

## CEGESTI participates in global initiative to reduce 50% of fuel consumption in vehicles by 2050



*Mrs. Daira Gómez, Director of CEGESTI.  
Mr. Rob de Jong, Head of Transport Unit of UNEP's DTIE*

Mrs. Daira Gomez, Director of CEGESTI, participated in the **GFEI Fuel Economy Accelerator Symposium**, held in Paris on September 5, 2014. Mrs. Gomez was invited to the Symposium by the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The **GFEI** (Global Fuel Economy Initiative) is a global initiative to promote greater efficiency in the use of fuel in vehicles. GFEI arises by the alliance of six organizations: FIA Foundation, UNEP, International Transport Forum, International Energy Agency, International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) and the University of California, Davis.

GFEI seeks to promote a substantial, but attainable improvement in vehicle fuel economy as a contribution to national and global greenhouse gas reduction targets, with co-benefits in terms of energy security, cost savings, air pollution and sustainable mobility on a global basis.

This symposium was supported by the Government of France, and its objective was to reconcile the political will to more than 20 countries that attended to the event, looking to improve efficiency in the use of fuels, with greater involvement of the private sector, civil sector and other key stakeholders. In the case of Central America, the activity had the participation of the Guatemalan Vice-Minister of Environment, Mr. Sergio Ruano, and Mr. Manuel Morales of the Embassy of Costa Rica in France on behalf of the Ministry of Environment.



*In the photo: Speakers of the Panel about The Role of Governments to promoting greater efficiency in fuel use. Moderated by Mr. Drew Kodjak, Director of ICCT.*

This important event is considered part of the previous activities to United Nations Climate Summit, to be held on 23 September in New York. During the Summit, the GFEI will be presented as a key initiative in transport and energy. The Symposium is also considered part of the COP (Conference of the Parties), which will be hosted this year by Peru and in 2015 by France.

The Symposium noted that it is expected that the global car fleet will triple by 2050 and 80% will correspond to the developing countries. This fact confronts the need to reconcile the legitimate interests of mobility of the population, with the ambitious goal that the planet needs to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and at the same time activate global economy.

To achieve this, it is possible to use more efficient vehicles which can save more than 6 million barrels of oil per year by 2050, and reduce about half of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from cars, as well as generate higher quality air with health benefits. The GFEI is proposing:

- ♦ 30% reduction in L/100 km in 2020 in all new cars in the OECD countries
- ♦ 50% reduction by 2030 in all new cars worldwide.
- ♦ 50% reduction by 2050 in all cars globally.

The goals can only be achieved with participation of different stakeholders, the commitment of car manufacturers, the implementation of appropriate public policies and purchasing decisions of informed consumers. In this regard, Mr. Rob de Jong, Head of Transport Unit of UNEP, presented the tools that the Unit has developed to support countries in the implementation of public policies.

CEGESTI attended the event as part of its efforts to promote mitigation and adaptation to climate change. In particular, in the coming months, CEGESTI, under the direction of the Transport Unit of UNEP, will implement a regional project involving the use of cleaner fuels and more efficient vehicles in the Central American countries, with special emphasis on Costa Rica and Guatemala. As a result, the project will contribute to reduce greenhouse gases and other pollutants from regional ground transportation sector.

*Source: CEGESTI, September 08, 2014.*