OITA AA/DAA MEETING

Title: Briefing on WHO Air Quality Conference
Date/Time: 10:00-11:00am
Location: Executive Conference Room

I. Purpose

YOU will lead a call for the US delegation to the WHO Air Quality conference. Go over "commitments" that US can highlight during the High-Level segment. Review key US concerns on the chair's summery and potential list of commitments.

II. Participants

You	See attached list of US delegation
Walker Smith	HHS
Marianne Bailey	NIH
Hodayah Finman	USAID
Ted MacDonald	State
Brianna Besch	NOAA

III. Agenda

- **YOU** lead introductions
- Updates – ask Megan McPhee (ESTH Officer, US Missions to the U.N. -Geneva) to provide updates from Geneva from her interactions with WHO
- Logistics
  - Describe your participation in the conference
  - Briefly review annotated agenda, noting sessions others plan to participate in
- Review US pledges
- Identify US priorities and areas of concern
  - Review draft chair's summery for particular issues of concern

IV. Background

WHO's First Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health will take place October 30-November 1 at WHO Headquarters in Geneva. US Delegation members are from EPA (OITA and OAR/OAQPS), USAID, NIH/NIEHS, NOAA, as well as HHS and US Mission Geneva. **YOU** will serve as head of delegation for the High-Level Segment of the meeting on November 1.

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) currently account for seven in ten deaths around the world, primarily from cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, cancer, and diabetes.
About 7 million people die each year from exposure to fine particulate matter. Air pollution is responsible for 25% of all deaths from strokes, 25% of heart disease deaths, 43% of lung disease and lung cancer deaths. WHO has found that air pollution levels remain at dangerously high levels in many parts of the world. 9 out of 10 people worldwide live in places where air quality exceeds WHO guideline limits.

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UNGA High Level Meeting on NCDs Political Declaration

On September 27 the UN General Assembly (UNGA) 3rd High Level Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) adopted a Political Declaration in support of the Sustainable Development Goal target to cut by one-third NCD deaths globally by 2030. A Global Action Plan on NCDs (2013-2020) identifies actions to reduce four major NCD risk factors, including unhealthy diet, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, and physical inactivity to data. The U.S. was successful in incorporating air pollution as a fifth main NCD risk factor and the Political Declaration states: "Increase global awareness, action and international cooperation on environmental risk factors to address the high number of premature deaths from non-communicable diseases attributed to human exposure to indoor and outdoor air pollution, and underscoring the particular importance of cross-sectoral cooperation in addressing these public health risks."

BreathLife

UNEP launched the BreatheLife air pollution campaign to encourage citizens to take action to reduce air pollution. BreatheLife is a partnership of WHO, UN Environment and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants that aims to increase awareness and action on air pollution by governments and individuals.

V. Attachments

- US delegation list

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