



IEAGHG Information Paper; 2012-IP20: The Climate and Clean Air Coalition

Background: See www.unep.org/ccac/ for further information

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants was formed under a US Initiative in February 2012. It is a partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, representatives of the private sector, the environmental community, and other members of civil society. A Secretariat is hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Paris (See <http://www.unep.org/ccac/>)

The short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP's) included in this initiative include: black carbon, methane and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). These are considered to be responsible for a substantial fraction of current global warming with particularly large impacts in urban areas and sensitive regions of the world like the Arctic, and have harmful health and environmental impacts. It is felt that addressing these short lived climate pollutants can have immediate, multiple benefits. Reducing them will protect human health and the environment now and slow the rate of climate change within the first half of this century. It is noted that by the Partners that action on Short lived climate pollutants must complement and supplement, not replace, global action to reduce carbon dioxide, in particular efforts under the UNFCCC.

The Coalition's objectives are to address short lived climate pollutants by:

- Raising awareness of short lived climate pollutant impacts and mitigation strategies;
- Enhancing and developing new national and regional actions, including by identifying and overcoming barriers, enhancing capacity, and mobilizing support;
- Promoting best practices and showcasing successful efforts; and
- Improving scientific understanding of short lived climate pollutant impacts and mitigation strategies.
- The Coalition intends to serve as a forum for assessing progress in addressing the challenge of short lived climate pollutants and for mobilizing resources to accelerate action. It works to catalyse new actions as well as to highlight and bolster existing efforts on near-term climate change and related public health, food and energy security, and environmental issues.

At the first meeting of the CCAC High Level Assembly, on 24 April 2012 in Stockholm, an initial tranche of five initiatives was agreed upon for rapid implementation, as follows.

- Reducing Black Carbon Emissions from Heavy Duty Diesel Vehicles and Engines
- Mitigating Black Carbon and Other Pollutants From Brick Production
- Mitigating SLCPs from the Municipal Solid Waste Sector
- Promoting HFC Alternative Technology and Standards
- Accelerating Methane and Black Carbon Reductions from Oil and Natural Gas Production

The Coalition has also identified cross-cutting efforts to be undertaken in order to accelerate emissions reductions across all short-lived climate pollutants. To date these actions are:

- Financing of SLCP mitigation
- Promoting SLCP National Action Plans

A ministerial meeting of the CCAC was held during COP19 at Doha. Six new members were announced bring the total number of partners in this voluntary initiative to nearly 50. The CCAC



comprises 25 country partners, the European Commission and 23 non-state partners. For a full list and for more details on the Coalition please go to: www.unep.org/ccac

Fact sheets on the key areas of work of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition are also available on the web site.

The ministers agreed in Doha to co-operate to vastly reduce black carbon (better known outside these talks as soot), as well as methane and ozone in the atmosphere – substances known collectively as short-lived climate pollutants. In so doing, the members of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) could cut global warming by 0.5C by 2050, which could give the world breathing space from projections of 4C to 6C of warming later this century.

The SCLP's are not all currently regulated within the Kyoto protocol or its parent treaty, the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. As a result, their levels or actions to reduce them are not formally discussed as part of the annual climate negotiations.

The IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme will aim to establish contact with the CCAC to determine if there are areas for future co-operation and at very least exchange of information. There could also be others Implementing Agreements such as the New Gas and Oil Technology IA where for similar discussions would be appropriate.

We will keep our members updated on developments with respect to CCAC.

John Gale
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