

RELEASE IN PART
B5,B6

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:45 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: Update on Climate and Clean Air Coliation

Good stuff.

From: Turk, David M
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:41 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Stern, Todd D (S/SECC)
Subject: Update on Climate and Clean Air Coliation

Jake,

Hope all is well!

We wanted to send you a quick update on terrific progress for the Secretary's Climate and Clean Air Coalition, including from the first ministerial this week in Stockholm.

In addition to eating lots of lingonberries, we nearly doubled the size of the coalition; got two other countries to pony up cash; and achieved wide buy-in on our initiatives (e.g., Mexico, Norway, and Nigeria are all on board our effort to reduce methane leakage from oil and gas production).

Lots of work ahead, but momentum is on our side!

Thanks,
 Dave

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Turk, David M
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:19 PM
To: Paul Gunning; 'frankiewicz.thomas[REDACTED]'; Duke, Rick; 'Kornfeld, Sally'; Thompson, Griffin M (OES); Cochran, Kimberly M; Maltzer, Eric J; Pompian, Shawn M; Artusio, Christo F; 'Connors, Celeste A.'; Ogden, Peter [REDACTED]; 'flynn.mike[REDACTED]'; Alwine, Patrick; 'gunning.paul[REDACTED]'; 'dunnam.sarah[REDACTED]'; 'Newberg.Cindy[REDACTED]'; 'elke.hodson[REDACTED]'; 'linda.lawson@dot.gov'; 'arthur.singleary@dot.gov'; 'bylin.carey[REDACTED]';
Cc: Stern, Todd D (S/SECC); Pershing, Jonathan; Maurice LeFranc; 'Pamela Franklin'; Thompson, John E (OES); McGlynn, Emily F; Eil, Andrew G; Harris, Susan W; Nassmacher, Wendy L; Vasquez, Valeri N; Miotke, Jeffrey A (OES); Taylor, Susan M; Smith, Taiya M
Subject: CCAC: Thank You and Next Steps

CCAC Colleagues,

On behalf of our entire USG delegation travelling to Stockholm over the past couple days, I wanted to send along a hearty thanks for everyone's outstanding work on the Climate and Clean Air Coalition! I can't tell you how many thanks

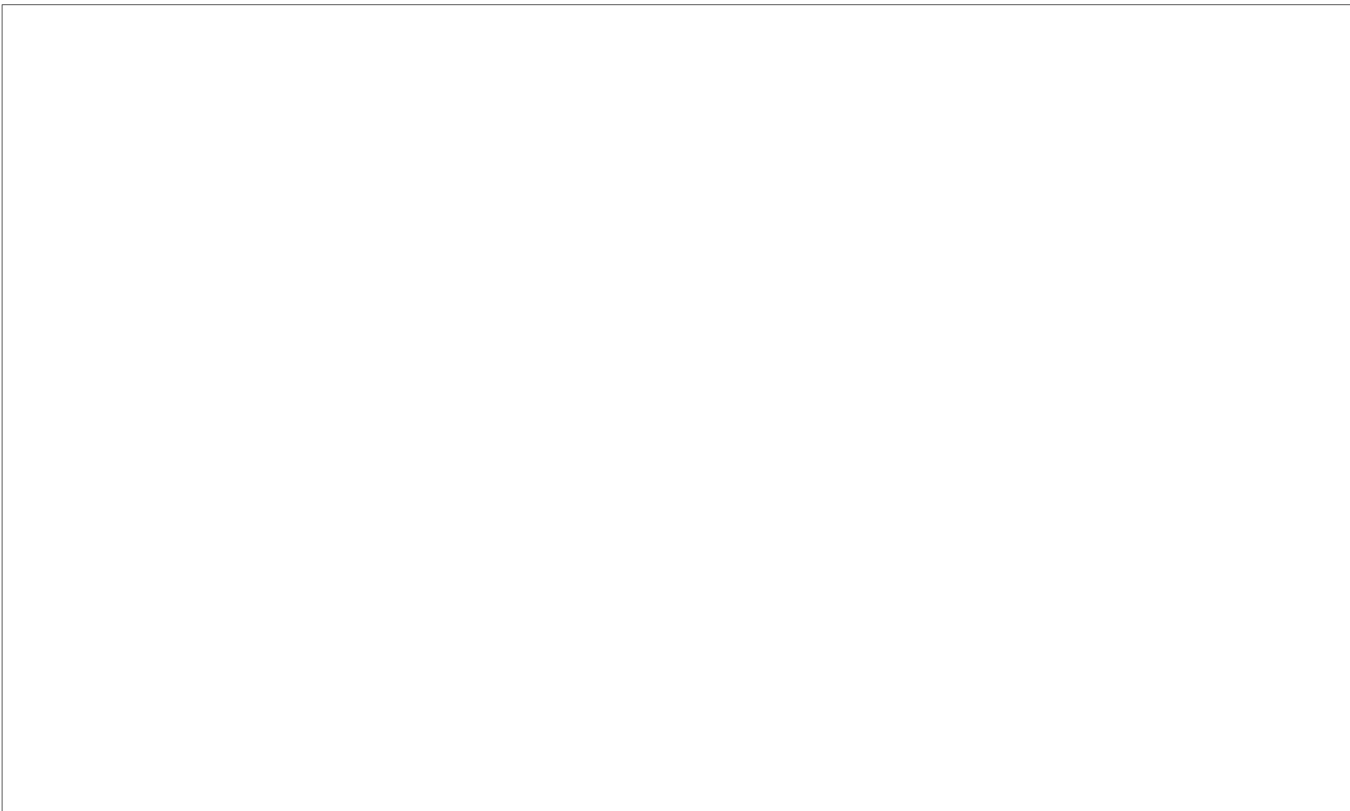
we received for our U.S. leadership while in Stockholm – whether it was Todd and Gina leading the high-level assembly, JP skillfully navigating our 12-hour working group meeting, or the broader efforts of our seamless and dedicated USG team.

I thought it might be useful to give everyone a quick snapshot of what happened in Stockholm and to highlight some immediate next steps toward achieving rapid, substantial progress over the coming weeks.

Here are the highlights from Stockholm, which I really don't think could have gone any better:

- We almost doubled the size of our coalition from 7 to 13, with the following officially becoming partners: Japan, Norway, Nigeria, Colombia, the EC, and the World Bank.
- Five other key countries actively participated as observers – UK, Korea, Denmark, and Finland, and Australia – along with several civil society and private-sector organizations.
- We picked up two additional financial contributions – \$1.5 M each from Sweden and Norway – bringing our total commitments to around \$18 million.
- The Coalition decided to move out immediately on five initiatives – all four of ours and one by Mexico on brick kilns. Of special note, we achieved active buy-in from key other players, for example, Nigeria, Norway, and Mexico on our oil and gas initiative.
- More generally, I thought there was tremendous camaraderie among those around the table, and a real sense that we could do something important here on our initiatives, but only if we seize this opportunity and run with it!
- Copied below are some articles and the UNEP press release with some additional details.

So now that we have such a strong foundation for action, we have to act! On that front, here are some proposed next steps, especially to quickly make progress on our initiatives:

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Thanks again for all the terrific work!

Dave

10 nations agree to move against short-lived greenhouse gases

Nathanael Massey, E&E reporter

Published: Wednesday, April 25, 2012

The ranks of the Clean Air Climate Coalition (CACC) expanded yesterday, with four nations, the European Union and the World Bank pledging to aid the group's efforts to curb short-lived climate pollutants like black carbon, methane and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

The coalition, which was first announced by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton two months ago, was originally composed of six countries: the United States, Canada, Sweden, Mexico, Ghana and Bangladesh. At its first ministry-level meeting, which took place yesterday in Stockholm, Sweden, four more nations -- Japan, Norway, Nigeria and Colombia -- joined the World Bank and European Union in adding their names to the CACC's roster.

The coalition aims to support projects and shape policies that reduce short-term pollutants, which are responsible for about 30 percent of human-caused global warming despite the fact that they typically only remain in the atmosphere for a matter of days.

"These actions should not diminish our effort to curb carbon, but these [short-term pollutants] are a big deal," said Todd Stern, U.S. special envoy for climate change. Citing a recent U.N. Environment Programme report, he said aggressive action to curb these chemicals could reduce global warming by as much as half a degree Celsius by 2050.

Black carbon, also called soot, is a common byproduct of burning organic matter, like wood or peat -- still a common source of heat and cooking energy for much of the developing world. Methane produced from human activities derives from a number of sources, including agriculture, landfills and industrial leakage.

Small sources can be big warmers

HFCs are chemicals used in the manufacture of refrigerators and air conditioners, and while relatively small in terms of atmospheric concentration, are more than 1,000 times more effective than carbon dioxide at trapping heat.

Because the sources of these emissions are widely disparate, the CACC expects to work primarily on a policy level to create a broad base of change around the world, Stern said.

"There are lots of projects going on the ground right now," he added. However, "larger-scale activity would certainly be [the CACC's] preferred medium."

At the same time, delegates at yesterday's meetings gave a green light to a number of initiatives that can curb and are curbing short-term pollutants immediately. They include actions to reduce diesel emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, upgrades to inefficient brick kilns used widely in Mexico and Bangladesh, and accelerating research into alternatives to HFCs.

Along with its new membership, the CACC received a boost in funding from Norway and Sweden, which each pledged around \$1.5 million, said Stern. That brings the program's total funding to around \$18 million, with another \$12 million pledged by the United States and \$3 million by Canada.

The World Bank also announced that it could make \$12 billion from its portfolio available to support coalition goals.

U.S.-led GHG coalition gains new members

24 Apr 2012 05:29 PM

Four countries, the European Commission (EC) and the World Bank on Tuesday joined a U.S.-led initiative that aims to tackle climate change in the near term by targeting less controversial but potent non-carbon greenhouse gases.

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition, which was launched at February event in Washington DC hosted by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, concluded its first meeting in Stockholm, Sweden Tuesday, where it launched five initiatives aimed at reducing black carbon (soot), HFCs and methane emissions.

These “short-lived” climate pollutants account for more than 30 percent of the heat-trapping gases that cause global warming, Todd Stern, the U.S. special envoy on climate change, said Tuesday.

Unlike carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions that remain in the atmosphere for a century, “short-lived” pollutants only stay in the atmosphere for several years.

Colombia, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, the EC and the World Bank joined Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden and the U.S. and the UN Environment Programme in the coalition.

The group hopes to achieve quick wins in the fight against climate change while U.N. negotiations continue to be bogged down by the reluctance of several major countries to agree to mandatory carbon emission cuts under a new global treaty.

International climate talks are unlikely to deliver a global deal to reduce greenhouse gases – including carbon dioxide – before 2020.

RAPID IMPLEMENTATION

At the Stockholm meeting, the participating ministers approved the following initiatives for “rapid implementation,” according to UNEP:

- Fast action on cutting diesel emissions from heavy duty vehicles and engines;
- Upgrading old inefficient brick kilns (cook stoves), a major source of black carbon emissions;
- Accelerating the reduction of methane emissions from landfills, which account for 11 percent of global methane emissions;
- Accelerating cuts in methane and other emissions from venting and flaring in the oil and gas industry;
- Accelerating alternatives to HFCs, a powerful greenhouse gas that has been used as a replacement to ozone-depleting CFCs used in refrigerators.

Stern said although several of these activities have earned carbon credits in developing countries under the U.N.’s Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), the ministers did not discuss the future role of carbon finance in their coalition.

“It’s not so much a question of providing funding for that,” he told reporters on a press call Tuesday.

He said the member countries would contribute some money towards the coalition, but will also seek to cooperate with private sector companies.

NATIONAL POLICY FOCUSED

Stern said while the coalition would fund some project-level activities, its aim is to give countries technical support to stimulate larger scale national programs.

"While there might be some project activity – at least at the outset," Stern said the goal is for the coalition's work to be "policy oriented" not project-oriented.

Connie Hedegaard, European Commissioner for Climate Action, said the initiative should complement, not replace the work being done through the UN climate change convention to cut global greenhouse gas emissions.

"The Commission is willing to consider further support to concrete projects in developing countries to reduce emissions from short-lived climate pollutants," she said.

"Action on these pollutants will not, however, replace the need for continued action by all major economies to reduce CO2 emissions, which needs to be stepped up," she added.

By Valerie Volcovici – valerie.volcovici@thomsonreuters.com

Washington DC

U.S. to work with other governments, overseas companies to curb methane emissions

Jean Chemnick, E&E reporter

Published: Tuesday, April 24, 2012

One week after U.S. EPA moved to reduce methane emissions from U.S. natural gas production, the country's top climate negotiator told reporters that the United States would also seek to help other countries limit their emissions from petroleum development.

U.S. Special Envoy for Climate Change Todd Stern said on a press call this afternoon from Stockholm that the nascent Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants would expand its mission to help rein in international emissions of methane from oil and gas production.

Stern said the initiative would seek to work with large petroleum companies and governments of countries where they operate to significantly reduce leakage, flaring and venting of methane during production, "a lot of which can be done at a relatively low cost."

EPA released a rule last week that will require U.S. gas companies to use green completion technology to capture emissions from hydraulic fracturing -- including methane -- by 2015. The administration has argued that the cost to industry will be trivial.

Jake Schmidt, international climate policy director for the Natural Resources Defense Council, said that other countries could learn from the United States' experience with oil shale development and adopt green completion technology early on.

"We have some lessons learned for how to do this well," he said, adding that green completion "pays for itself" because it allows developers to sell methane and other emissions for enhanced oil recovery.

The multinational coalition, which was launched in Washington in February, seeks to support national policies and initiatives aimed at reducing non-carbon greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to short-term climate change. Besides limiting methane from energy development and landfills, the coalition will also target black carbon from cookstoves and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) used in refrigeration.

HFCs were introduced following an international agreement to limit chlorofluorocarbons, which contributed to ozone depletion. But they had their own climate-related downside.

"Basically, we have to find substitutes for what were once a substitute," Stern said.

Stern added that the coalition would probably not support basic research, though it is in the process of establishing a scientific advisory panel to advise on technical issues. Instead, it will focus on supporting policy efforts in member countries and partnerships with industry.

The coalition is not a large one, and Stern stressed that it did not replace efforts to rein in the carbon dioxide emissions that contribute most to climate change.

Its initial budget of \$16.7 million will include a \$12 million contribution from the United States. The rest will come from coalition partners including Canada. Other founding members included Bangladesh, Ghana, Mexico and Sweden. They were joined in Stockholm by new members Norway, Nigeria, Colombia, Japan and the European Commission. The World Bank has also agreed to play a role.



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New Climate and Clean Air Coalition Expands to 13 Members

New Initiatives Assessed for Fast and Scaled-up Action on Black Carbon, Methane, and HFCs

Stockholm, 24 April 2012—Five transformational initiatives aimed at accelerating and scaling-up action against a range of health, crop and climate-damaging pollutants were given the go-ahead by Ministers meeting in the Swedish capital Stockholm.

The initiatives, which mark the beginning of the implementation phase of the new Climate and Clean Air Coalition, will fast track momentum towards reducing black carbon or 'soot', methane and a range of fluorinated gases called HFCs.

Further momentum was catalyzed with the announcements of Colombia, Japan, Nigeria, Norway and the European Commission that they are joining the Coalition along with the World Bank.

It brings to 13 the number of partners who have joined, expanding the initial membership founded by Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden and the United States and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

The Coalition was launched at an event in Washington DC on February 16 hosted by US Secretary State Hillary Clinton.

Five other countries—Australia, Denmark, Finland, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom along with delegates from the private sector —also attended as observers at this week's meeting to learn first-hand the Coalition's plans.

More than 10 years of scientific research and assessment indicates that substances such as black carbon or 'soot' and methane are triggering wide-ranging health, climate and crop-damaging impacts.

Introducing cost effective and environmentally-friendly alternatives to fluorinated gases known as HFCs are also part of the Coalition's aims as a result of their high potential to impact climate change if widely taken up over the coming years.

Fast action to reduce short lived climate pollutants can have a direct impact on climate change with the potential to reduce warming by up to 0.5 degrees C by 2050 and help keep global temperature increases below 2 degrees C

Reductions of SLCPs would also allow for addressing rapid melting in the Arctic and in mountain regions with glaciers, like the Himalayas. By around 2030, fast action can potentially prevent millions of premature deaths from for example inhalation of black carbon while avoiding an estimated 30 million tonnes of crop-losses.

The Coalition emphasizes that the climate benefits need to be backed by cuts in other greenhouse gases including CO₂ if temperature increases over the 21st century are to be held below 2 degrees C.

However, addressing near term warming from SLCPs may be crucial to avoid the most serious impacts over the coming decades.

The announcement of new national partners was made today at the end of the first Ministerial meeting of the Coalition which has been taking place in parallel with Stockholm+40—a conference marking four decades after the UN Conference on the Human Environment which took place in the Swedish capital in 1972.

The meeting and conference also comes in advance of Rio+20—two decades after the 1992 Earth Summit that set the course for contemporary sustainable development.

Lena Ek, the Swedish Environment Minister, said today: "Sweden is committed to continue working actively with this important coalition. Furthermore we are happy to announce our contribution to the Coalition Trust Fund with 1.4 MSEK for the UNEP Secretariat and 10 MSEK to concrete projects".

11.4 million Swedish Krona is around \$1.7 million.

Assessment and Go-Ahead for Scaled-up Initiatives

The meeting assessed around a dozen initiatives proposed by developed and developing countries for fast and federated action on short lived climate pollutants including many happening already at the national level. Delegates took forward five to be approved for rapid implementation by Ministers on the final day. Those approved included:-

- Fast action on diesel emissions including from heavy duty vehicles and engines

Studies show that reductions are possible by addressing emissions from the freight transportation supply chain, through city action plans, and adoption of a range of measures for reducing sulphur in fuels and vehicle emissions

- Upgrading old inefficient brick kilns which are a significant source of black carbon emissions

Mexico has for example [20,000] small and medium-sized brick kilns and the design of many of the [6,000] in Bangladesh hark back to the 1900s.

- Accelerating the reduction of methane emissions from landfills

World-wide the waste management sector contributes about 11% of global methane emissions, and the coalition will work with cities to reduce methane emissions from landfills by improving strategic municipal solid waste planning and providing technical assistance.

- Speeding up cuts in methane and other emissions from the oil and gas industry

Natural gas venting and leakage from the oil and gas industry accounts for over one fifth of global man-made emissions of methane: Flaring at oil installations generate both methane and black carbon emissions. An estimated one third of leaks and venting can be cut using existing technologies at low cost.

- Accelerating alternatives to HFCs

HFCs are being rapidly introduced as replacements to chemicals that can damage the ozone layer—the Earth’s protective shield that filters out hazardous ultra violet light. But HFCs are also powerful greenhouse gases. The Coalition aims to fast track more environmentally-friendly and cost effective alternatives and technologies to avoid HFC growth.

- Additional initiatives – including a proposal by Ghana on agricultural/forest open burning and a proposal by Bangladesh on cookstoves – would be further developed over the coming weeks.

Trust Fund Established

To support the Coalition’s efforts, a new Trust Fund managed by a UNEP-hosted secretariat was agreed today. Initial financing pledges for the Coalition now amount to some \$16.7 million with significantly more funds expected over the coming 12 months.

Science Advisory Panel

Sound science has underpinned the formation of the Coalition and will guide its work into the future. Ministers today asked three luminaries involved in short lived climate pollutant work to advise them on the formation of a dedicated world-class Science Advisory Panel to provide scientific advice to the Coalition.

The advice will be provided by Drew Shindell of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, Mario Molina, the distinguished Mexican chemist and 1995 Nobel Prize co-winner and Veerabhadran Ramanathan, chair of the UNEP Atmospheric Brown Cloud project based at the University of California San Diego,

Coalition Web Site Goes Live

The Coalition today also unveiled a dedicated web site to support dissemination of information about the initiative’s role and partners <http://www.unep.org/ccac/>

Notes to Editors

Quotes from Other Newly Joining Partners

Colombia

Frank Pearl, the Colombian Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development, said: “Colombia has recognized for some time the urgency of acting on these short lived climate pollutants including the impacts of black carbon on public health and the accelerated melting of glaciers the high mountain areas of Latin America”.

“Colombia is among several countries in our region to act on soot particles from vehicles and other contaminating sources as well as emissions that are triggering tropospheric or ground level ozone—another short lived climate pollutants,” he said.

“In joining the Coalition we see not only potential national and global benefits but Colombia plans to act as a regional hub, reaching out to other countries in Latin America in order to generate regional opportunities for sustainable development,” said Mr Pearl.

European Commission

Connie Hedegaard, European Commissioner for Climate Action, said: "The European Commission is very pleased to join this Coalition. This initiative should complement the efforts needed under the UN climate change convention to cut global greenhouse gas emissions to a level that will limit global temperature increase to below 2°C.

"The Commission is willing to consider further support to concrete projects in developing countries to reduce emissions from short-lived climate pollutants. Action on these pollutants will not, however, replace the need for continued action by all major economies to reduce CO2 emissions, which needs to be stepped up," she added.

Nigeria

Mrs Hadiza Ibrahim Mailafia , Nigerian Minister of the Environment said: "Nigeria is delighted to be a new member of the Coalition. It is estimated that 95,000 women in my country die each year prematurely because of black carbon emissions from source such as inefficient cook stoves--this is a conservative estimate. Meanwhile there are enormous opportunities for reducing methane emissions from sources such as the oil and gas industry and landfills that can benefit Nigeria and its people and the wider regional and global ambitions to combat climate change in a cost effective and economic way".

"We look to encourage more countries within Africa and beyond to join this inspiring initiative so that fast action can be federated everywhere in order to save lives, improve food security and tackle climate change which challenges the future of the poor and the vulnerable exponentially," she added.

Norway

Bård Vegar Solhjell, the Norwegian Minister of the Environment, said: "Norway is delighted to join the Coalition. It unites our country's interest in achieving national sustainability with international responsibilities in the areas of health, food security, climate and development".

"There are many international initiatives addressing these short term pollutants, and Norway is participating in several of them. In this Coalition the United Nations Environment Program participates, both as partner and as Secretariat for the Coalition. This is a very wise decision, which provides credibility and leverage and increases the value of the Coalition's work", he added.

"Finally it echoes to Norway's interest in the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication—a key issue for the upcoming Rio+20 Summit in June—in which well-targeted policy and financial interventions can catalyze benefits across multiple fronts," said Mr Solhjell.

World Bank

"From multi-billion dollar investments in clean energy each year to climate smart solutions for agriculture and cities, the Bank already targets short-term environmental pollutants in developing countries through our lending, data and evidence based knowledge sharing and technical assistance. But, we can achieve even more by working as a coalition," said Rachel Kyte, World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development.

"This is the most important decade for action on climate change", Kyte said. "But with a global treaty that will speed the curbing of carbon dioxide many years off, the climate and clean air coalition puts a practical new deal on the table - one that helps slow global warming while reducing the soot and smog that is damaging food crops and health worldwide, undermining growth and development."

Aims of the Coalition

- To catalyze the speed and the scale of action on short lived climate pollutants
- Enhance existing and develop new national actions to address mitigation gaps

- Encourage existing and new regional actions
- Reinforce and track existing efforts to reduce these pollutants, promoting opportunities for greater international coordination and developing and improving inventories
- Identify barriers to action and seeking to surmount them
- Promote best practices or available technologies and showcase successful efforts to address short lived climate pollutants
- Improve understanding of and review scientific progress on short lived climate pollutants, their impacts and benefits of mitigation and dissemination of knowledge; and
- Mobilize targeted support for those developing countries that require resources to develop their capacity and to implement actions consistent with national strategies to support sustainable development

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Term Climate Pollutants was launched in Washington DC on 17 February 2012.

http://www.unep.org/dewa/Portals/67/pdf/HFC_report.pdf

http://www.unep.org/dewa/Portals/67/pdf/Black_Carbon.pdf

<http://www.sciencemag.org/content/335/6065/183>

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