

The new organization was initially funded by the *Asociación Nacional de las Industrias del Plástico (ANIPAC)*, National Association of the Plastics Industry, *Instituto de Tuberias Plásticas (ITP)* and *Asociación Mexicana de Industrias de Tuberias Plásticas (AMITUP)*, Mexican Association for the Plastic Tubing Industry. Further funding was to come from participating companies, but the economic crisis has made this difficult.

WASTE PRODUCTS

According to government sources, a new regulation will be established during 1995, to govern the discharge of effluents created in the manufacture of synthetic resins. The water subcommittee of the *Comité Consultivo Nacional de Normalización para la Protección Ambiental*, National Advisory Committee for Standardization of the Environment, has been working with *Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)*, the national oil company, the *Secretaría de Energía (SE)*, Secretariat of Energy, and the *Secretaría del Medio Ambiente, Recursos Naturales y Pesca (SEMARNAP)*, Secretariat of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries, on this project. The new standard will establish limits for pollutants discharged into water by the synthetic resin industry.

RECYCLING

In Mexico, recycling is supposed to be encouraged and promoted through the use of government procurement policies. Observers are skeptical, however, that these policies are actually followed to any extent. One recycling industry executive complained that instead of providing support, several government institutions actually discourage recycling by imposing regulations oriented towards hygiene and disposal.

Recycling in the private sector has been impeded by a lack of consumer awareness. And, mid- to upper-class stores have been reluctant to carry recycled products because their customers object to the variations in colour that are sometimes involved.

KILMEX, *CCH* and *EASTMAN* are providing funds to establish the *Asociación para el reciclaje de PET (APREPET)*, Association for Recycling of PET. This is a private lobbying group which will promote and influence legislation affecting the recycling of PET products.

Grupo Cifra together with the *Asociación Nacional de la Industria Química (ANIQ)*, National Association of the Chemical Industry, and by the *Asociación Nacional de las Industrias del Plástico (ANIPAC)*, National Association of the Plastics Industry, has developed a recycling program for the plastic waste that *Grupo Cifra* generates. Their objective is to reduce the cost of packaging and plastic bags.