

Appendix IV –g. NARSTO and Mexico Activities

NARSTO conducts or is involved in a number of activities of special interest to Mexico. In February and March 1997 the U.S. Department of Energy in collaboration with Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) conducted the Mexico City Fine Particle Study, **Particulate Air Pollution in Mexico City: A Collaborative Research Project**. The report, found at <http://www.narsto.org/section.src?SID=11> is reproduced on the NARSTO website by permission of the Air and Waste Management Association.

The NARSTO meeting Tropospheric **Aerosols: Science and Decisions in an International Community** was a technical symposium on aerosol science held October 23-26, 2000 in Queretaro Mexico.

NARSTO collaborated with MIT Mexico City Project, SEMARNAT, CEC on the “**Workshop on Mexico Emissions Inventory**” which was held in Mexico City on February 25-26, 2003. (see agenda <http://mce2.org/airpollution/emission.html>)

Several Mexican researchers and government officials participated in the NARSTO workshop on "Innovative Methods for Emission-Inventory Development and Verification" held on October 14-16, 2003 in Austin, Texas.

In March 2006, a number of U.S. and Mexican agencies conducted another study of atmospheric chemistry and aerosols in the Mexico City region and on its potential effects on regional climate. Some preliminary information on the experiment can be found at Megacity Initiative: Local Global and Research Observations (MILAGRO) in the Molina Center for Energy and the Environment website **MCE2** (<http://www.mce2.org/>), in the **MCE2 Newsletter** (<http://mce2.org/newsletter.html>), which is devoted entirely to the 2006 field campaign and in the **MAX-Mex** (Megacity Aerosol Experiment in Mexico City) report (<http://www.asp.bnl.gov/MAXMex/report.html>).

Mexico is also an important player in NARSTO work that is not Mexico-focused. In particular, the largest Mexican involvement with NARSTO is in the current assessment on Multi-pollutant assessment. At NARSTO's invitation, representatives of INE and MCE2 became involved in the assessment, organizing meetings in Mexico City attended by both researchers and government officials. NARSTO subsequently invited and supported several Mexicans to attend various workshops related to the assessment including the health workshop, the ecosystem workshop and the authors meeting in Chicago in November 2007. There are Mexican contributors in every chapter of the report and Mexican policy makers have contributed to the assessment, including input from the Instituto Nacional de Ecología (INE) and the Secretaría del Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT) on the air quality management policies.

The Emissions Inventory Assessment was another important area of involvement for Mexico particularly with respect to the Instituto Nacional de Ecología (INE).

Mexico was also involved in the review of the NARSTO PM Assessment Report where Mexican experts from government agencies and the Molina Center for Energy and the Environment (MCE2) reviewed the Mexican components.

The NARSTO Executive Assembly Meeting and the Technical Symposium in April 2008 in Mexico City was very successful and beneficial to Mexican investigators.

The MCMA-2003 campaign was a NARSTO-sanctioned field study that facilitated the participation of US investigators in the campaign. Although no financial support was provided, personnel responsible for the NARSTO archive assisted in converting data from the Mexican field campaign as well as MILAGRO data into the NARSTO format for archiving.

The NARSTO data archive has archived information from the MCMA2003 and MILAGRO campaigns.

In summary, in addition to developing Mexico-focussed data and conclusions on air quality, NARSTO has facilitated the interaction of Mexican investigators from academia and government agencies with experts in the US and Canada on North American atmospheric scientific research and policy with respect to emissions inventories, particulate matter and multipollutants. The development through NARSTO of Mexico-specific information and the involvement of Mexico in NARSTO air quality assessments has been very important to furthering efforts to understand and address North American air quality issues.