

Tuesday, 6 December 2005 – 7:30 pm – 9 pm – Kazan River (room 5)

Knowledge transfer to reduce GHG emissions – lessons from the fertilizer industry

The fertilizer industry has long married technical advances and good management to reduce environmental impacts resulting from both production and the use of its products. Because this has occurred within the framework of a global structural shift of the industry from developed to developing countries, this experience provides insights into the importance of knowledge transfer to make lasting improvements with regard to greenhouse gas emissions.

Drawing from activities throughout the fertilizer life cycle, panellists at this event will illustrate successes and discuss the constraints that arise from addressing the performance of a truly global industry and of millions of farmers.

Moderator: Gilles Payette, President, Yara Canada L.P.

- ❖ **Early adopters: How the North American fertilizer industry has improved its environmental performance and the drivers behind the change** – Craig Rickard, Agrium, will discuss the gains in production efficiency that have been made by the North American fertilizer industry and the different factors, including market forces, that have catalyzed these advances. In addition, he will look at the contributions to good nutrient management made by the fertilizer industry through the development of enhanced-efficiency products.
- ❖ **Technology transfer and knowledge transfer: why technology alone cannot improve industrial environmental performance** – In recent decades, the fertilizer industry has been shifting increasingly to developing countries, with some 40% of production now occurring in Asia. Kristen E. Sukalac, International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA), will review the lessons that can be learned from the transfer of technology in the fertilizer industry and present the sector's latest global benchmarking results.
- ❖ **Farmer knowledge and incentives for best practices are vital for climate change mitigation** – Keeping in mind that farmers face a double challenge of adapting to the new conditions created by climate change and contributing to mitigation by building up the carbon stocks in their soils, Donald Smith, McGill University, will look at the implications of climate change for agricultural management practices.
- ❖ **Two billion non-point sources of greenhouse gas emissions? Drivers and barriers to the uptake of good agricultural practices** – It takes a long-term investment in extension services to get a significant proportion of farmers to adopt the best nutrient management practices for their circumstances. Doug McKell, Soil Conservation Council of Canada, will look at the challenges of fostering beneficial agricultural management practices that must be adapted to a wide range of crops, agroclimatic conditions and other local factors and what policy makers can do to help.

This event will be followed by a cocktail reception.