

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Subgroup for Hotspots Exclusion

Telephone Meeting on 25th of November 2010, at 09.30 CET

- 1) The meeting was opened in time scheduled, with representation of Finland (Henna Haapala), Sweden (Åke Mikaelsson) and Russia (Andrey Peshkov from MNRE, Ruslan Butovsky from Fund for Sustainable Development).
- 2) The Agenda was adopted, the Åke Mikaelsson was appointed as a Chair of the meeting and Ruslan Butovsky – as a Secretary.
- 3) The Minutes of the Meeting of November 8th, 2010 were reviewed and adopted with minor comments.
- 4) The Minutes from the joint SHE-Karelian HSEG meeting in Petrozavodsk on November 9th, 2010 were reviewed and minor comments from Finnish side were received.
- 5) MNRE reported that 4 out of 5 Federal Subject Administrations have responded to the letter. Karelia did not respond yet but the work was in progress. In general the material sent was good (with some HS with missing data) to start working with it. The important part is the data analysis, it is also important to ask the Administrations to range the Hot Spots and to highlight the regional environmental priorities. It is important to address the regions and to ask what kind of advisory support do they need from the SHE and MNRE to start the HS exclusion activities. Russian side pointed that it is important to keep the realistic time schedule for the activities. The regions should be interested in elimination activities in partnership with SHE and MNRE.
Russian side mentioned that the CPEE training program had successful results but the implementation was not satisfactory, for instance there was not enough implementation activities and lack of partnership between CP Center and MNRE.
It was suggested that MNRE will follow 3-4 steps to streamline the process:
 - 1) send a letter to the Administrations asking to clarify the regional environmental priorities and HS for exclusion
 - 2) circulate the data collected from Administrations to other relevant Russian Agencies (Rosprirodnadzor, Roshydromet etc.) and involve them into the assessment process
 - 3) clarify the MNRE priorities for HS exclusion
 - 4) after getting the data from Karelia send it to SHE group

- 6) The information on the HS collected from the regions has to be processed by MNRE in collaboration with the Assigned Federal Authorities and the regions and the general scheme of exclusion has to be adapted to the actual administrative prerequisites and authorities. Based on the priorities of the subjects and then the final priority by the MNRE, K10 plus one or two additional HS should be focused on with the aim to actually exclude them during 2011. In parallel, it though is important to keep the exclusion procedure active in ALL subjects. It is thus important not to forget the other (not primarily prioritized) HS as the target is to launch project in all “hot spots” by 2013. For instance it is important to link the prioritized HS with the other projects like Pajala project in particular in Murmansk region.

- 7) It was suggested by the Russian side to organize a kick-off meeting for all Regional Working Groups during December, 2010 in Moscow. After that during the 1st Quarter 2011 all regions have to be visited by SHE group members. In total during the Program period 2-3 more meetings with the Working Groups are needed in order to keep the exclusion procedure active and to address adequate support to the regional HEGs.

- 8) The next SHE WG meeting is scheduled to December back-to back with the Regional Working Groups kick-off meeting in Moscow. The date and agenda will be determined in week 48.’