

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

Chairperson's Summary

Siam City Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, 1st February 2012

1. The 9th Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants in East Asian Countries was held at Siam City Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand on 30th January – 1st February, 2012
2. The Workshop was organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) with support by the Pollution Control Department (PCD), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE), Thailand. Government officials and technical experts from 11 countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program participated in the Workshop.
3. Prof. Koji SHIMADA, Ritsumeikan University, chaired the Workshop. And Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) Japan, co-chaired.
4. Mr. Kunihiko YAMAZAKI, Senior Coordinator, Environmental Health Department, MOEJ, and Mrs. Sunee Piyapanpong, Deputy Director General, PCD, MNRE, Thailand, provided opening addresses.
5. Participants noted the following presentations:
 - (1) Second Phase of the Global Monitoring Plan (GMP) for POPs in Support of Effectiveness Evaluation, by Ms. Katarina MAGULOVA, Stockholm Convention Secretariat, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
 - (2) Introduction to the 9th Workshop, by Mr. Kunihiko YAMAZAKI (MOEJ);
 - (3) POPs Monitoring Methods in Revised GMP Guidance Documents and in Japanese Environmental Monitoring, by Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA (NIES);
 - (4) Development of GEF 5/UNEP East Asia – South East Asia POPs Monitoring Project, by Dr. Nguyen Anh Tuan, Vietnam Environment Administration; and
 - (5) Plan of Information Warehouse and POPs Analysis Training, Republic of Korea, by Dr. Seung-Ryul HWANG, National Institute of Environmental Research, Republic of Korea.

6. Secretariat introduced the revised draft future plans of this project as follows:
 - (1) Re-organized plans into the three elements:
 - minor additions to the existing monitoring plans
 - proposed monitoring plans for 2012–2013
 - proposed future directions
 - (2) Data submission for the 2nd effectiveness evaluation; and
 - (3) Plans of the next workshop.

7. Participating countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Singapore) presented their future POPs monitoring plans and comments on the revised draft future plans of this project.

8. In order to submit the UNEP/GEF project, Vietnam and UNEP provided the PIF and PPG documents and requested the cooperation from the participating countries to give final comments and send endorsement letters to GEF by 26th February 2012. After this time the project will be submitted to GEF for consideration.

9. The Workshop was divided into two groups, the Policy Group (Chair: Prof. Koji SHIMADA) and the Expert Working Group (Chair: Dr. Yasuyuki SHIBATA).

10. The Policy Group meeting discussed items in the revised draft future plans of this project proposed by the secretariat one by one. Minor additions to the existing monitoring plans and proposed monitoring plans for 2012-2013 were agreed. Proposed future directions were recognised by the participating countries. Data submission procedure and timeline for the 2nd effectiveness evaluation were confirmed. It was agreed that the next workshop would be held between October and December 2013.

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

11. Participants of the Expert Working Group meeting reviewed the results of background-air monitoring conducted in the Philippines, Vietnam and Japan in FY 2010. Participants noted the presentations on new POPs, and plans of the cooperative monitoring in 2012 and 2013.

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

12. The Plenary was informed of the contents of the reports from the two groups. The clarification and discussion were made on the reports of the two groups. The contents of the reports were endorsed by the Plenary.

13. The Workshop welcomed the significant progress of the POPs Monitoring Project in

East Asian Countries and expressed its expectations to the participating countries for their continued efforts for monitoring.

14. Participants expressed their gratitude to PCD MNRE Thailand for their efforts to host this Workshop. (END)

Summary Report of the 6th Policy Group (PG) meeting

31 January 2012

Chair: Prof. Koji SHIMADA (Ritsumeikan University)

Participants: Mr. Sina Chea (Cambodia),
Mr. Christofel Sirait (Indonesia),
Mr. Kunihiko YAMAZAKI, Mr. Teruo SATO (Japan),
Dr. Ki-Joon Kim (Republic of Korea),
Ms. Xaysomphone Souvannavong (Lao PDR),
Ms. Marliana Binti Mohsin (Malaysia),
Mr. Altangadas Bayanjargal (Mongolia),
Ms. Emmanuelita Dedace Mendoza (Philippines),
Ms. Tang Hui Qi (Singapore),
Ms. Pornpimon Chareonsong (Thailand),
Dr. Nguyen Anh Tuan (Vietnam),
Ms. Katarina Magulova (UNEP, Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention)
Dr. Takuya SHIOZAKI (Secretariat, Japan Environmental Sanitation
Center: JESC),
Ms. Warawan Chalermot (Secretariat, Thailand), and
Dr. Hideki SASAKI (Secretariat, JESC)

The meeting discussed following issues proposed by the secretariat.

(Minor additions to the existing monitoring plans (-2011))

1. The final attempt of the 2nd round monitoring which was confirmed in the 8th workshop in Lao PDR was reconfirmed with the agreement of the implementation schedule.

(Proposed monitoring plans for 2012 - 2013)

2. The meeting agreed on:

- (1) Cooperative monitoring in participating countries which shall be contributed to the 2nd Effectiveness Evaluation of Stockholm Convention, Article 16, will be conducted in Indonesia (2012) and Mongolia (2013);
- (2) The target chemicals for the cooperative monitoring were initial POPs pesticides as well as hexachlorocyclohexane and pentachlorobenzene;
- (3) Japan and Republic of Korea expressed their plans to continue the implementation of the monthly monitoring in each Super-site;
- (4) Vietnam proposed the quarterly monitoring and put their efforts to resume the

frequent monitoring soon at Tam Dao, Super-site in Vietnam. The quarterly monitoring instead of monthly monitoring was acceptable;

(Proposed future directions)

3. The meeting agreed on the following roles and future activities of each participating country proposed by the secretariat:

- (1) Japan and Republic of Korea are expected to keep their monthly monitoring, and to support the monitoring capacity building to the participating countries.
- (2) The meeting noted the importance of communication among the participating countries regarding the capacity building workshops and training courses.
- (3) Vietnam is expected to carry out quarterly monitoring by themselves, subject to technical capacity built and resources available for this activity from 2013;
- (4) Thailand will consult with relevant agencies for the willingness to build up its monitoring capacity, and is expected to start the quarterly monitoring in 2014;
- (5) Vietnam and Thailand, in cooperation with Japan and Republic of Korea, are expected to arrange the training course for the POPs monitoring capacity building for neighboring countries in 2014, subject to the technical capacity and available resources;
- (6) Philippines is expected to develop their plan for conducting the frequent monitoring of PFOSs and chlordecone using LC/MS/MS in 2014 with the assistance of the advanced countries;
- (7) Cambodia, Lao PDR and Mongolia are expected to keep building their analytical capacity throughout the implementation of the cooperative monitoring; and
- (8) The meeting confirmed the different roles and objectives between this project and proposed UNEP/GEF project led by Vietnam.

(Data submission under this project)

4. The meeting noted the data submission procedure and timeline for the 2nd effectiveness evaluation explained by the secretariat.

(Next workshop)

5. The secretariat proposed to hold the next workshop between October and December 2013.

6. The meeting welcomed any participating countries to host the workshop. Any countries that will volunteer to host the next workshop are expected to inform the secretariat before October 2012.

7. The meeting requested Japan and Thailand to provide the necessary information to facilitate the workshop as soon as possible.

(END)

Summary Report of the 7th Expert Working Group (EWG) meeting

31 January 2012

Chair: Dr. Yasuyuki Shibata (NIES)

Participants: Ms. Niniek Triana Wardhani (Indonesia)
Mr. Nobuyuki Iwashita, Dr. Noriyuki Suzuki, Prof. Takeshi Nakano,
Dr. Takumi Takasuga (Japan)
Dr. Seung-Ryul Hwang (Republic of Korea)
Mr. Athisone Silitham (Lao PDR)
Mr. Mohd Fauzan Bin Yunus (Malaysia)
Prof. Evangeline Custodio Santiago (The Philippines)
Ms. Ong Li Lian (Singapore)
Dr. Pattanan Tarin (Thailand)
Dr. Nguyen Hung Minh (Vietnam)
Dr. Tom Harner (Environment Canada)
Mr. Yuji Kashima, 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 the Philippines, and the results of frequent monitoring conducted in Vietnam and Japan in FY 2010 as reported, and concluded that the data were generally satisfactory and acceptable, except for all the aldrin data due to poor recovery and the dieldrin data in the Philippines and Vietnam due to high background. Heptachlor data in Vietnam were recognized as reference value due to low recovery.
2. EWG expected that the data of frequent monitoring in Republic of Korea in FY 2010 will be reported in the next workshop.
3. Participants noted the following presentations and shared the information:
 - (1) New POPs in Air under AMAP and GAPS Network, Dr. Tom Harner, The Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) Air Quality Research Division, Science & Technology Branch, Environment Canada;
 - (2) New POPs Monitoring Results in Japan, Dr. Takeshi NAKANO, Professor, Center for Advanced Science and Innovation, Osaka University; and
 - (3) Method for the New POPs targeted by This Project, Dr. Takumi TAKASUGA (Shimadzu Techno-Research Inc.).

EWG welcomed the progress on the development of sampling and analytical methods

for newly added POPs and other candidate POPs, and appreciated the efforts from the MOEJ and other relevant partners to continue support these activities.

4. The secretariat explained the monitoring plan in 2012 and 2013 including target compounds, according to the plenary discussion on the first day. Indonesia agreed to conduct cooperative monitoring in 2012 but pointed out need of further discussion on the sampling site. Vietnam agreed to conduct quaterly monitoring in 2012 and willingness to consider individual monitoring in 2013, subject to technical capacity and available resources. EWG noted the plan for cooperative monitoring in Mongolia in 2013. Japan and the Republic of Korea agreed to continue the monthly monitoring including new POPs in 2012 and 2013.

5. EWG recognised the importance of data analysis and interpretation, and the need to incorporate this aspect into future capacity enhancement activities. (END)