



17 February, 2016

Achim Steiner  
Executive Director  
United Nations Environment Programme  
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri  
PO Box 30552, 00100  
Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Mr. Steiner:

We are writing on behalf of the Global Methane Initiative (GMI) Steering Committee to apply for GMI to become a non-state partner of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC). GMI's mission is to advance global mitigation of methane, a potent greenhouse gas and short-lived climate pollutant. Since CCAC's launch in 2012, several CCAC initiatives have engaged substantively with, and benefited from, their counterparts in GMI. Formalizing the collaboration between GMI and CCAC will enhance future methane mitigation efforts across the two partnerships.

Launched in 2004, GMI is an international public-private initiative composed of 43 partner countries (including the European Union) that advances cost effective, near-term methane abatement, recovery, and use as a clean energy source. GMI's partner countries represent approximately 70 percent of the world's estimated anthropogenic methane emissions and include the top ten methane-emitting countries. GMI achieves emissions reductions around the globe by developing tools and resources, conducting training and capacity building, demonstrating technologies and best practices, and providing technical expertise to address methane from five emissions sources: agriculture (manure management), coal mines, municipal solid waste (MSW), oil and gas systems, and municipal waste water. GMI has developed a wealth of tools and resources on these methane sources that are available in multiple languages at [www.globalmethane.org](http://www.globalmethane.org). To date, GMI activities have reduced global methane emissions by over 340 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>E.

GMI is in the midst of re-chartering to extend its cooperative partnership for another five years. As part of this process, GMI seeks to formalize its cooperation with the CCAC on methane mitigation activities by becoming a non-state partner. In several CCAC initiatives, including MSW, Oil & Gas, and Agriculture, GMI and CCAC have already begun collaborating. Formalizing and deepening this collaboration will enable more efficient leveraging of activities and ensure no duplication of efforts across these sectors. As an example of ongoing collaboration, in March 2016 in Washington, D.C., GMI and CCAC will co-host an upcoming international conference dedicated to methane mitigation, the Global Methane Forum, which is being co-located with the CCAC Working Group meeting to facilitate broad participation across the two initiatives. This event will provide sector-specific and cross-cutting information sharing among GMI and CCAC partners. By becoming an official non-state partner of CCAC, future GMI activities can be more closely coordinated with relevant CCAC activities related to methane. This formal relationship will provide access and a communication channel to GMI partners that are not currently CCAC partners about the ongoing activities and work of the CCAC. In turn, CCAC partners are welcome to participate in relevant GMI activities. Both partnerships will gain from this cross-fertilization.

On behalf of the GMI Steering Committee, as the Administrative Support Group (ASG) [secretariat] for the Global Methane Initiative, we fully endorse the CCAC's framework document and the shared goal of meaningful action to address short-lived climate pollutants. With more than 10 years of experience achieving methane reductions around the world, GMI proposes deepened cooperation with the CCAC in the following areas:

- **Agriculture:** GMI focuses on methane emitted from manure and agro-industrial waste management systems that can be captured using anaerobic digestion technology and used as an energy source. GMI assists Partner Countries by applying a multi-step methodology to overcome existing policy and financing barriers to deploying anaerobic digestion technology. Anaerobic digestion projects reduce greenhouse gas emissions and produce clean energy while providing multiple benefits: improving air and water quality, reducing odors, improving nutrient management, increasing sanitation, stimulating rural economic



development, and promoting sustainable environmental development. GMI technical resources on manure management can be shared with CCAC partners. In turn, GMI partners can benefit by accessing information about CCAC's broader methane-focused activities in the agricultural sector.

- **Waste:** GMI's Municipal Solid Waste Subcommittee focuses on reducing methane from this sector through prevention (composting, source reduction and improved waste management) and by capturing landfill gas (LFG) and converting it to energy. GMI assists partner countries with reducing the barriers to LFG energy project development by creating country-specific strategies, undertaking preliminary studies and demonstrations, and hosting workshops and training sessions. GMI's country-level focus complements CCAC's city-level focus to ensure that all levels of government are engaged in this sector. As part of its re-charter, GMI activities in the MSW sector will be coordinated with activities in the municipal waste water and agriculture sectors under the auspices of a "Biogas Subcommittee." GMI and CCAC activities in the MSW sector have been successfully coordinated at the working level for several years; formalizing this relationship will facilitate future collaboration across the three biogas sectors.
- **Oil & Gas:** GMI works with oil & gas production, transmission, and distribution companies to reduce fugitive emissions that occur during normal operations, routine maintenance and system disruptions in the oil and natural gas industry. The GMI Oil & Gas Subcommittee engages the international oil and gas industry to improve awareness of emission sources and volumes, informs oil and gas companies about reduction opportunities, and promotes recognition of emission prevention and mitigation as a core business opportunity. GMI has provided critical technical expertise to oil and gas companies interested in learning how to reduce fugitive methane emissions, thereby reducing safety hazards while conserving a valuable resource. Working jointly with CCAC, GMI could provide technical information and assistance to companies that are not yet ready to commit to CCAC's Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP), with the goal of building their expertise and capacity to enable them to join OGMP in the near future.
- **Coal:** GMI partners have engaged in extensive technical and policy work in the coal mine methane sector, which accounts for more than 10 percent of global methane emissions. GMI activities in this sector include technology transfer and demonstrations, policy support, capacity building, and development of market information. GMI works closely with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Coal Mine Methane Expert Group, including hosting joint meetings and jointly developing and disseminating the *Best Practices Guidance Document for Coal Mine Methane Drainage and Recovery*. GMI's Coal Mines Subcommittee, in collaboration with UNECE, could provide access to information and resources for CCAC partners interested in engaging in this sector.

GMI partners will continue to contribute in-kind resources and technical expertise to GMI methane-focused initiatives. The GMI Administrative Support Group is currently working with the CCAC Secretariat to jointly plan the Global Methane Forum. In the future, formal collaboration and partnership between GMI and CCAC would facilitate coordination of international methane-focused events and activities both sector-specific and cross-sector.

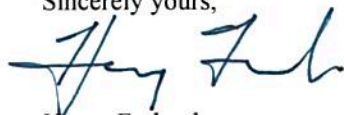
GMI's Administrative Support Group co-directors, Mr. Henry Ferland and Ms. Monica Shimamura, will serve as the primary points of contact for the purposes of this application:

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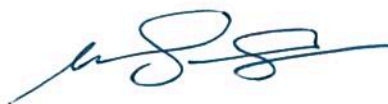
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Thank you in advance for your consideration of GMI's application. Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions. We look forward to closer cooperation on achieving global methane reductions.

Sincerely yours,



Henry Ferland



Monica Shimamura