

ACAP ARCTIC CONTAMINANTS ACTION PROGRAM

ACAP Working Group Report to SAO CA-03, October 2014 in Yellowknife

Summary of Main Activities

September, 2014

Since the last SAO meeting in March 2014, Arctic Contaminants Action Program (ACAP) has had one meeting in Sopot, Poland 10-11 September, 2014. The project steering groups (PSGs) have continued to implement their projects and had several meetings since the last SAO meeting.

The ACAP project steering group on **Short Lived Climate Forcer Contaminants (SLCFC)** has continued implementing projects focusing on Black Carbon: Norway-Finland led Black Carbon Reduction from Residential Wood Combustion (ACAPWOOD) and US-led Diesel Black Carbon Reduction in the Russian Arctic, the Arctic Black Carbon Case Studies Platform and Valday Cluster Upgrade for Black Carbon Reduction in the Republic of Karelia, Russian Federation.

The ACAPWOOD project final report has been submitted to SAOs for approval as a Ministerial deliverable, including the recommendations on black carbon emissions reduction options for residential wood combustion. The project has also prepared a short 4-page fact sheet for outreach. The PSG SLCFC has continued preparing the Black Carbon Case Studies Platform with a view to making it available for the Ministerial meeting. The Diesel Black Carbon Reduction project's draft final emissions inventory for the Murmansk Region was completed in August 2014 and is under review by the Technical Steering Group with completion expected in November 2014.

The PSG SLCFC coordinates with other Arctic Council groups working on black carbon – including AMAP Expert Group and AC Task Force on Black Carbon and Methane (TFBCM). Two projects with concrete emission reduction activities (Valday cluster and Tundra projects) have submitted Expressions of Interest to the Project Support Instrument (PSI) which is managed by NEFCO.

The ACAP **project steering group on Mercury** has submitted two project proposals for the PSI to enable implementation: Reduction of mercury releases from non-ferrous metals smelters in the Russian Federation (Co-leads: the United States, Russia and NEFCO) and Mercury Emissions Reduction Technology Workshop (Co-leads: The United States and Russia).

The project steering group on **Indigenous Peoples Contaminant Action Project (IPCAP)**, co-chaired by Russia and RAIPON, has continued developing two projects. An initiative by AIA will focus on assessing and developing tools for black carbon reduction in indigenous communities, and a Russia-RAIPON project which aims to organize an information exchange conference on best practices on contaminant reduction in indigenous communities in late 2015. A proposal for PSI is expected in Spring 2015.

The **PSG on dioxin and furan** releases has followed the development at Vorkutinskiy cement Plant (own installation of dust filters etc.) and is currently implementing additional support to these activities, aimed at reducing the emissions of dioxins and furans. A Final Report of Phase III of the Vorkutinskiy Cement Plant is expected for the Ministerial meeting as a deliverable.

The ACAP PSG on **Obsolete Pesticides** management in Northern Russia is preparing a project on carrying out a contaminated site assessment in an old burnt-down pesticide warehouse in Ust-Tunguska, Krasnoyarsk Krai (RF). The project will demonstrate the use of a Rapid Environmental Assessment developed in EC/FAO-project on safe management of obsolete pesticides in the former Soviet Union countries. The

assessment aims at demonstrating a cost-effective method to assess the level of contamination in former pesticide storages to estimate their environmental impact. Regarding the demonstration of environmentally sound destruction of obsolete pesticides, no destruction capacity has become available in Russian Federation. Therefore it is unlikely that there will be a deliverable for the Ministerial meeting in 2015.

ACAP has reviewed and agreed to changes to the ACAP Operating Guidelines. The document will be submitted to the SAO meeting in Yellowknife, October 2014, for approval.

Finland will be followed by Sweden as a Chairmanship of the ACAP WG from April 2015. The US will take on the position of Vice-Chair.

ACAP will have the next meeting in January 28-29, 2015, with pre-meetings on January 27, in Finland.
