



AGENDA ITEM 6

Report on the Outcomes of the Twenty-second Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC22) on the EANET

The Twenty-fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG24) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)

24-25 November 2022, Hybrid (on-site/online), Manila, Philippines

SAC22 Bureau Members (Agenda Item 3)

- The SAC22 decided a 3-year (2021-2023) fixed-term appointment of the SAC bureau members composed of a Chairperson, two Vice-chairpersons and a Rapporteur.
- **Appointed bureau members of the SAC22 are as follows:**
 - Chairperson: [Mr. Mohan Kumar Sammathuria \(Malaysia\)](#)
 - Vice-Chairperson: [Prof. Atsushi Kume \(Japan\)](#)
 - Vice-Chairperson: [Ms. Setouanh Phantavongsa \(Lao PDR\)](#)
 - Rapporteur: [Dr. Hu Jingnan \(China\)](#)

Progress of the EANET since SAC21 and Draft Financial Report in 2021 (Agenda Item 4)

- Organizing EANET meetings (Working Group Meetings, IG23 and SAC21), EANET Awareness Workshops, as well as various communication activities.
- implemented core and non-core activities in 2021, as well as the implemented, ongoing core activities and project activities in 2022. The implementation status, accomplished outputs and expected outputs were delivered to SAC participants for each activity.
- The Financial Report in 2021 was explained.
- **The Session acknowledged the draft progress report.**

Working Group Meeting 2022 Recommendations relevant to SAC22 (Agenda Item 5)

- **The key points of the presentation:**

- (i) The presentation highlighted the Recommendations of the Working Group Meeting of the EANET in 2022 (WG 2022) which are relevant to the SAC22.

- (ii) The Procedures for Establishing Task Forces and Expert Groups under the Scientific Advisory Committee of EANET (Annex 1) in the Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat, the Network Center, and the EANET Project Fund (draft), and Text for the Supplementary Document (Annex) to the Instrument for Strengthening the EANET were explained in relation to the discussion of WG 2022.

- **The Session acknowledged the Working Group Meeting 2022 Recommendations relevant to SAC22**

Adoption of Data Report 2021 (Agenda Item 6)

- **Wet and dry deposition monitoring data in 2021**
 - As for wet deposition monitoring, data from 59 sites were expected to be submitted to the Data Report 2021.
 - As for dry deposition (air concentration) monitoring, monitoring results in 38 sites by filter-pack method, 33 sites by automatic monitoring, and six sites by passive sampler were compiled in the Data Report 2021.
- **Soil/vegetation/inland aquatic/catchment scale monitoring data in 2021**
 - As for soil and vegetation monitoring, observation of tree decline was conducted in China and Japan in 2021.
 - As for inland aquatic environment monitoring, the data of 13 sites from 7 countries were submitted in 2021.
 - As for catchment-scale monitoring, the data from Japan and Philippines were submitted in 2021.
- **The Session in principle adopted the Data Report 2021.**

Adoption of Report on Inter-laboratory Comparison Projects 2021 (Agenda Item 7)

- **Wet, dry, soil and inland aquatic environment results in 2021**
 - For ILC on wet deposition, 33 participating laboratories submitted their analytical results of the artificial rainwater samples to the NC.
 - For ILC on dry deposition, 23 participating laboratories submitted their analytical results of the filter samples to the NC.
 - For ILC on soil, 14 laboratories from 7 countries participated.
 - For ILC on the inland aquatic environment, 23 participating laboratories submitted their analytical results of the artificial inland water samples to the NC.
- **The Session adopted Report on the Inter-laboratory Comparison Projects 2021.**

Overview of the Updated National Monitoring Plans of the Participating Countries (Agenda Item 8)

- The NMPs have been prepared every year by the National QA/QC Managers in the Participating Countries using the electronic template available from the QA/QC Guidebook 2016.
- The NMPs 2022 were submitted from almost countries and finalized at the STM23. The NC will verify monitoring data for 2022 by referring to the 2022 NMP of each Participating Country.
- The Participating Countries are expected to nominate existing national sites to the EANET.
- **The Session acknowledged the updates on the overview of the National Monitoring Plans of the Participating Countries.**

Consideration of the Progress of Activities by the Task Forces and Expert Groups under the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) (Agenda Item 9)

- **Major discussions included:**
 - Task Force on Soil and Vegetation Monitoring (TFSVM) and the NC shared the scientific information regarding the importance of the recovery process, regional impact assessment, and ozone effects. Publication of related papers written by Task Force members and/or NC scientists were introduced as scientific outputs.
 - The 3rd meeting of the Expert Group on revision of the Technical Manuals for Dry Deposition Flux Estimation and Air Concentration Monitoring (EGRTM) was held in June 2022 and the 6th meeting of the Task Force on Monitoring for Dry Deposition (TFMDD) was held in October 2022.
 - According to the comments and suggestions by EGRTM and TFMDD, the final drafts of Revised Technical Manuals were reported.
- **The Session considered and acknowledged the Progress of Activities by the Task Forces and Expert Groups and provided comments, suggestions, and recommendations from scientific and technical viewpoints for consideration and approval at the IG24 of EANET.**
- **The Session also adopted the Revised Technical Manual for Air Concentration Monitoring in East Asia and the Revised Technical Manual on Dry Deposition Flux Estimation in East Asia with corrections as appropriate.**

Consideration of the Re-organization of the Task Forces 1

(Agenda Item 10)

- **Major discussions included:**
 - The new structure of the Task Forces was welcomed and noted to better fit the expanded scope of the EANET.
 - However, it was pointed out that activities of re-organized Task Forces may be more complicated than before in response to the expansion of the EANET scope and shift from monitoring techniques to assessment and evaluation.
 - It was suggested to take example from other Task Forces in the region, and as for the composition of the Task Force on Monitoring and Assessment of Environmental Effects (TFEE), it was suggested that the new Task Force invites external experts on human health risks and other regional partners conducting similar activities, such as from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in addition to WHO.
 - It was suggested to improve the names of the Task Forces to be more specific to the activities to be performed.
 - It was suggested to delete the reference to “region” from the TOR descriptions and instead focus on pilot cities or on voluntary-basis studies within EANET countries.
 - It was suggested to delay health-related studies since the state of the research on this topic is less advanced in EANET and instead focus on ecosystems’ impacts.
- **The Session considered, acknowledged this Agenda item and provided comments, suggestions, and recommendations from scientific and technical viewpoints for consideration and approval at the IG24 of EANET.**

Consideration of the Re-organization of the Task Forces 2

(Agenda Item 10)

- **Major discussions included:**
 - The Network Center explained that Task Force activities should contribute not only to specific pilot cities, but to the whole region. Moreover, one of the objectives of EANET is “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”. Therefore, local (city level), national, and regional levels can be considered in parallel.
 - The Network Center further clarified that based on the approved Annex to the Instrument, research on health may be conducted, even though this research topic is new for the EANET. This is why, as a first step, the TFAEM would discuss the methodology on how to estimate the impacts on health and then submit the results to the SAC. Although health impact studies contain uncertainties to some extent, they should not be neglected as the health impact is key, along with the impacts on ecosystems. Many studies have been conducted under international organizations and researchers including the WHO reports on health impacts related to atmospheric environmental issues.
 - For TFAEM, it was suggested that modeling could be useful for regional assessment and be applied to any spatial levels.
 - For TFAEM, it was suggested to revise the sentence on co-benefits, by rephrasing that they allow to mitigate “Green House Gases” instead of “Climate Change”.
 - It was mentioned that a step-by-step approach is important to implement activities of the Task Forces. Science teams of the Task Forces are encouraged to discuss short -term, mid-term and long-term workplans from the scientific point of view.
- **The Session considered, acknowledged this Agenda item and provided comments, suggestions, and recommendations from scientific and technical viewpoints for consideration and approval at the IG24 of EANET.**

Updates on Research Activities of the EANET (Agenda Item 11)

(1) Progress of the Studies on the Effects of Acid Deposition on Ecosystems

The key points of the presentation:

- It was clarified that the research project has been closely related to the EANET Core monitoring activities as well as the relevant research activities and the national monitoring. The project scheme is expected to contribute to common understanding of acid deposition effects.

(2) Observational Studies of the PM_{2.5} Components and Source Apportionment

The key points of the presentation:

- Seasonal intensive monitoring of PM_{2.5} components at Niigata-Maki was conducted from 2015 to 2021 to clarify characteristics of PM_{2.5} components in eastern Japan and quantify the source contributions of PM_{2.5} by a receptor model.
- Long-term daily monitoring of PM_{2.5} at 3 sites in Bangkok was conducted under Japan-Thailand Clean Air Partnership (JTCAP) from 2018 to 2019 to characterize PM_{2.5} components and quantify major sources of PM_{2.5}.
- Long-term weekly monitoring of PM_{2.5} and precipitation at 2 sites in Bangkok was jointly conducted by JICA Research Institute, Asian Institute of Technology, ACAP, and the Thailand PCD from 2015 to 2017 to clarify removal processes of carbonaceous species and inorganic ions in PM_{2.5}.

- **The Session considered, acknowledged this Agenda item and provided comments, suggestions, and recommendations from scientific and technical viewpoints for consideration and approval at the IG24 of EANET.**

Consideration of the Draft Work Programme and Budget of the EANET in 2023 from scientific and technical viewpoints (Agenda Item 12)

- **Major discussion included:**
 - It was suggested that the information shared during workshops should be clarified as not representing the official EANET opinion whenever research findings that may include uncertainties are concerned.
 - It was clarified that any scientific activities might have uncertainties and workshops/seminars did not require consensus since such activities did not intend to represent the official EANET opinion, as such, the results of such activities should be attributed to the authors. However, it is important to share scientific facts through such opportunities.
 - It was clarified that concerning Project 2023-06 “The webinar workshop for capacity building on emission inventory for combustion sources” the workshop content would only consist of information sharing from each Participating Country on their local challenges and expected learnings and not intend to express the official opinion of the EANET.
 - The Philippines expressed its enthusiasm to participate in the VOC project as this activity will contribute to the Philippines’ work on the development of national air quality guidelines.
 - Mongolia also informed the Session that they are looking forward to the implementation of the VOC project.
- **The Session considered the Agenda item and provided comments and suggestions from some SAC members for consideration and possible approval at the IG24 of EANET.**

Other matters (Agenda Item 13)

In agreement with the Bureau, the Network Center prepared the document “Revision of Detailed Mechanism of Article 4 of the Procedures on Data and Information Disclosure for EANET (draft)” (EANET/SAC 22/13/1) to be discussed under Agenda 13, following discussions on the first day of the SAC22 meeting on the subject. The document was shared with Participating Countries on 20 October 2022 before the meeting.

- **The key points of the presentation:**

- The presentation of the history of previous revisions of the document “Detailed Mechanism of Article 4 of the Procedures on Data and Information Disclosure for EANET” (EANET/SAC 22/13/1) since SAC3 and SAC14.
- The details of the proposed revisions to the document in para 2.2 “Starting time of disclosure” and in the chart.

- **Major discussion included:**

- It was informed that the first version of this document was prepared 20 years ago. At that time the delay was of 1 year to disclose the monitoring data outside of the EANET region, such as in the USA or Europe. Today, this seems out of date as the monitoring data could be used immediately once validated by SAC members who all represent each Participating Country. It would benefit EANET more. This proposal could be submitted to IG24.
- SAC members from China expressed their concerns on the proposed revision of the document “Detailed Mechanism of Article 4 of the Procedures on Data and Information Disclosure for EANET” because this proposal only came in the morning of 20 Oct.

- **The Session considered this Agenda item and provided comments and suggestions, from some SAC members for consideration at the IG24 of EANET**

SAC22 RECOMMENDATIONS TO IG24

- Recalling the mandate of the Scientific Advisory Committee as **“the subsidiary body of the IG, will advise and assist the IG with various scientific and technical matters related to the EANET activities as mandated to it by the IG”** in the approved revised Guidelines on the Administrative and Financial Management for the Secretariat and the Network Center, section on Rules of Procedures of the EANET Meetings and Dissemination of Data and Information.
- Further recalling the Procedure for Establishing Task Forces and Expert Groups under the SAC of the EANET (Annex 2 of EANET/IG 10/7) approved at the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG10) on the EANET in 2008.
- The 22nd Session of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC 22) Meeting held from 18-20 October 2022 recommends the twenty-fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting (IG24) on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) to:

I. Re-organization of Task Forces

Consider and possibly approve the re-organization of following Task Forces;

- 1) Task Force on Monitoring and Assessment of Atmospheric Environment
- 2) Task Force on Monitoring and Assessment of Environmental Effects
- 3) Task Force on Atmospheric Environmental Quality Management

II. Work Programme and Budget of the EANET in 2023

Consider and possibly approve the Work Programme and Budget of the EANET in 2023 of Core Activities and proposed EANET Project Plans, as appropriate.

Actions Required

The IG24 is invited to review the Report on the Outcomes of SAC22, and may wish to discuss, comment, provide appropriate guidance for further development of the activities of the SAC and endorse the Report, as appropriate.

Proposed Revision of Detailed Mechanism of Article 4 of the Procedures on Data and Information Disclosure for EANET (draft) (Agenda Item 13) (EANET/SAC 3/6/2_rev2) (EANET/SAC 14/5/2_rev)

1. Annual data reports (summarized data)

- Annual data reports for the data obtained in and after 2000 shall be disclosed outside EANET immediately after finalization by the Network Center (NC) under the guidance of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).
- NC shall distribute copies of the reports to relevant organizations/experts outside EANET and send them upon request. NC shall upload the data and information in the reports to the EANET website.

2. All the data and information (verified “raw” data)

2.1. Data and information that could be disclosed

- According to the Procedures, all the data and information that are obtained through the EANET activities should be disclosed outside EANET after 2002.
- “All the data and information” shall be all of the verified (raw) data and information that were obtained in the regular phase (starting in January 2001) and submitted from the participating countries to NC following “Data Reporting Procedures and Formats for Acid Deposition Monitoring in East Asia”, taking the level of data quality in the preparatory phase into account.

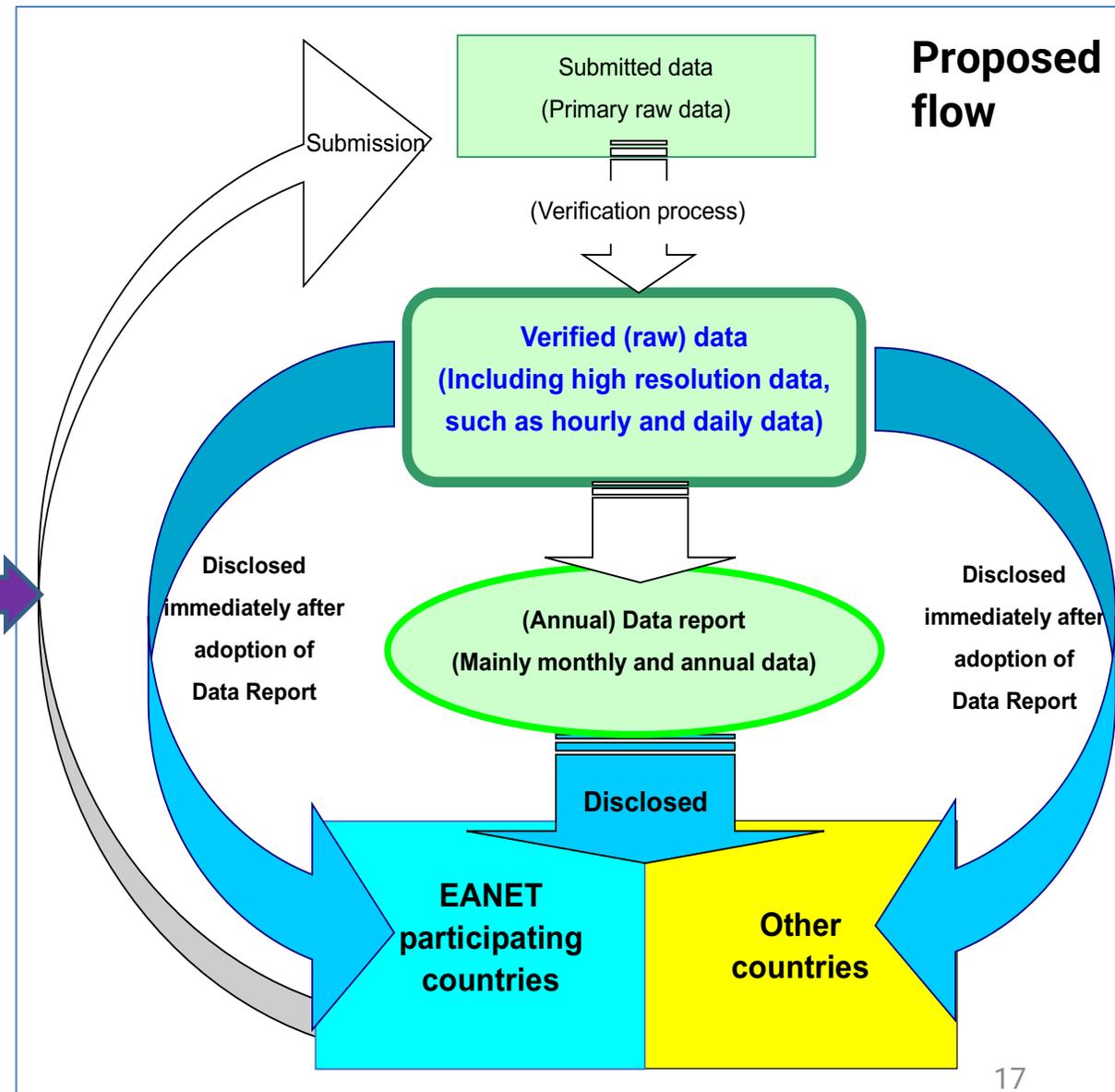
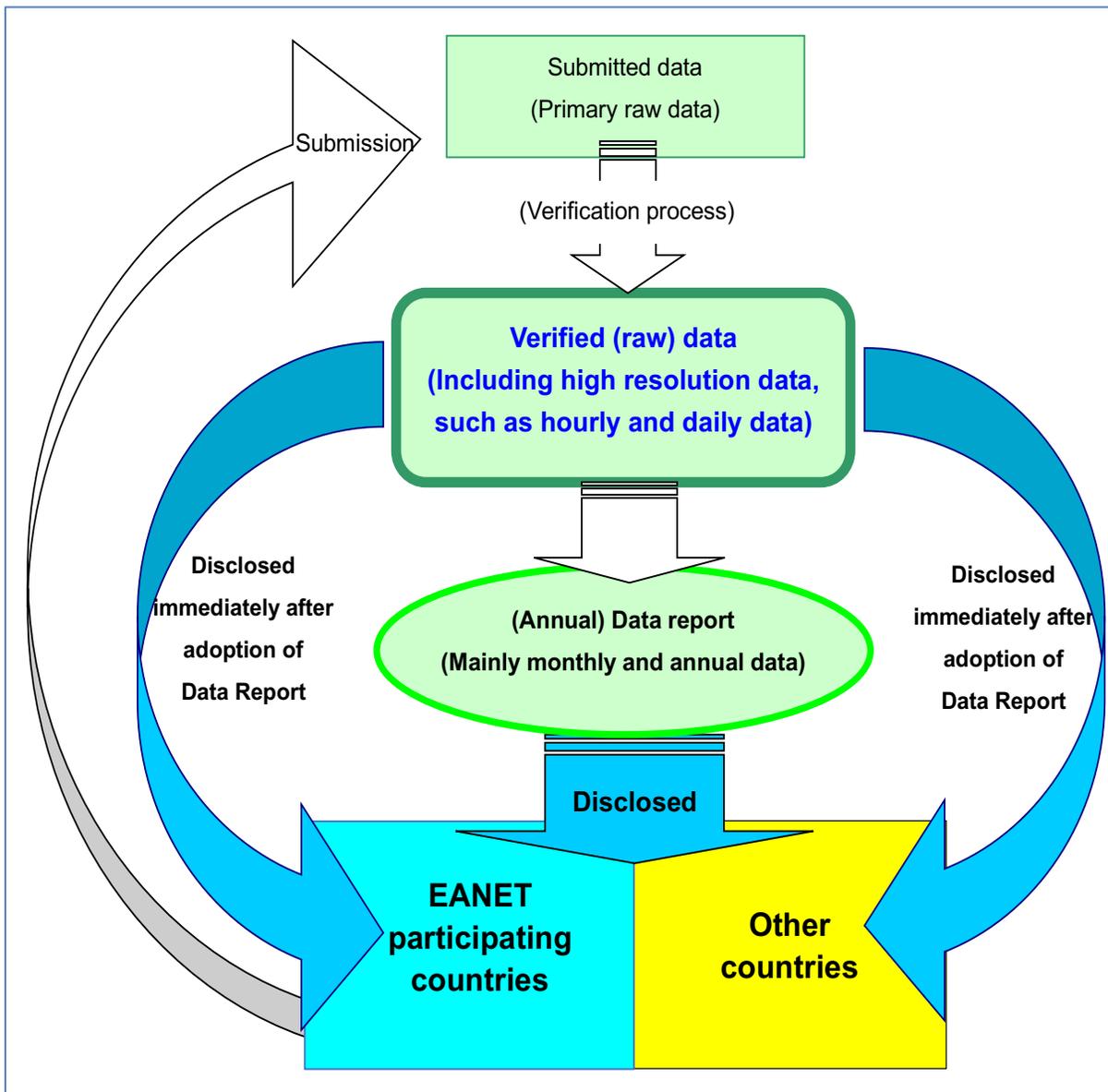
2.2. Starting time of disclosure

- ~~Among the EANET participating countries,~~ verified (raw) data shall be disclosed immediately for the National Focal Points after verification and endorsement by SAC, and disclosed for scientists in the EANET participating countries as well as other countries upon their requests. ~~The data and information shall be disclosed outside EANET one year after the confirmation/evaluation by SAC.~~

2.3. Way of disclosure

- The data and information shall be disclosed upon request through the EANET website with registration for download.

EANET Monitoring Data Disclosure Flow Chart



Thank you



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