



**Expert Consultation Meeting (ECM) on
Environmental challenges related to transboundary marine pollution
27-28 June 2012, Seoul, Republic of Korea**

Provisional Programme

I. Introduction

The Expert Consultation Meeting will be organized by the UNESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia jointly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea on 27-28 June 2012 in Seoul. The Meeting will be convened primarily to discuss the project proposal of the Republic of Korea on “Strengthening Subregional Cooperation to Address Environmental Challenges related to Transboundary Marine Pollution”.

The initial proposal was presented by the Republic of Korea at the sixteenth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-16) of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC). In this regard, the SOM supported the proposal of the Republic of Korea to convene an Expert Consultation Meeting to further elaborate the project proposal for decision at SOM-17 to be held in China in October 2012.

In connection with this, the Expert Consultation Meeting is expected to facilitate exchange of views and ideas among national experts and other involved stakeholders on the scope of the proposal, possible modality of its implementation and required partnerships with relevant organizations working in the field of transboundary marine pollution in North-East Asia. The outcomes of the discussions of the ECM will contribute to finalization of the detailed project proposal to be presented for possible adoption by SOM-17.

II. Provisional Programme

1 st day: 27 June 2012	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Session

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome address and opening speech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>UN ESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia</i> ○ <i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea</i> • Introduction to goals and objectives of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Secretariat of NEASPEC</i>
9:30 - 11:00	<p>Session 1: Overview of national policies and activities in the field of prevention and management of marine pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentations by national experts from China, Japan, Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation
11:00 - 11:30	Tea Break
11:30 - 12:30	<p>Session 1: continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion and exchange of ideas and views on national policies and regulations, main challenges facing member States in protecting marine environment and needs for capacity building and technical assistance
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	<p>Session 2: Overview of current regional and subregional programs and initiatives for addressing transboundary marine pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentations by officials of relevant multilateral mechanisms and programs, representatives of civil society organizations and resource persons, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNEP Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) and its Regional Activity Centers - Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) - Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project (YSLME), Outcomes of Phase I
15:30-16:00	Tea Break
16:00-17:00	<p>Session 3: Environmental challenges related to transboundary marine pollution in North-East Asia and ways to strengthen multilateral cooperation in the subregion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation of the detailed project proposal by the Republic of Korea

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentations by partner organizations on existing gaps and opportunities of strengthening multilateral cooperation
17:00 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day
2nd day: 28 June 2012	
09:00 – 10:00	<p>Session 4: Areas of NEASPEC action on marine environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion and exchange of ideas and views on existing gaps in multilateral cooperation in North-East Asia and identification of possible areas for joint subregional activities within the frames of NEASPEC
10:00 – 10:30	Tea Break
10:30 – 12:30	<p>Session 4: continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The participants will work together on finalization of the main scope and modalities of the proposed project with a view of proposing a preliminary work plan for the proposal and identify roles and responsibilities of partner organizations ○ It is expected that the participants will agree on a set of possible recommendations for further action in this regard for SOM-17 to be held in China in October 2012, including defining the role of NEASPEC in the project
12:30 – 13:00	Wrap-up and way forward
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch