For Better Air Quality in Asia

Proposal of Asia Science Panel for Air and Climate (ASPAC) - Plan for Ad Hoc High-level Scientists Meeting on Air Pollution and Climate in Asia -

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S-7-3 Project
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Importance and Needs for Science-Policy Interface

Importance of Establishment of Epistemic Scientific Community

Proposal of Asia Science Panel for Air and Climate (ASPAC)
[Initially: Asia Science Panel for Air Quality (ASPAQ) ]
New Situation of Atmospheric Environmental Issues around MOEJ in the Last one Year

Serious air pollution by “haze” came up to political issue in China.

Serious public concern on PM$_{2.5}$ in Japan including trans-boundary transport.

Prime Minister requested to MOEJ for strengthening of cooperation on Asian air pollution measures.

MOEJ decided “Better Air Quality in Asia Plan” which includes:

1. Policy dialog on air pollution under TEMM
2. Technological support making use of local governments and private industries
3. Promotion of multilateral discussion through UNEP (Realization of ASPAC)
4. Promotion of specific measures on country and city levels through CAA
Proposal

Asia Science Panel for Air and Climate (ASPAC)

The aim is to synthesize scientific knowledge on air pollution in the Asian region to reach a common understanding among scientists and policy makers, and to develop an international initiative for an integrated approach to air pollution and climate change reflecting the views of Asian scientists.
Bases of the ASPAC Proposal (1)

The air pollutants include **air toxicants** (e.g. photochemical oxidants, PM$_{2.5}$), **biogeochemically active species** (e.g. acidic and nitrogeneous species), and **radiatively active species** (e.g. black carbon, tropospheric ozone) and their precursors.

These atmospheric species are interwound through emissions of common precursors, chemical and physical transformations, and depositions.

The overall issues are very complicated, and there is a strong need to consider such issues from a scientific viewpoint and to give clear message and make suggestions from the scientific community to policy makers to take actions.
Bases of the ASPAC Proposal (2)

However, the situation in Asia is different from Europe and North America.

In Europe and North America: CLRTAP

Regional cooperation on air pollution mitigation based on scientific knowledge has been well developed

In Asia: No framework for scientific discussion on air pollution to be reflected into policy makers.

Our project identified that:

- Scientific epistemic community on air pollution is necessary to be established for the discussion of international atmospheric management in Asia.

- It is very important to input the views of Asian scientists to those of European and North American, since their understandings and views on Asian situation might be different from Asians.
Proposal as an Immediate Initiative

Ad Hoc High-Level Scientists Meeting

An ad hoc high-level scientists meeting for air pollution in Asia is planned for the purpose of discussing importance of Asian air pollution in a global perspective, and the best way of synthesizing scientific views on relevant issues and of conveying them to policy makers inside and outside the region, It will hopefully to propose ASPAC.

The participants of the high-level science meeting may consist of eminent scientists of the highest level in this field in East Asia as well as some from outside regions. Policy makers and other scientists in Asia will be invited as observers.

Discussion is underway with UNEP/ROAP.
Thank you for your attention!