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DRAFT PROGRAMME

Air pollution and Health: Recent Advances to Inform the European Green Deal

January 21-22, 2020

Square Brussels Convention Centre, Mont des Arts, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

DAY 1 – Tuesday January 21, 2020

09.00-9.30 Opening and Keynote

Barbara Hoffmann, European Respiratory Society (ERS)
Hanna Boogaard, Health Effects Institute (HEI) and ISEE Europe
Maria Neira, World Health Organization (WHO)

9:10 Keynote (TBD)

9.30-10.30 Session 1: The Current European and US Regulatory Contexts

The session summarizes the current European and US regulatory contexts, against the backdrop of the European Green Deal, which sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050.

Chairs: Robert O'Keefe, HEI and Martin Williams, King's College London

9:30 The European Green Deal and air quality policy and its review – Directorate General Environment (TBD)

9:45 Health in environmental regulations – Directorate General Health (TBD)

10:00 United States: Regulatory framework for criteria pollutants: update on PM Review – Jason Sacks, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

10:15 Discussion

10.30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12.45 Session 2: How Low Should We Go? New Health Research on Low-level Air Ambient Pollution

Although ambient air pollution levels are declining in high-income regions, epidemiological studies report associations with health effects at levels below current standards, raising questions about even lower standards. HEI is in the midst of funding three studies investigating the health effects of low-level exposure in very large populations in Europe and North America. This session will present the results currently available from those studies, discuss their strengths and weaknesses, and discuss potential implications for future risk assessment and regulation.

Chairs: Dorota Jarosinska, WHO Regional Office For Europe, and Dan Greenbaum, HEI



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- 11:00 Introduction: Why study the health effects of low levels of air pollution – Hanna Boogaard, HEI
- 11:10 Evidence from Europe - Effects of low-level air pollution: A study in Europe (ELAPSE) – Gerard Hoek, Utrecht University
- 11:30 Evidence from Canada - Mortality-air pollution associations in low exposure environments (MAPLE) – Mike Brauer, University of British Columbia
- 11:50 Evidence from the US - Air pollution and mortality in the Medicare population – Marianthi-Anna Kioumourtzoglou, Columbia University
- 12:10 Moderated discussion

12.45-14:15 Lunch break

14:15-15.45 Session 3: Recent Reviews Regarding the Health Effects of Ambient Air Pollution - What Do They Tell Us?

The session will review the latest science on major air pollutants as a key step in evaluating whether to update Europe's air quality policies. It will present findings from recent key reviews on air pollution health effects from Europe and beyond. It will describe approaches for evidence synthesis, and discuss possible paths forward.

Chairs: Michal Krzyzanowski, WHO (retired), and Frank Kelly, King's College London

- 14:15 Revisions of the WHO Air Quality Guidelines: current status – Dorota Jarosinska, WHO Regional Office For Europe
- 14:30 Health effects of ultrafine particles – Annette Peters, Helmholtz Zentrum München
- 14:45 Current knowledge on adverse effects of ambient air pollution: Approaches for evidence synthesis – Kurt Straif, IARC
- 15:15 Moderated discussion

15.45-16:15 Coffee break



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16:15-18:00

Session 4: Air Quality Improvements and Climate Mitigation: Key Co-Benefits for Public Health

There is a long standing interest in measuring the effectiveness of air quality and climate actions in improving health. Cities are taking bold air quality and climate action, leading the way towards a healthier and more sustainable future. This session will review the latest science, and highlight key co-benefits benefits to inform the European Green Deal.

Chairs: Maria Neira, WHO and Annemoon van Erp, HEI

- 16:15 The co-benefits of climate mitigation on air pollution – Kris Ebi, University of Washington (by video)
- 16:35 Health effects of air quality actions across the globe – David Rich, University of Rochester
- 16:55 The power of place: Pathways to a healthy urban living – Mark Nieuwenhuijsen, ISGlobal and ISEE
- 17:05 Towards clean air in cities: UNECE Expert Panel on Clean Air in Cities - Rob Maas, RIVM
- 17:25 Moderated discussion

18:00

Adjourn

Reception



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DAY 2 – Wednesday January 22, 2020

08.30-9:00 Opening and Keynote

Barbara Hoffmann, ERS
Hanna Boogaard, HEI and ISEE Europe
Sophie Gummy, WHO

8:40 Keynote (TBD)

9:00-10.45 Session 5: Numbers, Numbers Everywhere – Estimating the Global Burden of Disease Attributed to Air Pollution

Despite some differences, the estimates of air pollution health burden from multiple analyses consistently show that air pollution has a large impact on population health. The session will present the latest burden estimations, discuss how such numbers are calculated and communicated best, and discuss possible ways forward.

Chairs: Nathalie Roebbel, WHO and co-chair (TBD)

9:00 Air quality in Europe – European Environment Agency (TBD)

9:20 Quantifying the air pollution burden of disease – Bert Brunekreef, Utrecht University

9:40 Source specific estimates and cost benefit analyses – Markus Amann, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

10:00 Possible ways forward for burden estimation – Katy Walker, HEI

10:15 Moderated discussion

10.45-11.15 Coffee break

11.15-13.00 Session 6: Meeting Closing Session: Air pollution, Climate and Health: What Research and Policies Do We Need?

In wrapping up the meeting, we will summarize the evidence presented, including whether there is a concentration below which no adverse health effects are observed for the major pollutants. In addition, we will discuss remaining uncertainties and priorities for future research and policy.

Chairs: Dan Greenbaum, HEI and Barbara Hoffmann, University of Düsseldorf and ERS

11:15 Current knowledge on adverse effects of ambient air pollution: have we filled the gap? What more do we need to know? – Francesco Forastiere, King's College London

11:45 Panel discussion and general discussion: Panel: DG Environment, WHO, DG Health, MEPs, European council, NGO representative, others (TBD)

12:45 Closing comments from the session chairs



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13:00

Adjourn

Briefing of parliament (closed meeting with a subgroup) (appr. 2.5 h) on Afternoon Day 2

Opening welcome

Key results informing policy

Panel discussion

Concluding remarks

For more information contact Hanna Boogaard (jboogaard@healtheffects.org). To register contact Roberta Sadauskaite (roberta.sadauskaite@ersnet.org). Note that space may be limited.