

# Clean Air globally Session

Afternoon session

# Questions:

- What is your perspective on how to broaden the geographic scope of addressing air pollution including global ozone and particulate matter?
- Are regional agreements feasible as a path forward? Or should we bring together several different regional agreements?
- Should we think about a broader international agreement? Or a smaller coalition of countries/organizations?
- How should we communicate and collaborate on common issues?
- Would a platform possibly piloted by a task force or expert group under an appropriate organization be helpful in facilitating cooperation to address common goals and interests?

# REGIONAL FORA: do we know them all?

## Regional Fora & Agreements

- Regional Environment and Health Forums (UN Environment & World Health Organisation)
- Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP)
- MEAs (in particular BRS and Minamata)
- Acid Deposition Monitoring Network of East Asia (EANET)
- Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership (APCAP)
- African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)
- LAC Ministerial meeting, declaration & regional network

## Asia example

- Key platforms to discuss implementation of UN Environment Assembly Resolutions (also acts as regional knowledge sharing platforms)
  - Asia Pacific Ministerial Summit on the Environment
  - **Focus on air quality:** Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership Joint Forum
  - **Focus on health:** Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment
- Reporting back to the global UN Environment Assembly

# The Regional Inter-governmental Network on Atmospheric Pollution for Latin America and the Caribbean

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What is it?

- Created by mandate of the Forum of Ministers of the region in 2008. UN Environment serving as Secretariat to the group
- Air Quality decision makers from the Ministries of Environment of the 33 countries of the region.
- The only voluntary regional effort on air quality
- The only official communication channel for regional cooperation on air quality
- The networks made explicit recognition on the interlinks on climate change, air quality and health

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What for?  
(objectives)

- Promote the technical exchange of research and information on air quality management and strengthen capacities;
- Harmonize national air quality management legislation, standards, monitoring methods, and data management procedures;
- Assessing and proposing policy options for reducing air pollution; and
- Supporting the development and implementation of a regional action plan with the objective of reducing air pollution in the region.

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Strong focus on synergies among CC, AQ and health

Regional cooperation should allow a maximization of resources, synergies and shared benefits for addressing air quality and SLCPs issues simultaneously, as well as their impacts on health, society and environment

# The Regional Inter-governmental Network on Atmospheric Pollution for Latin America and the Caribbean

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## Sectors of interest

- Transport sector
- Brick and pottery production
- Biomass use for cooking and heating
- Power plants and industrial facilities
- Oil and gas activities
- Solid waste management
- Wastewater management
- Agriculture, forestry and livestock

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## Main needs

- **Air monitoring systems in place**
  - ✓ Only a few cities are measuring air quality in the region due to the expensive costs of the equipment available in the market.
  - ✓ Strong interest in the UNEP low cost devices for air monitoring. Nevertheless more clarity is needed on the functionality of these devices.

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## Clear Goals (aligned to WHO standards)

- Goal 1: 100 % of countries in the region have adopted national standards for air quality aligned to the WHO guidelines, and / or harmonization processes.
- Goal 2: 75% of countries which still do not have in place monitoring systems, have at least one city where air quality evaluations are performed.
- Goal 3: 50 % of countries in the region have national action plans for air quality and emissions inventory priority pollutants.

- Gap analysis and need assessment are important pre-requisites as first step in this process
- Based on results, strengthen regional for a and/or networks or set-up new ones with a clear purpose
- Mechanisms under the Air Convention and within the framework of the UNEA3 resolution
- Voluntary efforts and commitments at regional and global level
- Communication is key: build the case for added value of collaboration