

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**Environmental Health Work Group (EHWG) &
Border Indicators Task Force (BITF) Meeting of the
U.S. – Mexico Environmental Program Border 2012**

**February 2-4, 2005
Hotel Lucerna - Ciudad Juárez, México**

AGENDA

**Wednesday, February 2
Environmental Health Work Group**

Goal: *To advance the program of the Environmental Health Workgroup by identifying and considering key priorities in developing the 2005 and beyond work plan.*

1:00 – 1:45 pm **Welcome by Co-chairs: EHWG in the Context of Border 2012**
(Admiral Richard Walling - DHHS, Dr. Rocío Alatorre - Secretaría de Salud, Dr. Harold Zenick - EPA)

1:45 – 2:25 pm **Introductions of the Regional Environmental Health Taskforces**

Objective: Gain general knowledge about the regional environmental health taskforces including participants and operating approach(es)

- California/Baja California (Dr. Maura Mack)
- Arizona/Sonora (Ms. Edith Frias and Mr. Ward Jacoz)
- New Mexico/Texas/Chihuahua (Enrique Suarez and John F. Haynes Jr.)
- Texas/Coahuila/New Mexico/Tamaulipas (Dr. Hector Gonzalez and M.C. Norma Mota)

2:25 – 3:05 pm **Regional Environmental Health Taskforce Priorities**
(Norman Calero – EPA Region 9 and Norma Duran/Gina Weber – EPA Region 6)

Objective: Present the priorities of the environmental health taskforces including cross-cutting priorities

3:05 – 3:30 pm **US-Mexico Border Health Commission Priorities**
(Eva Moya)

Objective: Learn the priorities of the US-Mexico Border Health Commission

3:30 – 4:00 pm **Break**

4:00 – 5:30 pm **Reaching Consensus on Binational, Border-wide Priorities – Defining Actions** (Dr. Harold Zenick, Dr. Rocio Alatorre, and Admiral Richard Walling)

Objective: Discuss the priorities presented by the environmental health taskforces and the US-Mexico Border Health Commission to select key priorities; create the foundation for the EHWG2005 workplan

5:30 – 6:00 pm **Activity Reports by EHWG partners** (Kirstin Crowder – Association of Schools of Public Health and Dr. Harold Zenick)

Objective: Inform EHWG stakeholders on the workgroup’s additional activities

- Health Resources and Services Administration
- EPA - Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances
- Environmental Health Indicators

6:00 – 7:00 pm **Public Comments**

Thursday, February 3

EHWG – BITF Joint Session - Morning is open to the general public.

Goal: *To advance the development of Border 2012 indicators and increase synergy among the various program stakeholders*

8:30 – 9:00 am **Welcome** (BITF Co-chairs: Steve Young – EPA, Salvador Sanchez – SEMARNAT; EHWG Co-chairs: Dr. Hal Zenick, Dr. Rocío Alatorre)

9:00 – 10:20 am **Border 2012 Partners Share Experiences**
(Dr. Hal Zenick / Dr. Rocío Alatorre)

Objective: Learn from our partners in order to incorporate their experiences into Border 2012 indicator work

Three 20 minute presentations followed by a panel discussion:

- 1) The significance and role of health-based environmental indicators – CDC (Dr. Michael McGeehin)
- 2) “Lessons learned” from indicator workshops – PAHO (Piedad Huerta)
- 3) “Red Binacional de Monitoreo de Enfermedades Relacionadas con el Medio Ambiente” - Texas Tech University HSC El Paso (Dr. John Haynes)

Panel Discussion

10:20 – 10:40 am **Break**

10:40 – 12:10 pm **Strategy for the Development of a Basic Set of Border 2012 Indicators**
 (Steve Young / Salvador Sanchez)

Objective: Describe the Border 2012 strategy for the development and adoption of a basic set of indicators to build consensus, identify needed revisions, and reach closure

Presentation of the draft strategy and preliminary binational indicator list
Discussion of the previously distributed strategy

Timeline for indicators development and adoption
Comments on the timeline

12:10 - 12:30 pm **General comments and questions (including public comments)**

12:30 - 1:30 pm **Lunch**

Border Indicators Task Force

BITF Activities (Steve Young / Salvador Sanchez)

1:30 – 2:00 pm **Finalize Remaining Strategy and Timeline concerns**

2:00 – 4:30 pm **Feedback on the Preliminary Binational List of Border 2012 Indicators**

Objective: Request and receive feedback from the media group representatives in order to further refine and reach closure on the preliminary binational list of proposed indicators.

Each media group will be given a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes to provide feedback on the proposed indicators. Groups may also suggest other indicators on the basis of *relevance* to the Border 2012 program and the work taking place in the region. Discussion will be structured by the order of the Program goals: water, air, land, environmental health, emergency response, and enforcement and compliance.

Discussion will be followed by an analysis of the common threads with the intent of identifying areas that need harmonization.

4:30 – 4:45 pm **Break**

4:45 – 5:45 pm **BITF Work Planning**

Objective: Discuss the following points to prepare for the workplan

- How can BITF be of assistance to the various border groups?
- How should BITF interact with the various border groups?
- What sources of resources are available for indicators?

5:45 – 6:00 pm **Wrap up and conclusions** (Steve Young / Salvador Sanchez)

Friday, February 4

Priorities and Next Steps: BITF Work plan for 2005

(Steve Young / Salvador Sanchez)

Goal: *Develop concrete short and long term action items*

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| 8:30 – 9:00 am | Preparation for the National Coordinators Meeting |
| 9:00 – 10:15 am | Discuss proposed action items for 2005 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Coordinate efforts to homogenize the reporting of indicators- Prepare for 2005 implementation plan reporting |
| 10:15-10:30 am | Break |
| 10:30-11:00 am | Schedule or plan workshops to assess the basic set of indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discuss the use of an assessment tool for evaluating proposed indicators |
| 11:00 – 12:00 pm | Communication strategy for the public <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Website or form of communicating border-wide indicators<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Who, when, where, how? |
| 12:00-1:00 pm | Summary and Concluding Remarks / Adjourn |