

PLENARY SESSION : CITY PARTICIPATION

Honorable Moderator:

Mr. Terman Siegar, Head of Bureau for Inter-Municipal Cooperation, Jakarta

Good Afternoon, Ladies and Gentlemen

Mr. Governors and Head of Delegations

It is a great honor for me to chair this meeting and do hope that this discussion session will go through fruitfully for all.

As the matter of fact, when you look through the program prepared by the organizing committee, we were supposed to join the participation about the summary of the summit. However, the organizing committee has changed slightly the program to a new session, called questionnaire and discussion. The organizing committee has identified 5 areas of problems which some participants gave answers to the questions and some do not give out yet, but may want to contribute later on during the discussion.

1) Quality of Life

Jakarta

Finds the problem after the crisis, there is a tendency of the people in the city to break the laws and regulations. In the beginning of the reformation, after the Suharto's administration, there was a disorder for several years. Luckily the situation is now recovered. The city is safe and back to normal. The other problem that can be seen in the Jakarta City is beggars. When you go on the street, you will see lots of beggars moving around. These remain in the scene.

Kuala Lumpur

Identifies the problem is about the standard of living. Kuala Lumpur sees the importance of the quality of living. There must be an international standard which need to be discussed.

Auckland

Rapid growth of urban development effects a lot to the quality of life moving from suburban to urban life.

Singapore

Suggests for accommodation in the proper ratio of the raising numbers of population without compromising the living environment of the future generations

Urumqi

Highlights the problem of burning the wood for heating during winter season, caused the heavy air pollution, which become the serious problem of the city. They need urgent input from participants to solve the problem regarding the energy resources.

Vladivostok

Highlights the problem of waste water treatment facility and insufficient quality and capacity of solid waste management system in the city

Fukuoka

Enjoys high growth and success of the economic during the last 13 years, however, the city recognizes an environment problem: air, water and ocean pollution. They encourage the technical cooperation between the member cities of the summit to delude the problem. Of course, Japanese cities are considered very well in dealing with air, water and ocean pollution, which is recognized internationally.

Increasing numbers of urban population create problems to the cities e.g. health, traffic, crime and street vendors, which most of the cities are facing.

2) Cultural & Traditional Rehabilitation

Jakarta

A great number of urban heritage including buildings since the Colonial era, is now not really well-maintained. Actually when we talk about social heritage and for the tourism purpose, those historical buildings will be an asset if well-managed. If you visit one day Jakarta, go to Gotar District, you will find hundred buildings, which do not look nice due to poor maintenance. They are just left the buildings in poor condition and just wait for their owners to destroy.

Kuala Lumpur

How to maintain the harmonious cultural co-existence through the social development activities

Auckland

Highlights the obligations and partnership based on the trinity of urban renovation approach and support the different cultures

Singapore

Risk of losing building site activities of cultural significant VS the rapid growth of the development

Guangzhou

How to balance between the urban development and cultural heritage and how to keep traditional values in the context of globalization

Fukuoka

Strongly recognized that Thailand has acknowledged the importance of culture. The culture is important to create and develop the industries including tourism. We should renew our recognition about the uniqueness of culture of each country and district and consider how to sophisticate and vibrate our culture.

Bangkok

New generation faces "Clio Colonialism", Delegations from Bangkok should elaborate more in details

3) Tourism

Jakarta

Strong efforts to encourage more and more tourists from abroad to Jakarta but so far, when the country was hit by the crisis in 1997, the effort to encourage the visitors has been quite not successful. They are now working hard for the purpose.

Kuala Lumpur

Need to promote on health, sport and education tourism and how to make Kuala Lumpur a safe city to attract tourists.

Auckland

Development of tourism infrastructure, coordination of regional religious tourism encourage people-to-people tourism which encourage market of occupations, group visit, etc.

Singapore

Targets development of eco-tourism, cultural and health tourism

Kitakyushu

Our national government has launched "Visit Japan" campaign for couple of years. Each city has to come up with their policies and strategies. In the meantime, they are impressed by Thai hospitality from the very first day they arrived. They will take Thai warm hospitality back to Japan and encourage people to visit Thailand.

Guangzhou

How to enhance the cooperation among Asian-Pacific countries to promote the tourism to the region

Bangkok

How to control the entrepreneurs' activities

4) Education

Jakarta

City government of Jakarta has very strong commitment to provide compulsory education from elementary to secondary (junior high school). However, the program has not been successful in reality because some families and parents still have to pay on monthly basis to support their children.

Auckland

The importance of international students – they recognize the importance of welcoming students from other countries. Auckland has a good quality of secondary and primary education system in the city.

Bangkok

How to convince the central government to support the private education

Guangzhou

How to ensure the quality of the private education and what should the city government do.

5) City Economic

Jakarta

Recognize the importance of the roles of private sectors which according to the statistic, only 3% of the city budget, contributes to the development of the city many years, whereas 97% contribution goes to the private sectors. So it means that the role of the city government in providing the city infrastructure in Jakarta is not so much compared to the contribution of the private sectors and the communities.

Auckland

Joint planning for the opportunity, economic innovation such as transportation process, knowledge based economic

Singapore

Public and private partnership is recognized and well-established approach in some cities, in implementing many projects, but also considers the objectives of private and public partnership whether it is more for the expertise cooperation or as an alternative forum for the financing project.

Urumqi

How to make full use and take most advantages from the natural resources such as gas, petroleum, etc. in order to promote the development of the city

Bangkok

How to have more cooperation between public and private sectors

Now, I would like to encourage you to share experiences and ideas how to solve the same problems because I do believe that if cities have same problems, although I recognize that some cities have quite different experiences, but with some areas like urbanism which most are facing; some may find a problem is serious; some may not. May I encourage all to share your input, ideas and experiences on those 5 topics?

Please take note that the organizing committee is not expecting any agreement nor any solutions from this session. Therefore, I would like to open the forum to all of you to contribute. Any participants who would like to make a contribution, kindly raise your hands. And later on, other participants can share more ideas and experiences in order to make the discussions more fruitful.

Governor of Bangkok added his opinion:

I would like to share my point of view as observation, especially from the discussions and presentations we had together during these 2 days, with the comments you sent through the questionnaires. According to the observation, I would like to mention that the state development of each city would be a very key indicator that how people of each city would define the level of the quality of life that they have, for example, here in Bangkok, we still need to deal with the basic quality of life. People still get stuck in the traffic almost every day, comparing with other cities, which you may have already gone through that stage. Unlike Singapore, you have a very good mass transportation system. Therefore, when you define the level of quality of life, there will be definitely the differences from other cities.

Secondly, you all may be able to share the common problems and experiences. For example, Bangkok and Jakarta, we are facing the same situation when people migrate from the countryside to the cities; we see them cooking the food along the roadside, showing the wide gap between the wealthy and the poor. Likewise, we see people living in a slum, just next door to the high-rise condominium. My point is that each of us can shorten the learning process which will take us several years, by learning from the others' experiences in this summit. To me, it is very helpful.

In term of Quality of Life, compared to the other cities like Auckland, which seems to have a higher standard of living – concentrating more on how you improve, retain and promote your people's talents and skills (quality of people). That means your standard of living has gone through the basic problems on quality of life, e.g. city infrastructure, which some remain in Bangkok.

My observation would be especially for the cities that are still in the early stage (new city). Even though Bangkok is quite one hand as Metropolitan, a large city, where people live; due to a rapid

growth of the city development, it has been creating another problem in the area of the quality of life. The approach that we are proposing to the summit is The Sustainable City Redevelopment, rather than focusing on continuing the growth of the city; we need to refocus our efforts by using these 2 means.

- Firstly, integrating participations through this new urbanism concept
- Secondly, looking for the cooperation between public and private sectors to help fastened the process

However, we might face the limitation from the budget allocated by the national government.

From this summit, we all can help each other to go faster on the learning process, which may take one city several years to achieve.

Honorable Moderator :

Thank you very much for your input. Quality of life can be different from one community to another. However, we might find some useful. May I encourage others to give contribution?

Honorable Moderator :

This is a very good opportunity for cities outside Japan to learn about the environmental problems and protections.

We aim to discuss more elaborative and practical about what we have presented since yesterday until this morning, which we noticed during the last 2 sessions, we are so quiet. I now appreciate in fact that many questions come from participants. Therefore, I would like to encourage more ideas, input and experiences contributed during this opportunity.

Honorable Moderator :

Urumqi has raised a very interesting question about resources, which might be helpful for other participants who have the common problem and might be able to answer the question. Perhaps, the delegation from Vladivostok may contribute.

Vladivostok :

Because Vladivostok is located on the ashore of the sea of Japan. We have the same problem to deal with. Because of the industrial potential, we have especially fishery, food processing sectors, environmental issue is also important to us. These problems effect the quality of life of the population of our city, also effect on natural environment, forest, sea and islands, just offshore the mainland territory of Vladivostok. New industrial development require new land and natural resources, which result negative impact on forest, fields and other natural resources.

Therefore, one of the first project that has been implemented by Vladivostok City Administration right now is improving the urban environment industry, planting the trees and cleaning beach areas.

And another important issue, we are facing is the solid waste management and that should include the complete process of recycle from bottles to production by products.

These are our primary concerns in term of providing a comfortable urban environment for our people.

Honorable Moderator :

Let's me read through the input from Busan regarding cultural and traditional rehabilitation. "A hot issue in the city is about new building and a historical bridge. Busan is facing a problem to remove a historical bridge called Yungdo Bridge, in order to build a new building near the Yungdo Bridge. The Yungdo Bridge has to be removed and a new bridge has to be built up."

Honorable Moderator :

May I invite delegation from Auckland to make a contribution?

Auckland :

Auckland region is relatively clean and green. It is an exciting city and a vibrant region. It is coming more diverse. The problem issue we face, related to many issues and our experiences are slightly smaller scale because of our relative smaller populations. However, it does give us an opportunity to Auckland to develop in a way of policies instrument to deal with those issues. The Auckland region, for example, has a population of 1.3 Million, but experiencing the rapid growth and in the very near future, will project 2.3 Million living in an area. What presents to Auckland region is the need to deal with the ways of which issues are connected; the issue how we deal with growth, issue of care for the environment, dealing with the pollution of our water waste and air pollution, developing of good transportation strategy, at the same time, pay attention to urban forum. We move more and more suburban way of life to more urbanized way of life with increasing density of housing. Now in the Auckland region, we have developed 2 policies instruments, that we really base on inside from new urbanism, from a smart growth movement, from the trans-orient development, from traditional neighborhood development. And basically, those strategies were population growth strategies linked with the land use and transport. Basically, the strategies was to ensure that 30% of the new growth taking place in green field areas and 70% take place in an already built-up areas and that new growth will be centered around node on public transport corridor, where mixed-use of development does not courage. These are commercial opportunities taken up and jobs provided, and where the medium density in housing is built. And the aim has been to ensure more people living closest to the place they work and to give priority to public transport issue and also the completion of the key roading rings so that people have choices in public transportation, rather than the heavy reliance on their own private cars. Now that particular strategy is an important strategy and also links the awareness,

which is well dealing with the population growth. We need to deal with the economic development and the community development in different parts of our city and region. So Auckland's regionally economic development strategy is the document which is now linked to the Auckland's regional growth strategy and the Auckland's regional land transport strategy. And what we are finding in dealing with the choice of growth is not enough to say to particular community we want you to take their much more of growth. This is how much you are going for growth and we want you to accommodate that. Instead, we have developed the process of negotiation with those neighborhood and communities so that in exchange of accepting more growth, there is an advance of investment in physical and social infrastructure in those areas. The provision of open space, community centers, so that way of growth is increasing, those trade-off can take place.

We have learned that in Auckland, the importance of talking to one another, it is not enough to come up with a plan and say here's a plan. Instead, we are involving local people in creation of the community. In the theme of this conference, the emphasis on the participation is critical in what we are doing in Auckland. We are aware that it is inadequate to develop plan on the paper. What we need to do is to establish the good sense of timing and priority in implementing a program. For example, in the transport field, we are giving priority in investment on public transport, e.g. bus, rail and ferry, in the area that is inevitably neglected in our infrastructure. In the same time, we are completing key roading rings which are central government's significant investment over the next 9 years, when 1.62 Billion Dollars will be invested.

We are developing the communities by program because there is awareness. For example, during the school holidays, motor ways are free up, cars and trucks travel a lot more rapidly along the road, so we are developing walking school buses, where encouraging parents to supervise group of children walking to school. We are developing school travel plan; we are talking about the bus timetables and the routings to ensure that they avoid the congestion period.

Port of Auckland, moving from truck transport to rail transport and medium to the long term, 90% of the containers coming to the Port of Auckland will be shipped by rails to inland part for the distribution to our communities.

Those innovative approaches involve consultation with people giving private companies, public companies to work together for a common goal. Being aware that at least we deal with our issues creatively; Air pollution which is going to increase on our roads, which is the most toxic damage to our water way due to the heavy metal run off from our roads.

We are working hard to develop and integrate the approach in Auckland to deal with issues. We are very pleased to learn from overseas experience in Asia as well as make a contribution from our stand points as the younger city.

Honorable Moderator :

As mentioned earlier, we might not be able to implement the same methods and strategies successfully in different environment. However, as in forum, it is good opportunity to exchange the experiences from different countries. These might be useful some day, should there be any similar occurrences in the years to come, which no one can predict.

Mr. Sutiyoso, Governor of Jakarta added :

Actually, this is a request. Jakarta has sustainable crisis, as said, the people tend to break the laws and regulations, after the 32 years of Zuhato's administration. The crisis is in many sectors. Perhaps, we can share the experience, Like Fukuoka, who mentioned about the problem elevated to the national government since the decentralization of the authorities. Deprivation levels or many levels in our country become very big ego of the local government. Therefore Jakarta is very depending on other surrounding cities. For example, Jakarta is located about 40% under the sea level so the flood problem is the big problem. We therefore need the support from surrounding cities how to keep the environment especially greening. This is our big problem. We elevate the problem to the national government but the regulation is not clear yet about the support from the cities surrounding Jakarta. Jakarta is populated 8 Million in the evening and 12 Millions in the afternoon because Jakarta is magnitude among the cities. So I request if any experiencing the similar problem, can share about the plan for people, economic development and also infrastructure. We have difficulties because we are in limited budget and the population is big. Also the facility which should be provided is very difficult. There are many problems to be solved but we have limited budget. Maybe we can follow the experience of other cities, which will be pleased to us. Thank you very much.

Honorable Moderator :

Mr. Sutiyoso asked for an input and experience regarding the city municipal cooperation. As he mentioned, Jakarta is very much depending on the surrounding cities to contribute the problem solving of the city. Any input and experience from other cities who deal with the surrounding cities would be helpful.

Mr. Apirak, Governor of Bangkok gave an input :

I would say that it is very much similar to what we have here in Bangkok. Due to the complexity of Bangkok and Jakarta, especially the numbers of population during the day time and night time, what we are doing now is the cooperation between BMA and the cities surrounding Bangkok, of which the CEO Governors are working through the central government. We are working together by having a monthly meeting between Governor of Bangkok and those CEO Governors. We identify mutual problems, for example, the heavy traffic congestion during the rush hours due to the commute of people living in the outskirt zones to and from their working places in Bangkok. In Bangkok now, we are working in providing new urban-plan zones e.g. commercial zone, residential zone and

environmental-protection zone, etc, whereas the connecting areas of those provinces are not of the same category. Therefore, it is a must that we talk and cooperate to ensure the seamlessness of both operations and administration.

Another obvious example is our Chaopraya River, which is running through many provinces from the North. In order to keep it clean and manage it well, we need a very close collaboration and working session together to ensure that all are working in the same direction and on the common master plan. In the past, there was no communication among those provinces and BMA, which made things difficult in cooperation particularly among the working level. With the meetings in close collaboration and the sub-committee formed among the concerned parties, a common problem can be solved in the same direction to mutual benefit.

Delegation from Kuala Lumpur gave further input :

My name is NIK from Kuala Lumpur. I would like to add up with what Bangkok has mentioned. In Kuala Lumpur, we also have a problem of border development between Kuala Lumpur and the surrounding regions. We have identified the problem for the last 10 years. Recently, during our latest restructuring plan for 2020, we need a body to coordinate especially border development. To implement this policy, we have to have a commitment and cooperation from the government as well. One of the policies taken by the government is to set up a body, formed by the members from different authorities of the surrounding cities and from KL. Hopefully, the cooperation and the participation from different authorities can solve the problem of border development.

Honorable Moderator :

In term of municipal cooperation, the mutual cooperation and effort can solve the interconnecting problem.

I would like to thank all of you who contributed to this forum and hope that these are fruitful and beneficial to all of us.

Thank you

The City of Fukuoka would like to make the following two propositions at this summit.

1. Quality of life

We would like to propose the formation of a framework to promote technological cooperation among local governments at this summit.

Japanese cities underwent rapid urbanization without developing an adequate infrastructure, and suffered from many urban problems including air, water and ocean pollution as a result. It took us 20-30 years to overcome them. Kitakyushu is one city that has successfully conquered environmental problems and thus we have a lot to learn from it.

There are about 50 major cities in Japan, each of which has not only competent and experienced staff but also accumulated know-how and technologies to deal with urban problems. Above all, they are eager to cooperate with other cities to solve their problems and thus to improve the quality of life of their citizens.

In order to make use of the advantages of each city, we need to form a framework that also involves national governments. Fukuoka City is working on the Japanese government to form a framework for technological cooperation at the national level, in which personnel will be acquired at the local level. Such a system will lead to an environment that facilitates technological collaboration among cities.

Hence we urge other member cities to ask your national governments to build a system of collaboration with them because we strongly believe collaboration among cities will result in a higher quality of life for all our citizens.

2. Renaissance of Culture and Tradition

Participating in this summit in Bangkok, I was impressed by how much Thailand highly recognizes the importance of its culture. Culture is an important element in promoting industries including tourism. We need to re-recognize that each country or region has its own unique culture and consider how to refine it.

Thus we would like to propose that we acknowledge the significance of re-recognizing and refining our unique culture as a common theme of this summit.