

The International Union of Air Pollution Prevention and Environmental Protection Associations

### **2009 REGIONAL CONFERENCE: TUNIS**

For its 2009 meeting IUAPPA goes to North Africa, an area of the world facing major environmental challenges, and one where we have not previously met. The meeting will be held from November 23 to 27, in the fascinating and historic city of Tunis, in the heart of the region.

IUAPPA already has one observer member in Tunisia – Women for Sustainable Development (WFSD) and we look forward to this opportunity to get to know and work with the Association much more closely. A number of our other members have links with the region, notably APPA, our French member, whose journal circulates widely among scholars in the region.

The conference will be held in conjunction with a meeting of the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum whose current programme includes support for development of an Inter-Governmental Network on Air Pollution in the region. The programme for the conference will be developed in close consultation with UNEP, who are leading for the Forum on the Inter-Governmental initiative and the Sahara-Sahel Observatory, the leading environmental research institute in the region. We hope also to involve the UNECE LRTAP Convention, which has long been hoping to link its European air pollution monitoring systems with North Africa, and with the European Commission, in view of the Union's recent initiatives for the Mediterranean.

The International Board will meet on November 22. Any items for the agenda should be notified to the Director-General by the end of August. Among the principal matters for consideration are the Report of the Review Committee and the venue of the next World Congress.

# April 2009

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Tunis mosque tower framed with ornamental arch

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Across the roof tops of Tunis with the steeples of Tunis Cathedral, St Vincent de Paul

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#### REVIEW COMMITTEE HERALDS IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR IUAPPA

At its meeting in Brisbane, the Board agreed establishment of a committee to review ways to revive and broaden IUAPPA's activities and to attract additional organisations and young activists. The committee completed the current phase of its work at a meeting at the South African regional conference.

The report from the Chairman, Menacem Luria, makes important proposals for the development of the Unoin which will be submitted to the next board meeting:

#### World Congress

The Committee's main conclusions were that:

- There should be flexibility in the timing a three year interval should not be regarded as mandatory but timing could be adjusted to reflect circumstances and opportunities.
- The Secretariat should take a stronger role in the organisation of the World Congress, to allow greater consistence and continuity in the programme and more flexibility in the choice of venues.
- The global relevance of the meting should be enhanced by taking opportunitities to involve other international organisations
- governmental and non-governmental as sponsors and partners.

The Committee also emphasised that it was important that World Congresses continue to be complemented by a strong programme of Regional Conferences and Specialty Meetings where Board and Executive members should play a more important part on planning and developing.

#### **Board and Executive Committee**

It is clear that important elements of the Union's Statutes now need to be reviewed. The Board has in the past supported in principle the idea of more than one member organisation from the same country, but the implications of this for Board membership have still to be determined. It is also clear that a revision of the bye-laws is necessary to redefine the mandate of the Executive Committee. While the Board is the supreme body, this should have an important role. In order to be effective, it should be small and more active. It is to advise the President and the DG on the day to day operations of IUAPPA, initiate new ideas/programs, and perform working functions, as needed. It should meet at least twice a year. Members should be appointed by the Board, for fixed terms, and should be from different regions.

#### **Expanded Membership**

Adding new members is essential for the future of IUAPPA, and they could be drawn from a wider range than at present, to reflect the way the environmental organisations have changed in the last 40 years. In addition to allowing more than one member organization from any given country, consideration should be given to welcoming government and inter-governmental entities, international research institutes, regional NGOs, and other bodies committed to clean air. International companies and other commercial organisations should also be considered, although under separate term which took account of their profit-making character.

#### **History and Heritage**

The committee also concluded that the time was now ripe to write up the history of IUAPPA. Documents pictures and memories from past activities will be a great way to commemorate our 40 years of activities and to highlight our legacy for future generations. Members who would be interested to help, or who have interesting memorabilia, are asked to contact the Secretariat.

The members of the committee were Cyro doValle (Brazil), Jean Marie Rambaud (France), John Murlis (UK), Steve Hart (North America), Frank Schwegler -South Africa, and Young Sunwoo (Korea). The committee convened on 29 September 2008 in Nelspurit SA, at the 17<sup>th</sup> IUAPPA regional conference.

### STRATEGIC CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN IUAPPA AND AWMA

The long association between IUAPPA and AWMA entered a new and closer phase in December when the two organisations concluded a Strategic Cooperation Agreement. The agreement is intended to enable the two organisations to support each other more effectively, work more closely together, and deliver together activities and objectives which might elude them individually.

AWMA, one of the founding members of IUAPPA will continue as a member of the Union but this relationship will be strengthened by a practical programme of joint working between the two organisations which will see regular consultation and co-operation on their respective programmes, mutual sport on all aspects of their work and, as opportunities arise, joint initiatives.

Traditionally A&WMA has had a special role in IUAPPA as it is itself an international group – covering both the United States and Canada and with members elsewhere and wide international circulation of its journals. However in recent years IUAPPA has been establishing close links with other regional organisations and international networks. This strategic co-operation agreement may therefore offer a general model of how multi-national bodies can co-operate with the wider framework of the International Union.

#### VANCOUVER WORLD CONGRESS

The 15<sup>th</sup> World Clean Air Congress is scheduled for September 11-15 in Vancouver, Canada. Plans for the Congress are now speeding up, with the opening of the Congress website at <u>www.IUAPPA2010.com</u>. Visit it to keep in touch as plans for this major event continue to develop.

Recognising the need for holistic management approaches to effectively mitigate potential water, food, energy and environmental challenges, the over-arching theme of the Congress is "Achieving Environmental Sustainability in a Resource-Hungry World". The technical programme will examine international, national and local-scale issues facing both emerging and developed economies and will consist of four main tracks – sustainability, science, policy, and industry. To better meet the needs and interests of our IUAPPA members and provide a programme that will foster interactions among specialists from academia, industry. consulting, advocacy groups, and government to present, the organising committee welcomes suggestions for plenary speakers and session proposals. Many of you have already contributed to this effort, proposing sessions covering the impact of biofuels, the social aspects of pollutants, the nature and scale of PM impacts, a comparison of African vs Asian initiatives, Mediterranean air guality issues, the status of air quality science and management in Asia, and integrated models, to name a few. Topics related to regional themes will be particularly welcome. Please send additional proposals and input to the Technical Programme Chair, Alan Gertler at Alan.Gertler@dri.edu.

The Congress will also offer a major opportunity to being together many of the themes on which IUAPPA has been working in recent years. With several of our Global Forum partners as sponsors the Congress will have a truly global reach and appeal. Along these lines, we aim in particular to bring together our work on co-benefits, mega-city transport, shipping and development issues in Asia and Africa.

The organising committee is concerned to make the Congress open and accessible, and has is in the process of obtaining additional modestly priced accommodations and is seeking to secure grant funding in support of participants from the developing world.

#### IUAPPA GIVEN OBSERVER STATUS BY LRTAP CONVENTION

In recent years the Union has developed close links with the UNECE Convention on Long Range Transport of Air Pollution, the World's leading inter-governmental body on air pollution. This was recognised at the recent meeting of the Executive Body of the Convention where the Union was formally granted Observer Status.

Observer status allow the Union simpler access to the Convention's meetings and raise the profile of the Union. It will also allow us further to develop our contribution to the Convention's 'Outreach Programme'.

At the same meeting the Executive Body for the Convention has decided to initiate a review of the Convention's long-term strategic role. The review is particularly timely as the Convention is approaching completion of its updating and review of the Gothenburg Convention, which will set the framework for air pollution management across the region for some years ahead.

The Union will be submitting evidence and recommendations to the Review.



Alan Gertler, IUAPPA President who leads the Board's preparations for the Congress

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#### GLOBAL FORUM: FIRST JOINT MEETING OF ASIAN AIR POLLUTION NETWORKS



On March 9 th the first joint meeting of the three Asian regional air pollution networks took place in Bangkok. Funded through the Global Forum and hosted by the Asian Regional Office of UNEP, the meeting was a notable milestone.

There are significant differences in roles, structures and priorities among the three regional agreements in Asia - the Asean Haze Agreenment in South East Asia, the EANET Network in East Asia and the Male Declaration Agreement in Southern Asia. Increasingly, however, they share common atmospheric challenges. They range from the major atmospheric challenges of aerosols and Atmospheric Brown Clouds to the practical problems of mobilising and resourcing monitoring and assessment capabilities to be able to address adequately the scale of the issues. However the meeting reflected the fact that the health effects of air pollution in Asian cities is a major concern among communities and national leaders throughout the continent - more so even that the challenge of climate change.

The meeting unanimously endorsed a proposal for closer co-operation, and agreed to give consideration to the development of a Joint Action Plan.

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#### MAJOR INITIATIVE IN LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

At the end of March the Forum sponsored the Inaugural Meeting of the New Inter-Governmental Network on Air Pollution for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The decision to establish the Network had been taken by Latin American Environment Ministers at their Biennial Meeting in the Dominican Republic last year, on a proposal from the Global Forum.

The first meeting, which drew leading government representatives from most of the countries of South and Central America, and several of the island states of the Caribbean, reached a number of important decisions which will set the framework for future policy and action on air pollution in the region.

In particular they agreed to recommend to Ministers at their meeting next January a Framework Agreement to guide and harmonise policy development on air pollution across the region. They also agreed the key elements of a work plan dealing with what the member states saw as their most pressing air pollution issues, including the relative shortage of monitoring and assessment capabilities in the region.

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The meeting was convened by the Regional Office of UNEP, at its Headquarters in Panama, and with the support of the IUAPPA Secretariat and our partners, the Stockholm Environment Institute. Invaluable assistance was also received from IUAPPA's new associate member from the region – the Clean Air Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAI-LAC) – represented by its Executive Director, Sergio Sanchez. It was a pleasure also to find among the representatives a number of other members and associates of IUAPPA in Latin America – notably colleagues from our Peruvian organisation.

A larger meeting will now be held – probably in October in Mexico – to finalise the Recommendations to Ministers, including the Framework Agreement and the Work Plan. One of the over-arching themes of this meeting in likely to be Climate-Air Pollution Co-Benefits – focussing on the implications for the region of the conclusions and recommendations from the Global Forum's Conference last September. The recommendations from the Conference were circulated to all the Governments in the Region by UNEP last October and have evoked wide interest.

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### FOLLOWING UP THE STOCKHOLM CO-BENEFITS CONFERENCE

The Stockholm Conference on Co-Benefits last September, organised by the Union and the Stockholm Environment Institute on Behalf of the Global Forum, resulted in wideranging and ground-breaking conclusions. Notable among these was the critical importance of ozone, black carbon and methane as greenhouse gases, as well as pollutants, and the extent to which early action in them could buy time to achieve long-range reductions in CO<sub>2</sub>.

The conclusions, reported fully in the last edition of the Newsletter, have now been widely disseminated and taken up by other influential bodies.

Besides promulgation at the three regional meetings associated with the Conference (IUAPPA's own regional meeting in South Africa, the EFCA meeting in Strasbourg, and BAQ-Asia), they were reported to the annual meeting of the LRTAP Convention, and subsequently submitted, through the Convention, to UNFCCC for consideration within the climate change negotiations.

The conclusions have important implications for current climate negotiations. However, they are likely to prove particularly relevant to the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Co-operative Action, which continues its work after the current stage of Climate Change negotiations culminates in the Copenhagen meeting in December.

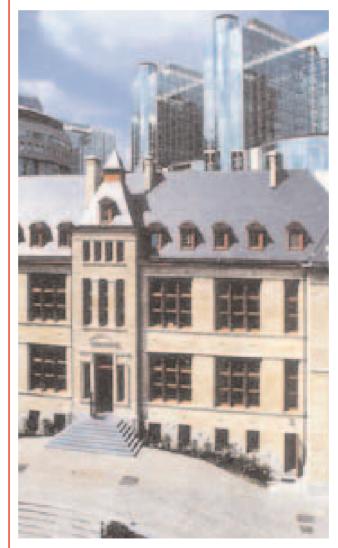
The Forum is now embarking on a longer-term 'Stockholm Process', which, through representations, public dissemination and research, will further develop and promote the conclusions from the meeting.

### EFCA SYMPOSIUM ON ULTRAFINE PARTICLES

On 19 and 20 May this year EFCA, in cooperation with its German member GUS and the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe, will have its second international symposium on Ultrafine particles: sources, effects, risks and mitigation strategies; the venue is Brussels, Belgium.

The issue of particulate matter (PM) has during the years of policy development for their control been addressed in several ways: black smoke, TSP,  $PM_{10}$  en most recently  $PM_{2.5}$ . In spite of that it is not yet certain whether, from the viewpoint of protection of human health, the right metrics are presently being addressed.

Research in this area has unveiled that ultrafine particles (50-200 nm) may penetrate the lung and potentially cause inflammation reactions to be held responsible for cardio-vascular diseases. It is considered likely that chemical composition may play a part here as well. There is now more information on the spectrum of size fractions for atmospheric particles in different source areas as well as on that of the emissions sources themselves.



Venue for the UFP symposium is the building of the Representation of the State Bayern with the European Union

The presentations in Brussels will add to that body of knowledge with new results. Congress chairman Karl-Friedrich Ziegahn hopes to assess, cooperation in with experts from the scientific community and the European Commission, where we presently stand: which questions have been answered? which knowledge gaps still exist? also: is the time already ripe to formulate the first recommendations for policy development?

It is obvious that the conclusions from the symposium can be used in IUAPPA's programme on the particulate matter issue. The complete programme of the symposium is available at www.efca.net which also provides details on registration.

## IUAPPA

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### APPA JOURNAL HIGHLIGHTS RESULTS OF CLIMATE-AIR POLLUTION MEETINGS

The Background Papers prepared by the Union and the Stockholm Environment Institute on the Co-Benefits of \Integrated Climate-Air Pollution strategies, already available on the Global Forum's website, will shortly be available in printed form in a special issue of Revue Atmospherique, the journal of APPA, our French member organisation.

The issue reports, and brings together major papers from EFCA's symposium on Climate and Pollution held in November in Strasbourg. With the IUAPPA conference in South Africa and the better Air Quality Conference in Asia, this was one of the three regional meetings to follow-up and further explore the conclusions and recommendations the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum's landmark conference in Stockholm in September.

The issue is expected to be available in mid-April.

### World Atlas

Korea, with 20 copies, has now established a firm lead in sales of the World Atlas, taking over from APPA in France which has so far sold 10 copies.

We urge all member organisations to take every opportunity to promote the Atlas.

The Atlas is an important and ambitious undertaking by the Union which will grace any library. Written by leading international authors and beautifully printed in full colour, it is the first such publication to draw together, in striking visual form, all aspects of the atmospheric environment from Climate Change and Ozone Depletion to Urban Air Pollution and its healthy impacts.

For further information on the Atlas, and on concessionary rates for member organisations, contact Peter Mitchell (<u>iuappa@btinternet.com</u>).

### WORLD ATLAS OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AVAILABLE AT DISCOUNT RATES

Highly acclaimed reference work, published in 2008. Edited by Ranjeet Sokhi, University of Hertfordshire, UK.

Provides a global overview of atmospheric pollution in the 21st century and its impact on our environment – long-range transport; climate change; ozone depletion; environmental and health effects; future trends and MUCH MORE.

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