

The Seventh Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee
on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
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Report on cooperation with other international programmes and initiatives

I. Introduction

1. EANET as a regional intergovernmental network participated by thirteen member countries in East Asia encourages close cooperation among its members and also with other regional and international programmes and initiatives to jointly address regional and global air pollution issues. Collaboration with international and regional programmes is essential to ensure the sustainability and future growth of the network.
2. Since its establishment, EANET has continued to build and strengthen links with some international programmes and initiatives such as the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-Range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) under the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
3. Many of the activities identified in the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010) will benefit from enhancing existing linkages and establishing new partnerships with the international and regional programmes involved in air quality monitoring and assessment. Currently, some of the areas that NC is pursuing cooperation includes:
 - joint research studies in the EANET region involving researchers from NC, participating countries and interested external scientists
 - participating in activities organized by other international/regional initiatives
 - coordinating investigations on global or inter-regional transport of air pollutant which threaten human health and ecosystems
 - learning the good practices for addressing regional and transboundary air pollution problems, including application of modeling and emission inventories, evaluation of long-term effects, control and mitigation measures, etc.
4. Building partnerships with potential donor agencies and contributors have been identified as one of the means of obtaining financial resources and support for research activities. The Network Center (NC) and the Secretariat of EANET will continue to seek opportunities to inform and update the international and regional scientific programs and potential funding agencies on EANET activities, highlighting the significance and achievements since the start of its regular activities, and the need to continue efforts to promote a comprehensive approach

to relevant environmental problems. Materials such as recent publications, the Strategy on EANET Development (2006-2010), Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia, and Report for Policy Makers will be used to promote EANET activities.

II. Existing Cooperation with International and Regional Programmes

II-1 Cooperation with CLRTAP

5. EANET has maintained close contact with CLRTAP in particular the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollutants (TF HTAP) since the start of the regular phase activities and has gained from sharing experiences in the implementation of the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution. Existing cooperation with EMEP includes:

- participation at TF HTAP meetings by EANET representatives
- participation in EANET meetings by CLRTAP staff, such as in recent WGFD4 and STM8
- cooperation with the International Cooperative Programmes (ICPs) under the Working Group on Effects (WGE):
 - i. participation in each other's meetings
 - ii. review of the Sub-Manual on Forest Vegetation
 - iii. participation in inter-laboratory comparison projects

6. Possible cooperation with EMEP in the future is being explored in the following areas:

- participation in preparation of Assessment Report on Hemispheric Transport by TF HTAP
- holding scientific meetings in Asia jointly with TF HTAP
- exchange of air pollution monitoring data
- participation in cooperative modeling and assessment activities
- monitoring activities in Central Asia
- participation in ACCENT Workshop in January 2008

7. The Co-chairs for TF HTAP, Mr. Terry Keating of US EPA and Mr. Andre Zuber of the European Commission, have approached EANET on the possibility of holding a workshop in conjunction with one of the EANET meetings to promote cooperation with regional air pollution networks in Asia on the work of TF HTAP. They have proposed that the joint workshop be held in the fall of 2008. The Secretariat in collaboration with the Network Centre is considering the possibility of holding the workshop back-to-back with the Eighth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC8) in 2008. The 2-day workshop to be organized by TF HTAP will have linkage with the SAC and TF HTAP is considering distributing their

Interim Report on Hemispheric Air Pollution as input to the SAC Session.

8. EANET has participated in some joint activities with the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests). NC sent a mission to the 23rd Task Force Meeting of International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests) held in Zvolen, Slovak Republic in May 2007. Possibility of further collaboration between EANET and ICP Forests were discussed.
9. The TF HTAP has an objective to prepare an assessment report by 2009 to inform CLRTAP about its findings on HTAP and particularly on the source-receptor for transcontinental transport of air pollution. An interim report on its findings in 2007 which addresses tropospheric ozone, acidification, and eutrophication will also be prepared. The reports rely on already existing evidence and studies of hemispheric transport of air pollution. Stronger involvement of scientists from the EANET countries in the preparation of the 2007 TF HTAP Interim Report could be explored in the future.

II-2 Cooperation with WMO

10. EANET has also collaborated closely with WMO in monitoring and assessment of acid deposition, in particular the implementation of QA/QC activities. It is important for the various regional and national networks to harmonize their measurement systems to ensure that high quality comparable data are available for global assessments. The technical manuals produced by the GAW Precipitation Chemistry Programme have been very useful for this purpose. Closer collaboration with the WMO particularly in understanding atmospheric process in tropical areas, involvement in GURME activities which addresses pollution in urban areas and closer interactions with the World Climate Research Program (WCRP) to further study the relationship between air pollution and climate change could be considered in the future.
11. During the WMO Expert Meeting on Precipitation Chemistry Data Synthesis and Community Products held in Geneva, Switzerland on 23 January 2007, the representatives of NC provided information on accumulated monitoring data for the period of regular phase of EANET and the procedure for data dissemination. WMO, through its Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) Programme, has proposed to establish a coordinated work on a scientific assessment of precipitation chemistry by combining GAW data, data from cooperating regional networks and data from simulation models. In view of the benefits of the products, EANET has agreed to

participate and contribute monitoring data from 2001-2005 to the common data set that will include data from EMEP, DEBITS, CAPMoN, NADP and GAW. The EANET dataset has been prepared according to the requirements set, and NC will keep countries informed on the progress of the data integration and assessment process which is expected to start in late 2007.

II-3 Cooperation with Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health

12. The Ministerial Forum on Environment and Health jointly organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Offices for the Western Pacific and South-East Asia is held every three years involving ministers and high level officials responsible for environment and health from countries in the region. The First Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in South-East Asia and East Asian countries held in Bangkok, Thailand on 9 August adopted the Charter of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health and established the Regional Forum on Environment and Health.
13. EANET participated in the Conference for Environment and Health in Asia and the First Regional Meeting of the Thematic Working Group on Air Quality held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 7 May 2007 and also in the Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health held in Bangkok. EANET as a regional and international partner of the Thematic Working Group on Air Quality is supporting the regional initiative through our involvement in the activities of one of the three sub-groups; the Sub-Group on Transboundary Air Pollution. Closer interactions with the health community in countries of the region would be required during the implementation of the Work Plan activities for this sub-group in the period 2007-2009. EANET has been identified as a source of regional air quality data and information for the health impact assessments. The activities and outputs of the Sub-Group on Transboundary Air Pollution are:
 - Development of methodologies for conducting health impact assessment of PM and ozone in the region
 - Assessment of health impact of PM and ozone
 - Assessment of impact of Atmospheric Brown Cloud, dust and sandstorm and transboundary haze on human health

III Cooperation with other scientific and research programs/initiatives related to acid deposition in the region

14. EANET could explore building partnerships with other regional air pollution initiatives that

are active in the East Asian region and Asian region which share many common objectives. They include the DEBITS (Deposition of Biogeochemically Important Trace Species) programme under IGBP-IGAC which has implemented a Composition of Asian Deposition (CAD) network that considers wet and dry deposition in the Asian region. Many of the IGAC activities are supported by SIDA. Several committees and sub-committees within ASEAN also address regional air pollution issues that prevail in the South-East Asian region. Countries in South Asia under the Malé Declaration have also been very active in promoting monitoring, assessments and measures to control air pollution in their region, including preparation of emissions inventories. Among the advantages of forming partnerships with these programmes are sharing of experiences, exchange of data, sharing resources in training and capacity building etc.

IV Actions Proposed

15. The session is invited take note of the strong cooperation ties between EANET and other international programmes such as CLRTAP and WMO. The Session may wish to deliberate on the following:
 - i) Ways to strengthen the existing cooperation with EMEP, WMO, Regional Forum on Environment and Health
 - ii) Building partnerships and linkages with other programs in the region such as IGBP-DEBITS, Malé Declaration and ASEAN.