

## PARIS COMMUNIQUE

We, Ministers of fifty countries and heads of sixty organizations, Partners in the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), firmly agree to work together to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) – black carbon, methane and many hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Mitigating SLCP emissions is an urgent, effective and pragmatic complement to aggressive mitigation of carbon dioxide and other long-lived greenhouse gases. Action on SLCP mitigation could help reduce near-term warming by about 0.6°C by 2050 globally – and slow the rate of that near-term warming, including in many sensitive areas such as the Arctic and the Himalayas.<sup>i</sup> It will help improve air quality, public health, food security and energy efficiency at the local and regional level and therefore contribute to achieving the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

The concrete achievements of the CCAC in catalysing action by both Partners and non-Partners to deliver substantial reductions of SLCPs are described in the CCAC's 2014-2015 Annual Report. We welcome the progress of the Pilot Auction Facility for Methane and Climate Change Mitigation and its first auction in support of methane reduction projects.<sup>ii</sup> We applaud the numerous countries that have included SLCP measures in their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). We also welcome the announcements under the Lima-Paris Action Agenda,<sup>iii</sup> especially by the many cities and private sector companies who have contributed to concrete actions being undertaken to achieve real climate benefits.

We recognise that a comprehensive global phasedown of HFCs is one of the greatest quick opportunities to reduce SLCPs. Accordingly, we Ministers affirm our strong support for an amendment of the Montreal Protocol to phase down HFCs, welcome the progress made at the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties, and commit to actively work together and with other countries to adopt an HFC amendment in 2016. Within the Coalition itself, we will continue to promote climate-friendly HFC alternatives while improving energy efficiency, and welcome private sector-efforts to develop and adopt technologies and practices that reduce HFC emissions.

Today we launch the Coalition's 5-Year Strategic Plan, which sets out our strategies and key actions, and a framework to demonstrate our contribution to the global fight against climate change and air pollution. We will work together and individually to achieve widespread implementation of policies, regulations and practices to reduce SLCPs – the priority for this Coalition through to the end of 2020 – as well as monitor the results of our actions.

Guided by the Scientific Advisory Panel,<sup>iv</sup> we resolve to prioritise, develop and implement measures that lead to the delivery of SLCP reductions at scale in the near- to medium-term, aiming to achieve significant climate, health and numerous other benefits. We will explore how the CCAC can help promote alternatives to kerosene lamps, improve peer-to-peer collaboration, enhance capacities in countries and replicate the Pilot Auction Facility. We intend to work with financial institutions and experts to improve accounting of climate benefits for black carbon and methane reductions to facilitate mobilisation of financing for black carbon and methane abatement. And we commit to explore how the Coalition can support leapfrogging today's technologies to reach tomorrow's solutions. We welcome the new pledges to the Coalition Trust Fund of about 12 million U.S. dollars, and encourage partners to continue to make in-kind or additional financial contributions that help realise our shared ambitions.

We welcome the March 2016 Global Methane Forum as a key opportunity to address methane emissions. We will explore opportunities for high level cooperation to enhance individual and collective action that addresses the key sources of this important pollutant.

Recent air quality episodes and climate disasters remind us that the fight is far from over, and that we must reinforce our commitment to face both climate change and air pollution through synergistic policies that are essential for our health and our climate future.

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<sup>i</sup> A reduction in warming of 0.6°C (with a range of about 0.3 to 0.9°C) by 2050 was estimated by Xu et al. 2013. Other studies (Shindell et al., 2012; UNEP/WMO 2011; Stohl et al. 2015) found reductions of 0.2 to 0.5 °C by 2050, but did not include HFC mitigation.

<sup>ii</sup> Methane reductions amounting to 8.7 MT CO<sub>2</sub>eq ç 348,000 tCH<sub>4</sub> using the current CDM multiple (25x). The CCAC supported the establishment of the Pilot Auction Facility through the World Bank. It is an innovative pay-for-performance instrument that uses auctions to maximize the use of limited public resources for climate change mitigation while leveraging private sector financing.

<sup>iii</sup> <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/lpaa/short-term-pollutants/>

<sup>iv</sup> The CCAC Scientific Advisory Panel keeps the Coalition abreast of new scientific developments on short-lived climate pollutants, answers specific questions of the Coalition and informs policy discussions.