

**Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely  
Transboundary Effects for South Asia  
NETWORK MEETING 2005**

**INAUGURAL SESSION**

**11 October 2005**

*Jointly organized by – CPCB, MoEF, SACEP, SEI, UNEP*

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 in April 1997.

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.

During Phase I of the Malé Declaration implementation programme, 1998-2000, a network was established, baseline studies were completed and action plans drawn up. Consequently, a capacity building programme was initiated in Phase II of the implementation programme, 2001-2004, which included strengthening the monitoring network and training. Capacity building activities initiated during Phase II have made significant impact at the national and regional level. Phase III, continuation of capacity building activities; impacts assessment; and information for policy making, is scheduled to be implemented during November 2005 – August 2008.

The main aims of the network meeting 2005 are:

- ☞ to review the progress and data report
- ☞ to discuss the Phase III implementation with the focus on
  - (i) continuation of the capacity building activities;
  - (ii) initiation of impact assessment studies; and
  - (iii) information for policy making.

**Program Schedule**

- 09.20 Hrs Guests take their seats
- 09.30 Hrs Welcome Address by **Dr.B.Sengupta**, Member Secretary Central Pollution Control Board
- 09.45 Hrs Address by **Surendra Shrestha**, Regional Director, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
- 10:00 Hrs Address by **Arvind Anil Boaz**, Director General, South Asia Cooperative Environment Program (SACEP)
- 10:15 Hrs Address by **Johan Kuylenstierna**, Director, Stockholm Environment Institute at York.
- 10.30Hrs Address by **Dr. V. Rajagopalan**, Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board
- 10.45 Hrs Inaugural speech by the Chief Guest **Shri Namo Narain Meena**, Hon’ble Minister of State for Environment and Forest
- 10.45-11.30 Hrs Coffee/Tea Break





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Annual Network Meeting 2005

13 October 2005  
New Delhi, India

## Agenda

### 13 October 2004 – Tuesday

- 9:30- 9:45 Hrs Introduction and meeting aims (R. Rajamani, Facilitator)
- 9:45- 10:45 Hrs Progress in the implementation of Malé Declaration and plan for Phase III by UNEP RRC.AP and SEI
- Tea break
- 11:00Hrs Presentation of implementation of monitoring and plan for phase III at the national level (20 min). Each presentation will be followed by a short discussion (10 min).
- 11.00 Hrs Bangladesh
- 11:30 Hrs Bhutan
- 12:00 Hrs India
- 12.30- 14:00 Hrs. Lunch**
- 14:00 Hrs Iran
- 14:30 Hrs Maldives
- 15:00-15:15 Hrs Coffee/Tea Break**
- 15:15 Hrs Nepal
- 15:45 Hrs Pakistan
- 16:15 Hrs Sri Lanka
- 16.45 Hrs Presentation and facilitated discussion on the data report 2005
- 17:15 Hrs Discussions to update the technical manuals developed for monitoring transboundary air pollution under the Malé Declaration
- 17:45 Hrs Comments and suggestions from SACEP
- 17:50 Hrs Comments and suggestions from SEI
- 17:55 Hrs Comments and suggestions from UNEP
- 18:00 Hrs Summing up by regional facilitator (Rajamani)