FIRST WHO GLOBAL CONFERENCE
ON AIR POLLUTION AND HEALTH

IMPROVING AIR QUALITY, COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE – SAVING LIVES

Organized in collaboration with UN Environment, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), the secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the World Bank

30 October – 1 November 2018
WHO headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

Provisional programme
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FIRST GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON AIR POLLUTION AND HEALTH: Improving Air Quality, Combatting Climate Change – Saving Lives

Provisional programme

Day 1  Tuesday 30 October

09.00–09.30  Opening plenary session
Welcome message by the moderator, Fiona Godlee, Editor in Chief, British Medical Journal
Opening remarks by:
Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization
Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization
Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Europe
Christiana Figueres, Convenor, Mission 2020
HRH Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol of Thailand

09.30–11.00  Plenary session I – The scientific evidence on air pollution and health
Air pollution is one of the main avoidable risks threatening human health today. The session will present scientific evidence on ambient and household air pollution and health, as well as the connection to climate change.

BreatheLife video: World Health Organization, Climate and Clean Air Coalition, UN Environment

Introduction:
Why a global conference on air pollution and health?
Maria Neira, World Health Organization

Presentations:
• Air pollution – one of the world’s top killers: the scientific evidence
  Annette Peters, German Research Center for Environmental Health, Germany
• Health effects of Climate Change and Air Pollution: A unifying scientific and policy framework
  Veerabhadran Ramanathan, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California and Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) Scientific Advisory Panel
• Dangerous smoke in and around the home
  Kirk Smith, University of California, USA
• Intervention from a policy perspective
  Teresa Ribera, Minister of Ecological Transition, Spain

Q&A, discussion

11.00–11.30  Coffee break

11.30–13.00  Plenary session II – Air quality and health effects: WHO resources and support
This session provides an overview of WHO’s work on air pollution, climate change and health, including evidence, data, tools, training and initiatives, and guidelines for air quality.

Introduction:
Maria Neira, World Health Organization

Presentations, WHO:
• Update on the Ambient Air Quality Guidelines by the WHO Regional Office for Europe
• Ambient air pollution – global exposure, burden of disease and health impact assessments
• Household air pollution – sources, health effects, guidelines for indoor air quality
• Urban air quality – The Urban Health Initiative
• Climate change and air pollution
**Day 1 Tuesday 30 October (continued)**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>13.00–14.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30–14.30</td>
<td><strong>Side event – global launch of the Science-based solutions report on air pollution in the Asia-Pacific by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and UN Environment Programme</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Solutions report by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and UN Environment Programme is the first comprehensive, solution-oriented interdisciplinary scientific assessment of the air pollution outlook in Asia. The report identifies a detailed portfolio of the top 25 clean air measures for Asia that contribute to the achievement of WHO’s Air Quality Guidelines and the Sustainable Development Goals while delivering the greatest benefits for human health, crop yields, climate and the environment, as well as socioeconomic development.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30–14.30</td>
<td><strong>Side event – Household air pollution beyond fuel combustion: intersectoral actions</strong>&lt;br&gt;This side event will present key approaches to effectively address major household air pollutants beyond particulate matter. Discussion will cover a broad range of interventions spanning from realizing (multi-)national directives and action plans to household level interventions such as indoor environment counselling prescribed by a general practitioner. The session will highlight the multifaceted opportunities for policy-makers and health professionals to improve household air quality, while emphasizing the need for intersectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration.</td>
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<td>13.30–14.30</td>
<td><strong>Side event – Regional perspective: energy access for health in sub-Saharan Africa</strong>&lt;br&gt;One key area of connection between energy and health in sub-Saharan Africa is the lack of access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, heating and lighting, which has negative effects on the health of three billion people globally. Household air pollution produced by polluting fuels and technologies is a cause of some four million deaths from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) (including heart disease, stroke and cancer), as well as pneumonia. Inefficient household energy use is a particular health and livelihood risk for women, children and infants. This side event will explore key opportunities for achieving significant health gains through expanded energy access in the African context.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.30–16.00</td>
<td><strong>Parallel sessions I – Air quality, health effects and link between air pollution and climate change</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;b&gt;1. Ambient air quality monitoring, modelling and forecasting – the next stage&lt;/b&gt;&lt;br&gt;A review of ambient air quality monitoring, modelling and forecasting – tools and methods, gaps and priorities, identified by the Global Platform on Air Quality and Health, and the way forward.  &lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Moderator: Lidia Morawska&lt;/i&gt;, Queensland University of Technology, Australia  &lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Presentations:&lt;/i&gt;  &lt;br&gt;- Global assessment of air pollution from PM2.5 (WHO and Global Burden of Disease approach)&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Gavin Shaddick&lt;/i&gt;, University of Exeter, United Kingdom  &lt;br&gt;- Air quality monitoring on global/regional scale, transboundary air pollution, what do we know?&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Laurence Rouil&lt;/i&gt;, French National Institute for Industrial Environment and Risks (INERIS) and European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (EMEP) Steering Body Chair  &lt;br&gt;- Enhancing capacity for air quality monitoring and forecasting in low- and middle-income countries: satellite measurements and ground level data&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Yewande Awe&lt;/i&gt;, World Bank  &lt;br&gt;- Urban air quality forecasts&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Greg Carmichael&lt;/i&gt;, University of Iowa, USA  &lt;br&gt;- Burden of disease attributable to major air pollution sources in India and China&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Michael Brauer&lt;/i&gt;, University of British Colombia, Canada, and CCAC Scientific Advisory Panel  &lt;br&gt;- Low cost air quality monitors and sensors&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Richard Peltier&lt;/i&gt;, University of Massachusetts, USA  &lt;br&gt;- Air quality monitoring – country experience&lt;br&gt;  &lt;i&gt;Lynn Atuyambe&lt;/i&gt;, Makerere University, Uganda  &lt;br&gt;Q&amp;A, discussion, identification of key messages</td>
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Day 1 Tuesday 30 October (continued)

2. What we know about health effects of air pollution

Acute and chronic effects of air pollution reviewed, with emphasis on population subgroups and occupationally exposed workers. How air pollution can influence the most common diseases: heart attack, stroke, lung cancer, lung disorders and childhood pneumonia. Source specific burden of disease from air pollution. How can we fill information gaps and how do we move forward?

**Moderator:** Katherine Walker, Health Effects Institute, USA

**BreatheLife video:** What air pollution does to your body (WHO, CCAC, UN Environment)

**Presentations:**

- Evidence on health effects of acute air pollution exposure and the groups that are sensitive
  
  *Joel Schwartz*, Harvard University, USA

- Air pollution and Allergy
  
  *Claudia Traidl-Hoffmann*, Technical University Munich, Germany (tbc)

- Risky jobs – occupational exposure to air pollution
  
  *Inoka Suraweera*, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka

- The effects of air pollution on the body: the pathologist’s perspective
  
  *Paulo Saldiva*, University of São Paulo, Brazil

- Health effects of desert dust and sand storms
  
  *Xavier Querol*, Institute of Environmental Assessment and Water Research, Spain

- Air cleaning and personal protection: is risk reduced?
  
  *Wei Huang*, Beijing University, China

Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages

3. Climate change and air pollution

Evidence of the link between climate change and air pollution, synergies and co-benefits to health of mitigation actions that prevent not only air pollution related diseases but injuries and other NCDs. How to support countries to adopt policies that deliver better climate, air quality and health.

**Moderator:** Magaran Monzon Bagayoko, Regional Office for Africa, World Health Organization

**Introduction:**

The connections between climate change and air pollution

*Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum*, World Health Organization

**Presentations:**

- Chemistry-climate interactions and climate system
  
  *Fiona O’Connor*, Met Office Hadley Centre, United Kingdom

- Action to maximize benefits; delivering better climate and better health
  
  *Andy Haines*, CCAC Scientific Advisory Panel

- Policies to limit climate change improve air quality and saves lives
  
  *Rita van Dingenen*, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

- Climate and pollution impacts of biomass burning
  
  *Pam Pearson*, International Cryosphere Climate initiative (ICCI)

- Country experience in reducing emissions of air and climate pollutants with health benefits.
  
  A **representative of China** will present (tbc), other country representatives are invited to speak from the floor

Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages
### Day 1 Tuesday 30 October (continued)

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<td>16.00–16.30</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>16.30–18.30</td>
<td>Plenary session III – Regional challenges and priorities</td>
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<td>This session will consider how air pollution affects health in the key regions of the world, highlight examples of regional progress and help identify opportunities for further action. There will be presentations from each of the WHO regions, followed by discussion and identification of recommendations and key messages to be presented on Day 3.</td>
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<td>Moderator: Michal Krzyzanowski, King’s College London, United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Overview presentation by WHO regional offices</td>
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<td>Presentations:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Capacity-building needs in South-East Asia</td>
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<td>Kalpana Balakrishnan, Sri Ramachandra University, India</td>
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<td>- Transboundary air pollution</td>
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<td>Yun-Chul Hong, Seoul National University, the Republic of Korea</td>
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<td>- Air pollution and its health effects in the Middle-East</td>
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<td>Narges Khanjani, Kerman Medical University, Iran</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Successful policies and measures in Europe</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nino Künzli, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Switzerland</td>
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<td>- How to ensure clean household energy in Africa</td>
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<td>- Clean household energy strategies in Latin America</td>
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<td>Roundtable discussion on regional challenges and opportunities, and issues raised in the presentations, with governmental representatives from the following countries (tbc):</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>18.30–20.00</td>
<td>Reception</td>
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### Day 2  Wednesday 31 October

#### 09.00–10.00
**Plenary session IV – Engaging the health sector as leader of change**

This session will project a vision for how the health sector can assume leadership in policies and programmes to prevent air pollution-related diseases, along with promoting a broader agenda of healthier and more climate-friendly development strategies. The session will examine gaps and identify opportunities in health sector planning and response, focusing on areas and functions that need strengthening and scaling-up. The session will discuss the links between air pollution risks and the epidemic of NCDs. It will consider how Primary Health care plays a role in controlling air pollution-related diseases, while also advancing progress towards Universal Health Coverage.

**Moderator:** Agnès Soucat, World Health Organization

**Presentations:**
- Why Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has not yet focused on air pollution
  *Toomas Palu*, World Bank
- What civil society organizations can expect from health systems connected to air pollution
  *Sunita Narain*, Centre for Science and the Environment, India

**Panel debate participants:**
- **Helga Fogstad**, The Partnership of Maternal, Newborn & Child Health
- **Isabel Saraiva**, Chair of the European Lung Foundation
- **Abdalla Osman**, Ministry of Health, Sudan
- **Sylvia Medina**, Public Health France
- **Sumi Mehta**, Vital Strategies (tbc)

Q&A, discussion, identification of recommendations/key messages

#### 10.00–11.00
**Plenary session V – Communication, advocacy, partnerships**

The purpose of the session is to highlight unique advocacy initiatives by the most compelling actors in the outreach arena, and discuss opportunities and barriers for promoting the CleanAir4Health/BreatheLife agenda in advocacy channels that resonate not only in the health sector and with the public as well as amongst politicians and climate/environment/development actors.

**Moderator:** Daniel Ketchell, R20 Regions of Climate Action (tbc)

**Keynotes:**
- Clean Air for Athletes – outreach through sports
  *Paula Radcliffe*, marathon runner legend, United Kingdom
- Continuing to #BreatheLife into the world’s cities to ensure #CleanAir4Health
  *Elaine Fletcher*, Lead for the BreatheLife campaign, World Health Organization

**Panel dialogue:**
- Digital campaigns
  *Jessy Tolkan*, Purpose Climate Lab
- Health sector targeted campaigns
  *Génon Jensen*, Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)
- Outreach to parents
  *Molly Rauch*, Moms Clean Air Force
- Outreach in cities – Bike Mayors – Bike Angels
  *João Paulo Mello Amaral*, São Paulo, Brazil
- Outreach through culture
  *Michael Pinsky*, Environmental artist and author of the “Pollution Pods”
- Outreach using data and evidence
  *Sonu Jain*, World Bank

Q&A, What are the key crosscutting messages that resonate the most? How to make health a part of the conversation? Identification of key messages
Day 2 Wednesday 31 October (continued)

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<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>11.30–13.00</td>
<td>Parallel sessions II – Engaging the health and other sectors</td>
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1. **Clean household energy access: igniting the transition for protecting public health livelihoods and environment**

   The objective of the session is to highlight the important role that the access and adoption of clean household energy can play in reducing air pollution, improving public health and livelihoods. The lack of access to clean household energy is the leading source of household air pollution and a cause of some four million deaths a year. The aim of this session is to discuss the current energy access situation and how it impacts health, identifying some of the barriers to the sustained adoption of clean household energy and how the public health sector can work in cooperation with both public and private partners in the energy and other sector to promote access to clean energy for health, economics, social and environmental benefits.

   **Moderator:** Felice Zaccheo, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

   **Overview presentation:** Household energy access and health linkages, highlighting findings of the SDG7 policy briefs

   **Heather Adair-Rohani,** World Health Organization

   Introduction video – energy access in Nepal from Breathe Life Campaign

   **Panel debate:**
   - Kimball Chen, CEO Global LPG Partnership (tbc)
   - Kirk Smith, University of California, USA
   - HE Hajia Samira Bawumia, Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana
   - Dymphna van der Lans, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
   - Tao Shu, Beijing University, Chinese Academy of Science, China
   - High-level representative from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India (tbc)
   - Marcel Alers, United Nations Development Programme

   Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages

2. **Reducing air pollution - improving children’s health**

   How ambient and household air pollution affects children, and how interventions to clean the air can support child health and development as well as sustainability agendas. What are the measures that foster clean air and safe spaces for children to grow at home and in the community? How can the health sector contribute, new initiatives, including integration air pollution risks into the prevention and management of childhood illnesses, and tracking results?

   **Moderator:** Kate Hampton, Children’s Investment Fund Foundation (tbc)

   **Presentations:**
   - Children at risk – diseases related to air pollution exposure
     **Yun-Chul Hong,** Seoul National University, South Korea
   - A case for action: protecting children’s health from air pollution
     **Beate Ritz,** International Society for Environmental Epidemiology

   **Panel debate:**

   How to engage on action from different actors involved with children to ensure clean, active and safe home and public environments for children that reduce air pollution, prevent childhood pneumonia, asthma and other respiratory disorders, and enhance children’s development. How to incorporate air pollution reduction measures into health care prevention and treatment programmes.
Parallel sessions II – Engaging the health and other sectors (continued)

Actions on air pollution and children: WHO perspective and introduction to the Panel

Marie Noel Brune Drisse, World Health Organization

Participants:
- Amalia Laborde, University of the Republic, Uruguay
- Philip Landrigan, Boston College, USA
- Kirsten Sandberg, Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Christopher Sola Olopade, University of Chicago, USA
- Erion Veliaj, Mayor of Tirana, Albania
- Helen Petach, US Agency for International Development
- Anumita Roychowdhury, Centre for Science and the Environment, India
- Molly Rauch, Moms Clean Air Force
- Bataa Chuluunbaatar, UNICEF Mongolia

Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages

3. Global actions for equipping national health workforces to deal with air pollution

The session will discuss the education and training of the health workforce with a view to addressing air pollution and Health in All Policies. The session considers the leadership role of health at the policy level and practical clinical functions on the ground. In so doing so it will hear from existing initiatives that are spear-heading change in education and training for public health, and in particular, the perspectives of the environmental health profession, public health educators and medical practitioners. The intention is to learn from, and to develop mutually supportive strategies with initiatives and networks involved in capacity development and transforming education through the life course. Key messages on global and country action for the way forward in education and training will be identified.

Moderator: Nicole Valentine, World Health Organization

Keynote: David Dyjack, National Environmental Health Association, USA

Panel debate and presentations:
- Julian Fisher, Hannover Medical School, Germany
- Kaylee Myhre Errecaborde, University of Minnesota, USA (tbc)
- Siobhan Fitzpatrick, World Health Organization
- Nanoot Mathurapote, National Health Commission Office, Thailand
- Lujain Alqodmani, World Medical Association, Kuwait Medical Association, Kuwait
- Keith Holmes, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Tarek Ezzine, International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA)

Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages

13.00–14.30 Lunch

13.30–14.30 Side event: Roundtable with journal editors

Editors of leading scientific medical journals will share their views on the technical evidence regarding air pollution, publication policies, research gaps and communication strategies.

Moderator: Gina McCarthy, Harvard University, USA

Panelists (Journal Editors):
- Raffaella Bosurgi, The Lancet Planetary Health
- Bert Brunekreef, Environmental Epidemiology
- Michael Brauer, Environmental Health Perspectives
- Laragh Gollogly, WHO Bulletin
- Fiona Godlee, British Medical Journal
- Francesco Forastiere, Environmental Health
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<tr>
<td>13.30–14.30</td>
<td>Side event: Transboundary air pollution and health – the value of international cooperation (WHO, UNECE)</td>
<td>This side event will present the regional mechanisms for cooperation to address transboundary air pollution and its impacts on human health, such as the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, as well as the Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment. It will highlight the opportunities and needs for international cooperation to tackle transboundary air pollution, improve air quality and save lives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30–14.30</td>
<td>Side event: Connecting the dots – integrating air quality, climate and health policies (World Bank and WHO)</td>
<td>This side event will discuss the scale and relative severity of the health and economic impacts of local air pollution and examine synergies and trade-offs between local air pollution reduction and mitigation of emissions that cause climate change. The presentation will deliver key policy messages for ministries of health, ministries of finance and economy, ministries of environment and local authorities about the need to integrate efforts to address air pollution, climate change and threats to health.</td>
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<td>14.30–16.00</td>
<td>Plenary session VI – Act on air pollution to achieve health and climate goals (SDGs, Paris Agreement) – solutions across sectors</td>
<td>This session will focus on policies, measures and innovative cooperation to prevent air and climate pollutants from different sources and sectors, ensuring multiple benefits on health and wellbeing, climate, food security etc. Challenges and opportunities related to governance, urban policies and increased access to clean energy will be discussed, and enhancements/scaling up of strategic initiatives will be proposed.</td>
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**Moderator:** Helena Molin-Valdes, Head of the Secretariat, Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC)

**Keynote presentations:**
- Main sources of air pollution and sectors for action on air pollution and climate change
  - Markus Amann, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria
- Governance for health and governance for climate change: where is the space for air pollution?
  - Gina McCarthy, Harvard University, USA
- Health co-benefits gained through reduction of air pollution, e.g. implementation of nationally determined contributions
  - Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum, World Health Organization

Panel debate to raise different perspectives and present experiences of different stakeholders’ contribution to tackling air pollution and related health impacts with health and climate benefits, and policies (regulations, economic incentives, partnerships, research).

**Participants:**
- Ugo Taddei, Clean Air Project, Client Earth
- Thomas Henrichs, Environment Directorate-General, European Commission.
- Marcelo Mena, World Bank
- Ahmed Rafay Alam, AirQualityAsia
- Bahijjahtu Hadiza Abubakar, Ministry of Environment, Nigeria
- Rob de Jong, UN Environment Programme
- Swiss representative

Q&A, discussion, identification of recommendations/key messages
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>16.00–16.30</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>16.30–18.00</td>
<td>Parallel sessions III – Action with health focus</td>
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### 1. Tackling air pollution in cities – improving health and climate

Over half of the world’s population now live in cities and this will increase to more than 70% by 2050. At the same time, over 80% of people living in urban areas today are exposed to polluted air. The aim of this session is to highlight and discuss how urban leaders can tackle air pollution through health-focused urban policies while making cities a bedrock for healthy living – as well as climate-friendly and resilient. The session will also address the challenges and opportunities for cross-sectoral cooperation and action against air pollution at the local level and the ways through which the health sector can contribute to catalyse action and influence sectorial choices to clean the air and create healthier cities.

**Moderator:** Howard Frumkin, Wellcome Trust

**Presentations:**
- Main sources of urban air and climate pollutants and possibilities for action
  - Mark Nieuwenhuijsen, Barcelona Institute for Global Health (IS Global), Spain
- Urban leaders and the cross-sectoral cooperation for healthy urban living, clean air and climate resilience
  - Desmond Appiah, Chief Resilience Officer, Accra City, Ghana

**Panel debate:** Cities experience with tackling air and climate pollutants, and how to ensure clean and healthy cities

**Panel introduction:** The role of the health sector to catalyse local action and influence sectoral choices against air pollution
  - Thiago Hérick de Sá, World Health Organization

**Participants:**
- Bhushan Tuladhar, UN-Habitat South Asia, Nepal
- Tolullah Oni, University of Cambridge, UK and University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Arup Banerji, World Bank
- Felice Zaccheo, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
- Diana Ürge-Vorsatz, IPCC Cities, Central European University, Hungary
- Geraldo Julio, Mayor of Recife, Brazil (tbc)
- Yuka Greiler, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland

**Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages**

### 2. Reducing health sector emissions – modern energy access for Universal Health Coverage

Hospitals in developed countries are among the most energy-intensive institutional buildings. At the same time, up to one quarter of health care clinics in major countries of sub-Saharan Africa have no power at all, and many of those with power suffer frequent interruptions due to grid failures, high costs of fuel, or generator malfunctions. Both in developed and developing regions, more energy efficient building design when combined with cleaner energy systems can improve energy reliability for power-starved facilities, support better health service delivery, contributing to universal health coverage, and put health facilities on a sustainable clean energy trajectory.

**Moderator:** Elizabet Press, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

**Overview Presentation:** Energy as an enabler for health care delivery,

**Heather Adair-Rohani**, World Health Organization

**Keynote presentations:**
- Building reliable, sustainable health care facilities in energy-poor settings
  - Deo Niyizonkiza, Village Health Works, Burundi (tbc)
- Reducing healthcare emissions for improved health
  - Sonia Roschnik, National Health Service, United Kingdom
Parallel sessions III – Action with health focus (continued)

Panel presentations and debate

- Can cleaner energy systems also improve health services in developing countries?
  Jem Porcaro, UN Foundation
- Climate-smart healthcare. Low-carbon and resilient strategies for the health sector
  Tamer Rabie, World Bank
- Case studies in “greening” the health sector in low-income countries through better procurement, energy and non-incineration waste management practices
  Josh Karliner, Health Care Without Harm
- Minister of Energy or senior level government representative (tbd)
- Representative SELCO, India

Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages

3. How reducing air pollution can prevent the leading NCDs

Air pollution causes one-quarter to on-third of deaths from the leading NCDs (heart attack, stroke, lung cancer and respiratory disease). This session will focus on how air pollution actions can prevent NCDs while also promoting environmental sustainability and climate change agendas, explore opportunities to linked action, and a way forward.

Moderator: Jessica Leighton, Bloomberg Philanthropies

Introduction: Setting the stage for action on air pollution to prevent NCDs
Soumya Swaminathan, Deputy Director General, World Health Organization

Presentations:

- Global burden of disease overview: the impact of air pollution versus other risk factors
  Annette Prüss-Ustün, World Health Organization
- Evidence of the impacts of air pollution on NCDs even at low-level concentrations
  Barbara Hoffmann, University of Düsseldorf, Germany and European Respiratory Society
- Air pollution as major risk factor for cancers
  Elisabete Weiderpass, the Cancer Registry of Norway (until 31 December 2018) and IARC Director-elect (as from 1 January 2019)
- Accelerating the reduction of Household Air Pollution through multisectoral action plans on NCDs in South-East Asia
  Speaker TBD, Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka

Roundtable: Advancing NCD prevention through action on household and ambient air pollution, including consideration of costs of inaction

Participants:

- Fiona Bull, World Health Organization
- Carlos Dora, Columbia University, USA
- Jean-Luc Eiselé, World Heart Federation
- Nina Renshaw, NCD Alliance
- Representative of the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine, Sri Lanka (tbd)

Q&A, discussion, identification of key messages

18.30–19.30 Pollution Pods exhibition, Place des Nations
19.30–20.30 Reception, Palais des Nations, Salle des pas perdus
20.30–22.00 Multimedia and musical awareness-raising event:
“BreatheLife for a Healthy People – Healthy Planet”, Palais des Nations, Geneva Salles des Assemblées
**Day 3 Thursday 1 November**

**09.00–10.00** Opening of the high-level action day
Welcome message and housekeeping information by the moderators

*Opening remarks:*
- **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, Director-General, World Health Organization
- **Erik Solheim**, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme
- **Helena Molin-Valdés**, Head of the Secretariat, Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC)
- **Ovais Sarmad**, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat
- **Julia Bucknall**, Director, World Bank
- **Her Majesty Queen Letizia of Spain**
- **Sami Kanaan**, Mayor of the City of Geneva (tbc)

**10.00–11.00** Plenary session VII – From evidence to action
The session will take stock from the state of the evidence about air pollution and health, trends on human exposure to air pollution and the costs to society and reflect on the mandate for action from the “Road Map for an Enhanced Global Response to the Health Impacts of Air pollution” (WHA69.18).

*Introduction by the moderator*
BreathLife video
**WHO, CCAC, UN Environment**

*Keynote presentations:*
- The global air pollution crisis – health effects of ambient and household air pollution – latest data from WHO and their implications
  **Maria Neira**, World Health Organization
- Household energy and how to move household air pollution to the top of the global energy agenda?
  **Kalpana Balakrishnan**, Sri Ramachandra University, India
- Maximizing health and climate benefits from action across sectors
  **Drew Shindell**, Duke University, USA and Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) Scientific Advisory Panel

Q&A, key messages to include in the outcome document

**11.00–11.30** Coffee break

**11.30–12.15** Plenary session VII – From evidence to action (continued)
Experiences in cleaning the air presented by ministers/vice ministers/representatives of the following countries/region (tbc):
- China
- Cameroon
- European Union
- Mexico
- USA

Remarks by **Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo**, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>12.15–13.00</td>
<td>Plenary session VIII – Stock-taking with presentation of key messages from Day 1 and 2</td>
<td>Recommendations and key messages on the way ahead on the global air pollution crisis, the health effects and the solutions, regional priorities in the fight against air pollution, how the health sector can be leaders in preventing disease and death from air pollution, the need for education and training of the health workforce, how to ensure both health and climate benefits from policies and measures across sectors and how to ensure better results through awareness raising, communication and partnerships. Major gaps and opportunities for tackling the massive burden of disease caused by air pollution, while obtaining co-benefits for health, quality of life and for climate will be presented. Q&amp;A, discussion. Key messages and recommendations from Day 1 and Day 2 to be included in the outcome document.</td>
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<td>13.00–14.30</td>
<td>Special BreatheLife Lunch</td>
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| 14.30–16.00 | Plenary session IX: Cleaning the world’s air – governance, economic incentives and health sector leadership | This session will focus on the health costs and innovative economic incentives and finance mechanisms for action to improve air quality to fulfil a specific global goal of reduced air pollution related deaths, including legal aspects, also related to air pollution moving across national borders and the need for a global (or regional) legal instrument, lessons learned from the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution. Introduction:  
- Country legislation and WHO’s Air Quality Guidelines  
  Nino Künzli, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Switzerland  
- 40 years of success: The story of the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution  
  Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
- Air pollution action – saving lives and money – benefits from global air pollution action  
  Julia Bucknall, World Bank  
Roundtable debate on costs and benefits and economic incentives for action, and presentation of a global goal for lives saved from air pollution. Participants:  
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization  
- Gina McCarthy, Harvard University, USA  
- Howard Frumkin, Wellcome Trust  
- Sunita Narain – Centre for Science and Environment, India  
- HE Hajia Samira Bawumia, Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana  
- Jens Frølich Holte, State Secretary for International Development, Norway  
- Naveed Qamar, MP Pakistan and Board member of Air Quality Asia  
Q&A, key messages to include in the outcome document. |
| 16.00–16.30 | Coffee break |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 16.30–17.30 | Plenary session X – Cleaning the world’s air: time to act and commit! | Introduction  
Roundtable with the launch of new initiatives/pledges/partnerships and commitments by countries, cities and organizations. Ministers, mayors, heads of IGOs, NGOs and other multilateral organizations will announce their voluntary commitments in the fight against air pollution with health and climate change benefits. The list of participants will be available by 24 October. |
### Day 3 Thursday 1 November (continued)

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<td>17.30–18.00</td>
<td>Conclusion and next steps</td>
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<td>Presentation of the draft conference report, with key messages and recommendations from days 1, 2 and 3, commitments and initiatives announced to be annexed.</td>
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<td>Q&amp;A, discussion of the elements of the report, preliminary agreement.</td>
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<td>Closing remarks by WHO Assistant Director-General, Climate and other Determinants of Health, Joy St John</td>
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