

Thematic Working Group on Climate Change, Ozone Depletion and Ecosystem Changes

**Ir. Sulistyowati, MM
MoE of Indonesia**

Overview

TWGs were established to deal with 6 prioritized issues. Representatives from the private sector, academe, civil society, regional centre, institutions, and other regional and global initiatives tackling a particular priority issue may also be invited to become part of the TWG. TWGs have workplans for tackling with their specific issues and are responsible for:

1. Knowledge management and technical support
2. Progress reporting to the Regional Forum
3. Coordination and advocacy
4. Resource Mobilization

6 prioritized issues

1. Air Quality
2. Water Supply, hygiene and sanitation
3. Solid and Hazardous Waste
4. Toxic Chemicals and hazardous substances
5. Climate Change, ozone depletion and ecosystem changes → **chaired by Indonesia**
6. Contingency planning, preparedness and response in environmental health emergencies

Member Country	
Country	Name of the institution
Brunei Darussalam	- Department of Environment, Parks and Recreation, Ministry of Development - Brunei Meteorological Service, Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Communications
Cambodia	- Ministry of Environment
China	- Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences - Institute for Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
Indonesia	- Ministry of Environment
Japan	- Ministry of the Environment of Japan
Lao PDR	CLIMATE CHANGE -Science, technology and Environment Agency(STEA): Department of Environment (DE) OZONE DEPLETION -STEAs: Department of Environment (DE)
Malaysia	- Institute for Medical Research, Ministry of Health
Mongolia	- Ministry of Nature and Environment
Myanmar	- National Commission for Environmental Affairs
Philippines	- Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
Republic of Korea	- Global Environment Research Center - National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER)
Singapore	
Thailand	- Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Vietnam	- National Office for Climate Change and Ozone Protection, MONRE
Regional and International Partners	
	- International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (ILEC) - Network Center for EANET (Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia), Acid Deposition and Oxidant Research Center (ADORC) - Professor Alistair Woodward, Head of School of Population Health, University of Auckland - Professor A.J. (Tony) McMichael, Director, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, The Australian National University - WHO Centre for Health Development (WHO Kobe Centre – WKC) - International Council for Science Regional office for Asia and the Pacific (ICSU/ROAP)
Secretariat	
WHO	- World Health Organization, South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO), and Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)
UNEP	- UNEP Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (ROAP) and UNEP Regional Resource Centre for Asia Pacific (RRC AP)

Objectives of the Activity

- To enhance regional knowledge management and technical support for emerging and re-emerging infectious and non-infectious associated with climate, ozone depletion and eco-system changes through information sharing and regional cooperation
- To promote research and development in understanding the complex inter-relationship between climate, ozone depletion, ecosystem changes and human health particularly infectious and non-infectious diseases
- To promote effective management of the environment for the benefit of human health at the region
- To establish a regional information centre from which the member countries may access available sources of data related to human health effects of the climate change, ozone depletion and environmental changes

Activities

Objectives	Activities	Time-line
Enhance knowledge management & technical support	Regional inventory of experts	First list: 2 nd Quarter 2008, on-going
	Regional inventory of laboratory facilities (human and animals)	First list: 2 nd Quarter 2008, on-going
	Regional inventory of Good Practice Guidelines*	First list: 2 nd Quarter 2008, on-going
	Regional inventory impact of climate, ozone and ecosystem change to health	2007-2010
	Training for young scientist	2008-2009
	Monitoring the source information of Asian Dust sand storms	2008-2010
	Development and Training on “risk assessment methodology for infectious and non-infectious disease”	4 th Quarter 2008

Activities (cont..)

Promote research & development	Regional inventory of research institutions and facilities	First list: 2 nd Quarter 2008, on-gong
	Compilation of research abstracts on subject matters	First list: 3 rd Quarter 2008, on-going
	Regional conference on climate change, ozone depletion, ecosystem changes & health	2 nd Quarter 2009
	Regional collaborative research to study the agreed priority issue directed problem (e.g. zoonotic trans-boundary migration and movement, data relevant to the UV radiation and human health issue)	3 rd Quarter 2009
	Prioritizing communicable and non communicable diseases	2008~2010

Activities (cont..)

Effective management of the environment for benefit of human health	Establishment of regional committee as a "think tanks" for developing regional cooperation related to the topics area	2 nd Quarter 2008
	Regional meeting to identify priority issues for the region and make suggestion to overcome the problem	3 rd Quarter 2008
Regional Information Centre	Inventory of information sources in participating country member	1 st Quarter 2008
	Define mechanism for sharing information	4 th Quarter 2008

Some points from discussion in Beijing, China (24-25 March 2009)

1. Needs to enhance the communication between national communication focal points, TWG members, TWG Chairs and Secretariat. It was agreed to develop communication guidelines.
2. Agreed to develop a policy brief on each priority area (i.e. TWG). Secretariat will develop a template and consult TWG Chairs and national communication focal points.
3. Both environment and health ministries are encouraged to send participants in the TWG meetings.
4. Member countries were encouraged to participate in activities as stipulated in the TWG workplans and assist with the resource mobilization efforts of TWGs.

Conference on Children's Health and the Environment

(Busan, Korea, June 2009)

The recommendations from the climate change discussion group are:

1. Replace biomass with clean renewable energy and develop "smart" local electrical grids
 - Reduces emissions and prevents new emissions
 - Prevents cardiopulmonary diseases and death
 - Gets necessary energy to households
2. Improve public transport, create bike lanes
 - Reduces need for personal vehicle
 - Decreases congestion, noise and air pollution
 - Promotes active transport
3. Promote solar hot-water and water conservation
 - Reduces air pollution, promotes health, saves money
4. Strengthen traditional diet -- continue to eat low on the food chain, local and organic when available.
 - Supports local farm economy
 - Improves nutritional quality
 - Prevents obesity
 - Lowers risk of chronic diseases

Challenges

Article 6 (b) (1) UNFCCC

Cooperate in and promote, at the international level, and, where appropriate, using existing bodies:

(i) the development and exchange of educational and public awareness material on climate change and its effects;

Way forward

- Need to enhance communication among TWG member countries
- Need to appoint a co-chair of the TWG.
- Identify studies on health related to CC, OD, EC in each member country
- Updating TWG's workplan (Promote green lifestyle to improve health quality; Joint Pilot Project in health sector related to CC, OD, EC; ??)

Thank You