

The Sixth Working Group Meeting  
on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network  
in East Asia  
23-24 October 2000, Niigata, Japan

## REPORT OF THE MEETING

### Introduction

1. The Working Group (WG) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its sixth meeting from 23 to 24 October 2000 in Niigata, Japan.
2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of all the ten countries participating in the preparatory-phase activities of EANET, namely, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand and Vietnam. Experts of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), as well as a member of the Interim Scientific Advisory Group, also attended the Meeting. Officials of the government of Niigata Prefecture, Japan, and other local governments also attended the Meeting. The list of participants is attached as Annex I.

### Opening of the Meeting

3. The Meeting was opened by the Interim Secretariat (IS) for EANET. Dr. Yoshi Hirose, General Director, Air Quality Bureau, Environment Agency of Japan, delivered an opening address. Mr. Yashutaka Imai, Vice-Governor of Niigata Prefecture, and Mr. Yoshiaki Hasegawa, Mayor of the City of Niigata, made welcoming speeches.
4. Mr. Toshiro Kojima (Japan) was elected as Chairperson, Mr. Pok-Wing Yong (Malaysia) as Vice-chairperson, and Ms. Bulgan Tumendemberel as Rapporteur.
5. The Meeting adopted the agenda as proposed by IS (EANET/WG 6/3/1); it agreed to reverse the order of the discussion on agenda item 5 (further implementation of EANET) and item 6 (technical documents).

Review and evaluation of the preparatory-phase activities (agenda item 4)

6. The Meeting invited all the participating countries to make presentations on their activities during the preparatory phase. The participating countries presented their achievements during the preparatory phase, together with major challenges for future activities.

7. The experts from the international organizations expressed their expectations that EANET will strengthen its linkage with programs in other regional and global activities related to acid deposition monitoring.

8. The Meeting considered the final version of the Data Report on Acid Deposition Monitoring in the East Asian Region (EANET/ISAG 3/4/1 rev.1) and the Report on the Acid Deposition Monitoring of EANET during the Preparatory Phase – Its Results, Major Constraints and Ways to Overcome Them – (EANET/ISAG 3/4/2 rev.2), and agreed to recommend that the Intergovernmental Meeting endorse the latter report.

9. The meeting considered revisions to the proposed documents on such points as positive evaluation of the success of the preparatory phase and linkage between the decision on the evaluation of the preparatory phase and the start of the regular activities of EANET, and adopted the recommendation to the Intergovernmental Meeting (EANET/IG 2/4/1).

Consideration of the technical documents for EANET (agenda item 6)

10. The Meeting considered the Technical Documents for EANET (EANET/ISAG 2/4/1-8 rev.), and adopted the recommendation to the Intergovernmental Meeting on its decision (EANET/IG 2/6).

Consideration of the documents for further implementation of the Network, including designation of the Secretariat and the Network Center (agenda item 5)

11. IS presented the process of developing the Draft Joint Announcement on the Implementation of EANET (EANET/WG 5/7/1 rev.2), the Tentative Design of EANET (EANET/WG 5/7/2 rev.1) and the Discussion Paper on Designation of the Secretariat (EANET/WG 6/5/1), together with the draft recommendations on the decisions of the Intergovernmental Meeting on this agenda item. The representative of Japan made a supplementary explanation to its proposal to host the Network Center, using a submitted document (EANET/WG 6/5/2).

12. The Meeting discussed the issues that had not been settled at the Fifth WG Meeting,

including future strengthening of the basis upon which EANET operates, development of international cooperative efforts, and promotion of studies on scientific issues to improve understanding of the risks of acid deposition.

13. Regarding the draft Joint Announcement on EANET and the Tentative Design of EANET, it was suggested that the activities of EANET on a regular basis would start in January 2001. It was pointed out the Intergovernmental Meeting needs to confirm that the preparatory-phase activities would continue until that time, since originally the preparatory phase had been planned to last only until the Second Intergovernmental Meeting.

14. Some countries proposed to change the name of “Joint Announcement” to “Joint Statement”, but various views were expressed about the meaning of these terms. The Meeting agreed to keep the name “Joint Announcement”.

15. The meeting proposed that future Intergovernmental Meetings need to seriously discuss financial issues because secure financing of EANET is a critical concern.

16. It was also proposed to have a new paragraph in the Recommendation on the Decision of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Further Implementation of EANET on the support by developed participating countries to other participating countries in implementing EANET activities. The Meeting agreed to propose that the Second Intergovernmental Meeting consider these issues.

17. The working group developed the recommendation to the Intergovernmental Meeting on its decision (EANET/IG 2/5/1), together with the revised draft of the Joint Announcement (EANET/IG 2/5/2) and the Tentative Design (EANET/IG 2/5/3) leaving the above issues to further discussion at the Second Intergovernmental Meeting.

18. The Meeting recommended the designation of UNEP as the EANET Secretariat and adopted the recommendation to the Intergovernmental Meeting on its decision on this issue (EANET/IG 2/5/4).

19. The Meeting recommended the Intergovernmental Meeting to designate the Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center as the Network Center and adopted the recommendation to the intergovernmental meeting on its decision on this issue.

20. Regarding the designation of the Network Center, Japan was asked to clarify the terms of employment of the Deputy Director General of the Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center in charge of the Network Center activities; Japan explained that the employment contract of this Deputy Director General will be made on an annual basis, but generally

his/her term would be two years, which could be further extended taking account of the comments of the participating countries.

Consideration of the work program and budget of the Network for the year 2001 and agenda of the Third Intergovernmental Meeting (agenda item 7)

21. IS presented the Revised Work Program and Budget for EANET in 2001 (EANET/WG 6/7/1) and the relevant draft recommendation on the decision of the Intergovernmental Meeting (EANET/WG 6/7/2).

22. Japan pointed out that travel costs for attendance to the Intergovernmental Meetings should, in principle, be borne by each country.

23. The Meeting approved the Work Program and Budget with some amendments (EANET/IG 2/7/2) and adopted the recommendation to the Intergovernmental Meeting on its decision (EANET/IG 2/7/1).

Other issues (agenda item 8)

24. The Meeting discussed the venue of the Third Intergovernmental Meeting. Since no country had expressed an intention to host the Meeting, the Meeting asked the IS to communicate with the participating countries to seek the venue.

Consideration and adoption of the report of the Meeting (agenda item 9)

25. The Meeting adopted this report.

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