and provides the Assembly with an opportunity to align this goal in the delivery of other goals. Regional Ministerial Fora as well as Regional Multi Stakeholder consultations will take place in the run-up to the UN Environment Assembly and feed into the preparatory process by providing civil society inputs to the suggested theme.

The XXI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 9 to 12 October 2018. The session will consider key issues to be discussed at the fourth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) and will also prepare for the Latin American and Caribbean region’s approach for their engagement and priorities at the Assembly. It will focus on how environmental challenges can be addressed through innovative solutions and interventions and by promoting sustainable consumption and production. The civil society consultative meeting will therefore be held under the following theme: ***“Regional***

partnerships and synergies for sustainable consumption and production, an effective civil society engagement approach “

The regional consultative meeting will also provide an opportunity for the regional civil society to exchange views and develop common ground on key issues for the environmental agenda and regional priorities such as the Environmental Human Rights defenders situation in the region, the UN Environmental Rights Initiative, the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental matters (Agreement of Escazu) and its implementation. Participants and organizations attending the meeting will have the opportunity to engage in LACEMOS (Latin American and Caribbean Engagement Mechanism), an initiative launched by civil society actors towards long term partnering through regional collaborative actions and campaigns for the effective regional participation on environmental decision making spaces.

Due to limited time the dialogue on LACEMOS and its options and arrangements will have to be held on the sidelines of the Regional Consultative meeting as well as the following days for those who will be attending the Ministerial Forum and then be continued online.

The multi-stakeholder preparations and engagement in the United Nations Environment Assembly is based on:

- (1) The need to reinforce the visibility and impact of the UN Environment Assembly in the context of the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global and regional levels (including the High Level Political Forum and the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development convened by the UN Regional Commissions);
- (2) The need to better link the regional environmental agenda, through the regional ministerial forum and its associated regional multi-stakeholder meetings, as well as other regional decision making spaces on sustainable development, with the global agenda through UN Environment Assembly.
- (3) The mandate set out in the Rio + 20 Conference in 2012, where governments highlighted that the engagement of civil society in the UN Environment Assembly and its decision-making process is an important factor that will ensure relevance and success of the new global assembly.
- (4) The need to give a space to stakeholders, in particular from civil society, to build early consensus on strategic and structural issues in view of the fourth session of the Assembly and its themes, so that regional inputs can be fed and shared already into the preparatory process of the Assembly such as the meetings of Permanent Representatives in Nairobi, the Regional Ministerial Forum and inputs in official documentation such as the Information Document.

1. Participants and target audience

The regional consultations will bring together Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS) accredited to UN Environment as well as non-accredited regional Major Groups and Stakeholders partners including foundations and other relevant stakeholders.

2. Purpose and Objectives of the Meeting

The objective for the Latin American and Caribbean Major Groups and Stakeholders of the one-day consultation is to discuss and prepare their inputs for the XXI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and the **Fourth** session of the UN Environment

Assembly and promote the dialogue and synergies between the stakeholders of the region. The outcome of the meeting will consist of key messages to the Forum of ministers as well as a regional statement by the participating civil society as a contribution to the official information document which is a compilation of all civil society regional statements to the UN Environment Assembly. In addition the meeting will promote the cooperation and building of partnerships among stakeholders of the region.

3. Expected Outcomes:

- Key messages for the XXI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of LAC.
- Key messages and a regional statement from the Latin American and Caribbean Major Groups and Stakeholders to the official Information Document, a compilation of all regional statements to the 4th UN Environment Assembly.
- Consolidation of regional collaborative actions and campaigns for the effective regional participation on environmental decision-making spaces through LACEMOS

Draft Agenda

DAY I		
8.30-9	Registration	
9.00-9.30	Opening and introductions	Leo Heileman, UN Environment Regional Director Latin America and the Caribbean. UN Environment, Governance Affairs Office Regional Facilitators
9.30-9.45	Introduction to the meeting, agenda, rules and roles	Facilitators, Rapporteurs
9.45-10.15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stakeholders engagement at UN Environment and accreditation processes 2. Major Groups and Stakeholders engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean 	UN Environment: Andrea Brusco, Regional Office, Jorge Laguna-Celis: Secretariat of the Governing Affairs office. Regional Facilitators Questions and comments.
10.15-10.30	Coffee break	
10.30—12.00	UNEA-3 follow up and outcomes, specific resolutions implementation status and Update on the Fourth UN Environment Assembly and the XXI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of LAC	UN Environment Governance Affairs; Jorge Laguna-Celis UN Environment Regional Office, Andrea Brusco Questions and comments.

12.00-13.00	Lunch break	
13.00-14.00	Contributions of the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society on key topics for the regional environmental agenda. - the Escazu Agreement; - Environmental dimension of the Agenda 2030 and SDGs; - Plastic and Oceans; - Sustainable lifestyles: sustainable consumption and production; - Education for Sustainable Development;	Regional Facilitators chairing to gain an overview of activities and priorities in the region. <i>Rapporteurs to take note for statement preparations.</i>
14.00 -15.00	Contribution of the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society to the Fourth UN Environment Assembly and the XXI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of LAC. Setting priorities on themes and discuss them all in plenary	Regional Facilitators, All
15.00-16.00	Finalise statements and contributions in small working groups on all themes agreed upon	
16.00- 17.00	Presentation in plenary by all Working groups and agreement of final content	
17.00-18.00	Finalization of statement for the ministerial forum and UNEA statement and decision on speakers and participants in the Forum. Wrap up-	
Group dinner to continue discussion		