

# **GLOBAL ALLIANCE ON HEALTH AND POLLUTION (GAHP)**

## **Stakeholder Consultation Process for Legal Incorporation in Switzerland**

**December 2018 – January 2019**

## What is GAHP?

- A collaborative network of 60+ members
- Advocates for resources and solutions to pollution and health problems on behalf of its low- and middle-income country (LMIC) members
- Platform for multi-stakeholder collaboration for all types of pollution
- Formed in 2012 by Pure Earth, the World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, Asian Development Bank, the European Commission, Ministries of Environment and Health of many LMICs

## Why was GAHP created?

- Scope of health impacts of pollution was unknown, under-recognized, underfunded and NOT mainstreamed or a priority in the global development agenda
- Initial research indicated it was a major public health problem, particularly for LMICs, and warrants a global response
- No one was focusing on this neglected area
- GAHP created to draw attention and resources to the issue and elevate it as an international (and national) development priority

## What does GAHP do?

- Builds *demand* for pollution prevention and mitigation and public, political, technical and financial support (i.e. *supply*) to address pollution and health problems, especially in LMICs, primarily through:
  - Advocacy and Awareness
    - Raising awareness about impacts of all types of pollution on health globally
    - Promoting scientific research on pollution and health
  - Assisting LMICs to prioritize and address pollution through health and pollution action planning (HPAP) and other activities

## GAHP Record of Success

- 2012 - Kick started global response to pollution and health
- 2014-2015 - Ensured all types of pollution were included in Health Goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (Target 3.9)
- 2016- 2017 - Spearheaded the groundbreaking Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health (published 2017)
- 2017 - Helped ensure Pollution was focus of UNEA3

## GAHP planned activities

- **2018** continuing momentum, completing initial HPAPs, publish transboundary report. Global Pollution Observatory launched.
- **2019** Incorporate GAHP as an independent entity, climate, air pollution and health report to be published, Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health 2.0 to be published, India and pollution report, Children, pollution and health report, continue HPAPs, begin CSO activation, conduct additional research.

## GAHP future activities

- **2020** – Convene Pollution Summit; Promote HLM on pollution & health at UNGA, Put pollution & health front & central in Global Pact for the Environment, more reports.
- **2021-2022** Develop implementation options, Secure Government commitments and ODA, or establish a dedicated Pollution & Health Fund to address pollution and health

## Path to Incorporation

- GAHP – not a legal entity, currently a project of Pure Earth
- Need to legally separate from its founder and host Pure Earth to:
  - Be sustainable
  - Maintain transparency
  - Ensure GAHP members have a real stake in its operations and activities.
- Plans to incorporate in Geneva in 2019

# GAHP incorporation process

- **2012** GAHP formed as informal network
- **2014** GAHP engaged Freshfields law firm to provide pro bono expertise on the best incorporation structure for GAHP
- **2014 September** GAHP Annual Meeting draft Statutes and Regulations provided to GAHP Membership and Exec Comm; initial comments discussed.
- **2015** additional consultations held but consensus was GAHP needed to prove itself prior to incorporation
- **2015** - GAHP secured inclusion of target 3.9 on pollution in SDGs
- **2017**- Lancet Commission on Pollution & Health published and Pollution is theme of UNEA3

# Incorporation process

- **Jan - July 2018** EC/UNIDO funded independent assessment of GAHP recommends incorporation. Discussions with GAHP members and observers confirm hesitancy to invest in unincorporated GAHP
- **Oct 2018** Decision made by GAHP Executive Committee to incorporate in 2019 with support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- **Oct – Dec 2018** Reengaged Freshfields LLP to provide pro bono law expertise; hired Jill Hanna, formerly at EC DG Environment, to advise from donor and UN perspective; *Extensive* discussion held between Swiss lawyers and GAHP team about governance structure and Swiss requirements
- **Dec- Jan 2019** Stakeholder consultations
- **Feb – May 2019** Revisions and review by Swiss authorities
- **May 2019** GAHP stakeholder meeting to finalize incorporation documents and proceed with incorporation

# Stakeholder Consultation Process

**Purpose:** Solicit existing member, observer and interested stakeholder feedback on proposed governance structure

We are **Not** asking for formal approval or legal endorsement at this time - that will happen in May 2019.

## **Request to You:**

1. Does your agency wish to join or explore joining an independent, legal GAHP?
2. Does your agency wish to provide feedback on the proposed governance structure?

# Stakeholder Consultation Process

- Yes to either question? Respond ASAP and before 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to [rachael@pureearth.org](mailto:rachael@pureearth.org)
- Yes to provide feedback?
  - Review draft Statutes and Regulations documents and accompanying background document
  - Fill out questionnaire by 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and return to [rachael@pureearth.org](mailto:rachael@pureearth.org)
  - Want to provide verbal feedback? Contact [Rachael@pureearth.org](mailto:Rachael@pureearth.org) to schedule a call with GAHP before 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Thank you for your support and participation!