



WWCAM city representatives at the fifteenth Mayors Conference in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

15th Mayors Conference Concluded in Ulaanbaatar

The fifteenth conference of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM) was successfully held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 13 to 15 January 2012. Under the main theme “Energy Supply and Efficient Consumption of Heat Supply in Winter Cities,” representatives of WWCAM winter cities enthusiastically considered the conference sub-themes: “Efficient Use of Energy and Electricity Supplies”; “Efficient Use of Heat Supplies”; and “Air Pollution in Winter Cities and Methods to Decrease It.”

Thirteen winter cities from seven countries were represented at the conference. The cities included Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Qiqihar and Shenyang (China); Maardu and Viimsi (Estonia); Sapporo (Japan); Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia); Hwacheon and Taebaek (Republic of Korea); Ulan-Ude (Russia); and Anchorage (United States).



The Sancheon Ice Festival in Hwacheon is the largest winter festival in Korea.

Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Resolution Adopted

A plenary session was held to wrap up the Mayors Conference, and the Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Resolution proposed by the city of Ulaanbaatar and the WWCAM

Secretariat were adopted unanimously, and Mayor Munkbayar of Ulaanbaatar and Mayor Ueda of Sapporo (President of the WWCAM) signed the document.

The Ulaanbaatar Declaration states, “We are responsible to further develop the effective use of energy and heat from what we learned through this conference and actively educate the citizens so that each of them recognizes the importance of saving energy,” and the Resolution states each city should make realistic goals, and inform the WWCAM of their efforts at the next Mayors Conference. In addition, the Resolution states that Sapporo has been selected to host the seventeenth WWCAM Conference in 2016.



Mayor Munkbayar of Ulaanbaatar and Mayor Ueda of Sapporo display the Ulaanbaatar Declaration.

Please visit the WWCAM web site for the complete Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Resolution.

Hwacheon to host Mayors Conference in 2014

Hwacheon, Republic of Korea, will host the sixteenth WWCAM Conference in 2014. Hwacheon is located in northernmost South Korea, two hours from Seoul, and is a small but vibrant city of 25,000.

Surrounded by lakes, mountains, and valleys, Hwacheon has four distinctive characteristics: First, it is a city of peace, and site of Peace Bell Park and Peace Art Park. Second, with a wonderful natural environment, Hwacheon recognizes the importance of nature as a resource and serves as the secretariat of the World River Culture Cities Forum. Third, Hwacheon is a city of

sport, including national events on Hwacheon Lake, and fourth, Hwacheon is a festival city of four seasons, and its Sancheon Ice Festival was named one of the Seven Wonders of Winter by CNN.

Mayors Conference Takes Up Crucial Winter Environment Themes

The Mayors Conference portion of the WWCAM Conference opened with a keynote speech by Choimpong Bat, General Manager of Ulaanbaatar. Mr. Bat explained that although Ulaanbaatar has promoted central heating, coal still accounts for 60 percent of the heat supply in the city, and that efforts are needed to encourage the population living in traditional yurt (ger) districts to move into modern accommodations in order to reduce coal consumption.

Mr. Bat's keynote address was followed by three sessions based on the conference theme.

Session A: Efficient Uses of Heat Supply

Representatives of Ulaanbaatar reported severe air pollution and revealed plans to promote the installation of central heating systems and the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar power.

Hwacheon's use of forest resources, comprising wood pellets, as well as other local energy sources, including hydro, wind, solar, and geothermal power was introduced in a presentation, as was the city's research on household energy consumption and a policy that encourages residents to make more use of public transportation and bicycles. Also, Hwacheon provides residents with seven ways for energy conservation in an effort to promote ecologically sustainable lifestyles.

Session B: Efficient Uses of Electricity

Representatives of Ulaanbaatar reported that the city's severe winter climate increases power consumption and maintenance-related costs. Providing electrical heating systems to mitigate pollution would require a power supply five to eight times larger than the city presently has.

Sapporo's use of solar power



Participants at the Ulaanbaatar Mayors Conference discuss winter city themes.

and LED street lights, wood biomass, cogeneration systems, and the effective use of cold energy from snow was the focus of a presentation by that city.

Session C: Air Pollution in Winter Cities

Ulaanbaatar noted air pollution issues and expressed a determination to reduce air pollution by 60 percent through a variety of efforts, including the establishment of the Air Quality Agency, the use

of electric buses, a shift to renewable energies, establishment of cogeneration power plants, and the provision for low-interest loans to purchase apartments.

In Maardu, undesirable air quality is attributed to ash

and sulfur dioxide from the combustion of oil shale. Mineral refineries, a main industry in Maardu, and chemical plants have long been causes of soil, air, and water pollution. The city has implemented air quality monitoring as a step to protect the environment.

Air pollution is also a problem in Shenyang as a result of industrial progress and the use of coal in winter. Measures have been taken to mitigate air pollution here, including land readjustment to

promote the coexistence of the economy and the natural environment; the closure of pollution discharging plants; better monitoring for pollutants; and the establishment of an environmental protection law. Although

the city has benefited from these measures, pollution continues to be an urgent issue, particularly during winter.

Qiqihar reported that air quality in the city has improved with the establishment of monitoring stations to observe diffusion of coal combustion, with energy recycling and monitoring industrial pollution, by controlling motorcycle emissions, and other measures. Work in Qiqihar will continue to strengthen anti-pollution efforts.



Representatives of WWCAM cities hold a press conference at the Mayors Conference.



Presentation by Munkhtsog D., Head, Air Quality Monitoring, Ulaanbaatar.

WWCAM Subcommittees Report

Anchorage: City Operations for Mitigation of Climate Change

The final report of the Subcommittee on City Operations for Mitigation of Climate Change was presented at the WWCAM conference by Dick Stallone of Anchorage.

The subcommittee, with its secretariat in Anchorage, was established at the Nuuk Conference in 2008. The final report focused on Anchorage's progress in energy

conservation and efficiency, and more efficient use of electric power.

The presenter noted that using energy more wisely is the single most important step cities can take to be more sustainable and to prepare for climate change.

The two major electrical utilities in Anchorage, for example, are investing almost 370 million dollars in a new joint power plant project that will have twenty-five percent greater fuel efficiency than existing plants. They are also investing in Anchorage's first wind farm, which will provide power starting in 2012. In addition, through a public education program, 84 percent of residents are turning off unneeded lights, using more efficient light bulbs, using appliances less, and improving the insulation of their homes.

Anchorage's LED lighting program has had excellent results. Phase one, the replacement of all residential street and low speed collector lights is 95 percent completed. The actual energy savings compared to the older high pressure sodium lights is an impressive 59 percent. The payback time is shorter, and the city is getting excellent feedback from drivers and pedestrians.

A significant outcome from all these efforts is a major reduction in the average kilowatt hours used by households in the urban regions in Alaska over the past ten years. This is



Dick Stallone presents the final report of the Subcommittee on City Operations for Mitigation of Climate Change.

a major achievement, and results in savings to consumers, reduced greenhouse gasses, and increases in energy conservation.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee found that—

- Climate change is a major concern to all WWCAM members;
- Each city is responding to the challenges of climate change with different but complimentary strategies;
- Urban migration places additional sources of stress on cities;
- In the view of Anchorage, cities offer the best chance for sustainable development;
- Most important, cities must continue to share lessons learned and work together.

Changchun: Environmental Protection

Yan Wen, director-general of Changchun Environmental Protection Bureau, delivered an interim report on the progress of the Subcommittee on Environmental Protection work by his team on two subjects: "an analysis of source of particulate matters in air in winter season" and "the negative impact to the environment by the use of snow melting agents."

Winter Cities Will Benefit

The Subcommittee's working team will complete related research before January 2014, and all the winter

cities will benefit greatly from the results of the study, according to Mr. Yan.

A solution for air and snowfall pollution is one of the key environmental issues that challenge the winter cities. Changchun is willing to share its experience and research know-how with all the WWCAM member cities. In reaching his goal, Mr.



Yan Wen, Director-General, Environmental Protection Bureau, Changchun, makes a presentation at the subcommittee meeting.

Yan said international cooperation under the WWCAM framework is important to the city of Changchun.

Winter Expo Vistors Sample Winter Cities

The Winter Expo was held 14 and 15 January at the Business Development Center in Ulaanbaatar in connection with the WWCAM Conference. The event attracted a large number of people to exhibition booths displaying winter-related products and technologies.

Cities that had exhibits at the Winter Expo include Ulaanbaatar with 23 booths featuring energy, hous-

ing, heating, clothes, and food. Harbin, China had three booths displaying products such as wood products, pencils, and information on other products for export. Sapporo, Japan had seven booths, which focused on housing, gardening, disaster prevention, civil engineering, and information about Japanese companies, as well as promotional information on the city of Sapporo.



Mayors open the Winter Expo in Ulaanbaatar.



Visitors gather at a Winter Expo food booth.

Sapporo Welcomes Overseas Delegations

December 2011: Five delegates from Shenyang led by Mr. Jiang Songjie, Vice-Director of the Environmental Protection Bureau, visited Moere-numa Park to observe a cooling system using snow stored during winter.

February 2012: An Ulaanbaatar delegation of nine led by Mayor Munkbayar observed heat supply facilities, and Sapporo's unique subway system and facilities.

March 2012: Mr. Tumurchuluun Batmunkh, Chairman of the Investment Department, and two others from the city of Ulaanbaatar presented a business seminar to introduce the economic situation and social infrastructure of Mongolia.

March 2012: A delegation of 53 people led by Mayor Zhe Sun of Jiamusi presented an investment seminar.

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