

is a very good example, to enable city managers who are involved in environmental protection to realize exactly what the benefits and what the problems are with the environment. Thank you.

Chairman

Thank you indeed. Any other comments? If not, I would like to conclude our free discussion. After this we are going to have Dr. Matsufuji of Fukuoka University wrap up this session, but I believe he will need some time to prepare for that. So I propose that we have a break for 15 minutes.

Meeting Summary |||

**Prof. Yasushi Matsufuji
Faculty of Engineering
Fukuoka University**

Chairman

Now we would like to resume the conference. We will have Professor Matsufuji from the Department of Engineering of Fukuoka University give us a summary of this meeting. Professor Matsufuji will accompany you on tomorrow's field work trip. Now, Professor Matsufuji, please.



Prof. Yasushi Matsufuji (FUKUOKA UNIVERSITY)

Thank you very much for your introduction. I am Matsufuji from Fukuoka University. You must be tired after a long day. I will make a brief summary of today's conference, including my impressions and comments. My first impression of this working level conference is that city representatives from local government or local authorities have participated in discussion in a very candid manner. Indeed, in the open discussion we saw a very free discussion. Usually discussion tends to be formal, however, in this working level conference we had very frank and candid opinions regarding waste management especially collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal — four processes. The processes most discussed were collection, transportation, and disposal. Also, we heard presentations from four cities. In my impression, it seems each city has a specific master plan and I was assured that each city has taken the first steps in their own master plan. All the participating cities have been witnessing rapid economic growth. Therefore, in the year 2000, it will be necessary to review these master plans. But what is most important now, is that we have the long term, mid-term, or short term master plans for waste management which

are so urgently required. In this respect, the presentations from the cities today must have been very informative to all of the participating countries. I also found that each city is working toward a plan which is suited to its regional characteristics. In Japan, we are now basing waste treatment on the premises of recycling and sorting. From this, we found out that it is necessary to establish suitable technology. I think this view is shared among all the participating countries. Unfortunately, for the past thirty years, the process of waste management in Japan has tended to be overly technologically oriented. Now, all countries participating today are seeking waste management based on recycling and selection or sorting. This has, again, been very informative to Japan, since we have been excessively technology oriented.

Now let me mention peripheral cities. In the year 2000, I think the waste treatment issue will be a common subject for all major and peripheral cities in Asia. And, of course, waste management will determine how the city will be able to develop in the future and the direction the development will take. All of the participants here are from cities within one or two hours distance of each other. We are all very close. Considering this, any impact of waste management to the development of the city will also influence other peripheral cities. So, we do have to emphasize support for waste management as a common goal to the year 2000.

I would like to share with you my frank opinion regarding environmental issues. A similar statement was made by the Indonesian representative. The garbage issue is not a zero sum gain. It must be a win/win gain, where all partners can benefit mutually. This is ideal. Especially in environmental issues, there is no final target or end point. A continuously upgraded or more comfortable level is sought. In order to attain higher levels of environment, we need to have a strengthened and deepened exchange among ourselves. This should include the citizens. Also, exchanging both positive and negative experiences is important. Of course, environmental issues don't have a final, ultimate target or solution. We will always need exchange with each other in order to solve problems, and definitely we will find ways to solve problems through exchange with each other. A threat to those of us in waste management, is that citizens may not have an interest in waste management. Fortunately, however, the world is turning its attention to waste management. Waste management is now the most controversial issue in the world and therefore it is very timely to talk about waste management. We would like to take advantage of such a pushing wind in order to further promote environmental protection.

Another important thing is the privatization of waste management, which many participating cities have shown interest in. As we are still struggling with that issue, today's meeting was very meaningful in the exchange of views and information

among the participant countries, which have different characteristics and are taking different directions. We all have to find the way which is best suited to the local community or local government. However, the Auckland presentation had a most impressive message regarding privatization. With the historical background of privatization in Auckland, they found that the local government should not be completely removed from waste management, even though they entrust it to private operators. They have to evaluate or monitor from a fair perspective. It is often the case that countries want to move to privatization because of lack of funds. However, as the representative from Auckland said, the local government or the city authority has to have a system where they can monitor and evaluate the private waste management system from a fair point of view.

And, we were fortunate in today's meeting, to have the participation of the United Nations, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, and the Japan Waste Research Foundation. We were able to receive a range of information from these international organizations regarding problems which local cities, themselves, cannot solve. At any rate, this issue of waste management is certainly broad and challenging. Municipalities need to have manpower, money, and materials. In most cases, the municipalities are suffering from a lack of these three requirements. If we are lacking in manpower, materials, or money, we have to work through this on a step by step basis. I believe this is one of the lessons that we have learned. The step by step character of the process needs to be emphasized. Through this conference, I think we were able to share that message among ourselves.

Next, we did not have enough time for the discussion of some points, including environmental education. For today's children, who will be playing a very important role in the twenty-first century, education is critical. And even though funding is quite limited, improvements in environmental education will be very meaningful to us. Efforts need to be taken to improve the living environment. As emphasized by Habitat, there ought to be a strong linkage between all elements concerned, elements of livingstandard improvement, healthy environment and waste management. So I would like to emphasize the importance of the environmental education. Maybe this theme can be taken up at a future conference. Environmental education is going to be quite time consuming, I think, but it will be worthwhile for us to spend sufficient time to discuss these matters.

In concluding, I'd like to say the following: for the environment and health and education — there is no final target in these areas. The further we go, the more benefits we can enjoy. It is a continuous process. We should never give up ground in these important areas. I do hope this administrator's conference and the topics we have discussed here will lead us to specific plans of action. I believe this is

what the organizer, the City of Fukuoka, planned to achieve. And for those who are involved in research activities in the field of waste management, the realization of specific action is the greatest expectation we could hope to achieve. In the morning hours we heard the keynote presentation and it was reported there that in November of the year 2000 we'll be holding the Asian-Pacific Conference on landfills in this ACROS building. The preparations have already started. I do hope that all the municipalities here will send representatives to that conference. At that time, you should be able to report on the things you have learned from today's conference, as well as the experiences you have after this conference. We truly hope to enjoy a productive exchange of experiences and information at that conference.

Before I conclude my remarks, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to the organizer, the City of Fukuoka, as well as to the participating municipalities. Thank you very much for taking time from your busy schedules to be a part of this international conference. We are now moving into the twenty-first century and we must pay more attention to waste management issues. Among Asian communities we need to exchange further information. Thank you very much for your kind attention. I was probably somewhat disorganized, but thank you very much for this opportunity. This concludes my closing remarks. Thank you indeed.

Secretary-General's Summary |||

Chairman

Thank you very much. Now, the Secretary General of the Asian-Pacific City Summit, Mr. Hiroshi Murakami, who is the Executive Director of the International Affairs Department of Fukuoka City will speak to us about the report to be made at the third Asian-Pacific City Summit which will be held next year in Fukuoka.

Mr. Hiroshi Murakami (FUKUOKA)

Thank you very much for your kind contribution and discussion. Today we had the participation of the working level officers from various cities of the Asian-Pacific City Summit and we had a very significant Second Working Level Conference here in Fukuoka. Thank you very much to the representatives from the four cities who made the case study presentations. Despite your very busy schedules, you kindly accepted our invitation and you made beautiful presentations. Also, the other participants contributed very sincere and active discussion. Thank you very much. My thanks goes to Professor Hanashima and Professor Matsufuji of Fukuoka University, and Mr. Graham Philip Alabaster, who is the Human Settlements Officer of the

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). My thanks goes to Mr. Yonekawa, the program coordinator of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Kinoshita of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and Mr. Sato of the Japan Waste Research Foundation. Thank you very much for your expert opinions and advice. Thanks to your cooperation we had a very fruitful and significant conference here today. As the chairman stated, we will make a report of this Working Level Conference at the third Asian-Pacific City Summit held here in Fukuoka City on July 11-13, 1998. A detailed report will be made by the secretariat, but I would like to have your approval of the following points.

The first item of the report is that we had presentations by four cities, Shanghai, Pusan, Jakarta and Auckland. And we also had the participation of thirty-six working level officers from eighteen cities, nine countries. Through our discussions we were able to deepen our mutual understanding of the cities that participated and we could exchange a lot of information and experiences. Secondly, we had the participation of Fukuoka University, the United Nations, JICA, and the Japan Waste Research Foundation. They gave us a lot of advice and suggestions, and their contribution made our Second Working Level Conference more significant. Thirdly, we saw variety in addressing the theme "Waste Treatment and Disposal" from city to city, however we learned about a lot of experiences and we hope to reflect what we have learned here in municipal administration as much as possible. And this is the common understanding of the participants. This will be the outline of the report I am going to make next year during the third Asian-Pacific City Summit. I'd like to have your approval. (Applause) Thank you very much.

Chairman

This concludes the Asian-Pacific City Summit Second Working Level Conference. Thank you very much for your cooperation today. Thank you again.