

The Thirteenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting
on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
30 November-1 December 2011, Hanoi, Vietnam

REPORT OF THE SESSION

I. Introduction

1. The Intergovernmental Meeting (IG) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Thirteenth Session (IG13) in Hanoi, Vietnam on 30 November and 1 December 2011.
2. Representatives of Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam participated in the Session. Experts from the following organizations attended the Session: Kanazawa University, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Some observers attended the Session as well. The List of Participants is attached as Annex 1.

II. Opening of the Session (Agenda Item 1)

3. The Session was opened by the Secretariat of the EANET. On behalf of the Secretariat, Mr. Christer Holtsberg, Senior Technical Advisor, UNEP Regional Resource Center for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP RRC.AP), delivered the Opening Address. He expressed his sincere gratitude to the hosting country of the IG13. Recalling the history and the signatory status of the Instrument, he encouraged all the participating countries to make joint efforts to strengthen the network. It was emphasized that the success of EANET will not only benefit the region, but also will provide a better understanding on the consequences of air pollution on human health and the natural environment, and associated costs for the societies.
4. Dr. Hoang Duong Tung, Vice Director General, Vietnam Environment Administration, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Vietnam, made welcoming remarks. He welcomed the participants and expressed his wishes for a successful meeting. Under rapid economic growth in the region, he emphasized the importance of the regional cooperation framework such as EANET. The disasters, including the earthquakes, tsunami and the accident in nuclear power plants in Japan and the flooding in Thailand, were recalled as alarm for environment degradation. He acknowledged the efforts of EANET in the past several years, and looked forward to new achievements at this Session.

5. Following the brief introduction of the EANET logo by the Secretariat and pointing out that it was endorsed by the National Focal Points, the logo was launched by Mr. Christer Holtsberg, Dr. Hajime Akimoto, Director General of the Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP), and Dr. Hoang Duong Tung.

III. Election of Officers (Agenda item 2)

6. The Session elected Dr. Hoang Duong Tung, Vietnam, as Chairperson of the Session, Dr. Erdenebat Eldev-Ochir, Director, International Cooperation Division, National Agency for Meteorology and Environment Monitoring, Mongolia, as Vice-Chairperson, and Mr. Heng Nareth, Director, Department of Pollution Control, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia, as Rapporteur.

IV. Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda item 3)

7. The Session adopted the Agenda of the Session (EANET/IG 13/3/1) as proposed.

V. Consideration on the Draft Progress Report of EANET since the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG12) and Draft Financial Report of the Secretariat and the Network Center (NC) in 2010 (Agenda item 4)

8. The Secretariat and the NC presented the Draft Report on the Progress of EANET since the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG12) (EANET/IG 13/4/1) and the Draft Financial Report of the Secretariat and the Network Center in 2010 (EANET/IG 13/4/2), including the presentation of the comprehensive explanation on the personnel cost of the ACAP. The Session was invited to review and endorse the reports.
9. The major discussions include:
 - It was decided that major meeting documents should be uploaded on the EANET website. The Secretariat and the NC should develop a criterion for uploading and classifying priority documents in a stepwise manner.
 - Participating countries were suggested to make best efforts to contribute to the EANET budget.
 - The efforts to improve the transparency of the NC were appreciated, as contribution to the discussion on financial modality.
 - In the financial report, the difference between budget and expenditures for consumables would be clarified as an explanatory note in the report.
 - Rules and guidelines were suggested to be developed on budget and financial issues, e.g. the management of the savings. It was recalled that the guidelines of

administrative and financial management will be developed according to the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD) (2011-2012).

10. The Session endorsed both reports.

VI. Consideration of the Report on the Outcomes of the Eleventh Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC11) (Agenda item 5)

11. Dr. Duong Hong Son, Chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), presented the Report on the Outcomes of the SAC11 (EANET/IG 13/5). The Session was invited to review the report, endorse the Second Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia (PRSAD2) including Part I, Part II and Executive Summary, and provide appropriate guidance for further development of the activities of the SAC.

12. The major discussions included:

- The NC clarified the PRSAD2 endorsement procedures.
- It was suggested to show the EANET logo on the cover page of the PRSAD2.
- It was proposed to selectively take the Recommendations of Executive Summary related to the future development of the EANET into the discussions of the next WGFD and SAC Sessions.

13. The Session revised the Executive Summary of the PRSAD2 as follows:

- Preface
 - The fifth line, to change “other air pollution” to “related air pollution”;
 - The sixth line, to change “network to date” to “both the network and outside literature”;
 - The eleventh and the twelfth line, to change “air quality” to “acid deposition”;
 - To add “EANET data was exclusively used in this report except when reviewing related studies in EANET countries” in the preface.
- Summary for Policy Makers
 - The fourth line of the second paragraph, to change “other air pollution” to “related air pollution”;
 - The first and the second line of the eight paragraph, to change “other atmospheric pollutants” to “related chemical species”;
 - The fourth line of the ninth paragraph, to change “should be” to “maybe”.
- Summary for Technical Evidence

- The third line of the eight paragraph, to change “most of” to “several”;
- The fourth line of the eight paragraph, to delete the word “notably”;
- The eleventh line of the eight paragraph, to delete “considerably”.

➤ Chapter 7

- To add “It should be noted that view in this chapter does not reflect EANET official view.”

14. The Session endorsed the report and Part I, Part II and the revised Executive Summary of the PRSAD2 with understanding that the comments made by some countries will be fully incorporated into the PRSAD2 before its publication by the end of January 2012.

VII. Consideration on Review of Current Financial Modalities for Further Improvement on Transparency of EANET (Agenda item 6)

15. The Secretariat and the NC made presentations on Review of Current Financial Modalities for Further Improvement on Transparency of EANET (EANET/IG 13/6). The Session was invited to discuss, review, make comments on the document and provide guidance, as appropriate.

16. It was agreed that the Item b of Paragraph 12 of the Document EANET/IG 13/8 would be discussed under this Agenda Item.

17. The Session discussions included:

- It was suggested that the new “Guidelines on Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the NC” would replace the present guidelines adopted by the IG7.
- There were discussions on the ceiling of increase in contribution to EANET. Some considered that ceiling would be effective, while others did not consider so. This issue may be revisited in the future if it deems necessary.
- It was suggested to check the amount of financial contribution from the participating countries in the report, and that any deduction made by the bank must be reflected in the report.
- Philippines informed the Session that it decided to contribute after the related necessary national procedures.
- It was suggested that rules and procedures on budgeting should be developed.

- It was suggested that the comparison between the budgets of the NC and the budgets of similar institutes may be informative to review the financial modality for the further improvement of the EANET.

VIII. Consideration on Expansion of the Scope of EANET (Agenda item 7)

18. The NC made a presentation on the document “Consideration on Expansion of Scope of EANET (EANET/IG 13/7)”. The Session was invited to discuss, review and make comments on the document and provide guidance, as appropriate.
19. Major discussion included:
 - It was pointed out that expansion of the scope will increase the burden of national activities and the topic should be discussed in a step wise approach.
 - It was pointed out that the direction of expansion should be considered, monitoring on acid deposition was and will be the key mission of the EANET, the capacity building on acid deposition should be the focus, and improvement of accuracy of data should be improved by the NC.
20. The Session took note that the Task Force on Research Coordination will review the status of air pollution in East Asia. The Session recommended the WGFD to discuss the issues on expansion of the scope, including the possible way to make use of the review to be conducted by the TFRC.

IX. Consideration on the Nature of Involvement of the Participating Countries that are Unable to Sign the “Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)” (Agenda item 8)

21. The Secretariat made presentation on the document “Consideration on the Nature of Involvement of the Participating Countries that are Unable to Sign the Instrument (EANET/IG 13/8)”. The document included the possible impacts of the adoption and operation of the Instrument. The Session was invited to consider and discuss the document and provide guidance, as appropriate.
22. The participating countries that didn’t sign the Instrument informed the Session the progress on signing of the Instrument:
 - Indonesia: Indonesia is not able to sign the Instrument due to consideration on legal aspects. The willingness was expressed to continue joining the activities of

EANET.

- Lao PDR: It was informed that Ministry of Foreign Affairs approved the Instrument and it will contact the Secretariat on signing issues before the end of 2011.
- Malaysia: It was informed that Malaysia is already at the final stage of internal consultation to sign the Instrument. The clarification was requested to the Session if there will be any legal obligations as the effect on signing the Instrument after the operational date.
- Russia: The set of the documents for the Instrument signing had been supported by reconciliation of several Ministries including Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At the current stage, Federal Service of Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (Roshydromet) has been working with the Ministry of Finance to seek an approval for financial contribution. After the approval by Ministry of Finance, the decision of Prime Minister to sign the Instrument will be awaited upon consideration of document package by government. It was expected to finish the whole procedure by the end of 2012.

23. Major discussions included:

- UNEP informed the following:
 - Rules and Procedures for EANET were adopted by the IG3 and continue to be the Rules and Procedures for EANET for its overall operation and apply to the countries that have signed as well as those have yet to sign, unless the IG decides to change it.
 - The Joint Announcement on the Implementation of EANET, adopted by the IG2, and Tentative Design of EANET are still in effect and are not replaced by the Instrument unless otherwise decided by the IG. The Joint Announcement serves as the basis for countries that didn't sign the Instrument.
 - The objective of the Instrument is to strengthen the EANET. It should not cause division between EANET countries. The important issue in the current stage is to seek suitable mechanism to assure that the countries could continue the cooperation.
- It was pointed out that there should not be any distinctions between countries that signed and didn't signed, considering all the countries that didn't sign expressed their willingness to continue their EANET activities.

- It was suggested that the countries that didn't sign the Instrument could consider some similar examples, such as bilateral project documents which were signed as non-legally binding documents.
 - It was suggested that there should be some distinction between those countries signed and not signed, such as on financial contribution, observer status, etc.
 - It was proposed to postpone the operationalization of the Instrument until the next IG to provide enough time for those countries that didn't sign to work towards signature.
24. The Session decided to issue a resolution to encourage the countries not yet able to sign the Instrument to do so as soon as possible.
25. The Session invited the countries that have not been able to sign the Instrument to continue participating in the EANET activities before they could sign. The countries could do so through written communication with the Secretariat.

X. Consideration on the Draft Final Report on the Implementation of the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010) (Agenda item 9)

26. The NC presented the Draft Final Report on the Implementation of the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010) (EANET/IG 13/9). The Session was invited to discuss, review, and endorse the document.
27. The Session endorsed the report.

XI. Consideration on the Draft Work Program and Budget of EANET in 2012 (Agenda item 10)

28. The Secretariat and the NC presented the Draft Work Program and Budget of EANET in 2012 (EANET/IG 13/10). The Session was invited to discuss, review and adopt the document.
29. Major discussions included:
- The footnote on the revision of procedures and guidelines of financial contributions was suggested to be added as indicated in the revised Work Program and Budget of EANET in 2012 (EANET/IG 13/10 rev.1).

- The footnote on air concentration monitoring was suggested to be added.
 - It was suggested that the issue of renaming the IG should be discussed at the next IG considering the operation of the Instrument on 1 January 2012.
 - It was suggested that the savings should be used for the activities on public awareness with consideration on the work program of 2012.
 - It was decided that the budget item of the “Promotion of Public Awareness” will be supported from the account of savings with amount of US\$ 50,000. Accordingly, the Table 1, Estimated Budget of the Secretariat in 2012 (US \$), and Table 2, Estimated Amounts of Contributions in 2012 for Secretariat, were revised as Annex 2 of the Report.
30. The Work Program and Budget of EANET in 2012 was adopted, with modifications decided by the Session.

XII. Updates on Activities of Other International Programs on Acid Deposition and Transboundary Air Pollution (Agenda item 11)

31. Mr. Krzysztof Olendrzynski, representative of the UNECE Secretariat of the Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention, made a presentation on the latest decisions, priorities and latest activities under the Convention. These include the revision of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol, capacity building in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and South East Europe (SEE) countries, Long-term Strategy of the Convention and outreach activities and the need for further inter-regional collaboration (EMEP/LRTAP/ECE-EANET). In his presentation he stressed the importance of black carbon and other short-lived climate forcers and ozone precursors including methane and carbon monoxide. He also informed about recent air pollution related activities in North-East Asia led by the Subregional Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Incheon, Republic of Korea, and provided a list of possible extensions of the scope of EANET stressing the importance of adverse health effects caused by PM and ozone.

XIII. Other Issues (Agenda item 12)

32. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) presented on the “Updates on the Implementation of Atmospheric Issues” including the Joint Forum on Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific. Progress on the implementation of regional air pollution networks and project Atmospheric

Brown Clouds was also presented. He also informed the meeting on the recommendation by the Collaborative Action Network (CAN) to include ocean acidification in EANET activities.

33. Prof. Katsunori Suzuki, Kanazawa University, informed the Session of the progress made on the Asian Co-benefits Partnership (ACP), including the launching of the ACP in November 2010, the ACP website and membership application, and distributed the ACP brochure and other relevant information on ACP and co-benefits.
34. The Session was also invited to discuss and consider other issues to be raised by the participants, the Secretariat and/or the NC, if any. There were no other issues raised by the Session.

XIV. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the Session (Agenda item 13)

35. The Report of the Session (EANET/IG 13/13) was considered and adopted.

XV. Closing of the Session (Agenda item 14)

36. The Session expressed its deepest gratitude to the hosting country of the IG13. The Session also expressed its gratitude to the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Rapporteur, and representatives from international organizations, etc. on their efforts.
37. The Chairperson closed the Session appreciating the participants, the Secretariat and the NC for their contributions.

Annex 1

List of Participants

Participating Countries

Cambodia

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Dr. Sergey Gromov
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International Organizations

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Annex 2

Table 1 Estimated Budget of the Secretariat in 2012 (US \$)

Items	<u>Budget in 2011</u>	<u>Budget in 2012</u>
1. Personnel Costs (include Salary, Social Security funds, Provident Fund, Tax, etc.)	165,900	165,900
2. Rental of premises (as per Contract)	30,000	30,000
3. Operating Costs		
3.1 Reporting Costs (i.e., printing of Session Summary and Proceedings)	8,700	9,000
3.2 Development of Newsletter	2,000	2,000
3.3 Office supplies	1,536	1,900
3.4 Communication	8,000	8,570
3.5 Travel of Staff for meetings (expenses include airfare and DSA)	18,700	19,500
3.6 Meetings (including PTA tickets and DSA, venue, food, accommodation, logistics, etc.)		
- Session of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD)	51,000	52,000
- Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)	56,000	57,000
- Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG)	55,000	55,000
3.7 Fellowship Program at NC	20,000	20,000
3.8 Promotion of public awareness	8,000	50,000*
3.9 Deposit to Savings		
3.10 Youth activities and participation to workshops of EANET	5,000	
3.11 Capacity building for information and communication technologies for EANET	18,000	
3.12 Exchange program	3,000	
Sub-total	450,836	470,870
Overhead (5% of sub-total excluding item to be supported from Savings)	22,542	21,044
Total	\$473,378	\$491,914

* The budget item of “Promotion of Public Awareness” will be supported from the account of savings of the Secretariat.

**Table 2 Estimated amounts of contributions in 2012
from the participating countries* and others to the Secretariat budget,
if burden sharing will be applied as correspondent to the latest UN assessment scale**

Country	UN scale of assessment 2010-2012 (%)	Scale of EANET burden sharing (%)	Estimated contribution in 2012 (US \$)
Cambodia	0.003	0.015	66.3
China	3.189	15.620	69,027
Indonesia	0.238	1.166	5,152.7
Japan	12.53	61.373	271,216
Lao PDR**	0.001	0.005	22
Malaysia	0.253	1.239	5,475
Mongolia**	0.002	0.010	44.2
Myanmar	0.006	0.029	128
Philippines	0.09	0.441	1,949
Republic of Korea	2.26	11.070	48,920
Russia	1.602	7.847	34,677
Thailand	0.209	1.023	4,520.8
Vietnam	0.033	0.162	716
Total	20.416	100	441,914***

* Participating countries in this budget means participating countries that signed the Instrument. However, countries that are already contributing to EANET but not yet signing the Instrument may continue their voluntary contribution to EANET.

Further, it is the understanding that the WGFD Session in 2012 will start discussing the Procedures and Guidelines for Contribution, taking into account the operation of the Instrument for EANET.

**Lao PDR and Mongolia are expected to make a minimum contribution of US\$ 50.00 based on the IG9 decision (Ref. EANET/IG 9/7.rev1, Revised Procedures and Guidelines for Voluntary Financial Contributions to EANET).

***The amount of contributions excludes the budget item to be supported from account of Savings of the Secretariat.