

The Fourth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee
on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
3-5 November 2004, Siem Reap, Cambodia

REPORT OF THE SESSION

Introduction

1. The Scientific Advisory Committee on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) (hereinafter referred to as SAC) held the Fourth Session in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 3 to 5 November 2004. The Session was organized by the Secretariat for EANET and the Network Center for EANET (NC) under the cooperation with Ministry of Environment, Cambodia.
2. The Session was attended by the members of SAC and their alternates nominated by the following participating countries: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Thailand and Viet Nam.
3. The Session was also attended by the representative from Myanmar as observer, as well as experts from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE) representing the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and the Chemical Coordinating Center of the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long Range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP/NILU).
4. Representatives from Ministry of Environment of Cambodia also observed the Session.
5. The list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Session

6. The Session was opened by Dr. Jiang Wei, the Coordinator of the Secretariat of EANET. His Excellency, Khieu Muth, the State Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Cambodia delivered the opening address.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

7. The Session adopted the agenda as proposed by the Secretariat and NC.

Agenda Item 3: Consideration on Rules of Procedures for SAC

8. NC made a brief clarification on Rules of Procedure for SAC based on the documents adopted by the Third Session of Intergovernmental Meeting in 2001. The Session considered the suggestions by the First Session of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD) on the idea of longer term continuity for Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of SAC.
9. The Session agreed to ask the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG6) to consider 3-years fixed term for SAC bureau members composed of one Chairperson and two Vice-chairpersons. The further development of Rules of Procedures for SAC is desirable to be included into scope of work for SAC bureau.

Agenda Item 4: Election of officers

10. Dr. Muhamad Bin Awang, Malaysia was elected as Chairperson. Dr. Cho Seog-Yeon, Republic of Korea and Dr. Pojanie Khummongkol, Thailand were elected as Vice-Chairpersons. Ms. Bulgan Tumendemberel, Mongolia was elected as Rapporteur of the Session.

Agenda Item 5: Review of EANET activities since SAC3 and IG5 from scientific and technical viewpoints

11. The Secretariat and NC presented a report describing the EANET activities since the Third Session of SAC (SAC3) and the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG5) held in November 2003 in Pattaya, Thailand. The Secretariat reported the progress in institutional and administrative aspect of EANET. NC introduced briefly a progress in all terms of Network activities implemented in cooperation with participating countries for this period, including overview of training activities in the participating countries in 2003.

Agenda Item 6: Consideration on the outcomes of the First Session of the Working Group for Further Development of EANET from scientific and technical viewpoints including TOR and Work Plan

12. The Secretariat presented an overview of the outcomes of the First Session of WGFD (WGFD1) held in Bangkok on 19-20 August 2004 including an introducing of draft Terms of Reference (TOR) and draft Work Plan of WGFD. The Secretariat and NC also presented the Report on the Review of Performance as well as the their financial reports in 2002 and 2003. The major explanations were done on the questions by participants:
 - The Secretariat emphasized that the outcomes of the WGFD1 were prepared for information of the SAC members on issues discussed by WGFD1.
 - It was informed that outputs of the 5-year medium-term plan could include among others:

strengthened monitoring activities/capabilities, capacity building programs, assessment of acid deposition in East Asia region, promotion of emission inventories and modeling in collaboration with existing initiatives, and considering the possible regional agreement on the long-range transboundary air pollution in East Asia.

- The dissemination of developed material and reports to NFPs and other relevant organizations was decided to be in advance before Session of IG.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration of procedure and plan to prepare the first periodic report on the state of acid deposition in East Asia.

13. NC presented the report on the outcomes of the first scientific workshop on evaluation of the state of acid deposition in East Asia and also the documents for supporting the process of the preparation of the first periodic report on the state of acid deposition in East Asia.
14. Taking into account the result of discussion on how to prepare the periodic report on the state of acid deposition in East Asia, SAC agreed on its necessary procedures for starting of this process. The prepared list of procedures is attached as Annex II.

Agenda Item 8: Review of the Data Report on acid deposition monitoring in 2003

15. NC presented a draft Data Report on Acid Deposition in the East Asian Region 2003. The clarification on presented data included the following:
 - i. Wet deposition monitoring data
 - One country pointed out that the certain values of completeness and R2 criteria of monitoring data should be checked due to differences with submitted results and NC promised to check them after the Fourth Session of SAC (SAC4).
 - ii. Soil and vegetation monitoring data
 - Different countries used different reporting styles for “Description of trees” on forest monitoring since the current Technical Manual/Reporting Format and Procedures did not show the reporting manner for this part clearly. In addition, some countries obtained additional detailed data for “Description of trees”. It was pointed out that some explanations should be added in the Table 5.5 to avoid possible misleading.
16. NC presented the Progress on a Detailed Mechanism of the Procedures on Data and Information Disclosure. Dissemination of the verified data by CD will be started from the beginning of 2005 upon the request with registration of users. The download of data from EANET website will be available after completeness of technical tasks and establishing of

registration procedure.

Agenda Item 9: Review of QA/QC activities in the participating countries

17. NC presented draft reports on the inter-laboratory comparison projects in 2003 on wet deposition, soil, and inland aquatic environment. Major clarification on the projects included the following:
- i. On wet deposition monitoring
 - NC agreed to inform participating countries on “true values” of concentrations in samples immediately after receiving the complete set of results together with correspondent information from participating country.
 - The correction of the names will be done for the list of participating laboratories.
 - The necessity to monitor analytical quality continuously by inter-laboratory comparison projects at least once a year was expressed.
 - NC will undertake 2004 inter-laboratory comparison surveys some earlier in the beginning of December 2004 with requested deadline at the end of February, 2005.
 - ii. On soil monitoring
 - It was pointed out that missing data could be seen in the graph for pH (Figure 3.3 a) of Report on Inter-laboratory comparison for soil. NC will check the data set and revise the graph accordingly.
 - iii. On inland aquatic environment monitoring
 - Concentration of ammonia in the sample of the 2003 Inter-laboratory comparison project on inland aquatic environment was prepared as the lowest among four projects. It was clarified that the concentration was resemble to concentration level of real samples in EANET monitoring sites.
18. NC presented the progress on development of QA/QC activities on filter pack method. NC explained the results of test studies, filter stability test and addition and recovery test, and proposed outline of 1st inter-laboratory comparison survey. Some discussion took place as follows:
- It was suggested that transportation test should be performed internationally with help of participating countries taking the situation in East Asia into account.
 - Performance for other compounds than SO₂, HCl, and NH₃ should be considered in the future.
 - To evaluate the deviation in analysis, some artificial samples could be distributed.

Agenda Item 10: Consideration on the revisions of the national monitoring plans of the participating countries

19. NC presented an overview of national monitoring plans of participating countries including brief introduction of new national monitoring plan of Lao P.D.R. The overview was followed by the presentations of national monitoring plans in some participating countries.
20. The new monitoring plan prepared by Cambodia and important changes of national monitoring plans in several participating countries in comparison with the previous year were presented by representatives of the countries. Some clarifications were made in response of questions.

Agenda Item 11: Consideration of improvement of the monitoring methodologies

21. NC presented the paper “Issues to be discussed on Dry Deposition Monitoring of EANET”. Major suggestions and proposals were done as follows:
 - For calibration of the ozone monitoring equipment, traceability to the international standard, National Institute for Standard and Technology (NIST), should be considered.
 - Although PM10 sampling is important to detect total amounts of acid and alkali components in aerosols, PM2.5 sampling is effective to define regional and hemispheric transport characteristics. A study on PM10, PM2.5 and their components in special sites should be considered.
 - NC will prepare the revised Strategy Paper for Future Direction of Dry Deposition Monitoring of EANET taking into account the comments on the issues from the Fifth Senior Technical Managers’ Meeting (STM5) and SAC4 participants to distribute it among the Task Force members for their consideration by March 2005. The revised Strategy Paper would be also circulated among SAC members for endorsement by the Fifth Session of SAC (SAC5), if possible.
22. As the Secretariat of the Task Force on Soil and Vegetation Monitoring, NC presented report on “Activities in line with the strategy paper for future direction of soil and vegetation monitoring of EANET” including a progress on the development of sub-manual on forest monitoring. It was clarified that the sub-manual on forest monitoring was being prepared according to the document on the procedures and schedule presented at SAC3 as some outside leading authors were appointed, therefore, it was requested that future appointment of the leading authors from outside of SAC and its sub-bodies was recommended to be approved by SAC.

Agenda Item 12: Consideration of research activities on acid deposition

23. NC presented review of on-going research activities. Some comments and suggestions were made as follows:

- i. Joint research project with Russia
 - As the first step of evaluation on long-range transportation of air pollutants from Europe to East Asia, cooperative research project on clarification of atmospheric environment has been implemented in East Siberia and Primorsky Region, a transition area where the transportation can be monitored.
 - ii. Joint research project with Thailand
 - Progress of the flux study in Mae Moh, Thailand was introduced. The variations of concentrations from November 2002 to February 2004 and the deposition velocities in December 2003 for O₃ and SO₂ were reported.
 - iii. Collaboration with existing initiatives on emission inventory and numerical modeling
 - Collaboration with MICS-Asia project was mainly introduced. So far 6 modeling teams have provided their simulation results and preliminary analysis for inter-comparison study has progressed.
 - NC has maintained the website of MICS-Asia and has provided the latest information and announcement.
 - Common input data and model validations by monitoring data were clarified.
24. The brief introduction on research on air quality issues in Viet Nam were presented including national modeling activities and studies on emission inventory.
25. NC presented a Proposal on Future Research Activities of Highest Priority. Some important suggestions were done as follows:
- Priorities for longer term research could be considered;
 - The necessity of procedures and responsible body was suggested for organizing scientific workshop in transparent manner. Detailed procedures should be implemented taking into consideration practices of UN ECE.

Agenda Item 13: Updates of other international programs on acid deposition

26. The representative from UN ECE Secretariat for CLRTAP made a presentation on the current events and on-going activities of the Convention including brief introduction on progress of regional initiatives and hemispheric issues. The challenges for scientists to transfer their results for support of decision-making processes were explained with reference to Workshop on review and assessment of European air pollution policies. Also the links between research issues were pointed as useful to prepare more complex protocols and regulations.
27. The expert representing the EMEP Chemical Coordinating Center presented the EMEP

Assessment Report summarizing 25 years activities. The report presents trend analysis of monitoring data with general aim to evaluate the effect of emission reduction protocols on the atmospheric pollution situation in Europe. The report consists of two parts, regional and national assessments. The EMEP monitoring Strategy for 2004-2009 was presented with brief explanation on differences of programs for stations of different levels. The data submission arrangement between EMEP and WMO-GAW was presented and could be considered as a solution to follow also for EANET in the future.

28. The representative from UNEP RRC.AP made a presentation on the institutional process and developing of monitoring and evaluation activities of Male' Declaration on control and prevention of air pollution and its likely transboundary effects for South Asia. The prospective works and process of developing national capacities were indicated.

Agenda Item 14: Consideration of the Work Program and Budget for 2005

29. Secretariat and NC presented the draft Work Program and Budget in 2005 for EANET to provide observation of planned EANET activities by SAC for its comments to IG6 that will be held immediately after this session. Major clarification were done on the following points:
 - The Secretariat and NC need better coordination for effective public awareness programs;
 - Higher priority should be given to support of National Center monitoring activities than public awareness in using previous savings of the Secretariat; and
 - An evaluation of the transfer of training experience by trainees to other experts in their countries was suggested.

Agenda Item 15: Other issues

30. Dr H. Akimoto made a presentation on "Distribution of acid rain and ozone in East Asia". He pointed out that rainwater pH in Northeast Asia could be successfully reproduced by emissions of air pollutants and soil dust.

Agenda Item 16: Consideration and adoption of the report of the Session

31. This report was considered and adopted.

Agenda Item 17: Closing of the Session

32. All the participants expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the efforts made by the organizers and host country, particularly the Ministry of Environment, Kingdom of Cambodia, for having arranged this important meeting.
33. The Session was closed by Dr. T. Totsuka, Director General of the Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center (ADORC).

Annex 1

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Annex II**Procedures
to prepare the periodic report on the state of acid deposition in East Asia**

1. SAC will prepare the periodic report with assistance by NC.
2. The first periodic report will be prepared as a scientific report on EANET for assessment of state of acid deposition in East Asia.
3. The working draft should be circulated to the respective participating countries for comments.
4. The first periodic report will be completed at SAC6 in 2006.
5. EANET data of the regular phase (from 2001 to 2004) will mainly be used for the report.
6. Other national/international monitoring results can be used as references for additional assessment (for interpretation of EANET data).
7. The first periodic report will consist of two parts. The first part is on regional assessment and the second part is on national assessment presented on the voluntary basis.
8. National assessment may include the data other than reported to EANET and regional assessment should use only the EANET data.
9. There will be drafting committee participated by one SAC member from each country. The drafting committee will consist of sub-groups in accordance with the structure of the first periodic report. Each sub-group is headed by a lead author reflecting the subjects of each chapter.
10. One or two resource persons for regional assessment from each country can be involved as contributing authors appointed by SAC members.
11. Drafting committee will start regional assessment soon. Prior to that the drafting committee may wish to meet face to face if necessary.
12. Scientific workshop for the first periodic report should be held in conjunction with SAC5 meeting in 2005. Special agenda item for the editorial work will be included in the regular agenda.
13. Format for national assessments will be prepared by the drafting committee.