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### **Center for Clean Air Policy Showcases Climate Change Actions in Developing Countries and European Union on Eve of Major Economies Meeting**

**Washington, D.C.** – Ministers from developing nations and the European Union today said they are developing and implementing domestic laws and policies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The ministers from Brazil, China, Mexico and Portugal — who are in Washington, D.C. for a White House major economies meeting to discuss a framework that would contribute to a global agreement post-2012 to reduce GHG emissions — highlighted these policies at a breakfast today at the National Press Club, sponsored by the **Center for Clean Air Policy (CCAP)**.

“The bottom line of today’s presentations is Europe, China, Mexico, and Brazil are taking actions to reduce climate-threatening emissions,” said **Ned Helme, president of CCAP**. “We in the U.S. need to pass new laws to reduce our emissions if together we are going to be able to protect the planet from the most serious impacts of global warming.”

Ministers who participated in the briefing included: Xie Zhenhua, Vice Chairman, National Development and Reform Commission, People’s Republic of China; Juan Rafael Elvira Quesada, Minister, Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Mexico; Sergio Serra, Ambassador, Brazil’s Special Representative for Climate Change; and Humberto Rosa, Secretário de Estado do Ambiente, Portugal, European Union Representative.

“To further reduce the emission of GHGs, China is making great efforts to save energy consumption by improving energy efficiency and increasing the use of renewables,” said Zhenhua. “The overall goal is to reduce the energy consumption per unit of GDP by 20 percent from the 2005 base by 2020. In addition, we are working to increase renewables to 10 percent by 2010, while increasing forest cover to 20 percent.”

Regarding the arrangement for a post- 2012 climate change plan in China, the Vice Chairman said his country will be working under the framework of both the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol.

Minister Quesada and Fernando Tudela, Undersecretary for Planning for Climate Change in Mexico, stressed that “emerging economies will not be free riders in any regime coming out of the post-2012 negotiations. Common but differentiated responsibility doesn’t mean ‘you do, and we watch’.”

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The Brazilians pointed out it is a myth that developing countries are doing nothing to reduce GHG emissions. “Perhaps our most important effort is our program to combat deforestation,” Serra said, “This program has avoided emitting around 400 million tons of carbon dioxide overall.”

The EU discussed accomplishing targets through diverse set of measures. “We established the EU ETS in record time, and we are making reforms to that system, including considering more harmonization across the member states and more auctioning of allowance allocation,” Rosa said. “The EU is committed to meeting a unilateral target of cutting GHGs to 20 percent below 1990 levels by 2020, and we are aiming to go to 30 percent below [1990 levels] if other developing countries make comparable efforts.”

Through its **Developing Nations Project**, **CCAP** has been assisting these developing countries in identifying win-win opportunities where they can reap economic and other benefits through cost-effective actions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, CCAP has been helping outline the key elements of the post-2012 international response to climate change through its **Future Actions Dialogue** and developing strategies for meeting the EU’s climate and energy strategies through its **European Dialogue**.

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*Since 1985, CCAP has been a recognized world leader in climate and air quality policy and is the only independent, non-profit think-tank working exclusively on those issues at the local, national and international levels. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., CCAP helps policymakers around the world to develop, promote and implement innovative, market-based solutions to major climate, air quality and energy problems that balance both environmental and economic interests. More information about CCAP can be found at [www.ccap.org](http://www.ccap.org).*