

**Introductory Remarks** 

Dr. Panos E. Cavoulacos

Chairman

CONCAWE Board of Directors

concawe

## **CONCAWE PROFILE**



- Technical association for EU-based refining industry
- Established in 1963 by a small group of leading oil companies
- Initial focus on carrying out research on environmental issues
- Scope gradually expanded to include health and safety issues; have been building expertise in these areas
- Current membership covers 100% of EU-based crude oil refining capacity
- Work programmes encompass air quality, water quality, fuels quality and emissions, soil contamination, waste, occupational and public health, process safety, petroleum product stewardship and cross-country pipeline performance

# **CONCAWE'S MAIN OBJECTIVES**



- **■** Focus on scientific/technical questions & issues
  - ➤ Acquire pertinent scientific and technical information on environmental, health and safety issues relating to the refining of crude oil and the distribution and use of petroleum products
  - ➤ Communicate the technical findings and information in order to improve understanding of these issues by all stakeholders including industry, authorities and the public at large

## **KEY 2007 WORKSHOP LEARNINGS**



- FP7 runs from 2007-2013
- > FP7 is EU's main instrument for funding research in Europe
- The workshop achieved its main objective
  - Identified strategic & research priorities

	Strategic Priority
No.	(not necessarily in order of importance)
1	Improve research coordination
	Synthesize available data more comprehensively &
2	frequently
	Link research projects to time window of expected policy
3	needs
4	Creatively link available funding from different sources
5	Perform accountability research

# Research Priorities & Uptake into FP7

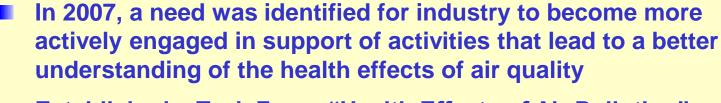


No.	Research Priority (not necessarily in order of importance)	FP7 Research Call*
1	European population studies	1st
2	Impact of traffic emissions on public health	3rd
3	Elucidating mechanisms of toxic action	1st & 3rd
4	Development of toxicity screening test(s)	-
5	Refine particulate matter metric(s) to measure health impacts	1st & 3rd
6	Cost-benefit analysis tool improvement	-

<sup>\* &#</sup>x27;Environment and Health' sub-activity of FP7, through 2008

- Additional FP7 calls for research proposals are expected
- May help to set the scene for FP8

## **CONCAWE RESPONSE**



- Established a Task Force "Health Effects of Air Pollution"
- CONCAWE Board made funding available for a programme
- Programme based on the 2007 Workshop output
- We continue to build our programme
  - Developing partnerships with international programmes
    - e.g., Health Effects Institute (HEI) & NERC
  - Developing focused studies and projects
    - e.g., personal exposure monitoring in EU cohort studies
- Helping to promote/improve
  - More comprehensive & frequent synthesis of available data
    - e.g., 2007 ToxForum: Cardiovascular Mechanisms Session
  - > Research coordination and links to policy time windows
    - e.g., This 2009 Workshop



## WHY THIS WORKSHOP?



- Many upcoming European environment and health milestones
  - Additional FP7 research calls
  - WHO 5th ministerial conference on environment and health in 2010
  - Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution review in 2010
  - Potential 2nd phase Environment & Health Action Plan after 2010
  - Air quality directive evaluation in 2013
  - Future FP8 research calls
- Ongoing need for international and interdisciplinary debate
  - Health-related scientific knowledge
  - Research priorities
  - Emerging challenges and opportunities to progress policy-relevant research
- The workshop objectives are ambitious
  - Identify, discuss and debate key policy-relevant health research needs & opportunities
  - Prioritise the health research needs and identify timelines
  - Propose a roadmap to meet these timelines
- A workshop report will be delivered as in 2007