



Meeting of NEASPEC National Focal Points

Briefings about SOM-25

NEASPEC Secretariat

2 September 2022

Item 5 (a) Air Pollution

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Outcome of NEACAP SPC-4 (Virtual, 30 June 2022)

- **Draft workplan for the policy analysis report and policy dialogues – timeline adjusted**
 - ✓ **1st Policy Dialogue** to review the draft report in conjunction with the **5th SPC meeting in 2023**
 - ✓ **2nd Policy Dialogue in later 2023 or early 2024** depending on the progress of the report.
 - ✓ **launching the finalized report**, including the executive summary, **be pursued in 2024**, in conjunction with a major event in the region.

- **Workplan for voluntary BAT collaboration**
 - ✓ present the progress and **preliminary findings** of the draft BAT review paper at **the SOM-25 in 2022**
 - ✓ **Circulate the draft paper for review by the SPC members and for review and approval by the NEASPEC member States and finalized in 2023.**

- **Activities for 2024-2025**
 - ✓ Reviewed the plan presented by Secretariat including **technology forum(s) or workshop(s) in 2024 or 2025 and mid-term review of NEACAP in 2023**

- **Other issues**
 - ✓ Proposed an **amendment of item 6.1 of the Rules and Procedures** 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

Item 5 (a) Air Pollution

Issues for consideration

- **The Meeting may wish to request MS the following:**
 - Complete the nomination of national experts for the NECAP policy analysis, if not yet done;
 - Provide continued support and guidance on the work of NEACAP
 - Support collaboration between NEACAP and relevant mechanisms and announce their intended contributions to the work of NEACAP, and request CJK to support linking the policy dialogue with TPDAP; and
 - Consider hosting the next NEACAP SPC meeting, Policy Dialogues and other meetings concerning activities in the Work Plan.

Item 5 (a) Air Pollution

Issues for consideration

- **The Meeting may wish to review and approve the proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedures of the NEACAP SPC (Annex III)**

6.1 At the commencement of each meeting, the Committee will elect a chair and vice-chair. *In accordance with the common practice of the Senior Officials Meeting of NEASPEC, a chair will be elected from the host government of the SOM of the meeting year, and the chair of the last meeting will be elected as a vice-chair.* The chair and vice-chair will hold office until the next regular meeting ~~and be eligible for re-election.~~

- **The proposed activity plan for 2022-2023 (Annex IV).**
 - Organization of an inception meeting (for policy analysis report) (Q4, 2022)
 - Organization of the 1st Policy Dialogue (Q2, 2023)
 - Organization of the 2nd Policy Dialogue (Q4, 2023)
 - Preliminary stock-taking study on potential priority areas (Q1-2, 2023)
 - Review of the draft (Q3/Q4, 2022)
 - Finalization of the paper (Q1, 2023)
 - Organization of the 5th SPC (Q2, 2023)
 - Mid-term review of NEACAP Work Plan (2023)

Item 5 (b) Biodiversity and nature conservation

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Progress

■ Conservation of Big Feline Species

- ✓ **Ongoing implementation** of Project “*Transboundary cooperation on the conservation of Amur tigers, Amur leopards and Snow leopards in North-East Asia*”
 - ✓ (1) Transboundary cooperation between the Northeast Tiger and Leopard National Park (China) and the Land of the Leopard National Park (Russian Federation) to conserve Amur tigers and leopards – ongoing (by end 2023)
 - ✓ (2) Transboundary cooperation between neighboring protected areas in Lesser Khingan Mountains to conserve Amur tigers – completed
 - ✓ (3) Assessment of the current status of two snow leopard subpopulations in the Transboundary area between Mongolia and the Russian Federation - completed
- ✓ **Project review workshop** (Virtual, October 2021)
- ✓ **(New) Project on snow leopards** as a follow-up to (3) above, to continue the field survey and joint analysis in expanded areas along the Mongolia-Russian border – ongoing (August 2022 – November 2023)

■ Conservation of Migratory Birds and Habitats

- ✓ **Final draft of the study project**, “*Transboundary cooperation among protected wetlands in the Tumen River Estuary*”, which recommends an urgent need to establish a transboundary conservation mechanism and develop tangible plans and activities
- ✓ **(New) Project on connectivity conservation of key migratory birds in North-East Asia** to promote connectivity conservation focusing on NEASPEC key migratory birds and their habitats - ad-hoc approval (May 2022)

Item 5(b) Biodiversity and nature conservation

Issues for consideration

- **The Meeting may wish to request MS the following:**
 - Provide their views on the ongoing and new activities and share information of relevant bilateral and multilateral processes pertaining to the conservation of tigers and leopards;
 - Indicate their interest and plan for intergovernmental consultation on institutionalizing the transboundary cooperation in the Tumen River estuary;
 - Indicate their intended contributions to a new project and other relevant activities.
- **The proposed activity plan for 2022-2023 (Annex II)**
 - Project, “Transboundary cooperation on the conservation of Amur tigers, Amur leopards and Snow leopards in NEA” (Q3, 2022 – Q1, 2023)
 - Project, “Evaluation of the current status of transboundary snow leopard subpopulations in the border area between Mongolia and the Russian Federation (Q3, 2022-Q4, 2023)
 - Project, “Connectivity conservation of key migratory birds in NEA” (tentatively from 2023)

Item 5 (c) Marine protected area

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Progress

- **Publication “Management plans, monitoring and assessment of marine protected areas”**
 - ✓ Analyzed the environmental and socio-economic status of the NEAMPAN sites and their connections to the management plans and strategies
 - ✓ Translated into Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian for wider distribution
- **NEAMPAN workshop (July 2021)**
 - ✓ Shared (1) key findings from the NEAMPAN study project and (2) experiences and lessons learned on sustainable MPA management from NEAMPAN sites
 - ✓ Simultaneous interpretation into Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian
- **NEAMPAN Webinar on Climate Change and MPAs (July 2022)**
 - ✓ Discussed interlinkages of climate change impact and the roles of MPAs
- **Steering Committee Meetings**
 - ✓ **3rd meeting** (April 2021)
 - ✓ mainly discussed the plan of NEAMPAN workshop 2021
 - ✓ SC’s advice to raise awareness of NEAMPAN and increase its activities for visibility
 - ✓ **4th meeting** (July 2022)
 - ✓ SC’s support to (1) workshops for MPA managers, (2) webinars on the Post-2020 GBF and sustainable management of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and (3) new study on climate change impacts and MPAs

Item 5(c) Marine protected area

Issues for consideration

- **The Meeting may wish to request MS the following:**
 - Propose NEAMPAN activities which are in line with the scope of the Network;
 - Indicate their interest in hosting or jointly organizing MPA-related activities; and
 - Take the continuity and familiarity of NEASPEC Steering Committee members into consideration when replacing the members.
- **The Meeting may wish to reiterate its encouragement for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to participate in NEAMPAN activities** by nominating Steering Committee members, nominating MPA sites, and/or participating in the NEAMPAN Workshops.
- **The Meeting may wish to review and approve the proposed activity plan for 2022-2023 (Annex III)**
 - Organization of a NEAMPAN workshop (Q2/Q3, 2023)
 - Organization of a NEAMPAN webinar(s) (Q2/Q3, 2023)
 - Study on climate change impacts and MPAs (Q1-Q4, 2023)

Item 5 (d) Low carbon cities

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Progress

- **Project “Leveraging Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for Low Carbon and Resilient Cities”**

- ✓ **Needs assessment** of Mongolian and the Russian Federation
- ✓ Selection of suitable cases based on the assessment results and development of **training materials**
- ✓ **Knowledge sharing** and
- ✓ **Capacity building**

- **International Forum on Low Carbon Cities**

- ✓ Online, 23-24 November 2021
- ✓ Joined by 350 participants
- ✓ Shared 20 best practices in areas of (1) climate action planning, (2) energy and building, (3) mobility and infrastructure, (4) green finance and (5) stakeholder engagement in climate action

- **Training workshop on STI for Low Carbon and Resilient Cities**

- ✓ Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia/ Hybrid/ 16-17 Dec 2021
- ✓ Joined by 80 local trainees from relevant ministries and departments and local districts in major cities in Mongolia, and diverse stakeholders
- ✓ Shared good practices in different sectors for advancing sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies through STI application, responding to the priority needs of trainees

Item 5(d) Low carbon cities

Issues for consideration

- **The Meeting may wish to request member States the following:**
 - Guide and express their views on the activities in the coming years;
 - Propose activities that can be initiated by their cities and institutions;
 - Suggest good practices to be presented at the 2nd International LCC Forum and cities to be invited; and
 - Support the activities of NEA-LCCP, including through rendering additional resources and proposing potential projects.
- **The Meeting may wish to review and approve the proposed activity plan (Annex IV).**
 - Organization of the 2nd International Forum on LCC (Q4, 2022)
 - Organization of the 3rd International Forum on LCC (Q4, 2023)
 - Compiling of best practices (Q1-3, 2023)
 - Organization of a capacity-building workshop (Q3/4, 2023)
 - Dissemination of the compendium of best practices (Q3/4, 2023)

Item 5(e) Desertification and Land Degradation

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- **The stock-taking study on the interlinkage of DLD and climate change**

- a. Examined the existing scientific assessment on carbon emissions from land use change and management in North-East Asia
- b. Reviewed main assessment results based on different methodologies
- c. Identified gaps in the assessments, policy implications for mitigating carbon emissions and areas for collaborative work within scientific community and between countries
- d. Suggested recommendations for subregional approach

- **The study on climate change and desertification, land degradation and drought in North-East Asia**

- a. Secretariat worked with ESCAP ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division (IDD) to assess desertification, land degradation and drought risks, and studied their potential socio-economic impacts in North-East Asia
- b. Highlighted the need (a) to learn and understand the nature, extent, and magnitude of the risk and the vulnerability of the society, the environment and the economy, (b) build resilience and (c) develop long term proactive measures
- c. Proposed intergovernmental cooperation measures

- **Consultation meeting with the DLDD-NEAN Secretariat on 10 June 2022**

DLDD-NEAN Secretariat recommended that NEASPEC focus on addressing DLD issues in connection to other related sectors (tackling the potential causes of DLD), such as water resources management, agriculture, animal husbandry, energy, etc., while DLDD-NEAN addresses DLDD issues within the forestry sector.

Item 5(e) Desertification and Land Degradation

Issues for consideration

- The Meeting may wish to invite member States to **provide guidance on developing a subregional approach of NEASPEC to address desertification and land degradation in connection with climate change.**
- **The Meeting may wish to review and approve the proposed activity plan for 2022-2023 (Annex IV).**
 - Organization of an expert group meeting (Q4, 2022)
 - Organization of a stakeholder consultation meeting (Q1/2, 2023)
 - Development of a work plan for 2024-2025

Item 6 Renewed commitments to NEASPEC

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Background

- NEASPEC independent evaluation (2020) recommended updating NEASPEC's long-term vision, mission and goals to align NEASPEC with the ambition and intention of its member States.
- SOM-24 decided to hold a National Focal Point meeting to develop and agree on an implementation plan for addressing the evaluation recommendations.
- The NFP meeting (May 2021) generally agreed to develop a renewed commitment document, while the necessity would be further reviewed and decided by the SOM-25.
- The SOM-25 is expected to decide on the necessity of adopting a renewed commitment document and agree on the structure, key elements and timeline of such document if the SOM agrees to proceed.

Item 7 Review of the Core Fund and Project-based Fund

Item 7. Review of the Core Fund and Project-based Fund

Issues for consideration

- The Meeting may wish to express its appreciation to the member States that provided financial contributions to the Core Fund and project-based fund and encourage other member States to make similar contributions.
- The Meeting may wish to request member States to announce their intended financial and in-kind contributions to the implementation of programmes and activities.
- The Meeting may wish to **accept the financial report and approve the proposed revised budget plan for the project period of 2021-2025 (table 4).**

Table 4. Proposed Revised Budget 2021-2025

(In US Dollars)

Descriptions	Budget 2021-2025	Change (+/-)	Revised Budget 2021-2025
Staff and other personnel costs	804,850	0	804,850
Contractual services	42,000	+90,000	132,000
Operating expenses	1,500	+82,200	83,700
Supplies and materials	0	+2,500	2,500
Equipment and furniture	4,500	0	4,500
Transfers and grants	110,000	0	110,000
Travel	718,500	-174,700	543,800
Sub-total	1,681,350	0	1,681,350
Programme support costs (13%)	218,576	0	218,576
TOTAL	1,899,926	0	1,899,926



THANK YOU!

NEASPEC Secretariat