

**Report on National Stakeholder Workshop for Bhutan
Malé Declaration Project
National Environment Commission
Thimphu, Bhutan
28 April 2008**

The National Stakeholder Workshop under the Malé Declaration Project was organised by the National Environment Commission as the National Focal Agency and Implementing Agency in Bhutan. The workshop was organised at the Royal Institute of Management, Semtokha in Thimphu Bhutan.

The meeting was attended by 31 participants representing various stakeholder groups related to air quality in Bhutan. The list of participants is included in Annex I of this report. Annex II contains the Agenda of the workshop.

Opening Session

The meeting was opened with statements from the Mr. Sonam Yangle, Director, National Environment Commission and Mr. Ingarra, UNEP. Ms. Jigme Zangmo, NEC delivered a vote of thanks to the Director, Mr. Ingararasan and the participants.

Session I: Regional Activities and Malé Declaration

Mr. Ingararasan UNEP, presented Activities under the Malé Declaration with regard to air pollution and the regional arrangements for action regarding air pollution in the region. He also presented an overview of the status of monitoring in each country and also introduced salient features of proposed Phase IV of the Male Declaration project.

Mr. Nedup, Private Consultant, who was the erstwhile project manager for the Male Declaration Project at NEC made a presentation on activities in Bhutan with regards to Male Declartion since 1992. He also touched on the institutional arrangements within Bhutan for the project.

Mr. Ingararasan UNEP, made a presentation on the Atmospheric Brown Cloud and how it relates to global and regional air pollution issues.

Mr. Harry Vallack, Stockholm Environment Institute, made a presentation on Emissions Inventories under the Malé Declaration covering the gasses covered, the methodology and a quick overview of the workbook.

A discussion session followed the two presentations where participants sought clarification on certain aspects such as links with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the crop impact studies, and data sharing, and opportunities for capacity building to enforce air pollution regulations.

Session II: National Activities related to Air Pollution

Mr. Thinley Namgyel made a presentation on activities conducted by the NEC with regards to air quality studies and management issues and policies in Bhutan. He also presented the recently adopted standards for ambient air quality, industrial emissions and noise and workplace emissions in Bhutan.

Mr. Karma Pemba, Road Safety and Transport Authority presented on the program of vehicle emissions monitoring, and standards in Bhutan.

Ms. Anjana Giri, GEF Small Grants program, UNDP Bhutan made a presentation on improved cooking stoves in institutions,

A discussion session followed where participants discussed the types of vehicles to be covered for monitoring including armed forces, the growth of vehicle numbers, the need for better mass transportation,

Discussion on information sharing & networking for air pollution monitoring in Bhutan”

Under this session participants made few suggestions on information sharing and networking.

1. The role of NIA and NFP needs to be clear. Suggestion to use the hydro-meteorology agencies in this project was also made. At this stage, only one station is used for the project in Gelephug, Bhur station.
2. The RSTA also highlighted the need for a unified software for collecting data on emissions testing. As the software is not compatible among the private agencies collecting data and the data compiling agency. Some assistance was requested from UNEP to help with this so data could be easier to collect and share.
3. The Thimphu City Corporation suggested a monitoring of methane emissions and other gases from the landfill sites, as the landfill for Thimphu has outgrown its capacity and there is a lot of emissions from self combustion of gases as well as other non visible gases.
4. There was also a question of if there is a component on increased awareness of air pollution issues in Phase IV.

~ AGENDA ~
**National Stakeholder Workshop for Bhutan under the
Malé Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Likely
Effects for South Asia
April 28, 2008
Royal Institute of Management, Thimphu, Bhutan**

Time	Item	Person
	OPENING SESSIONS	
9:00 a.m.	Registration	
9:30 a.m.	Welcome Address	Mr. Sonam Yangley, Director NEC
9:45 a.m.	Address by UNEP	Mr. Mylvakanam Iyngararasan, UNEP
10:00 a.m.	Vote of Thanks	Ms. Jigme Zangmo.
10:00-10:30 a.m.	Tea break	
	SESSION I: Regional Activities	Moderated by Director, NEC
10:30 a.m.	Activities under Malé Declaration	Mr. Mylvakanam Iyngararasan UNEP
10:50 a.m.	Activities in Bhutan under Malé Declaration	Mr. Nedup Tshering, Former Project Manager, Malé Declaration Project.
11:10 a.m.	Discussions	
11:40 a.m.	Atmospheric Brown Cloud	Mr. Mylvakanam Iyngararasan, UNEP
12:00 p.m.	Emissions Inventory under Malé Declaration	Mr. Harry Vallack, Stockholm Environment Institute
12:20 p.m.	Discussions	
1:00-2:00 p.m.	LUNCH	
	SESSION II: National Activities	Moderated by Iyngarra
2:00 p.m.	Air Quality Management in Bhutan	Mr. Thinley Namgyel NEC
2:20 p.m.	Vehicle emissions standards and monitoring in Bhutan	Mr. Karma Pemba, Road Safety and Transport Authority
2:40 p.m.	Improved cooking stoves in institutions	Ms. Anjana Giri, GEF Small Grants program, UNDP Bhutan
3:00-3:30 p.m.	Discussions	
3:30-4:00 p.m.	Tea Break	
4:00 p.m.	Discussion on information sharing & networking for air pollution monitoring in Bhutan.	
4:30 pm	Wrap up	Mr. Thinley Namgyel, NEC