

Air Pollution/ Atmosphere

Thank you Chairperson for giving the delegation of Cape Verde the opportunity to take floor on this important issue and we also align with the statement of the representative of Pakistan on behalf of G77 and China.

Considering the negative impacts of air pollution on human health socio economic development eco system and cultural heritage, cape verde fully supports the call for a firm assistance to developing countries and Sids in promoting scientific research and raising public awareness.

We also appeal for full implementation of the principles and commitments contained in Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg plan of implementation as well as, those resulting from the Mauritius international meeting. More coordination among agencies responsible for regulating monitoring and enforcing emissions controls is also important.

Furthermore, we also support the proposal of creating a Global Renewable Fund for research, development and dissemination of renewable energy to developing countries and sids as part of the comprehensive strategy to combat air pollution.

In Cape Verde the main sources of pollution are transportation, mainly in the biggest urban centers, and the use of biomass in the rural areas.

Firewood and coal are used considerably in the rural areas (about 40 % of cooking energy), provoking indoor pollution through the release of particles of smoke, soot and chemical pollutants rich in carbon monoxide and sulfur composites respectively.

There is a great gap of knowledge at the national level. Therefore Cape Verde is planning to regulate its law on quality of air according with its own specificities and establish a functional control system of the quality of air, mainly in the urban centers. These projects can only be implemented with a strong involvement of the international community.

Promotion of the quality of air will have to be integrated in programs of scientific research to be undertaken in association with the newly created University of Cape Verde.

Cape Verde is seeking partnerships to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide and sulfur composites provoked by its fleet of vehicles.

Projects in the area of substitution of the biomass in the rural areas for more efficient and cleaner fuels are of urgency for the country to diminish the vulnerability of the populations living in poverty.

Despite the industrial sector being incipient there are industries concentrated in some sensible urban areas. Thus, it justifies an efficient technology transfer, in order to improve its environmental performance.

The gasses proceeding from the burning of solid waste in places near the urban centers can constitute a risk to the public health due to methane explosion or respiratory problems caused by carbon dioxide. The country is engaged in finding solutions for the issue of treatment of solid wastes. Here also, strategic partnerships namely in what concerns transfer of know how and technology are necessary.

We therefore look forward to discuss with partners modalities of cooperation to deal with this issue effectively.

Thank your for your attention.