Pre-treatment of samples is a critical element in the testing process. Without this treatment, the chemical balance of samples and the contaminants they contain can change, thereby jeopardizing the value of the most sophisticated analysis.

Mexico has welcomed the prospect of ongoing technical co-operation, under both the NAFTA and the parallel process, as an important contribution to fulfilling the commitment to overcoming its environmental challenges. The series of projects initiated under the bilateral program match Mexico's needs with Canadian expertise and technology. At one and the same time, they will serve to assist Mexico in enforcing its environmental regulations and to showcase Canadian environmental technology and expertise. The result will be stronger environmental technology industries and a healthier North American environment.