

The Lead Education and Abatement Design Group
Working to eliminate lead poisoning globally and to protect
the environment from lead in all its uses: past, current and new uses
ABN 25 819 463 114

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Ending the leaded petrol era by the end of 2011

Young Australian puts the case to Nairobi UN meeting

Zac Gethin-Damon from Sydney, representing Australian environmental NGO The LEAD Group, has put the case for ending the sale of leaded-petrol by the end of 2011, at a meeting of the Partners of the ‘Partnership for Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles,’ held in Nairobi on 26 and 27 October

Leaded petrol is still sold in 6 countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, Burma, Iraq, North Korea and Yemen.

Nineteen-year-old Gethin-Damon presented research showing that four factors stand in the way of the six countries converting to non-leaded petrol: corruption, lack of democracy, lack of press freedom, and lack of economic freedom.

“Given these barriers, the key to ending the sale of leaded petrol in the six is to stop the supply of the additive Tetra-Ethyl Lead (TEL),” said Gethin-Damon. “TEL is the octane enhancer that turns petrol into leaded petrol. Swiss-owned Australian mining company Xstrata provides the lead, a US company manufacturing in the United Kingdom, Innospec, makes the additive.”



As well as presenting the case to the Nairobi meeting, The LEAD Group has appealed to the OECD to take issue with Innospec. By selling TEL, Innospec is flouting OECD environmental guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

“What are you willing to do to stop Innospec’s sale of Tetra-Ethyl Lead immediately?” Gethin-Damon asked attendees at Nairobi. “With international pressure we can stop the deadly era of leaded petrol in 2011.

Let’s close the door on lead poisoning and reach for a lead safe world.”

Links to documents

- [End of Leaded Petrol - Presentation Nairobi](#)
- [Nairobi Presentation 20111026-27](#)
- [Nairobi Presentation](#) PowerPoint
- [PCFV End of Leaded Petrol Presentation Nairobi](#) MS Word doc
- [PCFV End of Leaded Petrol Presentation Nairobi](#) PDF
- [Summary of Research Nairobi handout](#) MS Word doc
- [Summary of Research Nairobi handout](#) PDF

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