

Saltsjöbaden VII

Gothenburg, Sweden 2023

Air Pollution Management in a World under Pressure

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“Saltsjöbaden” meetings

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- Saltsjöbaden I 10-12 April 2000. Saltsjöbaden.
 - Outcome: Agenda for the EU CAFE process
- Saltsjöbaden II 25-27 October 2004. Gothenburg
 - Outcome: HTAP
- Saltsjöbaden III 12-14 March 2007. Gothenburg
 - Outcome: TFRN
- Saltsjöbaden IV 19-21 October 2009. Gothenburg
 - Outcome: SLCF highlighted at COP15 2009 in Copenhagen
- Saltsjöbaden V 24-26 June 2013. Gothenburg
 - Outcome: Increase activities to local and global scale. Communication
- Saltsjöbaden VI 19-21 March 2018. Gothenburg.
 - Outcome: Proposal for global cooperation (FICAP)
- Saltsjöbaden VII 13-15 March 2023. Gothenburg
 - Outcome: Proposed target for improvement in air quality. Agenda for global cooperation.





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- Gathered approx 180 scientists, policymakers, NGOs and other stakeholders.
- Discussions of future challenges and options in international air pollution management under the Chatham house rules.
- Outcome: a series of recommendations directed towards organisations and processes responsible for taking action.
- Back-to-back: early career workshop & Forum for International Cooperation on Air Pollution.



Working groups

- Attain good air quality in airsheds at risk
- Achieve policy-relevant understanding of air pollution effects on health
- Fulfil Air Convention objectives
- Transform nitrogen waste into nitro-resource & flourishing ecosystems
- Integrate policies and research on air pollution, climate and biodiversity
- Accomplish significant air quality improvements through international cooperation



Overarching recommendation

- Key international organisations should consider setting a long term objective:
 - Air pollution effects to human health and ecosystems should be reduced by 50% to 2035
 - (EB, UNEP General Assembly, WHO General Assembly and others)

A common target similar to the SDG:s provides good motivation for ambitious cooperation within regions and between regions. Such global targets have been inspirational for the UNFCCC and the UN BCD. The workshop proposed as a tentative target 50% reduction in health effects globally before 2035

Cross-cutting recommendations

- Increase action on methane as a key co-beneficial air pollution and climate change compound.
 - Set binding methane targets,
 - Further improve scientific understanding of links between methane and ozone,
 - Expand mandate of TFRN to also consider methane emissions from agriculture
- Increase engagement in actions that lead to sharper and faster reduction of UN/ECE ammonia emissions.
 - Develop and apply nitrogen reuse policies within the agricultural/food sector.
 - Assess environmental risks and consequences from nitrogen emissions associated with ammonia used as an energy carrier.

Cross-cutting recommendations

- Continue efforts to, and specify how, the Air Convention can integrate better with other international environmental agreements.
 - Engage through the UNEP Science Policy Panel on chemicals, waste and pollution.
 - EU CAP to be cross-compliant with the EU Habitat directive with respect to nitrogen.
 - Special report on “Air Pollution and Climate” to support the current UNFCCC process.
- Strengthen communication activities and develop tailor-fit activities.
 - Guidelines, Roadmaps, e-courses, and multilingual translations needed,
 - Help our communicators to distinguish between uncertainty over details and our absolute certainty over general direction.
 - Communicate our success stories jointly with communication of risks and damages.

Topic-specific recommendations

- Create air quality roadmaps for low-income countries.
(FICAP, TF-Health, EB, National air pollution decision-makers)
- Develop guidance documents on how to access finance resources and overcome implementation barriers for clean residential heating solutions.
(Development partners, i.e., IGOs and IFIs, FICAP, TFTEI)
- Establish scientific rigour in the application and advancement of methods and mechanisms for scientific reviews of environmental health studies.
(ISEE, ERS, WHO)

Topic-specific recommendations

- Increase efforts to use the Gothenburg Protocol as an instrument for cleaner air.
(Parties, non-Parties to the Air Convention)
- Continue clarification efforts with respect to abatement and implementation barriers, develop a staged commitment scheme.
(EB, Parties, non-Parties)
- Integrate changes in production and consumption of agricultural products, and in bioenergy use into future scenarios and negotiation support to the Air Convention.
(MSC-West, TFMM, CIAM, TFRN, Parties)

Topic-specific recommendations

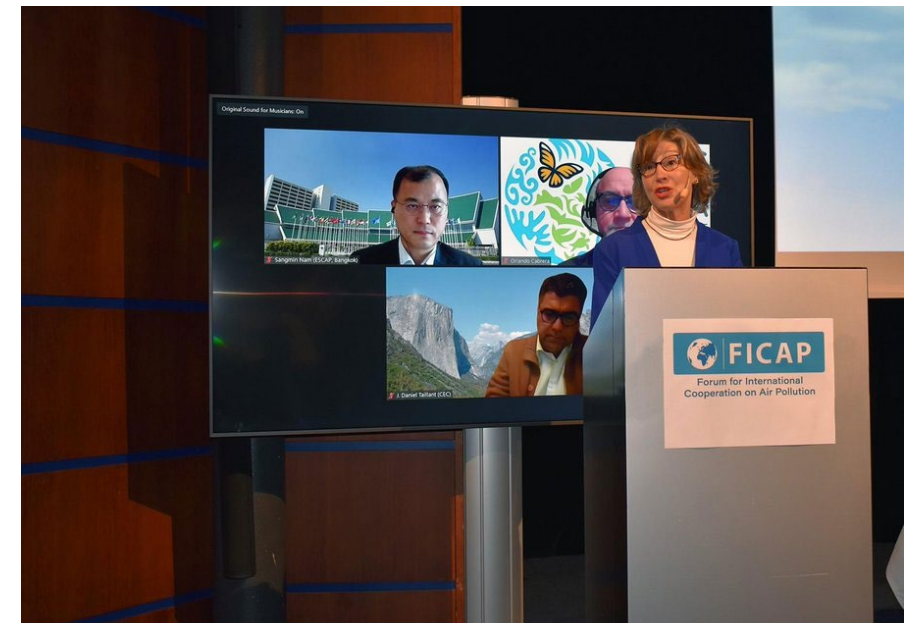
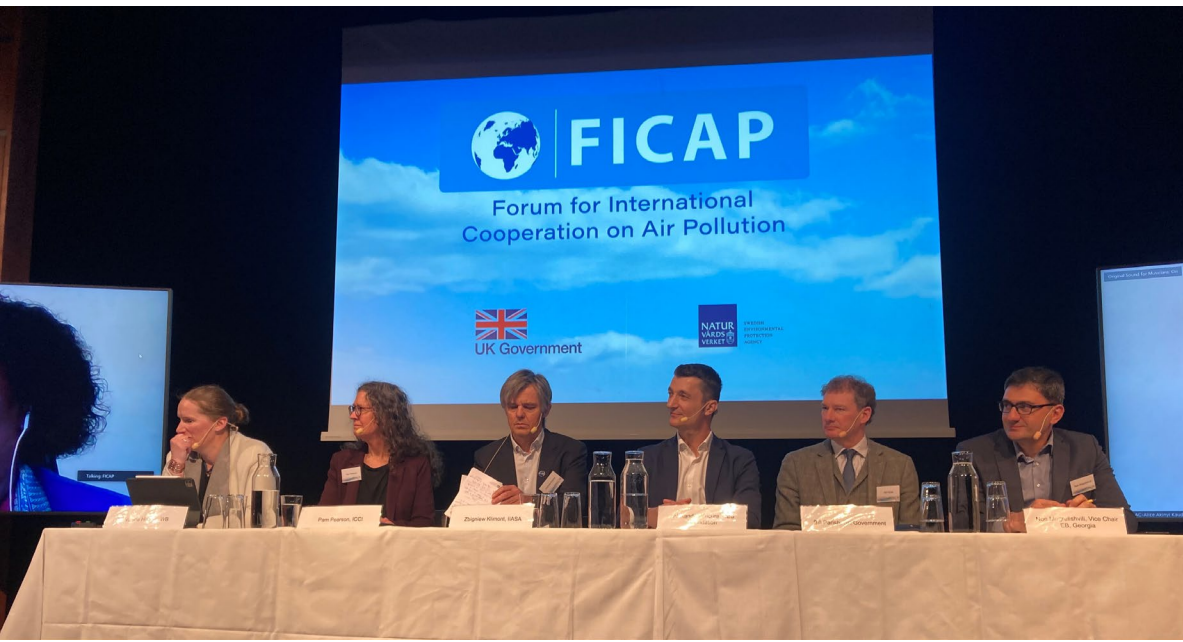
- Strengthen key indicators of damage to terrestrial biodiversity across the UNECE region to set critical loads and levels for nitrogen deposition and ammonia concentrations.
(EB, and parties)
- Consider climate forcing effects from air pollutants in Air Convention decision support activities.
(EB, EMEP, WGE, WGSR)
- Prioritise the protection and maintenance of nature types and areas still in good condition over restoration of already damaged areas.
(EB, WGE)

Topic-specific recommendations

- Increase the number of indicators used to show the impacts of air pollution on vegetation (crops and ecosystems).
(EB, WGE)
- Streamline online resources for capacity building and knowledge sharing.
(FICAP, UNEP)
- Develop frameworks for international cooperation within and between regional cooperation networks.
(UNECE, UNEP/CCAC, FICAP, other international organizations.)

Forum for International Cooperation on Air Pollution

- New initiative under the Air Convention
- Co-lead by Sweden and the UK
- Vision: To promote international collaboration towards preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally
- Aim: To act as a forum for international exchange and mutual learning, to facilitate the sharing of science, technical and policy expertise



Forum for International Cooperation on Air Pollution

Conclusions & Recommendations

- In cooperation with the UNECE Air Convention secretariat and Convention Task Force chairs, list topics where the Air Convention has experiences to share through the Forum.
- Organise with development agency partners, link ups from regions and countries interested in utilising the UNECE Air Convention experience.
- Continue to develop the Forum's web presence and understand what information and data would be useful to collate and communicate.
- The 2nd Task Force meeting under the Air Convention in spring 2024.
- Work with other regional organisations to understand the needs and interests of regions.

Saltsjöbaden VII Final report now available!

Online version:

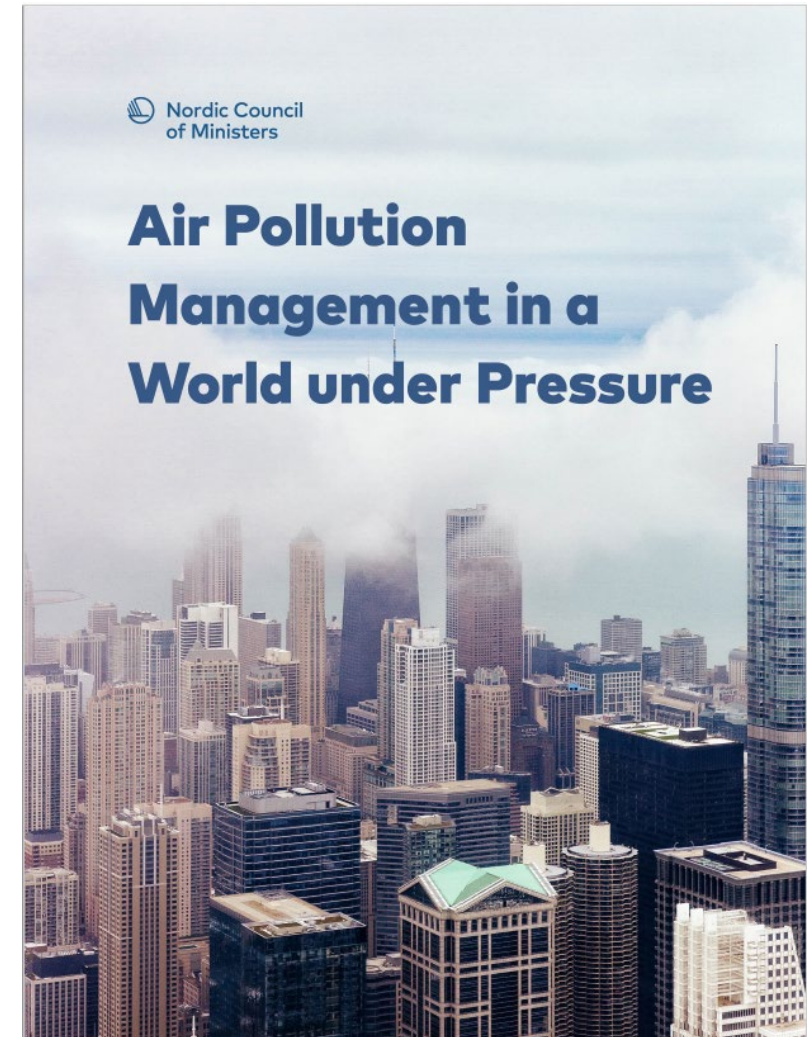
<https://pub.norden.org/temanord2023-529/index.html>

Summary reports in
Spanish,
French, and
Russian available soon!



Pdf version:

<https://www.ivl.se/download/18.14a84f6f18a262ab03234ca7/1694175386108/temanord2023-529.pdf>



Thanks!

- to all those engaged in the meeting: giving presentations, leading working groups. Advisory Board and participating in discussions.
- to all organisations that have contributed to organising the meeting



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