

The Fourth Session of the Working Group
on Future Development of EANET
4-6 June 2007, Pathumthani, Thailand

REPORT OF THE SESSION

(Final)

I. Introduction

1. The Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) of Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Fourth Session in Pathumthani, Thailand on 4-6 June 2007.
2. Representatives of Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Thailand, and Viet Nam participated in the Session. The representatives of the Secretariat and the Network Center (NC) for EANET, as well as experts from international organizations, namely: the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) and the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP ROAP) also attended the Session. The List of Participants is attached as Annex I.

II. Opening of the Meeting (Agenda Item 1)

3. The Session was opened by the Secretariat. Mr. Mylvakanam Iyngararasan, Acting Coordinator of the Secretariat, delivered the opening remarks. In his opening remarks, he highlighted the significant impacts of climate change in the region by referring to the Fourth Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), achievements of EANET in the past years and emphasized the co-benefits of addressing climate change and air pollution together.

III. Election of the Officers (Agenda Item 2)

4. Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana, Director General, Pollution Control Department, Thailand was elected as Chairperson and Dr. Veronica Ginzburg, Senior Researcher, Institute of Global Climate and Ecology of Russia and Mr. Ken Choviran, Deputy Director, Department of Pollution Control, Ministry of Environment of Cambodia were elected as Vice-chairpersons for the current two-year term of the WGFD.

IV. Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda Item 3)

5. The Session adopted the Agenda as proposed by the Secretariat (EANET/WGFD 4/3/1).

V. **Brief Report on the Capacity Building Course on Future Development of EANET for Officials and Experts of the Participating Countries of EANET (Agenda Item 4)**

6. The Secretariat made a brief presentation on the Report on the Capacity Building Course on Future Development of EANET for Officials and Experts of the Participating Countries of EANET (EANET/WGFD 4/4). The Session was invited to discuss and make comments/suggestions regarding the capacity building program for EANET in the future.
7. Major discussion included:
- The Secretariat will issue the certificate for completion of the recently concluded capacity building course, based on the request from the participating countries. The feedback on the evaluation from the participants of the course will be circulated to the participating countries.
 - The capacity building training courses should be continued, possibly twice a year, depending on availability of financial resources.
 - The topics for such training courses should be discussed and identified by the WGFD and approved by the Intergovernmental Meeting(IG), taking into account the feedback from the participating countries. More emphasis may be placed on practical training for negotiation.

VI. **Consideration on the Draft Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET (Agenda Item 5)**

8. The Secretariat made a presentation on the Draft Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET (EANET/WGFD 4/5). Mr. Manjit Iqbal, a legal consultant of UNEP ROAP made a supplemental explanation on the text from the legal point of view. He clarified that the legal status of the instrument and the scope of target pollutants were not decided yet and open for further discussions. The Session was invited to discuss, make comments and provide suggestions/guidance on the draft.
9. Major discussion included:
- The Session emphasized that the instrument should be simple, flexible and open for future development.
 - It was pointed out that the instrument aims at establishing a sound basis for financial contribution to EANET.
 - It was clarified that the major objective of the Session is to develop a negotiating text that has integrated views and comments of the participating countries as much as possible for consideration by the Ninth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG9). No decisions are expected at this Session.

- While some countries requested to hold discussions on legal status and the scope of the instrument, it was clarified that the WGFD is not mandated to decide these issues. They should be decided at the IG.
 - Some countries expressed the need for a legally binding instrument while others preferred a non-legally binding instrument. Some expressed their preference on broader scope (regional air pollution) to ensure flexibility and openness for future development of EANET, while some countries considered that the present scope (acid deposition) should be kept.
 - It was clarified that Russia would prefer that a legally binding instrument is adopted since they will not be able to provide financial contribution through a non-legally binding instrument such as NOWPAP.
 - It was clarified that a non-legally binding instrument provides only guidance to the participating countries and does not provides for legal obligations. It was also discussed that the elements would identify whether the instrument is legally binding or not.
 - Some countries expressed that a legally binding instrument is not appropriate at this stage and that the scope should be limited to acid deposition. The Secretariat was requested to prepare a non-legally binding text for further discussions, in view of the opinions expressed during the Session.
 - The text prepared by the Secretariat for the Session was discussed. It was agreed that the whole text should be bracketed for future review. The Secretariat was requested to prepare two versions, a legally binding and non-legally binding texts based on the revisions done at this Session for discussions at the next WGFD Session.
 - It was clarified that financial rules will prescribe items on how to administer disbursement, auditing etc. and will not include items on financial arrangements.
 - Articles 16-25 of the draft text are standard provisions for a legally binding instrument and will be considered if the IG decides to develop a legally binding instrument.
10. A negotiating text reflecting the views and comments that were expressed at this Session is attached as Annex 2 of the Report of the Session. The participating countries were invited to provide further input to the text discussed at this Session in the period leading to the next WGFD Session.

VII. Consideration of the Report on Revised Procedures and Guidelines for Voluntary Financial Contributions to EANET (Agenda Item 6)

11. The Secretariat and NC made presentations on the Report on Revised Procedures and Guidelines for Voluntary Contribution to EANET (EANET/WGFD 4/6). The Session was invited to discuss, review, make recommendations and provide guidance as appropriate.
12. With reference to the revised latest version of the document, the Secretariat clarified the following:

- The draft figures/amounts on Table 1 and Table 2 were estimated based on flat rate amount for voluntary contributions from the participating countries to the Secretariat and NC core budget in 2008-2010. Regarding the computation of the financial contribution from the participating countries to the Secretariat budget, the Secretariat clarified that the latest, available UN assessment scale was used.
 - The increase of the budget of the Secretariat is due to the revised salary scale of the Coordinator.
13. Regarding the definition of NC core budget and additional budget, major discussions were as follows:
- It was clarified that the reason for transferring the budget on “Attendance to the EANET meetings of NC staff” from the core budget to the additional budget was to avoid a large increase of the total amount of NC core budget which will be supported by voluntary contribution from the participating countries from 2008. However, considering the importance of attendance of NC staff to IG, Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and other EANET meetings, the Session agreed to the following revisions:
 - Moving the budget on “Attendance to the EANET meetings of NC staff” from the additional budget back to the core budget of NC
 - Deletion of paragraph 12 of the document (EANET/WGFD 4/6)
 - Moving the budget on “Assistance for national training activities”, “Coordination with and support for other training programs” and “Individual training at NC” from the core budget to the additional budget
 - In response to the question from a participating country whether the funding of the above activities would be reduced when moved to the additional budget, NC informed that it would make best effort to obtain budget to fund these training activities.
 - It was agreed that the definition of NC Core Budget in paragraph 13 of the document will be revised as follows:

“The core budget: The cost of all activities indispensable for promoting the Network activities in the participating countries under the framework of EANET and which are approved by IG”
 - The activity “Coordination with and support for other training programs” that is currently listed under item 6 of the detailed NC Core Budget shall be amended to “Coordination with and support for other training programs which are relevant to EANET activities”.
14. It was decided that the Secretariat and NC will submit a revised document to the next WGFD session for consideration and endorsement at the next IG. The detailed items of the NC Additional Budget will be also included in the revised document.

VIII. Consideration of the Draft Set of Procedures to be followed by EANET in Preparation of Project Proposal for Potential Donors (Agenda Item 7)

15. The Secretariat and NC made presentations on the Draft Set of procedures to be followed by EANET in Preparation of Project Proposal for Potential Donors (EANET/WGFD 4/7) and Priority Areas Identified and Potential Funding Agencies (EANET/WGFD 4/7/1). The Session was invited to discuss and provide comments and guidance, as appropriate.
16. Major discussion included:
- It was clarified that because of the different interests and needs of participating countries, the projects need not necessarily involve all countries. Joint researches between some countries and NC are possible. However, it was pointed out that projects involving more countries may be easier to secure funding.
 - It was expressed that the number of proposed projects are too many. It was proposed that the selection of the projects should be guided by some basic principles such as common interest of the participating countries and according to the priorities which have been identified in the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010)
 - It was suggested and agreed to add the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) to the list of potential donors. It was also suggested that “other bilateral aid agencies” should be replaced with “other relevant international, regional agencies” to broaden the range of possible donors.
 - Regarding emission inventories, some countries expressed their views and concerns that the preparation of emission inventories is costly, difficult, complicated and takes a long time. However, several countries expressed the need for emission inventory and the support for the emission inventory activities to obtain comparable emission data for better understanding of the state of the atmosphere and for decision making. The Session agreed on the importance of emission inventory activities from the scientific point of view. The Session also agreed to promote projects on emission inventory activities as pilot projects at the current stage for interested countries.
 - It was clarified that in accordance with the decision of IG8, the endorsement of all NFPs is necessary before a detailed project proposal can be developed for submission to the donor agencies.
 - Several countries expressed the need for more information on effects of acid deposition and oxidants on ecosystems including agriculture to inform policy makers.
 - Participating countries are invited to submit concept paper by using the format indicated in the Annex 2 of the document (EANET/WGFD 4/7/1), to be included in the priority list of projects for consideration of the NFPs.
 - It was agreed that concept papers on the following projects will be developed and circulated to the NFPs for endorsement:
 - i) Establishment of new monitoring stations to improve the capability for EANET monitoring in the participating countries

- ii) Capacity Building Workshop for the Policy Makers of the Participating Countries of EANET
- iii) Investigation on potential effects of acid deposition and ozone on ecosystem including agriculture
- iv) Pilot project on emission inventories for interested participating countries.

IX. Other Issues (Agenda Item 8)

- 17. The Secretariat announced that Japan had offered to provide financial contribution for a workshop to promote the understanding of emission inventories among participating countries of EANET. It is proposed that this workshop be held back-to-back with the Seventh Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC7) in October 2007.
- 18. In response to the question raised by a country regarding the IG8 decision to explore a clearer definition for the core and additional budget of NC, the Session agreed that the detailed definitions will be provided to countries at the next WGFD Session. The Secretariat reminded that the decisions made at IG should not be rediscussed at the WGFD. The comments of China regarding the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010) will also be circulated to member countries at the next WGFD Session.
- 19. The Secretariat announced that the Fifth Session of WGFD will be held in Pathumthani, Thailand tentatively on 12-14 September 2007 and the Ninth Session of IG will be held in Lao PDR on 19-20 November 2007.

X. Consideration and adoption of the Report of the Session (Agenda Item 9)

- 20. The Report of the Session (EANET/WGFD 4/9) was adopted.

XI. Closing of the Session (Agenda Item 10)

- 21. The Session was officially closed by the Chairperson.

Annex 1

List of Participants

Participating Countries

Cambodia

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Annex 2

Draft Text developed at WGFD4

[Title

- 1) [Framework Agreement/ Joint Declaration]to Promote Cooperation for the [Prevention and Control/Management] of [Regional Air Pollution/Acid Deposition] in East Asia
[2) Joint Declaration to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET]

The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] to this [Agreement/Joint Declaration],

Recognizing that East Asia is facing increasing risks of problems related to [regional air pollution including acid deposition/acid deposition],

Recalling that Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, stated that the experience of the programs on transboundary air pollution in Europe and North America needed to be shared with other regions of the world,

Acknowledging the successful operation of the preparatory-phase activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia, which was undertaken by ten countries in East Asia from 1998 to 2000, following the common understanding expressed at the First Intergovernmental Meeting, on 19-20 March 1998 in Yokohama, Japan.

Recognizing that the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia was established in January 2001 as an important initiative for regional cooperation, aiming to create a common understanding on the state of acid deposition problems, to provide useful inputs to policy makers at various levels, and to contribute to cooperation on the issues related to acid deposition among the participating countries. [At present, thirteen countries in East Asia are participating in the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia.],

Emphasizing that activities of the cooperative network on the acid deposition [and other regional air pollution] in East Asia under the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia has been developed by taking a step-wise approach by the Participating Countries on a voluntary basis,

Recognizing the need to promote cooperation for the [prevention and control/management] of [regional air pollution/acid deposition] in East Asia,

Have [agreed/declared] as follows:

[Article 1/Item 1]

Definitions

[Party” means a Party to this Agreement, unless the Agreement otherwise provides.]

[“Member/Participating Country” means]

[“Regional Air Pollution” means....]

[“East Asia” means]

[“Acid Deposition” means....]

[“EANET” means....]

[Article 2/Item2]

Objectives

The objectives of this [Agreement/Joint Declaration] are:

- 1) to create a common understanding of the state of [regional air pollution/acid deposition problems] in East Asia;
- 2) to provide useful inputs for decision-making at local, national and regional levels aimed at preventing or reducing adverse impacts on the environment caused by [regional air

- pollution/acid deposition]; and
- 3) to [cooperate on/contribute to cooperation on/contribute to cooperation for the resolution of] the issues related to [regional air pollution/acid deposition] among the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries].

[Article 3/Item 3]

Principles

[The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall be guided by the following principles in the implementation of this [Agreement/Joint Declaration]:

- 1) The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall, in the spirit of solidarity and partnership and in accordance with their respective needs, capabilities and situations, strengthen cooperation to [prevent and control/manage] [regional air pollution/acid deposition].
- 2) The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] [should/shall] take precautionary measures to anticipate, monitor and [prevent/manage] [regional air pollution/acid deposition] to minimize its adverse impacts. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage from [regional air pollution/acid deposition], even without scientific certainty, precautionary measures [shall/may/should] be taken by the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] concerned.]
- 3) The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall take necessary measures to contribute to the cooperation on the issues related to [regional air pollution, including acid deposition/acid deposition] [among the Parties/Member/Participating countries].
- 4) The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote and cooperate in the exchange of information related to [regional air pollution/acid deposition].
- 5) The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote active participation, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation for effective implementation of [research/network] activities.]

[[Article 4/Item 4]

General Obligations

1. The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall take necessary measures to contribute to the cooperation on the issues related to [regional air pollution, including acid deposition/acid deposition] [among the Parties/Member/Participating countries].
- [
2. The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] [shall/will] take legislative, administrative and/or other measures to implement their **obligations** under this [Agreement/Joint Declaration].]
3. The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote and cooperate in the exchange of information related to [regional air pollution/acid deposition].
4. The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote active participation, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation for effective implementation of [research/network] activities.]

[Article 5/Item 5]

Monitoring and Reporting

1. The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] [shall/will] implement and strengthen their monitoring activities in line with this [Agreement/Joint Declaration].
2. Each [Party/Member/Participating Country] [shall/will] designate a national center, which is responsible for implementing the monitoring activities provided for in the [Agreement/Joint

Declaration].

3. Each [Party/Member/Participating Country] [shall/will] develop and implement its national monitoring plan. Monitoring of acid deposition [and other regional air pollution] shall be implemented in accordance with the monitoring guidelines, technical manuals and other technical documents adopted by the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG), referred to in [Article 11/**Item 11**].
4. Each [Party/Member/Participating Country] [shall/will] report the monitoring data and other relevant information to the Network Center (NC), referred to in [Article 14/**Item 14**], in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Intergovernmental Meeting.
5. In order to obtain high quality monitoring data, the quality assurance / quality control (QA/QC) programs adopted by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), referred to in [Article 13/**Item 13**], [shall/will] be implemented in full collaboration among the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] for monitoring activities under the [Agreement/Joint Declaration].
6. The monitoring data and other information submitted by [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] [shall/will] be compiled and stored by the NC.
7. The data and other information compiled through [EANET activities] / [activities under the [Agreement/Joint Declaration]] [shall/may/should] be provided to individuals, organizations and non-member countries, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Intergovernmental Meeting.

[Article 6/Item 6]

Assessment

1. The monitoring data and other information submitted by [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] [shall/will] be analyzed and evaluated by the SAC.
2. The SAC [shall/will] prepare periodic assessment reports on the state of [regional air pollution/acid deposition] in East Asia, based on the data reports by the NC.
3. Periodic assessment reports prepared pursuant to paragraph 2 of this [Article/Item] [shall/will] be disseminated and made available to the public.

[Article 7/Item 7]

Research Activities

1. The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote studies of scientific issues related to [regional air pollution/acid deposition].
2. Research activities should be mutually reinforcing and supportive with existing regional, sub-regional and national initiatives in East Asia. Collaboration should be promoted with other international monitoring networks and programs.

[Article 8/Item 8]

Education and Training

The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote and cooperate in developing and implementing education / training programs to implement this [Agreement/Joint Declaration] in collaboration with the NC and the Secretariat, referred to in [Article 12/**Item 12**].

[Article 9/Item 9]

Public Awareness

The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries], shall promote and cooperate in:

- 1) development and implementation of public awareness programs on [regional air pollution/acid deposition]; and
- 2) improvement of public access to information on [regional air pollution/acid deposition] and its effects.

[Article 10/Item 10]

Exchange of Information

The [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] shall promote and cooperate in the exchange of information related to [regional air pollution/acid deposition] including scientific, technological, technical, socio-economic and legal information as well as information on administrative measures.

[Article 11/Item 11]

Intergovernmental Meeting

1. An Intergovernmental Meeting is hereby established.
2. The IG, composed of the representatives of all [Parties/Member/Participating Countries], is the decision-making body of the [EANET] / [[Agreement/Joint Declaration]]. The tasks of the IG include, among others, the following:
 - 1) review and approval of the work program and budget [of the EANET] / [for implementation of the [Agreement/Joint Declaration]];
 - 2) review of implementation of the work program;
 - 3) review and approval of periodic assessment reports on the state of [regional air pollution/acid deposition] in East Asia;
 - 4) establishment of subsidiary bodies as necessary and appropriate;
 - 5) review and approval of scientific, technical, administrative and financial matters for the management of the [EANET] / [[Agreement/Joint Declaration]];
 - 6) adoption of the rules of procedures [and financial rules] for the IG and subsidiary bodies, including the SAC;
 - 7) provision of necessary instructions and guidance to the subsidiary bodies, the Secretariat and the NC on their activities;
 - 8) decision on other matters related to the management of the [EANET] / [[Agreement/Joint Declaration]] and implementation of the work program; and
 - 9) adoption of amendments to this [Agreement/Joint Declaration].
3. The IG [shall/will] meet annually, unless otherwise decided.

[Article 12/Item 12]

Secretariat

- [1. A Secretariat is hereby established.]
2. The Secretariat, designated by the IG for the effective management of the [EANET / [[Agreement/Joint Declaration]] and to facilitate cooperation among [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] in a transparent manner, [shall/will] carry out the following tasks under the guidance of the IG:
 - 1) necessary administrative arrangements for the meetings of the IG, the SAC, and other subsidiary bodies;
 - 2) necessary administrative and financial arrangements for managing the [EANET / [[Agreement/Joint Declaration]]];
 - 3) communication and cooperation in administrative [and policy] aspects as the focal point of the [EANET / [[Agreement/Joint Declaration]]];
 - 4) promotion of capacity building and public awareness in cooperation with the NC; and
 - 5) other necessary tasks as requested by the IG.

[Article 13/Item 13]

Scientific Advisory Committee

- [1. A Scientific Advisory Committee is hereby established.]
2. The SAC, composed of scientific and technical experts from [Parties/Member/Participating Countries], [shall/will] advise and assist the IG with various scientific and technical matters related to [EANET activities as mandated to it by the IG. These matters [will] include the following:
 - 1) scientific and technical aspects of the monitoring strategies [for EANET];

- 2) development and revision of the monitoring guidelines and technical manuals;
 - 3) matters related to the selection of monitoring sites, QA/QC programs, data reporting procedures and formats;
 - 4) matters related to collection, evaluation, assessment and analysis of monitoring data;
 - 5) preparation of periodic assessment reports on the state of [regional air pollution/acid deposition] in East Asia, [based on the data report by the NC];
 - 6) matters related to studies on [regional air pollution/acid deposition]; and
 - 7) other scientific matters as requested by the IG.
3. If the Committee considers necessary for fulfilling its objectives, experts from countries other than [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] may be invited to join the Committee.

[Article 14/Item 14]

Network Center

- [1. A Network Center is hereby established.]
2. The NC, to handle scientific and technical matters of [EANET activities] / [activities under the [Agreement/Joint Declaration]], and to facilitate cooperation among [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] in a transparent manner, [shall/will] carry out the following tasks under the guidance of the IG:
 - 1) central compilation, evaluation and storage of monitoring data and related information;
 - 2) preparation of data reports on [regional air pollution/acid deposition] in East Asia;
 - 3) dissemination of monitoring data and other relevant information;
 - 4) provision of technical assistance to the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] in implementing [EANET activities] / [activities under the [Agreement/Joint Declaration]];
 - 5) implementation and coordination of QA/QC activities;
 - 6) development and implementation of education/training programs for those engaged in [EANET activities] / [activities under the [Agreement/Joint Declaration]];
 - 7) implementation of research activities on [regional air pollution/acid deposition];
 - 8) provision of scientific and technical support for the IG, the SAC and other subsidiary bodies;
 - 9) promote capacity building and public awareness in cooperation with the Secretariat; and
 - 10) other tasks as requested by the IG.

[Article 15/Item 15]

Financial Arrangement

- [1. A Fund is hereby established for the implementation of this [Agreement/Joint Declaration]. [This Agreement/Joint Declaration [shall/will] provide sound basis for financial contribution to EANET.]
2. The administrative and operational cost of the national monitoring within each country shall/will be borne by each country.
3. In order to provide a sound financial basis for the implementation of this Agreement/Joint Declaration, the Parties/Member/Participating Countries shall/will make [voluntary] contribution to the fund in accordance with the decision of the IG.
4. Taking into account the IG decisions, the contribution of the Parties/Member/Participating countries shall/will be based on the flat rate amount and burden sharing according to the UN assessment scale.]
5. The fund [shall/will] be open to financial and in-kind contribution from [other sources/international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and from any other international entities], subject to the agreement of or approval by the IG.

[Article 16/Item 16]

Amendments

1. Any Party may propose amendments to the Agreement.
2. Five years later after the date of entry into force of the Agreement, the IG shall review the text of the Agreement and may propose amendments to the subsequent meeting, if necessary.
3. The text of any proposed amendments to the Agreement shall be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat at least six months before a meeting of the IG at which it is proposed for adoption. The Secretariat shall also communicate proposed amendments to the signatories to the Agreement.
4. Amendments shall be adopted by consensus of the representatives of the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] at the meeting of the IG.
5. The adopted amendments shall be communicated by the Secretariat to the Depository, who shall circulate it to all [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] for their acceptance.
6. The amendments shall enter into force for the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] which have accepted it on the sixtieth day after the date on which [two-thirds] of the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] have deposited their instruments of acceptance with the depository.
7. Thereafter, the amendments shall enter into force for any other [Party/Member/Participating Country] on the sixtieth day after the date on which that [Party/Member/Participating Country] deposits its instrument of acceptance of the amendment.

[Article 17/Item 17]

Annexes

1. Annexes to this [Agreement/Joint Declaration] shall form an integral part of the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] and, unless otherwise expressly provided, a reference to the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] constitutes at the same time a reference to the annexes thereto.
2. Annexes shall be adopted by consensus at the meeting of the IG.
3. Any [Party/Member/Participating Country] may propose amendments to an Annex.
4. Amendments to an Annex shall be adopted by consensus at the meeting of the IG.
5. Annexes to this [Agreement/Joint Declaration] and amendments to Annexes shall be subject to acceptance. The Depository shall circulate the adopted Annex or the adopted amendment to an Annex to all [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] for their acceptance. The Annex or the amendment to an Annex shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Depository of the instruments of acceptance of [all [Parties/Member/Participating Countries]].

[Article 18/Item 18]

Protocols

1. The IG may, at any session, adopt protocols to the [Agreement/Joint Declaration].
2. The text of any proposed protocol shall be communicated to the [Parties/Member/Participating Countries] by the Secretariat at least six months before such a session.
3. The requirements for the entry into force of any protocol shall be established by that instrument.

[Article 19/Item 19]

Signature

The [Agreement/Joint Declaration] shall be opened for signature at [the United Nations Office at Bangkok] [from ## to ## ##### 2009] by States listed in Annex I.

[Article 20/Item 20]

Ratification, Acceptance, Approval and Accession

The [Agreement/Joint Declaration] shall be subject to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States listed in Annex I. It shall be open for accession by such States from the day after the date on which the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] is closed for signature. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Depository.

[Article 21/Item 21]

Entry into force

1. The [Agreement/Joint Declaration] shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the deposit of the [seventh/ ninth] instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
2. For each [Party/Member/Participating Country] ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] after the deposit of the [seventh/ninth] instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] shall enter into force on the sixtieth day after the deposit by such [Party/Member/Participating Country] of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

[Article 22/Item 22]

Application for Accession

1. Any country/State not listed in Annex I may submit its application for accession to this [Agreement/Joint Declaration] to the Secretariat, which shall be subject to approval by the IG.
2. Once its application is approved, the State may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depository.

[Article 23/Item 23]

Withdrawal

1. At any time after three years from the date on which the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] has entered into force for a [Party/Member/Participating Country], that [Party/Member/Participating Country] may withdraw from the [Agreement/Joint Declaration] by giving written notification to the Depository.
2. Any such withdrawal shall take effect upon expiry of one year from the date of receipt by the Depository of the notification of withdrawal, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of withdrawal.

[Article 24/Item 24]

Depository

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be the Depository of the [Agreement/Joint Declaration].

[Article 25]

Authentic Text

The present [Agreement/Joint Declaration] shall be drawn up in the English language, and shall be the authentic text.

[Annex I/Member/Participating Countries]

Cambodia
China
Indonesia
Japan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Mongolia
Myanmar
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Thailand
Viet Nam

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