

The Tenth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee
on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
13-15 October 2010, Pattaya, Thailand

Outcomes of the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting and the Ninth Session of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Intergovernmental Meeting (IG) on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Eleventh Session (IG11) in Bangkok, Thailand on 19 -20 November 2009.
2. The Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) of EANET held its Ninth Session (WGFD9) in Pathumthani, Thailand on 7-8 April 2010.

II. MAJOR DECISIONS DURING THE IG 11

II-1 Revised Draft Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET

3. The Session focused on the five bracketed sections of the texts and some other important issues, e.g. designation of the Secretariat and the Network Center (NC), incorporation of financial and audit reports into the task of Intergovernmental Meeting and Item of “Financial Arrangement”, etc.
4. It was clarified that the word “agreed” in the last paragraph of the Preamble of the Instrument does not have legally-binding implication.
5. The timetable and modality for signature of the Instrument was discussed and 3 options for signature were raised as shown in Annex 1.
6. The Session agreed to promote the capacity building and public awareness activities both for Secretariat and the NC.
7. The Session finalized the revised draft text of the Instrument without any bracket for purpose of national procedures, which is attached as Annex 2 “Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)” (Draft).

II-2 Second Report on Future Development of EANET

8. The Session provided comments for further consideration and endorsement of the Second Report on Future Development of EANET at Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG12) including the issues of Working Group on Future Development, the Budget, the Public Participation, etc.

9. It was decided that the Working Group should extend terms on an ad-hoc basis rather than a permanent basis and the members of the Working Group should be decided considering the issues to be discussed. Furthermore, participants for administrative issues might deal with policy and legal matters, as well as regional arrangement. It was raised that issues on expansion of scope might also be included in the future Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Working Group based on the decision of IG 12.

10. The budget related issues were discussed, such as making efforts to reduce the proposed budget for 2011-2013, showing all the budgets and expenditures in US\$ basis, scaling salary of the NC based on international standard, clarifying further the criteria for core and additional budgets, planning activities within available budget considering the contributions in voluntary basis, etc.

11. It was discussed that the public awareness raising activities may have multi-layer activities.

12. It was suggested that timeline for assessment of acid deposition impacts might be shown in an explicit manner.

II-3 Medium Term Plan for EANET (2011-2015)

13. The Session emphasized the importance of the Medium Term Plan (MTP) and assigned to set clear priorities on various activities proposed, such as the assessment on the impacts of acid deposition, with review of the activities should get along with the scope of the EANET mandates.

14. Highlighting the role of SAC in the formulating of the MTP, the session explored the possibility to convene the next SAC before WGFD to better integrate contribution from SAC to MTP.

15. The NC missions may have high priority to provide advice for new candidate monitoring sites, etc.

16. It was clarified that all models dealing with acid deposition and air pollution issues were in an integrated manner.

II-4 Mid-Term Report on the Implementation of the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010)

17. Guidance was provided based on the report including seeking the external funding sources, implementation status evaluation for next MTP, avoidance of delays and overload based on the resource availability.

18. The Session endorsed the Mid-Term Report on the Implementation of the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010) subject to the stated revision.

II-5 Report on the Progress of EANET since the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG 10) and the Financial Report of the Secretariat and the Network Center in 2008

19. The Session endorsed the report subject to some revisions such as setting explicit rules for reallocation the budget among budget lines.

II-6 Outcomes of the Ninth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC 9)

20. The Session endorsed the report including the 2 proposals, (a) to establish an Expert Group on Preparation of the Technical Manual for Air Concentration Monitoring and (b) to dissolve the Expert Group on Preparation of the Second Periodic Report on State of Acid Deposition in East Asia (PR SAD2).

II-7 Work Program and Budget of EANET in 2010

21. The Session requested the Secretariat and the NC to make further efforts to reduce the budget and improve transparency including submitting the audit reports, to prioritize the public awareness and multi-layer stakeholders approach were emphasized, and to prioritize the activities by using the saving money.

22. The Session adopted the report with modification on the public awareness item by emphasizing approach for multi-layer stakeholders and integration of item High Level Segment into item IG.

II-8 Implementation for Joint Forum on Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific

23. Representative from UNEP presented the outcomes of Joint Meeting of the Intergovernmental Networks on Regional Air Pollution in Asia and the Pacific Region in 2009 and the implementation plan for further comments and suggestions.

II-9 Updates on Activities of Other International Programs on Acid Deposition and Transboundary Air Pollution

24. Representative from United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) delivered a presentation on the activities under the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) in 2009.

II-10 Other Issues

25. Japan proposed to possibly host the IG 12 and High Level Segment.

26. The Second Report for Policy Makers on EANET (RPM2) was launched.

III. OUTCOMES OF THE WGFD 9

III-1 National Procedures of the Participating Countries and Modalities of the Signature for the Instrument of EANET

27. The Session updated the status of the national procedures for approval of the Instrument of each participating country.

28. Considering the suggested timetable, the session was encouraged to notice the deadlines on the approval for signature of the Instrument by the end of June 2010 and to inform the Secretariat of the designated or authorized representative for signature by the end of August 2010.

29. The Session discussed the 3 suggested options on the modality of the signature of the Instrument. It was agreed to merge options 2 and 3 to read as “Sign at the IG 12 by as many participating countries as possible and others would sign afterwards with submission of a formal Note of Confirmation to the Secretariat prior to the IG 12” and the Note might include the information on the timing of the signature of the Instrument.

30. As for the level of signers, it was clarified that the level will be decided by each participating country, based on national procedure. It was pointed that the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG 12) might decide the timing when the Instrument will be in operation.

III-2 Draft Report on the Review of Performance of the Secretariat and the Network Center

31. It was suggested to the Secretariat manage the work program based on available resources as well as to seek funding support from other international organizations such as Asian Development Bank (ADB).

III-3 Draft Medium Term Plan for EANET (2011-2015)

32. It was pointed out that the Medium Term Plan for EANET (MTP) should be in line with the finalized Instrument, especially in the objectives and scope parts.

33. Some clarifications were provided on data verification processes, data transparency, analysis and assessment. I was suggested to make a survey on existing emission inventories and provide guidance and materials for capacity building for emission inventories.

34. The Session requested SAC 10 to discuss some issues, e.g. last sentence of the 1st paragraph of the Introduction, 2nd bullet of 2.2 Objectives and Activity No. 17 of Annex 1.

III-4 Draft Second Report on Future Development of EANET and the Draft Procedures and Guidelines for Voluntary Financial Contributions to EANET for 2011-2013

35. Some modifications were suggested on paragraph 27 and 28 of the Second Report on Future Development of EANET (Draft) and the draft Terms of Reference (TOR).

III-5 Arrangement for the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG 12)

36. The Session welcomed the proposal from Japan of its willingness to host the IG 12 and High Level Segment on 23-24 November 2010 in Niigata, Japan.

III-6 Other Issues

37. The Session was informed by the Secretariat on the outcomes of the Meeting of the Joint Forum on Atmospheric Environment in Asia and the Pacific.

Annex 1

Suggestions on the Signature of the Instrument

A. Timetable for the Signature of the Instrument

1. The final draft text of the Instrument will be circulated to the National Focal Points (NFPs) for the internal process for signature by mid-December 2009.
2. The participating countries will inform the Secretariat on their views on the modality of signature by end of February 2010.
3. The Ninth Session of the Working Group on Future Development of EANET (WGFD9) will be held in March 2010.
4. The participating countries will inform the Secretariat on the approval for signature by end of June 2010.
5. The participating countries will inform the Secretariat of the designated or authorized representatives for signature by end of August 2010.

B. Possible Modalities on Signature

The Instrument is adopted officially and signature is committed by the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG12).

Option 1 – Sign at the High Level Segment in conjunction with the IG12 by all participating countries of EANET;

Option 2 - Sign at the IG12 by some participating countries and others might sign before (pre-signing) or after the IG12; and

Option 3 - Sign by all participating countries after the IG12.

Annex 2

Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
(EANET)

(DRAFT)

The Participating Countries to this Instrument,

Recognizing that East Asia is facing the risks of problems related to acid deposition,

Recalling that Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, stated that the experience of the programs on transboundary air pollution in Europe and North America needed to be shared with other regions of the world,

Acknowledging the successful operation of the preparatory-phase activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), which was undertaken by ten countries in East Asia from 1998 to 2000, following the common understanding expressed at the First Intergovernmental Meeting, on 19-20 March 1998 in Yokohama, Japan,

Recognizing that EANET was established in January 2001 as an important initiative for regional cooperation, aiming at creating a common understanding on the state of acid deposition problems, at providing useful inputs to policy makers at various levels, and at contributing to cooperation on the issues related to acid deposition among the participating countries,

Acknowledging that thirteen countries in East Asia are participating in EANET and have been successfully working together to conduct acid deposition monitoring and to implement other activities for EANET, based on the Joint Announcement on Implementation of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (JA) adopted by the participating countries and Tentative Design of EANET (TD) referred to in JA,

Emphasizing that activities of the cooperative network on the acid deposition in East Asia under EANET have been developed by taking a step-wise approach by the participating countries on a voluntary basis,

Recognizing the need to promote cooperation for the monitoring acid deposition in East Asia,

Also recognizing that the Instrument should be simple, flexible, open for future development and be based on the JA, TD and other decisions of the Intergovernmental

Meeting (IG),

Emphasizing the importance of appropriate financial arrangement for the sound operation of the EANET with a view to sustaining the development of the EANET, strengthening the financial mechanism of the EANET and providing a sound basis for financial contribution to the EANET and enhancing capacity building of acid deposition monitoring for all the participating countries of the EANET,

Noting the fact that the effective realization of the EANET activities since the commencement of the EANET activities have been supported by voluntary contributions of some participating countries, covering the activities of the EANET Secretariat and the core activities of the Network Center which annually consisted of about one million US dollars and expressing great appreciation to the Governments of these countries,

Noting that the participating countries of the EANET will be guided, in the implementation of this Instrument, by the principles that the use of financial contribution should produce effective outcomes, that the related executive bodies should take necessary measures to improve efficiency of contribution,

Determined to renew their willingness to continue the activities of EANET as set out in the TD,

Have agreed as follows:

Item 1
Definition

“Acid deposition” in this Instrument means deposition of major acidifying species and related chemical substances.

Item 2
Objectives and Scope

1. The objectives and scope of this Instrument are:
 - a) to create a common understanding of the state of acid deposition problems in East Asia;
 - b) to provide useful inputs for decision-making at local, national and regional levels aimed at preventing or reducing adverse impacts on the environment caused by acid deposition; and
 - c) to contribute to cooperation on the issues related to acid deposition among the Participating Countries.
2. The scope of this Instrument may be extended, as decided by the IG.

Item 3
Principles

1. The Participating Countries will, in the spirit of solidarity and partnership and in accordance with their respective needs, capabilities and situations, strengthen cooperation to monitor acid deposition.
2. The Participating Countries will be encouraged to take appropriate measures to monitor acid deposition to minimize its adverse impacts, taking into account the precautionary principle.
3. The Participating Countries will promote active participation, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation for effective implementation of the activities under this Instrument.

Item 4
Monitoring and Reporting

1. The Participating Countries will implement and strengthen their monitoring activities in line with this Instrument.
2. Each Participating Country will designate a national center, which is responsible for implementing the monitoring activities provided for in this Instrument.
3. Each Participating Country will develop and implement its national monitoring plan. Monitoring of acid deposition will be implemented in accordance with the monitoring guidelines, technical manuals and other technical documents adopted by the IG.
4. Each Participating Country will report the monitoring data and other relevant information to the Network Center (NC), in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the IG.
5. In order to obtain high quality monitoring data, the quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) programs adopted by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), will be implemented by the NC in full collaboration among the Participating Countries for monitoring activities under this Instrument.
6. The monitoring data and other information submitted by the Participating Countries will be compiled, stored and analyzed by the NC.
7. The data and other information compiled through the EANET activities will be provided to individuals, organizations and non-member countries, in accordance with the procedures adopted by the IG.

Item 5
Assessment

1. The monitoring data and other information submitted by the Participating Countries will be analyzed, evaluated and assessed.
2. Periodic assessment reports on the state of acid deposition in East Asia will be

prepared based on the data reports, disseminated and made available to the public.

Item 6

Research Activities

1. The Participating Countries will promote studies on scientific issues related to acid deposition.
2. Research activities should be mutually reinforcing and supportive with existing regional, sub-regional and national initiatives in East Asia. Collaboration should be promoted with other international monitoring networks and programs.

Item 7

Education and Training

The Participating Countries, in collaboration with the NC and the Secretariat, will promote and cooperate in developing and implementing education/training programs to implement this Instrument.

Item 8

Public Awareness

The Participating Countries will promote and cooperate in:

- 1) development and implementation of public awareness programs on acid deposition; and
- 2) improvement of public access to information on acid deposition and its effects.

Item 9

Exchange of Information

The Participating Countries will promote and cooperate in the exchange of information related to acid deposition including scientific, technological, technical, socio-economic and legal information as well as information on administrative measures,

Item 10

Intergovernmental Meeting

1. The IG, composed of the representatives of all Participating Countries, is the decision-making body of the EANET. The tasks of the IG include, among others, the following:
 - a) review and approval of the work program and budget of the EANET;
 - b) review of implementation of the work program;
 - c) review and approval of periodic assessment reports on the state of acid deposition in East Asia;
 - d) establishment of subsidiary bodies as necessary and appropriate;

- e) review and approval of scientific, technical, administrative and financial matters including financial reports for the management of the EANET and the scope of administrative and operation costs of the Secretariat and the NC for their respective EANET activities;
 - f) provision of necessary instructions and guidance to the Secretariat and the NC based on the audit reports provided by independent auditing agencies;
 - g) adoption of the rules of procedures for the IG and subsidiary bodies, including the SAC;
 - h) provision of necessary instructions and guidance to the subsidiary bodies, the Secretariat and the NC on their activities; and
 - i) decision on other matters related to the management of the EANET and implementation of the work program.
2. The IG will meet annually, unless otherwise decided.

Item 11
Secretariat

1. The Secretariat, for the effective management of the EANET and to facilitate cooperation among the Participating Countries in a transparent manner, will carry out the following tasks under the guidance of the IG:
 - a) necessary administrative arrangements for the meetings of the IG, the SAC, and other subsidiary bodies;
 - b) necessary administrative and financial arrangements for managing the EANET;
 - c) communication and cooperation in administrative and policy aspects as the focal point of the EANET;
 - d) promotion of capacity building and public awareness in cooperation with the NC; and
 - e) other necessary tasks as requested by the IG.
2. The entity currently serving as the Secretariat for EANET is designated as the Secretariat, unless otherwise decided by the IG.

Item 12
Scientific Advisory Committee

1. The SAC, composed of scientific and technical experts from the Participating Countries, will advise and assist the IG with various scientific and technical matters related to EANET activities as mandated to it by the IG. These matters will include the following:
 - a) scientific and technical aspects for EANET;
 - b) development and revision of the monitoring guidelines and technical manuals;
 - c) matters related to the selection of monitoring sites, QA/QC programs, data

- reporting procedures and formats;
 - d) matters related to collection, evaluation, assessment and analysis of monitoring data;
 - e) preparation of periodic assessment reports on the state of acid deposition in East Asia, based on, but not limited to the data compiled by the NC;
 - f) matters related to studies on acid deposition; and
 - g) other scientific matters as requested by the IG.
2. If the Committee considers necessary for fulfilling its objectives, experts from countries other than the Participating Countries may be invited to assist the Committee.

Item 13
Network Center

1. The NC, to handle scientific and technical matters of the EANET activities and to facilitate cooperation among the Participating Countries in a transparent manner, will carry out the following tasks under the guidance of the IG:
 - a) central compilation, evaluation, storage and analysis of monitoring data and related information;
 - b) preparation of data reports on acid deposition in East Asia;
 - c) dissemination of monitoring data and other relevant information;
 - d) provision of technical assistance to the Participating Countries in implementing the EANET activities;
 - e) implementation and coordination of QA/QC activities;
 - f) development and implementation of education/training programs for those engaged in the EANET activities;
 - g) implementation of research activities on acid deposition;
 - h) provision of scientific and technical support for the IG, the SAC and other subsidiary bodies;
 - i) promotion of capacity building and public awareness in cooperation with the Secretariat; and
 - j) other tasks as requested by the IG.
2. The entity currently serving as the NC for EANET is designated as the NC, unless otherwise decided by the IG.
3. Other entities could be designated as Network Centers for EANET by the decision of the IG, as the need arises.

Item 14
Financial Arrangement

1. The administrative and operational cost of the national monitoring activities within each country will be borne by each country as contribution to EANET.
2. The administrative and operational costs of the Secretariat and the NC for their

respective EANET activities will be financed by voluntary contributions from the Participating Countries.

3. Participating Countries are encouraged to make voluntary financial contributions, taking into account their economic and financial circumstances, in accordance with the respective national laws and regulations and within the limit of their respective budgetary appropriations. The Participating Countries may provide additional financial and in-kind contributions on a voluntary basis.
4. The Participating Countries are invited to draw attention to estimated financial amount in order to implement the activities under this Instrument, and burden sharing practices in the United Nations systems.
5. Procedures and guidelines for the transfer of financial contributions will be developed and adopted by the IG. The financial contributions and the interest from financial contributions will be administered by the Secretariat under the guidance of the IG.
6. EANET will be open to financial and in-kind contributions from other sources including international and regional organizations and NGOs, subject to the approval of the IG for the implementation of EANET activities.
7. The annual financial reports, and annual audit reports prepared by independent audit agencies will be submitted to the IG by the Secretariat and the NC for their respective EANET activities.

Item 15

Revisions or Modifications

1. Any revisions, modifications to any part of this Instrument may be proposed in writing by any Participating Country to be considered and adopted by the IG in consensus.
2. Subject to the official written consent by all Participating Countries, the revision or modification adopted by the IG will form part of this Instrument.

Item 16

End of Participation

A Participating Country may cease its participation in the EANET at any time by giving official written notice of such intention to the Secretariat.

Item 17

Participation of Other Countries

Countries in East Asia, which includes Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia, not participating in the EANET, may subsequently submit to the Secretariat an application for participation, which is subject to approval by the IG.

In accordance with the laws and regulations of the respective Participating Countries, this Instrument is signed by the designated or authorized representatives hereunder:

Signature

Title

Government Organization

Country

Date