

NEWS FROM THE SECRETARIAT



Asia-Pacific Network
for Global Change Research (APN)

10th
anniversary
IGM/SPG

地球変動研究と環境教育
- APNに期待される役割 -
**Global Change Research and
Environmental Education
- the APN's Expected Roles -**

2005年4月11日(月)
11th April 2005 (Monday)
13:30-16:30
入場無料 (Free Admission)

神戸国際会議場国際会議室 301
Kobe International Center
International Hall 301

主催/Organized by:
APN
兵庫県(Hyogo Prefectural Government)

後援/Supported by:
環境省(Ministry of the Environment, Japan)
(財)ひょうご環境創造協会
(Hyogo Environmental Advancement Association)
日本環境教育学会
(Japanese Society of Environmental Education)

Public Forum on Environmental Education and Global Change Research. Kobe, Japan, 11 April, 2005

To mark the APN's 10th anniversary Hyogo Prefectural Government (APN Secretariat host) organised a Public Forum on Global Change Research and Environmental Education: the APN's Expected Roles. The Public Forum was opened by the Governor of Hyogo Prefectural Government, Mr. Toshizo

Ido and the Minister of the Environment, Government of Japan, Ms. Yuriko Koike. This forum was also supported by the Ministry of Environment, Japan, Hyogo Environmental Advancement Association, and the Japanese Society of Environmental Education. 150 members of the public, educators, scientists and decision-makers attended. Special thanks go to all presenters and panellists including SPG Co-Chair, Dr. Amir Muhammed and the SPG member for Malaysia, Dr. Subramaniam Moten for making this public forum a success.

10th Inter-Governmental Meeting (IGM) and Scientific Planning Group Meeting (SPG), Kobe, Japan. 13-15 April 2005

The APN's 10th IGM/SPG convened in Kobe, Japan, and was hosted by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan. Special thanks to the IGM Chair, Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto (APN national Focal Point for Japan), the Vice-Chair, Mr. Sovannora Ieng (APN national Focal Point for Cambodia), and the SPG-Chairs, Drs. Amir Muhammed (Pakistan) and Andrew Matthews (New Zealand) for their outstanding efforts at guiding the 10th IGM/SPG to success. It was also fantastic to see the

active participation of our global change partners IGBP, IHDP and START at the APN's 10th anniversary celebrations in Kobe.

Mr. Seizo Matsumoto, Vice Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, gave an opening speech. In his speech, Mr. Matsumoto highlighted the following points:

- The establishment and subsequent success of the CAPaBLE Programme;
- Appreciation to Australia, New Zealand, and the USA for their dedication to the Programme and to developing countries for their extensive and active contributions;
- The 3rd Earth Observation Summit (EOS) was held in Brussels in February 2005 and a ten-year implementation plan for the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) was adopted. The APN will positively contribute to earth observations;
- The APN is recognised as a significant international network; thanks to governments, members and the APN Secretariat;
- Significant contributions from Hyogo Prefectural Government for hosting the APN in addition to their monetary contributions for scientific activities; and
- Japanese Ministry of the Environment (MOEJ) will continue its strong participation in APN activities.



Minister Koike and Governor Ido with the public forum presenters, the APN Steering Committee and the APN Secretariat



Minister Koike (left) and Governor Ido (right) during the opening session



SPG Co-Chair Dr. Amir Muhammed giving a keynote lecture



Forum panellists from left to right: Nakase, Ookubo, Moten, Muhammed and Taniguchi (chair)

Mr. Sombo Yamamura, APN Secretariat Director, in his welcome address highlighted some of the APN's activities:

- 10 years is a major milestone and an appropriate time to review activities and to learn from the past and plan for the future;
- In the past 12 months, the Secretariat has worked closely with Mr. Randal Helten, consultant to the APN, to perform the evaluation and draft a Second Strategic Plan for the next phase of APN activities;
- All functions of the APN Secretariat were transferred to IGES in April 2004. Some innovative results were produced including the establishment of an independent account for the APN; and

- There is growing awareness of the APN at the global level and within global change activities.

The IGM approved twenty-four (24) projects for funding in 2005/2006 from an activities budget of approximately 790,000 US dollars—five (5) continuing multi-year projects, nineteen (19) new projects and four (4) projects to receive a seed grant.

The IGM also approved four (4) new capacity building projects under the APN CAPaBLE Programme amounting to 105,000 US dollars.

The aforementioned projects selected cover a variety of important global change issues and activities throughout

the Asia-Pacific region. The full list is included on pp9-15 of this newsletter.

The Secretariat was very pleased with the many positive outcomes of the IGM/SPG, particularly the acceptance of the APN Evaluation Report and the adoption of the Second Strategic Plan. The IGM/SPG also gave a clear indication of what we must aim to achieve over the next year.

As agreed at the meeting we will be actively working to:

- Ensure effective interaction with the new Steering Committee;
- Implement the Second Strategic Plan;
- Prepare an operating plan;
- Prepare the revisions for the Framework Document;
- Support the Resources Development Committee to secure future resources; and
- Implement the agreed budget plan with a specific focus on science activities.

The 10th IGM/SPG Proceedings and the 2004/2005 project and regional reports will also shortly be available on the APN website <www.apn.gr.jp>. A hard copy of the full proceedings and the project and regional reports can be obtained from the Secretariat.



10th IGM/SPG in Kobe