

The Second Special Session of the Working Group
on Future Development of EANET
30-31 August 2006, Pathumthani, Thailand

REPORT OF THE SESSION

I. Introduction

1. The Second Special Session of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD-S2) of Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) was held in Pathumthani, Thailand on 30-31 August 2006.
2. Representatives of Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, 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, 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. Russia did not participate but submitted its comments to the Secretariat prior to the Session.
3. The Session was opened by the Secretariat. Mr. Mylvakanam Iyngararasan, the Acting Coordinator of EANET, delivered an Opening Remarks.
4. The Session was chaired by Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana, Deputy Director General, Pollution Control Department, Thailand, and the current Chairperson of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET. The Meeting also elected Ms. Ella Deocadiz, Chief, Research and Development Division of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), Philippines as a temporary Vice Chair of this Session in view of the fact that two Vice Chairs were not available for this Session.

II. Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda Item 2)

5. The agenda (EANET/WGFD S2/2/1) was adopted as proposed by the Secretariat.

III. Consideration on the New Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD) including the schedule towards the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG10) (Agenda Item 3)

6. The Secretariat made a presentation on the new Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD) 2007-2008 (EANET/WGFD S2/3). The session was invited to discuss and finalize the draft TOR for approval of the Eighth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG8).

7. Major discussions included:

- There were different views on tasks of WGFD among the participating countries. Some expressed their willingness to focus on limited specific topics, while some others wished to cover broader topics such as review of the financial report.
- After intensive discussions, the Session agreed that performance review of the Secretariat and the NC, and guidance on capacity building activities would be included in the tasks of WGFD for 2007-2008.
- Regarding frequency of the sessions of WGFD, some countries suggested one session per year. Some others suggested more than one session per year, for instance, two sessions in 2007 and 2008 with longer duration for each session (e.g. three days per session) and another session just before IG10 to finalize the reports to be submitted to IG10. The issue of frequency was left for IG8 for further consideration and final decision.

8. The Session agreed the revised draft TOR as presented in Annex II, with bracket on paragraph 6 on the schedule of the sessions for further discussions at IG8. It was also suggested that IG8 may wish to discuss and decide if it would delegate the authority to establish subsidiary bodies to WGFD in relation to paragraph 7 of the revised draft TOR.

IV. Consideration on Components of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET (draft) (Agenda Item 4)

9. The Secretariat made a presentation on the Draft Report on Components of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET (EANET/WGFD S2/4). The session was invited to discuss and make comments on the draft report, and provide guidance as appropriate.

10. Major discussions included:

- Some countries expressed their views to expand the scope of the EANET activities aiming for better air quality management in East Asia, while some others stressed that EANET should focus on the existing scope on acid deposition monitoring.
- Some reiterated their difficulty in making cash contribution unless they have a legal instrument.
- Some countries stressed that the original purpose of developing the instrument was to provide the sound basis for financial contribution to EANET. Some countries expressed their views that the instrument could be used for mitigation of acid deposition as well.
- Some emphasized the importance to establish a legal status of EANET through a legal document. In this connection, it was clarified that a legal document could prescribe both mandatory and voluntary actions.

11. It was agreed that the report (EANET/WGFD S2/4), with further elaboration by checking relevant documents, would be submitted to IG8 for its consideration and further guidance. The Session requested the Secretariat to provide the revised report to the participating countries well in advance (one month before IG8). Some countries expressed their views to put brackets around the texts in the report which do not have reference to the Joint Announcement, Tentative Design and other relevant decisions.

V. Consideration on the Revised Draft Five-Year Medium Term Plan (MTP) for EANET (Agenda Item 5)

12. NC made a presentation on revised Draft Five-Year Medium Term Plan (MTP) for EANET (EANET/WGFD S2/5/1). The session was invited to discuss, make comments on the revised draft and considered MTP for its approval of IG8. The Secretariat made a presentation on the estimation of workload and costs for implementation of the Five Year MTP required for the Secretariat activities (EANET/WGFD S2/5/2).

13. Major discussions included:

- It was suggested that during the implementation of task (9), NC should assist the participating countries to develop national database.
- Some countries proposed to put brackets on activities of No. 22-26 because these activities are closely related to the discussions on the instrument and subject to change, depending on the results of such discussions. In this connection, it was reminded that based on the agreement reached at IG7, activities on promotion of studies on emission inventories and modeling should be undertaken.
- Regarding the estimation of workload and cost for implementation of MTP for the Secretariat activities, it was suggested that costs for WGFD Sessions should be in bracket, taking into account the bracketed schedule in the draft TOR to be discussed at IG8.
- It was also pointed out that there might be duplicating activities and cost estimation between the Secretariat and NC in MTP.

14. It was agreed that instead of the brackets, a footnote would be added to clarify that the activities of No. 22-26 are closely related to the discussions on the instrument and subject to change, depending on the results of such discussions. It was also agreed to modify the activities of No. 22 and 24 as presented in Annex III. With these modifications, it was agreed to submit the revised draft MTP to IG8 for its consideration.

15. In relation to the estimation of workload and cost for the Secretariat activities, the Secretariat and NC were requested to further coordinate with each other to avoid any duplication of budgets.

VI. Draft Report on the Review of the RRC.AP/AIT System, Revised Procedures and Guidelines for Contribution to EANET, Establishment of a Trust Fund and Ways in Obtaining Financial Support from International Funding Agencies. Overview on the Rules and Regulations of the Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC) for NC (Agenda Item 6)

16. The Secretariat made presentations on the Draft Report on Review of the RRC.AP/AIT System and Establishment of a Trust Fund (EANET/WGFD S2/6/1), Draft Revised Procedures and Guidelines for Contribution to EANET (EANET/WGFD S2/6/3), and Draft Report on Ways in Obtaining Financial Support from International Funding Agencies (EANET/WGFD S2/6/4). The session was invited to discuss, make comments and/or recommendations for consideration at IG8. NC provided additional information on the rules and regulations of the Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC) and the Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center (ADORC) as NC of EANET (EANET/WGFD S2/6/2).
17. Regarding discussions on the review of the RRC.AP/AIT System, the Secretariat was requested to prepare a revised report with more detailed comparative table on advantages and disadvantages and without specific recommendations for IG. Such comparison should include an item on transparency. The Secretariat was requested to develop guidelines for attendance of observers to EANET meetings.
18. Regarding the “Report on Revision of Procedures and Guidelines for Contribution to Propose Appropriate Mechanism on Voluntary Contributions for EANET” (EANET/WGFD S2/6/3), while appreciating the proposal on the flat rate contributions, the Secretariat and NC were requested to revise the report to include specific figures on flat amount contribution by each participating country for the Secretariat budget as well as the core budget of NC based on the UN assessment scale burden sharing.
19. The Session endorsed the “Report on the Ways in Obtaining Financial Support from International Agencies” (EANET/WGFD S2/6/4) to be submitted to IG8 for its consideration.

VII. Brief Report on the Progress of EANET after the Fifth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC5) and the Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG7) and the Financial Report in 2005 (Agenda Item 7)

20. The Secretariat and NC briefly made presentations on the report on the progress of EANET after the Fifth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC5) and the Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG7) (EANET/WGFD S2/7/1). The financial report of the Secretariat and NC in CY 2005 (EANET/WGFD S2/7/2) were also included in the presentation. The Session was invited to comment on the reports, if any.

21. The representative of Republic of Korea informed the Session that it had withdrawn its intention in sending a candidate for the next EANET Coordinator and informed the Secretariat, accordingly.

22. The Session endorsed the reports to be submitted to IG8.

VIII. Consideration on the Draft Work Program and Budget in 2007 for EANET (Agenda Item 8)

23. The Secretariat and NC presented the proposed Draft Work Program and Budget in 2007 for EANET (EANET/WGFD S2/8). The Session was invited to make comments.

24. Major discussions included:

- It was pointed out that the descriptions related to emission inventories and modeling (paragraphs 5, 9, 17, 18, 21, 26 and 49 etc.) should be modified, based on the agreement on the agenda item 5 of this Session. Budget estimate would also be revised, accordingly.
- It was emphasized that recruitment of a new EANET Coordinator should be an urgent task.
- Clarification was made regarding the issue of the way to estimate the 2006 and 2007 budget in the absence of the Coordinator.
- It was also clarified how the Secretariat had estimated the amounts of contributions from the participating countries (Annex of Table 2 in Attachment 1). It was suggested that the issue should be raised at IG if a country may wish to contribute more than the estimated amount.
- It was clarified that no significant interest was received from the bank for the EANET budget.
- Clarification was made on the differences between the budget and expenditures in the year 2003-2005.
- NC was requested to provide more information on actual expenditures of core budget and additional budget activities.

IX. Arrangements for the Sixth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC6) and the Eighth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG8) (Agenda Item 9)

25. The Secretariat presented the Report on Arrangements for the SAC6 and IG8 (EANET/WGFD S2/9). The report included the proposed dates and venue, agenda items, and other arrangements for SAC6 and IG8. The list of documents to be submitted for approval of IG8 was included in the report.

26. Major discussions included:

- The dates of SAC6 were announced and accepted by the participating countries.
- It was clarified that the present status of recruitment of the Deputy Director General in charge of NC and EANET Coordinator would be reported to IG under the agenda item on the progress of EANET.
- The representative of Cambodia inquired a possibility to convene IG8 one week earlier than the proposed date (29-30 November 2006).

X. Other Issues (Agenda Item 10)

27. The Secretariat announced the “Regional Scientific Workshop on Air Pollution and Acid Deposition” on 28-29 September 2006 in Pathumthani, Thailand. NC announced the information on the fellowship scheme to be carried out in this year.

28. It was suggested to find a systematic way to name the future WGFD sessions.

29. The Session expressed its deepest appreciation to the Secretariat and NC for excellent preparation and support for this Session.

XI. Consideration and adoption of the Report of the Session (Agenda Item 11)

30. The Session considered and adopted the Report of the Session.

XII. Closing of the Session (Agenda Item 12)

31. The Session was closed by the Chairperson.

Annex I

List of Participants

Participating Countries

Cambodia

Mr. Ken Choviran
Deputy Director
Department of Pollution Control
Ministry of Environment

Mr. Thiv Sophearith
Chief of Air Quality, Noise and Vibration
Management Office
Department of Environmental Pollution
Control
Ministry of Environment

China

Ms. Tian Chunxiu
Division Director
Policy Research Center for Environment and
Economy
State Environmental Protection
Administration (SEPA)

Ms. Gu Li
Program Officer
Regional Environment Cooperation Division
International Cooperation Department
State Environmental Protection
Administration (SEPA)

Mr. Zheng Haohao
Engineer
Department of Air Quality Monitoring
China National Environmental Monitoring
Center

Indonesia

Mr. Dida Migfar Ridha
Head of Sub Division Program III
Bureau Planning and International
Cooperation
Ministry of Environment

Ms. Kusmulyani Sugiarto

Staff

Assistant Deputy for Climate Change Impact
Control
Ministry of Environment

Japan

Mr. Daisuke Maeda
Global Environmental Issues Division
Global Environmental Bureau
Ministry of the Environment

Dr. Norichika Kanie
Associate Professor
Graduate School of Decision Science and
Technology
Tokyo Institute of Technology

Mr. Takaaki Kato
Official, Global Environment Division
International Cooperation Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Lao PDR

Ms. Sisouphanh Luangrath
Director of Environment Quality Monitoring
Center
Environment Research Institute
Science Technology and Environment
Agency

Ms. Phakkavanh Phissamay
Technical Officer
Environment Quality Monitoring Center
Environment Research Institute
Science Technology and Environment
Agency

Malaysia

Mr. Ahmad Rizal bin Khalit
Principal Assistant Secretary
Conservation and Environmental
Management Division
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment

Mr. Lim Sze Fook
Director, Environmental Studies Division
Malaysian Meteorological Department

Mongolia

Ms. Oyunchimeg Dugerjav
Secretary, Air Quality Management Service
National Agency for Meteorology, Hydrology
and Environment Monitoring
Ministry of Nature and Environment of
Mongolia

Ms. Bulgan Tumendemberel
Engineer
Central Laboratory of Environment and
Metrology

Myanmar

Ms. Khin Cho Cho Shein
Assistant Director
Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
Ministry of Transport

Ms. Nyein Nyein Moe
Staff Officer
Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
Ministry of Transport

Philippines

Dr. Wilfredo M. Carandang
Director
Institute of Agroforestry
College of Forestry and Natural Resources
University of the Philippines Los Baños

Ms. Ella S. Deocadiz
Chief
Research and Development Division
Environmental Management Bureau

Republic of Korea

Mr. Yoo Beom-Sik
Deputy Director, Air Quality Policy Division
Ministry of Environment

Dr. Cha Jun-Seok
Senior Researcher
Global Environment Research Center
National Institute of Environmental Research
Environmental Research Complex

Thailand

Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana
Deputy Director General
Pollution Control Department (PCD)

Mrs. Mingquan Wichayarangsaridh
Director
Air Quality and Noise Management Bureau
Pollution Control Department (PCD)

Mr. Seksan Sangdow
Director, Ambient Air Quality Division
Air Quality and Noise Management Bureau
Pollution Control Department (PCD)

Mr. Kengkran Louvirojanakul
Diplomat
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sri Ayuttaya, Rajatevee District

Ms. Mattanee Kaewpanya
Department of Treaties and Leal Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Pichaid Atipakya
Environmental Officer, Ambient Air Quality
Division
Air Quality and Noise Management Bureau
Pollution Control Department (PCD)

Vietnam

Dr. Duong Hong Son
Director, Center for Environmental Research
Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment

Mr. Trinh Minh Chien
Vice Head, Financial and Planning Division
Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment

Ms. Adelaida B. Roman
Programme Officer, EANET Secretariat
UNEP RRC.AP
c/o Asian Institute of Technology

Resource Person

Ms. Sumana Ratanasawetwad
Administrative Assistant, EANET Secretariat
UNEP RRC.AP
c/o Asian Institute of Technology

UNU/IAS

Mr. Katsunori Suzuki
Senior Fellow
United Nations University - Institute of
Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

Observer

UNEP/ROAP

Dr. Ahn Moon-Soo
Senior Program Officer
UNEP/ROAP
United Nations Building

Secretariat

Network Center

Dr. Sergey A. Gromov
Deputy Director General
Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research
Center (ADORC)

Mr. Yoshiyuki Yoichi
Deputy Director General
Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research
Center (ADORC)

Mr. Jiro Sato
Head, Planning and Training Department
Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research
Center (ADORC)

EANET Secretariat

Mr. Mylvakanam Iyngararasan
Senior Programme Officer
UNEP RRC.AP, c/o Asian Institute of
Technology

- **Drafting of the report for IG10 (index and abstracts of each chapter of the report/instrument itself)**

- (ii) Second Session: August - Sep.2007**
 - **Preparation of the proposed text on the instrument and its legal status.**
 - **Preparation of the draft reports**
 - **Discussion on the documents/reports which will be submitted to IG9 (report on the instrument and possibly reports on performance review and capacity building)**

- (iii) Third Session: April – May 2008**
 - **Revision of the draft reports for IG10**

- (iv) Fourth Session: June-August 2008**
 - **Consideration of the final draft reports for IG10**

- (v) Fifth Session: just before IG10**
 - **Discussion on the reports which will be submitted to IG10 from WGFD]**

Depending on the requests of the IG, additional tasks may be included in the sessions specified, as appropriate.

7. The Working Group may establish sub-working groups and/or hold ad-hoc meetings for specific areas considering that the items of TOR contains varied topics.

Annex III

Suggested modification on Activities No. 22 and 24 in the MTP

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(vii) Other relevant activities including those for future development and new researches

➤ Modeling activities and emission inventories.

(22) Discussion on promotion of modeling activities and emission inventories

~~[Establishment of the Task Force on Modeling Activities and Emission Inventories to discuss relevant topics Promotion of inter-comparison and validation of existing models on acid deposition in East Asia]~~

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13. Among the activities that should be financed by additional budget, priorities are set for following items.

(22) Discussion on promotion of modeling activities and emission inventories ~~[Establishment of the Task Force on Modeling Activities and Emission Inventories to discuss relevant topics]~~

viii. Other relevant activities including those for future development and new researches

➤ Modeling activities and emission inventories

No.	Activities to be undertaken	Targets	Expected results and Outputs		Implementation period
(22)	Discussion on promotion of modeling activities and emission inventories Establishment of the Task Force on Modeling Activities and Emission Inventories to discuss relevant topics	Clarification of future direction on modeling activities and emission inventories in EANET Clarification of necessary measures to implement modeling activities and to develop emission inventories	[28]	Proposals on promotion of modeling activities and emission inventories Action Plan on relevant activities	[2007 -2008] ^(*)
(24)	Promotion of the capacity building for model application on urban, national and regional scale	To enable interested every participating country(es) to use existed models for their own objectives	[31]	Designation of a suitable standard models of each scale for research/training application	2007
			[32]	Promotion of the training courses on application of the standard models including cooperation with other organizations	2006-2010

^(*) To be decided by IG8