

REPORT OF THE SESSION

I. Introduction

1. The Working Group on Further Financial Arrangement for EANET held its First Session in Bangkok, Thailand, on 8-9 July 2002.
2. Representatives of Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam, Network Center, Interim Secretariat, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), UNEP/ROAP and UNEP RRC.AP participated in 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. Surendra Shrestha, Director, UNEP RRC.AP delivered the opening statement on behalf of the Secretariat.

III. Election of the Officers (Agenda Item 2)

4. Mr. Serguei A. Gromov, Head, Scientific Sector, Department of Background Pollution Monitoring, Institute of Global Climate and Ecology, Roshydromet and RAS, Russia was elected as Chairperson; Mr. Guo Jing, Deputy Director, Division of General Affairs, International Cooperation Department, State Environmental Protection Administration, People's Republic of China as Vice-Chairperson; and Ms. Ella S. Deocadiz, Chief Science Research Specialist, Research and Development Division, Environmental Management Bureau, Philippines as Rapporteur.

IV. Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda Item 3)

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

V. **Brief Report on the Progress since the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (Agenda Item 4)**

6. The Interim Secretariat and the Network Center presented the progress since the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG), held in November 2001 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. (EANET/WG 1/4)
7. Major discussions on these agenda items included the following:
 - In response to the question on continuation of Interim Secretariat, the Secretariat and the Interim Secretariat clarified that currently UNEP RRC.AP staff assisting the EANET Secretariat and full-time staff for the Secretariat will be in place sometime in August or September this year. It is expected that the complete transfer of functions from the Interim Secretariat to the Secretariat will be completed within this year.
 - With regard to the question on staff recruitment, the Interim Secretariat clarified that the Secretariat staff are selected based on the guidelines agreed upon by the participating countries. Network Center advertised for the Deputy Director General for the Network Center and selected the final candidate based on the guidelines for recruiting the Deputy Director General, similar to those for the Secretariat staff.

VI. **Report on the Previous Discussions on Further Financial Arrangement (Agenda Item 5)**

8. The Interim Secretariat made a presentation on the previous discussions on financial arrangement for EANET. It included the discussions at the previous sessions of the Intergovernmental Meeting and other relevant meetings. (EANET/WG 1/5)
9. Major discussions on this agenda item included the following:
 - UNEP RRC.AP/AIT option for financial arrangements for EANET Secretariat preferred by the IG because of the low overhead and co-location with UNEP RRC.AP/AIT. It is expected that the UNEP RRC.AP/AIT option will continue for initial stage and then a gradual move to UN system would be discussed based on the financial contribution.
 - Currently, the Secretariat functions are being carried out by UNEP RRC.AP staff. Personnel cost for this year's budget will begin from August or September when the Secretariat staff assume the function.

- Participating countries willing to contribute financially could do so as soon as possible. The account for the trust fund will be available immediately after the signature of formal document between EANET and UNEP.

VII. Consideration of Terms of Reference of the Working Group (Agenda Item 6)

10. The Secretariat presented a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Working Group on Further Financial Arrangement for EANET. (EANET/WG 1/6)
11. Major discussions included:
 - Same officials (Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur) and representatives for the whole sessions of the Working Group Meeting is recommended for the continuity of the process. Considering the practical difficulties, officials and representatives will be selected for each session. National Focal Points are encouraged to nominate the same representatives for the Working Group meetings.
 - The Working Group will consider voluntary contribution as the major modality for future financing of EANET.
12. The Session adopted the ToR with some modifications (Annex II).

VIII. Report on Analysis of Financial Arrangements of Several Regional/Sub-regional Environmental Cooperation Organizations/Programs (Agenda Item 7)

13. Mr. Yoshihiro Natori, representative of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), presented an analysis of financial arrangements of several regional/sub-regional environmental cooperation organizations/programs. (EANET/WG 1/7)
14. Major discussions on these agenda item included the following:
 - ASEAN Haze Action Plan: Major financial contribution for the internal project activities are coming from 4 ASEAN member countries.
 - Malé Declaration: UNEP and SACEP initiated the process of Malé Declaration. Resources for Phase I and Phase II has been mobilized from Government of Sweden with substantial in-kind support from participating countries.
 - NOWPAP: Basic budget is the minimum contribution needed for the operation of the program and it is same (5 %) for all the countries.

- EMEP: Diversified modalities of contributions are arranged even under one convention. Russia provides in-kind contribution for the EMEP Synthesis Center located in Russia. UN/ECE Integrated Program on Air Pollution Effect on Ecosystem and UN/ECE Integrated Cooperative Program on Mapping receive support from national governments as well as Nordic countries.

IX. Consideration of Further Financial Arrangement (Agenda Item 8)

15. Participating countries were invited to present current arrangements of their countries to provide financial and other contribution to EANET and to express their views and comments on further financial arrangements for EANET.
16. Major discussions on this agenda item included the following:
 - Most of the countries expressed that financial contribution should be on voluntary basis.
 - Most of the participating countries expressed their willingness to contribute the in-kind contributions for their national monitoring activities.
 - Some countries expressed the need for contribution by all the participating countries.
 - Some participants suggested that the benefits of EANET activities such as open data sharing and advertising programs should be emphasized to raise awareness of the Decision Makers of the participating countries.
 - Most of the participants felt that there should be agreement for long-term financial arrangements. This document will be helpful for the National Focal Points to mobilize the resources from the national governments.
 - The Working Group agreed to consider on a proposed outline of the Preliminary Draft Report on options for further financial arrangements.
 - Participating countries will provide comments, suggestions, options, modalities, etc., if any, on the future financial arrangement to the Secretariat by 15 August 2002.
 - Secretariat will compile the preliminary paper on further financial arrangements and circulate it to the participating countries by the end of September 2002.
 - Participating countries will provide their views on the preliminary paper by mid October 2002.

X. Arrangements for the Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (Agenda Item 9)

17. The Secretariat presented a proposal for holding the Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting. (EANET/WG 1/9)
18. Major discussions on this Agenda item included the following:
 - Date: Last week of November 2002 was suggested to hold SAC 2 and IG 4.
 - Venue: it was agreed that a participating country should inform the Secretariat on its intention to host IG 4 by the last week of August 2002, if it is willing to do so. If there is no country that is willing to do so, the venue of IG 4 will be in Bangkok where the Secretariat is located.
 - Agenda item: Secretariat and Interim Secretariat will circulate a detailed Agenda by 1st week of August 2002 for the participating countries input.
19. The participating countries were requested to make comments, if any, to the Secretariat by 15 August 2002.

XI. Other Issues (Agenda Item 10)

20. Secretariat and Interim Secretariat presented the proposed modifications on the Framework on the Establishment of the Secretariat of the EANET. The participating countries were requested to make their final comments/clearance within two weeks from this Session.
21. Major discussions on the Framework included:
 - The current framework is a non-legally binding document as said in the page 2 of the document. Therefore, the title of the document is proposed to change from “MoU” to “Framework” as suggested by lawyers from UN.
 - Contents of the documents are mostly the same as the earlier version agreed by the participating countries with some editorial changes.
22. As agreed under the Agenda Item 8, the Secretariat and Interim Secretariat presented a proposed outline of the preliminary draft paper on further financial arrangements as given in the Annex III. Participants were requested to provide any additional comments/suggestions to improve the paper by 15 August 2002.

23. Secretariat announced that a EMEP/GERMAN/US Workshop on Hemispheric Air Pollution is being organized in Bad Breisig, Germany during 79 October 2002. The organizers invited participants from EANET and the details on the Workshop were distributed to the participants.

XII. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the Meeting (Agenda Item 11)

24. This Report was considered and adopted.

XIII. Closing of the Meeting (Agenda Item 12)

25. The Session was officially closed.

Annex I

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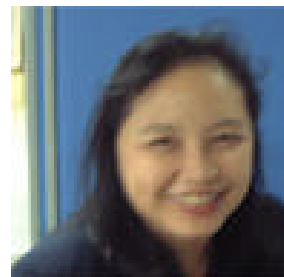
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Annex II
Terms of Reference
for
the Working Group on Further Financial Arrangement for EANET

1. In line with the decision at the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), the Working Group on Further Financial Arrangement for EANET (hereinafter referred to as the “Working Group”) is established, based on the Article 6.2 of the Rules of Procedure for EANET (EANET/IG 3/12).
2. The members of the Working Group should be nominated by the National Focal Points of the participating countries for each session of the Working Group. One Chairperson, one Vice-chair and one Rapporteur will be elected for each session of the Working Group separately. The Rules of Procedure will be applied to the other matters relating to the proceedings of the Working Group, in accordance with the Article 6.4 of the Rules of Procedure.
3. The Working Group will, under the guidance of the Intergovernmental Meeting:
 - (i) consider appropriate size of financial resources required for EANET activities and possibility to improve efficiency of EANET activities, based on the review of present activities;
 - (ii) consider various options for securing financial resources required for EANET activities on a long-term basis;
 - (iii) prepare a preliminary paper describing various options to be submitted to and considered by the Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on EANET; and
 - (iv) prepare the report on further financial arrangement for EANET to be submitted to and considered by the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on EANET.
4. Tentative schedule of the Working Group sessions is set as follows, in line with the discussion at the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on EANET:
 - (i) First Session on 8-9 July 2002 at Bangkok;
 - (ii) Second Session in spring 2003 at Bangkok; and
 - (iii) Third Session, if necessary, in autumn 2003 just before the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on EANET.

Annex III
Preliminary Draft Outline
for
the Preliminary Paper on Further Financial Arrangement for EANET

1. Executive Summary

2. Background

This section will provide a background on the financial issues of EANET. The proposed contents include:

IG Decisions

Establishment of the Working Group

ToR for the Working Group

Proposed Budget: core, project

3. Possible Financial Modalities

This section will provide details of possible financial modalities with reference to the IGES paper.

4. Suggested Steps

This section will provide suggestions and some concrete suggestions as follows:

Suggestion 1: Concepts as in the enclosed paper

Suggestion 2: 2002/3 Budget

Suggestion 3: 2004/5 Budget

Annex III-1

Concept on Various Options

1. Basic Principles

- Options that all or most participating countries could join should be pursued.
- For the time being, not only cash contributions but also in kind contributions should be accepted.
- For the preliminary paper, wider options should be listed, so that the participating countries could examine various different options.
- Concrete and specific amount for each participating countries should be indicated for each option.
- Conclusion on the financial arrangements on long-term basis should be adopted by consensus among all participating countries.

2. Some Assumptions for Preparing Preliminary Paper on Various Options

- Size of possible budget should be presented and examined, based on the present structure of the budget (budget for the Secretariat, core and additional budgets for the Network Center).
- Fundamentally efficiency improvement should be considered at the Intergovernmental Meeting when it considers annual work program and budget for each year. Proportion of core and additional budget may be subject to further consideration.
- Burden sharing among all participating countries should be considered for the budget of the Secretariat and core budget of the Network Center. Additional budget of the Network Center should be contributed by some participating countries and external sources.
- Fixed amount of contribution by each country, UN scale burden sharing or their combination may be among various options for burden sharing among all participating countries.