

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

### Chairperson's Summary

Hanoi Daewoo Hotel, Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, 29 January 2016

- 1 The 11<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in East Asian Countries commenced on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2016, at the Hanoi Daewoo Hotel, Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
- 2 The workshop was organised by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) with support from the Vietnam Environment Administration (VEA) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Government officials and technical experts from 10 countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam), Secretariat of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS), Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of the United Nations Environment Programme (DTIE/UNEP) and 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. Mick SAITO, Deputy Director, Environmental Health and Safety Division, Environmental Health Department, Environmental Policy Bureau, MOEJ, and Dr. Anh Tuan NGUYEN, Head of Division, Pollution Control Department, VEA, MoNRE, Vietnam gave their opening addresses 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 accepted to be designated as chairperson and co-chairperson of the workshop, respectively.
- 6 Participants noted the following presentations:
  - (1) Introduction to the 11<sup>th</sup> 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) Effectiveness evaluation under the Stockholm Convention: Present Status, by Ms. Katarina MAGULOVA (Secretariat of Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions)

7 Participants noted the presentations on the finalization of the Sub-regional Report by Dr. SHIOZAKI (Secretariat) and the participants were requested to review the report and to reply any comments, correction to the secretariat after the workshop. Participants recognised the contribution of the POPsEA monitoring activities to the effectiveness evaluation of Stockholm Convention. Participants also noted the significance of data analyses and interpretation of monitoring results and agreed to further discuss this issue at the next workshop.

8 Participants noted the following presentations:

- (1) Global Monitoring Plan Data Warehouse, by Ms. Katarina MAGULOVA (Secretariat of BRS);
- (2) Present Status of the Information Data Warehouse project of Republic of Korea, by Mr. Hyuk KIM (Republic of Korea)

Participants appreciated the development of GMP Data Warehouse, and will explore the possibilities to utilise the GMP Data Warehouse.

Participants also appreciated the support from Republic of Korea to provide the Information Data Warehouse as a regional activity. Participants recommended future Information Data Warehouse Workshop to be hosted by ROK to consider expanding to both policy and technical representatives to attend the workshop in order to increase effective operation of regional Information Data Warehouse. The participants informed the difficulties in transferring data of Warehouse provided by ROK to reflect to the Information Data Warehouse provided by BRS Secretariat.

9 Participants noted the following presentations:

- (1) Results of the cooperative monitoring in Thailand in 2014, by Dr. Pattanan TARIN (Thailand);
- (2) Technical Challenge for the Implementation of POPs Monitoring in Cambodia, by Mr. Sophal IV (Cambodia);
- (3) Results of Super-site Monitoring in Jeju Island Republic of Korea, by Dr. In Young Chung (Republic of Korea); and,
- (4) Results of the Super-site monitoring in Hedo, Japan, by Prof. Takumi TAKASUGA (Japan).

The participant raised the clarification of the reliability of the data by passive sampling and comparability to the data by active sampling, and the participants share the common understandings of the significance of comparability of the obtained data under the

specified sampling methodology. Participants suggested further discussion on this subject at the next Expert Working Group meeting. The Secretariat proposed the possibility of the implementation of next cooperative monitoring in Lao PDR and Malaysia.

- 10 Participants noted the presentation on the Report on the Implementation of POPs Analysis Training Course in 2014 and 2015 implemented by Republic of Korea, by Mr. Hyuk KIM (Republic of Korea). Participants appreciated the support from Republic of Korea.
- 11 Participants noted the Review of the Framework of POPsEA project and its Future Direction, by Dr. SHIOZAKI (Secretariat).  
Three countries, Philippines, Mongolia and Indonesia, expressed their expectation to the continuous support for the cooperative monitoring activity under the POPsEA project. Participants shared the importance of close relationship between POPsEA and UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia project including the preparation of project roadmaps.
- 12 Participants noted the outcome and the procedures of the UNEP's projects to support the Global Monitoring Plan on POPs, by Prof. Heidelore FIEDLER, Örebro University. Participants discussed the possible linkages and commonalities for mutual benefits between the UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia Project and POPsEA project.
- 13 The workshop discussed the expected activities and the willingness of the POPsEA member countries under the UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia project collaborated with POPsEA. Member countries share the consideration on following items:
  - (1) Data generation
  - (2) Capacity building
  - (3) Sustainability of POPs monitoring activities
- 14 Participants noted following expectations and challenges for the future activities:
  - (1) Information sharing between UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia Project and POPsEA Project is welcomed and encouraged;
  - (2) The generated and nationally approved data under the UNEP/GEF GMP2-Asia project will be made available to the Regional Organisation Group under Stockholm Convention;
  - (3) The collaborative activities among participating countries are expected to contribute to establish sustainable implementation of POPs monitoring;
  - (4) The harmonisation of the methodologies needs to be explored;

- (5) Differentiating the capacity building menu depending on the national priorities will be explored to set the efficient monitoring framework in the East Asia region. The individual expectation and priority should be shared among the Participating countries and relevant organisations;
  - (6) The significance of preparing the POPsEA website to share the information among the participating countries and relevant organisation is raised; and,
  - (7) The scope of the POPsEA project in terms of the water and human's milk monitoring is one of the challenges.
- 15 Upon closing, the participants expressed their sincere appreciation to the VEA, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Ministry of the Environment, Japan and Secretariat for their efforts to host and organise the 11<sup>th</sup> Workshop.

END