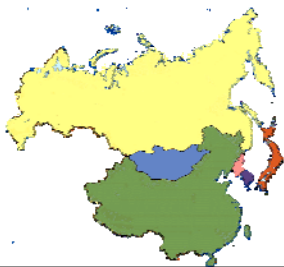


NEW ARRANGEMENTS OF NEASPEC SECRETARIAT

The 13th SOM of NEASPEC



UNESCAP



1

The Framework of NEASPEC

Goal

- Promote efforts for sustainable development through sub-regional cooperation, and enhance the capacity of member countries in environmental management.

Governing Body and Coordination

- Senior Officials Meeting as governing body.
- National Focal Points for activity coordination.

Secretariat

- ESCAP during interim period pending the final decision.

Financial Mechanism

- Contributions from member countries, donor agencies, private sector, etc.

2



Continuing Discussions for Institutional Development



- **5th SOM:** “Options for Institutional and Financial Mechanisms for NEASPEC.”
- **6th SOM:** “Institutional and Financial Arrangements for the NEASPEC”.
- **7th SOM:** “Proposal for the Establishment of the Secretariat and the Financial Mechanism for its Operation”.
- **8th SOM:** “Report of the Workshop on Environmental Cooperation in North-East Asia”.
- **9th SOM and 10th SOM:** NEASPEC ministers’ meeting.
- **11th SOM:** Outcomes of the NEASPEC ministers’ meeting.
- **12th SOM:** A Proposal for establishing and hosting the NEASPEC Secretariat

3

Summary of Discussions(1)



- SOMs have reviewed potential options for the further development of institutional and financial mechanisms.
- The options include a ministerial meeting or ensuring the participation of fairly senior level officials for SOM, and an independent secretariat, i.e. **Rotating Secretariat, Interim Secretariat and Programme Secretariat.**
- SOMs have also reviewed need for creating the NEASPEC Trust Fund.

4

Summary of Discussions(2)



- While member countries have requested ESCAP to continue its secretariat role, the need for creating an independent secretariat has been positively perceived since the 8th SOM.
- But discussions of the 12th SOM on the ROK proposal for establishing and hosting the NEASPEC Secretariat did not reach a consensus.

5

Need for a New Arrangement of NEASPEC Secretariat



- Most subregional environmental programmes: Operate programme secretariat and have the strong ownership of member countries. Such programmes include SPREP, SACEP and ASEAN.
- NEASPEC countries clearly understand the interim nature of the current secretariat arrangement.
- ESCAP as a regional commission may not be appropriate to serve only for one subregion for an unlimited period.
- The potential of NEASPEC has not been fully utilized due to limited human and financial resources

6

Issues for Consideration



- Agree on a new secretariat arrangement and decide upon a further consultation process for developing a detailed plan of the arrangement.
- Receive statements of member countries on the strategic directions of NEASPEC focusing on its role in addressing subregional environmental challenges, new programme areas and implementation modalities.
- Decide upon an appropriate procedure for preparing an ESCAP resolution on NEASPEC for its adoption at the 64th Commission Session in 2008.