

FRAMEWORK FOR THE CLIMATE AND CLEAN AIR COALITION TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANTS

The representatives of the Governments of Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden, and the United States of America:

Recognizing that key short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), including methane, black carbon, tropospheric ozone, and many hydrofluorocarbons, are responsible for a substantial fraction of near term climate change, with a particularly large impact in sensitive regions of the world;

Concerned that SLCPs have significant, detrimental health, agricultural, and environmental impacts;

Recognizing that control of SLCPs is expected to have near term and multiple benefits for human well-being;

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts by states, organizations, and partnerships to address SLCPs and related public health issues;

Recognizing that these efforts will benefit from the active involvement of the private sector, environmental groups, civil society, and intergovernmental organizations;

Committed to control and to reduce SLCPs, including in their own countries;

Appreciating the unique capabilities of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);

Recognizing the central importance of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, including through national action and multilateral cooperation under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in order to address climate change effectively;

Set forth the following Framework for the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (“the Framework”).

I. Purpose

The Coalition is a voluntary international framework for concrete and substantial action to accelerate efforts to reduce SLCPs, with an initial focus on methane, black carbon, and many hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), in ways that protect the environment and public health, promote food and energy security, and address near term climate change.

II. Functions

The Coalition intends to enhance global, regional, and national public and private efforts to reduce SLCPs by:

- A. raising awareness of SLCPs and their impacts;
- B. enhancing existing and developing new national actions to reduce SLCPs;
- C. encouraging existing and new regional actions and promoting opportunities for greater international coordination;
- D. reinforcing and tracking existing efforts to reduce SLCPs and developing and improving inventories;

- E. identifying barriers to action and seeking to surmount them;
- F. promoting best practices or available technologies and showcasing successful efforts to address SLCPs;
- G. improving understanding of and reviewing scientific progress on SLCPs, their impacts, and the benefits of mitigation, and disseminating knowledge; and
- H. mobilizing targeted support for those developing countries that require resources to develop their capacity and to implement actions consistent with national strategies to support sustainable development.

Each Partner is expected to undertake activities under this Framework in accordance with the laws, regulations, and policies under which it operates and applicable international instruments.

III. Participation

- A. Any member State of the United Nations or regional economic integration organization (REIO) may join the Coalition as a Partner (“State and REIO Partners”), subject to the conditions in paragraph C and the consensus approval of the State and REIO Partners, “including through the procedures specified in Section IV.C.4.
- B. A non-governmental organization, a private sector entity, an intergovernmental entity or initiative, or a regional or international organization (or subsidiary thereof) may join the Coalition as a Partner, subject to the conditions in paragraph C and the consensus approval of the State and REIO Partners, including through the procedures specified in Section IV.C.4.
- C. A State or other stakeholder may join the Coalition under paragraph A or B, respectively, if it:
 - a. endorses this Framework;
 - b. endorses meaningful action to address SLCPs consistent with the Framework; and
 - c. identifies particular areas of interest related to SLCPs and any specific actions taken or planned to address near term climate change.
- D. UNEP is to participate in the Coalition as a Partner and to perform the functions described in section IV.F. UNEP will also contribute to the Coalition through its ongoing assessment efforts regarding SLCPs.
- E. Participation in the Coalition is voluntary, and each Partner individually determines the nature of its participation.
- F. This Framework does not create any legally binding obligations between or among its Partners.

IV. Organization

A. Assembly

An Assembly, consisting of a high-level meeting of the Partners, is to be convened in accordance with section VI.

B. Working Group

- a. A Working Group comprising all Partners is to oversee the cooperative activities of the Coalition.
- b. Two Co-Chairs of the Working Group are to be State and REIO Partners elected by decision of the Coalition for staggered terms of two years.
- c. The Working Group is expected to meet at least two times each year.

- d. The Working Group should evaluate the functioning, roles, authorities and responsibilities of the Steering Committee on an annual basis.

C. Steering Committee

1. A Steering Committee is established consisting of the following:
 - a. the two Co-Chairs of the Working Group, who are to serve as the Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee; and
 - b. four state and REIO Partners elected by decision of the Coalition to staggered two-year terms and two non-voting representatives elected to staggered two-year terms, one from an international organization (or subsidiary thereof) elected by decision of the international organization Partners in the Coalition and one from a non-governmental organization (or subsidiary thereof) elected by decision of the non-governmental organization Partners in the Coalition.
2. The Secretariat of the Coalition serves as the Secretariat of the Steering Committee and participates in all Steering Committee meetings in that capacity.
3. The Steering Committee is to:
 - a. provide regular oversight of Coalition activities and initiatives;
 - b. make recommendations to the Working Group regarding workplans, budgets, and proposals, including funding, prepared by the Secretariat or by Coalition Partners; new Coalition initiatives or substantial changes to existing initiatives; and other matters as appropriate;
 - c. assist together with all Partners and the Head of the Secretariat in securing Coalition funding, including contributions to the Trust Fund; and
 - d. provide reports of its activities to all Coalition Partners following its meetings.
4. The Steering Committee is to have authority regarding the following actions, but only if the Working Group is notified fourteen days in advance and none of the state and REIO Partners object:
 - a. applications to join the Coalition as a Partner;
 - b. requests for advice to the Scientific Advisory Panel;
 - c. the use of funding for making operational decisions of the Working Group and High Level Assembly consistent with UN regulations, rules and procedures applicable to UNEP, any other rules and regulations established by the decision of the Coalition that are not inconsistent with such regulations, rules and procedures and the terms of any relevant donor agreement and in consultation with Lead Partners of initiatives; and
 - d. other matters as decided by the Coalition.
5. Coalition Partners should be notified of Steering Committee meetings expected to consider funding decisions at least fourteen days in advance. The Steering Committee should invite Coalition Partners actively engaged in initiatives and other matters under discussion to participate.

D. Scientific Advisory Panel

1. A Scientific Advisory Panel is to be formed to provide advice as requested by decision of the Coalition on scientific matters related to SLCPs and near term climate change, including reviews of: (a) emerging science in the field, (b) assessments of the impacts on climate, health, agriculture, and ecosystems, and (c) evaluations of the costs and benefits of various mitigation options.

2. The Scientific Advisory Panel is to be comprised of up to ten experts in diverse fields related to SLCPs who are selected by decision of the Coalition to serve for terms of two years.
3. Additional scientific experts may be selected by decision of the Coalition to participate in discrete activities of the Coalition.

E. Other Sub-Groups

Other sub-groups, including committees, sub-committees, and task forces, may be established by decision of the Coalition.

F. Secretariat

1. UNEP is to serve as a Secretariat for the Coalition and to perform other functions as decided by the Coalition, including:
 - a. arranging special activities, such as teleconferences and workshops;
 - b. organizing and supporting Coalition meetings, including managing communications and outreach through a website, press releases, and other outlets;
 - c. serving as a clearinghouse of information regarding the Coalition;
 - d. implementing programs and other activities approved by decision of the Coalition;
 - e. preparing, in consultation with the Partners, an annual budget for Coalition activities for approval by decision of the Coalition;
 - f. preparing, in consultation with the Partners, an annual workplan for Coalition activities for approval by decision of the Coalition;
 - g. managing the trust fund established pursuant to section V and any other resources made available for Coalition activities; and
 - h. performing such other tasks as decided by the Coalition in consultation with UNEP.
2. Each Partner should designate a focal point to serve as its principal point of contact.
3. UNEP may, as required, use the services of personnel employed by Partners and made available on a voluntary basis to the Coalition in accordance with applicable rules and regulations of the United Nations. Unless otherwise decided by the Coalition, such personnel are to be remunerated by their respective employers and remain subject to their employers' conditions of employment.

G. Decisions

1. All decisions of the Coalition, including those regarding the entry of new Partners, elections, budgets, sub-groups, meetings, and activities of the Coalition, are to be made by consensus of the State and REIO Partners.
2. All decisions of committees or other sub-groups of the Coalition are to be made by consensus of the State and REIO Partners that serve on the relevant committee or other sub-group.

V. Finances

- A. Each Partner may, at its discretion, contribute funds, personnel, and other resources to the Coalition subject to the laws, regulations, and policies of the Partner.
- B. Any costs directly incurred by a Partner arising from the activities contemplated in this Framework are to be borne by the Partner that incurs them, unless other arrangements are decided by the Coalition.
- C. Funds contributed to support Coalition activities may be held in a Trust Fund ("the Trust Fund") established for that purpose and managed by UNEP in accordance with United Nations rules and

regulations and any other rules and regulations established by the decision of the Coalition as appropriate.

- D. Funds in the Trust Fund may be used to pay only those costs decided by the Coalition for:
 - 1. the Secretariat and administrative support for meetings and activities of the Coalition and its sub-groups described in section IV.E; and
 - 2. programs decided by the Coalition.

VI. Meetings

- A. An Assembly of the Partners is expected to meet at least once per year as decided by the Coalition.
- B. Assembly meetings are to be open to Partners and any other stakeholders approved by decision of the Coalition.
- C. The Coalition may decide to convene an executive session of the Assembly comprised of the State and REIO Partners. The Coalition may decide to request the attendance of other Partners or stakeholders during all or part of such executive sessions.
- D. Rules of procedure for the conduct of Coalition meetings and other business may be approved by decision of the Coalition.

VII. Modifications

- A. This document may be modified at any time by decision of the Coalition
- B. Modifications decided on by the Working Group shall apply on a provisional basis, subject to definitive endorsement by the High Level Assembly at its next meeting.

In accordance with Section III. C., any State or other stakeholder willing to join the Coalition as a Partner shall endorse the latest version of this Framework as endorsed by the High Level Assembly and provided by the Secretariat.

VIII. Duration

- A. Cooperation under this Framework commences on February 16, 2012, and ceases on February 16, 2017, unless extended by decision of the Coalition.
- B. A Partner should endeavor to provide to the Secretariat of the Coalition ninety days prior written notice of its intent to discontinue its participation in the Coalition.