



**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

To: The Office of the Ambassador

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<http://www.ony.unu.edu>

Subject: UNU Forum: "**Breathe OR Die or Breathe AND Die! Air Pollution the Unnoticed Global Threat**"

Your Excellency,

27 April 2008

The United Nations University Institute on Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the United Nations University Office at the UN in New York (UNU-ONY) are co-organizing a panel discussion entitled: **Breathe OR Die or Breathe AND Die! Air Pollution: the Unnoticed Global Threat.**

The event will take place on **the 23rd of April, 2008, from 15:00 to 17:30 pm in Conference Room 7, at UN headquarters, New York.**

As industrialization gathers pace around the world and demand for all types of energy increases rapidly, one of the first, though perhaps least obvious, areas to suffer is the air we breathe. While the long-term threat from carbon emissions and global warming is well known, pollutants in the air can also lead to more immediate threats to human health and happiness. If air pollution continues to be blindly overshadowed by concerns about economic growth or energy security, the impact on human life could be disastrous.

The panel will consider some of the key research areas concerning air pollution. Speakers include: **Janos J. Bogardi**, Director, UNU-EHS (United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security); **Fabrice Renaud**, Head, Environmental Assessment and Resource Vulnerability Section, UNU-EHS; **Markus Amman**, Head, Atmospheric Pollution and Economic Development program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA); **Nebojsa Nakicenovic**, Leader, Energy, Transitions to New Technologies Programs and the Greenhouse Gas Initiative at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA); and **Johann Goldammer**, Head, Global Fire Monitoring Centre.

If you or your representative is interested in attending this event, please register online at www.ony.unu.edu, or fax (212-371-9454) the attached RSVP, or email the same information to my colleague Ken Stretch ken@ony.unu.edu by **Tuesday, April 22nd 2008**. Confirmation of your participation would be most appreciated.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Jean-Marc Coicaud, Head
United Nations University, Office at the United Nations, New York

UNU-EHS, UNU-ONY Event

AGENDA

“Breathe OR Die or Breathe AND Die! Air Pollution: the Unnoticed Global Threat”

Conference Room 7, UN Headquarters, New York

Wednesday, the 23rd of April 2008, 3:00pm– 5:30pm	
3:00 - 3:05	Introductory Remarks Jean-Marc Coicaud , Head, United Nations University Office in New York.
3:05 - 3:15	Introduction: The Environment and Human Security Janos J. Bogardi , Director, UNU-EHS (United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security)
3:15 - 3:30	Air Pollution: A General Introduction Fabrice Renaud , Head, Environmental Assessment and Resource Vulnerability Section, UNU-EHS
3:30 - 3:50	Air Quality Monitoring to Estimate the Impact of Rapid Industrialization Markus Amman , Head, Atmospheric Pollution and Economic Development program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
3:50 - 4:10	Energy Generation, Land Use Change and Their Consequence for the Atmosphere Nebojsa Nakicenovic , Leader, Energy, Transitions to New Technologies Programs and the Greenhouse Gas Initiative at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
4:10 - 4:30	Forest Fires and Biomass Burning: The Atmospheric Consequences Johann Goldammer , Head, Global Fire Monitoring Centre
4:30 - 5:30	Question and Answer and Discussion Period
	Concluding Remarks