
THE CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR COALITION TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANTS

Third Meeting of the High Level Assembly, Oslo

Communiqué

3 September 2013

We, Ministers, heads of organizations, and other high-level representatives of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC), came together today to reiterate our firm commitment to work together to address near-term climate change, improve air quality and public health, and strengthen food and energy security, by taking urgent action to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) like black carbon, methane, tropospheric ozone, and many hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). We recognize the need for these actions to complement ambitious global reductions of long-lived greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide to fully address the issue of climate change.

Action based on strong science

We thank the distinguished members of the CCAC Science Advisory Panel and the scientific community for documenting the importance of reducing SLCPs as a complement to action on carbon dioxide. Recent studies have reinforced the findings of the 2011 UNEP assessments and indicate that certain benefits of reducing SLCPs may be greater than previously understood, in particular due to increased estimates of black carbon's impact on climate and methane leakage rates. Studies have further highlighted that reducing SLCPs in the Arctic and mountain glacier regions can significantly slow the pace of warming and melting of ice and snow. Indoor and outdoor air pollution, a large proportion of which can be reduced by measures focusing on black carbon, has been estimated by the 2012 Global Burden of Disease report to cause more than six million premature deaths each year, with a disproportionate impact on women and children. Reducing SLCPs can also help rural economies, with current estimates showing the potential to save about 50 million tonnes of crops each year.

A strong start

After only 18 months, the CCAC has grown tenfold from seven Partners to 72 – 34 countries and 38 organizations. We welcome all new Partners to our voluntary and action-oriented Coalition. Partners are undertaking a variety of ambitious efforts in our own countries and organizations to reduce SLCPs.

Scaling-up global efforts

The Coalition is working to catalyze scaled up efforts on SLCPs, which has the potential to slow down global warming by up to 0.5°C by 2050 as well as improve air quality. To help achieve its objectives, the Coalition has launched 10 high-impact global initiatives, including:

- **Oil and Natural Gas Production** – The oil and gas sector accounts for roughly 20 percent of global anthropogenic methane emissions and substantial amounts of black carbon. As referenced in the

declaration signed by 13 CCAC ministers and building on existing initiatives, we aim to achieve substantial reductions in both methane and black carbon. We commit to enhance high-level outreach to oil and gas companies to undertake upfront, voluntary commitments to use “best-in-class” methane reduction methods. We will also intensify efforts with companies to reduce black carbon.

- **Municipal Solid Waste** – Landfills are the third largest source of global anthropogenic methane emissions, and open garbage burning emits black carbon and other pollutants, including dioxin emissions, a major health concern. More than 10 cities from around the world are already engaged in the initiative. We encourage additional cities to participate in this global network and to take concrete action to reduce SLCPs. We will call upon our waste experts to provide technical assistance. We will also work with domestic and international financing institutions to invest in new efforts on sustainable waste management in participating cities.
- **HFC Alternative Technology and Standards** – HFCs, potent greenhouse gases, have increased by approximately 8 percent per year from 2004 to 2008; without further action, these emissions are projected to accelerate rapidly. We will continue to promote climate-friendly alternatives and make efforts to reduce emissions of HFCs. CCAC Partner countries will adopt domestic approaches to encourage climate-friendly HFC alternative technologies and work toward a phasedown in the production and consumption of HFCs under the Montreal Protocol. We will work with international standards organizations to revise their standards to include climate-friendly HFC alternatives.
- **Heavy Duty Diesel Vehicles and Engines** – The CCAC is actively working to virtually eliminate fine particles including black carbon emissions from heavy duty diesel vehicles and engines by building an international movement to steadily reduce sulphur in diesel fuel, establishing more stringent vehicle emission standards, cleaning up fleets – especially in cities and at ports – and improving energy and environmental efficiency in the movement of global goods by developing a Green Freight initiative.
- **Supporting NAtional Planning for Action on SLCPs (SNAP)** – The CCAC is helping Partners to integrate SLCP mitigation in their national planning, including with a new customized CCAC Emissions Scenario and Benefits Assessment toolkit (available to all countries) as well as a SNAP Guidance Document. These tools will support countries in identifying and promoting the key mitigation measures that can bring rapid climate, health and environmental benefits. The initial four national planning projects in Bangladesh, Colombia, Ghana and Mexico are demonstrating the value of the national planning approach and SNAP, and we commit to rolling it out to additional CCAC countries.
- **Brick Production** – The CCAC is promoting the worldwide modernization of brick production and kilns to reduce black carbon emissions, and lessen the number of premature deaths in nearby communities caused by air pollution through enabling policy development and supporting technology deployment. We will also encourage domestic and international financing institutions to invest in new efforts on sustainable production of bricks.
- **Household Cooking and Domestic Heating** – The CCAC is targeting a key source of harmful black carbon emissions worldwide and helping improve living standards of the most vulnerable who are usually energy poor. This initiative is supporting clean cookstove entrepreneurs with projects that can significantly reduce SLCP emissions, developing global standards and testing protocols, and raising awareness about the benefits of clean cooking.
- **Regional Assessments of SLCPs** – The CCAC is embarking on an assessment of SLCPs in Latin America and the Caribbean, building on a successful regional inter-governmental consultation in the

region, providing a framework for future national action. We intend to expand to other regions, including Asia and Africa.

- **Agriculture** – We welcome the recent launch of this initiative, with its plans to target methane and black carbon emissions, including from livestock, agricultural open burning, and rice paddies.

Maximizing health benefits

We are concerned by the scale of the public health impacts from air pollution, and specifically SLCPs like black carbon and methane, which is a precursor to tropospheric ozone:

- We welcome the World Health Organization (WHO) as a new Partner in the CCAC and its leadership in addressing SLCPs.
- We invite the WHO to (a) support better identification of health benefits and demonstrate how and where SLCP emissions reductions can contribute, (b) cooperate with Partners on existing efforts to estimate health benefits from CCAC initiatives and national actions, and (c) participate in the national action planning and regional assessments initiatives.
- We will undertake a global awareness-raising campaign on the urgent need to prevent air pollution-related diseases through action on SLCPs.
- We will establish a task force of CCAC Partner countries to develop a proposal for submission to the 67th World Health Assembly. We will review progress of the task force at our next meeting in Warsaw, Poland.

Bolstering financial flows

We stress the importance of catalyzing significant global investment in SLCP reductions:

- We thank the donors to the CCAC Trust Fund, including Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United States, and urge all Partners to redouble efforts to meet the Coalition's goals for 2013 and beyond.
- We recognize other financial and in-kind contributions from Partners supporting the Coalition's goals, including through national programmes, capacity building, and international financial assistance.
- We commend the World Bank's efforts to integrate SLCPs into its activities and to establish a goal for securing as many SLCP reductions as possible.
- We invite regional development banks to join the Coalition and to identify ways of advancing the Coalition's goals by mainstreaming SLCP reducing measures.
- CCAC Partner countries will explore mainstreaming of SLCPs into the Global Environment Facility (GEF) sixth replenishment process on climate change mitigation, and we invite the GEF to join the CCAC as a Partner.
- We strongly support the initiative of interested Partners to immediately launch a broad-based consultation to carry forward the recommendations of the international Methane Finance Study Group and the piloting of a global pay-for-performance fund to stimulate implementation of shovel-ready methane-reducing projects, including projects with a co-benefit of reducing black carbon emissions.

- We are pleased that the World Bank has agreed to set up and manage the “pay-for-performance” fund and urge CCAC Partners to participate in the design of the fund in consultation with other stakeholders. We welcome reporting on progress at our next High Level Assembly.
- We commission the CCAC’s Financing Mitigation of SLCPs Initiative to establish a Black Carbon Finance Study Group composed of interested Partners and other stakeholders to review potential strategies for supporting financial flows towards projects that can significantly reduce black carbon emissions. This Study Group would present its recommendations at the 2014 High Level Assembly.

Enhancing our own action

In joining the Coalition, we have endorsed meaningful action to address SLCPs. We, the ministers, heads of organizations and other high level representatives, will continue to ramp up our individual and collective efforts and identify opportunities for further SLCP reductions. We will work on scaled up action over the coming year, including in line with any National Action Planning processes for reducing SLCPs.

We will again assess our progress at the CCAC High Level Assembly in 2014.

For further information on the CCAC, please visit our website at: <http://www.unep.org/ccac>