

The Seventeenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting
on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
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Scale of Voluntary Financial Contribution to the Core Budget of the Network Center for the EANET

I. Introduction

1. At the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG12) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) in 2010, the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (Instrument) was adopted by the DECISION 1/IG.12 and was operationalized on 1st January 2012.
2. The Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), on 27-28 November 2003 in Pattaya, Thailand decided that the participating countries of the EANET should make effort, on a voluntary basis, to make financial contributions to Network Center (NC) and Secretariat budget. The budget of the NC for consists of the core budget and additional budget. The definitions¹ of the core budget and additional budget are as follows:
 - NC core budget: The cost of all activities indispensable for promoting the Network activities in the participating countries under the framework of the EANET and which are approved by the Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG); and
 - NC additional budget: The cost for strengthening the EANET by providing technical assistance to the participating countries and by promoting further research activities and which are approved by the IG.
3. Voluntary financial contributions from the participating countries to the NC core budget started in 2008. Calculation of the contributions were guided by the following:
 - For 2008-2010: “Revised Procedures and Guidelines for Voluntary Financial Contributions to the EANET (EANET/IG 9/7.rev1)” adopted at the Ninth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG9) on the EANET in 2007;
 - For 2011-2013: “Procedures and Guidelines for Voluntary Financial Contributions to the EANET for 2011-2013 (EANET/IG 12/10/2.rev1)” adopted at the IG12 in 2010; and
 - For 2014-2015: “Revised Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center (Annex 4 of the EANET/IG

¹ The detailed names of activities included in both core budget and additional budget are described in the Draft Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center (2015) (EANET/IG 17/9/3)

14/14)” adopted at the Fourteenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG14) on the EANET in 2012.

4. Taking the previous systems referred to in the paragraph above into account, and in accordance with the Item 14 of the Instrument and the respective national laws and regulations, the participating countries are encouraged to make voluntary financial contributions to finance the administrative and operational costs of the NC activities, taking into account of their economic and financial circumstances and the limit of their respective budgetary appropriations.
5. The Fourteenth Session of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD14) of the EANET held in June 2015 requested the Secretariat to draft a document on the basis to be used for calculating voluntary financial contributions expected from the participating countries. This document provides the basis for estimating the voluntary financial contribution to finance the administrative and operational costs of the NC core activities from 2016.

II. Basis for calculating the voluntary financial contribution

6. In order to improve the predictability of voluntary financial contribution from the participating countries, the Eighth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG8) on the EANET in 2006 agreed to move on to a flat rate burden sharing system for voluntary financial contribution to the EANET from 2008².
7. Taking into account of the discussion at the IG8, and the agreements at the IG9 in 2007, the IG12 in 2010 and the IG14 in 2012, the voluntary financial contribution to the EANET using three year flat rate burden sharing system was implemented for 2008-2010 and for 2011-2013, and two year flat rate burden sharing system was implemented for 2014-2015.
8. The IG8 discussed that “In the future, a five-year flat amount of contribution could be decided, based on the future MTP possibly for five years”. “Revised Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center” adopted at the IG14 also includes that the yearly voluntary financial contribution to the NC core budget by the participating countries will be a flat/fix amount equal to the average projected budgets for the respective 5 consecutive years of the Medium Term Plan (MTP) for the EANET (2016-2020) starting from 2016.

² Report on Revision of Procedures and Guidelines for Contribution to Propose Appropriate Mechanism on Voluntary Contributions for EANET (EANET/IG 8/9/1); and Report of the Session (EANET IG 8/14)

9. Taking into consideration of the discussion at the IG8 and the agreement at the IG14, the voluntary financial contribution of the participating countries to the EANET is based on the following principles,
 - i. The yearly voluntary financial contribution to the NC core budget by the participating countries will be a flat amount equal to the average projected budgets for the respective 5 consecutive years of the Five-Year MTP for the EANET;
 - ii. The yearly flat amount of the voluntary financial contribution of each participating country will be estimated based on the scale of assessment for apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations; and
 - iii. The minimum amount for the yearly voluntary financial contribution of the participating countries is US\$ 200.

10. With regard to the UN assessment scale, the existing scale is agreed by the UN General Assembly for 2013, 2014 and 2015. In December 2015, the UN General Assembly is expected to approve a new scale for 2016, 2017 and 2018. In view of this the following options are proposed for the IG17 to be decided:
 - a. Option 1: Use the existing UN assessment scale (2013-2015 scale) for 2016 to 2020 period.
 - b. Option 2: Use the existing UN assessment scale (2013-2015 scale) for 2016 and use the new UN assessment scale (2016-2018 scale) for 2017-2020 period.
 - c. Option 3: Use the new UN assessment scale (2016-2018 scale) for 2016 to 2020 period

11. Based on the above principles and considering the average estimated budget for implementation of the MTP for the EANET (2016-2020), voluntary contribution of participating countries using the existing UN assessment scale (2013-2015 scale), Option 1, to the NC core budget for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 are estimated as presented in Annex 1.

12. If the option 2 is selected the estimated contributions in the Annex will be applied for 2016 and new estimates will be calculated for 2017 to 2020 period based on the new UN assessment scale that will be available in December 2015. If the option 3 is selected, the Secretariat will estimate the voluntary contributions for 2016 to 2020 period based on the new UN assessment scale as soon as it is available and communicate to all the national focal points.

13. Advantages and disadvantages of the proposed options are presented in the Annex 2.

III. Action Required

14. The IG17 on the EANET is invited to review the scale of voluntary financial contribution to the NC core budget and may wish to discuss, consider, and adopt the document as appropriate.

Annex 1

Estimated voluntary contribution of participating countries to the NC core budget from 2016 to 2020 (using the existing UN assessment scale (2013-2015 scale))

Country	UN scale of assessment 2013-2015 (%)	Scale of EANET burden sharing (%)	Estimated annual contribution (US\$)
Cambodia *	0.004	0.019	79
China	5.148	23.951	99,157
Indonesia	0.346	1.610	6,665
Japan	10.833	50.400	208,656
Lao PDR *	0.002	0.009	37
Malaysia	0.281	1.307	5,511
Mongolia *	0.003	0.014	58
Myanmar *	0.010	0.047	195
Philippines	0.154	0.716	2,964
Republic of Korea	1.994	9.277	38,407
Russia	2.438	11.343	46,960
Thailand	0.239	1.112	4,604
Vietnam	0.042	0.195	807
Total	----	100	414,000

* Minimum amount for the yearly financial contribution is US\$ 200.

Annex 2

Advantages and disadvantages of the proposed options

Options	Advantages	Disadvantages
Option 1: Use the existing UN assessment scale (2013-2015 scale) for 2016 to 2020 period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat rate throughout the MTP period • Expected voluntary contribution for 2016 to 2020 will be known during IG17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of outdated assessment scale from 2016 to 2020
Option 2: Use the existing UN assessment scale (2013-2015 scale) for 2016 and use the new UN assessment scale (2016-2018 scale) for 2017-2020 period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expected voluntary contribution in 2016 will be known during IG17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of outdated assessment scale in 2016, 2019, and 2020 • Flat rate only for 2017-2020
Option 3: Use the new UN assessment scale (2016-2018 scale) for 2016 to 2020 period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat rate throughout the MTP period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of outdated assessment scale in 2019 and 2020 • Expected voluntary contribution in 2016 will not be known during IG17