

Asia Region - Low Sulphur Road Maps Vision Statements

At the 4th annual Global Partnership Meeting of PCFV in 2005, partners agreed on the long-term global target: *"To reduce sulphur in vehicle fuels to 50 ppm or below worldwide, concurrent with clean vehicles and clean vehicle technologies, with roadmaps and timelines developed regionally and nationally."*

PCFV is therefore working in Asia at both the regional, sub regional (such as the forthcoming EANET¹ sub Regional training workshop in May in Thailand; the August 2008 PCFV presentation to 'Male' Declaration² countries and the new cooperation with South Asia Cooperative Environmental Programme (SACEP)³ and at national level (eg Indonesia, Mongolia) to get countries to adopt Fuel Road Maps for 50ppm within their own determined timeline.

Subsequently other declarations and initiatives promoting clean fuels and vehicles in the Asia region have followed such as: at the **1st Governmental⁴ Meeting** on Urban Air Quality in Asia in December 2006 in Indonesia, it was recommended to countries to *"develop roadmaps for fuel quality and vehicle emission standards for new vehicles"*. In November 2008 in Thailand, the **2nd Governmental Meeting** encouraged countries to *"prepare a national long term vision statement for urban air quality and urged members to make good use of the different international initiatives such as the PCFV"*.

In addition, Resolution 16 from the 20 November 2007 **ASEAN⁵ Declaration** on Environmental Sustainability, Singapore declared the intention: *"To intensify cooperation on the joint research, development and deployment of low emission technologies for the cleaner use of fossil fuels, recognizing that fossil fuels will continue to play a major role in our energy mix"*.

From the **Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy in Transport (MEET)⁶**, a Ministerial Declaration was issued on 16 January 2009 that states in paragraph 4: *"We share a long-term global vision of realizing low-carbon and low-pollution transport systems, and we commit ourselves to working effectively and collaboratively with international organizations and individual countries in order to fulfil this vision. In this light, we welcome the ongoing efforts by... international initiatives such as the United Nations Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles..."*

¹ Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) 12 countries are-Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam

² 'Male' Declaration countries are-

³ SACEP 9 countries are- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

⁴ The First Governmental Meeting on Urban Air Quality in Asia was jointly organized by CAI-Asia, UNCRD, UNEP and Ministry of Environment Indonesia and was attended by representatives of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam as well as representatives from a number of international organizations, including ADB, World Bank, UN-ESCAP, SEI, WHO.

⁵ ASEAN member countries are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

⁶ MEET countries represented were Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam, and the European Commission.

A new regional initiative launched in August 2005 by the United Nations Center for Regional development (UNCRD) based in Japan for Environmentally Sustainable Transport (EST) contains a strong clean fuels and vehicles element through 2 of its 12 Thematic areas. Thematic Area 8 calls for 'Cleaner Fuel' (of which clean diesel of one of several clean fuels advocated) while Thematic Area 10 calls for 'Vehicle emission control, standards, and inspection and maintenance (I/M)'. Phase 1 EST project countries were Lao PDR, Cambodia and Vietnam while current Phase 2, which is currently underway, are Indonesia, Bangladesh and Philippines.

Sub Regional levels of sulphur in fuels differ greatly in the 5 Asian sub regions and by country as well as by fuel type. Sulphur levels in gasoline range from below 10 ppm to as high as 1,000 ppm, and those in diesel range from 10 ppm to more than 10,000 ppm. In Europe, the US, and Japan sulphur levels are being reduced to below 10-15 ppm, and many countries around the world are lowering the limits of allowable sulphur in fuels and adopting tailpipe emission standards to further reduce vehicle pollution.

CAI-Asia, a PCFV Partner and a regional implementation partner for the PCFV, in its report titled "**A Road Map for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles in Asia**" (TA 6144 (REG): Better Air Quality Management in Asia, **November 2008**) also identifies several countries with national programs for low sulphur reduction with target timelines for low sulphur level in fuels. Some of these countries like India are self propelling and have commenced a national implementation program to meet the timelines set while other countries require support to meet their declared aspirations for low sulphur fuels, eg Indonesia.