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## ACAP Working Group Report to SAOs, October 2017 in Oulu

### Introduction

ACAP held its second meeting of 2017 in Helsinki, Finland, June 14-16. 22 participants attended representing six AC countries (Kingdom of Denmark and Iceland were absent), three Permanent Participant (AAC, AIA and RAIPON), two observer states (France and Germany) and one observer organization (NEFCO as PSI Fund Manager). The Chair of the CAFF Working Group also attended the meeting. The meeting focused on follow-up activities from the last ACAP meeting in Kiruna, reviewing the approved work plan for 2017-2019, and discussing ideas for potential new projects. Expert Groups (EG) have continued to develop and implement projects and progress has been made in priority areas of the ACAP work plan. The relevant sections of the Amarak (the AC Tracker) were updated after the meeting.

### Summary of progress on ACAP projects

#### Expert Group on POPs and Mercury

The EG has appointed a representative to attend the regularly scheduled teleconferences of the AC Communications and Outreach Group, to find ways to promote their work in a more consistent and broad manner. Members of the EG took part in the completion seminar of a UNEP-GEF funded “Russian Mercury Inventory Project” in June 2017. Four projects are awaiting funding from the PSI, with decision being held up either by input from the enterprise partners, approval from national governments, or waiting further refinement from the EG/PSI Fund Manager.

#### Expert Group on Hazardous Waste (EG HW)

- **Demonstration of Management and Destruction of 250 tonnes of PCBs in Transformers (Phase III):** In October 2015, the PSI Committee approved an allocation for a Feasibility Study (FS). The Terms of Reference (ToR) have been revised by project partners GEF, UNIDO and Russian Railways are under review by the EG. The next step in the project is to engage the required consultants who will prepare the FS document.
- **Demonstration of environmentally sound destruction of obsolete pesticides (Phase III):** In March 2016, the PSI Committee approved an allocation for preparatory work on the “Use of SCWO (Super Critical Water Oxidation) for Environmentally Sound Destruction of Obsolete Pesticides in Russia”. The planning of the test program is complete and an application for financing for Phase 2 of the project – carrying out the test program – has been sent to the PSI Committee for decision.
- **Reduction of negative impact on the environment by rehabilitation of accumulated municipal solid waste (MSW) with the best available technologies** in Dudinka, Krasnoyarsk Krai: This project was approved for scoping funds (10 000EUR) by the PSI Committee in March 2017 to evaluate the scope and feasibility of a full-scale project with input from the beneficiary, other stakeholders and the EG. Any further project proposal will come back to ACAP for approval before applying for further PSI funds.
- A workshop to exchange information on obsolete pesticides inventory and destruction technologies is under development.

#### Indigenous Peoples Contaminants Action Program (IPCAP EG)

- **Community-Based Black Carbon and Public Health Assessment Project:** The project team has conducted extensive project development consultations in Alaska, Norway, Finland and Russia. AIA and NEFCO are working together to proceed with a scope of work that provides a demonstration project which includes

a desk study, air monitoring, and proof of the project concept allowing a subsequent FID for the full project scope.

- ***Circumpolar Local Environment Observer Network (CLEO)***: Norway is conducting a feasibility study to determine potential partners and projects in Norway. Finland and Sweden are undertaking similar studies. Discussions have begun with CAFF to collaborate on biodiversity and/or invasive species monitoring. Next steps include translation of the website and LEO user guides and training documents in AC languages. Outreach to other WGs and potential partners will continue over the next two years.
- ***Solid Waste Management in Small Arctic Communities Project***: This project is an approved part of the SDWG work plan 2017-2019. The project provides an opportunity for ACAP to contribute a section on contaminants issues related to solid waste handling storage, processing, transportation, and treatment/disposal. Cross-cutting collaboration will also include input from the PAME project “Desk Study on Marine Litter and Microplastics in the Arctic”. A proposal for grant funding from the PSI will be developed.
- ***Solid and Hazardous Waste Workshop***: The draft workshop report is being finalized, and the reference materials from the workshop and other resources will be posted on the ACAP SharePoint and website. A small grant, either from PSI or elsewhere, would be useful to undertake targeted outreach in Arctic communities.

#### **Short Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) Expert Group:**

- ***Arctic Black Carbon: Reduction of Black Carbon from Diesel Sources***: The Diesel Black Carbon projects are largely complete with the Karelia Cluster of Projects in the final stages of implementation. A final report to SAOs will be forthcoming.
- ***Phase out of ozone depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases at fish and seafood processing enterprises of the Murmansk Oblast***: This project was approved by ACAP in February 2017. The project seeks to phase out hydrochlorofluorocarbons and hydro fluorocarbons at one of the fish and seafood processing enterprises of the Murmansk oblast. This project was approved for funding of up to 180 000 EUR for Phase I of the project. The Project Supervisory Committee is under appointment.
- ***Pilot project for reducing CO2 and black carbon emissions on the rivers of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation***: ACAP approved the project in April 2017. The project has three goals: 1) avoid and decrease air pollution of CO2, PM, SOx and NOx, and where relevant substitute ozone depleting substances and HFC in ships; 2) raise awareness levels; and 3) minimize transportation costs related to logistics. The project will begin with a scoping study and has not yet secured funding.
- ***Mitigation of black carbon and methane emissions from APG flaring in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation***: The Project seeks to improve knowledge on black carbon and methane emissions in the Russian Arctic, with emphasis on the oil and gas sector, and spur enhanced actions to reduce emissions. Project Supervisory Committee members are under appointment.
- ***Valday Cluster Upgrade for Black Carbon Reduction in the Republic of Karelia, Russian Federation***: This project aims to implement a range of alternatives for providing energy to off-grid settlements in this region. The project is now in the implementation phase and has been approved for PSI funding.
- ***Mitigation of Methane Emission – Syktyvkar Dynnos Landfill Project, Russian Federation***: This project was approved by ACAP in March 2016. The Project has suffered a set-back due to re-organization of the local Government. A “focal point” for the Project has also been designated. The project has not yet been funded.

### Collaboration with other working groups/other organizations

ACAP participated in meetings of the EG BCM and agreed that representation at future meetings would be beneficial.

Collaboration with other working groups has been noted in the project updates above. The current work plan notes collaboration with CAFF, SDWG, EPPR and AMAP. ACAP is looking closely at the AMAP report on Chemicals of Emerging Concern as expect to develop projects based on the recommendations from the report.

### Working Group administration and next meeting(s)

The next ACAP Working Group meeting will be November 7-9, 2017 in Anchorage, Alaska.