

## BANGKOK COMMUNIQUÉ

Bangkok, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015

We, the representatives of 18 countries from Asia participating at the Asian Soil partnership Consultative workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand on 13-15 May 2015, funded by FAO and jointly organized with the Land Development Department of Thailand, and in accordance to the Terms of Reference of the Global Soil partnership, would like to:

- Appreciate the great diversity of soils in the region and their fundamental value for food security and overall sustainable development.
- Call the attention that soil degradation is a serious process that is affecting the soils in the region through their various forms such as soil erosion, soil pollution, soil organic matter depletion, soil sealing and soil salinity.
- Report that the degradation process is threatening the soil resources in the Asian region and thus is affecting food production and associated food security, provision of ecosystem services, adaptation to climate change and increasing poverty. The situation is being aggravated by climate change and unsustainable soil management practices.
- Inform that the establishment of the Asian Soil Partnership is a unique opportunity for addressing the current challenges and serve as platform for promoting sustainable soil management in the region.
- Advocating for the following priorities in the region: promotion of sustainable soil management at all levels and in all land use types; restoration/rehabilitation of degraded soils with focus on soil erosion, nutrient imbalance, soil acidification, soil pollution, loss of organic carbon and soil salinity. Similarly, the enhancement of soil information by using state of the art methods of digital soil mapping and advocating for having national soil information systems.
- Call the attention that investment on the promotion of sustainable soil management is a pre-condition for achieving sustainable development. Therefore, it is fundamental to increase the investment to support the execution of actions under the priorities highlighted before.

To achieve these goals, the participants agreed to consolidate the Asian Soil Partnership by establishing the Secretariat hosted by Thailand and a Steering Committee that is composed by:

**Chair:** Thailand  
**East Asia:** Republic of Korea, Mongolia: (Japan to be confirmed)  
**Southeast Asia:** Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia  
**South Asia:** India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

The functional statement (TOR) of the ASP is attached as the Annex.

Also, we agreed to establish working groups for the five GSP Pillars of Action with the composition of individual members nominated by the follow countries:

**Pillar 1: Chair:** Chaudhari (India)

**Member:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, (China), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Vietnam  
(Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Brunei, Singapore, Maldives, DPR Korea-to confirm)

**Pillar 2: Chair:** Arshad (Pakistan) - 1<sup>st</sup> 3 years, (and Aulakh, India – 2<sup>nd</sup> 3 years)

**Member:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, (China), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam  
(Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Brunei, Singapore, Maldives, DPR Korea-to confirm)

**Pillar 3: Chair:** Yagi (Japan)

**Member:** Bangladesh, Cambodia, (China), India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam  
(Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Brunei, Singapore, Maldives, DPR Korea-to confirm)

**Pillar 4: Chair:** Carating (Philippines)

**Member:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, (China), India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam  
(Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Brunei, Singapore, Maldives, DPR Korea-to confirm)

**Pillar 5: Chair:** Wongmaneeroj (Thailand)

**Member:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, (China), India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam  
(Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Brunei, Singapore, Maldives, DPR Korea-to confirm)

Similarly, we agreed to develop the Asian Soil Partnership Implementation plan for a horizon of five years. The development of this plan will be facilitated by the Secretariat and the Steering Commitment ensuring a very inclusive process where all partners in the region play an active role.



The latter execution of this implementation plan will directly contribute to achieving food security and nutrition, climate change adaptation, provision of various ecosystem services and sustainable development.

We commit to make the International Year of Soils 2015 a successful foundation for advocating for sustainable soil management in the region and especially to bring this momentum beyond 2015.





  
BEO  
BEO  
Fulmer (SL)  (SL)

 Laos  Laos



 Laos  Indonesia

 Cambodia  Cambodia

 Myanmar  Malaysia  
Kangh Jiny, Ro Korea.

 from Korea

Kwon-Roe Krm from Korea

Peto de Costa Soares from Timor-Leste   
Juliberto das Santos from Timor Leste 

Bangkok Communique

~~Amir~~  
BHUTAN  
J. Wang

Pakistan.  
Dr. S. Waseemul Haque

PAKISTAN.

Dr. Muhammad Arshad

VIETNAM Mua  
Tran Minh Teen

THAILAND  
Ms Nongkhan Maneevan  
Audhrasit Wongmanee  
Nisa Meesang

Indonesia  
Wicrato  
Indonesia  
W

Philippines  
N. Ariz

Mongolia  
S

Japan, 日本-行  
misaki  
INDIA

Mongolia  
Gyaru

A  
MALAYSIA

J  
INDIA

Surkhammani  
15/5/15 (INDIA)

S  
SILVINO O. TESADA  
PHILIPPINES

T. Dovi  
Bhutan

Redia  
REDIA N. ATIENZA  
PHILIPPINES