



POP_s Action In China

OFFICE OF NATIONAL COORDINATION GROUP FOR STOCKHOLM CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION

Convention Implementation

FECO DG Wen Wurui Meets with UNDP Officials

Mr. Wen Wurui, Director General of Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection (FECO/MEP) met with Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd, director of Environment and Energy Department of UNDP and Mr. Subinay Nandy, country director of UNDP China Office, and other 4 UNDP officials on November 25th, 2008. The two parties exchanged views on cooperation in implementing environmental conventions and made fruitful discussions.

Mr. Wen expressed his gratitude for UNDP's support and contribution to China's implementation of the Montreal Protocol, the Stockholm Convention and the Biodiversity Convention, and hoped to further strengthen and expand the current cooperation. In the implementation of the Stockholm Convention, UNDP assisted China in the development and implementation of the two POP_s

Pesticide phase-out projects, and has contributed to achieving China's objective of POP_s Pesticide phase-out. Mr. Wen also expressed his expectations for UNDP's accelerated implementation of projects, more flexible approaches in project management, and more active role in acquiring funding for China's Convention implementation.

Ms. Vandeweerd expressed her appreciation for the ongoing cooperation between UNDP and FECO/MEP and its achievements, and suggested that the two parties should work closely to formulate action plans to solve existing problems with practical approaches. She also recommended dispatching UNDP officials in charge of biodiversity, chemical management, environmental financing and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) to Beijing, to formulate strategic long-term cooperation plans. Mr. Wen expressed his interest in the above suggestions, and expected both parties can explore new cooperation in the field

of environmental management, environmental financing, climate change and technology transfer.

Mr. Nandy expressed his confidence and expectation in future cooperation, and promised to provide the utmost flexibility within his capacity to project implementation, and suggested a quarterly meeting mechanism with Mr. Wen to discuss the details of project implementation. Mr. Wen agreed with the UNDP's suggestions on improved and strengthened cooperation.

FECO DG Wen Wurui Meets with UNIDO Official

On December, 10th, 2008, Mr. Wen Wurui, Director General of FECO/MEP

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met with Mr. Mohamed Eisa, Deputy Director of UNIDO's Environmental Management Department, who was invited to the 2008 annual Forum meeting of Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practices (BAT/BEP) in East and Southeast Asia. The two sides exchanged views on the cooperation on POPs projects, specifically in the two fields of technology transfer and POPs contaminated sites, and reached agreements on preliminary preparation. The two sides also agreed to start the preparation for dioxin reduction in municipal waste treatment in 2009.

Mr. Yu Lifeng, the Chief Financial Official of FECO/MEP, was present at the meetings.

Technology Coordination Group Meeting under the Capacity Building Project of China's Stockholm Convention Implementation Held in Beijing

The Technology Coordination Group (TCG) Meeting under the capacity building project of China's Stockholm Convention Implementation was held jointly by FECO and UNIDO in Beijing on December 8th, 2008. In the



meeting, the progress and achievements of capacity building efforts in a number of countries were reported, the hot issues and counter measures for Convention Implementation were discussed, and extensive international cooperation in POPs reduction and control was explored.

The TCG mechanism started during the formulation of China's National Implementation Plan of Stockholm Convention (NIP). Since 2004, China has organized 5 TCG meetings for NIP formulation. During the meetings, timely reports were made on the progress of NIP formulation and efforts on POPs Convention by the international agencies in China were coordinated. Comments and suggestions on NIP from all stakeholders were provided, and the image of a responsible and open-minded country was conveyed to the international community. In fact, the TCG meeting is rather a big event for China's implementation of the Stockholm Convention than pure technical discussions. It is an important platform for interaction, experience sharing and cooperation among countries.

The TCG-6 is the first meeting after China's NIP has entered implementation stage, and has the largest number of participating countries ever. Up to 130 delegates and



experts from international agencies including the Stockholm Convention Secretariat, UNIDO, the World Bank, UNITAR, 12 countries including the United States, Italy, Norway, Sweden, India, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Mongolia and Laos, member ministries from China's Stockholm Convention Coordination Group including MEP, MOFA, MOST, MOF, MOA, MOH, Hong Kong and Macau SAR, the local government from Beijing, Liaoning, Heilongjiang, Shanghai, Zhejiang, Anhui, Shandong, Hunan, Guangdong, Chongqing and Shaanxi, relevant research institutes, industrial associations and enterprises took part in the meeting.

Four topics were covered in this meeting--capacity building, global actions on POPs, candidate POPs and technology transfer. The delegates were briefed on China's progress and achievements in capacity building, the delegates from Hong Kong and Macau SAR shared their experiences in capacity building, different countries and international agencies made thorough discussions on their respective efforts and POPs actions. Extensive discussions were made on some remarkable topics including candidate POPs, technology assistance and transfer mechanism. The meeting achieved its desired

results and its success has played a significant role in further strengthening the capacity building and facilitating the effective implementation of NIP.

As the Convention implementation efforts deepens, China has gradually made some major breakthroughs and achievements in the fields of environmental sound and cost-effective alternatives/alternative technologies, reduction techniques, treatment and disposal technologies. Some developing countries at the meeting expressed their willingness in cooperation with China in these fields.

***Talks on Cooperation within
GEF 5th Replenishment
Period Held Between FECO
and UNDP***

Mr. Yu Lifeng, Deputy Director General of CIO/MEP and Chief Financial Officer of FECO/MEP met with the UNDP delegation led by Suely M. Carvalho, and exchanged views on cooperation within the Global Environment Fund (GEF) 5th replenishment period on December 11th, 2008,.

According to Ms. Suely, GEF plans to fund candidate POPs projects within the 5th replenishment period to assist developing countries and countries with economy in transition in survey and evaluation of the basic status of candidate POPs, and strengthening of their management capacity. UNDP hopes to support China in candidate POPs projects by acquiring bilateral and GEF fund considering its technological advantages in chemicals management, especially in PFOS and

Brominated compounds.

Mr. Yu expressed his appreciation to UNDP for the long-term support and assistance in China's POPs Convention Implementation, and hopes that UNDP makes full use of its advantages and provide support to China's convention implementation through various financial sources, and also agreed that candidate POPs would be the focus in future cooperation.

***POPs Projects in National
Key Technology R&D
Program under the Eleventh
Five Year Plan Launched***

The launching conference and implementation plan review meeting of the Research and Demonstration Project on Key Technologies of POPs Control and Reduction under National Key Technology R&D Program in the Eleventh Five Year Plan were held on December, 31th, 2008.

Relevant officials from MOST were present at the meeting and delivered speeches, in which they put forth clear requirements for the implementation of the project. The principals of the 7 projects reported on their implementation

plans. Delegates from National Natural Science Foundation of China, China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research, China Iron & Steel Association, FECO/MEP and

experts present at the meeting commented on the project implementation plans. They agreed that the implementation of the project will improve China's POPs pollution control technologies and provide technological support to China's implementation of the POPs Convention.

The project mainly aims at addressing key technology barriers in China's POPs convention implementation, and providing technological support to POPs Convention implementation and POPs reduction in key industries through POPs pollution control technology integration and corresponding engineering demonstration. The project cycle is 4 years, with the following 7 components, 1) Identification technology and catalogue formulation for national prioritized POPs control; (2) Technologies R&D of POPs body load and health effect assessment; (3) Development of POPs Reduction and alternative generic technologies; (4) Development of complete set of technology and equipment for preventing dioxin production in Municipal/medical waste incineration; (5) Technological development and engineering



demonstration for dioxin pollutants control in steel and iron industry; (6) Engineering technologies and its demonstration of POPs pollutants reduction in wastewater from dye and coking industries; (7) Research on POPs pollution control synergy

effect technologies, together with their standards and codes. The project is led by Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), and jointly undertaken by Dalian Institute of

Chemical Physics of CAS, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Zhejiang University, China Sciences Group and Shanghai Baosteel.

Project Progress

Communication on POPs Convention Implementation of DPRK Project Held in Shanghai

In response to the directions made during the Sino-German Conference of Environment Ministers held in early 2008, the communication meeting of the cooperation project among China, Germany and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for convention implementation was held by UNITAR in Shanghai on November 24th-25th, 2008. A total of 20 delegates from the Stockholm Convention Secretariat, UNIDO

and other international agencies, DPRK, Germany, Swaziland, Norway, Sweden and China attended the meeting.

At the meeting, DPRK expressed its determination to implement international conventions, and reported their progress and difficulties in convention implementation. DPRK joined the Stockholm Convention in August 2002, then completed and submitted its National Implementation Plan by November, 2008. Currently, PCBs, HCB, DDT and other POPs are still produced and used in DPRK, and it is still faced with severe challenges in convention implementation, such as inadequate funding, insufficient

alternative technology, incomplete legislation and low public awareness. The meeting introduced to DPRK the Convention's requirements on reduction and phase-out of POPs, its funding and technological assistance mechanism. Special attention was given to the current situation and demand of DPRK's convention implementation, the possibility and sources available for acquiring international funding and technological support. Meanwhile, given China's strengthened institution, policy and legislation, accumulated experience in POPs alternatives and control, it is hoped that China can share its experiences with DPRK so that it can fulfill its convention obligations.

Mr. Yu Lifeng, Chief Financial Officer of FECO/MEP was present at the meeting. In his opening remarks, he introduced China's progress in institutional strengthening, policy and legislation, POPs reduction and control, publicity of convention implementation, and emphasized China's confidence and determination in convention implementation. He also expressed that China is willing to share its above experience with DPRK.



***Sino-Norwegian POPs
Regional Capacity Building
Training Program
Successfully Organized in
Chongqing***



On December 10th, 2008, with the support of Sino- Norwegian POPs Regional Capacity Building Training Project (Sino- Norwegian Project), CIO organized a training program on POPs sampling and analysis, contaminated site survey and assessment methodology in Chongqing by experts from NIVA, Tsinghua University, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences of CAS. Over 40 officials and technical personnel from Chongqing Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB), Chongqing Solid Waste Management Center, Chongqing Environmental Monitoring Center, Beibei District EPB, Beibei District Environmental Monitoring Center and relevant enterprises participated in the program.

In the interactive training, regional trainees can talk freely to share their own experiences with domestic and international experts on sampling methodology for ambient medium, and risk assessment for contaminated sites. Extensive exchanges and discussions were made, and desired

results were achieved. The training program further pushed forward Chongqing's efforts in Convention implementation, improved its capabilities for POPs monitoring and sampling, and laid a solid foundation for POPs monitoring and sampling to be carried out in 2009.

***Research Project on Strategy
of POPs Pollution Control
in China's Water System
Launched in Response to
the Important Instruction by
Minister Zhou Shengxian***

At the National Conference on Prevention and Control of River Pollution held in November 2007, Mr. Zhou Shengxian, Minister of Environmental Protection made an important instruction that "all projects that discharge heavy metals, POPs and large amount of industrial effluents directly into the rivers will not be approved". Following that instruction and the Stockholm Convention's requirements for its parties, FECO launched a Research Project on strategy of POPs pollution control in China's water System

Based on the results of environmental risk assessment and management system evaluation, the project

will identify the key sources to be controlled of POPs discharge into the water, and provide suggestions on revising and improving relevant environmental management policies, guidelines and standards, as well as integrated strategy for controlling emissions of POPs into the water system. In order to ensure that research results are practical and feasible, the project will carry out a typical case study on Songhua River following the requirements of "Notice on the strengthening pollution prevention and treatment in Songhua River" issued by five Ministries. The implementation of the project combines Convention implementation with environmental protection priorities in China, and plays an important role in drinking water safety and aquatic eco-environment safety. With the active support of Heilongjiang Provincial EPB, on December 15th, 2008, FECO and Heilongjiang Provincial EPB organized the launching conference of the "Survey and assessment of POPs pollution in the Songhua River of Heilongjiang Province", which is one of the most important activities marking the inception of the project. Mr. Yu Lifeng, Chief Financial Officer of FECO/MEP, and Tang Dingding, deputy director of Heilongjiang provincial EPB attended the meeting.



Capability Building

Advanced Dioxin Analysis Laboratory to be Jointly Built by China and Japan



The cooperation agreement for building Advanced Dioxin Analysis Laboratory was signed between the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Tsinghua University and a Japanese corporation on November 8th, 2008. The two parties promised to build a dioxin analysis laboratory in line with international standards with complete quality control within one year by making use of each other's resources and advantages.

According to the agreement, Japan will send famous dioxin analysis expert and lab management personnel to the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Tsinghua University, and introduce experiences in dioxin analysis quality control and lab management and operation by using the equipment in Tsinghua University, so that the lab can be standardized within a short period of time, and provide analysis and testing services of dioxin and other POPs to domestic and international clients. Reduction of dioxin emission is the key but also the challenge in

Stockholm Convention. Some of the established labs in China can carry out dioxin analysis, but the overall testing equipment and technologies are relatively weak. In 1998, Japan issued the Law on Dioxin Control, after ten years of effort, it successfully reduced dioxin level in the environment, and has a management system in line with international standards for dioxin analysis quality control, as well as rich experiences in the commercial operation of dioxin labs.

The partnership combines study, research and production together, and will carry out useful explorations in running monitoring analysis services in commercial ways.

Ningbo 33.8 million-worth of POPs Analysis Laboratory Came into Operation

The POPs Laboratory of Ningbo Environmental Monitoring Center was officially put into operation On November 28th, 2008. The total investment of the lab is RMB 33.8 million, among which, 8 million is for the dioxin lab, including a 3 million high-resolution mass spectrometer introduced from the US. The center



will cooperate with RCEES of CAS, Tsinghua University and other renowned research institutions and universities to carry out a series of researches and surveys related to the implementation of POPs convention. Ningbo is one of the pilot cities under the long-term capacity building project of China's Stockholm Convention implementation. The POPs Laboratory of Ningbo Environmental Monitoring Center will provide technical support to the POPs survey, research, reduction and control in Ningbo.

POPs Sample Processing Laboratory to be Jointly Built by BCT Technology Ltd. and CAS



The agreement signing ceremony for POPs sample processing laboratory between the National Key Laboratory of Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology at RCEES of CAS and BCT Technology Ltd (BCT) was held in RCEES on December 15th, 2008. Zheng Minghui, researcher at RCEES and Mr. Zhang Xiaohong, General Manager of BCT hosted the unveiling ceremony. With the development of technology, current analytical instruments have

reached an advanced level. However, such improvement does not substantially increase the efficiency and analytical quality, mostly due to manual pre-processing of samples. According to authoritative statistics, manual pre-processing time accounts for more than 60% of the overall process, which not only affects the efficiency, but also the final results of the analysis and the reliability

of data. As a result, advanced full-automatic pre-processing equipment has become an inevitable choice to improve lab efficiency and data quality.

During the signing ceremony, the U.S. fluid management system (FMS) technology engineer gave a detailed introduction of Pressurized Liquid Extraction (PLE), full-automatic Power-Prep samples purification system.



Policies and Regulation

Quarantine Tightened in Guangdong to Prevent Dioxin in Meat Products

Driven by strong domestic demand before the 2009 Spring Festival, there is implication of the increased smuggling of meat products. To prevent the illegal entry of dioxin-contaminated meat from Ireland and other countries, the Guangdong Provincial Inspection and Quarantine Bureau issued an emergency notice calling for all its departments and branches to strengthen inspection and quarantine of meat products on December 25th, 2008.

Based on the existing imported meat health certificate identification team and special inspection team, the Bureau set up a task force to verify the veterinary health certificate and other certificates of meat products at designated ports of entry, and requires all branches of the Bureau

to carefully examine the relevant documents before issuing the letter of clearance, and cooperate with the task force whenever necessary. Meanwhile, measures should be taken to ensure that the sources of goods are consistent with the country of origin. All branches must ensure that each shipment of meat products are shipped from the port of the country of origin directly by checking shipping list for feeder vessel and making inquiries at container carrier companies.

Japan Increases Detection Frequency of Endosulfan in China's Loach Export Products

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) issued a notice on December 19th, 2008 declaring that Chinese-made frozen Loach slice were found in violation of

the Food Sanitary Law after monitor and inspection at Japan's Narita Airport. In the wake of the notice, the detection frequency of pesticide residues (endosulfan) in Chinese loach and its processed products (simple processing only) has been increased by 30%. The China-made frozen loach slice imported by Tung Shing Trade Ltd. had been detected containing 0.010 ppm of endosulfan at the quarantine office of Narita Airport, higher than the country's limit value of 0.004 ppm.

New Standards on Four Dioxin Monitoring Methods in Environmental Media Promulgated

On December 31st, 2008, the Ministry of Environmental Protection issued Notice No. 68 on national standards for isotope dilution high-

resolution gas chromatography-- high-resolution mass spectrometry for testing dioxin in water, ambient air and emissions, solid waste, soil and sediment medium, also known as the "Determination of dioxin in water: high-resolution isotope dilution gas chromatography - high resolution mass spectrometry" (HJ 77.1-2008), " Determination of dioxin in ambient air and emissions: Isotope Dilution High Resolution Gas Chromatography

- High Resolution Mass Spectrometry "(HJ 77.2-2008)," Determination of dioxin in solid waste: high-resolution isotope dilution gas chromatography - high resolution mass spectrometry "(HJ 77.3-2008) and " Determination of dioxin in soils and sediments: isotope dilution high-resolution gas chromatography - high resolution mass spectrometry" (HJ 77.4-2008).

These standards will come into effect on April 1st, 2009, and the

"Determination of Polychlorinated dibenzo-dioxins and polychlorinated dibenzofurans isotope dilution high-resolution capillary gas chromatography / high resolution Mass Spectrometry "(HJ / T 77-2001) will be abolished on the same day.

The four standards are formulated following requirements in the NIP for China's implementation of the Stockholm Convention.

Meeting Brief

International Seminar Convened on the Role of Academic and Industrial Circle in POPs Convention Implementation

On November 14th, 2008, International Seminar on the Role of Academic and Industrial Circle in POPs Convention Implementation was held in Tokyo, Japan. The Seminar is hosted by the United Nations University (UNU), 100 delegates, including officials from the Stockholm Convention Secretariat, UNIDO, Japan's Ministry of the Environment, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and

representatives from over 10 countries attended the seminar.

At the invitation of the organizers, Professor Yu Gang, Director of POPs Research Center, Tsinghua University, and Head of the university's Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering attended the seminar and delivered a speech entitled "The Role of Stockholm Convention's regional technology transfer center and its future work plan". In the speech, Mr. Yu reviewed the progress of establishing 12 planned global Stockholm Convention regional technology transfer centers, and he mainly focused on the preliminary preparation of the Asia-Pacific regional

Stockholm Convention technology transfer center in Tsinghua University, and envisioned its technical services provided for the member states in the region over the next few years.

The goal of UNU is to actively resolve global issues that draw attention from the United Nations, all nations and the Member States through survey and capacity building. With partners from more than 30 United Nations agencies and more than 100 research institutes worldwide, the focus of UNU is: peace, management, development, environment, science and technology and society.

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