

The Twenty-third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on the
Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia
24-25 November 2021, Virtual Meeting

REPORT OF THE SESSION (ADOPTED)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Intergovernmental Meeting (IG) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) held its Twenty-third Session (IG23) virtually on 24-25 November 2021.
2. Representatives of the Participating Countries, namely Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Thailand, and Viet Nam, participated in the Session. Representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); the Secretariat and Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP), the Network Center (NC) for the EANET; and the Asian Institute of Technology, Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP) attended the Session. The List of Participants is attached to this Report as **Annex 1**.

II. OPENING OF THE SESSION [AGENDA ITEM 1]

3. His Excellency, Vice-Minister Yutaka Shoda, delivered the Opening Remarks. Mr. Shoda expressed his appreciation for representatives and researchers from Participating Countries who have supported the entire EANET operation. He mentioned that at the previous IG22, the expansion of the scope of EANET was agreed upon. Mr. Shoda stated it was great progress to steer toward expanding activities, not limited to acid deposition but also the wider range of air pollution issues. He hoped that the respective arrangements and guidelines would be approved promptly so the EANET could proceed with the implementation stage.
4. Dr. Dechen Tsering, Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Environment Programme, delivered the Opening Remarks. In her Remarks, Dr. Tsering mentioned with new expanded scope, it is time for the EANET to continue strengthening cooperation among Participating Countries and like-minded initiatives through joint projects and diversification of its funding mechanisms to magnify the impacts. She hoped by expanding the scope, the EANET could be more adaptive and responsive to tackle atmospheric environmental problems in the region.
5. Dr. Shiro Hatakeyama, Director General, Asia Center for Air Pollution Research, delivered the Remarks. Dr. Hatakeyama, in his remarks, mentioned that this year's IG23 meeting has exceptional importance in finalizing the path to scope expansion of

EANET and the procedures related to the implementation of the project fund as requested by IG22.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS [AGENDA ITEM 2]

6. In accordance with the Revision of Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center approved at the Twenty-second Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG22) on the EANET in 2020, the Session elected Mr. Koki Azuma, Counselor for Transboundary Pollution Analysis, General Affairs Division, Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, as the Chairperson; Mr. Jamalulail bin Abu Bakar, Undersecretary, Environmental Management Division, Ministry of Environment and Water, Malaysia, as Vice-Chairperson; Dr. Le Ngoc Cau, Director, Center of Environmental Research, Viet Nam Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change, Viet Nam, as Vice-Chairperson; and Dr. Batbayar Jadamba, Director, Environmental Monitoring Division, National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring (NAMEM), Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Mongolia, as Rapporteur of the IG23.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA [AGENDA ITEM 3]

7. The Session considered and adopted the Provisional Agenda (EANET/IG 23/3/1), Annotated Provisional Agenda (EANET/IG 23/3/2), as well as the Draft Program (EANET/IG 23/3/3) proposed by the Secretariat and the NC.

V. CONSIDERATION ON THE RECENT PROGRESS OF THE EANET SINCE IG22 [AGENDA ITEM 4]

- 1) **Progress of the EANET since the 22nd Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG22) on the EANET in November 2020**
 - 2) **Financial Report of the Secretariat and the Network Center in 2020**
8. The Secretariat and the Network Center (NC) presented the Report on the Progress of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) since its Twenty-second Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG22) on the EANET (EANET/IG 23/4/1), including the Financial Report of the Secretariat and the NC in 2020 (EANET/IG 23/4/2).
 9. The key points of the presentation of the Secretariat included:
 - EANET's activities in 2021 include the arrangements of EANET annual meetings (IG22 and SAC21), Working Group Meetings, National Awareness Workshops in Myanmar, and various networking and communication activities. On administration, the Secretariat developed the Small-Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) with the RRC.AP/AIT as well as with the NC.

- The total voluntary financial contribution received by the Secretariat in 2020 was US\$ 498,797. In addition, the total expenditures and commitments of the Secretariat in 2020 were US\$ 568,062. The grand-total expenditure of the Secretariat, including the expenses for a 1-year technical consultant (China in-kind contribution), was US\$ 576,446.
10. The key points of the presentation of the NC included:
- The NC carried out 17 core activities and 9 non-core activities under 5 EANET objectives in 2021. The implementation status accomplished outputs, and expected outputs were delivered to IG participants for each activity.
 - The total voluntary financial contribution received by the NC in 2020 was US\$ 403,940, and additional revenues were US\$ 430,521. The total expenditures were US\$ 965,288, including the expenditures for core activities which were US\$ 398,244; for additional activities, they were US\$ 436,095, and for others, they were US\$ 130,949. The balance in 2020 was US\$ 122.
11. The Session was invited to review, discuss, provide guidance, and endorse the reports as appropriate.
12. Major discussions included:
- i. The Secretariat clarified that the cumulative surplus of the EANET Secretariat as of 31 December 2020 reaches a total of 551,195 US\$. It is essential to secure available funds for 2021. It was informed that within UNEP financial system, the EANET budget is categorized as extrabudgetary. This means that its budget needs to be fully secured in advance in the United Nations' financial system, namely "UMOJA". Most budget costs, such as personnel costs, Small Scale Funding Agreements (SSFAs), direct expenses, etc., will be deducted by the system at the beginning of the calendar year. Since the contribution of all Participating Countries is mainly transferred later in the year, the funds need to be secured as a whole; otherwise, there is a risk that the Secretariat could not implement the activities due to insufficient balance in the system.
 - ii. Responded to a request for the Secretariat to provide a detailed explanation regarding the surplus of the Secretariat, the information has been provided in the Financial Report by following the template provided in the administrative guidelines.
 - iii. A Participating Country encouraged the Secretariat to consider the use of surplus to build the EANET Project Fund.
13. The Session endorsed the Report on the Progress of the EANET since the IG22 and the Financial Report of the Secretariat and the Network Center in 2020.

VI. CONSIDERATION ON THE REPORT ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC21) ON THE EANET [AGENDA ITEM 5]

14. The Chairperson of the SAC21 presented the Report on the Outcomes of the Twenty-first Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC21) on the EANET (EANET/IG 23/5).

15. The key points of the presentation included:

- The SAC held its twenty-first session from 26-28 October 2021, virtually. Attended by SAC members and representatives, the Session reviewed and discussed various agenda items from technical and scientific viewpoints and made recommendations to the IG23.

16. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the report.

17. The major discussions included:

- i. The meeting agreed that the discussions from the SAC21 meeting and presented in the Report on the Outcomes of the Twenty-first Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC21), including target substances, still need to be validated by consensus during the IG23.

18. The Session considered and endorsed the report on the Outcomes of the SAC21 on the EANET.

VII. CONSIDERATION ON THE REPORT ON THE OUTCOMES OF WORKING GROUP MEETINGS IN 2021 [AGENDA ITEM 6]

19. The Chairperson of the Working Group Meeting in 2021 presented the Report on the Outcomes of Working Group Meetings in 2021 (EANET/IG 23/6).

20. The key points of the presentation included:

- Two working group meetings, one continued WG2021 session, and an informal Friends of Chair meeting were organized in 2021 to discuss various matters requested by IG22, including preparation of the draft text supplementary document of EANET, Project Fund and Project Guideline, and many other matters. The working group in 2021 made recommendations on draft text supplementary document to be considered by the IG23.

21. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance, as appropriate.

22. The major discussions included:

- i. No comments were made.

23. The Session considered and endorsed the report on the Outcomes of Working Group Meetings in 2021.

VIII. CONSIDERATION ON THE FINAL DRAFT SUMMARY OF THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EANET [AGENDA ITEM 7]

24. The NC presented the Final Draft Summary of the Twentieth Anniversary of the EANET and informed that the Summary would be launched during the commemorating session on 26 November 2021 (EANET/IG 23/7).

25. The presentation's key points focus on the Final Draft Summary of the Twentieth Anniversary of the EANET, including the Summary's background, concept, structure, and progress, as well as the designed Summary of the Twentieth Anniversary of the EANET.

26. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document as appropriate.

27. The major discussions included:

- i. No comments were made.

28. The Session considered and endorsed the Final Draft Summary of the Twentieth Anniversary of the EANET.

IX. CONSIDERATION ON THE FOURTH (FINAL) DRAFT TEXT FOR SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENT (ANNEX) TO THE INSTRUMENT FOR STRENGTHENING THE ACID DEPOSITION MONITORING NETWORK IN EAST ASIA (EANET) [AGENDA ITEM 8]

29. The Secretariat presented the Fourth (Final) Draft Text for Supplementary Document (Annex) to the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) (EANET/IG 23/8).

30. The key points of the presentation included:

- The Fourth Draft (Final) Text for Supplementary Document (Annex) to EANET the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)” accommodates and reflects the views of Participating Countries. The WG2021 recommends the draft text.

31. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document, as appropriate, including to inform/ decide on the date/month that countries can confirm their domestic procedures to approve/endorse the document to make it effective after the adoption of the IG.
32. Major discussions included:
- i. All Participating Countries have agreed that based on the Report of the Session of the Continued Working Group 2, the Annex should not include Black Carbon and CH₄ among its target substances.
 - ii. It was informed that the Annex would be effective and implemented only when the Participating Countries have finalized their internal approval process.
 - iii. The Secretariat reminded that Participating Countries would be invited to inform the Secretariat of their internal approval in the form of an official consent letter. The Session finalized the Draft Annex with modification of Item 5 as follows “After IG adopts the Annex, it will become operational on the date on which all Participating Countries have approved it, or on 31 October 2022 for those Participating Countries that have approved the Annex, whichever is earlier”.
33. The Session considered, finalized, and adopted the Draft Text for Supplementary Document (Annex) to the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and requested the countries to inform/ decide on the date/month for their domestic procedures to approve/endorse the document to make it effective after the adoption of the IG.

X. CONSIDERATION ON EANET PROJECT FUND AND PROJECT GUIDELINE OTHER ISSUES [AGENDA ITEM 9]

34. The Secretariat and the NC presented the EANET Project Fund and Project Guideline (EANET/IG 23/9).
35. The key points of the presentation included:
- The final draft of the text of the Project Fund and Project Guideline of the EANET was developed through consultation meetings at the WG2021-2 and accommodating inputs from Participating Countries. The Guideline will be implemented upon receiving the approval of the IG23.
 - A proposal to designate the ACAP to function as EANET Project Fund Holder during the transition period (1-2 years) upon receiving the approval of the Project Fund and Project Guideline by the IG was mentioned.
36. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document, as appropriate.

37. Major discussions included:

- i. The Secretariat clarified that the Working Group meeting is an ad hoc body of the EANET and is not an approval body, contrary to the SAC (for technical and scientific viewpoints) and the IG (for other matters such as those related to the budget).
- ii. The Session agreed IG can request the working group meeting to be organized to discuss potential future projects.
- iii. Some modifications text were suggested to the text EANET Project Fund and Project Guideline, which were agreed by the Participating Countries.

38. The Session considered, modified, and approved the EANET Project Fund and Project Guideline and agreed to designate ACAP as EANET Project Fund Holder during the transition period.

XI. CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT FOURTH PERIODIC REPORT ON THE STATE OF ACID DEPOSITION IN EAST ASIA (PRSAD4) [AGENDA ITEM 10]

39. The NC presented the Draft Fourth Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia (PRSAD4) (EANET/IG 23/10).

40. The key points of the presentation included:

- The Fourth Periodic Report consists of three parts. The first part is on regional assessment; the second part includes national assessments presented by Participating Countries; the third part is Executive Summary.
- The Regional Assessment Report has seven chapters, namely 1) Introduction; 2) Data Quality; Wet and Dry Deposition of Acidic Substances in East Asia; 3) Gas and Aerosol Pollution in East Asia; 4) Impacts on Ecosystems in East Asia; 5) Relevant Studies of Atmospheric Environment Assessment in EANET Region; and 6) Conclusion and Recommendations for Future Activities.
- The suggested period of monitoring data analyzed in the Fourth Periodic Report is from 2000 to 2019 (twenty years). However, the data from 2015 to 2019 were also analyzed to evaluate the region's current status of acid deposition.
- The suggestion was made that the Fourth Periodic Report should be prepared to focus on trend analysis and, possibly, impact assessment of acid deposition in the region.
- Each country prepared the National Assessment Report according to a format of national assessments, which the drafting committee had prepared. The EANET and other domestic data of each country were used for the national assessment.

41. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document, as appropriate.

42. Major discussions included:

- i. Participating Countries appreciated the Draft Fourth Periodic Report on the State of Acid Deposition in East Asia (PRSAD4) for its high-quality content.
- ii. China informed the Session that they would share some comments, in writing, shortly after the IG23, on the PRSAD4 Draft.

43. The Session agreed to allow China to review and provide comments by 31 December 2021 to the Draft PRSAD4 and inform the NC regarding its comments. Once all comments are accommodated, the NC will circulate the modified documents for their final consideration, and the Bureau of Officers IG23 will approve the Final PRSAD4 on behalf of Participating Countries.

XII. CONSIDERATION ON THE DRAFT REVISION OF MEDIUM TERM PLAN FOR THE EANET (2021-2025) [AGENDA ITEM 11]

44. The Secretariat presented the Draft Revision of Medium Term Plan for the EANET (2021-2025) (EANET/IG 23/11).

45. The key points of the presentation included:

- The proposed revision of the MTP text (2021-2025) is provided in the Annex (in track changes mode), subject to the approval of IG23 on the expansion of the scope of the EANET Instrument (agenda item 4) and Project Fund and Project Guideline proposed (agenda item 5).

46. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document as appropriate.

47. Major discussions included:

- i. The Session agreed that activities of expanded scope of MTP (2021-2025) may be conducted after the Supplementary Document will be effective.

48. The Session considered and approved the Draft Revision of Medium Term Plan for the EANET (2021-2025).

XIII. CONSIDERATION ON THE DRAFT REVISION OF GUIDELINES ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR THE SECRETARIAT AND THE NETWORK CENTER [AGENDA ITEM 12]

49. The Secretariat and the NC presented the Draft Revision of Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center (EANET/IG 23/12).

50. The presentation's key points included proposed text modifications to the Revision Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center for the EANET if the IG23 approves the Project Fund Mechanism.

51. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document as appropriate.

52. Major discussions included:

- i. The Secretariat explained that all core activities in the MTP (2021-2025) are within the current scope. On the other hand, the non-core activities beyond the current scope are subject to the effectiveness of the Annex before being implemented.

53. The Session considered and approved the Draft Revision of Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center.

XIV. CONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL DRAFT REPORT OF TERMINAL REVIEW OF MEDIUM TERM PLAN FOR THE EANET (2016-2020) [AGENDA ITEM 13]

54. The Reviewer presented the Draft Report of Terminal Review of Medium Term Plan for the EANET (2016-2020) (EANET/IG 23/13).

55. The key points of the presentation included:

- The Terminal Review provides evidence of results to meet accountability requirements and promote operational improvements, learnings, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned for the EANET.

56. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document as appropriate.

57. Major discussions included:

- i. The reviewer informed that, among his recommendations, the EANET may want to improve its communication of complex scientific concepts for policymakers, the general public, and “allied health professionals”.
- ii. One country suggested considering these recommendations as guidance for the future, but not to adopt these, as they include content beyond the scope of the EANET.

58. The Session considered the Draft Report of Terminal Review of Medium Term Plan for the EANET (2016-2020).

XV. CONSIDERATION ON THE DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET OF THE EANET IN 2022 [AGENDA ITEM 14]

59. The Secretariat and the NC presented the Draft Work Programme and Budget of the EANET in 2022 (EANET/IG 23/14).

60. The key points of the presentation included:

- The activities consist of Core and Non-Core (Project) activities in the Draft Work Programme and Budget of the EANET in 2021. The core activities and budget are in line with MTP (2021-2025). The candidates for non-core activities in 2022 will be reviewed and decided by the IG23 based on the available budget.
- Financial and/or in-kind contribution of Participating Countries is essential in implementing the EANET non-core activities. Therefore, the Participating Countries were encouraged to express their pledge for non-core activities in terms of financial and/or in-kind contributions and draft ideas for non-core activities.
- Japan and Russia expressed their pledges to EANET Non-Core Activities for 2022, as shown in the Annex of Agenda item 14.

61. The Session was invited to review, discuss, and provide guidance on the document as appropriate.

62. Major discussions included:

- i. Japan announced its pledge to support the non-core activities in 2022: the amount of US\$160,500 will be allocated to the EANET Fund and US\$160,500 to the Project Specific Contribution (co-finance).
- ii. Russia presented its proposed project for in-kind contribution to the non-core activities in 2022. The evaluation of the budget may be prepared after IG23. Russia's proposal is subject to budgetary availability. It may need co-finance and could be implemented after the next IG in 2023.
- iii. China informed the session that it considers activities 4, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 24, 27 as beyond the scope of the EANET.
- iv. The NC clarified that activities 4 and 15 are already included in the current scope as similar activities have already been conducted.
- v. The NC clarified that activities 6, 16, 17, 18 are in the category of the expanded scope; these are non-core activities which may be revised to become within the scope.
- vi. The Secretariat explained that the exercise of the Project Fund and Project Guideline would be tested next year, including the proposal of all non-core activities.

63. The NC presented proposed changes to the non-core activities, with available funding (6, 16, 17, 18) in the Draft Work Programme and Budget of the EANET in 2021 so

that they could be included in the current scope and be implemented in 2022. Regarding the new proposed activities 4 and 15: proposed revisions were also presented. Concerning activity 5, it may be implemented step by step, according to each countries' capacity.

64. Major discussions included:

- i. A country showed concern over activities 4, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 24, 27, considering these to be beyond the scope of the EANET.
- ii. It was clarified that only activities with available funds may be implemented in 2022.
- iii. Several Participating Countries reminded that activities related to PM2.5 have already been implemented in the past, including clean air events in various countries, although the Annex did not exist then.
- iv. They highlighted that, for the benefit of all Participating Countries, it would be good to implement non-core activities as soon as possible, now that the process of expansion of scope is ongoing and that Japan is offering to fund these non-core activities.
- v. Participating Countries confirmed Non-Core Activities that reflect Participating Countries priorities and interests described in the WP&B 2022 shall be implemented within the current scope. To ensure this, the concept note of the proposed Non-Core Activities will be revised to align with the current scope and agreed by the Participating Countries. The revision will be shared by 1 December 2021.

65. The Session agrees with the list of non-core project activities, with funding, to be implemented in 2022, and agrees that these activities will be revised to fit the current scope after consensus among Participating Countries.

XVI. UPDATES ON OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ACID DEPOSITION AND AIR QUALITY [AGENDA ITEM 15]

1) EANET: Progress Preparation of the Twentieth Anniversary of EANET and Science and Policy Dialogue

66. The Secretariat presented the Progress Preparation of the Twentieth Anniversary of EANET and Science and Policy Dialogue (EANET/IG 23/15/1).

67. The key points of the presentation included:

- The Twentieth Anniversary of EANET and the Science and Policy Dialogue will be organized virtually on 26 November 2021. The Participating Countries are encouraged to attend the event and register their participation online at <https://www.eanet.asia/20anniversary-science-policy-dialogue-registration/>.

68. The Session was invited to ask questions and discuss, and provide guidance on this agenda item as appropriate.

69. Major discussions included:

i. No comments were made.

2) Other Organization: UNEP Law Division: Presentation on the recently launched publication "*Regulating Air Quality: The First Global Assessment of Air Pollution Legislation.*"

70. A representative of the UNEP Law Division will present its recently launched publication "Regulating Air Quality: The First Global Assessment of Air Pollution Legislation" (EANET/IG 23/15/2).

71. The key points of the presentation included:

- UNEP recently launched its publication "Regulating Air Quality: The First Global Assessment of Air Pollution Legislation". The report assesses national air quality legislation in 194 States and the European Union (EU) against a model of robust air quality governance developed as part of the research, addresses whether national legal measures exist for determining whether air quality standards are being met and what legal consequences exist for failure to meet them.

72. The Session was invited to ask questions and discuss, and provide guidance on this agenda item as appropriate.

73. Major discussions included:

i. No comments were made.

74. The Session considered and acknowledged the Progress Preparation of the Twentieth Anniversary of EANET and Science and Policy Dialogue and publication on "Regulating Air Quality: The First Global Assessment of Air Pollution Legislation".

XVII. WRAP UP AND NEXT STEPS [AGENDA ITEM 16]

75. The Secretariat presented the Proposed Next Steps after the IG23 (EANET/IG 23/16), including the proposed draft decisions of IG23, as per the guidance of the Chairperson, and by referring to the discussion at the Session. The Chairperson, with support from the Secretariat, facilitated the discussion.

76. The key points of the presentation included:

- The next steps following the Supplementary Document (Annex) to the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), including the follow-up regarding the official approval process of Annex by the Participating Countries.
- The next steps regarding the project activities such as the implementation of approved Project Activities by IG23 following a similar mechanism in 2021 and the preparation of ACAP as the Project Fundholder.
- The next steps for the PRSAD4 publication process, including the possibility to make final comments by the end of November 2021.

77. The Session was invited to ask questions and discuss and provide guidance on this agenda item as appropriate.

78. Major discussions included:

- i. The Session agreed on the next steps after IG23 as follows:
 1. Supplementary Document (Annex) to the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET):
 - All countries will inform the Secretariat once the processes of the countries are finalized.
 - The Secretariat will inform the Participating Countries once all approval of Annex is confirmed.
 2. Project Activities:
 - All Participating Countries are encouraged to prepare and submit project proposals.
 - Implementation of approved Project Activities by IG23 following a similar mechanism in 2021.
 - Preparation of ACAP as Project Fundholder.
 - Pilot implementation of proposal preparation and submission of Project Activities by following the EANET Project Guideline.
 - Reach out to potential partners/entities as an implementation partner of EANET Project Activities.

79. The Session considered and approved the Proposed Next Steps after the IG23, with modification (EANET/IG 23/16).

80. The Session discussed and adopted the Decisions of IG23 ([Annex 2](#)).

XVIII. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SESSION [AGENDA ITEM 17]

81. The Session considered and adopted the Report of the Session of the IG23.

XIX. CLOSING OF THE SESSION [AGENDA ITEM 18]

82. The Secretariat delivered the Closing Remarks of Dr. Isabelle Louis, Deputy Regional Director UN Environment Programme for Asia and the Pacific. In her remarks, she congratulated the Bureau of Officers of IG23 and participants on the success of the meeting. She reaffirmed continued support of the UN Environment Programme to the EANET and stands ready to support the EANET in providing secretariat functions for the EANET, technical expertise, and administrative support.
83. The session expressed its gratitude to the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, the Rapporteur, the participants, the representatives from international organizations, and resource persons for their efforts, cooperation, and contribution to the Session.
84. The Chairperson, appreciating the participants, the Secretariat, and the NC for their contributions, declared the Twenty-third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia was officially closed.

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Annex 2

Decisions of IG23

The Twenty-third Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG23) on Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), to make its decisions including following elements:

1. Recalling the recommendations made by the Working Group Meeting in 2021 regarding the expansion scope of EANET

Therefore, the IG23 decides to:

- a. Adopt the finalized text for Supplementary Document (Annex) to the Instrument for Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET).
- b. For the Supplementary Document, CH₄ and Black Carbon are not included in the adopted text of the Attachment.
- c. Approve the revision of the Medium Term Plan for the EANET (MTP) (2021-2025), aiming to add relevant information related to the expansion scope of the EANET Instrument to the document following the discussion at the Working Group Meetings in 2021.
- d. Task the Secretariat and the NC to take the necessary actions, including organizing the Working Group Meetings in 2022, which may include the function of reviewing the projects as stated in the EANET Project Fund and Project Guideline.

2. Recalling the recommendations made by the Working Group on Drafting Medium Term for the EANET (2021-2025).

Therefore, the IG23 decides to:

- a. Approve the Revision of the MTP (2021-2025), the Revision of Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat, and the Network Center for the EANET and Work Programme and Budget in 2022 (WP&B 2022) that were prepared through discussions at the Working Group Meeting sessions and IG23, with the common understanding:
 1. Core Activities specified in the Draft MTP (2021-2025) are in line with the current scope and agreed expanded scope of the Instrument essential for achieving EANET objectives and beneficial for all Participating Countries directly and indirectly.
 2. Non-Core Activities that reflect Participating Countries' priorities and interests described in the WP&B 2022 shall be implemented within the current scope. To ensure this, the concept notes of the proposed Non-Core Activities will be revised to align with the current scope and agreed by the Participating Countries.
 3. Activities within the agreed expanded scope specified in the MTP (2021-2025) may be conducted after the Supplementary Document becomes operational.

4. Encourage Participating Countries to provide their voluntary contributions to the Core Budget to fully operationalize the Core Activities specified in WP&B 2022 and continue to provide their voluntary contributions to the Core Budget for the MTP (2021-2025).
- b. Adopt the text EANET Project Fund and Project Guideline, which shall take effect immediately following the decision of IG23, with the common understanding:
 1. The EANET Project Fund and Project Guideline will be implemented as a transition period for one or two years following the approval of IG23.
 2. The proposal to designate ACAP as Project Fund Holder during the transition period (for one or two years) is approved by the IG23.
 - c. Encourage Participating Countries to provide additional voluntary contributions based on the national conditions of Participating Countries, including in-kind contributions to the Non-Core Activities and EANET Project Fund, to secure necessary resources to implement Non-Core Activities specified in WP&B 2022.
 - d. Endorse and recognize the release of the Summary of the Twentieth Anniversary of the EANET at the event of EANET 20th Anniversary and use it as an outreach material in the future activities of the EANET.