

Terms of Reference / Project description of the Project Steering Group Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy (IHWMS) in Northern Regions of the Russian Federation

Background

The development of an Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy (IHWMS) was first identified in the 2006 Arctic Council Ministerial declaration (Salekhard):

Encourage cooperation between ACAP and the Russian Federation to develop an Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy which will accelerate progress of ACAP Projects in the Arctic.

The IHWMS was also welcomed in the 2009 Arctic Council Ministerial declaration (Tromsø):

Welcome the Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Strategy in the Northern Regions of the Russian Federation, **note** its potential importance for the other parts of the Arctic, and **support** its implementation with the aim to ensure environmentally sound management, destruction and storage of hazardous waste,

Mandate and Functions

The IHWMS Project Steering Group (PSG) was created by the ACAP Working Group to develop an IHWMS in the Northern Regions of the Russian Federation. The development of the IHWMS as set forth in this Project description is also referred to herein as the “Project”.

The PSG, is to:

1. Select chairs and co-chairs, as appropriate, at its first meeting;
2. Incorporate the needs of local and indigenous populations in the design of project(s);
3. Welcome representatives of Arctic Council and ACAP observer countries/groups and other experts with technical and financial resources to participate in the PSG, as appropriate;

4. Provide a status and progress reports in writing to the chair of ACAP prior to ACAP and SAO meetings;
5. Adhere to the Arctic Council Rules of Procedure and ACAP Project Preparation Guidance document, as appropriate;
6. Propose amendments to these terms of reference, as needed, to ACAP for its consideration.

Scope

The IHWMS is to address selected Northern regions of the Russian Federation and focus on promoting the environmentally sound management of the 1st and 2nd categories of hazardous wastes (Russian National Waste Classifier) to be determined by the PSG (e.g., obsolete pesticides, mercury-containing wastes, PCB-containing wastes, waste oils, batteries, solvents and medical waste or others. Attention may also be paid to household hazardous waste management).

Project Objectives

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.

Other objectives include:

- facilitating the development of environmentally sound hazardous waste management in Russia;
- sharing knowledge and lessons-learned regarding the development and operation of hazardous waste management systems in the other areas of the Arctic; and
- leveraging expertise of relevant ACAP PSGs.

The IHWMS should focus on Russian 1 and 2 hazard waste categories (Russian National Waste Classifier), and the regional hazardous waste management system for such wastes.

The IHWMS should be developed for selected Northern regions of the Russian Federation and introduced to the ACAP WG for its consideration.

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 management (e.g.,

treatment, destruction, or disposal) of the waste. The IHWMS projects should identify existing gaps and barriers in the current waste management system(s). The IHWMS projects should include an action plan recommending possible needs for technical, administrative, legislative and financial incentive development.

Project phases

Projects under the scope of this Project Description should be developed according to the AC Rules of procedures and ACAP Project Development Process Description as appropriate, and are expected to involve the following seven phases, taking into account the progress already made in the selected region(s):

Phase I

IHWMS PSG to develop a general description of environmentally sound hazardous waste management elements. The description is to draw upon the experience of existing, relevant PSGs as well as be consistent with the principles outlined by international organizations such as the OECD (refer to the *Guidance Manual on Environmentally Sound Management of Waste*, available at: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/23/31/39559085.pdf>).and Basel Convention. ***Phase II - Selection of region(s).***

The IHWMS should be developed for the selected Northern region(s) of the Russian Federation.

When selecting the region(s), the following should be taken into consideration:

- Level of commitment from the region
- Identification of multiple waste streams
- Provision of co-financing (in kind resources)
- Ability to undertake regional actions identified in the IHWMS

To gauge interest in working with the ACAP the PSG plans to undertake activities such as meeting with various authorities and stakeholders in the regions.

Phase III – Development of Baseline study of the selected region(s)

Phase III of this Project is to involve the development of a baseline study of the selected regions. The development of a baseline study should involve, at a minimum, the following:

1. Collection and analysis of the data on the hazardous wastes generation and management in the selected regions (baseline situation). The basic requirements to the works are the following:

- profile of the selected regions including population, economic activities (past, present, and future), climatic and geologic conditions, distance to large urban centres, and accessibility (e.g., roads, rail, air, barge);
- inventory of the hazardous wastes in the selected regions;
- outline of the quantities (tonnes) of hazardous wastes collected in the selected regions;
- description of the present system for collection of hazardous wastes in the selected regions;
- identification of stakeholders and outline the responsibilities of all stakeholders for hazardous wastes for the selected regions (and federal level); and
- outline of available destruction facilities and capacities on treatment, disposal and destruction of hazardous wastes in the selected regions.

Phase IV - Selection of waste streams

Phase IV is to involve a prioritizing the waste streams to be addressed in the IHWMS.

The waste streams to be addressed in the strategy should be selected by the PSG in consultation with the regional authorities and stakeholders.

The IHWMS should take into account both legacy hazardous waste (for example waste in storage waiting for destruction) and hazardous waste currently being generated. In addition, the following elements should be taken into consideration:

- existing waste management practices in the selected region(s);
- the potential for pollution and health risks;
- opportunities for collection and storage;
- specific acute problems; and
- available treatment facilities.

Region(s) selected in Phase II should be consulted regarding the type of waste to be included in the IHWMS.

Phase V - Analysis of existing regulations

Analysis of existing policies and regulations for the management of hazardous wastes (including those at the local, regional and federal level). The basic requirements to the works are the following:

- provide a summary of the current relevant local, regional and federal policies and legislation that pertain to management of hazardous waste in the selected region(s);

- describe the relevant international policies, legislation, and best management practices/best available technologies on management of hazardous waste;
- identify gaps (e.g., information, technical, infrastructure, funding, policy, regulatory) and other factors that prevent environmentally sound management in the selected region(s); and
- provide recommendations to address identified gaps in order to improve the hazardous waste management in the selected region(s), including identification of incentives for sustainable funding.

Phase VI - Development of the IHWMS

Phase VI is to involve the preparation of the IHWMS to be provided to the ACAP WG for consideration. The IHWMS should include the following:

- develop a proposal for an environmentally sound hazardous waste management system (including source reduction, storage, collection, transportation, treatment, disposal and destruction) for the prioritised hazardous wastes in the selected region(s);
- identify the needs and opportunities of development of the Russian Federation legislation on management of hazardous wastes; and
- develop a proposal for an action plan with measures to implement the strategy.

Phase VII - Implementation

In order to facilitate and accelerate the progress of ACAP projects in the Arctic, the strategy will be presented as a proposal to the ACAP WG for their consideration. The ACAP WG is then to provide its advice to SAOs on how to move forward on implementing the strategy. Nothing in this paragraph is meant to delay ongoing or upcoming project activities in this subject area.

The IHWMS should be implemented by the selected region(s) based on the recommendation from the SAOs.

Timeline

It is anticipated that the IHWMS will be developed within two years of initial implementation activities.

Funding

All activities are contingent upon the availability of funding which may be from Member States/Observers/Other PSG Participants, the Project Support Instrument, national development assistance, or other sources. Listing of activities in this document does not constitute or imply a promise of funding. Further it is recognized that not all activities may be eligible for all types of assistance indicated in this paragraph.