

PLENARY SESSION

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Ladies and gentlemen, I am Mr. Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka. I will be acting as chairman and I appreciate your cooperation. I assume that this morning you had three hours of active discussion at the subsessions. Now we would like hear the reports from the chairmen of those three subsessions, but prior to this, the Asian-Pacific City Summit Executive Committee will report on the 2nd Asian-Pacific City Summit Working Level Conference that was held last November in Fukuoka. Mr. Inoue, Chief Executive of the General Affairs and Planning Bureau of Fukuoka, please come to the rostrum.

REPORT ON THE 2ND ASIAN-PACIFIC CITY WORKING LEVEL CONFERENCE //

Mr. Koki Inoue, Chief Executive, General Affairs & Planning Bureau, Fukuoka

On behalf of the executive committee of the Asian-Pacific City Summit, I would like to report on the 2nd Asian-Pacific City Summit Working Level Conference, which was held in Fukuoka last year.

The conference was held for 3 days from November 26th to 28th, 1997, under the theme of "Waste Treatment and Disposal-Striving for a Sustainable Growth Environment". 41 representatives from 18 cities and from nine countries participated in the conference. On the 26th, we had an 8-hour meeting from 9:30 a. m. to 5:30 p.m. First, we listened to the keynote speech from Mr. Masataka Hanashima, Professor of Fukuoka University, which was followed by presentations from 4 cities: Shanghai, Pusan, Jakarta and Auckland. Based on the presentations, all the participants exchanged their opinions and information, thus further deepening mutual understanding among them. It was very impressive to see not only presenters but also other participants having in-depth discussion through serious and active exchanges of opinion. We had as distinguished guests Mr. Graham Philip Alabaster, Human Settlement Officer of the UN Center for Human Settlements (HABITAT), who reported on the waste treatment and disposal; Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, Program Coordinator of the Department of Economic & Social Affairs of the United Nations; Mr. Toshio Kinoshita, Director, Environment, WID and Global Issues Division of the Japan International Cooperation Agency; and Mr. Tetsushi Sato, Director of the Japan Waste Research Foundation. The opinions and advice expressed from their individual standpoints lent the conference greater significance. Mr. Yasushi Matsufuji, Professor of Fukuoka University, summarized the content. The details are in the report you were given today, so we would be obliged if you read them later.

On the 2nd day of the conference, we had fieldwork. At 10:00 a.m., the delegation arrived at Fukuoka City Refresh Farm, developed on a former sanitary landfill, observed facilities built on the filled-land such as a sports park and a school, then visited Nakata Landfill currently under use. There, under the guidance of Professor Yasushi Matsufuji, they studied "Fukuoka Technology", an easy and economical semi-aerobic reclamation method. "Fukuoka Technology" is an epoch-making technology that has been introduced in many Asian cities. And this fieldwork prompted the move for further introduction of the technology. I sincerely hope that this technology and the experiences that Fukuoka City has accumulated will be of continuous help for your cities.

On the 28th, the third day of the conference, an administrative tour was conducted. The delegation left the hotel at 8:30 a.m., visited Tobu Clean Park, an incineration plant located at the eastern edge of Fukuoka City, and Green Recycling Center, adjacent to the plant and other facilities. I think that the tour helped the participants understand the present situation of waste treatment in Fukuoka.

This is the outline of the 3-day conference. Because we added fieldwork to the schedule, this working level conference was 1 day longer than the first one in 1995. I consider that the fieldwork helped participants understand the situation and was an effective activity. Although the state of waste treatment and disposal differs considerably from city to city, I would like to add that the participating cities shared a recognition that they would bring back what they had learned from this conference to their respective cities and relate it to the cities administrations as much as possible.

Last not but least, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the four cities that gave presentations and also to the UN and other organizations for their reports. Also, we deeply appreciate all the city representatives who sent their staff to this conference for their understanding and cooperation. This concludes the report on the 2nd Asian-Pacific City Summit Working Level Conference from the executive committee. Thank you very much.

REPORT ON SUBSESSION 1 //

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. Now we would like to hear reports from the chairmen of this morning's three subsessions. First, I'd like to request Mr. Nishimura, Mayor of Saga City, to report on Subsession 1- "Future Direction of Education for the Next Generation".

Mr. Masatoshi Nishimura, Mayor of Saga

The theme of the Subsession 1 was "Future Direction of Education for the Next Generation", which is essential to the long-lasting prosperity of all the cities. The participating cities were 9 in total: Bangkok, Fukuoka, Guangzhou, Kumamoto, Miyazaki, Nagasaki, Singapore, Urumuqi and Saga.

First, Saga City reported on its basic educational policies. Especially from the viewpoint of life-long education which offers on-going learning opportunities to everyone from children to adults, the unique management of the Saga City Public Library was introduced.

Bangkok City pointed out that high technology such as the Internet brings people great possibilities including prosperity of cities, but that it requires human resource development, education to nurture people who can adapt to the trends of the time. The presenter explained plans for educational policies embodied in the 5-year Bangkok development plan.

Fukuoka City made the presentation on the topic of its Phase 7th Master Plan concerning the education of children. The mayor explained three educational plans: "the building of an environment where children can grow up in good health", "the promotion of sports and recreation", and "the making of a society where one is respected as a human being".

Guangzhou City mentioned that in the past its basic education was "education for the sake of examination".

Based on reflecting on the fact that this hindered the development of fundamental education, the city is promoting educational reform in primary and junior high schools focusing on quality education including establishing quality education and enhancing the human resource development function of schools.

Kumamoto City pointed out that in order to solve the problems we are now facing, schools, parents and the community must cooperate and address the healthy development of the young. Then, the presenter explained their endeavors: education that fosters respect for the environment, education that can respond to internationalization, the decline in the number of children per couple as well as attempts to review the present situation of adult society.

Miyazaki City takes the stand that it is our duty to create an environment for the healthy and strong growth of children, both in mind and body. They will shoulder the 21st century. In this perspective, the city presented its efforts: "international understanding study, and school education on the city and its environment", "sports to build healthy bodies" and "arts and culture to foster a creative generation".

Nagasaki City believes that education is the foundation to foster healthy and intelligent citizens who will support the future of the city. Based on the report of the Japan Central Education Council, the city introduced their two efforts in the educational field: nurturing young people living in the international community and fostering good Nagasaki citizens who can contribute to world peace.

Singapore argued that the most important resource of Singapore is the people and therefore education is the first priority. The presentation included programs of school construction and equipment installation. Also, changes in educational forms resulting from the progress in information technology and problems in future school construction were explained.

Based on the notion that the young generation is the future of a country and a nation, Urumqi City placed special emphasis on fundamental education. The goal is that every child will enhance his or her knowledge, mind, creativity and adaptability; achieve well-balanced development in aspects of moral, intelligence, health, aesthetic sense and labor; and eventually become an individual indispensable to modernization.

These are the contents of the presentations, which were followed by open discussion. First, Fukuoka City outlined problems such as the reducing number of children per couple and the weakening of educational function in the community due to urbanization. It was also pointed out that educational reform is important in dealing with changes in social conditions. Active opinion exchanges followed. Then Nagasaki City addressed a question on peace education.

In summary, all the participants agreed on the point that the creation of a city or the creation of a nation means human resource development. However we are facing variety of problems and challenges in the process, and each city is addressing these problems seriously. That's all from Subsession1. Thank you.

REPORT ON SUBSESSION 2 //

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. Next, I'd like to request Dr. Leung Ding-bong Ronald, Chairman of the Urban Council, Hong Kong to report on Subsession 2- "Establishment of Health and Medical Systems".

Mr. Leung Ding-bong Ronald, Chairman of the Urban Council, Hong Kong

Thank you Chairman. Report from Subsession 2 entitled "Establishment of Health and Medical Systems": The seven representatives of the subsession made their own presentations which were followed by active discussions. Each city outlined their own health and medical care systems, and stressed their respective, unique health problems, and efforts devoted to solving them. Aging populations, over 65 years, is the main concern especially among cities in Japan. Kitakyushu, for example, detailed comprehensive support systems for the aged and the disabled. The city reorganized the past system into one which fully integrates the various related departments. Networking and full coordination was achieved among various fields in health, medical care and welfare. Oita is providing cultural, sports and recreational activities to further improve the quality of life of the active elderly. Medical care on home visits for the sick and disabled were also mentioned. Communicable disease control was a problem addressed by Ipoh and Manila representatives with details of various health services and environmental control measures. New communicable diseases such as O-157, Avian flu H5N1 and Cholera were discussed with regard to control measures taken. In particular, all the City of Fukuoka representatives detailed their experiences in the control of O-157 outbreak in the city. This will be useful information for other countries to follow. The re-emergence of tuberculosis is not only among the weak and elderly, but also becoming more frequent among the middle aged, especially among HIV infected adults. Fast transportation and travel increase the risks of imported infectious diseases in cities where they did not previously exist. To readily bring attention to the occurrence and control of any outbreak of communicable disease, the information exchanges through fax, hard copies or the Internet among members of the participating cities was discussed. This concludes the report of our session

REPORT ON SUBSESSION 3 //

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. Next, I'd like to request Mr. Anh Sang-young, Mayor of Pusan, to report on Subsession 3-"Waterworks and Sewer Systems in the City".

Mr. Ahn Sang-young, Mayor of Pusan

In Subsession 3, 9 cities: Auckland, Kagoshima, Shanghai, Brisbane, Fukuoka, Ho Chi Minh, Honolulu, Kuala Lumpur and Pusan, made detailed and inventive presentations and had a intense and technical discussion on waterworks and sewer systems.

They introduced their efforts toward water resource development and water quality improvement along with various water conservation measures to secure adequate supply of clean and safe water as well as water resources.

This is the summary of the presentation from each city. The cities of Auckland, Kagoshima, Shanghai introduced the method which they adopted to develop sources of water with adequate quantity and quality outside of the city, and convey the water through pipelines. This is in order to secure clean water in quantities necessary to accommodate rapid urban development. On the other hand, the cities of Brisbane,

Pusan and Shanghai, having to secure water in the vicinity, reported their policy aimed at enhancing tap water safety by strengthening the standard and inspection of water. Specifically, Pusan introduced their measures to ensure the safety of tap water by applying the advanced treatment process and by the time consuming water quality improvement project implemented at the source. The cities of Brisbane, Fukuoka and Pusan reported on the difficulty of securing adequate water quantity as well as on their drastic water quality and environment management measures such as water conservation campaigns taken to reduce the amount of wastewater. Fukuoka City also introduced the diffusion of water conserving equipment and their computerized water distribution control system, and the resulting leakage ratio reduction, and other efforts made as a water conservation type city.

As for sewage treatment, various cases facing the cities were reported, for example, sewage pipe improvement; expansion of treatment facilities; and other efforts to ensure the quality of city wastewater and coastal waters, and to create a city that aims at a comfortable urban life and rich natural environment. Auckland City and Kagoshima City explained to us the importance of the diffusion of separate sewer pipelines, for their systems are combined sewer pipelines, which collect both storm water and wastewater together. Pusan City introduced to us their methods of installing intercepting sewers on both sides of the stream to prevent river pollution in the city, supplementing the difficulty of expanding the separate sewage pipeline. Honolulu City introduced to us the jet grouting method they adopted to minimize traffic disruption while laying sewage pipes. Kuala Lumpur, Shanghai and Ho Chi Minh reported on the relocation of scattered factories to form a specialized zone and the structuring of an effective wastewater treatment system by implementing a separate treatment plan for each densely populated area. In all cities, measures have been taken to expand wastewater treatment facilities to prevent pollution in rivers and coastal areas. Specifically, Brisbane, Pusan and Fukuoka adopted advanced treatment methods to remove nitrogen and phosphor in order to prevent pollution caused by tides. Honolulu discharges treated wastewater into the ocean, and has put great efforts into studies to evaluate the impact of this practice on marine water quality. Pusan introduced to us their successful cases in getting the consent of local residents regarding the construction of sewage treatment plants. One was by constructing the facility underneath the natural park; and another case was overcoming the objection of local residents by building an exercise park in the upper part of the facility as the Local Residence Assistance Program.

On the other hand, there were discussions about private investment in order to secure the financial resources necessary to expand water supply systems. Also reported was the method of managing treatment facilities more efficiently through a corporation which is owned by the local community as seen in Auckland. Ho Chi Minh and Kuala Lumpur proposed various methods to secure the huge financial resources required to improve the water supply system such as BOT method and concession method. Also in relation to this matter, there was discussion between gentlemen from UN HABITAT, UN Department of Economic & Social Affairs and the participants today about the effective management of water supply and wastewater treatment facilities. Just like the circulatory system in the human body, the problems of water supply and wastewater treatment in the city need systematic resolutions more than anything, so that comprehensive measures can be established. Many other measures were introduced and discussed in Subsession 3. Therefore it is regrettable that I don't have enough time to explain all of them. This concludes the report on Subsession 3.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you very much. We have heard the reports on 3 subsessions from the chairmen.

Before starting open discussion, we would like to request Mr. Ignacio Armillas, Director of the UN Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) Fukuoka Office to report on "Future Prospects of Networking between Cities" from the perspective of the United Nations. Now I would like to ask upon Mr. Armillas to take the rostrum.

[Future Prospects of Networking between Cities]

Mr. Ignacio Armillas, Director, UN Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) Fukuoka Office

Thank you Mr. Chairman, Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is my great pleasure and honor to have the opportunity to address the 3rd Asian-Pacific City Summit on behalf of the executive director of the United Nations Centre for free and impartial advocacy. As you may be aware, Habitat is the center of the United Nations, responsible for addressing issues of urbanization and housing. A year ago, at the gracious invitation of the government of Japan, we opened a regional office for Asian-Pacific area here in Fukuoka. Our office provides technical assistance and information to member states in the region and organizes regional conferences and seminars on subjects relevant to our organization and councils. In fact, we recently organized a regional conference on promoting sustainable consumption in Asian cities. This conference was a lead-up event to this city summit. I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to report to this plenary on the subject and outcome of the conference.

The underlying concern of the conference was the growing ecological changes brought about by the development of cities in the Asian-Pacific region and their impact on the living environment. The spread of these changes is the direct consequence of the combined process of urbanization and consumption. Urbanization is among the most significant transformations of our time. Pre-industrial cities traditionally had a symbiotic relationship with their interests. Industrial cities greatly expanded on their interests with a consequent impact on the environment. Now we're faced with the emergence of mega-cities whose environmental impact can extend well beyond national borders. These mega-cities demand resources from a wide area and return waste products that contaminate the already depleted lands. The emergence of mega-cities poses unparalleled challenges to the global environment. The rate of urbanization, almost two and a half times the world population growth rate, will impact significantly in the Asian-Pacific region. In Asia, the percentage of urban population will increase from 34% in 1994 to 55% in 2025. More importantly, by the year 2015, the number of cities in the world with a population of more than 10 million will increase from 12 at present to 27, and of those, 17 will be here in Asia. Accompanying the problems generated by massive concentrations in population, are the unsustainable levels of consumption for urban populations, particularly in more affluent countries. Moreover, if we define 'urban' as a way of life, a pattern of consumption, we can say that the great majority of humanity is urbanized. People in remote settlements now have electricity, even without potable water, and drive cars just like city people do. In essence they are urban. Thus, unsustainable

consumption patterns are also spreading beyond our cities. In the conference on which I am reporting, participants reviewed progressive conditions and trends, and considered some of the constraints and opportunities for promoting sustainable consumption in the nations cities. Four themes were considered. The first one is water. The world's water demand is approaching the volume of almost half of the total global runoff available. In order to satisfy the demand for water, cities draw fresh water from sources further away and pump more water from diminishing underground sources. Recently developing countries often record water losses ranging from 40 to 60% due to leakage. In the more affluent countries, consumption levels are simply unsustainable as consumption per capita in urban areas ranges from 300-400 cubic meters a day per capita. Water conservation and land management is more than just a water consumption measure; above all, it should be a strategy for promoting efficient and wise use of a scarce resource. Urban water demand management means securing the whole water cycle keeping the downstream water clean. Conservation is based on the recognition that water is an economic commodity and a valuable production factor. It should be priced and allocated accordingly while securing the basic needs of the poor and lower income groups.

The second subject was transportation and energy. Global primary energy consumption is rising more than 3% annually. Most of the energy consumed in cities goes towards transportation in the cities, and the balance is used for ambient control of buildings and cooking and, of course, for production activities. Per capita energy consumption in developed countries is about nine times that of less developed countries. However, with rapid urbanization and rising incomes, the energy demand for lower income countries is expected to rise to that of the more developed countries by the year 2015. There is a clear need for Asian cities to consider the adoption of various policies and instruments as a means of achieving sustainable consumption in the energy sector. Since social, economic and physical conditions vary between cities, there is no single set of policies and policy instruments which can be applied for all Asian cities to reach sustainable consumption in the transport and energy sector. Policy makers have to consider carefully, and select the policies and instruments that best suit their own cities and which they find will be most likely to solve their transportation and energy problems.

The third subject was waste generation. Municipal solid wastes are generated by a myriad of daily activities and households, crops, institutions, and small and large industries. Cities generally know very little about specific waste generation behaviors or resources. Municipal solid waste departments are preoccupied with the urgent daily tasks of collection and disposal and have little interest in the long-term process of achieving sustainable consumption. But they are interested in the reduction of wastes, recycling and disposal. It is difficult to change consumer habits in multi-cultural mega-cities. Even with massive changes in consumer habits, actions for waste reduction at the local level are very limited in scope. In discussing solutions, it is important to try to specify the main actors who will have to take the initiative for changes. Initial intervention as the link to sustainable consumption with solid waste reduction may focus on the local government level. But ultimately, change in international marketing and product designing must be addressed.

The fourth subject was natural resource management. It is recognized that some consumption of natural resources, especially forest resources, is necessary to meet the basic needs of urban populations. On the other hand, it is clear that current patterns of utilization of natural resources, for production and eventual consumption in cities, are major contributors to the adverse environmental impact of urban areas. Efforts

should be made to enhance the quality and productivity of existing reserves of natural resources. This should aim to increase output, both in physical as well as in economic terms, on a sustainable basis. The conference concluded that a cross-sectoral approach is basic if we are to change patterns of consumption in cities, either by better-coordinated sectoral approaches or by introducing strategic issues which could insure the attainment of common aims. Such an approach could also contribute to the development of critical core indicators which should aid in the establishment of early warning systems leading to preventative, anticipatory actions towards achieving group consumption patterns. All sectors of government and economy should collaborate to change consumption patterns. International organizations should promote the dissemination of successful case studies between countries to avoid or minimize duplication, to avoid repetition of mistakes, and to enhance collaboration between users.

In conclusion, I would like to say, and I'm certain, that we enter the new century, the "urban century". As the Mayor from Honolulu referred to it, the Asian-Pacific region will confront the challenges posed by urbanization and consumption with the same zeal and determination as it has confronted past challenges. But the challenges are daunting nonetheless. They will require all the energy and imagination that we can harness. In an increasingly interdependent world, cooperation and collaboration among cities in the region will be the key element in achieving success. In this respect, this summit is a big step in the right direction. Thank you.

DISCUSSION

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you very much for your valuable report ranging from the UN's ideas on human settlements to the activities of HABITAT.

Now, based on the reports from subsessions and from the United Nations, we'd like to begin discussion on "Future Prospects of Networking between Cities". I think that through the previous two summits and working level conferences, we have achieved certain results in the fields of networking or mutual understanding. Networking and cooperation among cities is indispensable for the continuation and development of this city summit and also for the realization of "the Cities' Sustainable Growth in the Asian-Pacific Region", which is the main concept of this summit.

In this summit, we have representatives from 23 cities and 12 countries and regions. In addition, Mr. Ingacio Armillas, Director of HABITAT Fukuoka Office, and Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, Programme Coordinator of the Department of Economic & Social Affairs from the UN headquarters in New York, are acting as advisers. With opinions from these two distinguished gentlemen, we would like to have a frank discussion on networking among cities toward the 21st century. I expect candid and heart to heart discussion. Comments on this morning's subsessions are also welcomed. Please feel free to speak up.

Mr. Koo Tsai Kee, Parliamentary Secretary, Minister of National Development, Singapore

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to thank you, Mayor of Fukuoka and the people of Fukuoka for hosting this city summit. This is the third time this summit has been held and the experience of learning from

the last two was valuable. Coming to Fukuoka is an inspiration. Last year, Asia Week magazine ranked Fukuoka as the most livable city in Asia so we made a special trip here to understand why. All too often, we in Asia judge cities by the height of high-rise buildings, monuments and architecture. At this conference, we recognize that the softer issues are just as important. Issues like education, health care and sewer systems; these things are sometimes forgotten in our colorful tourist brochures. We just heard from the United Nations expert about the problems of urbanization. I recall several key conferences held over the years; in 1992 the Earth Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro, followed by HABITAT II in Istanbul four years later. At the 19th session of the UN General Assembly, our Prime Minister Mr. Goh Chok Tong together with Mr. Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of Germany, the Deputy President of South Africa, and the President of Brazil made a special plea for sustainable development in urban cities. And Mr. Helmut Kohl offered to host a special conference called the "Urban 31 World Congress" in the year 2000. Singapore is committed to sharing our unique experience in that we're a city as well as a city-country. Therefore our problems are far more complicated than those of other cities; they are compounded by the problems of land capacity and the lack of human resources. As the run-up to the "Urban 31 World Congress", Singapore is offering to host a conference called the "World Conference on Model Cities" sometime next year. I believe my colleagues have placed this on the table. This is a call for participation to all the members around this table. We hope to share our experience with you. I want to leave this discussion with the impression that I got from the session which I sat in on this morning. All of us at our session felt that there is an urgent need to improve our educational systems within Asia. The countries around the table this morning in my session talked about the need to reform our educational facilities and our educational systems, because we recognize that we need to take a quantum leap into the 21st century. And the system for educating our people is the key to unlocking that resource. Thank you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. Singapore will host the "World Conference on Model Cities" next year. Please keep this in mind. Are there any questions or opinions? Mr. Yonekawa from the United Nations, please.

Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, UN Programme Coordinator, Department of Economic & Social Affairs

My talk may be a little general. I, along with my superiors, have attended this summit since the first one in 1994. Every time, it offers me a lot to learn and I appreciate that. Now I would like to make two comments on what I have noticed. One is that the themes of the summit have become more specific. The themes for the 1st summit in 1994 were relatively general. Also, at the 1st summit, there was a proposal to have a working level conference and that was realized. With more specific themes, discussions at subsessions became much more concrete. This is the first change I noticed. The second is that the talks have developed into concrete activities or actions based on the talks. At first, emphasis was on the significance of gathering and discussing. This is a point that should be highly appreciated. As you know, autonomous local governments or decentralization is a major global trend that many organizations including the United Nations pay attention to. In the future, this trend will grow apace. I hope that this summit will accelerate the move further. Though the

United Nations is an organization consisting of national governments, local public bodies and other organizations also take part in our activities in various forms. I urge you to utilize our organization more. You can use the organization for information exchanges or to provide technological assistance to developing countries. The structure of the United Nations is very complex. As I mentioned at Subsession 3 this morning, we have 22 organs in the United Nations that deal with water works and sewer systems. Therefore it may be a little complicated when it comes to practical points. But on such an occasion, please get in touch with us. We are willing to cooperate with you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. Mr. Jeremy Harris, Mayor of Honolulu, please.

Mr. Jeremy Harris, Mayor of Honolulu

Mr. Chairman, I am Mayor Jeremy Harris of Honolulu, Hawaii. I would like to once again extend Honolulu's appreciation for being included in this important summit. Our distinguished advisors from the United Nations have pointed out very articulately the problems, especially the environmental problems, that we all share. The regional nature of the problems lies in the projected growth in population and the projected increase in consumption. As our populations become more affluent, we're clearly looking at some monumental environmental challenges ahead. A conference such as this and the environmental summit that Honolulu is sponsoring in February help us determine where our shared interests lie and how we can work together cooperatively. My question is the following: How can we take it further from the conference into more implementation? How can we involve the technical people in each of our cities in sharing information? The technology transfer that is possible but that is not occurring now needs to be explored. How can we find out information, at a technical level, on various organizations' approaches that have been tried and failed, and approaches that have proven to be very successful? My question is how can we take it one step further from the conference level? Is it possible on the Internet to develop a master databank specifically, for instance, on many of the environmental challenges and the environmental technologies that have developed around the world? I would like to see some discussion, perhaps if not at this session, at later sessions, on how we can move on from the conference level into an ongoing and continual interchange of ideas, information, technology and the like. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. Is there anyone who is prepared to answer the question? Though this is not a conclusion based on sufficient discussions, I think, as Mr. Harris pointed out, we should move on from the level of information exchanges to a practical and technical level such as providing technological assistance. Now that the suggestion toward this direction has been made, it may be necessary for us to hammer out a line after narrowing our focus and discussing it at our working level conference. The suggestion is to be on the record of this plenary session and it will be on the agenda of the working level conference. Are there any other opinions or questions?

Ms. Nathanon Thavisin, Director General of Policy and Planning Department, Bangkok

I would like to add some comments about the summit. I think there is limited time and we have just a short time for discussion for each topic. I think that the next summit should add more time for us to discuss. And also I would like to propose a study tour where we would visit each country or city, especially on these three topics. The first topic is the future of education. We need a study tour to know what's going on in each city for the future of education in the next millennium and to study inside a school. Please, at the next meeting, add more study tours if you have some different topics to discuss. Also I think that it's a very good idea to promote the transfer of technology from person to person, or from country to country, as part of technological exchange among cities. And it is also a good idea to exchange training courses for our special technical staff to learn from each city. As I mentioned this morning, Asia Week magazine said that Fukuoka is the best city in Asia. Lastly, I thank Fukuoka City for your very warm welcome to this beautiful city. Thank you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. It was a comment on the organization of the summit. Attending Subsession 1 as chairman, I also felt that considerable time was spent on presentations. From now on, participating cities will prepare materials on their situations in advance. And we will see to it that we can have more time for discussion on focused issues.

And Ms. Thavisin, thank you very much for reading the article on Fukuoka in Asia Week, a magazine published in Hong Kong. Are there any other opinions or suggestions?

Mr. Ahn Sang-young, Mayor of Pusan

First, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka and the people in Fukuoka for hosting this excellent summit and for inviting us. At Subsession 3, we discussed waterworks and sewer systems so seriously that we hardly had enough time. Now as cities grow all around the world, urban problems are becoming more serious. Here, once again, I recognized that this summit is held to solve these problems. Both developing and developed cities are facing various problems unique to them. I majored in urban designing and I understand that poverty is a grave problem to all cities. Physical solutions are important to improve quality of living, but how to tackle poverty related problems is also important in the future. Pusan City will host the next city summit in 2000. It is inevitable for all of us to consider this problem in the continuation and the development of this summit. This will pose a serious challenge to mayors who administer cities. Therefore, I would like to propose that poverty should be taken up as a subject at the working level conference. In conclusion, I am very pleased to hear from participating cities that this excellent summit has become more substantial and meaningful.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. We have heard a proposal for the future agenda of this summit from Pusan, the host city of the next city summit. We will consider the proposal at the working level conference. Recently in our city, we

clearly feel that a city with a population over 1 million attracts poor people from other areas. This inflow is causing serious troubles, for instance, at the end of a year. In Japan, the daily life protection system guarantees the constitutional support for people who can not even lead a marginal life. Yet, there are people who are out of the reach of this relief system or who do not want relief. This is also a trouble afflicting each city. I would like to ask you to consider whether this will be taken up as a theme at the future summit.

Mr. Tim Quinn, Deputy Mayor of Brisbane

Mr. Chairman, my name is Tim Quinn from Brisbane City. I'm representing that city for the first time at the conference. I would again like to thank you very sincerely for the opportunity to participate and to congratulate you on the organization of the conference. I was impressed this morning to attend the session which dealt with issues of water supply and sewage. I was strongly reminded that though the backgrounds and the situations of the cities are quite different in some ways, the challenges that face us have strong threads of similarity that link us together. I think it's important that we continue those discussions and continue working together practically on those issues. The other thought that's in my mind is that in our own city, and I'm sure in every city, in some ways the strength of our city leadership and our city organization is based upon the networks within our own city. The partnerships that we have, for example, are obviously with the community organizations, with the professional areas, and with the business sectors within our city. I think that in addition to developing the contacts between our cities at a municipal leadership level, it would be a positive direction as well to encourage links between those elements within our cities and to form important partnerships such as with professions and business. Brisbane City too, has previously organized a city conference in 1996 and will indeed do that again next year in 1999. We encourage not only mayors and municipal leaders to visit the city but also professional and business contacts with the city so that the discussions are focused on the common issues of business exchanges, and professional and technical developments such as urban planning matters or urban infrastructure. I think that perhaps, our two paths in terms of city summits can cooperate and work more closely together. What I would like to suggest and offer is that we also need to facilitate those links between the networks and partnerships that form the basis for the strength of our cities and our own areas such as the business groups, the professions and the community groups within our cities. Thank you very much for the opportunity to participate and for your very warm hospitality while we've been here.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. As you heard, Brisbane organized a city summit in 1996 and will host another in 1999. People in various fields including the business circle will attend it. Singapore also announced that they would hold the "World Conference of Model Cities". It seems that there are many networks available besides this summit. We would like to participate in the conference in Brisbane to broaden our network of know-how and information exchange.

Mr. Les Mills, Mayor of Auckland

First of all, thank you for the three conferences. We've enjoyed participating in each of them and the

organization has been excellent. And we thank you and your city officers. I want to pick up on the point that was raised by Bangkok, and then commented on by Mr. Chairman. I thought the comment that you made was very appropriate. It seemed at this conference and at previous conferences, as we were getting into some very interesting and somewhat complex questions in free debate, we tended to run out of time. You made the point that perhaps we could, having circulated the papers, deal more with free debate than with the actual presentation of the papers and deal with some of the issues in a preparatory way at the working level conferences. We've had questions that we've dealt with over the three conferences and they have been very difficult questions-this time; education, health, water and wastewater. We've had solid waste disposal, housing, transportation, and port activities-things that are very complex with our very different infrastructures. It seems to me that in picking up on the theme, as you said a moment ago, we could develop a pattern of questions and a process for the preparation of answers as well as case studies so that we can deal with it at some length in free discussion. We would be very happy if it was your thought and the thought of Pusan, as the next host, to work on those lines. Maybe in that way we can actually put some additional bite into the outcomes of the conference. Thank you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you for your proposal.

Mr. Lin Shu-sen, Mayor of Guangzhou

I would like to make a proposal as the mayor provided that this summit be continued under the current biennial system. Everybody thinks that we do not have enough time, because we have only 10 minutes to report on our paper. In this short time, whether it is stating views or making a presentation, it is impossible to appropriately describe a problem facing a city. Therefore I would like to suggest that for the next summit, we should prepare more materials in quantity and in specification on the theme in each field. That will make the presentation brief and short. The materials will be useful for cities and also they will help us further deepen the discussion. If the biennial organization is to be the system, I think it is a good way for participating cities to form a network so that they can exchange views or share problems facing them on a daily basis. We do not have to wait until the next summit to discuss. Issues that require discussion should be made available to other cities in advance for deliberation and discussed appropriately at the summit two years later. I think this will lend the summit more substance. Through the previous three summits, we could know the advantages as well as experiences of other cities, and also the ties among cities were strengthened. The mayor is indispensable for a city, but as you know, most work is done by the departments under the mayor. Therefore, we representatives must learn the strengths of each city through exchanges among cities and enhance mutual cooperation and communication at the working level. Thus, this summit will bear more fruit. Finally, once again I'd like to extend our gratitude to Mr. Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka and the people in Fukuoka for hosting this admirable summit. And we will welcome honorable mayors and city officers to Guangzhou whenever it is convenient for you. Thank you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Mayor of Guangzhou suggested preparing detailed materials as much as possible, distributing them in advance, and attending the summit with full understanding of them to secure enough time for discussion. I completely agree with this. He also pointed out that sister cities or cities with shared problems should exchange information on a daily basis. Since Guangzhou City and Fukuoka City are sister cities, I assume that we are communicating with each other in a similar way. Today, many sister cities are participating here. That will facilitate exchanges and we will try to encourage this. Thank you for your suggestion.

Dr. Imelda A. Sunico, City Health Officer, Manila

Good morning honorable Chairman, I would first like to thank you for the opportunity that you have given to the City of Manila in terms of its participation in this 3rd Asian-Pacific City Summit. Indeed this summit is very helpful to sister cities, because it is an appropriate opportunity whereby all the representatives share their information and talk about their own experiences and how they address the problems and issues that are also common to other sister cities. We've definitely learned from these experiences. This is also a good chance to meet top officials of sister cities, and Manila especially has benefited much from this meeting. Like Bangkok, our particular needs are technology transfer and technological know-how. So, I would like to ask if it would be possible for sister cities like Fukuoka and other more developed cities to sponsor some study tours or observation tours. A while ago I had a chance to see your "Wellness or Health Promotion Center" and indeed I was very much impressed at the highly sophisticated facilities whereby one enjoys learning about how to stay healthy. I dream to see one in my own city someday. May I suggest that a guided tour be made to your health facilities as part of our learning experience in this summit. Thank you, Sir.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Dr. Sunico requested to secure time for study tours to relevant facilities. Due to the tight schedules of the representatives, it is very difficult to take time for study tours during the summit. Therefore they are offered during the working level conference which is held once every two years. Time permitting, I think it is a good idea for a host city to arrange some study tours during the summit. We will talk about this suggestion with Pusan, the host city of the next city summit.

Mr. Dato'Haji Talaat Bin Toh Haji Husain, Mayor of Ipoh

Thank you very much, honorable Mayor Kuwahara. First of all may I express the appreciation and gratitude of the Ipoh City Council to the City of Fukuoka, especially to you, honorable Mayor for the invitation and for the kind treatment that we have had over the last few days. I have been following the discussions and I find that they have been very stimulating, and some new ideas have been brought forward today from all participants. I am inclined to agree with some of the proposals that were made earlier, especially on the question of networking, which I think is very important for cities to be able to develop further and make it more beneficial for the population. The other thing that I would like to touch on is the proposal made by Brisbane to host a conference which involves the business community. I think in the future, what we will see is some changing scenarios in the roles of city hall or city council. In this respect it would not be too late to

delve into the changing role of the city council or the role of the city itself. What is happening in Malaysia, if I could quote Ipoh in this respect, is the concept of privatization which is taking the place of some of the activities of the city council. This means that the role of, for example, solid waste management would be taken up by private companies and that it would be taken off the duties of city council. I think that maybe other cities are also seeing these changes. In this respect, I would like to suggest looking at some of the relevancy of the roles of city council in the future. As we are going into the 21st century, we are seeing the greater effects of globalization and the core business of the city may be undergoing some changes. I believe maybe this aspect will be touched on in the next city summit or possibly, in future city summits.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

In a city, we have the administration and city council. However we have not seen issues from the viewpoint of the council. As it is mentioned, since decentralization is an irreversible trend, more weight will be placed upon the council from now on. In this sense, I think it is relevant to consider the role of city council as a subject for study of the city summit. Solid waste treatment is in the scope of local government's responsibility. For a long time, Fukuoka City has executed general administrative planning but garbage collection has been consigned to the private sector. Probably Fukuoka is the only administration that employs this system. Moreover, collecting garbage at night is one of the factors in keeping the city clean. Since garbage is collected during the daytime around Tokyo, we see it scavenged by crows and scattered about. Fukuoka City consigned the collection to the private sector long ago and they collect garbage at night. This system causes no traffic jam and is more efficient. "Small government" or "Small administration" issues like how to arrange work between the administration and the private sector will be an important point on the agenda of the city summit. Thank you.

Ms. He Min, Deputy Mayor of Dalian

First I would like to express our deep appreciation for the hearty welcome rendered to us participants by Mr. Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka, and the people of Fukuoka. I also thank the staff members for their well-prepared and considerate support. I fully agree to the proposals that have been made up to now. At Subsession 2 this morning, I discussed health and medical care with nine participating cities, which was very productive. I will refrain from repeating the same proposal here, but I would like to add a little suggestion. The three themes of the 3rd Asian-Pacific City Summit were all related to the development of cities in the 21st century. These are the issues that all the cities are facing in common. Each city, based on its advantages and experiences, is addressing these 3 issues in a different situation in its own way. So if each city prepares materials on these issues, that will augment information exchanged among cities. Also in the process, we can have better understanding of the strengths and experiences of other cities, and thus can utilize them for the benefit of the development of our city. Therefore, if we hold an biennial meeting like this and discuss shared problems or challenges, it would be better for participating cities to compile comprehensive materials on surrounding situations so that we can obtain more information through exchanges. Last but not least, I would like to thank the hosting city for their hearty welcome again. And the honorable mayor of each city, when you have a chance, please visit us in Dalian. Thank you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you. It was suggested that we should exchange as much information as possible prior to the meeting, and that, as the Mayor of Guangzhou mentioned, information or know-how should be exchanged on a constant basis especially among sister cities. Thank you very much. Mr. Le Thanh Hai, First Deputy Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City, please.

Mr. Le Thanh Hai, First Deputy Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, first of all I would like to express our sincere thanks to Fukuoka Mayor Keiichi Kuwahara as well as the city organizations that have helped to organize this summit and facilitate our participation in this summit. I totally agree with all the comments and proposals that the mayors have made so far. I also highly appreciate the themes of this summit because it seems to me that they are very practical, very helpful, helping us deal with issues that we are facing in every day life. At the same time, I must say that the organization of this summit has been wonderful and unforgettable. As a latecomer in urban development, we are facing a host of problems and this summit has provided us with a precious opportunity to learn many lessons and gain experience from all the cities participating here. Regardless of the current success of this summit as well as previous summits, I also totally agree with the proposals that the mayors have just made about having more time for free discussions and exchanging views on the issues. I think that the suggestion about providing information via Internet is very helpful, particularly between the two summits. At the same time we should also accelerate and strengthen the working level summits of the cities so that all the background information from all the cities could be distributed in advance. Then we have more time for discussion and can deal in depth with the problems at the summits. As far as the themes of the summits are concerned, we would like to suggest the discussion of migration because as you know, with urban development we also have an influx of migrants from rural areas. As the Mayor of Pusan has correctly pointed out, in order to have better urban development management, we also have to take into consideration the development of neighboring provinces as well as cities, and also we must have a better master plan in order to coordinate the cities. Otherwise, we will suffer from the free influx of migrants from rural areas to the cities. As you know, Ho Chi Minh City right now has a population of about 6 million people, with many of the people coming from rural and surrounding provinces. This has caused a lot of problems for our city and is laying a heavy load on our infrastructure. I guess that migration to urban city centers is a common problem not only for developing cities and countries but it has been, or is a problem for developed countries and cities as well. I hope that you would share with us your experience and your lessons on how to deal with this problem.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you very much.

Mr. Yoshinori Akasaki, Mayor of Kagoshima

I attended Subsession 3 "Waterworks and Sewer Systems in the City". As it was already pointed out, I also

feel that too much emphasis was placed on reporting or introducing cases and systems. Therefore as the chairman proposed, distributing information in advance would allow us to have ample time for discussion. On this point, I would like to make a proposal. I think it is important to narrow the focus a little more and have sub-themes for open discussion. Also it is important for participants to be informed of some of the themes in advance, conduct appropriate research on them and attend the summit well-prepared. For example, "Waterworks and Sewer Systems in the City" is too broad as a theme. If we narrow the focus to what is important in managing waterworks and sewer systems more efficiently with lower cost, or the future direction of sewer systems that can deal with new environmental problems, that will facilitate the discussion and also be more efficient. Listening to reports on present conditions in each city, we are capable of making a decision on our own. Therefore this morning's reports themselves offered a lot to learn. However, if it were possible to make prior preparation or to know the themes for discussion beforehand, it would make our open discussion more meaningful. This is my honest impression.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Many of you have suggested that there is some room for improvement in the summit process. Consulting with the working level conference as well as the next host city Pusan, we, the executive committee will make further effort for improvement.

Mr. Yatim Ishak Ahmad, Deputy Director, Drainage & River Management Department, Kuala Lumpur

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the Mayor of Fukuoka and the people of Fukuoka, and to extend my congratulations you on a successful summit. I attended Subsession 3 concerning waterworks, water supply, sewage and drainage. Remarks made by the experts on privatization were very important to me, and I would like to introduce privatization to Malaysia. I felt granting subsidy to the privatization of items which are less profitable makes them more profitable. If we can have a short paper on such remarks to bring back to our country and study in detail, it will be helpful to us. Another point from Subsession 3 is the water leakage problem, which has been handled by Fukuoka City. I'm really impressed by that. So, in general I really learned a lot from this summit. Thank you very much.

Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, UN Programme Coordinator, Department of Economic & Social Affairs

I'd like to make a comment on the statement from Kuala Lumpur, because it is related to what I mentioned at Subsession 3. Privatization, especially BOT method and other similar project financing, is being actively promoted these days. In the United Nations, the World Bank group and UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) as well as the UN Secretariat are collecting information and conducting workshops on this. UNIDO compiled their guidelines for a book, which I think was published last year. Our department had a BOT-related workshop in Bangkok. We have some materials prepared for the workshop; therefore I think we can send them to you. Now I'd like to brief you on the workshop I was directly involved in. I can say that the private sector, that is those who engage in BOT in the private sector, and the public sector, that is those who engage in BOT in the public sector have completely different interests. Profits

brought about are also different. Furthermore, due to the different languages they speak, it is often the case that they can not communicate with each other well. This is one of the themes that became clear through the workshop. People in the private sector are well prepared; otherwise they cannot do the job. While people in the public sector, although they have to conduct various negotiations with the private sector side that are armed with knowledge and abundant information, do not necessarily have sufficient information. In this light, I think that people in the public sector need a lot of advice or technological cooperation. As for papers, I have prepared some on human resources development or capacity development especially for people in government and in the public sector. I'm not sure how much help that will be, but I would like to send them to you.

Ms. Nathanon Thavisin, Director General of Policy and Planning Department, Bangkok

Your Excellency the Mayor, may I add some more recommendations. If you have a future summit I would like to have some topics on urban development management like the creation of healthy city. A healthy city does not mean only health; it means the physical, economic and social development, as well as health and mind development of residents working together. A healthy city means that we have a civil society including people's participation in every sector, creating a city that allows sustainable development. I think that the next summit or future summits should focus on some topics such as the economic crisis and problems that we are facing in Asian countries. So, I think that economic or unemployment issues should become some of the topics that we discuss. Also, I need to know the base tactics of each member city of the Asian-Pacific City Summit. So, I think that every city should prepare a video or CD, I mean moving pictures that have been produced in your city in each field, and send it along with the papers to our members beforehand so that we can learn before coming. I think this might be useful. Then, as the chairman said, we can spend more time for discussion and sincerely promote networking and corporation. I think that in this way our networking will go very well in the future. Thank you.

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Ms. Thavisin suggested taking up the creation of a healthy city as one of the themes. Today's theme, health and hygiene are part of that, but a theme should not be too broad. This is a difficult point in choosing themes. However, as the aging of society progresses, health will become a crucial issue. We will consider the suggestion as a subject for future discussion.

Now the time is running short, I would like to close the discussion here. Thank you very much for your valuable opinions.

SUMMARY BY CHAIRMAN //

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Now I would like to summarize the content of this plenary session under the theme "Future Prospects of Networking between Cities".

At the plenary session, first, on behalf of the Asian-Pacific City Summit Executive Committee, Fukuoka City made a report on the 2nd Asian-Pacific City Summit Working Level Conference held last November. The theme was "Waste Treatment and Disposal". With the participation of representatives of 18 cities from nine countries, the conference included fieldwork at landfill sites and was substantial. We heard a delightful report that this conference helped spread to other parts of Asia the reclamation technology that Fukuoka City employs for waste disposal. Next, the mayor of Saga City reported on the content of Subsession 1. Under the common recognition that "the creation of a city means human resources development", the mayors of nine cities made presentations on their serious efforts for "Future Direction of Education for the Next Generation". In the open discussion, opinions were exchanged on the significance of home education and the community. This includes the report to review knowledge-intensive type education, to reform curriculum and to allocate more time for the development of creativity and self-learning. Then Dr. Leung Ding-bong Ronald, Chairman of the Urban Council in Hong Kong, reported on Subsession 2. The mayors of seven cities discussed "Establishment of Health and Medical Systems". They made presentations on the present situation of their health and medical care systems and their characteristic policy lines. In the open discussion, with regard to policies for the elderly, it was pointed out that not only networking in the health, medical and welfare fields, but also creating a city that can meet the requirements from the elderly are necessary. Also, concerning infectious diseases, it was stressed that cooperation among the member cities including the exchange of information on contagious diseases is essential. With regard to Subsession 3, the mayor of Pusan made a report on the content. Under the theme of "Waterworks and Sewer Systems in the City", mayors from nine cities had a discussion on issues such as how to secure water resources to accommodate rapid urban development, how to maintain water quality and how to reduce the cost to minimize the impact on citizens' lives. They pointed out that we need to discuss the method to discharge treated wastewater into the ocean to maintain the water quality, the method to remove nitrogen and management involving private investment for cost reduction. After the reports, we requested Mr. Ignacio Armillas, Director of the UN Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) Fukuoka Office to give us a 20-minute speech on the theme of this plenary session, "Future Prospects of Networking between Cities". He presented the view that, considering the consumption patterns of water, energy and natural resources as well as waste generation, cooperation and networking among cities are required in achieving sustainable consumption.

Based on these reports and views, mayors of 23 participating cities along with two gentlemen from the United Nations discussed what cooperation among cities should be encouraged in the future. Each city agreed that networking among cities is important toward the future. With this recognition as the base, the need for concrete networking among the cities and information exchanges on a constant basis was pointed out. I think we have achieved the result that we expected. Also, we had an active debate on the future direction of the Asian-Pacific City Summit. This includes providing relevant information for the summit in advance and securing adequate time for discussion. In order to make this summit more substantial and meaningful, Fukuoka City as the executive committee will consider these issues for the working level conference; consults with Pusan City, the host of the next summit; and try to improve the summit. In conclusion, I sincerely hope that today's session will help further strengthen the tie among the participating cities and also that the cities

in the Asian-Pacific region will achieve sustainable prosperity. Now I would like to conclude my summary. Do I have your approval?

(Applause)

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you very much. Regarding the host city of the 4th Asian-Pacific City Summit scheduled in 2000, we chose Pusan City, South Korea as the host at the 2nd summit held in Guangzhou in 1996. Here I would like to officially announce that the venue of the next summit is Pusan City. Next I would like to consult you about the 3rd Asian-Pacific City Summit Working Level Conference. We have already confirmed the opinion of each city, but here I would like to announce that Fukuoka City is ready to organize the conference. If there were no objection, would you please express your consent with your applause?

(Applause)

Chairman Mr. Keiichi Kuwahara, Mayor of Fukuoka

Thank you very much. As for the themes, considering the results of today's session, may Fukuoka City deliberate on them? Fukuoka City, the Asian-Pacific City Summit Executive Committee, will make every effort to make the next working level conference significant. I would like to ask your cooperation. With the decision on the host cities of the 4th Asian-Pacific City Summit and the 3rd Asian-Pacific City Summit Working Level Conference, I would like to close this plenary session. I deeply appreciate your kind support and cooperation. Thank you.

(Applause)