
**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Fourth Meeting of Science and Policy Committee
North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership

30 June 2022
Virtual meeting

**REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE SCIENCE AND POLICY
COMMITTEE OF NORTH-EAST ASIA CLEAN AIR PARTNERSHIP**

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Science and Policy Committee (SPC) of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP) was held virtually on 30 June 2022 and discussed the draft consultation points on the policy analysis report and policy dialogues and the voluntary collaboration on Best Available Techniques (BAT), and exchanged the views on the ideas of activities for 2024 and 2025.
2. The Meeting was attended by SPC members from China, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, as well as representatives of NEACAP Technical Centers (TC) from China, the Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation (Annex 1. List of Participants).
3. The Meeting was opened by Mr. Ganbold Baasanjav, Head of UNESCAP East and North-East Asia Office (ESCAP-ENEA). He expressed gratitude to the SPC members for coordinating the diverse interests of member States, ensuring the relevance and effectiveness of NEACAP work. He stressed the importance of strengthening collaboration in addressing air pollution in East and North-East Asia. In connection with the work of NEACAP, he also introduced the ongoing consultation process of ESCAP to adopt the Ministerial Declaration and the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution for the Asia-Pacific region during the Seventh Session of the Committee on Environment and Development to be held from 29 November to 1 December.
4. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure for the Science and Policy Committee of NEACAP, the Meeting elected the following SPC members as Chair and Vice-Chair of the fourth meeting of SPC (SPC-4):

Chair: Mr. Jingnan Hu
Director
Institute of Atmospheric Environment
Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences

Vice-Chair: Mr. Takashi Ohmura
Senior Fellow
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan

5. The Meeting adopted the provisional agenda without any amendment (Annex 2. Agenda).
6. After intensive discussions based on the consultation paper prepared by the secretariat, the Committee came to the following conclusions and recommendations.
7. The Committee noted that the secretariat, based on the conclusions and recommendations herein, will further develop the details of the activity plan with budget following the NEASPEC practice and that such activity plan and the conclusions and recommendations of the SPC-4 will be reported to member Governments at the NEASPEC 25th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-25) to be held in September 2022.
8. The Committee requested the secretariat to share the outcome and decision of the NEASPEC National Focal Points Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting with SPC members to consider the need for holding ad hoc meeting(s).

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9. The Committee provided the following advice and recommendations on the draft work plan for the policy analysis report and policy dialogues.
 - (a) The Committee reviewed the proposed outline of the report and advised to adjust the suggested timelines to secure at least six months for drafting by the established expert team nominated by member States and at least four months for reviewing by SPC members and member States of NEASPEC.
 - (b) Noting the concept note of the report has been approved by member States, the Committee recommended organizing the inception meeting after the nominations of national experts. The Committee advised the secretariat to provide more detailed information on expected roles and contributions by national experts to member States for reference for the nomination of national experts.

- (c) The Committee suggested organizing the first policy dialogue to review the draft policy analysis report inviting policymakers. If the draft report thereof is ready, the first policy dialogue can be organized in conjunction with the fifth meeting of the Science and Policy Committee (SPC-5) in 2023. The second policy dialogue would be organized in later 2023 or early 2024 depending on the progress of the report.
 - (d) The Committee advised that the launch of the finalized report, including the executive summary, be pursued in 2024, in conjunction with a major event in the region, such as the International Day of Clean Air for blue skies. The Committee also advised the secretariat to consider translating the executive summary for policymakers into the languages of member States.
10. The Committee provided the following advice and recommendations on the work plan for voluntary BAT collaboration.
- (a) The Committee reviewed the proposed outline of the BAT review paper. The Committee was informed of the plan to present the progress and preliminary findings of the draft paper at SOM-25 in 2022 and share them with SPC members for reference.
 - (b) The Committee also recommended that the draft paper be circulated for review by the SPC members and for review and approval by the NEASPEC member States and finalized in 2023.
 - (c) The Committee advised the secretariat to pay attention to keep the consistency between recommendations and suggestions of the policy analysis report and the BAT review paper.
11. The Committee provided the following suggestions on the activities for 2024-2025.
- (a) The Committee noted the secretariat's plan to organize technology forum(s) or workshop(s) in 2024 or 2025, based on the policy analysis report and BAT review paper, and including emerging technologies.
 - (b) The Committee recommended conducting the mid-term review of NEACAP in 2023.
 - (c) Noting paragraph 7 of the NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025¹, the Committee suggested the secretariat consider preparatory works such as a preliminary stock-taking study on potential priority areas for discussion at SPC-5.
12. The Committee suggested organizing the SPC-5 as a face-to-face meeting in Quarter 2 of 2023 to review the progress and discuss the activity plan for 2023 and 2024. The Committee proposed to organize a seminar in conjunction with the SPC-5 to provide learning opportunities for the SPC members.

¹ [NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025_0.pdf \(neaspec.org\)](https://neaspec.org/NEACAP%20Work%20Plan%202021-2025_0.pdf)

13. The Committee proposed an amendment of item 6.1 of the Rules of Procedure² for the Science and Policy Committee of the NEACAP on the rotation of the SPC chairpersonship, following the common practice of the Senior Officials Meeting of NEASPEC. The proposed amendment herein will be reported to SOM-25 for approval.

14. The Committee suggested the secretariat to further develop the budget plan of the planned activities for discussion and approval at the upcoming SOM-25 of NEASPEC.

15. The Committee noted a suggestion from SPC members to consider possible areas of collaboration with the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET).

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² [ROP_SPC.pdf \(neaspec.org\)](#)

Annex 1.



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Annotated Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

Opening and welcoming remarks will be delivered by the Head of the ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office, followed by the introduction of participating SPC and TC members.

2. Election of officers

A chair and a vice-chair will be elected. The Rules of the Procedure for the NEACAP Science and Policy Committee stipulate electing a chair and vice-chair at the commencement of each meeting, who will hold office until the next regular meeting and be eligible for reelection.

3. Adoption of agenda

The provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the meeting, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

4. Review of follow-ups on the outputs of NEACAP SPC-3

SPC-3 agreed that [output 1] policy analysis and policy dialogue would be implemented in a mutually supportive way. The “policy analysis report” is expected to be prepared in 2022 and published in 2023. It also agreed [output 2] on collaboration on technology components. A review paper will be produced as a reference for understanding current processes and voluntary cooperation on Best Available Techniques (BAT).

The SPC-4 will review and exchange views on (1) the policy analysis report and organization of the two policy dialogues, (2) the voluntary BAT collaboration, and (3) the work plan for 2024 and 2025.

5. Date and provisional agenda of the next regular SPC meeting or ad hoc meeting

The SPC members will discuss the tentative date and provisional agenda of the next regular meeting, held annually. SPC members could also consider holding ad hoc meetings if further discussions are required during the inter-sessional period.

6. Other issues

The SPC members may raise other issues not covered under the items mentioned above. Other participants may share their views and information relevant to the meeting and NEACAP.

7. Adoption of the meeting report

Due to the limited time of the virtual meeting, the summary of the discussions will be presented by the secretariat during the session. The meeting report will be prepared after the meeting and circulated to the SPC members for review and adoption.

8. Closing of the Meeting

Closing statements will be delivered by the Chair and the secretariat.

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