Subcommittee on Winter Environmental Issues

Activity Report

January 21, 2010
Swissotel; Tallinn, Estonia
Background of Establishing the Subcommittee

Discussion at the 12th WWCAM Conference

Theme: Winter environmental issues
(Changchun, China; 2006)

Changchun Declaration

“Winter cities will deal with environmental activities with utmost wisdom and effort.”

Subcommittee on Winter Environmental Issues Established

Goal: To study measures that will counter threats to the environment in winter cities
Activities of the Subcommittee (2006 – 2010)

- **Common Awareness of Environmental Issues**
  - 2006 Jan.
  - First Subcommittee Meeting (Nuuk, Greenland)
  - Questionnaire survey (Environmental issues)

- **Environmental Action**
  - 2006 July
  - Second Subcommittee Meeting (Steporo, Japan)
  - Questionnaire survey (Global warming)

  - 2006 Jan.
  - Interim Report submitted
  - Nuuk Declaration
  - 13th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors (Nuuk, Greenland)
  - Questionnaire survey (Global environment)

  - 2006 Aug.
  - Third Subcommittee Meeting (Prince George, Canada)
  - First Common Campaign

  - 2006 Feb.
  - Fourth Subcommittee Meeting (Trondheim, Norway)
  - Survey on activities outlined in the Nuuk Declaration
  - Second Common Campaign

  - 2006 Aug.
  - Final Report to be submitted
  - 14th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors (Maardu, Estonia)

- **Output**
  - Subcommittee activity
  - Survey of member city’s countermeasures
  - Collection of successful measures

  - Output
  - Subcommittee activity
  - Information dissemination on WWCAM website and information sharing

  - Common campaign
  - Collection of campaign activities and study of the outcome
Interim Report Submitted

At the 13th WWCAM Conference
On January 20, 2008
In Nuuk, Greenland
## Activities carried out until the interim report submitted

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<th>First Questionnaire Survey</th>
<th>Second Questionnaire Survey</th>
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<td>June 2006; Replies from 16 cities</td>
<td>June 2007; Replies from eight cities</td>
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<td>Objective: To investigate basic data regarding environmental awareness and concerns of the member cities</td>
<td>Objective: To investigate global warming measures taken by the member cities</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Subcommittee Meeting</th>
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<td>July 2006; Nuuk, Greenland</td>
<td>July 2007; Sapporo, Japan</td>
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<td>Agenda</td>
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<td>1. First questionnaire survey report</td>
<td>1. Preparation of the interim report</td>
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<td>2. Future management of the Subcommittee</td>
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<td>3. Case reports from the member cities</td>
<td>3. Case reports from the member cities</td>
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Global Environmental Issues in Member Cities
(from two questionnaire surveys and discussions)

- A wide variety of environmental issues, such as air pollution, waste management and global warming are common regardless of the size of the city or its regional characteristics.

- Member cities are highly aware of the abnormal climate, local governments are responsible for environmental measures in most of the cities, and a large number of cities have been educating residents on environmental issues.

- Most of the respondents have been conducting measures to curtail global warming, which indicates that the planning of countermeasures by local governments has been progressing.
New activities after the interim report

Sharing of information on environmental issues

• Utilization of the web site
• Exchange of opinions at the Subcommittee meetings

Study and implementation of global warming counter-measures that member cities can jointly carry out.

• Survey of the experiences of citizen education
• Intension to deal with other environmental issues beyond global warming
Questionnaire Survey

- Citizen education commonly feasible
- Other environmental issues beyond global warming

June 2008
Respondents: 12 cities of nine countries
1. Whether member cities have formulated standards and/or charter or not
   Most of them have already formulated or plan to do so.

2. Citizen education programs and collaboration with private businesses and citizens groups
   Various programs have been carried out in each city.

3. Feasibility of and interest in common campaign
   Theme of interest was “electricity saving.”

4. Efforts and measures to reduce air, noise, and water pollution
   Some measures relate to global warming measures.
Campaign activities jointly carried out in member cities
First Campaign: Outline

- Objectives
  To raise awareness among residents toward environmental issues

- Period: February 2009

- Participants: Seven cities
  (Nuuk, Maardu, Harbin, Qiqihar, Taebaek, Hwacheon, Sapporo)

- Method
  Each member city promoted electricity saving among citizens, using publicity materials, posters, and fliers. Questionnaire survey was also conducted.
First Campaign: Activities (1)

- Same posters used by member cities
- Posters printed in each member city with texts in its own language.
- Posters placed in public facilities
First Campaign: Activities (2)

〜Hwacheon, Korea〜

Fliers distributed at the Snow Festival site and other places

Questionnaire survey: 4,000 replies

〜Sapporo, Japan〜
Second Campaign: Outline

- Objectives
  To build on the raised awareness and to strengthen reciprocal ties
- Period: From November 1, 2009 until the day each city designates
- Participants: Six cities (Aomori, Changchun, Harbin, Hwacheon, Sapporo, Shenyang)
- Method
  Posters produced with a theme of “Let’s Protect Our Environment” were placed in public spaces in member cities.
Let's protect our environment

With texts

Your breath makes me calm
Your tears make me clean
Yes, you are my only earth

Without texts
Second Campaign: Activities (1)

〜Harbin, China〜

Elementary school

〜Shenyang, China〜

Municipal library

City Hall

Liaoning University
Second Campaign: Activities (2)

〜Changchun, China〜

〜Hwacheon, Korea〜

City Hall

Office
Second Campaign: Activities (3)

〜Sapporo, Japan〜

〜Aomori, Japan〜

Placed at 24 subway stations
Pledged to utilize the collective wisdom of the winter cities to make every effort to tackle the problem of global warming

Confirmed to carry out four items of initiatives, and agreed to monitor the progress
October 2009
Respondents: 10 cities of six countries
Survey on activities outlined in the Nuuk Declaration

1. To work towards establishing a member city framework for global warming countermeasures (goals for reduced CO\textsubscript{2} and other greenhouse gas emissions, etc.) based on the precedents by advanced Member Cities.

- Already doing: eight cities
  (Aomori, Sapporo, Tromsø, Novosibirsk, Jiamusi, Taebaek, Changchun, Shenyang)

- Planning: two cities
  (Ulaanbaatar, Maardu)
Survey on activities outlined in the Nuuk Declaration

2. To take the initiative as winter city governmental bodies to pursue measures for energy conservation and environmental conservation, and actively embrace our guiding role by urging and encouraging local residents in their actions and measures.

- Already doing: 10 cities
Survey on activities outlined in the Nuuk Declaration

3. To lessen our reliance on fossil fuels by actively pursuing the use of renewable energy

- Already doing: six cities
  (Ulaanbaatar, Sapporo, Jiamusi, Taebaek, Changchun, Shenyang)

- Planning: four cities
  (Aomori, Tromsø, Novosibirsk, Maardu)
Survey on activities outlined in the Nuuk Declaration

4. To work to expand the network of winter cities engaged in dealing with global environmental issues by having member cities share information regarding countermeasures for global warming with other cities in the region.

- Already doing: seven cities
  (Ulaanbaatar, Sapporo, Tromsø, Novosibirsk, Maardu, Taebaek, Shenyang)
- Planning: one city (Changchun)
- No plans: two cities
  (Aomori, Jiamusi)
To undertake activities to protect the environment other than those outlined in the Nuuk Declaration.

- Already doing: five cities
  (Sapporo, Novosibirsk, Jiamusi, Taebaek, Shenyang)

- Planning: four cities
  (Ulaanbaatar, Tromsø, Maardu, Changchun)

- No plans: one city (Aomori)
Guidelines for Environmental Actions in Winter Cities

- We will protect and nurture the blessings of nature, such as water and greenery.
- We will not use resources wastefully, and we will reduce garbage.
- We will try to end dependence on fossil fuels and promote the use of renewable energy.
- We will promote the use of energy-saving devices.
- We will decrease personal car use and develop eco-friendly cities.
- We will increase citizen awareness of the environment through education and encourage citizens to take action.
Thank you for your cooperation with the Subcommittee’s work.