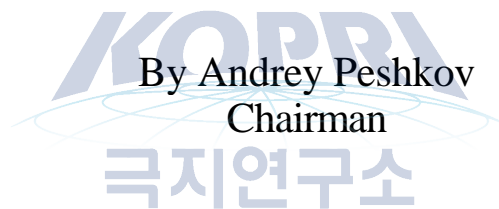




## ACAP PROGRESS REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS



19-20 October, 2010  
Tórshavn, The Faroe Islands

## REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS

According to ACAP Work Plan 2009-2011, 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 2010

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

The IHWMS Project Steering Group (PSG) chaired by Russia, co-chaired by USA and Norway has finished development of Terms of Reference (TOR), which was finally approved on 3 September 2010 at the regular ACAP working group meeting in Oslo. The overall objective of this project is to develop an IHWMS for selected Northern regions of the Russian Federation, aimed at improving waste management practices in order to decrease the negative impact on the Arctic environment from hazardous waste streams. The IHWMS should set-forth recommendations for a future waste management system(s) for the selected region(s), based on a few selected waste streams, including identification of the waste producer(s) (industry) and other stakeholders, storage, collection, transportation and environmentally sound destruction of the waste. The countries are asked to nominate participants to the IHWMS PSG.

Funding for this project has been contributed by Russia.

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

The project aims at safe storage and environmentally sound management of the stocks of obsolete pesticides in the Northern territories of Russian Federation. Thousands of tonnes of pesticides have accumulated in temporary and inadequate warehouses during the last 40 years and are a source of pollution to the Arctic environment, both by long range atmospheric and riverine transport.

ACAP has completed inventory and repackaging activities in 9 priority districts, resulting in improved storage for 6500 t solid and liquid pesticides. Inventory activities have continued in Krasnoyarsk Krai with the aim of completing it in 2010. Finland, Russian Federation, Sweden and Norway have supported the project financially.

The project has not been able to assess destruction technologies to implement Phase III - environmentally sound destruction demonstration of 100 t obsolete pesticides. No suitable technology within the territory of Russia is available. The ACAP WG is concerned about the lack of progress and deterioration of the storage conditions.

Funding expenditures in 2010: 46 827 EUR

## **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.

## **REDUCTION OF ATMOSPHERIC MERCURY RELEASES FROM ARCTIC STATES (CHAIR: USA)**

The Steering Group decided in August that the continuation of the ACAP mercury containing waste project should build on the experiences from a Norwegian – Russian bilateral waste project in Archangelsk. USA was nominated to chair the future work of the steering Group and Denmark resigned as chair. Russian Federation has offered to be the co-chair of the mercury PSG.

The Mercury PSG coordinates the following project.

### **MERCURY-CONTAINING WASTE IN NW RUSSIA**

The mercury containing waste demonstration project was initiated in 2006 with a feasibility study on mercury containing waste with the aim to describe an improved system for collection, transport, storage and treatment of mercury containing waste in the territories of North West Russia. The project is funded by Denmark, Finland, Norway, Russia and NEFCO.

One of the problems encountered when the implementation phase of the project was the lack of support by different Russian stakeholders (Oblast & Ministry) on the recommended system for mercury collection. The continuation of the ACAP mercury containing waste project will try to build on the experiences from a Norwegian – Russian bilateral waste project in Archangelsk.

## **OTHER DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS:**

### **COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT MERCURY CONTROL PROJECT (USA, UNEP & SWEDEN)**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is collaborating with several Russian research institutes on a mercury control project to demonstrate the effectiveness of two types of sorbents in reducing mercury emissions at a coal-fired power plant in the Russian Federation. This two-year project (2010-2011) is

funded by the United States (\$317,000). It is expected that the project results will be available in mid-to-late 2011.

In addition to providing information for consideration directly to the major coal-burning (and, thus, mercury emitting) nations, including India and China, the project results are expected to inform deliberations of the UNEP Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee.

#### **REDUCTION OF USE AND DISCHARGES OF MERCURY IN THE CHLOR-ALKALI INDUSTRY IN RUSSIA (USA)**

EPA and the Russian chlor-alkali industry have partnered to reduce mercury releases in wastewater and improve mercury monitoring systems in the Volgograd “Caustic” facility, the Kirovo-Chepetsky Joint Stock Company “Zavod Polimerov” and the Sterlitamak “Caustic” facility. These on-going efforts have reduced releases to the environment by about 1 ton per year.

#### **PROPOSED MULTI-POLLUTANT CONTROL PROJECT AT A RUSSIAN NON-FERROUS SMELTER (USA & NEFCO)**

USA and NEFCO will be developing, together with interested parties and owners, a demonstration project for non-ferrous smelters (including zinc smelters) where appropriate mercury and other pollutant mitigation technologies will be applied.

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

This Project aims to demonstrate the destruction of 250 tones of liquid PCBs as well as the cleaning and decontamination of 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 and because of unavailability of a suitable destruction technology in the Russian Federation. 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.

#### **REDUCTION/ELIMINATION OF SOURCES AND RELEASES OF BROMINATED FLAME RETARDANTS (BFRs) (CHAIR: NORWAY)**

The ACAP project steering group (PSG) on BFRs has been in 2009 and 2010 operating as an information exchange network. Currently, there is co-operation with the Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS) on a fact sheet that will inform indigenous peoples about BFRs. The steering group has considered co-operation with other PSGs under ACAP in order to identify possible projects for

collaboration. There has been preliminary contact with the Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy (IHWMS) PSG and the Indigenous Peoples Contaminants Action Program (IPCAP) PSG to try to include BFRs in their scope of work. The BFR PSG finds it relevant to continue to discuss this issue with the IHWMS PSG and IPCAP PSG. Waste management in smaller settlements in the Arctic has been identified by the BFR PSG as a possible area of cooperation. Norway has been lead country for the BFR PSG since the PSG was launched in 2004 and has now stepped down. A new lead country has not been identified yet. ACAP will consider how to follow up on the work on BFRs under ACAP after 2010 and the member states are asked to reflect on the BFR PSG in the future, after 2010.

Funding expenditures in 2010:  
No additional money required.

#### **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONTAMINANTS ACTION PROGRAM (IPCAP) (CHAIR: RUSSIA)**

The PSG IPCAP Terms of Reference was approved during the ACAP Working Group Meeting in Oslo (Norway, September, 3, 2010).

The PSG will have 2 co-chairs: one from PPs, other from State Members. So far Finland, Russia, USA, RAIPON, ICC and Saami Council expressed their wish in participating in the PSG. It will include State Members, PPs and scientists.

The PSG will start to prepare the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the pilot project according to the Plan contained in the Terms of Reference PSG IPCAP. The IPCAP will co-operate with other ACAP projects, such as the IHWMS PSG, BFR PSG and the SLCFC PSG. Particularly, the BFR PSG and IPCAP PSG will cooperate on circulation of the fact sheet created by BFR PSG and IPS among indigenous peoples of Russian Arctic.

#### **PROPOSED PROJECT STEERING GROUP ON SHORT LIVED CLIMATE FORCERS AND CONTAMINANTS (SLCFC) (CHAIR: TO BE DECIDED)**

At its September 2-3, 2010 meeting, ACAP developed and agreed upon a terms of reference for a new project steering group (PSG) that would undertake projects on black carbon and other short-lived climate forcers and is seeking SAO endorsement of the concept at the October 2010 meeting. The PSG would be chaired by the United States and Norway, Sweden and Russia would vice-chair the PSG. In addition, Canada, Finland, RAIPON, NEFCO, AMAP, and the SLCF TF have all indicated interest in participating in the PSG and others are invited to express interest in participation as well. The PSG would set its first meeting following endorsement by the SAOs to develop a project proposal(s) on black carbon and undertake initial scoping activities so as to provide a meaningful progress report to the next SAO and Ministerial meetings. In addition, the PSG, if approved, will closely coordinate with the Short-Lived Climate Forcers Task Force (SLCF TF) and anticipates that intermediate project deliverables would help



provide additional, necessary information to the TF.

Funding expenditures in 2010:

No additional money required.

## **OTHER ACAP RELATED INFORMATION**

### **ODS CONTAINING REFRIGERATION / AC EQUIPMENT**

The goal of the Ozone Depleting Substance (ODS) Refrigeration /Air Conditioning (AC) equipment initiative<sup>1</sup> is to address unwanted ODS (and Green House Gases (GHG)) contained in end-of-life electrical equipment (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) e.g. refrigerators) and demonstrate management of such waste streams. NEFCO is currently in the process of establishing a relevant terms of reference for a consultant to facilitate a project for the collection and destruction of an estimated 3 tonnes of ODS in Russia (corresponding to ca 20,000 t CO<sub>2</sub>). The project is financially supported by Finland and Sweden. It is envisaged that the Russian Recycling Association as well as a Nordic company active in the recycling branch in Russia will be engaged in it. Destruction of unwanted ODS may take place in an existing facility authorized to do so. The project aims to leverage the voluntary carbon market in the context of Short Lived Climate Forcers. A Report on the methodology has been prepared and the project methodology has been shared with the Montreal Protocol institutions (Ozone Secretariat and the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol) as well as other international institutions, however, the “anchor institution” remains the Arctic Council. NEFCO aims to engage a Russian Consultant to be in charge of managing the project in practice in Russia. Currently the Project is expected to undergo only a rudimentary verification (for ODS destruction). This is because a full fledged verification regime is deemed too expensive for such small demonstration project. It is expected that NEFCO itself will be the off-taker of the resulting emission reductions in accordance with the customary voluntary schemes. The project will be prepared for listing with the PSI although initially it will proceed with its present funding. The MNRE is expected to submit a statement underlining the importance of the project and its support to it while also nominating a contact person for facilitating its continuation.

---

<sup>1</sup> **First Submitted to ACAP Preparatory Meeting Copenhagen 20-21(22) January 2009**