

FIRST SUBREGIONAL MEETING
OF THE ANDEAN INITIATIVE:
A SIGNIFICATIVE STEP FOR A MORE
STRATEGIC APPROACH TO MOUNTAIN
DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AMERICA.

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16th Session of the United Nations Commission
on Sustainable Development
(CSD-16)
New York – UN Headquarters, 6th May 2008

- **The meeting was held in San Miguel de Tucumán (Argentina) on 5th-7th September, 2007**
- **It was organized by the Committee for the Sustainable Development of the Mountain Regions of the Argentine Republic, whose action is directed to consolidate the institutional capacities for the development of sustainable activities in the mountain areas.**
- **Invited personalities included:**
 - **Representatives from the Andean Countries of South America: Bolivia, Perú, Ecuador, Chile, Colombia and Venezuela, besides Argentina.**
 - **Members of the Mountain Partnership, the Alpine Convention, UNDP**
 - **Representatives of the Governments of Switzerland, Italy, Spain and France**
 - **Representatives of ONGs and members of civil society**

■ **Objective of the meeting: consolidation of the actions developed by the countries of the Andean Initiative, throughout their National Committees or other ways to coordinate actions between governmental organizations and civil society for the sustainable development of the mountain regions.**

■ **Main identified topics (Lima, Perú, June, 2006):**

▪ Sustainable Livelihoods in Mountain Areas,

▪ Ecosystem Conservation and Natural and Cultural Heritage Conservation,

▪ Consolidation of Institutional Capacity.

✓ During Tucuman meeting, a topic related to Biodiversity was included too.

■ **Tucumán's meeting included more than 35 presentations in the main topics, through conference's series of plenary sessions, working groups and informal roundtables.**

■ **Presentations were made about conceptual frameworks, concrete experiences and cases. After each presentation, a discussion to change ideas among the participants was developed.**

■ **Specific projects were identified in all the main topics, in order to go forward in a joint work between two or more Andean countries**

■ **At the end of the meeting, the Declaration of San Miguel de Tucuman was signed; this document comprises a concrete group of prioritized and concerted actions, which would be eligible for financial support from international organizations and other donors.**

■ **It is going to serve as a central document to steer the future action of Andean Initiative.**

■ **A project to consolidate Institutional and Participative Frameworks to develop the Sustainable Management of the natural resources of the Andes has been prepared by Argentina with the contribution of the other members countries of Andean Initiative. It is next to be presented to FAO and the Mountain Partnership.**

■ **Summary: Tucumán's meeting must be considered a great step to go forward to the articulation of actions in the development of Mountain regions in the Andean Countries, and with other international initiatives in the matter, too.**

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Thank you

New York, 6th May, 2008