

ACTION PLAN FOR NIGERIA

- The Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) should reduce the current lead content in gasoline from 0.45 g/l to 0.15 g/l in 2002 and to lead free from 2003 onwards.
- A publicity Committee to be formed by the major stakeholders to conduct public enlightenment campaigns on improved air quality.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs to take up the matter of the harmonisation of the technical standards of gasoline in Africa with a view to endorsing lead phase-out.
- The Department of Petroleum Resources and NNPC should ensure that all new refineries are configured to produce only unleaded fuel.
- NNPC should ensure that all gasoline imported into the country would continue to be lead free.
- NNPC should endeavour to reduce the current gasoline lead content of 0.2 g/l, to 0.15 g/l by the end of the year 2002 and to zero by the year 2004.
- Government should accept and fund the refinery modifications needed to phase-out leaded gasoline.
- NNPC to consider maintaining the existing single distribution system, allowing for a few months to flush out lead when the fuel supply becomes unleaded.
- R & D efforts aimed at proffering solutions to reducing associated sources of air pollutants like CO, CO₂, NO_x, SO_x, aldehydes and arsenic should be boosted by the appropriate agencies.

- The Federal Ministry of Environment and SON should formulate vehicle exhaust emission standards and a programme for its implementation with a definite target for the installing of catalytic converters in the exhaust of vehicles.
- Federal and States' ministries of Health should conduct a national survey of blood lead levels, combined with nutritional assessment if possible, to provide a baseline for subsequent monitoring studies.
- The Ministries of Environment and Health should address other sources of lead intake such as auto and home paints, water supply and food containers, with a view to reducing the quantities involved.