

Report on the activities of the Task Force on Atmospheric Environment Quality Management (TFAEM)

**Chair of the Task Force
Secretariat of the Task Force**



I. Introduction

1. Task Forces under the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) have been reformed based on the decision at the 24th Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting at its (IG24) in November 2022. The Task Force on Atmospheric Environment Quality Management (TFAEM) was established during this reforming with replacement of the previous Task Force on Research Coordination to assist on reviewing new directions of EANET.

2. TFAEM will assist the SAC, IG, and the Network Center (NC) in the process of EANET activities related to scientific and technical issues deemed important for future development of the EANET designated by the SAC and IG. In particular, TFAEM will work on scientific and technical aspects for further development of the methodology of application of emission inventory and model simulation for air quality management, future atmospheric environmental management, the methodology of co-benefit/co-control approaches for air environment and climate change, the evaluation methods of policy effects on the atmospheric environment, clean air technology cooperation and transfer, and air quality control policies.

3. The members of TFAEM were nominated by the National Focal Points (NFPs) of the Participating Countries by the end of June, 2024. As the Chairperson of TFAEM, Dr. Sergey Gromov, has formally appointed the members in July, 2024.



Member list of TFAEM (as of October 2026)

Cambodia	Mr. Sam Sokyimeng Chief office of Mobile Air Pollution Control Office, Department of Air Quality, Noise and Vibration Management
China	Dr. Chu Yangxi Associate Research Professor, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES)
Japan	Dr. Toshimasa Ohara Director General, Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP)
Malaysia	Ms. Norazlinda binti Ismail Principal Assistant Director, Air Division, Department of Environment (DOE), Malaysia
Mongolia	Ms. Bold. Altantuya Chemist Engineer of Central Laboratory of Environment and Metrology of Mongolia (CLEM)
Myanmar	Dr. Kyu Kyu Sein Deputy Director, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH)
R. of Korea	Dr. Joon-Yeong Ahn, Senior Researcher Air Quality Research Division, Climate and Air Quality Research Department, National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER)
R. of Korea	Prof. Han-dol LEE, Inha University
Russia	<u>Chairperson, Dr. Sergey Gromov</u> Institute of Global Climate and Ecology (IGCE)
Russia	Dr. Ekaterina Zhadanovskaya Institute of Global Climate and Ecology (IGCE)
Thailand	Mr. Pichaid Atipakya Environmental, Senior Professional Level, Air Quality and Noise Management Division, Pollution Control Department (PCD)
Viet Nam	Dr. Le Ngoc Cau Vietnam Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology, and Climate change (IMHEN)

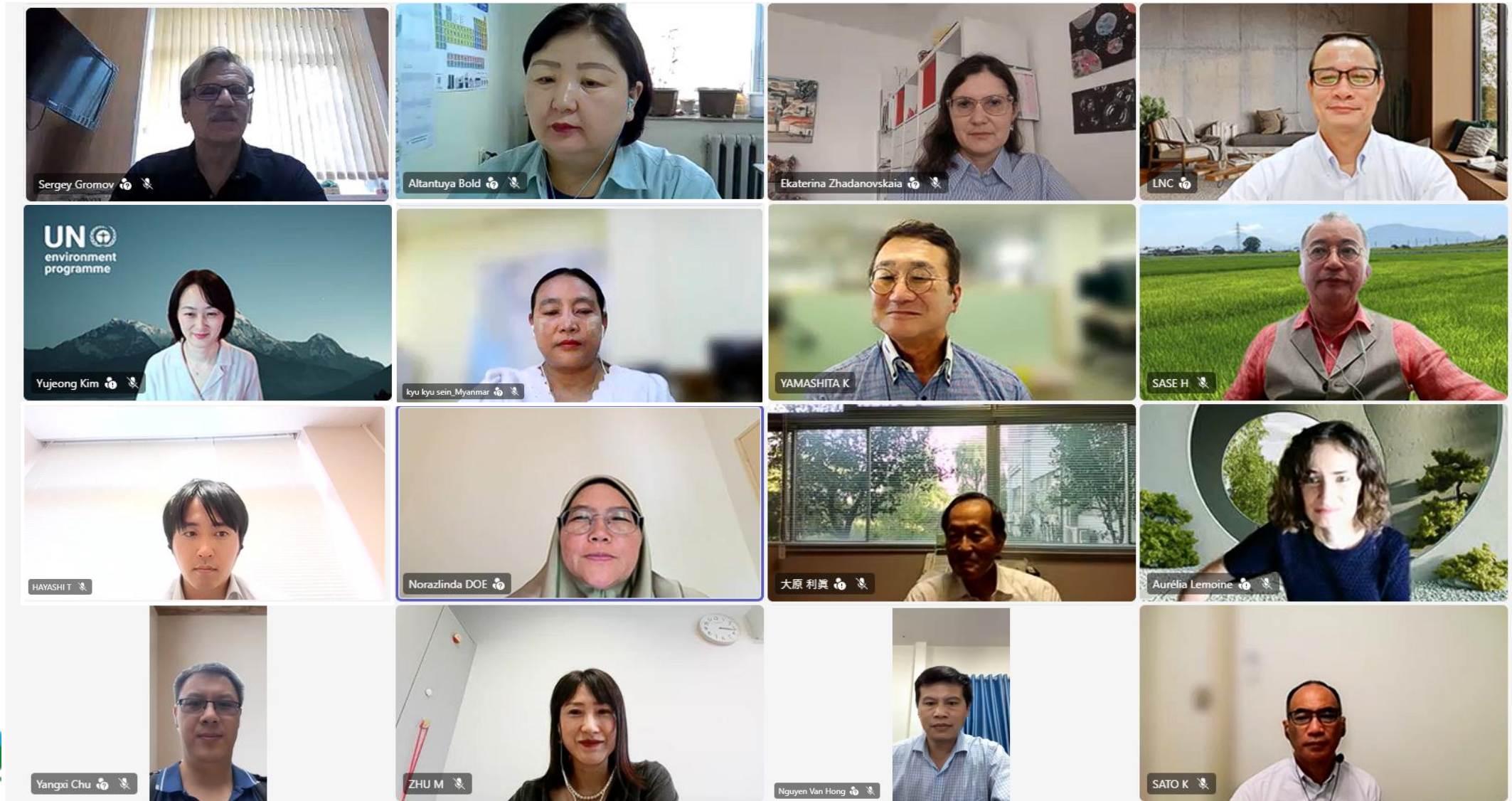
II. Major activities until October 2026

4. The 3rd online meeting of TFAEM (TFAEM3) was held on 25 September 2026 (see Annex 1). The meeting reviewed progress of the Task Force on Monitoring and Assessment of Atmospheric Environment (TFAE) and the Task Force on Monitoring and Assessment of Environmental Effects (TFEE), discussed the Draft Concept of the Strategy Paper for Atmospheric Environment Quality Management in East Asia, and considered the next steps for activities in 2026 and 2027.

5. TFAEM3 received progress reports from TFAE and TFEE on their respective Strategy Papers and related scientific activities, including atmospheric monitoring, environmental effects and human health-related methodological exchange. The meeting also discussed possible approaches to strengthening cooperation with external scientific experts.

6. The Secretariat of TFAEM presented the Draft Concept of the Strategy Paper (see Annex 2), which provides a conceptual framework for future atmospheric environment quality management in East Asia. The proposed framework consists of five interconnected stages: (1) Observation and Information, (2) Scientific Understanding and Assessment, (3) Development and Assessment of Management Options, (4) Policy Making and Implementation Support, and (5) Evaluation and Feedback. The Concept also envisages an integrative role for TFAEM in utilizing relevant scientific outputs from TFAE and TFEE, together with emission inventories, modeling, management approaches, technologies and policy experience.

The 3rd online meeting of TFAEM on Sep. 25, 2026



II. Major activities until October 2026 (continued)

7. During the discussion on the Draft Concept, it was pointed out that the proposed scope was broad and that greater emphasis should be placed on challenges and priorities specific to East Asia. Suggestions included to pay attention on sustainable monitoring systems, capacity building, regional modeling and integrated assessment, as well as a longer-term perspective beyond the current MTP. It was also suggested that priorities should be established for different periods, with appropriate milestones for reviewing progress. The importance of hybrid air quality monitoring networks incorporating affordable low-cost sensors, particularly in developing countries, was also highlighted.

8. The meeting also discussed coordination among the three Task Forces and the scientific and policy-related scope of the Strategy Paper. It was pointed out that some proposed activities, particularly monitoring data analysis and scientific assessment, could overlap with those of TFAE and TFEE, and that their respective roles and coordination should be clarified. Concerns were raised that references to transboundary air pollution could be interpreted as involving politically sensitive intergovernmental negotiations. It was also suggested that relevant experience and best practices concerning air pollution control policies and technologies in East Asia and other regions should be considered in developing the Strategy Paper.

9. Regarding the next steps (see Annex 3), the Draft Concept of the Strategy Paper will be presented to SAC26 on 20–22 October 2026 to obtain scientific comments and guidance. Development of the full Strategy Paper is planned to continue in 2027, with further TFAEM meetings and consultations among members. The proposed schedule envisages submitting the Strategy Paper to SAC27 and IG29 for consideration and adoption in 2027, although the meeting noted that this schedule may be optimistic.

III. Action required

The 26th Session of the SAC will review the report of TFAEM3.

