

Global Methane Initiative
3rd Steering Committee Meeting
16-17 October 2014
Montreal, Canada

Overview:

Seven GMI Steering Committee Partners attended the meeting, including: Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Italy, Poland, and the United States. Mr. Paul Gunning, Climate Change Division Director with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) chaired the meeting, while Mr. Laurence Blandford, Director of Partnerships for Climate Change International of Environment Canada served as co-chair.

Condensed Summary:

[The Steering Committee agenda](#) (PDF, 2 pp, 40 KB) began with updates from the participating countries and accomplishments/updates from the Administrative Support Group (ASG). The Steering Committee delegates then turned to a discussion on the future of GMI; particularly how it might be transformed after the current charter's expiration to be a more efficient and effective organization. Moreover, the group discussed how GMI could better interact and coordinate its activities with those of other international methane initiatives – with a primary focus on the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), since CCAC also has methane initiatives in the agriculture, municipal solid waste, and oil and gas sectors. The group then discussed the [white paper](#) (PDF, 12 pp, 199 KB) distributed to representatives prior to the meeting that provided additional background and analysis on potential pathways forward for GMI.

After two days of discussions, the Steering Committee representatives concluded that GMI should continue its mission beyond the charter's 2015 expiration date but should consider means to better integrate its actions with other international methane initiatives (focusing on CCAC) with a goal of developing a plan that could be implemented at an international methane forum organized by GMI in late 2015 or early 2016 located in Washington, DC. The Steering Committee will tasked the ASG with constituting a special task force charged with developing a plan for better integrating GMI with CCAC and examining ways to make GMI more inclusive and effective. Comprised of a diverse membership of developed and developing country partners, the task force will address a series of questions ("charge to task force") developed by the Steering Committee. The task force will also receive input from the Project Network and from Subcommittees on these questions. The task force will meet monthly via webinar/conference call with the goal of developing a consensus approach for GMI. All [presentations from the meeting](#) are now available on the GMI events page.

Next Steps

The ASG will develop and distribute the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting as well as a meeting outcomes presentation that will include the charter questions for the proposed task force. The ASG will also seek concurrence from the full Steering Committee on extending the terms of reference for GMI for six months beyond the current expiration of October 2015, and then it will focus on working with the constituted task force to respond to the charter questions.