

TWELFTH WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs) IN EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES

Chairperson's Summary

24 January 2018

Pacifico Yokohama Convention Center, Yokohama, Japan

- 1 The 12th Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in East Asian Countries commenced on January 22, 2018, at Pacifico Yokohama Conference Center, Yokohama, Japan.
- 2 The workshop was organised by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ). Government officials and technical experts from 10 countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea (ROK), Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), Secretariat of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS) and a resource person from Örebro University participated in the Workshop.
- 3 Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI, the secretariat of the Workshop, Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC) started the workshop by welcoming the opening speakers.
- 4 Dr. Hiroaki TAKIGUCHI, Director, Environmental Health and Safety Division, Environmental Health Department, MOEJ gave his opening address to the participants.
- 5 After the confirmation of draft agenda, Prof. Koji SHIMADA, Department of Economics, Ritsumeikan University and Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) were designated as the chairperson and the co-chairperson of the workshop, respectively.

(Background and objectives)

- 6 Participants noted the following presentations:
 - (1) Introduction to the 12th Workshop, by Dr. Jun-ichi MATSUMOTO (MOEJ);
 - (2) Overview of the past activities of POPs Monitoring Project in East Asia Countries, by Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI (Secretariat, JESC); and,
 - (3) Progress on the Global Monitoring Plan and the effectiveness evaluation under Article 16 of the Stockholm Convention-toward the 3rd GMP phase, by Ms. Katarina MAGULOVA (Secretariat of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions)

(Information Data Warehouse Project)

7 Participants noted the following presentation:

Global Monitoring Plan Data Warehouse: online tool to store and visualize global POPs data, by Ms. Katarina MAGULOVA (Secretariat of BRS);

Participants noticed the constraint of compatibility among the Global Monitoring Plan (GMP) Data Warehouse, Information Data Warehouse initiated by ROK, and already existing national monitoring data that are not contained in any of the two warehouses.

(Consideration on the collaborative activities between POPsEA and UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia)

8 Participants noted the following presentations:

- (1) Requests and requirements of participating countries of POPsEA and UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia project to each project (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Thailand and Vietnam); and
- (2) Existing technical challenges for further development, by Prof. Heidelore FIEDLER (Örebro University, Sweden)

(Strengthening of POPs monitoring capacity under the POPsEA project)

9 Participants noted the presentation on the proposal of capacity building activities under the POPsEA project, by the secretariat. The secretariat asked participants to discuss in detail at both working group meetings.

(Holding two working group meeting)

10 Participants were divided into two groups on the second day, the Policy Group (Chair: Prof. Koji SHIMADA) and the Expert Working Group (Chair: Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA).

(Policy Group meeting)

11 The Policy Group meeting shared and discussed the existing monitoring capacity of each participating country, future framework of POPsEA project including the designation of core laboratories, future implementation plan of POPs monitoring and future plan of next workshop. Participants agreed the proposal of the designation of core laboratories. The plan of the cooperative monitoring activities in Philippines, Indonesia and Mongolia were agreed. It was agreed that the next workshop would be held in FY2019 and the venue would be selected among the core laboratory hosting countries. The summary report from the Policy Group meeting is attached as ANNEX 1.

(Expert Working Group meeting)

- 12 The Expert Working Group meeting reviewed and accepted POPs monitoring data. The proposal of designating core laboratories was discussed. The summary report from the Expert Working Group meeting is attached as ANNEX 2.
- 13 The Plenary was informed of the contents of the reports from the two groups. Clarification and discussion were made on the reports of the two groups. The contents of the reports were endorsed by the Plenary.
- 14 Upon closing, the participants expressed their sincere appreciation to the Ministry of the Environment, Japan and the secretariat for their efforts to host and organise the 12th Workshop.

END

ANNEX 1
Summary Report of 8th Policy Group (PG) Meeting

23 January 2018

Chairperson: Prof. Koji SHIMADA (Ritsumeikan University)

Participants: Mr. Nara IM (Cambodia)
Ms. Cut NURJANNAH (Indonesia)
Dr. Hiroaki TAKIGUCHI (MOEJ)
Mr. Tetsuro FUJII (MOEJ)
Ms. Mio OZAKI (MOEJ)
Dr. Noriyuki SUZUKI (NIES)
Mr. Hyuk KIM (ROK)
Mr. Setouanh Phanthavongsa (Lao PDR)
Ms. Thilaagem Mathew (Malaysia)
Dr. Batjargal Tserennyam URIANKHAN (Mongolia)
Ms. Stefanie Huifen KOH (Singapore)
Ms. Teeraporn WIRIWUTIKORN (Thailand)
Mr. Trung Thuan Nguyen (Vietnam)
Ms. Katarina MAGULOVA (BRS Secretariat)
Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI (Secretariat, Japan Environmental Sanitation Center)

1. The meeting discussed following issues proposed by the secretariat.

(Existing POPs monitoring capacity and issues to be solved)

2. Participants shared the information through the following presentations:
 - a. Cambodia: Mr. Nara IM
 - b. Republic of Korea (including the Data Warehouse project): Mr. Hyuk KIM
 - c. Indonesia: Ms. Cut NURJANNAH
 - d. Lao PDR: Ms. Setouanh PHANTHAVONGSA
 - e. Malaysia: Ms. Thilaagem MATHEW
 - f. Mongolia: Dr. Batjargal Tserennyam URIANKHAN
 - g. Singapore: Ms. Stefanie Huifen KOH
 - h. Thailand: Ms. Teeraporn WIRIWUTIKORN
 - i. Vietnam: Mr. Trung Thuan NGUYEN

Participants were asked their consideration on the designation of core laboratories and explained the current situations and expectation to the core laboratories.

(Consideration on the future framework after completion of the UNEP/GEF GMP2 Asia project)

3. The Secretariat explained the proposal of designation of core laboratories in the East Asian region as follows:

- Seamless cooperation is needed after completing the UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia project;
- Considering the geographic balance, core laboratories should be designated in the Asian region adding to Japan and ROK;
- Core laboratories will be operated on their own priorities and resources in the host countries, while technical and financial support will be considered in the POPsEA project for additional cost required for capacity building activities; and
- New core laboratories will cooperate with Japan and ROK to promote effective POPs monitoring in this region.

Participants accepted the proposal. Some participants expressed their interest to nominate the potential core laboratories.

4. The secretariat announced to prepare the detailed plan and schedule by the end of February 2018 and send them to member countries for further discussion. Participating countries were requested to inform the secretariat of their willingness to nominate the potential core laboratories after internal discussion.

(Future implementation plans of POPs monitoring)

5. The Secretariat proposed the upcoming POPs monitoring and the participants noted and discussed.

6. Participants discussed and agreed following future implementation plans:

- a. Cooperative monitoring
Philippines (to be confirmed: January in FY2018), Indonesia (January in FY2019), Mongolia (August or beginning of September in FY2020)
- b. Super-site monitoring
ROK and Japan expressed their willingness to continue to implement existing Super-site monitoring.

(Future plan of next workshop)

7. Next workshop will be held in FY2019.

8. The venue of the next workshop will be selected among the core laboratory hosting countries.

END

ANNEX 2

Summary Report of the 9th Expert Working Group (EWG) Meeting

23 January 2018

Chairperson: Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA (NIES)

Participants: Prof. Takeshi NAKANO (Japan)
Prof. Takumi TAKASUGA (Japan)
Dr. Vanthoeun KEO (Cambodia)
Ms. Dewi RATNANINGSIH (Indonesia)
Dr. Jun-ichi MATSUMOTO (Japan)
Mr. Dong-Hoon KIM (ROK)
Mr. Vanhna PHANPHONGSA (Lao PDR)
Ms. Thahirah Binti KAMARULZAMAN (Malaysia)
Dr. Jargalsaikhan LKHASUREN (Mongolia)
Ms. Jiahe WEI (Singapore)
Dr. Pensri WATCHALAYANN (Thailand)
Dr. Minh Hung NGUYEN (Vietnam)
Prof. Heidelore FIEDLER (Örebro University, Sweden)
Dr. Tomonori TAKEUCHI, Mr. Fumio KAJI (Secretariat, Japan
Environmental Sanitation Center)

1. Prof. Takeshi NAKANO gave a keynote lecture on POPs in personal belongings.

2. The results and current status of cooperative monitoring as well as supersite monitoring in the following countries were reported.

(1) Sihanoukville, Cambodia (2015)

(2) Batu Embun, Malaysia (2017)

(3) Na Long Koun Village, Lao PDR (2017; analysis in progress)

(4) Jeju Island, Republic of Korea (2013-2015)

(5) Cape Hedo, Okinawa Island, Japan (2009-2016)

- EWG reviewed the obtained data, and concluded that all the data obtained by HV samplers were acceptable except for the duplicate sample on the 2nd day in Cambodia.

- EWG noted the passive sampling trials in Cambodia and Malaysia and expected further trial.

- It was pointed out that the analysis of indicator PCBs could potentially be added to the current

cooperative monitoring easily.

- EWG noted temporal trends observed in supersite monitoring data and encouraged further continuation of the monitoring at supersites in Jeju Island and Cape Hedo.

- EWG noted strength and weakness of active and passive sampling and expected further advancement of the technique by accumulating more data and experience.

2. The secretariat explained a future implementation plan of POPs monitoring.

- EWG agreed the plan and asked the secretariat to discuss the details of cooperative monitoring with the candidate countries.

3. The secretariat proposed a program for the designation of additional center laboratory (core laboratories) which reflects the discussion in the Policy Group.

- EWG recommended that a combination of a couple of laboratories with different expertise will be suitable for the purpose.

- It was pointed out that training in UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia project would be over soon and that early designation of core laboratories are recommended for seamless cooperation.

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