

# 14<sup>th</sup> NEAC discussion summary

Ministry of the Environment Japan

## Outline of the 14<sup>th</sup> NEAC

The meeting was held in Tokyo on Feb.22 , 2006.

Participated countries ; Japan, China, Korea, Mongolia  
( Russia was absent.)

### Agenda

Session 1; Expectation for Northeast Asian Regional Cooperation

Session 2; Review of NEAC

Session 3; Future Role of NEAC

## Session 1; Expectation for North East Asian regional Cooperation

- Presentation of China and Mongolia and Comments from Korea

### **China**

- Strengthen the linkage among various regional environmental cooperation mechanisms and identify common objectives for development
- Pay close attention to trans-boundary environmental issues and address global environmental issues

### **Mongolia**

- Increasing human activities have had huge adverse impacts on this biological resource
- Propose implementing joint research as a regional activity

## Session 1; Expectation for North East Asian regional Cooperation

- **The common environmental problems in the region** - environment and economy, where to strike the balance, how to integrate
- Transboundary issues; biodiversity, climate issues
- National environmental protection progress and proposed cooperation priority areas
- **Tools to promote cooperation**
- Environmental cooperation framework research report of the region
- Involvement of the stakeholders; NEAC will be the good opportunities

## Session 2; Review of NEAC

- Presentation of Korea, questions and comments from China, Japan and Mongolia
- Multilateral surveys/researches on NEA are going on.
  - Highly Evaluated ; to provide opportunities of learning and understanding
  - Less Evaluated ; to have little capacity of problem solving

### ● Expecting Outcome

- Learning/ understanding opportunities are strong, but problem solving is weak
- High potential/ expectation for cooperation with new targets and roles

### ● Institution / Logistics

- Merits: flexible, informal and un-official
- Uncertainties; hosting, participants, funding, other many frameworks

## Session 3 ; Future Role of NEAC

- Presentation of Japan, China and Korea

### Japan

- Pointed out some negative points of NEAC and provided discussing issues.
- Explained Japanese fiscal constraint

### China

- Outlined joint research on environment management in NEA

### Korea

- Presented NEAC's contribution and limitation
- Provided several ideas of NEAC's future

## Session 3 ; Future Role of NEAC

### ● **Proposed Options**

- (1) Back-to-back with NEASPEC by its host country to reduce cost, as a standing-alone meeting
- (2) Linked to a TEMM project meeting (or TEMM WG meeting) [taking into account of the role of TEMM in the region]
- (3) Focusing on specific issues such as DSS with a few years' rotation / plan to attract more attention, in expectation of cost-sharing with other mechanism: "NEAC labeling" on a meeting of other mechanism
- (4) Linked to the Joint Research on NEA Environmental Cooperation Mechanism (at least as a back-to-back meeting)

## Session 3 ; Future Role of NEAC

### ● **Role / Expecting Outcome / Activities**

- Policy dialogue on common issues with several stakeholders?
- Comprehensive issues / specific issue
- Need specific actions / activities orientation, different from NEASPEC?