

The First Intergovernmental Meeting
on the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network
in East Asia
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IMPLEMENTATION OF PREPARATORY-PHASE ACTIVITIES

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I OBJECTIVES

1. Preparatory-phase monitoring activities for the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (hereinafter, the "Network") will be implemented to initiate cooperative efforts among the countries in East Asia aimed at facilitating common understanding of the state of acid deposition in the region, and providing useful inputs to the second intergovernmental meeting through, in particular:

- a. examination of the feasibility of the designed network activities and relevant guidelines and technical manuals;
- b. provision of time for participating countries to further develop national monitoring systems for the Network; and,
- c. formulation of policy recommendations for the further development of the Network.

II DURATION

2. Preparatory-phase activities will be carried out, on an interim basis, from April 1998 until the second intergovernmental meeting to be held tentatively in mid-2000.

III PARTICIPATION

3. Countries in East Asian region that express their intention at the first intergovernmental meeting, or at any time thereafter through diplomatic channels, will participate in the preparatory-phase activities.

4. Countries may withdraw from the preparatory-phase activities by expressing their intention at any time through diplomatic channels.

5. To facilitate participation by all countries in the region, the preparatory-phase activities will be practical and flexible. The activities and operation of the Network during the preparatory phase should be carried out in a transparent manner.

IV INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

6. For the implementation of the preparatory-phase activities, the

following interim bodies will be established:

- interim scientific advisory group;
- interim Secretariat; and,
- interim network center.

7. The second intergovernmental meeting will review the results of the preparatory-phase activities. The working group, composed of the representatives of the participating countries, will act as the decision making body for the activities of the above mentioned interim bodies during the preparatory-phase activities.

8. The working group will carry out the following tasks:

- 1) review of the preparatory-phase activities;
- 2) prepare for the second intergovernmental meeting; and,
- 3) provide direction, as appropriate, to the relevant interim bodies.

9. The interim scientific advisory group will implement tasks concerning the scientific aspects of the preparatory-phase activities:

- 1) develop, review and adopt monitoring guidelines and technical manuals;
- 2) review and adopt the QA/QC programs;
- 3) advise on collection and evaluation of monitoring data;
- 4) assess and analyze monitoring data;
- 5) review and adopt data reporting procedures and formats;
- 6) prepare a report on the state of the acid deposition in East Asian region, based on the data report by the interim network center; and,
- 7) review information on other scientific activities relating to acid deposition problems.

10. Each participating country is requested to nominate one member or two members of the interim scientific advisory group by June 1998. The interim scientific advisory group will, at its first meeting, elect officers and define its terms of references.

11. The interim Secretariat will carry out the following duties:

- 1) prepare and make all necessary administrative arrangements for the meetings of the second intergovernmental meeting, the working group and the interim scientific advisory group;
- 2) make all necessary administrative arrangements for managing the preparatory-phase activities of the Network; and,
- 3) act as the focal point for further communication and cooperation in administrative aspects.

12. The Environment Agency, Government of Japan, is designated as the interim Secretariat. The structure and organization of the interim Secretariat is attached in Annex 1.

13. The interim network center will, following the guidance of the interim scientific advisory group, implement such tasks as the following:

- 1) central compilation and storage of monitoring data and other related information;
- 2) evaluation of monitoring data and other related information, which is, after consideration by the interim scientific advisory group and the working group, to be submitted to the second intergovernmental meeting;
- 3) preparation of a data report on the acid deposition in East Asian region;
- 4) dissemination of monitoring data and other information to the participating countries;
- 5) preparation of data reporting procedures and formats;
- 6) facilitation of technical assistance to the participating countries in developing national monitoring plans;

- 7) preparation and implementation of the QA/QC programs;
 - 8) development and implementation of training programs;
 - 9) serving as a regional forum for the exchange of relevant information and experiences in East Asia; and,
 - 10) provision of technical assistance for the preparatory work for the meetings of the second intergovernmental meeting, the working group and the interim scientific advisory group.
14. The Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center to be established in Niigata, Japan is designated as the interim network center. The structure and organization of the Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center is attached in Annex 2.
15. Each country is called upon to designate its national center as early as possible.
16. Each national center will implement the following tasks:
- 1) preparation of a national monitoring plan;
 - 2) collection, analysis and evaluation of national monitoring data;
 - 3) submission of monitoring data to the interim network center; and,
 - 4) implementation of the national segment of the QA/QC programs.

V MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND SCHEDULE

17. During the preparatory phase, the following major activities will be implemented:
- 1) Establishment of interim bodies;
 - 2) Development and implementation of the QA/QC programs;
 - 3) Development and implementation of training programs;

- 4) Implementation of preparatory-phase national monitoring;
- 5) Compilation, evaluation and storage of, and access to information;
- 6) Preparation of a report on the state of the acid deposition problem; and,
- 7) Other relevant activities.

A supplementary note on the preparatory-phase activities is attached in Annex 3.

18. The QA/QC programs will be developed and implemented in the following sequence:

- 1) preparation of draft QA/QC programs by the interim network center;
- 2) review and adoption of the QA/QC programs by the first interim scientific advisory group meeting; reporting of the results of the review to the third working group meeting; and,
- 3) implementation of the QA/QC programs by the interim network center and national centers.

19. Training programs for the Network will proceed in the following sequence:

- 1) maximum utilization of existing training programs;
- 2) development and implementation of a new training program by the interim network center; and,
- 3) review of the training programs by the interim scientific advisory group meeting and provision of advice for elaboration; reporting of the results of the review to the working group meeting.

20. The preparatory-phase national monitoring will be implemented in the following sequence:

- 1) development of a national monitoring plan, as appropriate,

by each country;

- 2) review of the national monitoring plans by the first interim scientific advisory group and provision of advice for elaboration; reporting of the results of the review to the third working group meeting;
- 3) implementation of the national monitoring plan by each country; and,
- 4) reporting of data collected during the preparatory phase to the interim network center.

21. Compilation, evaluation and storage of, and access to information, will be implemented in the following sequence:

- 1) preparation of data reporting procedures and formats by the interim network center;
- 2) compilation, evaluation and storage of information by the interim network center;
- 3) dissemination of the submitted information to the participating countries by the interim network center; and,
- 4) review of the above activities by the interim scientific advisory group and provision of advice for elaboration; reporting of the results of the review to the working group meetings.

22. A report on the state of the acid deposition in East Asian region will be developed in the following sequence:

- 1) preparation of a data report by the interim network center;
- 2) review of the data report, and preparation of the report on the state of the acid deposition in East Asian region by the second interim scientific advisory group and fourth working group meeting; and,
- 3) final review and approval of the report by the second intergovernmental meeting.

23. Other relevant activities are presented as follows:

- 1) preparation for the second intergovernmental meeting by the third and fourth working group meetings; and,
- 2) review of information on other scientific activities relating to acid deposition problems by the interim scientific advisory group;

24. The tentative schedule of major events is summarized as follows:

April 1998

- establishment of the interim Secretariat and the interim network center
- submission of information on the focal point of each participating country's government to the interim Secretariat

June 1998

- nomination of members of the interim scientific advisory group
- designation of a national center in each participating country
- submission of information such as the national center, and existing monitoring data to the interim network center

June 1998 and/or thereafter

- submission of national monitoring plans to the interim network center

October 1998

- the first interim scientific advisory group meeting
- the third working group meeting

By the end of 1998 or earlier

- implementation of training programs at the national level and by the interim network center

October 1999 and/or thereafter

- reporting of monitoring data collected during the preparatory phase to the interim network center

early 2000

- the second interim scientific advisory group meeting
- the fourth working group meeting

mid-2000

- the second intergovernmental meeting

The third working group meeting will review the progress of the preparatory-phase activities and, if necessary, modify the schedule.

VI FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

25. The intergovernmental meeting invites the Government of Japan, for the period of the preparatory-phase activities, to cover the operational costs for the interim network center and the interim Secretariat on a voluntary basis, and also expects voluntary contributions from the relevant local governments and organizations toward the costs of the interim network center.

26. The intergovernmental meeting invites the host country, for the period of the preparatory-phase activities, to cover the cost of the meetings of the working group and interim scientific advisory group, including travel expenses to the meetings for the representatives and expenses for the preparatory work for the meetings, to the extent possible within available budget, on a voluntary basis.

27. Each participating country is called upon to mobilize existing funding sources and seek new sources for financing preparatory-phase activities.
