



## PRESS RELEASE

### **The Auditor General of Québec issues the conclusions of the Sustainable Development Commissioner's report on the application of the *Sustainable Development Act* – Press Release no. 5**

Québec, Wednesday, March 30, 2011 – Today, Sustainable Development Commissioner Jean Cinq-Mars published his report on audits conducted in 2010-2011.

In his analysis of the application of the *Sustainable Development Act*, the Commissioner concluded that the first accountability reports on the sustainable development action plans did not provide a clear and an objective assessment of how organizations were contributing to the implementation of the government's strategy and the state of progress on sustainable development.

His analysis identified incomplete reporting in the 35 selected entities. These entities only measured slightly less than half of the indicators, and when they did, only a quarter of the indicators compared the actual results with the initial targets. Few of them provided information on the impacts of the actions included in their sustainable development accountability report. Commitments were often amended relative to initial actions plans without any rationale for these changes.

Mr. Cinq-Mars said that many of the observations made during the last four years explained the accountability gaps observed this year: the objectives of the government's strategy are vague, the link between the strategy and action plans is unclear, and the indicators focus on inputs rather than outcomes.

The Sustainable Development Commissioner believes that the government needs to get the current process back on track before completing the implementation of the strategy in 2013.

The French version of the full report and the presentation made to parliamentarians are available on the Auditor General of Québec's website at: <http://www.vgq.qc.ca>, under the "Reports" tab of the "Publications" section.

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