

Statement of
Kevin Fay, Executive Director
International Climate Change Partnership
And
Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy

Climate and Clean Air Coalition
High Level Assembly
May 20, 2015
Geneva, Switzerland

“Lima-Paris Action Agenda & Road to Paris”

Thank you, Co-Chairs and Colleagues.

On behalf of the International Climate Change Partnership and member companies of the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy, a member, I wanted to briefly update our partners on private sector-led efforts under the Coalition’s HFC Initiative which will support the climate goals of COP21.

For those who are new to the Alliance, its members consist of manufacturers, businesses and their trade associations which make or use fluorinated gases for the global market. Today, Alliance member companies are leading the development of safe, efficient, next generation, climate- and ozone-friendly technologies and applications.

At the UN Secretary-General’s September 2014 Climate Summit, the Alliance had the honor of announcing the HFC Initiative’s action plan to reduce the climate change contribution of HFCs. In addition to support for the negotiation of an HFC phasedown amendment under the Montreal Protocol and the promotion of gradual public procurement of alternatives to high-global warming potential HFCs where feasible, two industry-led elements of that plan, spearheaded by ICCP and the Alliance, were the creation of the Global Food Cold Chain Council and the launch of the

Global Refrigerant Management Initiative. The Global Food Cold Chain Council seeks to increase the use of climate-friendly technologies to extend the benefits of the food cold chain around the world, while the Global Refrigerant Management Initiative seeks to reduce emissions from the servicing of applications containing HFCs. I am proud to report to you that both initiatives have since hit the ground running.

The founding member companies of the Global Food Cold Chain Council have developed bylaws, a budget, initial priority activities and are meeting regularly. Additionally, we are also working to identify linkages with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization on steps to link the Food Cold Chain to efforts to reduce global food waste. According to FAO, if global food waste were ranked against country emissions, it would be the third highest emitter of greenhouse gases, or more than 3 billion metric tons of CO₂ equivalent annually.

A more efficient and low-GWP food cold chain can reduce food waste, contribute to a greater food supply for a hungry world, and reduce stress on fresh water supplies. Precisely the type of environmental and health co-benefits CCAC is committed to delivering.

The Global Refrigerant Management Initiative has completed its charter, and is scoping out its organization and activities, recruited founding member organizations representing industry that accounts for more than 95% of global air conditioning and refrigeration manufacture, and identified a number of promising global partnerships.

The refrigerant management in initiatives first goal will develop a uniform education, training, and certification module that will help the global service sector to better manage refrigerant service and disposal emissions, the prime source of HFC emissions, as well as important training on safe use of the new low-GWP alternatives.

In their next phase, both initiatives will broaden their activities to include stakeholders in the government, intergovernmental and NGO communities.

Industry has a unique role to play in addressing the SLCP contribution to climate change. Although historically companies have been categorized more as a part of the problem of climate change, the ICCP and Alliance member companies are among those in the private sector demonstrating how they can in fact be drivers at the center of action to address climate change.

Industry's cutting-edge technologies and practices can change emissions trajectories. We know that COP21, more than any previous COP, seeks to empower industry – its perspectives, interests and operations - as agents of positive change. The Global Food Cold Chain Council and the Global Refrigerant Management Initiative have already begun to take up that challenge and will do so increasingly in the coming months and years.

As a reminder, the overall HFC initiatives culminate with the Montreal Protocol amendment, which can achieve reductions of up to 100 gigatons of CO2 equivalent by 2050. A significant downpayment towards the global goals hoped for in COP21.

Private Sector participation in the CCAC and its initiatives is one of the keys to achieving our common success. Thank you.