



**Expert Consultation Meeting on Transboundary Air Pollution in North-East Asia
9-10 July 2012, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation**

CONCEPT NOTE

I. Background and objectives

The Expert Consultation Meeting on Transboundary Air Pollution in North-East Asia is organized jointly by the UNESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia (SRO-ENEA)¹ and the Scientific Research Institute (SRI) "Atmosphere" on 9-10 July in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation.

Following the decision of the 16th Senior Officials Meeting of NEASPEC (1-2 September 2011, Seoul), SRO-ENEA implements the project on the "Review of existing and required capacities for addressing adverse environmental impact of transboundary air pollution in North-East Asia" initiated and funded by the Russian Federation. The project activities include joint work of the national implementing agency in the Russian Federation – SRI "Atmosphere" and national experts from other subregional member States on providing a comprehensive overview of the existing subregional/regional mechanisms in North-East Asia, identifying existing gaps, and formulating options for improvement of multilateral cooperation on transboundary air pollution.

The Expert Consultation Meeting is expected to review the draft reports submitted by the national consultants to the secretariat with a view of finalizing the joint project report containing common recommendations for the attention of the 17th Senior Official Meeting of NEASPEC to be held in October 2012 in China. Moreover, the meeting is expected to contribute to better understanding of other member States on the role of Russian institutions in international cooperation on transboundary air pollution, in particular, under the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP), to further enrich discussions on formulating a new platform of subregional cooperation in North-East Asia.

¹ Since 2010 SRO-ENEA serves as a secretariat of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC). For details see www.neaspec.org

II. Preliminary Programme

1 st day: 9 July 2012	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration (in front of the meeting room)
9:00 – 9:30	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome address and opening speech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Director, UN ESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia</i> ○ <i>Mr. Andrey Nedre, Director General, Scientific Research Institute for Atmospheric Air Protection, JSC (SRI Atmosphere, JSC), St.Petersburg, Russian Federation</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 the current activities and future plans of the major subregional/regional scientific frameworks on transboundary air pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentations of reports by national experts from member States: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>China, Dr. MENG Fan, Senior Research Fellow, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES)</i> - <i>Japan, Dr. Jiro SATO, Assistant Deputy Director General, Asia Center for Air Pollution Research (ACAP)</i> - <i>Transboundary air pollution in case of Mongolia, Dr. Erdenebat ELDEVOCHIR, Director for International Cooperation, National Agency for Meteorology and Environment Monitoring of Mongolia</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Tea Break
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Session 1: continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Republic of Korea, Dr. Lim-Seok CHANG, Senior Researcher, Air Quality Research Division, National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER)</i> - <i>Russian Federation, Ms. Kristina Volkova, SRI Atmosphere, St. Petersburg</i> <p>Discussion: The meeting participants will share the views and ideas on the presented reports/presentations and provide their additions/comments</p>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch

14:00 – 15:30	<p>Session 2: Overview of cooperation of the Russian Federation with the UNECE LRTAP Convention: Lessons for the North-East Asian subregion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Russian experience within the UNECE Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention: Bridging policy with science for effective mitigation of transboundary air pollution, <i>Ms. Kristina Volkova, SRI Atmosphere, St. Petersburg</i> - Modeling of transboundary air pollution within CLRTAP and the role of EMEP, <i>Dr. Victor Shatalov, Senior Scientist, Meteorological Synthesizing Center-East, Moscow</i>
15:30-16:00	Tea Break
16:00-17:00	<p>Session 3: Recent developments and emerging issues in multilateral cooperation on transboundary air pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Revised Gothenburg Protocol to CLRTAP: Implications and lessons for North-East Asia, <i>Mr. Krzysztof OLENDRZYNSKI, CLRTAP Secretariat</i> o Black carbon and its adverse effects on human health: subregional perspective: <i>discussion by all participants</i> o Ground-level ozone and its adverse effects on crops and vegetation: status in North-East Asia: <i>discussion by all participants</i>
17:00 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day
Dinner	Details to be announced by secretariat
2nd day: 10 July 2012	
09:00 – 10:00	<p>Session 4: Institutional and knowledge gaps in subregional/regional frameworks and relevant needs and priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The meeting participants will discuss the existing gaps in subregional cooperation based on the reports submitted by national consultants. They will highlight common priorities for future improvement
10:00 – 10:30	Tea Break
10:30 – 12:30	<p>Session 5: Options for a strengthened subregional framework on transboundary air pollution in North-East Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The participants will work together on finalization of the options for strengthening the existing level of cooperation on transboundary air pollution in North-East Asia, including suggestions on how to improve the link between scientific

	research and policy-making <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ It is expected that the participants will agree on common recommendations for possible future action that will be included in the final project report to be submitted to NEASPEC SOM-17 to be held in China in October 2012
12:30 - 13:00	Wrap-up and way forward
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch