

SEVENTH WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPS) IN EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES

Chairperson's Summary

30th September 2009

1. The 7th Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in East Asian Countries was held at Mita Kaigisho in Tokyo on 28th – 30th September 2009.
2. The 7th Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of POPs in East Asian Countries was organized by Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ). Government officials and technical experts from 10 countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, AMAP/Environment Canada, NOWPAP and UNU participated in the Workshop.
3. Mr. Teruyoshi HAYAMIZU, Director of Environmental Health and Safety Division, MOEJ, provided opening address.
4. Ms. Yoko MASUZAWA, Associate Professor of Nagoya University, chaired the Workshop.
5. Participants noted the following presentations:
 - (1) Background, Objectives and Future Plan of POPs Monitoring Project in East Asian Countries, by Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI, Secretariat, Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC), Japan.
 - (2) Overview of the first effectiveness evaluation of Stockholm Convention in Asia-Pacific region, by Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan; and
 - (3) Canadian and AMAP Perspectives on POPs – Progress in Air Research & Monitoring, by Dr. Tom HARNER, Environment Canada, Canada.

6. Participating countries made presentations on their current activities for POPs including newly listed ones and future plan for the compiling POPs monitoring data.

Ms. KEITA-OUANE, Senior Scientific Officer, Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) raised the issues of laboratory sustainability and accessibility of the monitored data in national level. Thailand and Vietnam expressed their views. Vietnam emphasized the importance of capacity-building and networking of laboratory in the region.

7. Participants noted the presentations, Outcome from the first effectiveness evaluation of Stockholm Convention and Outcome from the 4th Conference of the Parties, by Ms. Fatoumata KEITA-OUANE.

The implementation process concerning newly listed POPs was clarified.

8. Participating countries noted two presentations:

- (1) Future direction for the present monitoring project, by Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI, Secretariat; and

- (2) Concrete plan for conducting frequent monitoring at the Super-site in Vietnam, by Prof. Viet Hung PHAM, Hanoi University of Science, Vietnam National University and Dr. Tuan Anh Nguyen, Pollution Control Division, Vietnam Environmental Protection Agency, Vietnam.

9. Participating countries agreed with the next round of POPs air monitoring in East Asian Countries in Malaysia in February 2010.

10. Participating countries agreed with starting frequent monitoring in October 2009 at Tam Dao in Vietnam as a Super-site in this sub-region according to the concrete plan of Vietnam.

11. The workshop was divided into two groups, the Policy Group (Chair: Ms. Yoko MASUZAWA) and the Expert Working Group (Chair: Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA).

12. The Policy Group discussed the future plan for the POPs Monitoring Project in East Asian Countries including the elaboration of a GEF proposal.

The Policy Group confirmed the Project Identification Form (PIF) and agreed that it will be submitted by Vietnam as a leading country of the proposed project to UNEP/DGEF.

The summary report from the Policy Group is attached as Annex 1.

13. The Expert Working Group discussed the issues on:

(1) Review of the FY2008 monitoring data; and

(2) Problems for conducting background monitoring of POPs in East Asian countries.

The Expert Working Group shared the information of the problem of air sampler, the information on the analytical method of Endrin and the newly listed POPs.

The summary report from the Expert Working Group is attached as Annex 2.

14. The Plenary was informed of the contents of the reports from the two groups. The clarification and discussion were made on the possible contribution to the revision of the GMP Guidance Document, and the contents of the PIF. The contents of the reports were endorsed by the Plenary, including the submission of the PIF as agreed at the Policy Group meeting to UNEP/DGEF. The Plenary noted that the possibility of the application for SAICM-QSP should be further investigated.

15. The Workshop welcomed the tangible results from the past activities and expressed its expectations to the participating countries for their continued efforts for monitoring.

16. MOEJ expressed its intension to hold the next Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants in East Asian Countries in autumn in 2010.

17. Participants expressed their gratitude to MOEJ, NIES and JESC for their efforts to organize this Workshop.

END

Summary Report of the 5th Policy Group (PG) meeting

29 September 2009

Venue: Mita Kaigisho, Conference Room 3

Chair: Ms. Yoko MASUZAWA, Nagoya University

Participants: Mr. Heng NARETH (Cambodia)
Mr. Dasrul CHANIAGO (Indonesia)
Mr. Takeshi SEKIYA, Mr. Masahiro OTA, Dr. Noriyuki SUZUKI, Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI (Japan)
Ms. Sue Jin KIM, Dr. Byung Hoon KIM (ROK)
Ms. Darounny VILAYTHONG (Lao PDR)
Ms. Rohani JUSOH (Malaysia)
Mr. Battulga PUREVDORJ (Mongolia)
Ms. Puay Son ONG (Singapore)
Ms. Pornpimon CHAREONSONG (Thailand)
Dr. Tuan Anh NGUYEN (Vietnam)
Ms. Fatoumata KEITA-OUANE (Secretariat of SC, UNEP)
Dr. Bin WANG (UNU)
Prof. Kazuichi HAYAKAWA (NOWPAP)

(Submission of a GEF proposal)

1. The Secretariat explained the progress after the previous workshop where the participating countries agreed on development of a GEF proposal concerning the New POPs under the Stockholm Convention. Vietnam and Malaysia expressed their willingness to lead. While Malaysia is still on the ratification process, Vietnam had prepared a project identification form (PIF).
2. Vietnam presented the details of the PIF, highlighting seven components of the project.
3. In response to the request by the chair, Ms. Keita-Ouane, Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention explained the frameworks and conditions of GEF projects and suggested the possible schedule for the submission of the project proposal under discussion. She suggested that the PIF will be reviewed under the GEF-V, instead of GEF-IV, if its submission delayed. She also explained that SAICM-QSP could be considered as co-finance for GEF.

4. The participating countries accepted that the willingness of Mongolia to participate in the new GEF project proposal.
5. Some countries noted that their procedures to endorse their joining the GEF project would take a number of weeks. Other countries stated that they would not need a long time to get the endorsement. Vietnam noted that it will put the effort to get the endorsement letter in their country within two weeks. ROK stated that they would examine support for the project and respond within two weeks.
6. Recognizing that the participants generally supported submitting the PIF prepared by Vietnam to UNEP/ DGEF to be considered under GEF-IV, the Chair suggested the possible timeline for the submission.
7. After the discussion, participants agreed the timeline (Attachment 1).

(Contents of the GEF proposal)

8. Thailand asked for the clarification about project component 6 of the PIF, where the type of assistance was listed as investment. Vietnam suggested changing the description to infrastructure capacity building. Ms. Keita-Ouane also suggested linking component 6 to an outcome of better knowledge of future new POPs.
9. Thailand asked about the arrangement for the component 4, the collection, evaluation and compilation of regional data for the regional report. The chair suggested that this could be provided by the Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of POPs in East Asian Countries, with the cooperation of the EWG, which has been the forum of the cooperative monitoring activities under the Stockholm Convention in this sub-region.
10. ROK requested to add the National Institute of Environmental Research and the Ministry of Environment to the list of executing partners.
11. The PIF was further discussed and modified. Participants agreed on the PIF as amended. (Attachment 2)
12. The developed PIF will be sent to Dr. Minghui Zheng, the leader of ROG in Asia and Pacific region under the GMP of the Stockholm Convention, for the information.

13. Ms. Keita-Ouane invited inputs from participating countries on their implementation of the obligations concerning the New POPs under the Stockholm Convention, including their situations to update their NIPs. Some of the participants explained their situations and the concerns on this regard.

Attachment 1: Timeline

Attachment 2: Modified PIF

End

Summary Report of the 6th Expert Working Group (EWG) meeting

29 September 2009

Venue: Mita Kaigisho, Room A&B

Chair: Dr. Yasuyuki Shibata (NIES)

Participants: Mr. Phet Pichhara (Cambodia),
Dr. Erini Yuwatini (Indonesia),
Mr. Teruo Sato, Mr. Yoshinori Kanetsuna, Mr. Seiei Chin, Dr. Yoshikatsu Takazawa, Dr. Takeshi Nakano, Ms. Shizuko Ota, Dr. Takumi Takasuga (Japan),
Dr. Seung Ryul Hwang (Republic of Korea),
Ms. Setouanh Phanthavongsa (Lao PDR),
Mr. Mohd Fauzan Yunus (Malaysia),
Dr. Altangadas Byanjargal (Mongolia),
Ms. Puay Son Ong (Singapore)
Dr. Pattanan Tarin (Thailand),
Prof. Pham Hung Viet (Vietnam),
Dr. Tom Harner (Canada),
Mr. Koichiro Matsumoto and Dr. Tomonori Takeuchi (Secretariat Japan Environmental Sanitation Center)

1. EWG reviewed the results of background-air monitoring under the POPs Monitoring Project in East Asian Countries conducted in Cambodia, Republic of Korea and Japan in FY2008 as reported and concluded that the data within criteria should be accepted as additional data in this project.
2. EWG recognized that the data quality was generally satisfactory except for some HCB data which exceeded criteria. HCB data in Cambodia obtained after exchanging a sampler was recognized as reference value because of variation in duplicate analysis. HCB data in October and November 2008 in Cape Hedo were thought to be affected by the contamination (see below), and were decided not acceptable. All the data from Gosan, Korea, are recognized satisfactory and acceptable.
3. EWG shared information on PCB, HCB and HCH contaminations caused by parts

used for constructing the HV samplers and recognized the need to further investigate and establish repairing method of the sampler.

4. In response to the request of EWG in the 5th meeting, secretariats provided information on the improvement of Endrin analysis and possible cause of their unusually high recovery. EWG welcomed the information together with the additional comments from ROK and other experts.
5. Development of analytical methods of nine new POPs and other candidate POPs is ongoing and current situation was introduced by the expert from Japan. EWG welcomed the activities, requested MOEJ to provide SOPs, and expected application of new method in near future.

END.