

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL ENVIRONMENT Directorate C - Climate Change & Air ENV.C.3 - Clean Air & Transport

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Brussels, DG ENV C3/SFM/AK/NV D(2008) 65370

Subject: Nomination of national experts to FAIRMODE - forum on air quality modelling in support of the implementation of ambient air quality legislation

Dear colleagues,

In response to a request from the DG Environment of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission together with the European Environment Agency initiated in 2008 an activity in support of the use of air quality modeling for the purposes of the EU's Air Quality Directives. The activity has set up a "Forum on AIR quality MODelling for Europe" (FAIRMODE).

This forum is already working to produce guidance for the application of models for the purposes of the Directives. Under FAIRMODE, a Network for Air Quality Modelling Groups is also currently being set up with the objective of working on model quality assurance and harmonization in Europe. Both activities are crucial for the implementation and future revision of the Directives. For more information, please have a look at the website of the Network at http://fairmode.ew.eea.europa.eu/.

FAIRMODE had its first meeting on 10th October 2008 in Croatia. Around 50 experts from various EU Member States and EEA Member Countries participated in the meeting and more expressed interest in this initiative.

FAIRMODE is designed to assist Member States in the use of modeling for the implementation of the Air Quality Directives and in the preparation for its review. Thus it is of high relevance to the competent authorities of Member States. We would like to ensure that you are fully aware of this initiative and also get the chance to actively participate.

We therefore recommend Member States to designate one or more representatives to FAIRMODE. The representatives should be experts in the use and/or development of air quality models. If more than one representative please indicate the person that would be acting as the national reference point for FAIRMODE with responsibility to disseminate the results of FAIRMODE in the respective Member State.

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Since some of the activities have already started and others are expected to start soon we would be grateful if you could let us know by the end of December 2008 whether you will appoint representative(s) to FAIRMODE. Please send this information, with full contact details of the experts, including an email, to Ms. Emilia Georgieva (Emilia.georgieva@jrc.it) as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Stefan Moser Acting Head of Unit

c.c.: Ambient Air Quality Committee, EEA (Anke Lukewille), JRC (Emilia Georgieva)