

The Second Senior Technical Managers' Meeting
of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network
in East Asia
19-21 September 2001, Niigata, Japan

Report on the Scientific and Technical Activities of EANET since the First Senior Technical Managers' Meeting

1. The First Senior Technical Managers' (STM) Meeting of EANET was held in Niigata, Japan from 20 through 22 February 2001, organized by the Network Center (NC) to discuss the important technical issues. The Meeting was attended by senior technical managers of all the participating countries, who are responsible for technical issues on EANET activities in each country. The Meeting was also attended by experts from international organizations as well as Japanese universities, research institutes, local governments and relevant bodies. This is a report on the progress of EANET activities since the First STM Meeting focusing on scientific and technical respects.

I. COMPILATION OF DATA

2. The participating countries have submitted the data and related information obtained through the monitoring activities of EANET in 2000 to NC. NC has prepared a draft data report for the consideration at the Second STM Meeting.

II. SUPPORT TO TASK FORCES

3. NC serves as the secretariats of the Task Force on Dry Deposition Monitoring, the Task Force on Soil and Vegetation Monitoring, and the Network of Soil and Vegetation Specialists.

4. One of the activities of the Task Force on Dry Deposition Monitoring is to develop "QA/QC Program for the Air Concentration Monitoring in East Asia". A draft QA/QC Program was distributed among ISAG members as well as the national focal points and the heads of the national centers in September 1999 for their comments.

Based on the comments and intensive discussions with experts in the participating countries, the revised draft was prepared by the Interim Network Center (INC) and distributed in December 2000 among the members of the (new) Task Force on Dry Deposition Monitoring, which was reorganized at the Second ISAG Meeting and the Fourth Working Group Meeting in March 2000, for asking further comments by the end of February 2001. There was no comment to the revised draft version from the Task Force members. After the finalization by the Task Force members, the QA/QC Program is expected to be submitted to the First Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting in November 2001 for its endorsement.

5. INC/NC prepared a preliminary draft outline of the strategy paper for future direction of soil and vegetation monitoring, based on discussions at the previous international meetings/workshops and comments by Japanese experts. It was circulated among the Task Force members in May 2001.

6. In order to share common information and knowledge, NC sent the second package of technical materials regarding soil and vegetation monitoring to the Network members in June 2001 following the first one in January 2001. These materials include technical reports of ICP Forests and the abstract book of the 6th International Conference on Acidic Deposition.

III. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

III-1. Dispatch of technical missions

7. NC dispatches technical missions to the participating countries to exchange information and experiences, to provide technical advice and to disseminate the latest technical information. The NC missions were sent to Indonesia and Philippines (in April), Russia (in July/August), Mongolia (in August) and Malaysia (in September) during the period between the First and the Second STM Meetings.

8. They visited (candidate) network monitoring sites and laboratories, and had technical discussions with local experts on acid deposition and to exchange information

and experiences on the preparatory and regular-phase activities. These missions were considered very useful for NC in grasping the present capacities of the participating countries and for the participating countries in having detailed technical discussions among various experts from relevant agencies and academies (See Annex: List of technical missions during this period).

III-2. Implementation of the technical cooperation program

9. INC/NC, with financial support by the Environment Agency/the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, implemented the technical cooperation program for some of the participating countries in Japanese Fiscal Year (JFY) 2000 by providing technical as well as financial support. For instance, as a part of this program, NC provided Indonesia with spare-parts for wet deposition monitoring in May 2001.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION OF QA/QC ACTIVITIES

10. INC undertook the first inter-laboratory comparison project for soil monitoring in November 1999. Tentative report of the project were informed at the Second ISAG Meeting in March 2000. Receiving the results from the last participating laboratory in February 2001, NC analyzed data statistically to prepare the report of the project.

11. INC undertook the third inter-laboratory comparison project on wet deposition, the second one on soil and the first one on artificial surface water in December 2000. The results of the analysis by participating laboratories have been submitted to NC except for some laboratories and NC has prepared draft reports of the projects.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAINING ACTIVITIES

V-1. Implementation of individual training

12. Considering the importance of intensive training, the individual training at ADORC has been promoted as well as dispatch of short-term experts to the

participating countries. The individual training aimed at enhancing the proficiency of various monitoring skills of respective laboratories, taking account of their specific situations.

13. One each trainee from the Environmental Management Center (EMC) of Indonesia, Department of Chemistry (DOC) of Malaysia and Environmental Management Bureau of Philippine took part in individual training at ADORC from February to March 2001, focusing on the wet and dry deposition monitoring especially in terms of data analysis and data management.

14. As the training program in the JFY 2001, NC is planning to have five trainees and coordinating specific trainees with participating countries.

15. NC sent questionnaires about training needs to the participating countries in August 2001 in order to receive necessary information for developing training programs for the regular phase of EANET.

V-2. Dispatch of short-term experts

16. In consultation with NC, JICA dispatched short-term experts on acid deposition monitoring to Indonesia (April/May) and Philippines (August/September) during the period between First and the Second STM Meetings.

VI. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

VI-1. Joint research project with Russia

17. Since JFY 1998, INC/NC has been implementing a joint research project on acid deposition monitoring in frigid zones with the Limnological Institute, Russian Academy of Science, Siberian Branch (RAS/SB). In this project, wet deposition monitoring as well as dry deposition monitoring started in JFY 1998 at a remote site to study appropriate methodologies for monitoring in frigid zones. The project also included the soil and vegetation monitoring and monitoring for inland aquatic

environment in Siberia. The number of the research monitoring sites was increased to three in JFY 2000. NC and RAS/SB made the Memorandum of Agreement for JFY 2001 project in August 2001.

VI-2. Joint research project with Thailand

18. Since JFY 1999, INC/NC has been carrying out a joint research project on dry deposition flux with PCD, Thailand. In this project, a reference site to study dry deposition flux for tropical forest was selected in Lampang Province, Thailand. An observational station has been constructed in the selected site in JFY 2000. NC and PCD made the Memorandum of Agreement for JFY 2001 project in June 2001 to start the observation of dry deposition flux (SO₂ and O₃).

VI-3. Eco-frontier Fellowship

19. An application from a researcher of Republic of Korea on Eco-frontier Fellowship was approved by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan to carry out a study on inland aquatic environment in ADORC. The researcher on inland aquatic environment is scheduled to come to ADORC in October 2001.

VII. OTHER ACTIVITIES

VII-1. Activities related to Public Awareness for Acid Deposition Problems

20. Since JFY 1999, ADORC has been undertaking joint projects with selected participating countries to develop their own national brochures and/or videotapes on acid deposition problems. In addition to the projects with China and Thailand in JFY 1999 to develop brochures in respective countries, ADORC undertook projects in JFY 2000 with China to develop videotape, and with Malaysia and Philippines to develop brochures.

21. ADORC organized the Workshop on Public Awareness for Acid Deposition Problems held in Niigata, Japan, on 23 February 2001. The Workshop was attended

by approximately twenty participants and observers from China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Russia. The main objective of the Workshop was to exchange information and share experiences on public awareness raising.

22. NC is planning to undertake new joint projects for developing brochures with one or two of the participating countries and hold an international workshop on public awareness in JFY 2001.

VII-2. Communication with relevant organizations

23. NC sent a mission to attend the 17th Task Force Meeting of the International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution effects on Forests (ICP Forests) in May 2001 and discussed the possibility of closer cooperation between EANET and ICP Forests. It was recognized that the exchange of information among experts should be promoted as the first step of closer cooperation.

VII-3. Introduction/dissemination of EANET activities

24. NC introduced EANET activities at the First Meeting of the National Focal Points for the North East Asian Center for Environmental Data and Training (NEACEDT) held in February 2001, just before the First STM Meeting, in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

25. The Interim Secretariat introduced EANET activities in the occasion of the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting between China, Japan and Republic of Korea in April 2001.

Technical Missions of NC

(April – September 2001)

Country	Term	Main Purposes
Indonesia	17 – 22 April	(i) to exchange information and views on the maintenance of the equipments for monitoring and analysis; (ii) to investigate the cause of the malfunction on Japanese wet-only sampler in Indonesia; and (iii) to repair the samplers at EMC station and LAPAN station in Indonesia.
Philippines	22 – 25 April	(i) to exchange information and views on the maintenance of the equipments for monitoring and analysis; (ii) to investigate the cause of the malfunction on Japanese wet-only sampler in the Philippines; and (iii) to repair the samplers at Los Banos station in the Philippines.
Russia	29 July – 5 August	(i) to finalize MOA of the Cooperative Research Project in 2001; (ii) to visit Usuriiskaya monitoring station near Vladivostok; and (iii) to visit the Center for Environmental Monitoring of Primorsky Territorial Management for Hydrometeorology and Environment Monitoring tw. Vladivostok and exchange views and information.
Mongolia	25 – 29 August	(i) to discuss the methodologies of wet and dry deposition monitoring, especially for winter season; (ii) to exchange information and views in detail on the progress of the soil and vegetation monitoring of EANET in Mongolia; and (iii) to discuss the possibility of the inland aquatic environment monitoring of EANET in Mongolia.
Malaysia	2 – 8 September	(i) to discuss and exchange information on wet and dry deposition sampling of MMS including the selection of new monitoring sites; (ii) to discuss wet and dry deposition analysis conditions of DOC including the analytical capacity of DOC; and (iii) to exchange the other information and views on acid deposition.