



**Greater Mekong Subregion
Working Group on Environment 13th Annual Meeting (WGE AM 13)
13-15 June 2007
Guilin, Guangxi Province, People's Republic of China**

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The 13th Annual Meeting of the Working Group on Environment (WGE AM-13) was held on 13 -15 June 2007 in Guilin, Guangxi Province, People's Republic of China (PRC). The meeting was hosted by the State Environment Protection Administration (SEPA) of PRC in cooperation with GMS Environment Operation Center and Asian Development Bank (ADB). The meeting participants included delegations from Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. Observers included representatives from the Governments of Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, ADB, AIT, FAO, IGES, IUCN, MFLU, MRC, SEI, UNEP, WWF, XTBG and three members of the Technical Advisory Panel. The full list of participants is provided in Appendix 1.

2. WGE 12 meeting held in April 2006 in Bangkok, recommended that WGE should meet at least twice in a year. Annual meetings would be forward looking focusing on strategic issues and priorities whereas semi-annual meeting would focus primarily on program implementation progress review. Consequently, the Working Group on Environment (WGE) technical meeting was held in Bangkok on December, 2006. It was decided that the WGE meeting cycle will shift to PRC for 2007 and the 13th WGE Annual Meeting was scheduled for 13-15 June 2007 in Guangxi province. Meeting Agenda is attached as Appendix 2.

II. OPENING SESSION

3. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Dingding Tang, Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, SEPA and Mr. Urooj S. Malik, Director, Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Southeast Asia Department, ADB. Mr. Zhou Jian, Vice Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration, PRC inaugurated the meeting. In his speech, he emphasized China's commitment to fostering cooperation within the GMS, and specifically highlighted the importance of the biodiversity corridor initiative for environmental improvement and poverty reduction within the subregion.

4. Mr. Mu Hong, Vice Chairman, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, in his welcome note, drew attention to the significant natural resource and tourism potential within the province and the role of these sectors in promoting environmental growth in recent years. The establishment of the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area and subsequent designation of Nanning as the host city for the China-ASEAN Expo have made the province a major platform for linking China to other ASEAN countries. He also pointed out that the province is now pursuing a “One Axis Two Wing” strategic platform for regional cooperation with the Nanning-Singapore economic corridor serving as the central axis and the Pan-Beibu Gulf Rim Economic Cooperation Area and the GMS Economic Cooperation Program serving as the two wings of regional cooperation. country teams and development partners during the meeting.

5. Mr. Malik, in his speech discussed the increasing competitiveness of the GMS in terms of both economic terms and in terms of a growing sense of community within the subregion. He cautioned, however, that it was important to underpin such progress with renewed efforts to address emerging concerns such as climate change, water and food security and their impacts on sustainable development in the region.

III CEP Updates

6. Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi, Chief Operating Officer, EOC provided an update on the WGE SAM-1 resolutions. Several items in the list of resolutions were endorsed, including the final draft CEP Implementation Framework. The latest WGE SAM-1 Resolutions with EOC remarks is attached as Appendix 3.

7. The EOC staff presented updates of the five components covering the period December 2006-June 2007 and proposed activities for the second half of 2007.

8. In general, the country delegations and donors expressed their appreciation for progress within the Program components. The WGE expressed their support for the operational progress within the program components. Christer Holtsberg from SIDA and Ben Zech from the Royal Netherlands Embassy, specifically appreciated the progress made within Component 1 (Environmental Assessment of Economic Corridors and Sectors) and also expressed their satisfaction with the overall progress of the Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative, while noting a few implementation delays. The PRC delegate specifically commended the BCI implementation in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan.

9. Some of the WGE members requested clarification on the rationale for Phase I extension to 2009. Some clarifications were also sought regarding the liquidation procedures and the reasons for delays in implementation within some of the BCI pilots. EOC reminded the WGE members and partners to submit liquidation reports of cash advances and apply for replenishment only after 70 percent of the initial disbursement had been utilized. The linkage between implementing partners and provincial governments in the execution of project activities was mentioned as a specific area of concern, especially in Viet Nam. The necessity to extend Phase I was explained as a direct result of delays in funding allocation from the Swedish Government and the resultant implementation delays. EOC also reassured the WGE that review of implementation was ongoing and appropriate feedback will be provided to the WGE soon.

10. Lao PDR requested a rapid transport sector assessment using Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) tools and Myanmar solicited greater in-country capacity development for SEA activities. Both requests were noted as high-priority by the EOC. In response to WGE queries, EOC also clarified that SEA could be expanded to other sectors such as agriculture/biofuels and renewable/clean energy. EOC's proposal for a study tour of the United Nations Economic Commission of Europe and the Regional Environment Center in Central and Eastern Europe was well received by the participants.

11. Discussions also focused on the progress of Component 2: Biodiversity Corridor Initiative in various pilot sites. Relationship between implementing partners and government officials was discussed in Viet Nam and EOC assured the WGE that the implementation arrangements will be looked into in greater detail. Lao PDR expressed their support for the proposed supplemental activity on the Lao-Thailand border, but emphasized the need to consider clustering of activities in sites, to enable easier approval for additional activities in provinces/sites.

IV New Concepts

12. Mr. Javed Hussain Mir, Principal Natural Resources Management Specialist and CEP/BCI Project Officer presented the proposed supplemental budget of US\$10 million with projected funding from several donors, including the Governments of Finland and Holland. The grant funding is expected to finance several additional activities within Phase I. Some of these new activities were presented for consideration by the WGE members:

- Pre feasibility Study on Carbon Neutral Transport Corridors
- Pre-feasibility Study on Risk and Vulnerabilities of Climate Change in the GMS
- International Conference on Biodiversity Corridors, Connectivity and Competitiveness in Mid October 2007 in Kunming, Yunnan
- Transboundary Eco and Cultural Tourism Development in Preah Vihear (Cambodia-Thailand): Preparatory Measures for Pilot Site Program Development
- Environment Protection and Waste Management in the BCI Pilot Site in Yunnan, PRC: Rapid Assessment with focus on drinking water safety and rural livestock waste management
- 2008 GMS Environment Ministers Meeting/Environment Forum
- 2nd GMS Study Visit for GMS officials
- Environment Seminar for GMS Officials/executives.

In addition, the implementation framework for the SEA of the GMS North South Economic Corridor, an activity already endorsed by the WGE and scheduled to commence in October 2007, was also presented.

13. Mr. Holtsberg, SIDA expressed the opinion that WGE is overburdened with activities, and suggested that the program should build from the original objective, starting small rather than initiating larger, more ambitious activities. He sought clarification on the mechanism for developing project proposals. He also suggested that the community-health focus within some of the activities in the Supplemental seemed outside the scope of the original RETA framework. He suggested that WGE should carefully prioritize and review additional activities. The EOC drew attention to the fact that most of these proposals originated from the WGE countries, citing the examples of the proposal on "Environmental Protection and Waste Management in the BCI pilot site in Yunnan," and the "International Conference on Biodiversity Corridors, Connectivity and Competitiveness," planned in Mid October 2007 as originating from PRC. The proposal on Carbon Neutral Transport Corridors was developed by the ADB project officer to specifically assess the emerging threat of carbon emissions within the GMS Economic Corridors and the implications for economic productivity and human health.

13. Mr. Ben Zech, Royal Netherlands Embassy, averred that health and water are key elements in the environment sector and of critical concern at the community level (for example in Guangxi and in Viet Nam). He explained the rationale for the Dutch Government's investment priorities for the Supplemental RETA, stressing that health and water related concerns dovetailed closely with the broader environmental focus within the CEP and the additional funding will focus on strengthening the interface between health and poverty issues at the commune and district levels within the BCI landscapes.

14. Ms. Ahola, Government of Finland, expressed satisfaction with the program implementation and the progress of implementation. However, she requested clarification on the implementation details and the monitoring and evaluation procedures. Ms. Ahola emphasized the policy thrusts of the Finnish Government, focused on the areas of Millennium Development Goals, poverty reduction, good governance and climate change. Mr. Mir explained that the project proposal for supplemental financing will be submitted to the Finnish Government after the appraisal process and discussions with GMS Governments. The process is expected to be finalized by October 2007. He emphasized that additional financing is critical to bridge requirements for additional activities in preparation for Phases 2 and 3 of the CEP.

15. PRC suggested enhancing the linkages between the 5 components of the CEP and also building on the BCI focus. One suggestion related to including biodiversity indicators and monitoring of biodiversity assessments within the profile of supplementary activities. Another related to electronic waste (e-waste) and the need to include e-waste as well as agricultural wastes/residues (and their effects on climate change) into the scope of activities in the waste management proposal.

V Governance Structure of EOC

16. The WGE shared their views regarding the future role and governance structure of the EOC. PRC emphasized that the EOC should focus less on the monitoring and information clearing house role and function more as an implementing arm of the WGE. Clearing house functions were already performed by UN agencies such as UNEP and UNESCAP. A suggestion was made to evaluate the EOC functions and management, including WGE mechanisms every two years.

17. The consensus view among the WGE was that the GMS Economic Cooperation Program was the reason for the establishment of the EOC for helping to mainstream environmental dimensions and this would continue to remain the main focus for the CEP. In this context, Mr. Malik noted that the ADB has reviewed the GMS Strategic Framework, and increased investments in environment (including scaling up, where appropriate) have been clearly identified as important needs.

VI Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)

18. Following a presentation from Dr. Johan Holmberg from TAP, much of the discussion centered on the role of TAP within the CEP and its engagement with the WGE process. The PRC delegate suggested inclusion of a GMS representative within TAP and it was agreed by all that this matter would be pursued in discussion with IUCN, who serve as the secretariat to the TAP.

19. The WGE concurred on the overall importance of TAP for reviewing CEP design, implementation and providing strategic recommendations to the EOC/WGE. Dr. Holmberg emphasized that TAP has been engaged to advise on broader strategic, institutional and governance issues and is not suited to focus on specific technical aspects of implementation. Mr. Mir clarified that the TAP could have a clear role in providing guidance on transboundary environmental concerns and to also share the WGE and CEP perspective within the ADB.

20. Mr. Malik emphasized that based on earlier discussions and agreement with countries, TAP's role was identified as: a) providing feedback on CEP progress, focusing on the strategic dimensions and ways to move forward; b) policy advice on environmental issues, particularly transboundary concerns; c) sharing experiences of regional cooperation on environmental matters, and d) advice on the future role of EOC.

21. The TAP will visit the ADB Headquarters in Manila during the last week of August 2007, to discuss their views and plans for the CEP with ADB staff.

VII Country Progress Reports

22. Focal persons from the WGE members and selected implementation partners presented the progress on the implementation in the BCI pilot sites. Major achievements so far, included, a) Signed Letters of Agreements (LOAs) with governments and implementation partners, b) Establishment of National Support Units (NSUs); c) Focal points identified and equipment procured; d) Implementation on the ground commenced. Some delays were noted in Cambodia and PRC due to delays in fund transfer, in the case of Lao PDR, due to delay in recruitment of experienced consultants, and in Thailand due to changes in the implementation framework of some activities, reorganization of DNP and recruitment of new staff in the project office.

23. Mr. Eric Coull, WWF provided an update of BCI implementation in the Eastern Plains in Cambodia, Xe-Pian –Dong Hua Sao-Dong Ampham pilot site in Lao PDR and the Ngoc Linh-Xe Sap pilot site in Viet Nam and discussed some of the reasons for delays in implementation including some confusion on implementation arrangements and roles of provincial and local government authorities

24. Mr. Kent Jingfors, IUCN presented on the progress of the Biodiversity Corridors Decree in Viet Nam. He noted that IUCN is assisting the Viet Nam government in revising the biodiversity law in the country. He emphasized that this is likely to be a long drawn out process as it would involve integrating the various elements at the national and local levels.

25. The issue of delay in fund transfer in PRC was explained by CEP to be partly a result of changes in office and bank accounts. PRC explained the process of fund transfer, starting with funds deposited with YEPB and then transferred to XTBG and then down to the implementation agencies. EOC also clarified that if countries intended to use the contingency funds, they needed to seek prior approval from ADB.

26. In response to the concerns of delays in implementation due to late fund transfers and unclear implementation mechanisms, Mr. Ben Zech offered to discuss further with WWF and MONRE to facilitate a speedy remedy.

VIII Lessons from the Baltic SEA Visit

27. Dr. Holmberg also presented a report on the visit by the GMS countries to the Baltic Region to study the Baltic Sea Cooperation.¹ The cooperation is legally binding across nine coastal states and took twenty years to materialize. The legal components of the cooperation take into account policies, laws and regulations, institutional strengthening and investment activities (related to point and non-point sources), management of coastal lagoons and wetlands, applied research, and public awareness campaigns.

28. In terms of adaptability and relevance of the study trip for GMS environmental cooperation, Dr. Holmberg suggested four main lessons : a) the *political context* of mainstreaming environmental considerations into the work of key ministries and planning bodies and developing networks among countries on specific issues; b) maintaining a small and flexible governance structure that can engage with the national support units; c) developing some kind of protocol (that does not have to be legally binding) framework in the long-term focused on programmatic priorities; d) establishing clear funding priorities and streams of revenue generation independent of external donor financing; e) engaging with civil society, and f) cooperation focused on scientific research as much as possible.

IX Technical Presentations

29. Prof. Zou Ji of Renmin University, PRC made a presentation on Climate Change, Risks and Vulnerabilities of Economic Development in the GMS. He provided an overview of global climate change trends based on the latest IPCC findings, and discussed China's strategies and policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change effects.

¹ The Baltic Sea Cooperation is focused on 9 coastal states surrounding the Baltic Sea and was triggered by agricultural chemical leaks in the Baltic Sea that caused the proliferation of Algal Blooms.

30. The PRC delegate suggested that climate change should not be an immediate priority within the GMS; instead, the focus should be on more pressing concerns such as water scarcity and quality, and biodiversity. He requested the other GMS countries to consult with their line ministries before endorsing climate change as a priority area at the next GMS Ministerial Conference in Manila. However, ADB as well as the Dutch and Finnish delegates strongly urged the delegates to consider the impacts of climate change within their ongoing work and highlighting the linkages with climate change and biofuels and rural energy. The WWF delegate pointed out recent studies on the impact of sea level rise in Viet Nam and Ben Zech noted the likely disproportionate impacts on Lao PDR and Cambodia. The reaction from the countries was mixed with Thailand concurring with the view that climate change was an immediate priority and Viet Nam suggesting that it was more of a longer term concern.

31. The linkages between agricultural patterns, land use change and environmental degradation emerged as a significant theme, following a presentation from Mr. Jefferson Fox of the East-West Center, USA on "Land Use Changes in the North South Corridor." The PRC delegate suggested that the connections between urbanization and agriculture and regional land use planning issues were themes that could be studied further within the GMS. Thailand raised the issue of implications of rubber plantation on watershed and water flow levels. Mr. Fox noted that such research was limited at this point. The presentation also elicited responses on the importance of studying the potential life cycle production and impacts of biofuels within the GMS.

32. The WGE members underlined the importance of tourism and environment linkages. PRC specifically mentioned the importance of developing regional ecotourism good practices within the GMS. The effective cooperation between the Working Groups on Tourism and the WGE was also highlighted by the EOC and the WGE members were urged to consider ways to replicate such cooperation across other key planning sectors such as transport and energy. It was agreed that SEAs offer a good tool to develop environmental capacity within the broader national planning frameworks and cross-sectoral ministries.

33. PRC made a strong recommendation to develop regional linkages on eco-tourism and tourism development focusing on issues such as water sanitation impacts, tourism infrastructure development, protection of eco-tourism and cultural resources through engagement with private and public sectors. Ms. Ahola suggested looking at cooperation with the IMF funded Mekong Private Partnership Development Facility (MPPDF) to explore eco-tourism development activities in the GMS.

34. Prof. Chongrak Polpraset of the Asian Institute of Technology delivered a presentation titled, "Management of Hazardous Waste in the GMS: Transboundary Issues." He argued that there are a number of effective management strategies to minimize waste using the Polluter Pays Principle (PPP), cleaner production, tax incentives (tax credit to businesses investing in waste reduction and reuse technologies), and human resource development/capacity development in waste management.

X. Partnership Agreements

35. Signing of the Letter of Agreement with Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI): The signing of the Letter of Agreement (\$315,000) between the Stockholm Environment Institute and ADB was formalized at the meeting to deliver the project on the Strategic Environmental Assessment of Viet Nam's Hydropower Master Plan. This brings to-date, the number of signed LoAs with CEP Implementing Agencies to eighteen (18), for a total amount of \$15.97 million.

XI. Concluding Session

36. The WGE members and EOC had a closed door meeting to deliberate on the endorsed WGE-13 resolutions. It was decided that the 2nd Semi-Annual Meeting of the WGE will be held on the week of November 27 by video conference.

37. Mr. Ben Zech announced his transfer to the Netherlands Embassy in Jakarta and expressed his deep appreciation to the members of the WGE for their collaboration and friendship. Mr. Malik thanked Mr. Zech for his efforts in bringing resources to the region and commitment to the environmental agenda.

38. Mr. Malik in his concluding remarks emphasized that the success of the GMS program was due to the joint effort, and growing trust and confidence among the partners. He highlighted the need to address emerging challenges such as climate change and transboundary waste management, but also noted the need to focus on linkages with the agriculture sector as one of the mainstays of natural resource management in the region. In this context he cited the need for the WGE and the Working Group on Agriculture to work more closely in the future. Finally, Mr. Malik expressed his appreciation to the PRC Government for hosting the meeting and to the participants for their constructive contribution and cooperation during the two days.



**Greater Mekong Subregion
Working Group on Environment Annual Meeting (WGE 13)
13-15 June 2007, Guilin, Guangxi Province, PR China
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(as of 12 June 2007)**

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Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)
Working Group on Environment 13th Annual Meeting (WGE AM 13)
Co-Chairs: Mr. Tang Ding Ding - SEPA, and Mr. Urooj Malik - ADB
 13-15 June, 2007
 Guilin, Guangxi Province, Peoples Republic of China

Meeting Program

Wednesday, 13 June 2007		
<p>8:30 – 9:00 Inaugural Session: Welcome Remarks Mr. Zhou Jian, Vice Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration, People's Republic of China Mr. Urooj Malik ,ADB Mr. Mu Hong Vice Chairman of Guangxi Chuang Autonomous Region Chair: Mr. Tang Dingding, the State Environmental Protection Administration, People's Republic of China</p>		
9:00 – 9:20 <i>Coffee Break</i>		
<p>Session I: Program Review (WGE, ADB, UNEP, RNE, Sida, Finnida and EOC) Chairs: Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB and Mr. Tang Dingding, SEPA, PRC</p>		
TIME	TOPIC	LEAD
9:20 – 9:35	Agenda Setting	Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB
9:35 – 10:00	Report on WGE-SAM 1 Resolutions	Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi, EOC
9:40 – 11:20	CEP Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing, Deputation & Internship Programs (10') • Budget & Expenditure Review (10') • Implementation Framework & Procedures for the record (5') • Component 1 (15') • Component 2 (15') • Component 3 (10') • GIS developments (10') • Component 4 (15') • Component 5 (10') 	Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi Mr. Pavit Ramachandran Dr. Hasan Moinuddin Mr. Iain Watson Mr. Lothar Linde Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi
11:20 – 12:00	Implementation Frameworks and New Concepts (5 minutes per item for 8 items)	EOC Staff
12:00 – 12:30	Key Events & Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Forum (5') • GMS Summit 2008 (10') 	Mr. Javed H. Mir, ADB

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplemental RETA (15') General Discussion & Comments	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
Session II: Resolutions Drafting (WGE, ADB, UNEP, EOC) Chair: WGE Representative		
13:30 – 15:30	Discussions and Drafting of resolutions to be passed at this WGE AM13	
15:30 – 15:50	Coffee Break	
15:50- 16:30	EOC Long-Term Development and Structure Discussions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Options and EOC Structure • Report on visit to the Baltic Sea States (to be provided) 	Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi, EOC
Session IV: Parallel Meetings A. Meeting with the Technical Advisory Panel (WGE, TAP/IUCN, ADB, UNEP, EOC) Chair: WGE Representative		
16:30 – 17:30	Discussion on scope and activities of the TAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction (10') • Discussion on TAP TORs (30') • Discussion on Objectives for TAP visit to ADB HQ in August 2007 (20') 	WGE Members
Session IV: Parallel Meetings B. Partners Advisory Group Discussions (PAG) Chair: To be decided by PAG Members		
16:30 – 17:30	Agenda: To be decided by PAG	PAG
19:30	Dinner hosted by Mr. Urooj Malik (Venue tba)	

Thursday, 14 June 2007		
Session V: Progress Review (Plenary)		
Chairs: Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB, Mr Tang Dingding, SEPA, PRC		
8:00 – 8:30	Registration	
8:30 – 8:40	Welcome by host country	Mr. Tang Dingding, SEPA, PRC
8:40 – 10:10	Country and CEP Updates and discussions	
8:40 – 9:10	<u>Cambodia</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Support Units (NSU) Establishment Status SEA Implementation Status in the Tourism Sector BCI Implementation Status in the Eastern Plains 	Mr. Chuon Chanrithy, MONRE Mr. Chuon Chanrithy, MONRE WWF Greater Mekong Program Representative
9:10 – 9:40	<u>PR China</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSU Establishment Status BCI Implementation Status in Yunnan Province 	Ms. Fang Li, SEPA, PRC Representative of XTBG
9:40 – 10:10	<u>Lao PDR</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSU Establishment Status BCI Implementation Status in Xe Pian-Dong Hua Sao/ Dong Amphan 	Mrs. Keobang A Keola, STEA WWF Greater Mekong Program Representative
10:10 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30 – 12:30	Country and CEP Updates continued	
10:30-10:50	<u>Myanmar</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Component 3 (EPA) Activities in Myanmar 	Mrs. Htwo Nyo Nyo, MONRE, Myanmar & Ms. Yuwaree In-na, UNEP
10:50-11:20	<u>Thailand</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSU Establishment Status BCI Implementation Status in the Tenasserim - Western Forest Complex BCI Implementation Status in Khao Yai - Taplan National Park Complex 	Dr. Ampan Pintukanok, MONRE Dr. Songtam Suksawang, DNP Dr. Anak Pattanavibool, WCS
11:20-12:00	<u>Viet Nam</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSU Establishment Status SEA Implementation Status of Viet Nam's Hydropower Subsector Strategy BCI Implementation Status in Ngoc Linh – Xe Sap Update on Passage of Biodiversity Corridors Decree in Viet Nam 	Mr. Nguyen Huang Duc, MONRE Mr. Nguyen Huang Duc, MONRE WWF Greater Mekong Program Representative Kent Jingfors, IUCN

12:00 – 12:30	Update on CEP Implementation and EOC	Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
Session V: Progress Review (Plenary), Continued Chair: Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB		
13:30 – 14:30	Q&A and Discussions	
Session VI: Technical Session (Plenary) Chairs: Mr Urooj Malik, ADB, Mr. Tang Dingding, SEPA, PRC		
14:30 – 15:00	Presentation on “Baltic Regional Cooperation: Experiences Relevant for the GMS”	Dr. Johan Holmberg, TAP
15:00 – 15:30	Presentation on “Climate Change, Risks and Vulnerabilities for the Economic Development of the GMS”	Professor Zou Ji, Renmin University, China
15:30 – 15:50	Coffee Break	
15:50 – 16:20	Presentation on “Land-use changes in the North-South Economic Corridor”	Jefferson Fox, East-West Center, USA
16:20 – 16:50	Presentation on “Synergies Between the WGE CEP and the Tourism Working Group Agenda”	Representative of the GMS Tourism Working Group
16:50 – 17:20	Management of Hazardous Waste and Other Waste in the GMS region: Transboundary Issues	Professor Chettiyappan Visvanathan, AIT, Thailand
Session VII: Conclusions (Plenary) Chairs: Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB, Mr. Tang Dingding, SEPA, PRC.		
17:20 – 18:00	Confirmation of Resolutions of the 13 th Annual Meeting of the GMS-WGE	Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB
18:00 – 18:10	Confirmation of Date and Venue of the 2nd Semi-Annual Meeting of the WGE in 2007 (WGE SAM 2)	Prof. Dawood Ghaznavi, EOC
18:10 – 18:30	Closing Remarks	Mr. Urooj Malik, ADB Mr. Tang Dingding, SEPA, PRC
19:30	Dinner hosted by SEPA, PRC	Courtesy of Host PR China
Friday, 15 June 2007		
Whole day	Field Trip (boat trip of Li River and others)	Courtesy of Host: PR China



**Greater Mekong Subregion
Working Group on Environment 13th Annual Meeting (WGE AM 13)
13-15 June 2007, Guilin, Guangxi Province, PRC**

RESOLUTIONS	REMARKS
1. Workplans endorsement	
1.1 Component 1 – workplans endorsed as presented	Narrow down sectors and economic corridors
1.2 Component 2 – workplans endorsed as presented	Put CDM separately as it is private sector
1.3 Component 3 – workplans endorsed as presented	endorsed
1.4 Component 4 – workplans endorsed as presented	For institutional options discussion, WGE will guide and agree on appropriate time for tabling the institutional options report for WGE consideration in the future; EOC coordinates/facilitates and seeks TAP input
1.5 Component 5 – workplans endorsed as presented	Assumed endorsed subject to comments provided by 29 June 2007
2. Implementation Framework and Concepts	
2.1 Rapid Assessment on Carbon Neutral Transport Corridor	Endorsed
2.2 Pre-feasibility Study on Risk and Vulnerabilities of Climate Change in BCI Pilot Sites and selected Economic Corridors	To be considered in the TA paper
2.3 International Conference on Biodiversity Corridors, Connectivity and Competitiveness October 2007 in Kunming, PRC	Endorsed
2.4 Additional activities on Transboundary Eco and Cultural Tourism Development in Preah Vihear (Cambodia-Thailand): Preparatory Measures for Pilot Site Program Development	Thailand: endorsement Cambodia: will review the detailed proposal and suggests increase in grant amount for CAM
2.5 Environment Protection and Waste Management in the BCI Pilot Site in Yunnan, PRC: Rapid Assessment	Endorsed in principle (may be contents to be adjusted by 29 June)
2.6 Risk and Adaptation from Climate Change in BCI Pilot Sites in PRC, Thailand and Viet Nam	Endorsed
2.7 2 nd GMS Study Visit in October 2007 in Yunnan, PRC; Bangkok, Thailand	Endorsed

RESOLUTIONS	REMARKS
2.8 Environment Seminar for GMS Senior Officials/ Executive, Oct/Nov 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand in coordination with GMS Phnom Penh Plan including sector WGs	Endorsed
2.9 Environment Ministers' Meeting/Environment Forum in January 2008. Venue and date to be confirmed by ADB	Endorsed; and suggested dates in late January 2008; Lao PDR and PRC will highlight need for CEP Expo at GMS Summit; dates for GMS Summit to be confirmed at SOM on 19-20 June 2007
3. Supplemental to RETA 6289 (i) Cross-sectoral capacity building (ii) Poverty reduction	Discussion on scope and activities of the Supplemental paper to be concluded by 31 st August 2007
4. Future Role of EOC	See 1.4 above
5. WGE SAM-2	Last week of November 2007 - To be done by Videocon (on a trial basis)
6. CEP Implementation Framework and Procedures	Endorsed and to be updated as and when required by WGE