



Press Release

Climate and Clean Air Coalition leaders launch Action Programme to address the 1.5°C Challenge

The CCAC's 10th High Level Assembly recognized the importance of integrating climate and air quality actions and passes 'CCAC Action Programme to Address the 1.5°C Challenge'

Katowice, December 13, 2018: Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) Ministers and high-level representatives agreed to push forward an ambitious Action Programme at the Coalition's 10th High Level Assembly at the UN Climate meeting (COP24) in Katowice, Poland.

The Action Programme calls for enhanced ambition to rapidly reduce short-lived climate pollutants and to ensure that mitigation efforts are integrated in order to address air pollution and climate change at the same time.

These efforts can avoid 0.6°C of temperature increase between now and 2050, prevent millions of premature deaths from air pollution, prevent 50 million tonnes of crop losses annually, and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Action Programme recognizes that action taken in the next decade is crucial if the world is to achieve the Paris Agreement's 1.5 degree Celsius (1.5°C) temperature goal. It calls on all Coalition partners to "define and walk the talk of achieving a rapid reduction of the rate of warming in the near-term, while at the same time striving to reach our long-term temperature goal to stabilize the climate system".

Marc Chardonens, State Secretary, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland, launched the Action Programme saying it will support national action plans, noting that the "hard work starts now."

Rodolfo Lacy, Environment Director, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, lauded the Programme, noting that it provides a roadmap to reduce short-lived climate pollutants, and aims to deliver high level political ambition, technical support and assistance, and science and analytical support to spur decisive and immediate action.

The Action Programme to Address the 1.5 C Challenge will assist and encourage countries that wish to increase their efforts to tackle climate change and air pollution in an integrated way, to enhance action on short-lived climate pollutants in their national emissions management programs and strategies.

Its three work streams are:

- 1) **High Level Political Leadership:** The Coalition aims to engage regional groups, bring in new partners, and deepen its engagement with non-partners to increase global leadership to deliver 0.6 C of avoided warming. It will do this through high-level regional meetings hosted

by champion countries and partners as a way to increase engagement, share knowledge, and raise ambition.

- 2) **Technical Support and Assistance:** The Coalition will promote techniques and processes to help countries develop effective short-lived climate pollutant mitigation strategies that identify the quickest and most effective actions and to embed these across government programs.
- 3) **Science and Analytical Support:** The Coalition has a depth of scientific, analytical, economic, and technical knowledge. Through this programme the CCAC will advance the thinking and analytical rigour in these domains to give decision-makers the courage and the support to act – for political leadership and technical support.

The Action Programme builds on the findings of the recent [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C](#) (IPCC 1.5°C report), and [UN Environment’s 2018 Emissions Gap Report](#). Both reports call for increased action on short-lived climate pollutants to rapidly reduce the rate of warming in the near term, and to complement global CO₂ reduction efforts.

At the Coalition’s High Level Assembly, Ola Elvestuen, Norway’s Minister for Climate and Environment said: “The IPCC 1.5°C report shows the gravity of the situation we are in. We must act fast and in a manner that makes it possible to reach the 1.5°C goal. The difference between a 1.5°C world and a 2°C world, is a world that we don’t recognise in the future.”

To meet the challenging task of achieving the world’s climate and development goals Minister Elvestuen said the world needs to pull all possible levers to slow warming.

“To succeed in the long-term, we need to choose a path that will slow the rate of global warming in the near term,” he said. “By reducing both short-lived climate pollutants – such as methane, black carbon and HFCs – and long-lived gases like CO₂, we increase our chance of success.”

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Read about the Climate and Clean Air Coalition’s High Level Assembly here:

<http://www.ccacoalition.org/en/news/climate-and-clean-air-coalition-high-level-assembly-commits-increasing-ambition-address-15%C2%B0c>

About the Coalition

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition is a voluntary partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific institutions and civil society organizations committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants – methane, black carbon, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and tropospheric ozone. It recognizes that efforts to reduce these pollutants supports all climate efforts by reducing the rate of warming in the near term, which will help prevent the likelihood of crossing climate tipping points. Efforts to reduce short-lived climate pollutants must be complementary to deep and sustained cuts to carbon dioxide emissions.

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