



General Assembly

Weekly Session

8 March 2017

CODE: GA/WP/1

COMMITTEE: General Assembly

TITLE: Air Pollution

SIGNATORIES: Argentina, Brazil, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam

The General Assembly,

Alarmed by ...,

TO DO:

- **International monitoring body? China**

- **Industry emissions, industry emission standards**

- **short term measures (regulation, supervision)**

- **transboundary pollution**

- **knowledge exchange via WHO**

1. *Encourages* countries to create incentives for the removal of and phasing out of old motor vehicles from the roads, such as
 - a. stringent emissions standards for sulphur content in diesel fuel,
 - b. adaptation and enforcement of the latest EURO standards for diesel cars,
 - c. stricter standards for motor vehicles fuel in general;

- d. creation of Early Turnover Schemes for old and unsustainable vehicles;
 - e. introduction of schemes that limit the amount of cars circulating similar to schemes existing in France;
 - f. financial incentives to buy an electric car;
2. *Affirms* the importance of public transport as more energy-efficient and low-emission alternative to private car ownership and usage, and *promotes*
- a. shifting to low-emission vehicles to every member states' abilities for all national, regional and local public transport networks,
 - b. giving subsidies and/or preference to transport projects that fulfill minimum requirements for ecological sustainability and pollution minimization,
 - c. extending the public transport network with low-emission routes and that connect rural and urban areas, especially between those where there is heavy traffic of goods, migration and commuting;
3. *Recognizes* the enormous potential of cities to drive the efforts to combat air pollution as they are hubs of innovation and can serve as policy labs;
4. *Emphasizes* that green technology and green infrastructure should be pillars of urban planning, to which the following measures can be counted
- a. designation of green areas in cities which should feature a large percentage of greenery,
 - b. encouragement of greening façades of existing buildings and buildings in construction and planning stages,
 - c. creation of bicycle lanes and pedestrian-only zones in cities,
 - d. introduction and issuing of a green certificate for buildings fulfilling minimum

requirements set by the responsible local or national authorities, to be decided upon by member states;

5. *Endorses* tax incentives for clean energy, clean technology and clean infrastructure appropriate to a country's economic situation such as
 - a. property tax breaks for buildings that possess a green certificate or fulfill minimum requirements set by the government,
 - b. a petroleum tax on high-emissions petrol;
 - c. implementing CO2 fees proportionally on CO2 emission vehicles
6. *Recommends* serious and continuous efforts by all member states and relevant governmental bodies to strengthen air pollution monitoring capacities and do research on the impact of air pollution;
7. *Condemns* deforestation as detrimental to air health and suggests
 - a. establishing protected areas which limit the possibility to use land for economic activities with a special emphasis on
 - i) indigenous reservations, as they are less likely to be in favor of deforestation,
 - ii) grasslands which tend to be overlooked as valuable volatile carbon stocks in non-forested areas,
 - b. formulating strategies through which protected areas can be monitored such as
 - i) satellite monitoring by appropriate government agencies,
 - ii) involvement of NGOs dedicated to conservation of natural habitats

