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For Immediate Release

GSEP Cool Roofs and Pavements Working Group Makes Progress Towards Cooler Buildings and Cities

On October 3rd, 2012, the Indian Bureau of Energy Efficiency and the U.S. Department of Energy co-hosted the 2nd Working Session of the Global Superior Energy Performance Partnership (GSEP) Cool Roofs and Pavements Working Group in New Delhi, India. The meeting included approximately 35 participants representing governments, industries, academia, and the technical expert communities from India, Japan, Mexico, South Africa, and the United States. These countries, which include 5 of the 10 largest cities in the world, are leaders in innovative research, demonstration, and other policies to spur deployment of cool surfaces. The Working Group is coordinated by the Global Cool Cities Alliance.

The GSEP Cool Roofs and Pavements Working Group collaborates at the local, regional, national and multinational level to accelerate development and deployment of cool roofs and pavements. Where feasible, the Working Group seeks to incorporate cool roofs and pavements into existing programs, protocols and organizations.

Increasing the reflectance of our buildings and paved surfaces can reduce the temperature of buildings, cities, and even the entire planet. Cool buildings are more energy efficient and comfortable. Cool cities have lower incidences of heat and pollution related illness. Deploying cool roofs in temperate and tropical cities worldwide could partially offset the warming effect of greenhouse gas emissions. These results can be achieved with readily available and cost-effective materials and technology.

The Working Session included updates from each country on its ongoing cool roofs and pavements initiatives, presentations of new research highlighting how cool roofs improve the thermal comfort of unconditioned affordable housing, and a discussion of objectives for 2013. The Working Group agreed to convene a multilateral sub-group to address common technical issues, continue the build-out of the [Cool Roofs and Pavements Knowledge Base](#), explore development of a

standard impact analysis methodology for cool surfaces, and to develop outreach and educational materials for both the general public and construction/design professionals.

The *Cool Buildings and Communities Conference* followed the Working Session on October 4th. The conference included remarks from Minister of Power Veerappa Moily, U.S. Embassy Charge d’Affairs Mr. Donald Lu, and Joint Secretary Jyoti Arora. The Conference was also the official launch of a new Indian non-profit called [SUCCEED – Sustainable Urban Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Development](#). Led by a board of the most eminent building experts in India, SUCCEED will focus on improving the sustainability of Indian buildings, with an initial focus on cool roofs.