

Saudi Intervention on Air Pollution

Saudi Arabia would like to align itself with the statement made by the Distinguish Delegate of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and would like to share with you some the policies which contribute to the air pollution deduction and improve air and atmospheric quality:

In Saudi Arabia, dust plays a primary role in causing air pollution in a country of more than 90% desert. However, in order to combat human-induced air pollution, we converted to lead-free gasoline and now we executing a program to reduce sulfur in fuels by 95%. In addition, further policy measures have been taken including: stricter application of existing air emission standards and widening their scope to govern all polluting activities; strengthening the enforcement of environmental codes and standards and making them more effective; improving vehicle inspection for harmful emissions lead to further improvement in air quality.

Mr. Chairman

Achieving acceptable levels of pollutant concentration that result from fuel combustion by different sectors, i.e. transportation, power generation, desalination of seawater and industrial factories, requires the control of pollutant concentrations and emissions. This is in addition to the adoption of the highest quality standards and periodical inspection of motor vehicles to ensure the reduction of gas emissions and pollutants particles. In this regard, it is essential to reduce the levels of sulfur and lead in diesel and gasoline fuels and other oil products consumed in the local market. It is equally important to supply and encourage the use of (non polluting) public transportation within cities to control the rapid rise in private transportation

Mr. Chairman

My country committed to keep abreast of the latest techniques and equipment that controls and reduces the emission of air polluting gases resulting from the industrial facilities, transportation and power plants.

We also believe that in addition to transport and industry, there are many other factors leading to outdoor air pollution, mainly, land degradation, deforestation, natural disasters and agricultural activities.

We believe that at the domestic level, indoor air pollution, mainly a poverty related issue, is due to the continued use of biomass for cooking and heating.

Saudi Arabia would like to reiterate our support for the partnership for clean fuels and vehicles. We feel this will lead to cleaner air in metropolitan areas, especially in developing countries. Furthermore, technology transfer will be essential to achieve these improvements.