

ACTION PLAN FOR THE SUB-REGION OF BENIN, NIGER, NIGERIA AND TOGO

Global Objective: Complete Phase-out of Leaded Gasoline by the end of 2004

No.	ACTIONS	EXPECTED OUTCOMES	SCHEDULED DATES
1	Governments should change current standards for lead content in gasoline, reducing the content to 0.15 g/l in December 2003 and to 0 g/l by December 2004.	Refining, distribution, and use of unleaded gasoline	2002
2	Governments of subregional producing and importing countries should agree on an octane level of 93 RON.	Use of unleaded gasoline	2002
3	Establishment in each country of a committee for coordinating, Information, Education and Communication (IEC), and for mobilizing awareness for the need to phase out leaded gasoline.	Greater national awareness of the dangers of leaded gasoline	2002
4	Foreign affairs ministries, together with the relevant technical ministries, should set in motion procedures to harmonize standards for phasing out leaded gasoline within ECOWAS and in the context of NEPAD.	Harmonization of subregional laws and regulations	2002-2003
5	Governments should ensure that all new refineries are set up to produce only unleaded gasoline.	Production of high-quality fuel	2004
6	Importers of petroleum products and quality-control mechanisms should ensure that all imported fuels are unleaded.	Protection of consumers against contraband	2002
7	Research and development units should be encouraged to identify other air pollutants (CO, CO ₂ , NO _x , SO _x , arsenic) and their sources, with a view to their reduction.	Improvement of living conditions	Ongoing from 2003
8	Ministries of the environment and standardization bodies should define vehicle exhaust emission standards and elaborate a strategy for introducing catalytic converters.	Encouragement of renewal of vehicle fleet	2002-2003
9	Ministries of health, in cooperation with other relevant technical ministries, should conduct national studies to determine the lead content in the human body and make a nutritional evaluation as a basis for further research and follow-up.	Greater knowledge about the blood lead levels in populations exposed to lead pollution	2003-2005
10	Ministries of the environment and health should inquire into other sources of lead	Improvement of living conditions	Ongoing from

	contamination (paint, water pipes, food packaging) with a view to their elimination.		2002
11	Governments of countries should provide training and retraining of mechanics and garage owners.	Training of mechanics in new technologies	2003-2004
12	Governments should ensure appropriate storage and distribution facilities for unleaded gasoline in the context of quality control of consumer products.	Consumer protection against dangerous petroleum products	2002
13	Government authorities should take all necessary steps to encourage the purchase of more environmentally sound vehicles.	Encouragement of renewal of vehicle fleet	2003
14	Governments should provide preferential community tax benefits to imports of unleaded gasoline from UEMOA and ECOWAS countries.	Discovery of better sources of supply to reduce consumer cost	2003
15	Ministries of the environment should set up and maintain a network for liaison, sharing, and exchange of information and databases.	Improved information and follow-up on pollution levels in the various countries	Ongoing