



National STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 14 December 2004

Jointly organized by - SACEP, SEI, UNEP/RRC.AP and Pak-EPA, MoE

Air pollution is an emerging environmental issue in Asia as it is in other parts of the world. In particular, emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides have been rising steadily over the past few decades. In addition, rapid growth of cities, together with associated expansion of industry and transport systems, has made the Asian region increasingly concerned with these emissions.

To cope with the issue of transboundary air pollution in South Asia, the “*Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia*” was discussed and adopted by Ministers of the Environment at the seventh meeting of the Governing Council of South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP) in Malé, Republic of Maldives.

The declaration an agreement to achieve intergovernmental cooperation to address the increasing threat of transboundary air pollution and consequential impacts due to concentrations of pollutant gases and acid deposition on human health, ecosystem function and corrosion of materials. Besides laying down the general principles of intergovernmental cooperation for air pollution abatement, the Declaration sets up an institutional framework linking scientific research and policy formulation. Malé Declaration also makes provision for the cooperation among the key stakeholders in tackling the transboundary air pollution in South Asia.

The main aims of the stakeholders forum are:

- Increase the awareness on the transboundary air pollution;
- Share and receive the stakeholders views and ideas on the implementation of Malé Declaration;
- Improve the information exchange between information generators and users.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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| 09:30 | Guests take their seats |
| 09:40 | Recitation from the Holy Quraan |
| 09:45 | Opening Statements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Asif S. Khan, Director General, Pak-EPA,• Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Regional Director, UNEP,• Mr. Javed Hasan Aly, Secretary, Ministry of Environment |
| 10:10 | Coffee/Tea Break |
| 10:30 | Malé Declaration and its implementation by Mr. Iyngararasan, UNEP RRC.AP |
| 11:00 | Implementation of Malé Declaration in Pakistan |
| 11:30 | Status of Air Pollution in Pakistan |
| 12:00 | Existing initiatives in tackling air pollution in Pakistan |
| 12:30 | Impact of Air Pollution on Health in Pakistan |
| 13:00 | Lunch & Break for prayer |
| 14:00 | Impact of Air Pollution on crop in Pakistan |
| 14:30 | Prevention aspects of air pollution |
| 15:00 | Discussions and recommendations for the further implementation of Malé Declaration |
| 16:00 | Closer of forum |

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