



RESOLUTION ON WORLDWIDE ACTION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTION

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The IUAPPA

Recognising that

Air pollution continues to impose significant damage to the environment, public health and materials, resulting in considerable human, social and economic loss to individuals and society worldwide;

Damage associated with air pollution undermines prospects for sustainable development;

Emission reductions achieved in one part of the world may be partly offset by increases elsewhere;

Air pollution, travelling globally across national borders, must therefore be addressed in an integrated way at local, regional and global level;

Action on acidification, eutrophication, and tropospheric ozone formation has important inter-linkages with other global issues, such as programmes on climate change and persistent organic pollutants;

Noting that

Science is now in place to address air pollution on a global level;

Regional co-operation within the framework of the 1979 UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution has been successful in curbing emission of air pollutants in Europe and North America;

Further intergovernmental co-operation in worldwide integrated assessment of air pollution and abatement options, which recognises the need for cost-effective solutions and international burden-sharing, could yield significant benefits to all parties;

And that the uneven distribution of resources and capabilities in the world impairs the prospects for quick progress on emission inventories, effect studies, technology applications and associated policy development;

Calls upon

All Member States to give the issue high priority and, in particular, to support the further development of international co-operation on regional scientific and political mechanisms;

Invites

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), drawing on its global experience, to establish, with the assistance of other relevant bodies, an effective international co-ordinating framework to promote relevant science and technology, encourage regional collaboration on transboundary air pollution and to elaborate necessary burden-sharing mechanisms, including integrated assessment modelling;

Resolves, in the meantime, to

Promote co-operation among relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in support of establishing such a body;

Develop a programme for public and political awareness-raising, aiming at facilitating worldwide policy action to reduce emission of air pollutants and their resulting negative impact on the environment and human health; and

Assist in promotion, co-ordination and capacity-building for the development of a more effective global framework to address air pollution.