

The Fourth Working Group Meeting  
on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network  
in East Asia  
16-17 March 2000, Jakarta, Indonesia

## REPORT OF THE MEETING

### Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its fourth meeting from 16 to 17 March 2000 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of all the ten countries participating in the preparatory-phase activities of EANET, namely, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand and Vietnam. The representatives of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) also attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

### Opening of the Meeting

3. The Meeting was opened by Mr. Eisaku Toda, Interim Secretariat for EANET. Mr. Aca Sugandhy, Assistant to the Minister, Natural Environmental Management, State Ministry for the Environment of Indonesia, delivered a welcoming address.

4. Mr. Aca Sugandhy (Indonesia) was elected as Chairperson, Ms. Leong Chow Peng (Malaysia) as Vice-chairperson, and Mr. Lee Hee-chul (Korea) as Rapporteur.

5. The Meeting adopted the agenda as proposed by the Interim Secretariat.

Report of the outcomes of the Second Meeting of the Interim Scientific Advisory Group (agenda item 4)

6. Dr. Zamba Batjargal, the Rapporteur for the Second Interim Scientific Advisory Group (hereinafter referred as ISAG) Meeting, reported on the outcomes of the Second ISAG Meeting. The Interim Network Center (hereinafter referred to as INC) further supplemented the above-mentioned presentation.

7. The Meeting

- (a) Reviewed and took note of the Report of the Second ISAG Meeting (EANET/ISAG 2/10) with appreciation;
- (b) Endorsed the adoption by ISAG of the monitoring guidelines, technical manuals, QA/QC programs, and reporting procedures and formats for the Network (EANET/ISAG 2/4/1-8); and
- (c) Recommended that ISAG establish two task forces, one on dry deposition monitoring and the other on soil and vegetation monitoring, as well as a network of soil and vegetation specialists, following a procedure described in annex II.

Review of the preparatory-phase activities of the Network (agenda item 5)

8. The Interim Secretariat presented a report on the progress of the preparatory-phase activities (EANET/WG 4/5/1), followed by an explanation by the INC on the review made by the ISAG Meeting from scientific and technical points of view. The representative of Japan briefed the Meeting of their experience in hosting the Interim Secretariat and INC (EANET/WG 4/5/2).

9. The Meeting felt that the preparatory-phase activities have been a successful first step toward further implementation of the Network, in view of the fact that 38 monitoring sites have

been actually set up, and that monitoring guidelines, technical manuals and other technical documents have been developed, based on the experience during the preparatory-phase. However, many issues are yet to be improved, including monitoring of dry deposition and soil and vegetation, QA/QC activities, and capacity building activities. The need for strengthening training programs was especially stressed. It was also emphasized that for comprehensive assessment of the state of acid deposition in East Asia, the data collected during the preparatory-phase activities are insufficient, both in terms of number of sites and duration of monitoring.

Consideration of the design of the Network and the document for its implementation (agenda item 6)

10. Extensive discussion was made over the "tentative design of the Network" (EANET/WG 4/6/3), together with a discussion paper and explanatory notes, presented by the Interim Secretariat.

11. The Meeting discussed the subjects that had been specified as to be further elaborated in the Report of the First Intergovernmental Meeting (EANET/IG 1/9), and concluded as follows:

- (a) Reference to the impact of acid deposition on human health in the objectives of the Network should be deleted;
- (b) The name of the decision making body of the Network should be "Intergovernmental Meeting", rather than "Governing Council";
- (c) The tasks of the Scientific Advisory Committee should include the scientific and technical aspects of monitoring strategies of the Network, at the top of the list of its assignments;
- (d) Technical contents of the QA/QC programs are now clear

- enough and need not be discussed as an unsettled issue;
- (e) Mention of the possibility of leaving some of the functions of the Network Center to other bodies possibly to be established in the future, should be retained;
  - (f) Physical location of the Secretariat and the Network Center should be decided on the basis of communication with relevant international organizations and proposals from participating countries to host these bodies;
  - (g) The administrative and operational costs of the Network, except for those for implementation of the monitoring activities by each participating country, should be financed by the participating countries on a voluntary basis, while efforts should be made to mobilize existing funding sources and seek new sources for financing the network activities. Discussion should be continued on actual contributions by participating countries.

12. The Meeting discussed the form of the document for further implementation of EANET. The Meeting reached a consensus that international agreement should be left aside as a future goal, and that efforts should be made to develop a non-legally binding document as a brief statement of principle to be approved by the participating countries, in order to start the next step of EANET.

13. The Meeting developed a working draft of the Tentative Design of the Network (EANET/WG 4/6/3 rev.), which will become the basis of the document for the further step of implementation of EANET.

Consideration of the schedule and agenda items for future meetings (agenda item 7)

14. The Meeting considered the proposed schedule and agenda items of future meetings (EANET/WG 4/7), and decided that the Third

ISAG Meeting and Fifth WG Meeting should be held back to back in July 2000. The Interim Secretariat will contact participating countries regarding the possibility of their hosting these meetings. The Meeting noted the proposal by Japan to host these meetings if no other countries are willing to host them.

15. The Meeting also decided that the Second Intergovernmental Meeting should be held in October or November 2000. The agenda items of these meetings should be further discussed at the Fifth WG Meeting. The Meeting welcomed the proposal of Japan to host this meeting, and asked the Interim Secretariat to make preparation for the meetings.

16. The Interim Secretariat was encouraged to make efforts with participating countries and relevant parties to utilize the opportunities of the ESCAP Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development and ECO ASIA 2000 to keep the momentum of EANET activities.

Consideration of the procedure for the designation of the Secretariat and the Network Center (agenda item 8)

17. The Meeting considered and agreed on the proposed procedure for designation of the Secretariat and Network Center (EANET/WG 4/8), with amendments as follows:

- (a) The deadline for the submission of the proposal to host the Secretariat or the Network Center will be 15 June, instead of 31 May; and
- (b) Proposals should include description of the composition of the Secretariat/Network Center to promote cooperation among participating countries, and visions for future development of the structure and activities of the Secretariat/Network Center.

18. The Meeting stressed that the Secretariat and the Network

Center should be non-profit organizations and should maintain neutrality and transparency.

19. Regarding the option to ask an existing international organization to take the role of the Secretariat, ESCAP and UNEP (Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific or Environmental Assessment Programme for Asia and the Pacific) were deemed to be potentially suitable. It was stressed that selection should be done in a logical and transparent manner, on the basis of experiences obtained during the preparatory phase.

20. Japan expressed its intention to propose to host the Network Center in Niigata. China also informed the Meeting that it is considering proposing to host it in Beijing, and that it will submit a proposal before 15 June if so decided.

Other issues (agenda item 9)

21. No other issue was discussed.

Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting (agenda item 10)

22. The Meeting adopted this report.

23. The Meeting expressed its deep appreciation for the warm hospitality of the Indonesian Government to host the Meeting.

ANNEX I

The Forth Meeting of the Working Group on  
the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia  
16-17 March 2000, Jakarta, Indonesia

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ANNEX IIProcedures for establishing task forces and subgroups for EANET

## (Introduction)

1. The Second Meeting of ISAG recommended the establishment of two task forces, one for dry deposition monitoring and the other for soil and vegetation monitoring, as well as a network of soil and vegetation specialists. ISAG specified in its meeting report the terms of reference for these task forces, and general ideas about their composition. However, ISAG left procedural and institutional issues on establishment of task forces for consideration by WG.
2. This paper describes (1) procedures to establish task forces on specific issues for further promotion of EANET activities, including nomination of members from the participating countries and external organizations; (2) scope of their activities; and (3) their organization.
3. In order to avoid confusion, the person(s) who will work for the network of soil and vegetation specialists should be renamed as "contact expert(s)", instead of "focal points".

## (Proposed procedures)

4. ISAG may establish, under its own authority, task forces and subgroups related to scientific and technical matters relevant to the activities of the network. The WG may establish task forces and subgroups on other specific issues deemed important for further development of EANET activities.
5. Unless otherwise specified, participating countries will be invited to nominate experts, as appropriate, among either ISAG members or other experts, to be members of the task forces or subgroups. The nomination should be done by the National Focal Point for EANET to the Interim Secretariat

through the diplomatic channel.

6. Additional members may be invited from outside the participating countries for scientific or technical reasons. The Interim Secretariat, after seeking advice from the members of the task force or subgroups as appropriate, will invite such external experts to participate.
7. Terms of Reference for task forces or subgroups will be specified by the WG or ISAG. Their responsibilities will be limited to providing assistance to the WG and/or ISAG. Documents developed by task forces and other subsidiary bodies should be submitted to the WG or ISAG for consideration and subsequent action.
8. Task forces or subgroups will elect a chairperson from among their members.
9. The Interim Network Center will assist task forces or subgroups in their activities by facilitating communication, providing technical assistance, convening meetings and so on.