



IUAPPA Newsletter

The International Union of Air Pollution Prevention
and Environmental Protection Associations

September 2008

The 2008 IUAPPA Regional Conference: Air Quality and Climate on the Edge of the African Bushveld

The programme is set, the speakers are ready and the delegates are arriving. The 2008 IUAPPA regional conference promises to be informative, ground-breaking and fun.

Co-sponsored by the National Association of Clean Air in South Africa, IUAPPA and the South African Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, this year's conference will focus on air quality management and climate co-benefits with an international and African flavour. The theme is "Where did all the clean air go?" and the sessions will cover air quality management, urban air quality, climate change, modeling and modeling, and industrial air pollution.

The conference will feature two IUAPPA special sessions. 'Transport: Challenges and solutions for Africa' will include a range

of African and international speakers, including J.J. Cumbane from Edwardo Mondlane University, Mozambique; William Vincent, co-founder of the Clean Air Institute, Washington D.C.; Cornie Huizenga, CAI-Asian Cities, Shanghai; David Oliver, city planner from Cape Town; Anton Moldan, South African Petroleum Industry Association; and Asteria Mlambo, Head of Transportation Unit, Dar es Salaam.

The second IUAPPA session is a plenary session on the final day, which will bring together several representatives from the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum along with Prof. Stuart Piketh of the University of the Witwatersrand to discuss air pollution and climate change co-benefits in Africa.

The session will follow up the Global Forum's September 2008 conference on co-benefits held in Stockholm, Sweden.

Global Forum Stockholm Conference

Calls for Climate Protections through Immediate Reductions in Air Pollutants

On 17-19 September, the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum held a conference in Stockholm, Sweden, examining potential synergies and tradeoffs between air pollution and climate policies. The conference brought together 120 scientists, government representatives, and other experts from 35 countries, including representatives of the IUAPPA Board and member organizations. Part of the Global Forum's co-benefits programme, the conference highlighted the latest scientific findings, with a developing world focus. The conference conclusions included:

- Current science emphasizes the urgent need to address air pollution and climate change in an integrated way.
- Recent studies indicate that 20 to 80% of the warming of the greenhouse gases (GHG) is being masked by 'cooling aerosols' which reflect sunlight, and result from air pollution emissions.
- Reductions in methane, black carbon and ozone can have immediate positive climate benefits.
- Current development policies for many developing countries focus on improving air quality and the health of its citizens. These efforts should accommodate the control of GHG emissions as an integrated co-benefits approach can achieve win-win solutions.
- A range of analyses around the world highlight that GHG mitigation costs are lower due to cost savings on air pollution control, and benefits of GHG mitigation are higher due to reduced air pollution impacts.

The results will be presented at the IUAPPA regional conference, as well as at the upcoming EFCA meeting in Strasbourg. Outcomes will be used to develop recommendations to international fora, including the COP-14 in Poznan, Poland. The conference papers and presentations are available at www.gapforum.org.



Photo: NACA

INTERVIEW WITH JEAN-MARIE RAMBAUD, APPA ON EFCA SYMPOSIUM ENTITLED 'HOW TO FIGHT AIR POLLUTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER'

6-7 November, Strasbourg, France

Question: *Why did you choose this theme for the symposium?*

J-MR: This initiative results from in-depth strategic discussions about the role EFCA should and can play to provide a neutral platform to encourage progress in European atmospheric pollution policies. The added value of such a network consists notably in identifying emerging questions that are not yet sufficiently addressed by current policies, and assisting in their discussion with concerned parties.

The need for a stronger integration of air pollution and climate change policies emerged from our internal strategic discussion at EFCA as a very important challenge: to target co-benefits, avoid trade-offs and implement cost-effective solutions. Despite the growing scientific evidence and the development of new tools to address both questions, the present structural and regulatory framework cannot yet take fully into account the synergetic and antagonistic effects of current actions so as to ensure optimised policy development.

Question: *Is the European level relevant to approach this question?*

J-MR: This integration of both policies is relevant at all levels, from local to global, considering that emission sources are essentially the same. So it is crucial to include the harmonisation mechanisms in Europe. But institutional frameworks do not presently allow a fully integrated approach at the European level, or at the national level. The two challenges have effectively been addressed at different times and scales. Air pollution has been addressed at the national levels as early as in the sixties, and since the eighties more and more at the European level. Climate change appeared as a major stake more recently, and has been addressed from the beginning at the global

level. The scientific communities studying these questions and the analytic tools still do not mix very well.

With air pollution strategies and regulations being worked on at the European level, it is crucial that their interactions with climate change be integrated at this level.

And this initiative in Europe is in fact part of a wider project of the IUAPPA to foster the integration of both policies at regional, hemispheric and global levels, notably by transferring methods and building capacity in developing countries, in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

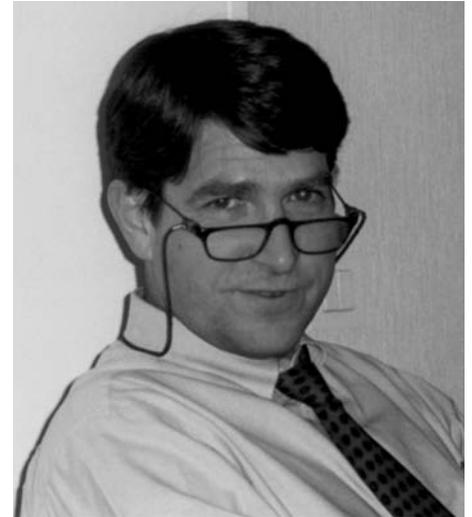
Question: *The program is very ambitious with many interesting sessions. Is there one that you would choose to highlight?*

J-MR: I think I would opt for the session on the central role of energy policies. Because it is the key factor of structural co-benefits, and because it is somehow the weak link in the chain of EC common policies. We wish that this session could also help confronting the views and suggestions of different stakeholders.

But the previous session, stressing some examples of discussed policies, such as wood burning, bio-fuels or Euro regulations is a natural foreword to this session on energy.

The session on experiences and plans to jointly address both challenges at national and local levels is also important. It will reflect some forms of "spontaneous initiatives" and compare and contrast what works and does not in practical policy implementation.

Question: *By the way, this will be the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the APPA. Is this symposium representative of what APPA is today?*



J-MR: Certainly, and networks like EFCA do reflect common evolutions in the role scientific associations like ours can play in working for a healthier environment. The Clean Air Associations in Europe were set up, originally, to develop the measurement and analysis of atmospheric pollutions, at a time when governmental structures and public regulations were still at an embryonic stage. Many monitoring, research and management organizations have since been created, under governmental regime and finances. Our NGOs cannot compete with these structures in either expertise or means. But we still can act as an interface, between compartmentalized disciplines and organizations, stakeholders that have few occasions to discuss on a neutral ground, and between science and policy, as well. The multidisciplinary, non-political and non-profit profile of the EFCA associations, their scientific background and their long experience enables them to help identify emerging themes and to make progress in the quest for a better environment.

The success of this symposium is our deepest desire, and I expect it will be a bright occasion to celebrate our 50th anniversary.

