

### **5th Session of the Meeting of the LWG. 21 May 2002**

The Chairman of the Legal Working Group (LWG) Ms. Mariann Karcza of Hungary welcomed the participants to the 5th session of the meeting of the LWG.

Ms. Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto, Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, also welcomed participants. In her introductory remarks she stressed the importance of the current session of the LWG as the last meeting of the Group before the sixth meeting of the

Conference of the Parties (COP), she urged delegates to do their utmost to reach agreement on the draft decisions under consideration.

Special attention was paid to the first of the three main items on the agenda: "Monitoring the implementation of and compliance with the obligations set out by the Basel Convention". The Executive Secretary observed that the meeting had before it a note by the secretariat, containing a draft decision on elements for the establishment of a mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance, she observed that the same note by the secretariat also provided a summary of the views and comments received from countries on the draft decision.

In conclusion, Ms. Kuwabara-Yamamoto introduced a new staff member of the secretariat, Mr. Nelson Sabogal, the Senior Programme Officer in the Capacity Building and Training Unit.

An open-ended working group on the Compliance Mechanism was established under the chairmanship of Mr. Alistair McGlone of United Kingdom. The group was given the mandate to finalize the Draft Decisions for the sixth meeting of the COP, establishing a mechanism for promoting implementation of and compliance with the Basel Convention.

The main outcomes of the open-ended working group, which met until late on 21 May, were as follow:

- The proposed committee will be known as "The Committee" and the terms "Compliance and Implementation Committee" will not be used until an agreement on its name is reached.
- Considerations of paragraphs 3, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28.

The open-ended working group will meet again tomorrow morning to continue its deliberations, after which the plenary session will recommence.

