REPORT

7-11 September 2009
Yokohama, Japan

CITYNET
Yokohama
Congress
2009

Harmonious Cities for Our Future

City of Yokohama   CITYNET

together we can do more.

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CITYNET Yokohama Congress 2009

7-11 September 2009
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together we can do more.

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CONGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

From across Asia and around the globe an estimated 2,000 participants from over 30 countries including key members of local governments, international agencies and leading authorities on urban issues came together for the CITYNET Congress, held this year in Yokohama, Japan.

CITYNET gratefully thanks the City of Yokohama for hosting the Congress as well as all partners who have contributed their kind support namely ADB, JICA, Kyoto University, United Nations University, The World Bank, UNESCAP, UN-HABITAT, UNITAR, UNISDR, UN Millennium Campaign, Yokohama City University and many Japanese institutions.

Highlighting the theme of "Harmonious Cities for Our Future" the Congress tackled urgent issues facing the urban environment, creating and sharing practical approaches to promote urban development. Through, roundtables, dialogues, networking events and technical visits participants engaged in a diverse range of issues and solutions.

Outcomes included the need to focus more on pro-poor local governments, integration of safety and disaster risks reduction into planning, as well as up-scaling successful local practices at the national level for impacts on a much larger scale.

The Congress also featured the launching of the Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008 that contains in-depth analysis of the sanitation situation in Asia and highlights the need for cities to prioritise this neglected field.

Members also utilised the Congress to shape the future of the Network at the General Council where elections were held for CITYNET's new office bearers and Secretary General. Decisions were also taken on the 2010-2013 Medium Term Plan, the relocation of the Secretariat to Seoul in four years, the tapping of the strategic reserve fund for Secretariat restructuring, and other issues concerning the Network as a whole. CITYNET also welcomed new members: five full and two associate members.

The Cluster system has now been streamlined into four with the ENVIRO Cluster combining to form the new Climate Change Cluster. ICT and gender issues is planned to be integrated into all Clusters. The impor-tant roles of the National Chapters and the Satellite Office as part of decentralisation efforts were discussed and the necessary steps to strengthen them will be of focus in the future.

While a number of important resolutions were made, the lack of time made it necessary for the Executive Committee to convene a Technical Meeting in Makati this coming December in order to further discuss strategies to put the 2010-2013 Medium-Term Plan into actions among other issues.

Most importantly the Congress provided an opportunity for members to connect and meet face to face and to remember what being a part of CITYNET is about: making connections and solidifying partnerships for the betterment of the lives of the people in our cities. Participants were able to make their voices heard and share common challenges and ideas. The energy and momentum created showed a great deal of initiative and underlined the richness of the resources within the Network and the viability to make ideas a reality. CITYNET strongly hopes for our continued commitment.

Together we can do more.

Message from Secretariat

CITYNET wishes to wholeheartedly thank the city of Yokohama for graciously hosting the CITYNET Yokohama Congress 2009 as well as our members, partners, speakers, panellists, attendees and volunteers for their active participation and useful input. Together we can set in motion your ideas for a better CITYNET and for people-friendly, sustainable cities.

➲   25th Executive Committee Meeting

The 25th Executive Committee Meeting brought together CITYNET's members and partners to discuss institutional matters and decide on the future of the Network.

Fumiko Hayashi, newly elected Mayor of Yokohama and President of CITYNET, opened proceedings with her first international address upon taking office, warmly welcomed participants to Yokohama and wished for successful positive outcomes of the Meeting.

CITYNET Vice President Mumbai, Mayor Shubha Raul, in her address, outlined Mumbai's continued commitment to CITYNET by the hosting and expansion of the Satellite Office. During the morning session various topics were discussed by the Executive Committee (ExCom), including the CITYNET trust fund, financial sustainability, ratification of new applicants and matters pertaining to the election.

CITYNET Programme Director Bernadia Tjandradewi presented the outcomes of programme activities for 2006-2009, including the enhancement of decentralised activities, more fund raising for pro-

grammes, improvement of communications and the new website. **(www.citynet-ap.org).**

The afternoon session consisted of much lively discussion on how to move CITYNET forward in tandem with the 2010-2013 Medium Term Plan. Kirtee Shah, representing ACHR and Erna Witoelar, former UN Special Ambassador for MDGs, raised several subjects, in particular the issue of scaling up projects instead of sticking to low impact pilot projects whose successes should be built upon.

Kirtee Shah reiterated that CITYNET needed to have more financial and human resources which member cities can easily provide should they have the will, with their resources available – and that while the foundation was a good idea, he said that the sum was insignificant compared with potential contribution from richer cities. He suggested that CITYNET needed to see its role more clearly and to restructure itself, advising that subcommittees be formed to study proposals.

Lowie Rosales from UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office concurred and advised that CITYNET harness the motivation of the grassroots

movements. Adnan Aliani of UN-ESCAP and Emiel Wegelin of ADB-CDIA advocated the usage of CITYNET strategic reserves to find solutions and create a business plan within the limited time available.

The meeting ended with resolving electoral matters and ratifying nominations for the Executive Committee positions.

The relocation of the Secretariat to Seoul in four years was among the matters discussed during the meeting and the subsequent General Council.

The 25th ExCom approved the following as new members.

CITYNET welcomes:

➲ **Galle Municipal Council, Sri Lanka (full member)**

➲ **Sidoarjo Regency, Indonesia (full member)**

➲ **Socio-economic & Environmental Research Instiute (SERI), Malaysia (associate member)**

Vice Mayor of Yokohama Takayuki Kaneda chaired the 25th Session of the Executive Committee

Deputy Governor Mann Chhoeurn of Pnomh Penh and Muntinlupa's John Pabilonia of the Election Committee

Kirtee Shah from ASAG made several suggestions for the future of CITYNET

Seock Jeong Eom, Seoul Ambassador and Advisor for International Relations contributed to the discussions

➲   The National Chapters Meeting

The meeting of the National Chapters got off to a strong start with each of the four National Chapters (NCs) from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and Sri Lanka making presentations on their activities, accomplishments, challenges as well as their mid-term plans.

Erna Witoelar chaired the meeting pointing out that significant strides have been made by all the NCs but the consensus seemed to be that much more could be done to strengthen their capacities to deliver more useful programmes and activities with a broader effect.

Dr. Yousuf from Dhaka presented for the Bangladesh NC and reported the organisation of solid waste management conferences despite limited membership and coordination with members on issues such as climate change. Dr. Suherman, Head of Sukabumi's Public Hospital presented the ac-

tivities of the Indonesia NC, and that they have recently shared best practices on creating gender friendly cities and are collecting data on the MDGs. The activities of the Nepal NC were presented by Kalanidhi Devkota. He explained that they have been able to incorporate 30 out of its 58 municipalities as members into their activities. Sunethra Ranasinghe, the Mayor of Dehiwala outlined the activities of the Sri Lanka NC who have been active in holding a number of NC meetings to discuss common issues pertaining to their cities.

Many of the Chapters shared common challenges such as government instability and lack of resources and highlighted the need for follow-up of activities and a more active role of the Secretariat to mobilise chapter members and increase motivation. Members' concerns included defining more

clearly the purpose and expected outcomes for the NCs, i.e. how they can differentiate themselves from other local government networks. Furthermore, focusing on wider impacts of NC programmes and activities were also highlighted.

CITYNET Programme Director Bernadia I. Tjandradewi stressed that the uniqueness of CITYNET lies in its ability to include different types of members including NGOs, CBOs as well as private companies. She said that continued transparency and advocacy within the region is important to the future and expansion of activities.

Members agreed that better communication and reaching out to members is necessary, as is finding ways of localising, increasing information sharing, access and thinking more strategically.

Erna Witoelar, former UN Special Ambassador for MDGs and advisor to CITYNET Indonesia National Chapter chairing the Session

Participants watch the presentations of the progress of the National Chapters

Chair:
Erna Witoelar, Advisor, the CITYNET

➲ Opening Session & Commemorative Speech

Participants of the Congress were welcomed to Yokohama and the 2009 CITYNET Yokohama Congress by the newly elected Mayor of Yokohama, Fumiko Hayashi. She began by informing the audience that she was pleased to see the Congress return to Yokohama after 12 years, in time for the participants to join in the 150th celebrations of the city's investiture as a port where what was once a minor fishing village is now a major city with a population of 3.6 million. As President of CITYNET she underlined Yokohama's long and continued commitment to support CITYNET's activities. Some of the strengths of Yokohama were highlighted by Hayashi, especially in terms of their environmental initiatives.

The Mayor of Mumbai, Dr. Shubha Raul stated Mumbai's strong alliance with CITYNET. As 1st Vice-President of CITYNET their commitment has been visible in their generous financial support for the Satellite Office which started functioning in 2008 and has been working to support the Network. Raul announced their actions toward a vigorous membership drive in India and their preparations for an International Climate Change Conference to be held in 2010 in Mumbai with the cooperation of the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai (MCGM). Their goal to build sustainable human settlements free of poverty, pollution and illiteracy was also underlined by the Mayor.

Representing Bangkok and the 2nd Vice President of CITYNET was Deputy Governor Dr. Prakob Chakriti. He reminded participants of the importance of learning lessons from the past and listening to the voices of citizens in Asia Pacific: identifying issues, discussing solutions and seeking partnerships both locally and abroad. Dr. Chakriti noted that using the

framework of CITYNET and the philosophy of city-to-city cooperation were important steps in finding a positive way forward. He also outlined the initiatives for a better quality of life by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration including the promotion of public health, economic self-sufficiency and especially the prevention, mitigation and the seeking of partnerships against climate change. One of their goals is the reduction of overall green house gas emissions by at least 15% by 2012. Other Bangkok objectives include the expansion of mass transit, the use of renewable energy, electricity consumption efficiency, solid waste and wastewater treatment, expansion of green areas among others. He also announced the Cool ASEAN, Green Capitals" initiative meeting in Bangkok in November 2009 as well as Bangkok's commitment to enhance the strong spirit of cooperation .

The Commemorative Speech given by world renowned author and environmentalist C.W. Nicol focused on his long years experience working in many fields and how human settlements have neglected and destroyed the natural environment. He used the example of the revitalisation of his woodland in Nagano, Japan to show visible advantages to both the humans and the ecosystem. He urged CITYNET members to re-connect with nature and the healing power of forests, to increase biodiversity, parks and green spaces within their cities in order to provide a harmonious space for urban living for all citizens.

Mayor of Yokohama
Fumiko Hayashi

Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai Mayor Dr. Shubha Raul

Bangkok Metropolitan Administration Deputy Governor Dr. Prakob Chakriti

Environmentalist and Author
C.W. Nicol

➲ PUBLIC FORUMS

Yumiko Noda, Deputy Mayor of Yokohama highlighted their initiatives for climate change

Facilitator: Takejiro Sueyoshi, Special Advisor to UNEP Finance Initiative and the PRI in the Asia Pacific region

Panellists: Mohamed Saleheen, Director, WFP Japan; Eduardo Mansur, Assistant Director, ITTO; Johan Cels, UNHCR Japan; Rei Kikukawa, UNHCR Special Supporter; Yumiko Noda, Deputy Mayor, Yokohama

➲ Asia Pacific Urban Forum - Climate Change Poses a Threat to Cities

Focusing on climate change and how different, seemingly unrelated areas converge under one umbrella, this forum opened the dialogue on different ways of thinking about climate change.

The connection between climate change and food production was highlighted by the WFP as this will certainly have stronger implications for urban centres due to the undeniable shortage of food and resources which is predicted to be reduced even further.

ITTO illustrated that the health of the world's forests and tropical timber are seriously threatened by the effects of climate change and that those in urban centres should not see themselves as separate from the forests; i.e. it is everyone's responsibility. The changing face of urban centres, considering the influx of migrants was discussed by UNHCR. In the past, the main cause of refugee migration has been due to con-

flict, however now there is an alarming trend towards displacement and migration due to issues of climate change. As the majority of refugees and migrants are moving towards urban centres, especially in Asia, the panel suggested that this topic needs to be addressed at a more earnest level.

Some initiatives that Yokohama has taken including their CO-DO30 plan were outlined by Deputy Mayor Yumiko Noda. This is part of Yokohama's plan to cut-down greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2025, part of which has been implemented through the support of local children. Rei Kikukawa, a special supporter to the UNCHR and television host highlighted the power of the individual to take action at home, school and in the community. A consolidated effort on many fronts is necessary to clearly understand the threat climate change poses.

⮊   Public Forum - Combating Global Warming (Post-AWAREE Project)

Thamara Mallawaarachchi presenting the progress of Post-AWAREE project in Colombo

The Way Forward Panel were able to offer their experiences and suggestions for facing the realities of global warming

Facilitator: Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, CITYNET

Panellists:
Thamara Mallawaarachchi, Colombo;
Quang Vinh Dang, Danang;
Tariq Bin Yousuf, Dhaka;
Kathleen Almonte, Makati

The Way Forward Panel:

Facilitator: Satoshi Takizawa, University of Tokyo

Panellists: Violeta Seva, Makati; Hajime Yoshida, Yokohama; Hiroshi Masuda, Tokyo Electric Company; Kazuko Satou, Soft Energy Project; Chamniern Paul Vorratnchaiphan, TEI

This session was the presentation of progress and achievements of participating cities with regards to the Post-AWAREE (**Awa**reness on **E**nvironmental **E**ducation) project implemented in their respective cities.

Colombo's first year initiatives included Environmental Education (EE) in schools which utilised developed tools and techniques for EE, segregation of waste and composting and sharing of expertise. The second year included implementing rainwater harvesting techniques at schools and hotels, increasing greenery area, and inclusion of new policies. Danang's initiatives for the past three years involved treating the seriously polluted lakes and ponds, community participation in environmental management, and building models of sustainable greenery in the city. Within these three initiatives are the ongoing environmental awareness programmes in schools, public workshops, removing slum areas from river banks, increasing greenery within the city, and encouraging community participation in cleaning up the city.

Dhaka showcased their environmental education programme in schools, improvement of their waste collection system, and construction and operation of sanitary landfill sites for their first-year. Their second year included environment education on water management, urban greenery, rainwater harvesting, and maintenance of waterways. Dhaka also mentioned that the study visit to Makati in July 2009 was quite inspiring and they would like to implement programmes such as the waste market from Makati in their city. They also noted that Makati's decentralised system in collecting waste and maintaining the ordinance was unique.

Makati introduced their three year achievements starting from orientation on climate change to various sectors such as schools, government institutions, medical institutions, etc. They also included the climate change curriculum into their schools. Their second year included policy making to regulate groundwater resources, awareness on water resource management, and rainwater harvesting. Makati's programmes have reached deep into the communities where the community leaders are responsible for all rules and regulations on the environment. Garbage collection, segregation and recycling has been well adapted into the communities.

Yokohama's initiatives on CO-DO30 impressed the participants however, due to cost, public awareness, political initiative and lack of resources, cities in developing countries are not able to create similar programmes, let alone maintain the facilities. Increased technical assistance from developed countries and public policy ideas from European and American cities are vital to keeping the momentum going. Political stability is the key to all policies to be implemented effectively.

The Way Forward Session allowed students to present cases of environmental activities in their schools. Topics included garbage collection and segregation, recycling, growing plants with compost, using recycled materials to make objects as well as activities that were coordinated with their homes. The students performed songs, music and deliberated their thoughts on the current environment. More than 100 students from various schools and grades in Yokohama took part in the event to showcase their awareness to the audience. The students displayed a high level of awareness on environmental issues and introduced activities that they were pursuing.

Some cities in developing countries have taken the initiative to introduce environmental education into their curriculum. However, awareness at the public (adult) level is still low. Finding teachers with proper awareness is also a challenge in developing countries. Overall environmental awareness in developing countries needs to be raised drastically to acquire proper knowledge on preserving the natural environment.

The participants were able to experience environmental initiatives and awareness at school levels. They were also able to talk over lunch with students on various subject matters, experiencing first-hand their work and awareness. Such events should continue as motivation and initiatives from teachers and students seem to be high in Japan, therefore it would be imperative to find ways for sustainability.

Local school children present how their schools have been involved in environmental activities including recycling and growing plants.

The school children show their enthusiasm and energy for the environment to the Post-AWAREE and session participants.

➲ PANEL DISCUSSION

Making Public Private Partnerships Work

This session was one of the best attended sessions reflecting the keen interest in this topic. The focus was on fully understanding the continued debate on Public Private Partnerships (PPP) and its effectiveness as well as the opportunity for new approaches in enhancing cooperation with private sectors.

The Deputy Governors of Bangkok and Jakarta showed examples in their cities highlighting common challenges, encouraging PPP and practices involving this cooperation, for example the BRT in Jakarta and BTS in Bangkok. Future projects for the cities include more PPP cooperation mainly in the transportation sector.

Veolia Transport Asia presented on public transport examples in Europe stressing that the responsibilities of each partner should be well-defined and authorities need to decide on clear policies. An ideal model is public investment with delegated management involving risk sharing and models should be adapted to the local situation.

Nissan introduced the low-carbon model city concept using the Yokohama Mobility Project ZERO with the partners of Nissan, Yokohama City and University of Tokyo for the improvement of fuel efficiency and reduction of CO_2 emissions. Important initiatives include the Eco-

Drive Support, Dynamic Route Guidance and electric vehicles introduction and support. ADB revisited how PPP functions, the changes in the recent economy (what works and what doesn't), choices for intervention and the role of financial institutions.

The lively discussion brought up issues of involving more people early on in the PPP process (more bottom-up approach), more examples of pro-poor PPP's as well as new financing models are needed to make it more viable. Rising expectations and economic crises have changed the context of PPP and public sector response has been constrained by legal reform, among others but not because of lack of will. Furthermore capacity building, competency and global vision of the public sector should evolve.

Panel members called for shared goals and process, cross-functional management, more CSR spirit from companies, relief from strict regulations, tax exemption and incentives for PPP in order to make more win-win projects. This could also be achieved through flexible models that the private sector is more comfortable with, increased transparency, appropriate legal frameworks and ensuring the technical aspects along with the vision and strategy of any PPP project.

A packed audience at the forum

Available at the TDLC website: http://210.137.74.228/viewerportal/vmc/video.do?eventId=2039

Facilitator:
Dr. Shabbir Cheema, East-West Centre, Honolulu

Panellists:
Sutanto Soehodho, Deputy Governor for Trade, Industry and Transportation, Jakarta

Prakob Chakriti, Deputy Governor of Bangkok

Daniel Cukierman, CEO Veolia Transport RATP Asia

Haruyoshi Kumura, Fellow, Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.

Anand Chiplunkar, Principal Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist, ADB

➲ ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Bridging the Gap Between Ecology and Economy

This session introduced the Eco2 programme to bridge the gap between the ecological and economic sustainability and discuss its potential. A new publication by the World Bank: "Eco² Cities, Ecological Cities as Economic Cities" was also made available at the session.

Facilitator Hiroaki Suzuki from the World Bank stressed that ecology and economy enhance each other and are not in conflict as urbanisation is important for economic growth. He outlined common challenges including the build-up of new areas in the developing world. Suzuki described the bottom up approach that the World Bank undertook. He shared some global best practice studies in cities such as in Auckland, Brisbane, Curitiba, Vancouver, Singapore, Stockholm and Yokohama. The core concepts were a city-based approach with strong leadership and an expanded platform of collaboration, a one system approach as well as a framework for investing in sustainability and resilience.

Michie Kishigami gave an overview of the mission of ICLEI and their efforts to provide tangible improvements in global environmental and sustainable development conditions. She discussed

the outcomes of the 2009 ICLEI World Congress and the future direction and activities of ICLEI. She pushed for more radical solutions and an integrated approach giving the framework for bilateral cooperation with an emphasis on local actions. Duane Kissick of AECOM outlined its mission to enhance and sustain the world's built, natural, and social environments. Beyond the challenges, Kissick gave details on the process of the Sustainable Systems Integrated Model (SSIM) and its practical applications. He also gave examples of exemplary environments with integrated design economics and environmental planning processes.

The discussion focused on how cities can manage the future in a sustainable way. Participants showed interest in the details of the SSIM and how to apply it locally taking into account the challenges of developing countries, hazards and risks and how to tangibly get service delivery to have an impact on the quality of life. Creative ways to develop this model were discussed including the model of Yokohama and their experience in gaining the participation of citizens. In many situations, it may be a question of creativity rather than only resources.

Hiroaki Suzuki facilitating the World Bank session.

Available online at TDLC website: http://streaming.jointokyo.org/viewerportal/vmc/search.do

Partner: World Bank

Speakers:
Hiroaki Suzuki, the World Bank/Team Leader of the Eco² Cities

Michie Kishigami, Director, ICLEI Japan Office (Japan)

Duane Kissick, Vice Chair, AECOM International Development (USA)

Mayor Mawardy Nurdin of Banda Aceh, explains gender-friendly initiatives in his city. Left: Sheela Patel, SPARC

Lowie Rosales from UN-HABITAT facilitated and presented at the session. Left: Masako Maeda, YOKE

Partner:
UN-HABITAT

Facilitator:
Lowie Rosales, Human Settlements Officer, UN-HABITAT

Panellists:
Mawardy Nurdin, Mayor of Banda Aceh (Indonesia); Sheela Patel, SPARC (India); Masako Maeda, Chairperson, YOKE / Former Deputy Mayor of Yokohama

Gender Friendly Cities

Gender and urbanisation in Asia-Pacific specifically the plight of women in urban communities were the focus of this session as well as ways to improve gender equality in urban governance.

Session facilitator Lowie Rosales from UN-HABITAT outlined some major gender challenges as well as the areas of focus for UN-HABITAT such as land and housing, water and sanitation, disaster management and mitigation, economic empowerment, safety, climate change, youth, governance and their Gender Equality Action Plan.

Mayor Mawardy Nurdin from Banda Aceh stated that transformative leadership is key in mainstreaming gender into local policies and practices. Some cities are still struggling with ways to empower women to elect more female officials for example. Furthermore the issue of childbirth and the effect on society was discussed in terms of choice versus what should/should not be imposed by law. Sheela Patel from SPARC highlighted that we learn best when we learn from each other. Gender is not just about the sorry plight of women, but also opportunities to inspire, replicate and upscale positive experiences. Masako Maeda representing YOKE and Yokohama stated some issues facing developed societies (i.e. reduced birth rates and marriage in Japan) and that even

though the form and nature vary, all societies need to examine it.

In developing countries the issue of legal and illegal migration will increase as well issues surrounding youth and exposure to violence. It may also be difficult for educated women to find husbands. It was agreed that the local government has a responsibility to provide opportunities for economic involvement for women. Other examples included government policy in Taipei, such as providing larger restrooms, maternity and paternity leaves, shelters for women and secure cameras in the subway.

The main recommendations for CITYNET were to consider gender not as a separate issue from the whole agenda, rather it should be "lens" through which all policies, programmes and activities should be examined. CITYNET should replicate, upscale and promote exchanges among city stakeholders on practical solutions and innovations in addressing gender issues as there are many good examples in Asia. Furthermore CITYNET needs to help cities improve and measure performance in promoting gender equality in local governance. A system of reporting should be implemented and recognising the best practice of the year would be a good way to encourage this. CITYNET can also help to share and inspire with solutions from its resources.

Marielza Couto E Silva De Oliveira presented strategies from UNITAR to improve access to services.

Partner: UNITAR

Facilitator: Gordon Feller, CEO, Urban Age Institute (USA)

Panellists: Marielza Couto E Silva De Oliveira, Associate Director, Governance Unit, UNITAR; Hubert Jenny, Senior Urban Development Specialist, ADB (France); Peter Woods, Secretary General, UCLG Asia Pacific Section (Australia); Pablo C. Ortega, Mayor, San Fernando (Philippines); Hubert Julien-Laferrière, Vice-President, Greater Lyon (France); Dominique Héron, Special Advisor to the Senior Executive Vice President Veolia Environnement (France)

Access to Basic Urban Services

This session took stock of activities and initiatives undertaken to improve access to basic urban services in Asia Pacific. Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl highlighted CITYNET involvement with LGs to empower through participation, good governance, and transparency, yet more action can be taken. Marielza De Oliveira from UNITAR stated that initiatives from every party is needed for effectiveness and more decentralisation, i.e. increased citizen participation. Implementation should be both top down and bottom up, however there seems to be some overlap of work in organisations. Inter-institutional relations are more important and the different legal frameworks result in different levels of empowerment of LGs. Pilot projects in Mexico, Philippines and Asia were suggested to gain insight into local contexts.

Hubert Jenny from ADB said localisation of MDGs and a clear city development strategy (vision, SWOT) – is needed. One major constraint is the institutional bottleneck and a weak capacity to deal with challenges. Changing perceptions; creating a space for citizens and building capacity at a local level is necessary. Peter Woods of UCLG-ASPAC stressed that

growth in the economy is not always mutually exclusive with an increase in basic services. Central governments need more critical evaluation. Constraints include corruption and the fact that decentralisation is not fully implemented.

The main pillars to strengthening LGs include improving the enabling environments; ensuring decentralisation and devolution and improving urban governance and management. Strong local leaders and legislative power need to work together. Example of good local governance can be found in MDGs projects in the Philippines. Hubert Julien-Laferriere underlined the responsibility of LG's to promote decentralised cooperation to address urban poverty. Veolia is providing expertise and environmental services to reinforce international partnerships. Knowing how to evaluate and use guidelines is key and in this regard CITYNET can be a facilitator. The UNITAR/UN-HABITAT International Guidelines on Access to Basic Services for All **(www.unhabitat(or)unitar.org)** serves as a good basis. CITYNET and partners should do more follow up and encourage a strong gender approach, reduce corruption and educate local actors on pro-poor policy.

Enhancing Cooperation between Asian and European Cities

Henry Chabert from Lyon explaining his experience of cooperation with Asian cities

Group photo at the session

Partner: ADB

Facilitator: Toshihiro Menju, Japan Centre for International Exchange (Japan)

Panellists:
Henry Chabert, Urban Community of Greater Lyon (France)

Thamara Mallawaarachchi, Director, Colombo City Council (Sri Lanka)

Michael Lindfield, Principal Urban Development Specialist, ADB-CDIA

Tatsuo Igarashi, Councillor, Tsukuba City (Japan)

The existing linkages between European and Asian cities were discussed as well as the challenges and possible solutions to gaining enhanced cooperation. Henry Chabert from Greater Lyon stated the importance of a common objective in C2C cooperation was needed even though different cultural approaches exist. European local governments cannot be used as a donor and the European Union, national governments and donor agencies are the structures that must ensure the financial support of such cooperation. He highlighted their cooperation with Ho Chi Minh City (heritage transportation preservation), Jaipur (tourism), PRO ACT, a CITYNET project, among others explaining the importance of project length and follow-up. Interesting pilot projects initiated by PRO ACT including risk management in Sri Lanka, solid waste management in Banda Aceh, waste water management in Hue were mentioned. New programmes include: ANE/AL: where NGO and local authorities are targeted to promote access to basic urban services and improve capacity building. Thamara Mallawaarachchi from Colombo outlined past cooperation with Paris, Madrid, Greater Lyon (wastewater and urban poor, traffic control) and projects under the CITYNET/JICA programme (POST AWAREE), UNDP, GTZ, IDRC including a multimedia tool for urban communication for the poor and a Local Area Sustainable Development Observatory. The challenges in Colombo include informal settlements, water and sanitation, urban poverty as well as human resources and bureaucracy.

ADB mainly act as consultants and Michael Lindfield said Euro-Asian city cooperation is outside their focus area, so they mainly have ad hoc activities with European stakeholders. He outlined concerns of the sustainability of C2C as there is a high transaction cost from cities. There is also a problem of translation of systems - developing cities in Asia need basic urban services but stakeholders from developed countries show them tools which are too evolved. The most successful cooperation would run over 10 to 15 years but there still needs to be input. ADB is starting "Strategy 2020" in which urban issues as well as knowledge sharing are central. They want to continue to work with the CDIA (Cities Development Initiative for Asia) and ensure that the best practices are applied to Asia and this is where Europe can participate. Areas to foster for ADB include climate change.

Tatsuo Igarashi, a Councillor from Tsukuba City, said there is limited awareness of C2C cooperation at the local level for his city. Language and a lack of specialists is still a barrier and a strategic international plan is not formulated yet. In spite of this, citizens are more internationally oriented and NGOs are spreading in the local city. With the recent change in Japanese government, decentralisation will speed up and more LGs will have a keener interest in C2C in the near future.

The future direction in this area should focus on accountability to donors; effectiveness of cost and technical transfers and creating additional value such as lasting comradeship and awareness of global citizenship. Furthermore, increased citizen participation with NGOs, students and others are key with not only technical but also holistic exchanges and cooperation are steps in the right direction. There also should be more transparency and less bureaucratic process while advocating for the clear role of LGs and devolution of powers.

⮐ Launch of the Asian Sanitation Data Book

Traditional Japanese Koto players

Members of the Indonesian Delegation

The Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008, a joint initiative of CITYNET, ADB, UN-HABITAT, and Veolia Environnement, was launched during the Welcome Reception.This publication is the first ever data book focusing on Asia's sanitation situation. It features raw data and analyses on sanitation in 27 cities. The initiative was realised in response to the needs of Asian cities and local governments, who gathered at the International Seminar on Sanitation in 2007—Delivering Our Vision: Sanitation for All, organised by CITYNET, ADB, and the City Government of Makati, at the ADB headquarters in Metro Manila, Philippines, in November 2007.

The well-attended and energetic welcome reception was opened by the Mayor of Yokohama, Fumiko Hayashi. The event also featured performances of traditional Japanese culture.

Yokohama Mayor Fumiko Hayashi launched the Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008, together with (from left) Lalith Lankatilleke (UN-HABITAT Fukuoka), Anand Chiplunkar (ADB), Dominique Heron, (Veolia Environnement) and Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chal.

➲ General Council

Yokohama Mayor Fumiko Hayashi chaired the 6th Session of the General Council

Secretary General Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl fielded questions regarding CITYNET

Newly elected Secretary General Mary Jane Ortega, former Mayor of San Fernando

Mayor Oh Se-hoon's city of Seoul plan to host the CITYNET Secretariat and Congress in 2013

The 6th General Council of CITYNET was opened by the President of CITYNET, Mayor Fumiko Hayashi of Yokohama, and the Secretary General Dato Lakhbir Singh Chahl. The main agenda of the 6th General Council included the Review of the Activities and Finances of CITYNET for the past four years (2006-2009), the adoption of the Medium Term Plan 2010-2013 and the election of office bearers, including the Secretary-General of CITYNET.

Over the past four years, the Network has expanded, with an increase in membership of approximately 17%. The financial performance has also shown improvement. Decentralisation has been well in progress with the existing four National Chapters (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and Sri Lanka) and the formation of the Satellite Office in Mumbai. The capacity-building of members have been intensified through training and C2C Cooperation and longer-term projects/programmes including POST-AWAREE to ensure the impacts.

Reports on major activities were made by a representative for the National Chapters (Mayor of Tomohon, Jefferson SM Rumajar) and on the activities of Satellite Office made by MCGM. Background on the Trust Fund was given by Makati who also indicated that the objective was to raise money for CITYNET activities. During the review of the Network's finances concern about funding for activities regarding poverty and the amount of money allocated to National Chapters were raised. The Auditor's Statement on the Network's Account of the Fiscal Years 2005-2008 were made and indicated that CITYNET is performing relatively well however CITYNET is not free of difficulties such as the collection of membership dues.

The Medium Term Plan 2010-2013 endorsed by the 25th Executive Committee meeting was also presented and approved. Some concerns about the details of how the plan will be implemented were voiced. The plan will be reviewed and structural and institutional reforms will be made based on the outcomes of a series of technical meetings, the first is to be held in December which will be hosted by the City of Makati.

Some of the major recommendations indicated that a review of the level of commitment should be undertaken as well as a great need to upgrade the organisation, examine the possibility of raising more resources and to be eligible and source funding from other areas. Following the election (results indicated below) the session concluded with the announcement that Seoul will host the Seat of Office (Secretariat) and the next CITYNET Congress in 2013.

Summary of Highlights:

* The adoption of the Medium Term Plan 2010-2013
* The City of Yokohama was re-elected at President and the office bearers were selected
* Seoul Metropolitan Government will host the Seat of Office (Secretariat) and the CITYNET Congress in Seoul in four years
* The acceptance of Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl, former Secretary-General, as Honorary Member

➲ CITYNET ELECTION RESULTS

President:
City of Yokohama

First Vice President:
Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai

Second Vice President:
City Government of Makati

Executive Committee Members :
Bangkok Metropolitan Administration
Colombo Municipal Council
Dhaka City Corporation
Kathmandu Metropolitan City
Seoul Metropolitan Government
Surabaya City Government
Urban Community of Great Lyon
All India Institute of Local Self-Government
Society for Development Studies

Secretary General:
Mary Jane Crisanto Ortega

Auditor: City Government of Naga

Election Committee Members:
Jakarta Capital City Government
Municipal Council of Penang Island
Association of Municipalities and
Development Authorities of India
Municipal Association of Nepal

➲ CLUSTER DIALOGUES

ENVIRO

The ENVIRO Cluster session looked at the programmes and projects initiated by members and partners in solid waste management and water and sanitation and the action plans for the future.

Presentations on CITYNET activities included the outputs of cooperation on Waterworks Management between Yokohama City and Banda Aceh, involving technical assistance and training of local staff, and C2C Cooperation on decentralised sewerage treatment using eco-tanks between: Palembang, Negombo and Hue respectively. C2C Cooperation on Solid Waste Management (SWM) between Phnom Penh, San Fernando City, La Union and Makati was also examined.

ADB highlighted the publication of Asian Sanitation Data Book 2008, a joint publication of ADB, UN-HABITAT, CITYNET and Veolia Environnement. Major findings include that over 1.8 billion people in Asia do not have adequate sanitation and only 40% or 10-11 cities of 27 CITYNET cities surveyed have sanitation plans. ADB has a programme which provides funding for sewage treatment projects and for SWM which utilises the CDM financing mechanism. **(www.adb.org)**

Key points during the interventions were the ideas of ecological sanitation and decentralised wastewater management systems as an option that uses the principles of reuse of water, carbon and nutrients. UNEP IETC has published a set of guidelines on dioxins and furans, which would be useful to cities before considering incineration as a system for final solid waste disposal. The Global Environment Facility **(www.undp.org/gef/)** would be available for projects that would reduce or eliminate dioxins and furans.

Decentralised wastewater treatments were seconded by UNESCAP and that wastewater treatment schemes should be self-financing as much as possible, with cities potentially using the CDM mechanism. Cities can generate funds for sanitation if they are able to show direct impact on health and the lack or inadequacy of sanitation. Another fund is the "Solid Waste Revolving Equity Fund" (for more info please contact UNESCAP **www.unescap.org**) which cities can avail of to build Resource Recovery Centres or Materials Recovery Facilities to support reuse and recycling.

UNITAR stressed the value of multisectoral participation in wastewater and solid waste management and that efforts should be made by cities to remove discrimination in the allocation of services. WTO noted that toilets should be made more attractive for people to equip their households as the importance of the toilet is the most basic form of sanitation. There was not a presentation on climate change mitigation and adaptation as the resource person from ADB was unable to come. However, other presentations/resources were made available from UNEP-IETC, UNESCAP and ADB.

In discussing the way forward, concern over the lack of progress and recurrence of similar issues within the Cluster were voiced, therefore it is imperative for all members to develop clear suggestions, to focus on solutions and indicate how CITYNET can facilitate; not only listing the challenges. Some solutions included putting a charge on garbage trucks so that cities are given incentives to reduce waste; charging for the collection and disposal of mixed waste. CITYNET should be a mediator between NGOs and LGs to clear up the disparity in the thinking on the responsibility of SWM and increasing awareness and effective communication. Furthermore it was suggested that decentralised systems should not be considered as the only appropriate system for wastewater management in cities.

Short-term Cluster plans (2010) include institutionalising basic sanitation and the 3Rs in solid waste management; changing people's mindset on good practices in waste management. This can be achieved through further C2C projects, introducing the concept of sustainable sanitation to CITYNET members through training institutions within the Network to develop and provide the training modules, including e-learning.

Long-term Cluster plans for 2010-2013 are to eradicate open defecation in cities and waste reduction through more areas of reuse and recycling and enhancing and strengthening existing institutions for sanitation and solid waste management. This can be done through support for sanitation planning in all cities, especially in those that do not have yet sanitation plans (e.g.. guidelines, technical assistance and technical workshops.) Another recommendation is the introduction of CLTS (Community Led Total Sanitation) to CITYNET including orientation briefing, seminar workshops on optional systems and technology and study tours. Finally projects will include the publication of a CITYNET Catalogue of Academic and Training Institutions for Waste Management.

Note: The Environment Clusters will be streamlined into one "Climate Change Cluster" as of January 2010.

Climate Change Cluster Chair : Dhaka

Dhaka represented by Dr. Tariq Yousuf leads the new Climate Change Cluster

Partners: UNESCAP, UNITAR, ADB

Chairperson: Shubha Raul, Mayor of Mumbai (India)

Resource Persons: Adnan Hameed Aliani, UNESCAP; Marielza Couto E Silva De Oliveira, UNITAR; Anand Chiplunkar, ADB , Jack Sim, , World Toilet Organization (WTO) (Singapore); Takehiro Nakamura, (UNEP/IETC)

Speakers:

Session A: Water and Sanitation

Chiaki Suzuki, Water Works Bureau, Yokohama (Japan)

Mawardy Nurdin, Mayor, Banda Aceh (Indonesia)

Eddy Santana Putra, Mayor, Palembang (Indonesia);

Charles Lakshman Dias Wijesooriya, Negombo (Sri Lanka)

Dung Quang Le Deputy Chairman, Hue City People's Committee (Vietnam)

Anand Chiplunkar, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, ADB

Session B: Solid Waste Reduction

Mann Chhoeurn, Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Adnan Hameed Aliani, UNESCAP

Session C: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Session D: The Way Forward

Facilitators:
Lilia Casanova, CAPS (Philippines)
Chamniern P. Vorratnchaiphan,TEI (Thailand)

INFRA

ADB-CDIA's Michael Lindfield the INFRA Cluster nominated advisor with Mayor Putra of Palembang and Dr. Arshad, CITYNET Secretariat

Partner: ADB

Chairperson: Eddy Santana Putra, Mayor, Palembang

Resource Persons: Michael Lindfield, Principal, ADB-CDIA; Santhosh Kodukula, GTZ

Speakers: Eddy Santana Putra, Mayor of Palembang (Indonesia)

Gyeng-Chul Kim, Veolia Transport Korea/Deputy Secretary General of CITYNET

Om Prakash Mathur, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy India (India)

Tran Minh Dung, Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

Presentations on transport initiatives and practices were shared to show what has worked in various local contexts. Palembang showed their redesigned bus stop facilities and "Trans Musi BRTs", highlighting the recent signing of a memorandum of cooperation between them and Seoul to engage in C2C cooperation. AIILSG gave an overview of the BRTs (Bus Rapid Transit) in Mumbai which will include 7 independent routes running in the city and is expected to carry between 15-40 thousand persons per hour depending on fleet size and vehicle design. Seoul presented their sustainable transportation and infrastructure policy – one of their major successes was the restoration of the Cheonggyechon river in the centre of Seoul effectively reducing traffic by 125,000 vehicles per day. Ho Chi Minh has been dealing with the challenges of congestion due to among others the lack of support for mass transit and urban expressways. Some initiatives suggested by GTZ included "Car-free

The Way Forward

Facilitator: Eddy Santana Putra, Mayor, Palembang (Indonesia)
Michael Lindfield, Principal Urban Development Specialist, ADB-CDIA

INFRA Cluster Chair: Seoul / Co-chair: AIILSG

days" so that the population can experience alternative modes of transit. Michael Lindfield from ADB and Professor Om Prakash provided valuable advice to members stating that there are many viable examples and strategies in mitigating urban infrastructure problems. Furthermore, Lindfield stated that the future of the world depends on making sure that the increasingly affluent middle class Asians undertake environmentally sustainable practices.

Promotion of further C2C cooperation in the areas of urban transport, integrated urban planning water supply, sewerage, sanitation and low cost housing should be undertaken. CITYNET should consider its resources and enlist the technical help and financial assistance of other international development organisations as well as actively introduce more members to join the INFRA Cluster. The Cluster dialogue ended with a short quorum to decide on the Cluster Chair and Co-Chair for the new term.

MDGs

Minar Pimple of the UN Millennium Campaign speaks out

Chair: Jerry P. Trenas, Mayor, Iloilo (Philippines)

Facilitator: Mary Jane C. Ortega, Former Mayor, San Fernando (Philippines)

Resource persons: Minar Pimple, UN Millennium Campaign; Lowie Rosales, UN-HABITAT; Erna Witoelar, former UN Special Ambassador for MDGs in Asia and the Pacific

Speakers: Mohamad Muraz, Sukabumi (Indonesia); Jesse M. Robredo, Naga (Philippines); Binod Prakash Singh, Lalitpur (Nepal); Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, CITYNET

Commentator: Leo Fonseka, MaRGG

The main focus of the session was how to gain greater commitment and accountability towards the MDGs at a local level. MaRGG pointed out that localisation of the MDGs cannot be done without the support of national governments. Some constraints mentioned were that many administrations still do not understand what "localisation of MDGs" means and that some do not even ever think about mapping at national and local levels as stated by MaRGG.

Erna Witoelar stressed that there are still a minority of cities which do not have access to information on MDGs. Moreover there is still a perception that poverty is just one of the MDGs although all goals are linked to poverty and thus need to be approached in a holistic way.

Concrete recommendations for CITYNET included the idea of launching a campaign to give an award to cities that will achieve MDGs in the next five years in order to provide motivation to collect data. It is important for CITYNET itself to think in terms of interdependency of issues and MDGs should not be seen as a separate issue. AWAREE, for example can be part of the campaign as well as infrastructure, water and sanitation. It was suggested that more focus be put on creating programmes that create synergy between clusters as well as between cities. CITYNET should consider moving forward from C2C cooperation to country-to-country coopera-

tion. Bernadia I. Tjandradewi of CITYNET shared the preliminary findings of the CITYNET and UN Millennium Campaign's survey on the implementation of the MDGs by local governments.

Lowie Rosales (UN-HABITAT) highlighted the importance of the involvement of all actors from cities, even from unexpected sources (artists for example). CITYNET should move to a higher scale, beyond just demonstration programmes and UN-HABITAT would give support. The challenge is also to do more with less. The Mayor of Naga suggested that one way to make poverty alleviation more of a priority could be to involve NGOs from the CITYNET Network when there is a lack of involvement from local governments. Minar Pimple indicated their close relationship with CITYNET and suggested that CITYNET go further and highlight the cities with good achievements in the MDGs.

To close the session, Mary Jane Ortega from San Fernando noted that CITYNET has a responsibility to be more innovative, stand up and speak out in the whole region and promote mutual cooperation; reaching out to those who really are lagging behind through expanded city-to-city cooperation.

MDGs Cluster Chair: San Fernando

⚡ Disaster

At this session a number of projects were discussed along with experiences, challenges and expectations of CITYNET members in implementing disaster-related projects.

Some of the projects included a post disaster pilot project in partnership with a community centre and biogas facility for solid and liquid wastes (HELP-O); strategies for disaster preparedness building codes, and C2C environmental initiatives (PIEDAR and Yokohama City); risk sensitive land use planning and emergency management (Makati and Kathmandu).

To address gaps in institutional and socioeconomic and physical aspects of city risk management the outcomes of risk profiling projects using Climate Disaster Resilience Index (CDRI) and town watching at Kampung Baharu, Kuala Lumpur sustaining eco-village through participatory planning were presented by Rajib Shaw of Kyoto University. Furthermore the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA) as well as the UNISDR Campaign on Urban Risk Reduction and the Asia Regional Task Force was presented as a thematic platform.

In order to carry the knowledge further in the short-term (2010) for CITYNET it was recommended that there be a continuation of C2C between Kathmandu and Makati; a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) on Urban Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) of CITYNET Members; Risk Profiling of other CITYNET Members and training on HFA and its implementation.

Long-term action initiatives by CITYNET should include cooperation with Kyoto University and Tokyo Development Learning Centre (TDLC) of the World Bank to develop tools and training on DRR; participation at the UNISDR Campaign on Risk Reduction (2010-2011); implementation of a survey of tools for mainstreaming DRR in cities; piloting the application of Disaster Risk Management Master Plans (DRMMP) with interested cities. Furthermore there should be an upscaling of demonstrated DRR programmes/practices (e.g. risk sensitive land use planning, risk sensitive redevelopment, land pooling and community-based disaster risk management).

INFRA Cluster Chair: Makati

Co-chair: Banda Aceh

Dr. Rajib Shaw answering a question from Xenon Walde, Chief, Urban Planning Division from Makati

Available at the TDLC website: http://210.137.74.228/viewerportal/vmc/

Partner: UNISDR, Kyoto University

Chairperson: Violeta Seva, Makati (Philippines)

Resource Persons: Yuki Matsuoka, UNISDR; Rajib Shaw, Kyoto University

Speakers: Xenon Walde, Makati; Rajib Shaw, Kyoto University; Mawardy Nurdin, Mayor, Banda Aceh; Chathura Welivitiya, HELP-O; Nadeem Afzal, PIEDAR; Junichi Miyakawa, Yokohama

Disaster Chair: Makati
Co-chair: Banda Aceh

📡 e-Governance

The session examined the activities of CITYNET members and how e-Governance methods and practices can be best promoted.

Surabaya has successfully implemented a quality management system (ISO accreditation in ICT) however they are dealing with major impediments indicative of many member cities such as limited finances, telecommunication networks and access to the Internet (little more than 42% of citizens have access). Surabaya indicated their will to develop partnerships with the surrounding area and with other cities such as Busan. Kathmandu reported on the MOU with the Seoul Government with the project currently at the feasibility study stage. Initiatives of San Fernando as outlined by Mary Jane Ortega include the effort to build an ICT government since 1999 and the full implementation of Tax Revenue Assessment and Collection System (TRACS) since 2007; launching a Poverty Monitoring System, and the receipt of second-hand computers from their sister city in Korea. Marikina has now become a cyber city and has implemented a programme to promote English for global competitiveness and websites which has connected schools with community and government offices.

The Global City Indicators Facility (GCIF) Program (**www.cityindicators.org**) as presented by its Director, Patricia McCarney provides a set of city indicators with a globally standardised methodology that allows for global comparability of city performance and knowledge sharing. All cities who become members can join to measure and report on a core set of indicators through this web-based relational database. Some indicators connect with MDG's indicators. Interested cities can send a request letter to the GCIF Director.

Recommendations included finding ways to make the web more applicable in practical problem solving; more sharing of best practices; encouragement of political will; more effectiveness in human resource management. CITYNET and local governments should consider promoting ICT training centres for government and in schools, starting at the primary level.

Note: The Medium-term Plan (2010–2013) contains a streamlining of the Clusters. The ICT/e-Governance will cease to exist in its individual form starting in 2010, however key elements are planned to be included in programmes and activities of other Clusters.

Kartika Indrayana, from Surabaya presenting his city's e-governance programmes and initiatives

Chairperson: M.L.Tambe, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Mumbai (India)

Resource Persons: Mary Jane C. Ortega, San Fernando ; Patricia McCarney, Director, Global City Indicators Facility

Speakers:
Kartika Indrayana, Head of Demography and Civil Registration Office, Surabaya (Indonesia)

Shankar Raj Kandel, Chief, International Relations Secretariat, Kathmandu (Nepal)

➲ NETWORKING SESSIONS

Donovan Storey presents some findings of the publication "Urban Safety for the Poor in Asia-Pacific"

Partner: UN-HABITAT

Facilitator: Pasquale Capizzi, UN-HABITAT

Panellists:
Donovan Storey, University of Queensland, and coordinator of the study "Urban Safety for the Poor in Asia-Pacific" (Australia)"

Mann Chhoeurn, Deputy Governor, Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Marion S. Andres, Vice Mayor, City Government of Marikina (Philippines)

Kamal Kashyap, Senior Executive Vice President, India-Reliance Infrastructure Limited (India)

Urban Safety in Asia Pacific

Urban Safety in Asia Pacific was discussed in this session as a key emerging issue of concern to many cities within the Region. Pasquale Capizzi from the Safer Cities Programme of UN-HABITAT noted the diversity/variety of contexts and common trends (e.g. lack of opportunities for youth; household violence; planning and urban management; inequalities). Key-findings of analysis on poverty/urban safety links in Asia and the Pacific region have showed elements for an increasingly relevant agenda.

Donovan Storey from the University of Queensland outlined many challenges as well as the complexities of understanding safety issues. Many of these findings are in a study done collaboration of UN-HABITAT and UNESCAP on understanding urban safety for the poor in South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Despite persistent poverty, Asian cities have not been characterised by high rates of crime. Although recorded crime rates may not be high, levels of social and institutional violence are considered to be increasing. Cities showing particular crises of violence and safety include Colombo and Dhaka. Therefore there is a need for broader indicators, inclusive of community

knowledge and experiences. There is a richness or diversity of existing experience and methodologies to be highlighted and expanded.

Best practices were shared from Marikina which showed how communities can come together to provide safety practices. Phnom Penh presented its vision for future strategies in which five communities were selected for safer cities pilot projects in which resilience, prevention and intervention mechanisms by the community in close collaboration with local authorities have been introduced. Other local issues were discussed such as community policing in Mumbai, the role of women in Nepal and Papua New Guinea work with youth.

Key recommendations included giving experience wider visibility while exploring possible ways for the implementation of the agenda in the Asia-Pacific region. CITYNET needs to look at mobilising critical actors as safety should figure more into urban planning on the basis of local assessment. Capacity-building needs can be addressed through pilot activities, increasing discussion and working with organisations such as UN-HABITAT to create innovative partnerships for change.

Somsook Boonyabancha from ACHR explains strategies for people-friendly cities

Facilitator: Sheela Patel, SPARC (India)

Panellists: Somsook Boonyabancha, ACHR (Thailand)

Lalith Lankatilleke, UN-HABITAT Fukuoka

Kirtee Shah, ASAG (India)

Maria Sonia Vicenta Javier Fadrigo, Homeless Peoples Federation Philippines (HPFP) (Philippines)

Yoshihiko Yamamoto, Asaka Area Community Development Council (AACDC) (Japan)

City Development for People by People

How ACHR and CITYNET can be more strategic in bringing more people's voices to the city development process was the main thrust of this dialogue.

ASAG has been strongly advocating the priorities of the urban poor within CITYNET for the last 20 years and now it is necessary to work together more strategically. Kirtee Shah from ASAG stressed that public and private partnerships also need people participation in order to achieve sustainable city development.

Creating a space for people to enter into the development process and playing an active role as a priority was highlighted by ACHR's Somsook Boonyabancha. Lalith Lankatilleke of UN-HABITAT also underlined that clear recommendations should be made for CITYNET to follow. Sheela Patel of SPARC and Yoshihiko Yamamoto of AACDC explained that organising community, bringing them into common agendas, and negotiating with city officials were three important points to consider. Maria Sonia of HPFP suggested that there was a lack of trust between city officials and CBOs, however CBOs often have a better ability to implement projects with a vision to improve communities than city officials. As well, people

need equal representation in the decision making committees.

Shabbir Cheema from the East-West Centre suggested that peoples voices can be represented both through government and civil society groups who however seem to lack the capacity to effectively promote this information. This can be minimised through better organisation, capacity-building, dialogue, legal frameworks, advocacy and education. Some progress in people participation has been made but at a project level, but it is needed at a city level. It was also mentioned that community projects mainly use a demand driven approach. People should first do projects on their own and later negotiate with governments. Mitsuhiko Hosaka from ACHR suggested that organising the community itself does not promote major changes however micro and macro level changes should also be considered. The community development fund of the ACHR is one of the best examples of community-driven process. (www.achr.net)

It was agreed that a proposal regarding how ACHR and CITYNET can work together would be made by Kirtee Shah and that dialogue through the ACHR network should continue.

Cities and Universities

The well attended session comprised of panel discussions, group discussions with presentations from university students.

Also present in the session were representatives from the World Bank, JICA, and other notable international organisations. The presentations and panel discussion included topics on cooperation between various cities and universities, urban design, public health, the role of donor agencies, student participation, knowledge sharing, and expanding the Network to a larger international community. The audience participated fully in group discussions. As well the presentations from the university students were well received by international donor agencies.

Yokohama City University (YCU) introduced their new initiative known as the Academic Consortium, i.e. an International Academic Consortium for Sustainable Cities (IACSC). The idea is to create a network of universities for partnership with cities, NGOs and international organisations in Japan and abroad for better knowledge sharing and cooperation. Proposed by students was the creation of International Network of University Students (INUS) within the consortium. This will be designed to give students increased opportunities to interact and engage in joint activities which can further promote information exchange and development of sustainable ideas. Further details can be obtained from YCU.
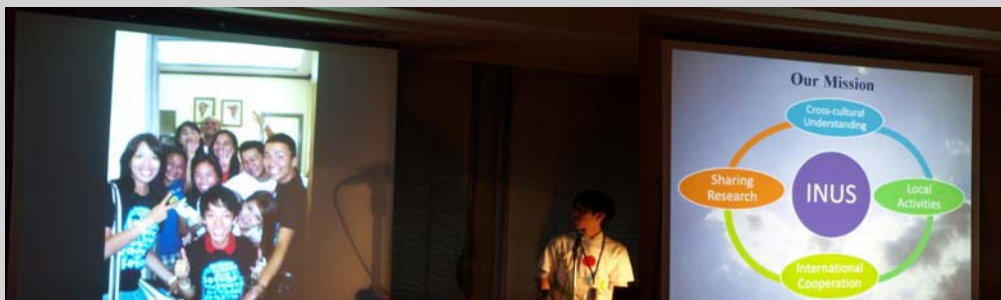
Outcomes included the establishment of a 14-member Steering Committee of the proposed consortium and establishment of the consortium and INUS through tentative secretariat is located in YCU. It was agreed that communication and discussion should be maintained through a website, list-serv, blog and other internet services.

University students present their ideas for sustainability

Prof. Arakawa (JICA) speaks about cooperation with various stakeholders

Facilitator: Takehiko Uemura, Associate Professor, Yokohama City University

Panellists: Yokohama City University, Chang-An University (Korea), Institute for Historical Resources Management, University of the Philippines, World Bank, JICA

Shoya Hirose from Yokohama City University explained the mission of the International Network of University Students (INUS) which includes international cooperation and local activities

Financing Urban Infrastructure

Financing options, constraints of local governments and best practices to ensure environmental initiatives that are financed, implemented, sustained and mainstreamed into urban development plans were covered in this session.

The technical discussion featured presentations from representatives from ADB, Cities Development Initiatives for Asia (CDIA), World Bank and the Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) (India) who gave useful advice on financing tools and funding strategies for local governments.

CDIA, a multi-donor programme which CITYNET has been serving as a stakeholder representative, uses a demand driven approach to support the identification and development of urban investment projects in the framework of existing city development plans presented on modalities for capacity development for improved urban infrastructure preparation and financing. One of the major constraints is the gap that often exists between city-level development plans and strategy and their bankable projects. CDIA assists cities to implement their development strategies using a number of measures and services to qualifying partner cities. Example projects in Bangladesh, India, China, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam were given. **(http://cdia.asia)**

The concept of innovative and alternative sources of funding and revenue models were highlighted by the ADB and NIPFP which starts with a clear strategy and business plan and understanding why traditional models are no longer functioning. It is more important than ever before as considering the rise in population (about US$ 500 billion will be needed for urban infrastructure investment.) **(www.adb.org)**

Some alternative models include output based aid, guarantees (minimum revenue, credit enhancement) monetising increase in real estate value, wholesale bundling of smaller projects and looking at ways to make private-public partnerships work. Another important concept is that revenues must equal costs. (continued next page)

Facilitator Anand Chiplunkar from ADB (left), with Emiel Wegelin of CDIA (centre)

Partner: ADB

Facilitator: Anand Chiplunkar, Principal Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist, ADB

Panellists: Michael Lindfield, Principal Urban Development Specialist; Emiel Wegelin, Program Coordinator, CDIA, Hubert Jenny, Senior Urban Development Specialist, ADB; Luong Minh Sam, Director of Foreign Affairs Department, Da Nang (Vietnam); Siddhartha Shah, Investment Specialist, ADB

Financing Urban Infrastructure (Cont'd)

Professor Om Prakash Mathur from the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy , Siddhartha Shah and Hubert Jenny from ADB contemplate solutions to financing LG projects.

Hubert Jenny from ADB also presented on sanitation in Asia as there is a serious lack. He stressed the importance of asset management and gave suggestions for managing user fees and regulations. He said people are willing to pay for sewerage but achieving the right level of service, sanitation business plan and financial viable sewerage systems are paramount.

The session wrapped with a call for the need to continue the debate on reform to stimulate buoyancy in conventional sources and new financing channels and revenue models with the usage of carbon capital and trade in calculating net value, for example, as well as finding a way to build the abilities of urban local bodies in terms of capacity and financial strength. The role of Multilaterals and Development Agencies will continue to be pivotal.

Strengthening Municipal Associations

Bangkok Deputy Governor (middle) view presentations with participants including Kalanidhi Devkota representing the Nepal NC (far right)

Partner: Municipal Associations

Facilitator: Nathaniel Von Einsiedel, CAPS (Philippines)

Panellists: Suriya Yeekhun, Mayor of Prik Municipality; Tam Trong Dao, (ACVN); Noor Mohammed, AMDA; Kalanidhi Devkota, MuAN

Commentators: Shagdarsuren Tserendulam, Mongolian Association of Urban Centres; Victor V. Ferrer, Philippine Councillors League

The key-point of this session was to discuss the capacity building of local government in order to more effectively address the challenge of urban growth and development. Furthermore, the advocacy and promotion of policy change to strengthen the MOU of LGs in the delivery of essential urban services.

The presenters outlined common major challenges which included capacity building in an environment of rapid and massive urban growth, the hesitance of central government to fully decentralise power and resources to local governments, inadequate resources to respond to capacity building needs of member LGs as well as the inadequate municipal government laws that would empower local government to more effectively perform their mandated function.

To balance this, the good practices shared were the extensive research on urban issues carried out by the Association of Municipalities and Development Authority (AMDA) of India, the development of a database on municipalities by National Municipal League of Thailand, the initiative of a Municipal Needs Assessment by the Municipal Association of Nepal and the Development of the Legal Status of Cities through MAUC in Mongolia.

Panel members suggested CITYNET "wholesale" capacity building of local authorities through municipal associations in order to reach a larger number of such authorities. There could be inter-association lobbying with ASEAN and SAARC, supported by CITYNET to further strengthen local authorities.

Urban Ecosystems & Biodiversity

UNU explored biodiversity and recommendations for CITYNET

Partner: UNU-IAS

Opening Remarks: Govindan Parayil, UNU-IAS

Session Keynote Speaker: Kazuhiko Takeuchi, UNU

Facilitator: Maiko Nishi, UNU-IAS

Panellists: Anne McDonald, UNU-IAS; Satoru Sadohara, Yokohama National University; Fumiko Nakao, UNU-IAS; Tetsuya Nakajima, Director of Climate Change Policy Headquarters, City of Yokohama

This session explored the solutions and possible contributions to urban ecosystems and biodiversity as well as how to shape inputs into the discussion of the CBD/COP10 agenda.

Govindan Parayil from UNU-IAS described the needs for ecosystems in cities, giving hints for the CBD-COP10 meeting in Nagoya also citing that "Yokohama is the most environmentally sustainable city in the world."

Kazuhiko Takeuchi stressed the "harmonic coexistence of humans and nature" and outlined urban ecosystems giving examples of Vienna (concept of city parks, greenbelt) and US/Canada with (greenways) to show the development from artificial to more natural green in cities. For Japan the Satoyama landscapes are of interest for future city planning.

An overview of the ongoing projects of Satoyama and Satoumi were given by Anne McDonald through the example of Ishikawa Prefecture where the main question is how

urban residents can benefit from greening cities and how ecosystems can contribute to human well-being. Satoru Sadohara from YNU mentioned that cities depend on regions far away and foreign countries in terms of food supply. He also talked about future plans to maintain biodiversity in order to impact other ecosystems. Tetsuya Nakajima from Yokohama City introduced the GHG-reduction plans of Yokohama and described the YES-Project as well as the cooperation with private companies on reducing CO2 and Fumiko Nakao of UNU-IAS described Japan's Biodiversity Policy.

Ideas for further action for CITYNET include looking more closely at the factors behind changes in biodiversity and developing Satoyama- and Satoumi-taxes. It is important to incorporate ideas from overseas in similar regions and increase cooperation between private companies and governments for forests and greening areas. Promotion of urban agriculture for environmental education as disaster evacuation spots should also be considered.

➲ TECHNICAL VISITS

I. Environment

The visit focused on the Tsurumi Incineration Plant, a zero emission facility where garbage is incinerated around-the-clock. Participants toured the facility and observed the steps of incineration along with its by-products. Tsurumi Incineration Plant generates is own energy and the surplus is sold to neighbouring plants.

The participants were also introduced to the Hokubu II Wastewater Treatment Center facility which works for the penetration of flushing toilets, countermeasures against flooding, and water quality preservation of public water bodies. It treats 116,500 cubic meters of wastewater everyday. They learned how the plant receives wastewater through pipes and is cleaned before being discharged into the sea.

II. Creative City

This technical visited consisted of tours of Yokohama Creative City Centres (YCCC) in Naka-Ku which supports activities by artists and citizens and run by the Arts Commission Yokohama (Judicial Foundation). These areas offered a view into the rich history and culture of Yokohama. Participants visited the first domestic bank in Yokohama as well as Kogane-cho and Hatsune-cho where Yokohama has been working to reform these areas with the power of art. Artists have been given spaces and they are working to beautify the space. Participants also saw the Vantan Design Institute as well as the BankART studio which both support the Yokohama Creative City concept.

III. Co-governance

Participants were treated to a visit of the Nissan Guest Hall and Engine Museum which was built in 1934 and is now recognised as an historic building. Highlights included learning about the sophisticated technology behind the running of miniature and eco-engines at Nissan and an automated robot which is able to draw intricate and accurate drawings of the vehicles.

Following this, a visit to the Nissan factory revealed the epitome of modern technology with many high-tech features and high-functioning and optimised machines. Participants were provided a very hands-on approach and were given the opportunity to use some of the machines and ask questions.

Plenary and Closing Sessions

Participants listened to the outcomes of each Session of the Congress

Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl making a farewell speech at the Closing Ceremony

Facilitators: Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl, Special Advisor, CITYNET

Mary Jane Ortega, Secretary-General, CITYNET

The final session chaired by former Secretary General Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl and co-chaired the newly elected Secretary General Mary Jane Ortega outlined major outcomes and recommendations for each of the Congress sessions.

Some of the common recommendations were:

* promotion, continuation and expansion of C2C focusing on the transfer of 'soft' technology or good practices (ex. waste reduction)
* more training needs assessment and risk profiling
* development of training modules, including e-learning modules, and short term training courses
* utilising training institutions within the Network
* consider "wholesale" capacity building of local authorities through municipal associations
* enlistment of technical and financial assistance from other international development organisations and mobilisation of critical actors
* look at other examples of successful practices (e.g. ACHR's Urban Poor Fund initiatives)
* pilot applications with interested cities (e.g. Disaster Risk Management Master Plan)
* up-scale demonstrated programmes/projects
* institutionalise basic sanitation and the 3Rs in solid waste management
* promote sustainable sanitation
* raise public awareness at the local level
* involve the business sector promoting environ-

mentally friendly businesses
* enhance partnerships with national government
* implement a strong gender approach which should be "lens" from which all policies, programmes, activities should be examined
* provide more accountability to donors

Other key points were the need to bring people to the center of the development process i.e. demand-driven projects. Also a strong sense of accountability and advocacy is needed through participatory, transparent, less bureaucratic and people-sensitive processes. More detailed recommendations are indicated in the session reports. The new Cluster leads and co-leads for the coming term were also announced.

Concerns of increasing migration and the creation of unsustainable mega metropolis' in the Asia-Pacific were voiced during the session. Suggestions included the encouragement of sharing best practices among members could be done through CITYNET initiatives and awards. The plenary session was followed by a harbour tour of Yokohama.

The closing ceremony, hosted by the Mayor of Yokohama was held at the grand Osanbashi Pier with traditional dances and video highlights of the Congress. The 2009 Yokohama Congress closed with the introduction of the new Executive Committee members and a speech of former Secretary-General who had served the Network since its establishment.

➲ 26th Session of the Executive Committee Meeting

The purpose of this meeting was to review key points from the 25th Executive Meeting as well as to outline institutional and programme activities from 2010-2011, adoption of new members and to make recommendations for the way forward.

The report of the 25th ExCom Meeting was discussed at length by the newly elected ExCom members and a number of amendments were requested regarding the charter, trust fund and the membership of Chinese, among others.

The idea of a subcommittee to carry out technical working group was agreed upon. This small working group which would utilise the reserve fund budget will have the task of reviewing the MTP, changes in Charter in view of the overall reform of CITYNET. Confirmed members will be: Makati (host), Bangkok, Seoul, Yokohama, UNESCAP, Kirtee Shah, SDS, Kathmandu, Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chal. The first meeting is to be held on December 8-10 December 2009 in Makati. The group will aim to have a holistic view and include members outside ExCom such as Kirtee Shah (ASAG) who developed a document aiming for the reform of CITYNET. Furthermore the appointment of Dato' Lakhbir Singh Chahl as special adviser was passed.

Future plans of the Satellite Office and the National Chapters were reiterated. Bangladesh mentioned that they would incorporate findings and requested a visit from CITYNET Secretariat to Dhaka to help strengthen the National Chapter; Indonesia would like to share knowledge experience and best practices as per last year; Nepal stated that they plan to organise a General Assembly of CITYNET Nepal members to formulate plans; Sri Lanka will propose to allow Associate Members into the Chapter so as to strengthen it. More coordination with UN to incorporate CITYNET National Chapter training activities, increasing resources and moving towards the goal of showing more impact should be considered.

The activities and the purpose of the CITYNET trust fund were outlined by Makati. Following this the institutional and programme activities from 2010-2011 were presented by CITYNET Programme Director Bernadia I. Tjandradewi. Recommendations included the need to balance between developed/developing countries and the request for Lyon to mobilise more European Cities; the low collection rate of member cities could be increased with the help of the Satellite Office. The establishment of a Philippine National Chapter was also suggested.

Some of the major recommendations from the ExCom Members were a matrix to map who gets the most benefits from CITYNET; to take advantage of promotional opportunities at the WUF in Brazil and Shanghai Urban Expo in 2010 in collaboration with UN-HABITAT and others; the installation of a proper database; strengthening communication items including survey returns and the CityMatch function of the website and the re-vitalisation of City-Voice. Cluster naming should be more generic and follow trends and the pros and cons of giving awards needs to be reviewed. The strengthening of National Chapters was a major point and it was suggested it fit into institutional and strategic reform of CITYNET. ExCom Members were also keen to offer assistance with printing facilities, translation (AIILSG/Satellite Office), resource people (UNESCAP, UN-HABITAT) among others.

New members were introduced to CITYNET including Pangkal Pinang, Semarang and Tarakan (full members) and King Mongkut University of Technology Thonburi (associate members). Palembang offered to host 27th session of ExCom, with the date to be determined.

The 26th ExCom approved the following as new members, CITYNET welcomes:

➲ **Pangkal Pinang Municipality, Indonesia (full member)**

➲ **Local Government of Semarang Municipality, Indonesia (full member)**

➲ **Local Government of Tarakan Municipality, Indonesia (full member)**

➲ **King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand (associate member)**

➲ CITYNET CLUSTER CHAIRS

Climate Change Cluster (New)
Cluster Chair: Dhaka

Disaster Cluster
Cluster Chair: Makati / Co-chair: Banda Aceh

INFRA Cluster
Chair: Seoul / Co-chair: AIILSG

MDGs Cluster
Chair: San Fernando

➲ CONGRESS PHOTO GALLERY

This photo was taken at the National Chapter Meeting including some members of the Indonesian National Chapter.

Congress members were happy to meet Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of Yokohama in her first official Congress of her term.

Participants visited the exhibition of CITYNET and its partners. Members were also able to promote their cities and organisations at a poster exhibition.

Participants on their way to join a technical visit.

Participants look at some of the details on the Tsurumi Incineration Plant tour.

(from left) Representing ACHR, Kirtee Shah from ASAG, Mitsuhiko Hosaka, former UNESCAP officer, Somsook Boonyabancha, to-gether with Adnan Aliani from UNESCAP and Gautum Kirtane from AIILSG at the 25th Executive Committee Meeting.

Secondment staff from five CITYNET cities meet together at the Congress closing ceremony.

This photo was taken at the conclusion of the 26th Executive Committee Meeting.

➲ CONGRESS PHOTO GALLERY

Yokohama City officials, comprising of Vice Mayor Takayuki Kaneda (centre), Office of International Relations Director Makoto Sekiyama (centre-right) and the international office staff enjoying the festivities.

Suwannah Jungrungrueng from Bangkok and Nightingale T. Keyes from Freedom to Build (Philippines) make a good connection.

Schoolchildren from Yokohama entertain the participants and guests with traditional dances in local costumes.

Emiel Wegelin from CDIA, Bernadia Tjandradewi from the CITYNET

Some of the newly elected Executive Committee members meet on-stage at the Closing Ceremony.

A reunion of CITYNET cooperation: Toshihiko Oyamatsu from Yokohama, Tan Cheng Chui Mayor of Penang, CITYNET Assistant Secretary General Hoshina and Tadahiko Kanechika, CEO of Yokohama Port Harbour Operation Affiliation.

The CITYNET Secretariat and friends wishes to thank all of the CITYNET members and partners for their participation and great support during the Yokohama CITYNET Congress 2009. Without your strong support it would not have been possible. Domo arigatou gozaimashita!