

MEXICO AND ITS SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The environmental problems are borderless. Water pollution, forests and wildlife predation, the depletion of aquifers and air pollution that produces global warming affect all of us.

Therefore the proposal presented by President Enrique Peña Nieto is of utmost importance because it looks forward to increasing the scope and coverage of the Metropolitan Environmental Commission. This Commission brings together the federal and local governments and aims to coordinate environmental policies for the greater Mexico City and surrounding areas. This Commission will now have Hidalgo, Morelos, Puebla and Tlaxcala, along with the Federal District and the State of Mexico.



Together the states with the Federal Government will face the environmental challenges of this megalopolis, in which almost 30 million Mexicans inhabit and interact within 10 atmospheric basins. Thus, starting August 23, 2013 the Convention that creates the Environmental Commission of the Megalopolis is signed.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF THE MEGALOPOLIS

16 political delegations of the Federal District, 29 municipalities of the State of Hidalgo, 80 municipalities in the State of Mexico, 33 of the State of Morelos, 22 municipalities of the State of Puebla and the 60 municipalities of the State of Tlaxcala will participate in the newly created Commission.

The Board of Directors will be integrated by the heads of the six entities and SEMARNAT.

The Commission will be operated by an Executive Coordinator, which will have a small structure with scientists, who will make proposals on measures to be taken and which must be approved by the governing body and implemented jointly.

¿WHICH ARE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF THE MEGALOPOLIS?

This Commission will plan and execute coordinated environmental policies taking into account successful international experiences.

Some of the activities of the Environmental Commission of the Megalopolis include:

- Standardizations of the vehicle verification systems; standardization of equipment and ranges to enact environmental contingencies
- Definition of the mechanisms for the supervision of the *Verificentros*, in order to ensure its efficiency, honesty and transparency

In a second stage, the Commission will address issues such as the treatment of waste water and combat forest fires. It will address matters related to the quality of the air, green transportation, environmental economics and the promotion of sustainable urban development

¿WHAT IS AN ATMOSPHERIC BASIN?

Geographical space bounded partially or completely by mountain elevations or other natural attributes with related meteorological and climatic characteristics, where the seasonal

air quality is influenced by the emission sources anthropogenic and natural inside of it, and in certain cases, for the transport of pollutants from other atmospheric basins.

Información de interés

Dr. Francisco Barnés Regueiro, former Director General of the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC, acronym in Spanish), will head the Executive Coordination of the Commission.

