

The Ninth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee
on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
14-16 October 2009, Tsukuba, Japan

Outcomes of the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting, Third Special Session and Eighth Session of the Working Group on Future Development

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Intergovernmental Meeting (IG) on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Tenth Session (IG10) in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 20 -21 November 2008.
2. The Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) of EANET held its Third Special Session (WGFD-S3) in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 19 November 2008 and the Eighth Session (WGFD8) in Pattaya, Thailand on 29-31 July 2009.

II. MAJOR DECISIONS DURING THE IG10

Report of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) on the Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET

3. Recalling that one of the main objectives of the Instrument is to enable the participating countries to make financial contributions to EANET, most of the participating countries indicated their preference for an Instrument for signature by representatives of the governments of the participating countries without ratification. The Session provided guidance to the WGFD that the Instrument needs to be formulated for signature of the designated representatives of the governments or competent authorities of the participating countries.
4. The Session also agreed that the Secretariat will be responsible for overall financial reporting to the IG, although the NC and the Secretariat handle their own respective day-to-day financial operations. The IG will decide on procedures for both the Secretariat and the NC to receive financial contributions from participating countries.
5. The Session decided to task the WGFD to further develop the Instrument in accordance with the conclusions of this meeting, and to consider and suggest any procedures necessary to obtain the said signatures.

Activities of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) after 2008

6. The Session adopted the "Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) 2009-2010". The Working Group will continue to be represented by two participants nominated by

the National Focal Points (NFPs) of the participating countries taking into account the topic of the session. One Chairperson and two Vice-chairpersons will be elected for the two year term (2009-2010) of the Working Group sessions.

Outcomes of the Eighth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC8)

7. In response to what SAC had mentioned that there was a decision to change the name of the “Task Force on Dry Deposition Monitoring” to “Task Force on Air Quality Monitoring and Dry Deposition,” the Session suggested that SAC reconsider the renaming as “Task Force on Monitoring for Dry Deposition,” and make related modifications to the Terms of Reference of this task force.
8. The Session approved the “Procedures for Establishing Task Forces and Expert Groups Under the Scientific Advisory Committee of EANET and the “Terms of Reference of the Task Forces and Expert Groups (revised)”.
9. The Session endorsed the three high-priority research projects proposed by SAC.
10. The Session endorsed the report “Outcomes of the Eighth Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC8)”.
11. The Session applauded the NC’s announcement that the inaugural edition of the “EANET Science Bulletin” (Vol. 1) had been published in November 2008, and viewed this as a significant achievement.

Report on the Review of Performance of the Secretariat and the Network Center (2005-2007)

12. The Session endorsed both documents.

Work Program and Budget in 2009 for EANET

13. The Session adopted the Work Program and Budget in 2009, subject to revisions discussed at IG10.

Second Report for Policy Makers on EANET (RPM2)

14. It was clarified that the next WGFD session will review the RPM2 before launching it at the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG11).

Other issues

15. The NC made a presentation on the “Group on Earth Observations (GEO)” and invited EANET to consider whether or not it wished to join the Group. Various views were expressed. Some countries reminded the Session that further information is needed, such as obligations and

responsibilities of joining GEO. It was agreed that the NC would provide more information, that discussions would continue at the WGFD on this topic, and that a decision would be postponed until the next IG.

III. OUTCOMES OF THE WGFD-S3

Draft Report of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) on the Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET

16. The main purpose of the WGFD-S3 was to finalize the Report of the WGFD for IG10 on the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET

17. In the report, it was stated that the IG10 is invited to consider and make decisions/provide guidance on the document submitted by the WGFD on the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET, especially on the following issues:

- a. Legal status of the Instrument
 - b. Scope of substances
 - c. Scope of activities
 - d. Financial arrangement
 - e. Next steps
- The IG may wish to decide to request the WGFD to further develop the Instrument.

18. The Session adopted the Draft Report of the Working Group on Future Development (WGFD) on the Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET (Fifth Draft) including the Revised Draft Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET and agreed to submit this document to the IG10, for its consideration.

IV. OUTCOMES OF THE WGFD8

Revised Draft Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET including the Draft Explanatory Note for Obtaining the Signatures for the Instrument

19. Major outcomes on this topic were:

Legal status and signature

- i) The Session agreed that the Instrument has a form of non-legally binding text. Accordingly, Articles 15 to 25 which pertain to legally binding instrument were deleted.
- ii) The Session agreed on the Instrument with signature but without ratification process.

Scope of the Instrument

- iii) It was agreed to keep the current scope under the Instrument. It was also agreed that the scope may be expanded as decided by the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG) in the future.
- iv) The Session agreed to use “acid deposition” instead of “regional air pollution” and provide the meaning of acid deposition in this Instrument, to duly reflect the current EANET activities.

Others

- v) It was suggested by the Chair that for the time being, the term “Instrument” is used for the title and the participating countries may propose other term in the future.
- vi) Based on the two options of title, the content of the title was agreed by the Session to be “for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)”.

20. The Session achieved significant progress on the Draft Revised Text of the Instrument to Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET. The revised text is attached as Annex of this report, reflecting the discussions and decisions made by the Session.

Draft Second Report on Future Development of EANET

21. The Session requested the Secretariat and the NC to develop a possible TOR for the establishment of a permanent working group with the tasks as proposed in the report.

22. Regarding the financial arrangement, the Session requested the Secretariat to develop the document to continue the current modality for the next 3 years after 2010.

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

23. It was expressed that contribution from participating countries is necessary to ensure adequate budget to efficiently implement EANET activities. The Secretariat and the NC were asked to continue their efforts in obtaining external financial resources.

24. It was mentioned that efforts should be enhanced to develop the database of EANET monitoring data during the period covered by the current Strategy due to its importance.

Draft Strategy on EANET Development (2011-2015)

25. There were discussions on the title of the document. The proposed names included: Five-Year Action Plan, Strategy, and Medium Term Plan. It was suggested that the discussion should focus on the contents and format of the document prior to the title.

26. The Session was reminded that the title of the document might be “Medium Term Plan (2011-2015)” according to the TOR of the WGFD (2009-2010) and requested the Secretariat and the NC to revise the document accordingly.

27. It was suggested that when the SAC review the plan from the scientific viewpoint, the strategic direction should be considered, including priority activities related to some substances, for which participating countries lack capacity, e.g. aerosols.

Second Report for Policy Makers on EANET (Final Draft)

28. With modifications, the Session agreed to send the revised RPM2 to the National Focal Points (NFPs) for clearance.

Draft Work Program and Budget in 2010 for EANET

29. One country suggested to include the development of database of EANET monitoring data and the development of concept paper for sub-centers in the Work Program in 2010.

Arrangement for the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG11)

30. The Secretariat proposed to hold the IG11 in Bangkok, Thailand on 19-20 November 2009. The proposed provisional agenda items for the IG11 were highlighted during the Session.

31. The RPM2 will be launched at IG11.

32. It was clarified that the “Strategy on EANET Development (2011-2015)” will be revised to “Medium Term Plan (2011-2015)” in the Provisional Agenda.

Annex

Revised Draft Text of the Instrument
To Provide a Sound Basis for Contribution to EANET

Title

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

The Participating Countries to this Instrument,

Recognizing that East Asia is facing increasing risks of problems related to [acid deposition/acid deposition including deposition of major acidifying species and related chemical substances (hereinafter referred to as “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
Definitions**

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

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**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 for the management of the EANET;
 - f) adoption of the rules of procedures for the IG and subsidiary bodies, including the SAC;
 - g) provision of necessary instructions and guidance to the subsidiary bodies, the Secretariat and the NC on their activities; and

- h) 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. [A relevant intergovernmental organization is designated to serve as the Secretariat to the Instrument by the decision of 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. An appropriate entity is designated as the NC for this Instrument by the decision of the IG to carry out the above functions, provided that such designation is accepted by such entity. [Other entities could be designated as [sub-] centers to carry out some of the tasks given by the IG as the need arises.]

Item 14

Financial Arrangement

1. The administrative and operational cost of the national monitoring within each country will be borne by each country.
2. The administrative and operational costs of the Secretariat and the NC core 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 necessary financial amount in order to implement 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.

7. Any Participating Country may request the Secretariat and the NC to provide to the IG the annual financial reports and audit reports by independent audit agencies.

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.

[This Instrument is signed by duly authorized representatives of Participating Countries in accordance with their respective laws and regulations.]

Name of country, signature....