Fifth APN Scientific Planning Group Meeting
26-27 March 2000, Islamabad, Pakistan

Summary Report from Co-Chairpersons Prof. Zongci Zhao and Prof. Keiji Higuchi.

The Meeting was attended by representatives from Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, USA, START Oceania, SASCOM, TEACOM, and the International START Secretariat and by observers from Pakistan. A list of participants is given in Attachment II.

1. Opening

Mr. Hiroaki Takagi made opening statement as Director of the APN Secretariat. Welcoming remarks were given by Dr. Khalid Mehmood Khan, Chairman of the Pakistan Science Foundation.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as proposed and is included as Attachment I.


The APN Secretariat gave a review of the year's achievements. During the year the Secretariat had relocated from Tokyo to Kobe with the support of Hyogo Prefecture. The first full-time Director was also appointed and the number of staff increased. APN outputs had also increased with a record number of projects supported; the first APN Symposium and Scoping Workshops successfully held; and positive developments in terms of membership inquiries, communications and the appointment of two new APN Liaison Officers for Southeast Asia and Oceania.

A summary of the 1999/2000 sponsored projects was distributed in a revised format. This was welcomed by SPG members who recommended that this document be widely circulated as a good means of advertising the work of the APN. The Secretariat undertook to distribute more copies to APN members and to put the reports on the APN Homepage. The APN Liaison Officer reports were also distributed.

4. 2000/1 APN Funded Activities
The Director announced that with increases in support from Japan and a new contribution from Australia, the total budget available for APN funded activities would be approximately US$1.3 million in the next fiscal year, which means a 20% increase. In accordance with the APN Strategic Plan, not all of these funds would be spent on projects selected through the Call for Proposals. Instead, some funds would be used to support the outputs of last year's Scoping Workshops.

With regard to the selection of project proposals Prof. Zhao introduced the role of the Small Group and explained that they had used the SPG ranking as the main basis for their funding recommendations, but that broader factors such as regional or thematic distribution, opportunities to build on past successes, country involvement or previous performance had also been considered. The Small Group recommended 16 projects for funding and detailed explanations were provided on the reasoning behind the recommendations.

After the discussion the SPG supported the recommendations of the Small Group to go forward to the IGM.

Comments were made on a number of specific issues, for instance on the importance of science/policy links and the fact that this issue seems to be not fully understood by many proponents. It was generally agreed that the issue is extremely difficult to address, but in the longer term it will be central to the success of APN to find a means of doing so. A brief discussion on the issue of 2-year-projects concluded that the second year's funding should be contingent on satisfactory performance in the first year. The SPG would assess interim reports from proponents which should be submitted to the Secretariat in January each year.

The outcome of the discussion, including funding amounts for the projects, will be presented as a recommendation to the Inter-Governmental Meeting.

5. APN Networking/Capacity Building Programme

The Secretariat presented a proposal for an APN Networking and Capacity Building Programme, designed to increase the involvement of those countries that have until now been least involved in APN activities. The programme was generally welcomed and received strong support from all SPG members. A flexible approach to the use of the funds was recommended. Furthermore it was suggested to build on already existing projects wherever appropriate, in order to use the limited funds most efficiently.

There was a discussion about which countries should be targeted and it was suggested that Mongolia and Nepal should also be added to the original list of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. In light of the limited budget for the first year it was proposed to extend the trial period to 2 years, with Mongolia to be included in the second year. During the first year the Secretariat would conduct a full
review of the options for the long term.

Following an evening discussion among South Asian representatives, two activities were proposed for the first year in that region: a regional networking/awareness raising workshop to be held in Pakistan with APN supported participation from Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. The participating countries will together identify the themes for the meeting. The coastal zones proposal from Sri Lanka would also be given some additional funding to enable a broadening of participation and outcomes.

6. Review of APN Proposals Process

The Secretariat reported the results of the review of the APN Proposals Process commissioned by the 4th IGM. Recommendations were made on a number of issues designed to improve fairness, efficiency and quality of service to proponents.

The introduction of a pre-proposals system was welcomed by all, after clarification of some procedural issues. There were some suggested revisions to the pre-proposal format which are included as Attachment III.

There was an extensive debate about the future of the review process. It was generally accepted that the current approach cannot be maintained, and in that context it was agreed to move toward a mail review system. However, members expressed their concern that a number of details would require careful consideration such as the role of the SPG and Small Group in the new process, the number of reviews required per proposal, the need to group reviewers by proposals themes, the need to deal adequately with the different types of proposals such as meetings and research projects, the need for a tightened Conflict of Interest policy, etc. The Secretariat undertook to perform a detailed feasibility study which would address all these issues and report back to the 6th SPG.

The recommendations on conflict of interest, 2 year proposals, the Rapid Selection stage, APN Per Diem rates and the other minor recommendations were all accepted by the SPG. It was suggested not to limit the number of proposals which could be submitted by a Proponent, but to clarify that the APN would only fund a maximum of one project per proponent each year.

During the debate there was a recognition that the APN is now entering a more mature phase of its activities. As such the role of the SPG is changing away from a focus on basic processes such as performing the review function, to a more strategic role in assessing the major scientific issues for the region and the means to foster the necessary research.

7. System for Identifying Key Scientific Priorities

The Secretariat introduced the proposed system for identifying Key Scientific Priorities.
There was general agreement that the APN should agree scientific priorities which should reflect the frontiers of global change science and the proposed system was accepted by the meeting, with some minor revisions emphasising the need for flexibility. The revised system is included as Attachment IV.

8. CO₂ Inter-Calibration Workshop

On behalf of Japan Mr. Onogawa introduced a proposal for a workshop to promote efforts to improve the inter-calibration of CO₂ measurements, which is essential to ensure fully comparable data. These measurements are used to identify the origins of CO₂ emissions, an essential task to evaluate the success of efforts to reduce anthropogenic emissions. This development was welcomed by SPG members, who were encouraged to liaise with Mr. Onogawa over the possibilities for involvement of the relevant agencies in their countries.

9. Election of Co-Chair

Prof. Higuchi explained that one new Co-Chair has to be selected since according to APN rules his 2 year term was now at an end. Prof. Higuchi nominated Dr. Graeme Pearman of Australia as his successor for consideration by the SPG, outlining his qualifications for the post. Dr. Moten of Malaysia seconded the nomination. Dr. Pearman graciously accepted the nomination and was accepted as a new SPG Co-Chair by acclamation. The term will be for two years starting after the 5th Inter-Governmental Meeting and ending at the 7th.

On behalf of the SPG, Prof. Zhao thanked Prof. Higuchi for his tremendous contribution to the APN. The SPG applauded his many years of involvement, guidance and dedication to the APN in an expression of deep appreciation, and a small token of the APN's appreciation was presented to him.

10. START Update

On behalf of the START International Secretariat Prof. Fuchs gave an update on recent developments within the START system. He focused in particular on START's catalytic role and its focus on capacity building. He then suggested that APN and START should further explore avenues for cooperation, in particular with regard to expanding the role of Liaison Officers, database development and capacity building.

11. Other Business

Dr. Pearman alerted the SPG to the particular scientific successes of two of this year's APN sponsored projects (99011 and 99013), which the short reports distributed could
not fully communicate. The APN now needs to find a way to build on these successes and extend the benefits derived.

A number of points of information were also raised and the APN Secretariat was encouraged to continue cooperation both with other environmental bodies within the region and with similar organisations such as the IAI and ENRICH.

12. Science Presentations

Three science presentations were given. Dr. Amir Muhammed made a presentation on the major issues and the national approach to global change research in Pakistan. Dr. Koshy gave an overview of science and science needs from the Oceania perspective. Prof. Fuchs gave an overview of the results of the APN sponsored scoping workshops held in Kobe in October, "CLIMAG" and "Urbanisation, Industrial Transformation and Environmental Change".

13. Closing

Participants expressed their heartfelt appreciation to the Secretariat for its work in organizing the meeting, and to the Co-Chairs for their leadership. A large vote of thanks was given to the Government of Pakistan and in particular Mr. Elahi and his staff at the Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development for hosting the meeting.

Attachment. II

List of Participants

AUSTRALIA

Dr. Graeme PEARMAN
Chief of Division
CSIRO Atmospheric Research
PMB 1, Aspendale
Victoria, 3195
AUSTRALIA
Tel: +61-3-9239-4650
Fax: +61-3-9239-4460
Email: graeme.pearman@dar.csiro.au
CHINA

Prof. Zongci ZHAO  
Co-Chair, APN Scientific Planning Group  
National Climate Center  
China Meteorological Administration  
Baishiqiaolu No. 46  
Beijing, 100081, P. R. CHINA  
Tel: +86-10-6840-8576  
Fax: +86-10-6217-6804  
Email: zhaozc@sun.ihep.ac.cn

INDONESIA

Dr. Agus NURYANTO  
Deputy Chairman  
National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (LAPAN)  
Jl. Pemuda Persil No. 1, Jakarta 13220  
INDONESIA  
Tel: +62-21-489-5040 / 489-4989  
Fax: +62-21-489-4815  
Email: agus@mail.lapan.go.id

JAPAN

Prof. Keiji HIGUCHI  
Co-Chair,  
APN Scientific Planning Group  
Director, Nagoya City Science Museum  
2-17-1, Sakae, Naka-ku, Nagoya 460-0008  
JAPAN  
Tel: +81-52-201-4486 (ext 201)  
Fax: +81-52-203-0788  
Email: higuchi@ncsm.city.nagoya.jp

Mr. Kazunobu ONOGAWA  
Principal Research Coordinator  
National Institute for Environmental Studies  
16-2 Onogawa, Tsukuba  
Ibaraki-ken, 305-0053, JAPAN  
Tel: +81-298-50-2302  
Fax: +81-298-51-2854  
Email: onogawa@nies.go.jp
Mr. Hideyuki MORI
Director
Research and Information Office
Global Environment Department
Environment Agency
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8975, JAPAN
Tel: +81-3-3581-3422
Fax: +81-3-3581-3423
Email: HIDEYUKI_MORI@eanet.go.jp

KOREA

Dr. Il Soo PARK
Director
Division of Air Pollution Engineering
National Institute of Environmental Research
613-2 Bulkwang-Dong, Eunpyung-Ku
Seoul 122-706, KOREA
Tel: +82-2-389-8721
Fax: +82-2-388-7989
Email: nierpis@me.go.kr

LAO P. D. R.

Mr. Chanthanet BOUALAPHA
Director, Environment Research Center
Science, Technology and Environment Agency
P. O. Box 2279, Vientiane
LAO P. D. R.
Tel: +856-21-218737
Fax: +856-21-218737 / 213472

Mr. Phonethip PHETSOMPHOU
Government Officer
Science, Technology and Environment Organization Agency
P. O. Box: 2279
Vientiane, LAO P. D. R.
Tel: +856-21-217650
Fax: +856-21-213470
Email: phet@steno.gov.la
MALAYSIA

Dr. Subramaniam MOTEN
Director
Malaysian Meteorological Service
Jalan Sultan, 46667 Petaling Jaya
Selangor, MALAYSIA
Tel: +603-7569422
Fax: +603-7550964
Email: subra@kjc.gov.my

MONGOLIA

Dr. Jamsran TSOGTBAAATAR
Director,
Institute of Geoecology
Ministry of Nature and Environment
Bariun Selbe-15
Ulaanbaatar-211238, MONGOLIA
Tel: +976-1-321862
Fax: +976-1-321862
Email: geoeco@magicnet.mn

PAKISTAN

Dr. Munir Ahmed BHATTI
Member (Science)
Pakistan Science Foundation
Government of Pakistan
Constitution Avenue, Sector G-5/2
Islamabad, PAKISTAN 44000
Tel: +92-51-9203044
Fax: +92-51-9202468
Email: psfmsmun@comsats.net.pk

PHILIPPINES

Mr. Sabado BATCAGAN
Assistant Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Quezon City
PHILIPPINES
RUSSIA

Dr. Alexander STERIN
Head
Aerology Department
Russian Research Institute of Hydro-Meteorological Information (RIHMI)
6, Korolyov Str., Obninsk, Kaluga Region,
Russia 249020, RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Tel: 7-095-255-2012
Fax: 7-095-255-2225
Email: sterin@meteo.ru

SRI LANKA

Dr. Andrayas Wickramachchi MOHOTTALA
Director
Department of Meteorology
383 Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7
Sri Lanka
Tel: +94-1-694104
Fax: +94-1-698311 / 691443
Email: meteo1@sltnet.lk

THAILAND

Mr. Suphavit PIAMPHONGSANT
Chief Inspector-General
Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment
Rama VI Road, Bangkok 10400
THAILAND
Tel: +66-2-246-0064 (ext 200)
Fax: +66-2-246-8106
Email: supavit.p@moste.go.th

U. S. A.

Mr. Louis B. BROWN
Chair,
Working Group on International Research Cooperation
U.S. Global Change Research Program
c/o Directorate for Geosciences
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Blvd, Room 1070
Arlington, VA 22230, U. S. A.
Tel: +1-703-306-1516
Fax: +1-703-306-0091
Email: lbrown@nsf.gov

South Asia START Regional Committee (SASCOM)

Dr. Amir MUHAMMED
SASCOM Chair
Asianics Agro-Dev. International
House 13, Street 49, F-6/4
P. O. Box 2316, Islamabad
PAKISTAN
Tel: +92-51-276424
Fax: +92-51-276492
Email: asianics@isb.comsats.net.pk

START

Prof. Roland FUCHS
Director,
International START Secretariat
2000 Florida Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington D. C. 20009, U. S. A.
Tel: +1-202-462-2213
Fax: +1-202-457-5859
Email: rfuchs@agu.org

START Oceania

Dr. Kanayathu KOSHY
Chair,
START-Oceania Regional Committee
The University of the South Pacific
School of Pure and Applied Sciences
P. O. Box 1168 Suva, FIJI
Tel: +679-212-446
Fax: +679-302-548
Email: koshy_k@usp.ac.fj

START Regional Committee for Temperate East Asia (TEACOM)

Prof. Congbin FU
Director,
START Regional Center for Temperate East Asia (TEACOM)
c/o Institute of Atmospheric Physics
Chinese Academy of Sciences
Beijing 100029, P. R. China
Tel: +86-10-62041317
Fax: +86-10-62045230
Email: fcb@ast590.tea.ac.cn

HONORED GUESTS

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mehmood Khan
Chairman,
Pakistan Science Foundation
Government of Pakistan
Constitution Avenue, Sector G-5/2
Islamabad, PAKISTAN 44000
Tel: +92-51-9203044
Fax: +92-51-9202468

OBSERVERS

PAKISTAN

Dr. Anwar Nasim
Adviser Science
COMSTECH
3 Constitution Ave G-5/2, Islamabad
Tel: 92-51-9220681
Fax:92-51-9220265
Email: anwar nasim@yahoo.com

Mr. Mohammad Ashraf
Director,Crop Sciences Institute
National Agricultural Institute
Park Road, Islamabad
Tel: 92-51-240269
Fax: 92-51-240909
Email munir@rwcs.undpk.org

Mr. Asif S. Khan,
Director General (Pak-EPA)
Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency
44-Office Tower, Blue Area, Islamabad
Tel: 9217882
Fax: 9206343
Email: pakepa@isb.compol.com

Mr. Qamar Zaman Chaudhry,
Director General
Pakistan Meteorological Services
Sector H-8 P.O. Box 1214, Islamabad
Tel: 0092-51-435189
Fax: 0922-51-432588
Email qamarc@hotmail.com

Mr. Hilal A. Raza,
Director General
Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan
Islamabad
Tel: 9203958
Fax: 9204902
Email: hdip@apollo.net.pk

Mr. Waseem Ahmad,
General Manager
Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan
Plot 18, H-9, Islamabad
Tel: 434930
Fax: 448464

Dr. Ali Rasheed,
Assoc Director General
Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology
P.O. Nilore, Islamabad
Tel: 207270
Fax: 9290275
Email: rasheed.pins@dgcc.org.pk / Rasheed.pins@dgcc.org.pk

Mr. Mohammad Azhar Qureshi,
Manager Fellows Program
LEAD-Pakistan
28 Margalla Road, F-8/3
Islamabad-Pakistan  
Tel: 92-51-264742  
Fax:92-51-264743  
Email: aqureshi@lead.org.pk  

Mr. Amjad Zafar Khan,  
Manager(Project Development)  
LEAD-Pakistan  
28 Margalla Road,F-8/3, Islamabad  
Tel: 264742  
Fax:264743  
Email akhan@lead.org.pk  

Mr. Arif Alauddin,  
Managing Director  
National Energy Conservation Center  
Ministry of Environment,  
ENERCON Building G-5/2, Islamabad  
Tel: (W)92-51-9206001 R 92-51-297761  
Fax: 92-51-9206004  
Email arifalauddin@yahoo.com  

Mr. Asif Qureshi,  
Research Fellow  
Sustainable Development Policy Institute  
# 3 UN Boulevard Diplomatic Enclave, Islamabad  
Tel: 278134  
Fax: 278135  
Email asif@sdpi.org  

Mr. Allaud-Din-Nur-Rehman Shah,  
Section Officer(Technical-II)  
Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development  
UBL Building,Jinnah Avenue Branch, Islamabad  
Tel: 9201468  
Tax: 9202211  

Ms. Safiya Aftab,  
Analyst,Energy Programs  
Hagler Bailly Pakistan  
# 1, Street # 15, F-7/2, Islamabad  
Tel: 276113-8  
Fax 824484  
Email: saftab@hbp.isb.sdnpk.org
APN Secretariat

Mr. Hiroaki TAKAGI
Director
APN Secretariat
1-5-1 Wakinohama Kaigan Dori
Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073, JAPAN
Tel: +81-78-230-8017
Fax: +81-78-230-8018
Email: htakagi@apn.gr.jp

Ms. Kazuko WATANABE
Deputy Director
APN Secretariat
(See Address for Mr. Takagi)
Email: kwatanabe@apn.gr.jp

Dr. Gerhard BREULMANN
Programme Manager
APN Secretariat
(See Address for Mr. Takagi)
Email: gbreulmann@apn.gr.jp

Mr. James ROBERTSON
Programme Manager
APN Secretariat
(See Address for Mr. Takagi)
Email: jrobertson@apn.gr.jp