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**Symposium on the Opportunities for Near-term Climate Protection and Air Quality Benefits**

An event on black carbon and tropospheric ozone and its precursors organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

**June 25, 2011; 2:30-4:30pm**

**A G E N D A**

**2:30-2:40pm: Introductory Remarks**

Prof. Mary Scholes, Wits University, South Africa (Moderator)

*To be confirmed, UNEP: Objectives and structure of the Symposium*

**2:40-3:30 pm: Findings of the UNEP/WMO Integrated Assessment of Black Carbon and Tropospheric Ozone**

Presenter: Dr. Johan Kuylenstierna, Director of SEI York Centre, Stockholm Environment Institute, University of York, UK

Increasing interest in the potential for short-lived climate forcers to deliver near-term climate benefits and the realization of the potential for significant air quality benefits from their reduction prompted UN to initiate an integrated assessment focusing on black carbon and tropospheric ozone, and its precursors, especially methane. This recently completed assessment has shown that there is a large benefit for global and regional climate from taking action to reduce about 40% of methane emissions and about 75% of black carbon emissions. Full implementation of the identified measures would reduce future global warming by 0.5˚C (within a range of 0.2–0.7˚C) and would deliver significant regional climate benefits in sensitive regions such as the Himalayas and the Arctic. Implementation of the identified measures could also avoid 2.4 million premature deaths (within a range of 0.7–4.6 million) and the loss of 52 million tonnes (within a range of 30–140 million tonnes), 1–4 per cent, of the global production of maize, rice, soybean and wheat each year. This session will examine the main findings of the assessment.

**3.30-4.15pm: Implementing measures to reduce methane and black carbon emissions in different regions**

Presenter: Dr. Luisa Molina, MIT, Cambridge, USA

The measures identified in the UNEP/WMO assessment, that could deliver significant reductions in methane and black carbon emissions, are all measures that have been implemented in different parts of the world, to different extents. Case studies are illustrative of the potential for the implementation, but to deliver the climate and air quality benefits, much more widespread implementation will be required. This session investigates the case studies of the implementation of measures in different world regions and discusses the opportunities and barriers to much wider implementation.

**4.15-4.30pm: Wrap up by the Moderator**