



Country: United Mexican States

Committee: World Health Organization

Agenda Item: Addressing Health Issues Caused by Air Pollution

Introduction

Mexico, home to the Aztecs and Mayans, two of the oldest civilizations in world history and located in the southern part of North America. It is the sixth largest country in the Americas and the 14th largest in the world. For population, Mexico became a hometown to more than 130 million people, because of that it is the 10th largest country in the world. Although not an official language, Spanish is the most widely spoken. The country consists of 32 states, including Mexico City, the capital and largest city by population. Every Mexican citizen has the right to access to healthcare and medicine freely. Basic education in Mexico includes primary and secondary education that are forced by law.

Topic and Country Relevance

Air pollution plays a critical role in Mexico. It affects health, the environment, and the economy a lot. Although there has been a lot of progress since the 1990s, especially in Mexico City, pollution is still very high in many cities, and it causes about 5.9% of all deaths in the country. Children and old people are the most affected. Mexico City is built on a valley, which traps pollutants and prevents air from flowing away. Mexico has many factories, industries, and vehicles that release large amounts of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, and other harmful gases and particles into the air. Inhaling smoke can cause long-term lung diseases, sudden breathing infections, and even lung cancer. Crop burning is common in Mexico's farming areas, but it also directly releases large amounts of pollutants into the air. Treating illnesses caused by air pollution costs Mexico's healthcare system a lot of money. We also face with this problem a lot in countries like India, China and Pakistan. Mexico also cooperates with international organizations to understand how air pollution affects human health.

Solutions and Conclusion

Mexico thinks that protecting human health should be the most important thing when dealing with air pollution. Recently, the World Health Organization chose Beijing, New Delhi, and Mexico City for its 'Clearing the Air: A Tale of Three Cities' report to see how efforts have improved air quality. As a general rule, some vehicle license plates are not allowed on the roads on certain days in and around Mexico City. The goal is to lower traffic and pollution. Other actions include encouraging electric and low-emission buses, adding more bicycle paths, requiring filters in big factories, controlling waste burning and heavy industries, and cutting fossil fuel use by investing in renewable energy. Planting trees and creating green corridors in cities are important for making areas free from vehicle fumes. Mexico has one of the best air quality monitoring systems in Latin America, with many fixed stations, real-time air quality maps, and data available to the public through mobile apps. Mexico also believes that the World Health Organization should help countries share information and work together on this issue. Mexico is ready to cooperate with other nations to reduce health problems related to air pollution and create healthier living conditions.

REFERENCES

Environmental and Health Impacts of Air Pollution: A Review

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2020.00014/full>

Mexico Perspective: Air Pollution

<https://copenhagenconsensus.com/publication/mexico-perspective-air-pollution>

Air Pollution in Mexico: Challenges and Solutions

<https://www.climateimpactstracker.com/air-pollution-in-mexico/>

Air pollution

https://www.who.int/health-topics/air-pollution#tab=tab_1

About WHO

<https://www.who.int/>