



First Intergovernmental Review (IGR) Meeting of the GPA

26 – 30 November 2001

Montreal, Canada

GPA IGR Newsletter #3

11 October 2001

In this issue:

- 1) Update on Hotel Reservations
- 2) The *Forum Romanum*
- 3) Announcement: Fourth Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance
- 4) IGR Coverage in Earth Negotiations Bulletin
- 5) Pre-Registration Reminder!
- 6) Contacting the GPA Coordination Office

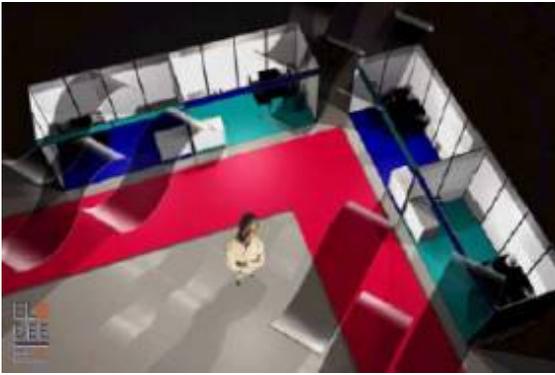
1) Update on Hotel Reservations

We are very pleased to report that our GPA IGR Host Team has been able to negotiate an extension to the due date for hotel reservations, at preferred meeting rates, in Montreal. Attendees now have until **21 October 2001** to make reservations with Tourism Montreal. You are still advised to make your reservation as-soon-as-possible, since the week of the GPA IGR is a busy period for hotels in Montreal.

The Hotel Reservation form is available in the Information for Participants package being sent to all confirmed participants. The Information for Participants document can be downloaded from the Preparatory Documents page on the GPA clearing-house at <http://www.gpa.unep.org/igr/preparatorydocs.htm>. The Hotel Reservation form can also be downloaded separately at <http://www.gpa.unep.org/igr/participants.htm> in the Information for Participants section of the clearing-house.

2) The *Forum Romanum*

In IGR Newsletter #1, we briefly described the *Forum Romanum* as a professionally developed and managed exhibition and display area. The GPA considers public-private partnership an important element in the implementation of the GPA. The *Forum Romanum*, as an integrated component of the GPA IGR, provides an opportunity to bring together these important stakeholders. Private sector companies, NGOs, Governments and any other organizations with an interest in the implementation of the GPA, can showcase their products or activities by renting a stand / unit at this 'market place' arranged throughout the ICAO conference facilities.



Participation in the *Forum Romanum* provides a unique opportunity to make contact with all the GPA IGR participants, ranging from high-level politicians to government decision makers, the international media, UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations, and other private sector and NGO colleagues. *Forum Romanum* participants will also be able to participate in other IGR activities and discussions.

The concept of the *Forum Romanum* is based on the experience of the World Water Fair, which was organized as an accompanying event of the *2nd World Water Forum & Ministerial Conference* held in March 2000 in The Hague. The GPA *Forum Romanum* will have some 25 – 30 exhibition stands

available in different price categories (average price is \$8,000 US) that are available on a first-come first-serve basis. Several NGOs and companies have already agreed to become exhibitors in the *Forum Romanum* and many other NGOs, companies and Governments have requested additional information and registration forms. It will also be possible for exhibitors to organize side activities throughout the week – there are many such possibilities that the *Forum Romanum* organizers would be pleased to further discuss with exhibitors. Please take a look at the on-line brochure available for viewing or download at www.raivision.nl/pdf/brochure.pdf.

The *Forum Romanum* is being organized by the *Ecological Management Foundation (EMF)* in cooperation with *RaiVision*, an international exhibition organizer. Both the Canada and GPA IGR Host Teams are working closely with EMF to ensure appropriate synergy and integration with the IGR meeting. For more information on this event please contact the EMF representative, Mr. Edu Willemse, by e-mail at edu.willemse@mxl.nl, or by phone through the GPA Coordination Office (direct line +31 70 311-4472). You can also contact Mr. Kenneth Korporal of the GPA Coordination Office at k.korporal@unep.nl or by phone at +31 70 311-4467.

3) **Announcement: Fourth Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on**

International Environmental Governance

We are pleased to announce that there will be an important meeting on international environmental governance that will immediately follow the closing of the GPA IGR high-level segment, also at the ICAO conference facilities in Montreal. The meeting, officially titled the “Fourth Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance” (IEG), will commence at 15:00 on Friday, 30 November 2001, and continue through the day on Saturday, 1 December.

The IEG process is the result of a UNEP Governing Council decision (21/21) requesting the Executive Director to initiate a process to undertake a comprehensive policy-oriented assessment on international environmental governance and to produce a report for the next session of Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment Forum. More detailed background information on the IEG process and the Governing Council decision can be found at <http://www.unep.org/IEG/Background.asp>.

The GPA IGR Host Team and the IEG Host Team are working closely together to ensure a high level of synergy and appropriate logistical arrangements between the meetings. It is hoped that the back-to-back meetings will provide an opportunity for more Ministers and senior officials to be able to participate in both important events. Further information about the IEG meeting, the agenda and working documents will be available in the near future on the UNEP IEG Web-site at <http://www.unep.org/IEG/>.

4) IGR Coverage in Earth Negotiations Bulletin

In another important development, we have been able to finalize arrangements with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to provide their reporting services for coverage of both the GPA IGR and the IEG meeting. The daily reports, including pictures, and a meeting summary report will be published and disseminated to the many subscribers of the Earth

Negotiations Bulletin, which is available as a free subscription from IISD at <http://www.iisd.ca/>.

5) Pre-Registration Reminder!

It would be appreciated if all GPA IGR participants could take the time to complete the Pre-Registration form, which is available on the GPA clearing-house IGR site at <http://www.gpa.unep.org/igr/participants>. The Pre-Registration form, along with the Hotel Reservation form and other logistical information, is included in the Information for Participants document that is also available for download from the same page.

6) Contacting the GPA Coordination Office

Our contact information:

UNEP GPA Coordination Office

P.O. Box 16227

2500 BE The Hague

The Netherlands

Tel: +31 70 311 4467

FAX: +31 70 345 6648

E-Mail: gpa@unep.nl

Visit the GPA Clearing-House Mechanism at:

www.gpa.unep.org