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CBTF

*Capacity Building Task Force
on Trade Environment and Development*

Proposed Guidelines for Report on a Seminar/Policy Dialogue/Workshop

(Title Page)

Title of Event: National Workshop on Environmental Goods and Services (*Taller Nacional sobre Comercio y Ambiente: Negociaciones en Bienes y Servicios Ambientales en el contexto multilateral y regional*)

Venue: Quito, Ecuador

Date: 17-18 July 2006

Sponsored/in collaboration with: Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Environment, PACE/BID

Organised by: MICIP-MAE-PACE-UNCTAD-UNEP-ICTSD

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1. Summary (A multi purpose paragraph which can be used for newsletter, for website for briefs etc.)

CBTF contributed to a national workshop on negotiations on environmental goods and services jointly organized with Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Environment from Ecuador, 17 and 18 July 2006, held in Quito. The workshop served as a forum of exchange among national participants from different sectors to improve their awareness of the issues at stake at the WTO concerning the negotiations on Environmental Services and on Environmental Goods, in their respective negotiating fora. The activity reinforced the perception that more awareness-raising and capacity-building was required for

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the country to identify their specific interests taking into account the international process and the national framework: legal, economic, environmental and in terms of development. As part of the follow-up to this activity, the country decided to further explore their national situation in particular concerning environmental goods and it is expected that the country will undertake a national study to better identify their national interest to be represented at international level.

Background

- Context: The government of Ecuador requested technical assistance on Environmental Goods and Services

- Objectives: update on the situation on negotiations and national dialogue with relevant stakeholders

- Main issues discussed

The issues discussed concerned negotiations on environmental goods and services, as well as national experiences related to these issues: experiences on clean production, experiences on EPPs, and also trade concerning CITES species.

- Speakers & Participants (Countries & Sector)

UNCTAD: Luis Abugattas/Nuria Castells

ICTSD, David Vivas

OIKOS, Ing. Ernesto Martínez

ECOCIENCIA, Ms. Zornitza Aguilar

Ministerio de Energía y Minas, Ing. Mauro González

2. Summary of Proceedings by Session/Speech/Panel (as appropriate)

3. Major Recommendations/Suggestion for Follow up

On Environmental Services:

To compare national legal framework and international commitments and strengthen coherence and bridge the gaps between the two levels.

To make the link between environmental services, commitments under MEAs, and the possible link to Environmental Goods

On Environmental Goods:

To prepare a national study on Environmental Goods

To focus on the following dimensions of EGs:

- negotiating paradigm: lists, project or a mixed approach (integrated - Argentina, ideas from Uruguay and Colombian proposals, ...)

- NTBs: Identifying NTBs related to trade in EPPs and other EGs of interest for the countries
- Tariffs: Analysing the tariff- situation related to proposals at CTE SS - WTO and the potential impact for the country in terms of lowering tariffs for these goods
- Identifying offensive and defensive agenda for the country.
- Reinforcing national dialogue and exchange between the relevant stakeholders on a regular basis

Other comments:

On the 19 of July, there was a national session specifically devoted to the discussion of current commitment on Services liberalization. The participants analysed the compatibility of the national commitments at international level and their implementation in terms of their national legal framework.

There was also a meeting with representatives of the different ministries to discuss the Terms of Reference for a national study on EGS. They requested UNCTAD representative to assist them in the drafting of these TORs, which will be the basis for the national study (funded by another regional institution).

Annexes

- 1) Final Agenda
- 2) List of Participants with contact details
- 3) Event evaluation Report

Other