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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Fourth Meeting of NEACAP Science and Policy Committee

30 June 2022

Online

Consultation Paper on Policy & Technology Cooperation Activities of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership

Background

1. The [NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025](#), adopted at the SOM-24 in October 2020, provides a list of indicative activities on Policy and Technology Cooperation (PTC) (see Table 1 below). The SOM-24 agreed that the implementation of the Work Plan is further consulted among member States on the specific area and process of each activity.

Table 1 Priority area identified for NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025

Policy and technology cooperation	
Goals and Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange information on emissions control technologies and national policies in use and/or under-development, if available • Propose potential technical and policy measures to tackle air pollution through science-based, policy-oriented consultations, policy scenarios and information exchange among national scientists, experts, policy-and decision-makers of the member States
Indicative Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose potential technical and policy measures through sharing information and lessons learnt on relevant good environmental practices applied nationally • Organize policy dialogue for exchanging information and policy experience in collaboration with the relevant processes, such as the Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Air Pollution (TPDAP)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct policy analysis on air pollution management in support of policy dialogue and technology cooperation • Support voluntary collaboration among member States on the Best Available Techniques • Support technology forum on emerging technologies and deployment in priority areas such as transport, industry, and residential sectors
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2. Following the decision of the SOM-24, the third Meeting of NEACAP SPC (SPC-3)¹, held virtually in April 2021, agreed on
 - **“Output 1”:** Policy analysis and policy dialogue will be implemented in a mutually supportive way, with the outcome of a “policy analysis report”, which could be prepared by 2022 and published by 2023; and
 - **“Output 2”:** regarding collaboration on technology components, focusing on a review paper as a reference for understanding current processes and voluntary cooperation on Best Available Techniques (BAT).
3. National Focal Points (NFPs) Meeting of NEASPEC, held in May 2021, requested the secretariat to share a draft Expert Nomination Guideline for NEACAP Policy Analysis Report and draft Terms of References for an international consultant and national lead experts on the policy analysis with the member Governments.
4. The secretariat circulated the requested documents to NFPs and SPC members in July 2021. Then the secretariat consulted with member governments about expert nominations, proceeding in parallel with recruiting lead experts for two research projects on air pollution and Best Available Techniques (BAT).
5. The international consultants were hired from the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific, Asian Institute of Technology (RRCAP-AIT) for the BAT review, respectively, in accordance with the ESCAP Rules and Regulations.
6. As a follow-up on the request at the recent meeting of NEASPEC National Focal Points on 7 April 2022, the secretariat circulated two concept notes on policy analysis and review of Best Available Techniques (BAT) to NFPs for member governments’ review and comments.

¹ <https://www.neaspec.org/content/third-meeting-science-and-policy-committee-north-east-asia-clean-air-partnership>

Consultation points

7. Against this backdrop, the fourth SPC meeting is proposed to review and discuss the draft work plans 2022-2025 prepared by the Secretariat as attached (Annex I) and the draft concept notes (Annexes II and III).
8. The meeting is also expected to come up with detailed recommendations for the NEASPEC member States' consideration at the upcoming 25th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-25) of NEASPEC, scheduled on 20-21 September 2022.

Annex I: Draft Work Plan 2022-2025

A. Work Plan for Policy Analysis and Policy Dialogue (2022-2023)

Approach and modality

- **Policy analysis:** Focus on NEACAP priority air pollutants and review policy progress and challenges in each member State as reference for strengthening policy exchange and collaboration
- **Policy dialogue:** Be organized in a mutually supportive manner with policy analysis to provide input on the intermediary report and for finalizing the report.

Key Activities

- Organize an inception meeting
- Present the draft report at the 1st Policy Dialogue
- Present the final draft at the 2nd Policy Dialogue
- Launch the report and dissemination

Consultation points: the meeting will seek views from SPC members about the scope of the report as well as the time, modality, agenda, expected outcomes, etc., of planned activities. Specific consultation points of each activity are listed in table 2.

Table 2. Consultation points on Policy Analysis and Policy Dialogue (2022-2023)

	Activities	Consultation points
A.1	Concept notes of the study	See Annex 2.
A.2	Organization of an inception meeting	Time: Q4 2022, after nominations of national experts Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines (and early draft, if available) • Timelines • Inputs required by national experts • Consistency of the report • Coordination among authors Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert team (lead and national consultants) • Other experts Modality: on-line
A.3	Organization of the 1 st Policy Dialogue and presentation of the draft report	Date: Q1/Q2, 2023, in conjunction with SPC-5 Invitees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert team • SPC/TC members

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other experts (including experts from TPDAP) Modality: in-person (\$15,000) Expected outcomes: draft policy report is reviewed and comments received for revision
A.4	Organization of the 2 nd Policy Dialogue and presentation of the final draft	Date: Q2/Q3, 2023 Invitees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy makers nominated by member States • NEASPEC members • Expert team • Other experts Modality: in-person, in conjunction with SOM-26 (\$20,000) Expected outcomes/follow-ups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearance of the revised draft for finalization • Facilitate discussions of policy makers and experts
A.5	Launch and dissemination of the report	Publication in Q4, 2023 (Editing, Formatting/Designing) Printing of a summary for policy makers in Q4, 2023 Launch the report in conjunction with major events in Asia-Pacific (open for recommendations) Distribution through ESCAP, NEASPEC, SPC/TC channels

B. Work Plan for Voluntary BAT collaboration (2022-2023)

Approach and modality: Focus on the current processes among interested member States on the application of BAT approaches to policy and how to use and apply BAT approaches to policy

Key Activities

- Draft a BAT review study
- Present the draft study to member States
- Finalize the study
- Present the final draft at the 2nd Policy Dialogue
- Identify follow-up actions

Consultation points: the meeting will seek views from SPC members about specific consultation points of each activity which are listed in table 3.

Table 3. Consultation points on Voluntary BAT collaboration (2022-2023)

	Activities	Consultation points
B.1	Concept notes of the report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Annex 3.

B.2	Presentation of the report to the SOM-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised draft to be presented at SOM-25
B.3	Finalization of the report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication in Q1, 2023 (Editing, Formatting/Designing) as a NEASPEC reference report Printing of a summary for policy makers in Q1, 2023
B.4	Identification of follow-up actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to the 2nd Policy Dialogue in Q2/Q3, 2023

C. Work plan for 2024-2025

The meeting may wish to recommend further follow-ups of activities A and B. In this regard, SPC members may share their views on the activities proposed as follows:

- Recommend follow-up of activities A and B
- Conduct a mid-term review
- Facilitate discussions on potential priority areas in Category II

Table 4. Consultation points on Work plan (2024-2025)

	Activities	Consultation points
C.1	Follow-up of activities A and B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology Forum(s) / workshops based on the BAT report – to be organized jointly with TCs
C.2	Mid-term review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed that the mid-term review be conducted in 2023, as the implementation of activities has been delayed.
C.3	Discussion on Category II activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential priority area in Category II

Annex II. Concept Note: NEACAP Policy Analysis Report

Background

Based on the [NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025](#), adopted at the SOM-24 (October 2020), the third Meeting of [NEACAP Science and Policy Committee \(SPC-3\)](#), held virtually in April 2021, agreed on “**Output 1**”: **Policy analysis and policy dialogue will be implemented in a mutually supportive way, with the outcome of a “policy analysis report”, which could be prepared by 2022 and published by 2023.**

Following the outcome of SPC-3 and the NFP meeting subsequently organized in May 2021, a draft Expert Nomination Guideline for NEACAP Policy Analysis Report and draft TORs for an international consultant and national lead experts on the policy analysis were shared with the member Governments and SPC members in July 2021. Based on this, an international consultant was hired from the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in accordance with the ESCAP Rules and Regulations. The consultant is expected to lead the development of the Policy Analysis Report with the support of the nominated group of national experts providing national elements of the analysis.

Expected timeline (updated for consideration of SPC-4)

The expected timeline is updated below to reflect the delay in receiving nominations of national experts and to accommodate the review of draft concept notes by member governments.

- Draft concept shared to member Government and SPC members: late April 2022
- 4th SPC meeting to review the concept note: June 2022
- Nominations of national experts and inception meeting: Q3, 2022
- 1st draft report: Q3-Q4, 2022
- Review of the draft by member Governments, SPC members and experts: Q1, 2023
- Revision and finalization of the report: Q1/Q2 2023

Aim/Scope

The report aims to support the process of strengthening the policy exchange and collaboration between countries of North-East Asia and review policy progress as well as existing and emerging challenges in each country. The report shall consider the important national and regional conditions, including common and different elements.

The report will:

- **Focus on** NEACAP priority pollutants, including PM10, PM2.5, and ozone & their precursors;
- **Provide** a broad overview of air pollution, air quality trends, and air quality policies and legislation,
- **Review** development and progress in addressing air quality,
- **Review** the institutional capacity and effectiveness in the implementation of air pollution policies and legislation,
- **Identify** key success and emerging challenges, and

- **Discuss** opportunities and scope for further exchange and collaboration within the region.

Key methodological aspects

Based on inputs to be received by national experts identified by member States, the report will:

- **Analyze the official reporting** on the status and progress in implementation of air pollution/quality (key facts and figures based on the environmental assessment studies/reports)
- **Analyze the national environmental policy** (and science-policy) setting
- **Conduct an overview** (rather than a review, since the goal is to identify key *high-level science findings supporting* the assessment of and future scope for air quality policy) **of the available science literature** (focus on North-East Asia)
- **Discuss the way forward** (Joint analysis of how a regional collaboration framework could be strengthened involving science in support of the policy process)

Draft table of contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	X
1. Background and Scope	X
2. Overview of air pollution and air quality trends.....	X
2.1 National and regional review	X
2.2 Air quality monitoring networks	X
2.3 Remote sensing and modelling	X
2.4 Science assessments, including impacts	X
3. Regulations and policies	X
3.1 National regulations and policies.....	X
3.2 Institutional capacity	X
3.3 Effectiveness and enforcement	X
4. Identification of successes and challenges	X
4.1 Lessons and good practices	X
4.2 Barriers to implementation of policies	X
4.3 Attaining WHO air quality guidelines and SDGs.....	X
5. Policy recommendations	X
5.1 Linkages between air quality, development, and climate policies	X
5.2 National and regional aspects	X
5.3 Learning from successful regional collaboration	X
5.4 Scope and benefit of collaboration and role of science	X
6. Summary and conclusions	X
References	

* The listed elements of the table contents (from point 2) can also be addressed country by country - subject to discussion during the project's inception phase in consultation with the nominated national experts.

Annex III – Concept Note: NEACAP Review Paper on Best Available Techniques (BAT) for Air Pollution Control and Management Policies in North-East Asia

Background

Member States adopted the [NEACAP Work Plan 2021-2025](#) at the SOM-24 held virtually in October 2020. The Work Plan provides a list of indicative activities on Policy and Technology Cooperation (PTC), including (d) supporting voluntary collaboration on the Best Available Techniques. The SOM-24 also agreed that the implementation of the Work Plan is further consulted among member States on the specific area and process of each activity.

Following the decision, the Third Meeting of [NEACAP Science and Policy Committee \(SPC-3\)](#), held virtually in April 2021, agreed on **“Output 2” regarding collaboration on technology components, focusing on a review paper as a reference for understanding current processes and voluntary cooperation on Best Available Techniques (BAT).**

Follow-up to SPC-3 and Activity Implementation

The Secretariat made the job opening announcement of the international consultant during September-November 2021 and hired one expert from the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific, Asian Institute of Technology (RRCAP-AIT), for the BAT review in accordance with the ESCAP Rules and Regulations on consultants. As a senior researcher of the institution that facilitates various international research projects, the expert is expected to bring a great wealth of knowledge and experience to the planned work.

Expected timeline (updated for consideration of SPC-4)

4 th week of April	Concept note circulation to the member governments
June (TBC)	Review of the concept note by SPC members during the 4 th SPC meeting
July	First draft submission to member governments and Science and Policy Committee (SPC) members
20-21 September	Submission of the revised draft to member governments and presentation of the report at the 25 th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-25)
October-November	Finalization of the report

Draft Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	X
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2.1 Overview of national regulations and policies	X
2.2 National processes and approaches of specifying and establishing BATs.....	X
2.3 Approaches for evaluating the effectiveness of BATs	X
2.4 Examples of BAT implementation	X
2.5 Key BATs deployment transport, industry and residential Sectors	X
2.6 References	X
3. JAPAN.....	X
3.1 Overview of national regulations and policies	X
3.2 National processes and approaches of specifying and establishing BATs.....	X
3.3 Approaches for evaluating the effectiveness of BATs	X
3.4 Examples of BAT implementation	X
3.5 Key BATs deployment transport, industry and residential Sectors	X
3.6 References	X
4. MONGOLIA,.....	X
4.1 Overview of national regulations and policies	X
4.2 National processes and approaches of specifying and establishing BATs.....	X
4.3 Approaches for evaluating the effectiveness of BATs	X
4.4 Examples of BAT implementation	X
4.5 Key BATs deployment transport, industry and residential Sectors	X
4.6 References	X
5. REPUBLIC OF KOREA,.....	X
5.1 Overview of national regulations and policies	X
5.2 National processes and approaches of specifying and establishing BATs.....	X
5.3 Approaches for evaluating the effectiveness of BATs	X
5.4 Examples of BAT implementation	X
5.5 Key BATs deployment transport, industry and residential Sectors	X
5.6 References	X
6. RUSSIAN FEDERATION	X
6.1 Overview of national regulations and policies	X
6.2 National processes and approaches of specifying and establishing BATs.....	X
6.3 Approaches for evaluating the effectiveness of BATs	X
6.4 Examples of BAT implementation	X
6.5 Key BATs deployment transport, industry and residential Sectors	X
6.6 References	X
7. SUGGESTIONS ON SUBREGIONAL COOPERATION	X