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– 2008 AECEN Regional Forum –
ASIAN ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT NETWORK (AECEN)
Decentralization and Environmental Compliance and Enforcement in Asia

Background

Recognizing the need for improved compliance with environmental laws and regulations, Asian countries have established the Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN), a regional practitioner network dedicated to sharing improved policies and practices on compliance and enforcement in Asia. Network objectives are to: (1) promote development and implementation of improved environmental laws, regulations and institutions; (2) strengthen practitioner capacity through specialized training and tools; and (3) facilitate regional sharing of best practices and information. Members include environmental agencies from: P.R. China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Each year AECEN organizes a regional forum to share results and best practices (www.aecen.org).

Program Objectives

On November 24-26, 2008, the Ministry of Environment (MOE) of Indonesia, in partnership with AECEN, will convene the AECEN 2008 Regional Forum in Bali, Indonesia. The objectives of this three-day event are to:

- Share best practices from stakeholders on environmental compliance and enforcement with a focus on challenges and solutions for effective decentralization of compliance and enforcement functions;
- Present the AECEN Award for Outstanding Service and Commitment by a Woman;
- Conduct focused workshops on: (1) agency institutional capacity, (2) natural resources damages assessment, and (3) climate change and enforcement;
- Share innovative approaches in Indonesia on strengthening environmental compliance and enforcement;
- Present progress on AECEN member-to-member “twinning” initiatives; and
- Share member views on AECEN activities and priorities.

Event Format

The annual forum will include: expert presentations, panel discussions and interactive workshop sessions on compliance and enforcement best practices and tools, as well as emerging issues for Asia.

Participants: Forum participants include over 100 senior environmental officials, policymakers, judges, lawyers and other environmental experts from across Asia.

Date: November 24-26, 2008

Location: Grand Hyatt Bali, Nusa Dua, Indonesia

Organizers: Indonesia Ministry of Environment; Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network; United States Agency for International Development; United States Environmental Protection Agency; United Nations Environment Program