



PROGRESS REPORT
TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS

By Andrey Peshkov
Chairman

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REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS

ACAP will continue to implement projects approved by the Ministers to:

- Develop an Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy (IHWMS) focusing on the Northern Regions of the Russian Federation.
- Complete inventory development (Phase I) and safe storage (Phase II) of obsolete pesticides in the remaining Russian Arctic and sub-Arctic priority Regions. Demonstrate environmentally sound destruction of 100 tons of obsolete pesticides (Phase III).
- Assess the performance of Russian hazardous waste destruction facilities to identify sustainable solutions for destruction of hazardous substances, including obsolete pesticides, PCBs and other POPs in an environmentally sound manner using Russian and international standards.
- Implement control technologies for reduction/elimination of dioxin/furan releases at pulp and paper mills, timber mills, cement factories and municipal waste treatment facilities in the Russian Arctic.
- Complete the feasibility study on improved systems for management of mercury-containing waste in Northwest Russia, prepare Terms of References and business plan for a demonstration project in one or two regions of Northwest Russia and implement demonstration projects to address additional mercury-release sectors in Russia (products, coal-fired power plants, non-ferrous metal production).
- Continue further cooperation with UNEP Global Mercury Partnership in achieving measurable mercury reductions of uses and releases at chlor-alkali facilities in the Russian Federation including improvement of storage facilities for mercury-containing waste.
- Cooperate with Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Russian Federation to implement environmentally sound management demonstration projects for PCBs in Russia under IHWMS according to the Stockholm Convention.
- Continue work on brominated flame retardants (BFR) as an information exchange network and simultaneously continue the identification of Phase II activities on reduction and elimination of BFRs.
- Establish a new PSG to address contaminants in indigenous communities in remote areas of the Arctic to reduce human exposure to contaminants. Terms of Reference will be developed.

- Implement model projects on safe handling, storage and treatment of local sources of contamination on Franz Josef Land (FJL) in collaboration with AMAP.
- Continue cooperation with the Barents Euro-Arctic Council and NEFCO to address "hot spots" in the Arctic.
- Continue cooperation with NEFCO to finance and facilitate implementation of ACAP projects and mobilize the Project Support Instrument (PSI).
- Collaborate with other WGs of the Arctic Council (AMAP and SDWG) on e.g. quick-action climate mitigation strategies.
- Initiate co-operation to address the contamination issues of the oil and gas sectors in the Arctic based on the findings and recommendations of the Assessment of Oil and Gas Activities in the Arctic by AMAP.
- Facilitate implementation of international actions addressing mitigation of mercury and persistent organic pollutants.
- Enhance outreach and information exchange to promote successful projects of ACAP.

ACAP PROGRESS SINCE SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS MEETING

OF APRIL 2009

INTEGRATED HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (IHWMS) (CHAIR: RUSSIA)

Project Steering Group (PSG) chaired by Russia, co-chaired by USA and Norway has continued development of Terms of Reference (TOR). It is expected that ACAP will be able to finalize the TOR in the near future. Russia has prepared a draft strategy paper "Development of the Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy in the Northern Regions of the Russian Federation", containing information on POPs sources, review of pesticide storages, emission inventories and destruction technologies. PSG is also developing a performance monitoring and evaluation plan (PMEP) to improve the project quality.

Funding for this project has been contributed by Russia.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE MANAGEMENT OF STOCKS OF OBSOLETE AND PROHIBITED PESTICIDES IN RUSSIA (CHAIR: FINLAND)

More than 5000 tons of obsolete and prohibited pesticides, from 9 Russian regions impacting the Arctic, have so far been inventoried and repackaged when necessary under the ACAP Program.—Inventory and safe storage activities have progressed and will be finalized in Altai Krai during 2009. Work on inventories and repackaging in the pilot districts of Krasnojarsk Krai will be initiated as soon as necessary funding will become available.

The inventoried stocks should be destroyed in an environmentally sound manner the soonest to prevent package degradation during extended storage. To facilitate destruction the completion of the project requires demonstrating environmentally sound destruction of 100 tons of obsolete pesticides in Phase III. No progress has been made in Surgut facility that PSG reviewed in November 2008, as the environmental assessment is still under review by Rostekhnadzor in order to issue the necessary permits. PSG has also identified an additional company in Krasnodar, Krasnodar Krai, which already has a license and may potentially be used to destroy obsolete pesticides in an environmentally sound manner. PSG will explore possibilities of reviewing technical documentations of this facility to be used in the third phase of the ACAP project.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

Altai Krai and Krasnojarsk Krai inventories and repackaging - € 100,000

REDUCTION OF DIOXINS/FURANS RELEASES INTO THE ENVIRONMENT (CHAIR: SWEDEN)

The PSG has focused on its three priority Arctic Regions, Arkhangelsk, Komi and Murmansk. The project is working to initiate Phase III demonstration projects decreasing the dioxin and furan emissions from the following facilities:

- Kotlas Pulp & Paper facility (Arkhangelsk Region)
- Vorkutinskiy cement plant (Komi Republic)
- Syktyvkar Timber Mill (Komi Republic) (Cleaner Production program only)
- Murmansk Municipal Waste Incineration Plant

The project also investigates the possibilities to link Phase III activities to the Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

REDUCTION OF MERCURY RELEASES FROM ARCTIC STATES (CHAIR: DENMARK)

MERCURY-CONTAINING WASTE IN NW RUSSIA

Demonstration projects in Arkhangelsk have not been initiated due to the restructuring of the Russian environmental authorities. The mercury project may be a component in the Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

OTHER DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS:

COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT MERCURY CONTROL PROJECT (SWEDEN & USA)

USEPA is collaborating with several Russian research institutes on a mercury control project to demonstrate the effectiveness of two sorbents (standard activated carbon and halogenated activated carbon) in reducing mercury emissions at a coal-fired power plant in the Russian Federation. It may also investigate the effectiveness of SO₃ injection for enhancing particle control. In May 2009 a team visited the test facilities and the coordinating institutions in Russia to ascertain the preparedness to the project implementation.

The project is to be funded by the USEPA and is moving forward under the financial and management authority of the International Science and Technology Center. Sweden has indicated support for this project. As this project moves forward, contribution from other Arctic countries will be

requested. This will allow the collection of information on the leaching potential of the associated waste residues expected to be disposed of in a landfill.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

PROPOSED MULTI-POLLUTANT CONTROL PROJECT AT A RUSSIAN ZINC SMELTER (USA & NEFCO)

No progress was made in 2009 awaiting the launch of the PSI and associated activities.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

THE COOPERATION WITH THE UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP TO REDUCE MERCURY CONSUMPTION AND RELEASES AT RUSSIAN CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION FACILITIES (USA & RUSSIA)

The cooperation with the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership to reduce mercury releases in chlor-alkali production facilities in the Russian Federation achieved 25% in comparison with the 2005 baseline. All three Russian facilities, which use mercury in their production, joined the partnership. A new project on management of mercury-containing waste was initiated within the reporting period.

PHASE-OUT OF PCBs IN RUSSIA (CHAIRS: RUSSIA, USA AND NEFCO) NEFCO-FUNDED PROJECT

Project aims demonstrate destruction of 250 tones of liquid PCBs as well as cleaning and decontaminating PCB equipment. Despite numerous efforts, no progress has been made to move past the barriers preventing completion of the project. The project has therefore been put on hold for a few years. The PSG will now put forward a proposal on how to find a suitable site and obtain the necessary permits now that the environmental authorities within the Russian Federation have been restructured. At the next meeting, the steering group may also wish to consider merging this PSG with the IHWMS or another PSG to facilitate progress. Successful completion of this project is also largely dependent on the implementation of the ACAP Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy in Russia. The NEFCO PCB Project funds have been earmarked for PCB project(s) under the Project Support Instrument (PSI) and are expected to be mobilized once the PSI is up and running.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

REDUCTION/ELIMINATION OF SOURCES AND RELEASES OF BROMINATED FLAME RETARDANTS (BFR`S) (CHAIR: NORWAY)

The group has started operating as an information exchange network, and is working with Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS) on a fact sheet to inform indigenous peoples about BFRs. The ACAP WG has requested that the PSG consider the Stockholm Convention amendments on penta- and octa BDE and related activities, as well as the Convention's POPs Review Committee's work in progress on other flame retardants with the aim of identifying potential projects to assist the work of the Convention.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONTAMINANTS ACTION (IPCA) (CHAIR: TO BE DECIDED)

The first draft terms of reference has been prepared by RAIPON in cooperation with other indigenous peoples' groups and made available for comments of the ACAP WG in September, 2009. It is expected that the Terms of Reference will be discussed and approved intersessionally within the next few months and the activities initiated in 2010.

Funding expenditures in 2009:

None.

OTHER ACAP ACTIVITIES SINCE APRIL, 2009

ACAP has developed and adopted the Project development process description to give stakeholders a transparent and consistent understanding of the ACAP project development and implementation. This document contributes to the development of new ACAP projects.

OTHER ACAP RELATED INFORMATION

ODS CONTAINING REFRIGERATION / AC EQUIPMENT

NEFCO (together with contributions from Finland and Sweden) has earmarked/ disbursed money for a preliminary feasibility study to look at collection, recovery and recycling of ODS containing refrigeration / AC equipment (waste electrical and electronic equipment) and examine possibilities for associated carbon credit financing possibilities through the voluntary market.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES

In July 2009, in Moscow, the four-day health and safety training workshop and technical exchange on management of hazardous waste was coordinated by the USEPA and UNEP/GEF National Program of Action “Arctic” in cooperation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Russian Federation and the ACAP Secretariat.

The goal of this training was to educate not only experts from federal and regional authorities of Russia, but also representatives of Arctic indigenous communities from Chukotka, Kamchatka, Nenets and Murmansk regions, and to certify them in accordance with federal and international (US) requirements.