Links between the Working Group on Effects of the Convention\(^1\) and the Male Declaration\(^2\) on current activities and potential areas of collaboration

This informal document was compiled by the Convention secretariat based on information received so far from the Convention bodies related to effects-oriented activities. The main subsidiary bodies will discuss it at their September meetings. The contents of this document were presented to the intergovernmental meeting of the Male Declaration (19–21 August 2008 in Colombo) for background information to consider a similar list for the Convention bodies.

The Convention’s Executive Body “Encouraged Convention bodies, in particular programmes, task forces and expert groups... to review all their current activities linked to outreach and to explore opportunities for including items on outreach in their future workplans” (ECE/EB.AIR/91, para. 94 item (f)).

**ICP Waters**

(a) In the annual chemical intercomparison organized by ICP Waters, five laboratories from Asia participated: one in China, two in Indonesia and two in Thailand.

(b) Participation in ongoing chemical intercomparison and biological intercalibration, assist and advice in developing surface water monitoring programmes on acidification, heavy metals and POPs.

**ICP Materials**

(a) Sweden provides the Main Research Centre to ICP Materials at Swerea KIMAB AB, Stockholm, Sweden. Sweden through KIMAB has also so far coordinated all corrosion activities with RAPIDC and the Male Declaration. No formal collaboration exists. The outreach from the Male Declaration to LRTAP Convention was on the agenda both at the 2nd RAPIDC/Corrosion Workshop and CORNET Task Force meeting, 11-13 February 2008, Livingstone, Zambia as well as in the 24th meeting of the ICP Materials Task Force, 2-4 April 2008, Tallinn, Estonia.

(b) Corrosion test sites and focal points currently exist in India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka but not in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Pakistan. Pakistan was represented at the meeting in Livingstone, Zambia and the focal point expressed a clear intention to join the network. A combined study on assessment of urban air pollution including assessment of stock of materials at risk has been initiated in Kathmandu, Nepal.

**ICP Forests**

ICP Forests has collaborated with EANET and shall provide more details at a later stage.

**ICP Integrated Monitoring**

(a) ICP Integrated monitoring does not have direct cooperation with countries outside the ECE region but the Parties to the Convention collaborate in research projects with such countries.

(b) The programme would enhance activities and promote monitoring in the wider region or hemisphere and could support in monitoring development.

**ICP Modelling and Mapping**

(a) The programme cooperates closely with experts in the People’s Republic of China on the methodological development and the application of the critical load approach in China. Critical loads have been applied in Chinese national policy of SO\(_2\) emission abatement through the designation of the

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\(^1\) 1979 Geneva Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.

\(^2\) Malé Declaration on the Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and Its Likely Transboundary Effects for South Asia.
acid rain control zones. Since fast increasing NOx emission in recent years counteracts the efforts of SO\textsubscript{2} abatement, NOx emission abatement is now under consideration by the central government. It is recommended that further reduction of SO\textsubscript{2} should also be conducted, and critical loads of sulphur and nitrogen should be adopted in setting future control objectives.

(b) There has been no outreach of ICP Modelling and Mapping as a whole to the Malé Declaration, and their workplan does not list items which are in the programme’s workplan. The Task Force of ICP Modelling and Mapping merely encouraged its national focal centres (NFCs) to communicate the way of assessing air pollution impacts on sensitive environmental receptors using critical loads, exceedance and dynamic modelling and to design emission abatement policy under LRTAP Convention to the Parties of the Malé Declaration.

ICP Vegetation

(a) ICP Vegetation has established good links with Malé Declaration countries and Air Pollution Information Network in Africa (APINA) countries through the Air Pollution Crops Effect Network (APCEN) led by the Stockholm Environment Institute in York (see http://www.sei.se/apcen/). Representatives from India and South Africa attended the 19th ICP Vegetation Task Force meeting in 2006. Ozone biomonitoring experiments with white clover and the chemical protectant ethylenediurea (EDU) were initiated in South Asia (5 countries) and southern Africa (6 countries), using ICP Vegetation experimental protocols amended for local conditions by the APCEN network.

(b) In the future, ICP Vegetation, in collaboration with APCEN, could act as an advisory body on how to further develop experimental protocols and risk assessments in South Asia, Southern Africa and other regions where crops are considered to be at risk from the effects of air pollution. These risk assessment methods could incorporate appropriate aspects of the methodologies developed by ICP Vegetation for the ECE region, with activities co-ordinated within the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum (GAP Forum).

Task Force on Health

(a) WHO Air Quality Guidelines, Global Update 2005, are applicable globally and thus relevant also for the parties of the Male Declaration. WHO/Euro, which supports the Task Force, contributed to a Regional Seminar on Health Impacts of Air Pollution in Cairo, 9-11 Dec 2007. Such seminars could be organized with involvement of parties to Male Declaration.

(b) WHO methods of health impact assessment could support national assessments of health and air pollution and be used for capacity building and training (point 3.1 of the Phase 4 implementation plan). Material from the Task Force is available to all interested parties on TFH page http://www.euro.who.int/air/activities/20030528_4

Steering Body to EMEP

Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling
The Task Force explored potential future outreach activities. It noted that modellers were prepared to participate in information exchange with other international conventions where appropriate. The Task Force noted, in relation to the Malé Declaration, that it would be open to proposals to collaborate and to make its knowledge and findings available, where appropriate, and preferably through the EMEP Steering Body.

The Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling (CIAM), at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria, has, inter alia, collaborated with Asian countries and made the GAINS Asia model system (www.iiasa.ac.at/web-apps/apd/gains/AS/index.login).

Working Group on Strategies and Review

Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling
The Task Force had its first meeting in May 2008 and was not in a position to discuss this issue.