

## **ACAP - Progress report at the SAO-meeting in Saariselka 7-8 Oct. 2002,**

The ACAP Interim Steering Committee has given a short progress report in the draft SAO-report in the pages 30 - 32. I will not repeat what you certainly already have read, but I just want to add a general remark and underline a few items.

I first of all want to clarify that we in all the ACAP projects have assigned an Arctic Country or a Secretariate as a coordinator of the project which means that they shall facilitate the work of a Steering Group which is responsible for managing the project. I would like to express my appreciation for the work each of the coordinators are doing and for the good work all experts from the Arctic Countries are doing in these projects.

As you will see in the SAO-report all the projects which have been approved by the Ministers or the SAOs are underway. Project C, the Fact Sheets have been completed but is under consideration for a review.

The Project Group for Project a) the PCB-project has delivered a report for most of the activities in Phase two. One report will be given to each delegation at this meeting. The report is also translated to Russian and will be printed and delivered to an all-Russian meeting in Moscow 28-29 of October. The meeting is addressing the Russian follow up of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and is arranged by the Russian CIP in cooperation with UNEP Chemicals and GEF.

A proposal for the implementation of Phase III of the PCB project has been distributed to the SAO's (sept. 13, 2002). During Phase II various technical and economical options for management of PCB-contaminated waste was assessed. When prioritising proposals for practical implementation of demonstration projects, priority have been given to proposals that are the most environmentally sound. I find it important to stress that we by the proposed Phase III will demonstrate how the PCB problem can be managed. The PCB project alone will of course not complete or solve the PCB-problems.

In the distributed proposal for phase III you will find a table listing the demonstration projects that are recommended: These projects are:

- 1) Destruction of Liquid PCB from transformers
- 2) Cleaning of transformers.
- 3) Destruction of capacitors
- 4) Collection and storage of PCB-waste on a local scale.

The 5<sup>th</sup> listed demonstration project (Remediation of contaminated sites) need some further evaluation.

### Cost of PCB-demonstration subprojects.

I refer again to the table and the indicated approximately costs. It is important to note that these are costs over 2-3 years. The demonstration of destruction of liquid PCB is fully financed by NEFCO. NEFCO has also expressed great interest in the second demonstration project - cleaning of transformers.

If we summarise we have a total Arctic Council cost on 1,2 – 1,8 mill \$ over three years or 600.000 US\$ per year, which should not be impossible for the Arctic Countries to provide. The result of these projects will take care of approx. 2800 ton PCB approx. 9% of a total amount of

30.000 tons assessed to exist in the Russian Federation. However with further help of other IFI's in addition to NEFCO' valuable contribution we could finish the demonstrations earlier.

If the SAO meeting accept it we intend to participate at the all-Russian meeting in Moscow and in the Preparatory Project Committee meeting in London this month to present the ACAP projects in general and the PCB phase III project in special in order to inform other stakeholders and eventually attract IFI interest in future cooperation