UNESCAP

EYE ON UNESCAP

A media file on coverage of
economic, environment and social issues

Part II



United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

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THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS IN THE MEDIA

By Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary, UNESCAP

This has been an exceptionally busy period for us here at UNESCAP, and the increasing amount of news coverage provided by you – the local, regional and international media is testimony to the importance of our work here in the Asian and Pacific region.

The international news media, in particular, is paying closer attention than ever before, and this fifth issue of Eye on UNESCAP contains reports about UNESCAP from publications as prestigious as the Asian Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, the International Herald Tribune and the New York Times, to name but a few.

With the assistance of the many UN Information Centres around the world, including our very own Bangkok-based UN Information Services (UNIS), I have participated in television and radio interviews with the BBC, CNBC, CNN and many others.

My programme of refocusing the work of UNESCAP into three thematic areas: Poverty Reduction, Managing Globalization, and Addressing Emerging Social Issues has revitalized our efforts to make Asia and the Pacific a better place for the region's 3.8 billion inhabitants, home to more than two-thirds of the world's population.

Throughout this year, UNESCAP will provide our friends in the media much to write about and we look forward to working with you in order to highlight the work that remains to be done to improve the lives of the underprivileged.

January 2003



Mr. Kim Hak-Su greets Bangkok-based journalists at UNESCAP's final press conference of 2002 and participates in one of the many interviews conducted with international journalists.

EYE ON UNESCAP

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) is the largest of the five UN Regional Commissions in terms of population served and area covered. It comprises 52 members and 9 associate members and represents approximately 62 percent of the world's population, or 3.8 billion people. UNESCAP plays a unique role as the only intergovernmental regional forum stretching from the Pacific to Turkey (excluding Iraq).

In 2002, UNESCAP continued to receive a high level of media coverage. UNESCAP-related news and articles were reported by major international news services and frequently appeared in the local and international press, while a growing number of information on UNESCAP can be found on the Internet.

UNESCAP media coverage focused on all aspects of the organization's activities: quality of life -- regional economic cooperation, socio-economic development, poverty alleviation, and environment-related issues. A significant number of articles were devoted to human settlements, population and other humanitarian issues, as well as the areas of transportation, communications, information and space technology. Additionally, a number of articles were published in the observances of UN special "Days", e.g. UN Day for Women's Rights and International Peace, World Day for Water, United Nations Day, Habitat Day.

In terms of geographical distribution of the coverage, the distinction between "local" and "worldwide" sources have become less clear as articles from national or local sources are often reproduced by internet-based news services with global outreach. However, it is still possible to determine whether the article was intended for local distribution or for a broader international audience. Hence, the division of sources into local and worldwide proves valuable as it helps to monitor which of the issues drew international attention, and which were merely of local interest.

The UNESCAP Executive Secretary's press conference on "Economic prospects in the Asia-Pacific region" on 4 October 2001 was the year's most newsworthy event. Many news agencies and newspapers in the region and throughout the world reported it. It should be noted that the press conference was held just one month after the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. These had a significant impact on regional security and economic situation. Most sources reported the Executive Secretary as saying that the consequences of the terrorist attacks would affect tourist, airlines and hi-tech industries, which would undermine poverty alleviation efforts in the UNESCAP region.

The high coverage of this year's 58th annual Commission Session has been consistent over the last 2 years. However, the 58th Commission Session generated much interest from the media with the agenda on social development and globalization issues, as well as the announcement of UNESCAP revitalization.

As in previous years, the UNESCAP "Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2002" attracted much attention from the experts and the general public. In addition to numerous articles on the socio-economic situation in particular countries, there were a considerable number of articles analyzing trends and developments on regional level.

Keen interest in sustainable development issues was stimulated by the various UNESCAP activities in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg, 26 August – 4 September 2002. The High-level Regional Meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development that was held in Phnom Penh on 27-29 November 2001, as well as other meetings and activities were the center of media attention throughout the year. The Johannesburg Summit itself, attended by the UNESCAP Executive Secretary and officials and delegates from the member countries, received extensive coverage by the region's media.

Other UNESCAP meetings that generated strong media interest included the East Asia and Pacific Regional Consultation on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Bangkok, 16-18 October, 2001), the Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure (Seoul, 12-17 November, 2001), the Fourth Session of the Committee on Socio-economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas (Bangkok, 11-13 December 2001) and others. UNESCAP meetings in 2002 included the Conference Promoting Gender Equality to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children (Bangkok, 7 – 9 October 2002), and among others the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Shanghai, 23 – 26 September 2002), the High-level intergovernmental Meeting to conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993 – 2002 (Otsu, Japan, 25 – 28 October 2002), and the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (Bangkok, 11 – 17 December 2002).

UNIS, the United Nations Information Services for UNESCAP, has worked in close collaboration with various UNESCAP divisions to ensure that the media adequately cover the organization's activities. The result has sustained high media interest in the work of UNESCAP and its Executive Secretary.

David Lazarus
Chief
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United Nations Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The criterion for inclusion of articles in this volume has been set as follows: printed or electronic articles on UNESCAP and/or its activities including material that mentions, refers to or in any other respect concerns UNESCAP, was included.

2. Articles are divided into thematic groups and subgroups, according to UNESCAP priorities and activities as stipulated in the 2002 UNESCAP Annual Report.

3. The volume is composed of articles that have been monitored and identified by the United Nations Information Services (UNIS) in Bangkok as well as articles that have been sent to UNIS by the UN Information Centers (UNIC) in the region. Although this publication cannot claim to include the entire information on UNESCAP produced and covered in member countries and worldwide, efforts have been made to identify and include as much materials as possible on the organization.

4. It should be noted that an increasing amount of information is being posted on the Internet, either as original articles or as reproductions from other sources. In the latter case, the classification of the source is made according to the Internet site, rather than the original source.

5. Sources of articles are classified according to the country of origin or as "worldwide" or "United Nations". Most of the sources with global outreach, such as major international news agencies and news services (Reuters, AP, AFP, BBC, Xinhua, etc.), periodicals with regional and global circulation (*Wall Street Journal,* etc.) and international Internet news services (*Yahoo! News, Northern Light, LexisNexis,* etc.), are categorized as "worldwide".

6. In cases where an article is reproduced and published by several sources, one version of the article is presented and, when possible, credit is given to the original source (for example, *Yahoo! Asia News/Xinhua).*

7. Articles language other than English marked by an asterisk.

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20.	All Bangkok area to be cleaned to welcome Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001* - *Pimthai*	25 October 2001	Thailand	125
21.	Cities fit for children is the top agenda at the Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001* – *Pimthai*	26 October 2001	Thailand	126
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23.	Loy Khatong festival be promoted to participants at Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001* - *Sing Sian Yit Pao*	26 October 2001	Thailand	128
24.	Loy Khatong festival be promoted to participants at Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001/ City planning shows "life & living 2001" exhibition* - *Kia Hua Tong Ngun*	26 October 2001	Thailand	129
25.	Loy Kratong be promoted to participants at Citynet* – *Asia News Time*	26 October 2001	Worldwide	130
26.	To promote Loy Kratong festival to Citynet participants* - *New Chinese Daily News*	26 October 2001	Thailand	131
27.	Bangkok Hosts Citynet Congress 2001 - *Xinhua*	29 October 2001	Worldwide	132
28.	City conference to focus on urban matters – *Bangkok Post*	29 October 2001	Thailand	133
29.	Child friendly cities to be built* - *Matichon*	29 October 2001	Thailand	134
30.	Asia city leaders cooperate to build cities fit for children* - *Pimthai*	29 October 2001	Thailand	135
31.	Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001* - *Matichon*	29 October 2001	Thailand	136
32.	Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001 starts today* - *Thaipost*	29 October 2001	Thailand	137
33.	Bangkok welcomes city leaders from 66 cities from 20 countries in Asia and the Pacific region* - *Thaipost*	29 October 2001	Thailand	137
34.	"General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Deputy Prime Minister..."* – *Daily News*	30 October 2001	Thailand	138
35.	Brainstorming to Revive the City* – *Matichon*	30 October 2001	Thailand	139
36.	City leaders pack Citynet* - *Pimthai*	30 October 2001	Thailand	140
37.	Citynet open with hope to solve cities' problems* - *Thai News Agency*	30 October 2001	Worldwide	141
38.	Samak chooses Thai food to welcome Citynet participants* - *Thai News Agency*	30 October 2001	Worldwide	142
39.	Samak shows his "Corn Flat" project to over 20 city leaders* - *Siamrath*	30 October 2001	Thailand	143
40.	Samak shows his "Corn Flat" project to Citynet attendants* – *Daily News*	30 October 2001	Thailand	144
41.	Citynet hope should be fulfilled* - *Pimthai*	30 October 2001	Thailand	145
42.	The Deputy Prime Minister Chavalit opens Citynet Congress* - *Siamrath, Wattajak, Daily News*	30 October 2001	Thailand	146
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45.	300 to brainstorm ideas for more liveable cities – *The Straits Times*	31 October 2001	Singapore	149-150
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47.	Citynet Congress concern over aids while Bangkok Governor confident problem will be reduced* - *Siamrath*	2 November 2001	Thailand	152

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49.	Citynet congress closes with pledge to solve AIDS problem* - *Daily News*	2 November 2001	Thailand	154
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1.3 High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, Otsu City, Shiga, Japan, 25-28 October 2002

1.	Asian Governments Urged to Act on Disability-related Poverty – *UN Pakistan Newsletter*	15 October 2002	United Nations	156
2.	Bangkok Press Briefing Ahead of Otsu Meeting – *UNIS/IQ InfoQuest*	16 October 2002	Worldwide	157
3.	Eden Foundation group heads for Osaka conference – *Taipei Times*	19 October 2002	China	158-159
4.	Disparity in the midst of the human beings is the threat to the development – *Asian Tribune*	21 October 2002	Worldwide	160-162
5.	Asia to launch 2nd "decade for disabled persons" – *Xinhua News*	21 October 2002	Worldwide	163-164
6.	Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific: A Legacy of Poverty, Illiteracy, Discrimination Women and Children suffer most – *UNIS/IQ InfoQuest*	21 October 2002	Worldwide	165
7.	Asia's disabled get a chance to improve their lives, by Yang Qingchuan – *Xinhua News*	22 October 2002	Worldwide	166-168
8.	A threat to Millennium Development Goal on Education – *UN Pakistan*	22 October 2002	United Nations	169
9.	ESCAP discussing measures to upgrade policies on disabled - *NewsEdge*	24 October 2002	Worldwide	170
10.	1) Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons Will Start Tomorrow 2) Pre-Events for Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled 3) Related Exhibition, "Tangible Art"*– *BBC Biwako Broadcast web page*	24 October 2002	Japan	171
11.	International Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons Starts Tomorrow in Otsu* – *Yahoo News Japan/Mainichi Shimbun*	24 October 2002	Japan	172
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21.	Inter-Governmental Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons Starts in Otsu Today* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	25 October 2002	Japan	182
22.	International Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons in Otsu* – *Yahoo News Japan/Jiji Press*	25 October 2002	Japan	183
23.	International Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons in Otsu – *Yahoo News Japan/Mainichi Newspaper*	25 October 2002	Japan	184
24.	ESCAP Pre-events Wakako Tsuchiya World Record Holder of Wheelchair Marathon is the key-note Speaker – *Yahoo News Japan/Mainichi Shimbun*	25 October 2002	Japan	185
25.	Concluding Year for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons – *Yahoo News Japan/Asahi Broadcast*	25 October 2002	Japan	186
26.	ESCAP Biwako Meeting Starts: Associate Professor Satoshi Fukushima of Tokyo University appeals that disabled persons should send messages from their side* – *Chunichi Shimbun (website)*	26 October 2002	Japan	187
27.	ESCAP: Decade of Disabled Persons-The Decade of Disabled Persons-Intergovernmental Meeting Convened-Report on Addressing Welfare* – *Asahi Shimbun*	26 October 2002	Japan	188
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29.	Interest in the introduction of Aid-Dog* – *Mainichi Shimbun*	26 October 2002	Japan	190
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31.	Meaningful debate should be converged to activities* – *Asahi Shimbun*	26 October 2002	Japan	192
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34.	Mr Satoshi Fukushima, Professor Fukushima of Tokyo University, appealed at the ESCAP Meeting that Disabled persons should actively send their information* – *Chunichi Shimbun*	26 October 2002	Japan	195
35.	Talks begin on helping the disabled – *The Japan Times*	26 October 2002	Japan	196
36.	The 2nd day of the ESCAP Meeting, seven priority areas for the Biwako Millenium Framework shown; such as self-help groups and women with disabilities* – *Chunichi Shimbun*	27 October 2002	Japan	197
37.	Proposal for Goal for Next Decade-Self-Help Groups and Focus on Women-Employment Issue Requires Stricter Punishment* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	27 October 2002	Japan	198
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39.	Reports on Measures for Securing Employment in England-Emphasis on Network Building*– *Kyoto Shimbun*	27 October 2002	Japan	200
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44.	ESCAP: the Decade of the Disabled Persons; Itoga Commemorative Award was given to Ms Yukiko Nakanishi, who served as an expert on disability issue at ESCAP* – *Asahi Shimbun*	27 October 2002	Japan	205
45.	Nice Heart Bazaar; 500 Hands Made Goods* – *Asahi Shimbun*	27 October 2002	Japan	206
46.	More disabled people in the devastated Afghanistan* – *Chunichi Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	207
47.	The third day of ESCAP Otsu Meeting* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	208
48.	Malaysia's Social development Minister visited facilities for disabled persons in Otsu City: "We will support our organizations to create websites"* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	209
49.	The 3rd day of the ESCAP Meeting, Disabled people enjoyed some related events such as the marathon race and the Internet forum. The plan for the Biwako Millenium Framework for Action is now examined* – *Chunichi Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	210
50.	ESCAP related events: wheelchair dance party and classical music concert* – *Mainichi Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	211
51.	Friendly interactions in the ESCAP related events*– *Kyoto Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	212
52.	ESCAP related events* – *Asahi Shimbun*	28 October 2002	Japan	213
53.	UN ESCAP's Meeting closed with new strategies and action for disabled persons* – *Mainichi Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	214
54.	ESCAP High-level Intergovernmental closed: Adoption of Action Plan and Annual goal* – *Sankei Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	215
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56.	Otsu Meeting closed: The delegate of Afghanistan said "We will commit actively next time"* – *Yomiuri Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	217
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58.	ESCAP Biwako Meeting closed: action plan for the next decade (Biwako Millennium Framework) adopted* – *Asahi Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	219
59.	Otsu Meeting Closed: IT infrastructures mostly needed* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	220
60.	The final day of Otsu Meeting: participants visited facilities for disabled persons and enjoyed sightseeing in Otsu City* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	221
61.	ESCAP Otsu Meeting closed, Biwako Millennium Framework was adopted* – *Yomiuri Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	222
62.	Intergovernmental Meeting closed with the adoption of Biwako Millennium Framework: UNESCAP Executive Secretary Mr Kim Hak-Su said, "it was a historical meeting"* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	223
63.	High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons: Afghanistan promises full commitment to the next decade of disabled persons* – *Kyoto Shimbun*	29 October 2002	Japan	224

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67.	Four days with smiles and friendly interactions: Reviewing the ESCAP Meeting with photos, messages from the participants* – *Chunichi Shimbun*	30 October 2002	Japan	228
68.	Observers say that challenges are left on how to make use of the results of the Meeting in each region* – *Chunichi Shimbun*	30 October 2002	Japan	229
69.	UN-backed meeting adopts action plan to help disabled persons in Asia, Pacific – *UN News Center*	30 October 2002	United Nations	230-231
70.	UN announces second decade of disabled persons in Asia-Pacific – *Mass Communications Organizations of Thailand (MCOT)*	31 October 2002	Worldwide	232
71.	A barrier-free era for the disabled – *Bangkok Post*	2 November 2002	Thailand	233
72.	Reporter's Viewpoint: Disability is no longer a welfare issue* – *Mainichi Shimbun*	7 November 2002	Japan	234-235

1.4 Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, UNCC, Bangkok, Thailand, 11-17 December 2002

1.	Population conference to be held once in ten years focus on poverty alleviation – *UNIS/IQ InfoQuest*	4 December 2002	Worldwide	236
1.	Bangkok to host Asia-Pacific population conference – *Xinhua News*	5 December 2002	Worldwide	237
2.	NGOs Worldwide Voice Strong Support For International Family Planning, Women's Reproductive Health, Development; Diverse Groups Say Commitment To ICPD Must Remain Steadfast – *US Newswire*	6 December 2002	Worldwide	238-241
3.	Religious leaders Urge Powell to remain Committed to ICPD; Waning Support Threatens Women's Lives, Leaders say – *US NewsWire*	6 December 2002	Worldwide	242-246
4.	International Ad Campaign Exposes New Attack By Bush Administration, Vatican On Women And Family Planning – *US Newswire*	9 December 2002	Worldwide	247-248
5.	Will the Bush Team Try to "Turn Back the Clock" at Bangkok? – *US Newswire*	11 December 2002	Worldwide	249-250
6.	Abortion Debate Highlights Asian Population Summit – *CNSNews.com*	11 December 2002	Worldwide	251-253
7.	Population conference opens in Bangkok – *Associated Press*	12 December 2002	Worldwide	254-256
8.	United States Stands Alone in Blocking Consensus at Bangkok Conference on Population, Say US Groups – *US Newswire*	12 December 2002	Worldwide	257-259
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10.	UN Population Summit Set Get Under Way – *New York Times/Washington Post/Associated Press*	15 December 2002	Worldwide	262-263
11.	Population Connection: Bush policy Reduces US to a Footnote at UN Conference – *US Newswire*	15 December 2002	Worldwide	264-265

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14.	China signs population agreements with Thailand, Indonesia – *Northern Light/Xinhua*	16 December 2002	Worldwide	269-270
15.	US anti-abortion stance may wreck conference – *Bangkok Post*	16 December 2002	Worldwide	271
16.	Population Conference yet to agree on Plan of Action – *The Jakarta Post*	16 December 2002	Indonesia	272-275
17.	US Defends Family Planning Policies at Bangkok Conference – *Voice Of America Online*	16 December 2002	Worldwide	276
18.	US presses fight on abortion at UN Family planning talks – *International Herald Tribune*	16 December 2002	Worldwide	277-279
19.	US Angers Allies over Abortion Issue at UN Population Conference – *Feminist Daily News Wire*	16 December 2002	Worldwide	280
20.	Asian, Pacific Nations Commit to Plan of Action to Reduce Regional Poverty – *Voice of America News*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	281-282
21.	Population aging, new challenge for Asia: ESCAP – *Northern Light/Xinhua*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	283-284
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23.	[Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra arrives at the Population Conference] – *Bangkok Post*	17 December 2002	Thailand	286
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25.	[Thailand's PM inaugurates the Population Conference] – *Krungthep Turakij*	17 December 2002	Thailand	288
26.	US Loses Vote at Population Conference – *Asia Daily online/ABC News/Osaka Globe/Pusan Post/Bangalore Globe/Tibet Daily/Qingdao GlobeFukuoka Globe/Georgetown Daily/Newsday.com/Associated Press*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	289
27.	Over US Protest, Asian Group Approves Family Planning Goals – *The New York Times*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	290-291
28.	US stance on abortion and condom use rejected at population conference – *CBSNews online/Associated Press*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	292-293
29.	US Loses Vote on Sex Semantics – *CBSNews.com*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	294-295
30.	Population Conference spurns US stand – *The Globe and Mail*	17 December 2002	Worldwide	296-298
31.	Population Conference ends with renewed commitment to ICPD – *The Jakarta Post online*	18 December 2002	Worldwide	299-300
32.	Population Conference defies US on Action Plan – *Associated Press*	18 December 2002	Worldwide	301-302
33.	UN links population to poverty – *Xinhua/Associated Press*	23 December 2002	Worldwide	303-304

2. Transport, communication, tourism, infrastructure development

1.	Good Prospects for Rail Freight Growth – *LexisNexis/Bernama*	15 October 2001	Worldwide	305-308
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5.	Pilot Container Service via TKR, TSR Possible Next Year – *The Korea Herald Internet Site*	7 November 2001	Republic of Korea	314-315
6.	Conference of Ministers for Infrastructure Development in Asia-Pacific Region to Take Place November 16-17 in Seoul – *LexisNexis*	15 November 2001	Worldwide	316-317
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29.	Project has trouble track record – *Bangkok Post*	28 June 2002	Thailand	354
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34.	Asian and Pacific countries to consider regional policy on e-commerce – by 2005, one dollar in every five spent in online purchases will be Asian – *UN Pakistan Newsletter*	12 November 2002	United Nations	364
35.	On track: Asian governments plan cross-continental rail networks – *Associated Press/SeattleTimes*	1 December 2002	Worldwide	365-366
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7.	United Nations Day – *Thai Rath*	2 November 2001	Thailand	378
8.	UN Libraries in China and Republic of Korea designated United Nations Depository Libraries – *LexisNexis*	19 December 2001	Worldwide	379-381
9.	UN/United Nations Staff Raise More than US150,000 for Victims of Terror – *NewsEdge*	13 February 2002	Worldwide	382
10.	Burmese Leader Khin Nyunt meets UN Asia Body Chief – *BBC News Online*	26 February 2002	Worldwide	383
11.	Guards at ESCAP Site to Carry Arms – *Bangkok Post*	25 March 2002	Thailand	384
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31.	Concerts for the UN – *Bangkok Post*	14 June 2002	Thailand	406
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38.	[Her Royal Highness opened the exhibition of the commemoration of the successful Thai Government-UN drug control partnership at the UNCC]* – *Thai Rath*	1 July 2002	Thailand	413
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1. Human settlements, population, poverty alleviation, social issues

1.1 General

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October 4, 2001 Thursday

SECTION: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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LENGTH: 463 words

HEADLINE: U.N. drug agency says world should monitor Afghanistan closely

BYLINE: VIJAY JOSHI; Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Thailand

BODY:
The international community should closely monitor Afghanistan to ensure it doesn't resume opium and heroin production to finance its war against the United States, a U.N. official said Thursday.

Citing Islamic principles, Afghanistan's hard-line Taliban rulers had virtually eliminated cultivation of poppy - used to make opium and heroin - by the-end of 2000, said Sandro Calvani, the regional representative of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

Asked if the Taliban might resume production if it is attacked by the United States, Calvani said: "Of course a lot of people (in Afghanistan) are extremely desperate. They might abandon their traditional crops and start producing opium, which is much easier to sell." But, at the same time, the increased presence of troops at Afghanistan's borders will make movement of drugs more difficult, a disincentive to resume opium production, Calvani said.

Also, with people fleeing possible war there may not be many farmers left to grow poppy.

But during conflicts, political isolation has historically encouraged illicit activity as law enforcement dissolves, he said, adding that it was too early to forecast whether drug production will rise in the near future.

However, he said that if the Taliban does allow poppy cultivation, it will be very difficult to detect in the next few weeks.

"It presents a significant challenge to the international community to monitor the situation to prevent movement of illicit drugs," he said.

Calvani said the United Nations, the United States, Britain and the Netherlands confirmed after two independent surveys that all opium production in Afghanistan had stopped by the end of 2000. But significant stocks from earlier production still remain in Afghanistan, he said.

Before the Taliban crackdown, Afghanistan was once the biggest producer of opium in the world, a position now held by Myanmar.

Calvani and regional heads of other U.N. organizations based in Bangkok were holding a news conference on the effects of the Sept. 11 terrorist strikes in the United States. The prime suspect in the attacks, Saudi dissident Osama bin Laden, is hiding in Afghanistan, which has refused to hand him over to the United States.

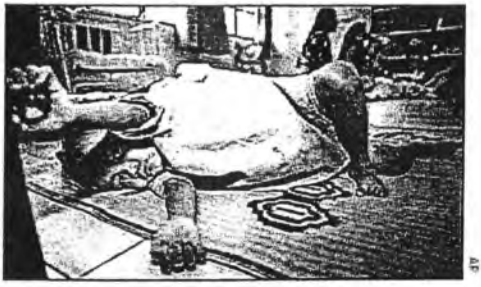
Separately, Kim Hak-su, the executive secretary of the United Nations **Economic and Social Commission for Asia** and the Pacific, said the terrorist attacks will deeply hurt the regional economies.

Industries important to the region - airlines, tourism and exports - may be badly hit, while American and European investment is expected to drop, he said.

A meeting of top officials in the region will meet in Bangkok Oct. 18-19 to discuss the implications of current **economic** developments and prospects, he said.

Friday, 5 October, 2001, 02:32 GMT 03:32 UK

Asia warned of Aids epidemic



An HIV-positive orphan in Phnom Penh

By Larry Jagan in Bangkok

Asia is on the verge of an Aids epidemic, which will eclipse that in Africa, United Nations experts warn.

The UN in it latest report on the extent of the disease in Asia says the spread of the disease amongst what it calls vulnerable groups - drug users and sex workers - is alarming.

The study has been released ahead of the 6th International Congress on Aids in Asia and the Pacific, which starts on Friday in Melbourne.

The UN has identified China, Vietnam and Indonesia as countries where this trend has accelerated enormously in the last few years.

Numbers growing

In Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, one in five sex workers are now HIV-positive.

This has grown from virtually none five years ago.

The UN reports the rate of HIV infection amongst Chinese prostitutes in one area it surveyed, Guangxi province, has risen by 90%.



In Indonesia, infection rates among blood donors has risen tenfold in the past two years.

But the worst situation is in Cambodia and Burma, where the disease is already well above the

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China's 1m victims

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UN's epidemic levels of 2%.



Infection rates are highest among intravenous drug users and sex workers.

Privately, UN officials say that more than 7% of the adult population in Burma are suffering from the disease.

"In some areas", says aids expert Chris Beyrer, "along the borders with Thailand and China, more than 10% of the adult males are HIV positive. This is worse than anything Asia's experienced - and it's an epidemic raging out of control."

Governments must act

The UN says that because of the nature of transmission, through drug users and commercial sex workers, the disease will spread rapidly throughout the population, unless governments recognise the problem and do something to check its spread.

Stephen Kraus is the regional consultant for south-east Asia for UNAids, the UN body that deals with the disease.

He says the first thing governments must do is to accept there is a problem.

"Very few countries have actually done that," says Mr Kraus.

"They insist they don't have a drugs problem and therefore cannot have an Aids problem."

In countries where transmission is largely through sexual contact, like in Thailand and Cambodia, the trend can be halted.

A leading UN official in Bangkok, Nanda Krairish, says that with political commitment and the compulsory use of condoms for sex workers the spread of the disease can even be reversed.



Long term treatment for Aids patients is expensive

"In Thailand, as a result of early prevention programmes and the use of condoms, more than two million Thais are not suffering from HIV who certainly would have if the government hadn't acted as decisively as it did a decade ago."

The World Health Organisation also reports that the tighter control of the commercial sex trade,

found
East Timor calls for foreign aid

Links to more Asia-Pacific stories are at the foot of the page.

particularly in the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh, has reduced the estimated incidence of HIV by half in the past year.

Some experts are sceptical about the figures, but agree that the Cambodian Government's intervention will certainly have reduced the spread of the disease.

'Like a bush fire'

The most rapid spread of HIV, say Aids experts, is when the disease originate and spreads through drug users.

"It's like a wild bush fire out of control," says Chris Beyrer. "That's what's happening in northern Burma."

UN experts say there is a 50% chance of transmission through joint use of needles by intravenous drug users.

"A drug user who shares needles is certain to contract Aids," says the Director of Asia Harm Reduction, Tom Smits. "Its not a question of if, but when."

"With the size of the populations in Asia, particularly China and India, the problem will be massive."

Peter Piot
Executive director of UNAids

The chances of contracting Aids through sexual contact, according to the UN, is only one in a thousand.

The problem though, they say, is when the disease becomes prevalent amongst sex workers.

For years HIV/Aids in Vietnam was restricted to drug users, and the spread of the disease remained relatively constant.

Now many of the country's prostitutes have been infected and there are fears that it will spread much more rapidly.

General population vulnerable

That is the real problem, UN officials say. Although it may start in the vulnerable groups like drug users, sex workers and itinerant workers, it then spreads to the general population.

"Already 40% of the world's HIV sufferers are living in Asia," says Peter Piot, executive director of UNAids.

"And with the size of the populations in Asia,

particularly China and India, the problem will be massive."

But the lessons of Asia also offer some hope.

"Thailand's experience can be a model for the future," says Nanda Krairiksh, head of human resources at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

"It needs political commitment and a multi-sectoral approach; HIV/Aids is not a medical problem, it's a development problem and should be treated as such."

UN officials say if Asian governments adopt comprehensive awareness, early prevention and treatment programmes, including harm reduction policies such as providing drug users with clean needles, a major human tragedy can still be averted.

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Title: U.N. Official: Terror Attacks to Hurt Asia-Pacific Anti-poverty Drive

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Subject(s): XIN; Asia; Economy; Executive; Poverty

Xinhua News Agency

U.N. Official: Terror Attacks to Hurt Asia-Pacific Anti-poverty Drive

Story Filed: Friday, October 05, 2001 5:55 PM EST

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 5, 2001 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The recent terrorist attacks against the United States will cause an economic downturn in Asia and the Pacific, complicating efforts to eradicate poverty there, a senior U N. official said here Friday.

Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**), said in a statement released here that in the wake of the attacks, vulnerable groups trying to recover from the region's 1997 crisis may have more difficulty leaving the ranks of the poor.

He said there were also positive signs, including the fact that governments worldwide had recognized the dangers to the world economy posed by the attacks and were taking coordinated action to avert a major recession.

ESCAP will hold a meeting of eminent persons in Bangkok later this month to discuss issues related to the impact of the terror attacks against the U.S. on the Asia-Pacific region.

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October 10, 2001 Wednesday 6:27 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 222 words-

HEADLINE: Child protection experts to meet in Thailand ahead of global congress

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Oct 10

BODY:
More than 200 child protection experts from aid agencies, governments and civil society groups, are to meet in Bangkok next week to map out ways to protect young people from sexual exploitation.

The meeting is being held ahead of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Japan in December, and will monitor progress made since the first world congress in Stockholm in 1996. "Commercial sexual exploitation of children is widespread in the Asia-Pacific region and there is also increasing experience in combating this crime," the United Nations said in a statement.

The October 16-18 gathering will "examine efforts that have been made in combating this global threat to children's rights and to share regional 'good practices' designed to prevent sexual exploitation and trafficking."

The East Asia and Pacific Regional Consultation is being organised by UNICEF, **ESCAP** (UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) and child rights campaigners ECPAT in cooperation with the Japanese government and the Save the Children Alliance.

UNICEF has said that more than a million children in Southeast Asia are subject to sexual exploitation, in a problem that has worsened with the onset of the HIV-AIDS epidemic, which has resulted in younger girls being targeted.

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October 16, 2001 Tuesday 12:43 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DISTRIBUTION: Europe; Britian; Scandinavia; Middle East; Africa; India; Asia; England

LENGTH: 475 words

HEADLINE: Regional meeting to combat child sex exploitation opens in Thailand

BYLINE: BUSABA SIVASOMBOON; Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Thailand

BODY:
How to combat the widespread sexual exploitation of Asian children for profit is the subject of a three-day regional meeting that opened Tuesday in Bangkok.

The gathering, attended by some 200 government and U.N. officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as well as concerned young people, is meant to prepare for the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children to be held in December in Yokohama, Japan.

The first congress was held in Stockholm five years ago, and experiences and data exchanged there among representatives of 30 nations resulted in a Declaration and Agenda for Action. The regional consultation in Bangkok aims to step up protection for vulnerable children and to review progress in meeting the commitments made at Stockholm to eliminate sexual exploitation of children.

Commercial sexual exploitation of children is widespread in the Asia-

Pacific region due to poverty and economic hardship.

Kim Hak Su, the executive director of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific, a sponsor of the meeting, said that some one million children in Asia were involved in prostitution, pornography and trafficking for sex.

In an opening speech, he said some of the victims were as young as four years and that many children were forced to have sex with unprotected adults. He said that the HIV infection rate among children in some areas of Asia was as high as 50 percent.

Ahmed Taufan Damanik, a non-government organization worker from Indonesia, said the economic crisis there had ignited major trafficking of young people - mainly 15 to 18 years of age - to Singapore and Malaysia.

He said he hoped participants from those two countries might help Indonesia stop this exploitation.

Of particular concern recently is child pornography, thanks to the explosion of information technology - particularly the Internet.

Research by **ESCAP** found child pornography growing in tandem with the boom in child sex tourism in the 1980s and 1990s as images from Asia and Eastern Europe began circulating.

Although it is hard to estimate the size of the illicit business, it is reflected in a survey by U.S. market research company Forrester which found that adult pornography Web sites made dlrs 52 million a year - one-tenth of total e-business.

The **ESCAP** report also said that an April 2001 search for the term "child pornography" using the Google search engine turned up 425,000 hits.

"Clearly child pornography is a sizable business," the report said.

Other organizers of this week's meeting are the United Nations Children's Fund, Unicef and ECPAT, an international coalition of social activist groups devoted to ending child prostitution, child pornography and the trafficking of children for sexual purposes.

10/16/2001 07:05:51

One million children exploited in Asia's sex industry: UN

BANGKOK, Oct 16 (AFP) - One million children are being exploited in Asia's sex industry, but paedophiles continue to escape prosecution due to inadequate law enforcement in poor nations, a UN conference heard Tuesday.

More than 200 child protection experts from aid agencies, governments and civil society groups are holding a three-day conference in the Thai capital this week to discuss the crisis.

UN-**ESCAP** (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) executive secretary Kim Hak-Su said the number of children involved in commercial sex work in Asia was increasing.

"Human trafficking, including the trafficking of children for sexual exploitation, is organized crime's fastest growing industry", he told delegates in an opening address Tuesday.

UNICEF's regional director Mehr Khan said that while laws had been put in place outlawing commercial sexual exploitation of children, more needed to be done to enforce the legislation and close loopholes.

"It is a criminal activity and many countries have already recognized it as such," she said.

"They have also put in place laws to deal with it. We must now ensure that conditions are created to make it possible to fully implement these laws. It can and must happen as soon as possible.

The meeting, organized by UNICEF, **ESCAP**, child rights campaigners ECPAT and the non-government Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, will develop a regional action plan to combat child sexual exploitation.

The regional consultation is being held ahead of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children which will convene in Yokohama, Japan in December.

The October 16-18 gathering will examine efforts that have been made in combating child abuse since the first world congress in Stockholm in 1996, and share regional 'best practices' designed to prevent abuse.

"Yokohama must not only create awareness and help to strengthen community action, it must give us the tools to ensure that there is no impunity for these criminal actions," Khan said.

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KEYWORDS: UN-Asia-childsex

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10/16/2001 00:43:40

Thailand-Child Prostitution, 1st Ld-Writethru

Regional meeting to combat child sex exploitation opens in

Thailand Eds: UPDATES with comments by U.N. official, NGO worker in new grafs 6-9; ADDS byline By BUSABA SIVASOMBOON= Associated Press Writer=

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) How to combat the widespread sexual exploitation of Asian children for profit is the subject of a three-day regional meeting that opened Tuesday in Bangkok.

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■ CHILD SEX

Region faces long, hard fight

■ *Mukdawan Sakboon*
THE NATION

DESPITE CHANGED legislation and more stringent adoption regulations, there is still a long way to go in combating commercial sexual exploitation of children in the Asia-Pacific region, a regional gathering was told yesterday.

Some 1 million children are reportedly being exploited in the commercial sex industry in countries throughout the region. And while the forms such exploitation might take are diverse, the causes in different countries have much in common – they predominantly revolve around poverty and criminal networks.

Some 200 government and United Nations officials, representatives of non-governmental organisations, and young people gathered in Bangkok yesterday at the regional preparatory meeting for East Asia and the Pacific for the Second World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, set for December in Yokohama, Japan.

The three-day gathering aims to step-up protection for vulnerable children and to review progress towards meeting commitments made at the first congress in Stockholm five years ago. Professor Vitit Munthabhorn, an internationally renowned child-rights advocate, said despite much progress in terms of legislation, child victims of prostitution were still treated as criminals.

Despite legislative changes, the adoption of new laws to combat the problem and improved law enforcement, not all prosecutors were responsive to child rights and some even breached children's rights, he said.

The problem of sexual exploitation of children is widespread in the Asia-Pacific region, said Kim Hak Su, executive director of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific, one of the meeting's sponsors.

The average age of children being exploited in the Asia-Pacific is 13 years old, but there had been some cases in which the children were as young as four, he said. "This is a problem of poverty and the escalation of criminality, which inflicts both physical damage and psychological scars," Vitit said.

Available research shows that about 30 per cent of child victims of sexual exploitation eventually become exploiters themselves. In Cambodia, many girls are sold into prostitution by their families, or are tricked into the trade with a job offer as either a maid or cook.

Experts say children from ethnic minorities are at greater risk of sexual exploitation, given their lack of other rights – including that of citizenship.

Ecpat says that as paedophile activities move away from traditional Southeast Asian sex tour destinations and alternative child sex markets are sought, Pacific Island children are becoming vulnerable targets for sex tourists.

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October 18, 2001 Thursday 8:12 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 552 words

HEADLINE: Asian governments commit to first anti-childsex agenda

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Oct 18

BODY:
Asian governments Thursday signed up to an action plan against child sexual exploitation which for the first time commits them to deadlines to protect some one million children in the region's sex trade.

UNICEF's regional child protection adviser Margie de Monchy applauded the move made at the end of a three-day UN conference in the Thai capital attended by 200 child protection experts from government and civil society groups.

"By agreeing to time-bound commitments for the first time, governments have moved one step further towards action on critical initiatives in this region," she said in a statement. "The action plan... also recognizes that child sexual exploitation affects not only developing countries, but developed countries as well and that no country is untouched by this problem."

The meeting, organized by UNICEF, **ESCAP** and child rights campaigners ECPAT, was held ahead of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children which will convene in Yokohama, Japan in December.

The October 16-18 gathering examined efforts that have been made in combating child abuse since the first world congress in Stockholm in 1996, and shared regional 'best practices' designed to prevent abuse.

Nanda Krairiksh from UN-**ESCAP** (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) said it was vital that, five years after Stockholm, measures to combat abuse were closely monitored to ensure they were effective.

"Many countries of the Asia-Pacific region have been making progress combating the sexual exploitation of children. However, the record has been uneven and monitoring mechanisms to measure both progress and lack of action are necessary," she said.

"To move forward effectively, we need to take stock of the past."

The new agreement puts a deadline on resolutions already outlined in the Stockholm declaration, which many countries had since ignored.

They include appointing a national organisation to deal with the issue, the drafting of action plans for each country, and individual resolutions on cross-border trafficking of children, which must now all be completed by 2004.

At a press conference Wednesday, workers in the front line of the battle against child trafficking and exploitation said that while the face of the problem was shifting, poverty continued to underly the grim trade.

"The patterns are changing a lot. Children are not so much going straight to the brothels any more, but many are forced into non-consensual marriage or may be being trafficked into domestic work," said UNICEF's Nwe Nwe Aye.

Many girls lured to the region's capitals in search of work were abused and harassed by landlords, employers and co-workers once they arrived, she said.

"Traffickers are not always strangers -- they are friends, or seen as friends, people who bring money to their families," she said. "These are the kinds of complexities we must understand very well."

Somaly Man, a grassroots worker from Cambodia, said that in many cases young girls were sold off in "marriage" to foreigners.

"Taiwanese men are married to two, three, four, 20 girls who they take out of Cambodia," she said.

"But the problem is not just caused by the male clients, it's coming from the poverty and living conditions in the family."

LOAD-DATE: October 18, 2001

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 3 (*Home*)
Date: 19 October 2001

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Conference hears of major rise in abuse

One million children exploited in Asia

Kate Rope

The trafficking of children for sexual exploitation is the fastest growing organised criminal industry, Escap executive-secretary Kim Hak-Su told a conference convened this week.

More than 200 delegates met at the East Asian and Pacific Regional Consultation Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children ahead of the worldwide meeting in Japan in December.

Well over one million children are exploited for sexual purposes in Asia and that figure is climbing steadily. In Thailand alone, one in five prostitutes is a child and their numbers jumped 20% from 1998 to 1999, reflecting a global trend. Commercial exploitation also encompasses child pornography.

This kind of organised and rampant abuse, which preys primarily on poor children, wreaks havoc on the physical health of children and their mental well-being and creates new generations of child abusers, said participants.

'Since the first worldwide congress to address the problem in Stockholm in 1996, extensive dialogue on the previously taboo subject has opened, but no real dent in the daunting problem has been made.

Several Southeast Asian countries have adopted national plans of action to combat the exploitation of children, new legislation and policies have been put in place and the prosecution of perpetrators has increased.

However, it was clear the challenge in Yokohama will be giving paper commitments the teeth of law enforcement free from corruption.

Vitit Muntabhorn, professor of law at Chulalongkorn University, said Thailand has several new laws on the books, such as allowing child witnesses to be videotaped instead of sitting in court, which will help alleviate the problem and decriminalise those victimised, but law enforcement is the area where he sees the greatest weaknesses.

"Thailand has always had good policies," Mr Vitit said, "the problem is that the implementation and enforcement is still lacking." That is a problem that plagues many of the nations attending the conference, he noted.

The most concrete results of the meeting were agreements made by delegates to commit their governments to deadlines for enacting legal and social frameworks to prevent child sexual exploitation and to help those who are survivors.

"By agreeing to time-bound commitments for the first time, governments have moved one step further towards action on critical initiatives in this region," said Margie de Monchy, Unicef regional adviser on child protection for East Asia and the Pacific. One step, that is, in a very long walk that lies ahead.

1 of 13 DOCUMENTS

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October 26, 2001, Friday

LENGTH: 435 words

HEADLINE: Pacific Islands Forum to hold meeting 29-30 Oct on people smuggling, AIDS

SOURCE: Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat web site, Suva, in English 26 Oct 01

BODY:

Text of "press statement 8201" dated 25 October entitled "Highlighting HIV/AIDS and people smuggling" carried by Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat web site on 26 October

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is to highlight the issues of HIV/AIDS and people smuggling in the region at a meeting next week in Port Vila, Vanuatu. The topics will be among a range of social, economic, environment, and trade and investment issues to be discussed at the Sixth Consultative Meeting of Sub-Regional Organizations.

"One important role for sub-regional organizations is to bring more political attention to critical issues which may otherwise not be fully discussed - such as HIV/AIDS," said the secretary-general of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Mr Noel Levi, CBE.

"The potential impacts of HIV/AIDS on our social and economic fabric are increasingly recognized in the Pacific. Cultural taboos sometimes make frank discussion of the transmission of this disease difficult at the local level. Highlighting HIV/AIDS in the political arena and engaging governments to take this matter more seriously is vital in stopping its spread.

"There is an important opportunity for sharing of best practices and lessons learned amongst sub-regional organizations on this and other issues," Mr Levi said.

The secretary-general said an emerging issue was the question of international refugees and people smuggling, as this was now impacting directly on some Pacific Island countries.

"We can only do so much - a significant population influx places extreme pressure on already limited resources, exposing our small and vulnerable economies to further social, economic and cultural problems which we can ill afford," he said.

"I would ask that sub-regional organizations consider this problem in a coordinated and serious manner and look at what can be done to address this problem of mass migration at its source.

"We cannot ignore the role played by organized people smuggling operations, taking advantage of the most vulnerable and desperate, offering them promises

which they cannot meet, and the use of our members in such schemes," Mr Levi said.

Mr Levi said he wanted the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat to strengthen its working relationships with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) - all of which will be represented at the talks in Vanuatu on 29-30 October, 2001.

end

LOAD-DATE: October 26, 2001

Prepared by News Services Section
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http://www.un.org/News/dh/latest/page2.html
29 October 2001

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

* Poverty, health – big challenges for Asia-Pacific region, UN official tells meeting

ESCAP

29 October – Poverty and health concerns top the agenda of a conference between leaders of Asia-Pacific sub-regional organizations and the United Nations regional economic and social commission, which opened today in Port Vila, Vanuatu.

The two-day Sixth Consultative Meeting of Executive Heads of Subregional Organizations is set to tackle emerging social problems such as HIV/AIDS and human trafficking, as well as economic issues such as the current downturn of the world economy and managing globalization.

Of the 36.1 million people in the world living with HIV/AIDS, 5.8 million are in South and Southeast Asia, and 640,000 in East Asia and the Pacific, said Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in his opening statement.

"South and Southeast Asia have the fastest growing rates of infection, despite their relatively low prevalence rates as compared to Africa," Mr. Kim said. The number of people living with HIV/AIDS in India is approximately 3.7 million, making it second only to South Africa, which has around 4.7 million.

"Successful prevention models such as that of Thailand need to be replicated throughout the region to avoid a ghastly HIV/AIDS epidemic," Mr. Kim stressed.

The Executive Secretary also pointed to human trafficking, particularly of women and children, as an important social issue to tackle, noting that it has been organized crime's fastest growing business in recent years.

In addition to dealing with the world's economic crisis, Mr. Kim described poverty reduction as a "huge challenge" to the region. "With over two-thirds of the world's absolute poor living in the Asia-Pacific region, States need to show the political will to address this daunting task," he said. "Similarly, the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations, financial institutions, international and regional organizations, civil society and the private sector must join together to meet the challenge of poverty."

The meeting's participants are discussing areas of cooperation between ESCAP and the subregional organizations, which include the Pacific Islands Forum, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

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POVERTY, HEALTH - BIG CHALLENGES FOR ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Poverty and health concerns top the agenda of a conference between leaders of Asia-Pacific sub-regional organizations and the United Nations regional economic and social commission, which opened in Port Vila, Vanuatu on 29 October. The two-day Sixth Consultative Meeting of Executive Heads of Sub-regional Organizations is set to tackle emerging social problems such as HIV/AIDS and human trafficking, as well as economic issues such as the current downturn of the world economy and managing globalization.

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For more information on the United Nations and its activities, please visit the main UN website at www.un.org or the UN Pakistan website at www.un.org.pk

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Wednesday, November 07, 2001, updated at 08:20(GMT+8)

China

Aisa-Pacific Conference of HelpAge International Opens in Beijing

The 2001 HelpAge International (HAI) Asia-Pacific Regional Conference opened in Beijing Tuesday.

Hosted by the China National Committee on Ageing (CNCA), the four-day event was attended by over 80 representatives from HAI, United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and various aged care organizations from the Asia-Pacific region.

With the theme of "voices of older people", the conference has organized a series of discussions on issues closely related to older people's lives, such as poverty

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people's lives, such as poverty relief, community health care, handling of emergencies, and HIV/AIDs impact.

Based on the result of these discussions, a summary document --"Beijing Declaration", will be drawn up at the conclusion of the conference. This is expected to work as a reference document for the Second World Assembly on Ageing scheduled for Spain next year.

Li Baoku, chairman of CNCA, said at the conference that to listen to the voice of older people, to help them overcome difficulties and to ensure they have a happy life should be the basic tasks of those working with the elderly.

In recent years, China has established a comprehensive social security system for the aged, set up a system to ensure the basic living standard for urban residents, and also developed numerous community service facilities for older people, which have improved

older people's living conditions, Li added.

Todd Petersen, chief executive of HAI, said that HAI would cooperate closely with CNCA in handling the problems of the aged.

With London as its headquarters, HelpAge International (HAI) is an international non-government organization dealing particularly with global ageing, and whose member organizations cover 70 countries and regions.

HAI is dedicated to improving the living conditions of older people, and has made contributions to the promotion of cooperation between the aged care organizations in the Asia-Pacific region.

People aged 60 or over in China make up 10 percent of the total national population, and the proportion is growing larger, experts say.

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Date: 11 November 2001

Rape of INNOCENCE

CHILD PROSTITUTION : *How poverty, greed and ignorance conspire to turn youthful hope into living hell*

Report by POONA ANTASEEDA

"I m only 16 years old, but I must have slept with dozens of men. All of them are beasts. They are after my body. I feel like a sex-toy. Sometimes, I feel like killing my customers or myself. Life has lost all meaning for me. Only death will rescue me from all this suffering and mental ordeal," said a 16-year-old female commercial sex worker in a report on "Sexually Abused and Sexually Exploited Children and Youth in Pakistan."

Feelings of sadness, worthlessness, disinterest in life, low self-esteem, guilt and depression are the psychological and emotional damage a girl working in the sex trade has to shoulder.

Although there is no way of knowing the exact number of children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, it is estimated that there are over one million children in the Asia-Pacific region involved in the business, and the number is said to be increasing. Some children are forced to serve more than 10 customers a day.

At a regional meeting of government representatives and NGOs on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) held at the United Nations Office in Bangkok during October 16-18, it was revealed that the problem of exploitation of children is on the rise because of its complexity and difficulty to track.

TRICKED INTO SEX SLAVERY

According to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (ESCAP), human trafficking, including the trafficking of children for sexual exploitation, is organized crime's fastest growing industry, bringing in over US$9 billion per year.

There are different actors involved at each stage of the trafficking process: First there are recruiters or, in some cases, casual agents who prompt the child to move away from their home. The casual agents might include family members, people in the community or quite often adults who have themselves been working in the sex trade elsewhere and who now earn money by delivering adults and children to their former employers. Many rural villages have agents who keep an eye out for promising children and attempt to gain the acquiescence of his or her care-takers, sometimes by deception, sometimes through an agreed payment.

Sometimes the recruitment mechanism is more organized, ranging from small-time agents working under the guise of a tour agent or employment office, to larger crime syndicates such as the Chinese Triad groups, Russian Mafia, the Japanese Yakuza or other crime syndicates involved in the smuggling of contraband.

In a small village in Cambodia, Srey Kanya (name changed to protect the child) became the sixth victim of trafficker Mrs Ith Sitha. She was sitting outside her home weaving rush mats for her mother when Mrs Ith approached her. Mrs Ith was well-dressed and spoke kindly to Srey, asking her what she was doing.

"You're too smart to be tucked away in this village," said Mrs Ith, "You should be in town working in a good job that pays a high salary. I can help you if you like."

Fifteen year-old Srey was flattered, and she knew life in the village did not hold a bright future for her. She had also had many disagreements with her mother, and felt that her parents

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might be glad if she left and got a job where she could send them back some money. Mrs Ith did not have to say much to persuade her.

But, there was no decent, good-paying job for Srey. Instead, she ended up in one of the seedy brothels in Tuol Kork, a notorious red-light district on the periphery of Phnom Penh city.

Srey's parents were aware that their daughter had left with Mrs Ith, yet they waited several weeks before alerting the police of her disappearance. In the meantime, Mrs Ith returned to try and lure another young girl. This girl's parents, however, called the district police, who had been trained to spot traffickers in a community-based child protection project. They luckily intercepted Mrs Ith with her young potential victim as they were on their way to Battambang on the back of a motor-taxi.

Nwe Nwe Aye, regional cross-border project coordinator of the Save the Children Fund (UK), runs a participatory action research (PAR) project for migrant children and youth along the borders of China, Myanmar and Thailand. She said that usually traffickers are not strangers to the children, they are relatives or adults who are familiar to them.

In some villages along the Burmese-Chinese border, the journey into human bondage is begun by a formal marriage offer. Chinese men who are handsome and presentable come to the villages, and after a very brief courtship, propose marriage. The girls are taken away from the villages, and pictures of the "wedding" are sent back to the girls' families. But instead of a honeymoon, the girls are then brought to China where they are forced to enter the sex trade.

Somaly Mam from the French aid organisation Agir Pour les Femmes en Situation Precaire (AFESIP) in Phnom Penh said, "Trafficking in Cambodia can't be stopped because of corruption. Corruption in Cambodia is from the top to the bottom because of poverty and the economy."

Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary to ESCAP, said it is common for children as young as 13 to be lured into the sex trade, and victims are sometimes as young as four years of age.

PRECIOUS VIRGINS

A spokesman for the Council for the Welfare of Children, Philippines, says "The same patterns of poverty, unemployment, underemployment, and inadequate income which push women into prostitution also create the child victims of commercial sexual exploitation."

Poverty is considered the most important factor driving children in the region into sexual exploitation and human trafficking, although there are other "push" factors that make children and families vulnerable. Certain socio-cultural practices, family dysfunction, domestic problems, drug abuse, armed conflicts, discrimination, and peer or family pressures are all regularly found as reasons why children become vulnerable to traffickers and end up working as sex servicers.

The Philippine National Plan of Action, which adopted the 1996 Stockholm Declaration against CSEC, estimates that between 60,000 and 75,000 children are involved in the sex trade nationwide. The perpetrators are both locals and foreigners. Sex tourism in the Philippines is particularly notorious. The increase in overall tourism over the past decade has resulted in a parallel increase in sex tourism.

Child prostitution is a large problem and often very visible in Cambodia. The main brothel areas in Phnom Penh are Toul Kork, Keo Chandar and Svay Pak. It is reported that young girls brought to Phnom Penh are almost always virgins. Pimps reportedly imprison children and do not put them to work until they have been presented to a series of bidders such as high-ranking military officers, politicians, businessmen and foreign tourists. Like men in other countries in the region, such as Thailand, Laos and Malaysia, young girls are believed not to have HIV/AIDS and this stimulates demand. The sale of a girl, particularly a virgin, into prostitution brings an enormous sum of money to the family by Cambodian standards. On average a family can earn US$150 for the sale of their virgin daughter.

Reportedly Vietnamese girls are trafficked into Cambodia to work in the sex industry, but at the same time Cambodian girls are trafficked into Thailand, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau.

Somaly said the traffickers from Taiwan and China are organised gangs who come to Cambodia looking for girls to send back to Taiwan and China. Taiwanese may give up to US$ 1,000 - 2,000 for a girl.

"The education of the people is very low and so parents may not understand the situation," said Somaly.

Malaysia is a source, transit, and destination country for women and girls who are trafficked for sexual exploitation. Most prostitutes working in the country still come from neighboring

Press/Media: **BANGKOK POST**
Page(s): 6 (*Perspective*)
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Indonesia, the Philippines, Burma, Thailand and China. During the year 2000, Malaysian police arrested 3,607 foreign prostitutes, compared to 3,301 in 1999. Police believe that the increased number of arrests is a result of greater numbers of women being brought from countries of the former Soviet Union.

The situation in developed countries like Japan is different from that of developing countries in the region. Child prostitution in Japan is driven not so much by poverty but by materialism, in what is known as "compensated dating". In 1997, a government survey found that about a quarter of female students aged 12 to 15 had taken part in telephone chat clubs. Male clients of the telephone clubs pay to enter booths, and wait for private calls from women and girls, who dial a free telephone number from outside the club, often from their own home. Their conversations usually fix a time and place to meet. The date may be for simple companionship, but there is often an agreement for sexual acts.

At the same time, there are numerous reports of women from the Philippines, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Thailand, Costa Rica, Sri Langka, Ukraine and Russia being trafficked into Japan.



ABOVE
Thai women rescued from forced prostitution in Bangladesh.

MAIN PICTURE
A man approaches a young male sex worker in Bangkok.

TO MARKET IN THAILAND

Pradech Phayakvichien, governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, has said that Thailand aims to cleanse the tourism industry of "all means of child exploitation."

Speaking at a conference on the child sex industry, he said about one in five of Thailand's estimated 70,000 to 200,000 prostitutes were under the age of 18, meaning there are anywhere from 14,000 to 40,000 child sex workers in the country. The estimate from Thailand's Department of Public Welfare is much lower - about 12,000-18,000 child prostitutes. But they did report that there was a staggering 20% increase in the number of child prostitutes between 1998 and 1999.

The demand for child prostitutes from both Thais and foreigners, mostly tourists, is still high. Western European men are among the most numerous sex tourists in Bangkok and Pattaya, in Chonburi province.

Malaysians and Singaporeans make up the highest percentage of foreign tourists in Southern Thailand. The demand for underage boy prostitutes is particularly high among gay tourists.

Thailand is a substantial receiver country as well as a transit and sender country of exploited children. Many children are lured to Thailand under false pretences of employment. As Thailand's economy is more prosperous than others in the region, children are trafficked to Thailand from Cambodia, Laos, Burma, and China.

Chinese and Burmese girls are trafficked through northern areas of Thailand, while Laotian girls and boys are trafficked into Thailand by several gangs operated along the Thai-Lao border.

Wanchai Roujanavong, executive director of the Thailand Criminal Law Institute, said many laws had been issued in the last five years since Thailand adopted the Stockholm declaration relevant to control of CSEC. But he said that commercial sex exploitation still exists because of ineffective law enforcement and a failure to go after the masterminds of the trade.

"The government does not make enforcing laws against CSEC a priority. Although there are attempts to suppress CSEC, it is given less importance than drug suppression," he said.

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Borneo Bulletin

November 20, 2001

LENGTH: 585 words

HEADLINE: BRUNEI: FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS GETS A BOOST

BODY:

In a move which underlines the increasing threat of illicit drugs, several developing and developed countries have agreed to contribute more financial resources and technical assistance to the Asean region and China.

Myanmar, which traditionally receives assistance from developed countries to fight drugs, has now committed to contribute financial resources under the Asean and China Cooperation Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD process).

"We are committed to the process and we are ready to contribute to ACCORD," said Pol. Col. I Ikam Awng, Head of the Myanmar Delegation in the first meeting of the ACCORD Plan Action Task Force, which was held in Bali, Indonesia from November 12 to 14. Thailand said they too were prepared to increase contribution of up to US $ 20,000 for regional anti-drug projects.

"We have also taken the initiative to allocate the forfeiture of the assets of drug traffickers for the drug fight," said Ms Laxanachamtom Laohaphan, Director-General of the Department of International Organisations of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The government of Thailand is also

prepared to contribute technical assistance as well, she added.

The meeting, which was billed to be an operational meeting to put the flesh on the skeleton of the ACCORD Plan of Action, was attended by some 100 participants from 17 countries and 5 international organisations.

There were also representatives from local and regional non-governmental organisations.

The meeting was organised by the National Narcotics Coordinating Board (BKNN) of Indonesia, the Asean Summit Secretariat and the Regional Centre of East Asia and the Pacific, United Nations International Drug Control Programme Office in Bangkok.

The Asian Development Bank and the United Nations/**ESCAP** confirmed their support for ACCORD as they recognised the narcotics problem as an essential requirement for sustainable human development and fight against poverty.

Several partners which have traditionally contributed substantially to the fight against drugs in the region, both bilaterally and multilaterally, also expressed support to the ACCORD process and agreed to consider the needs of the ACCORD Plan of Action.

"We are impressed with the intention and the cooperation among the participants," said Mr Douglas Rasmussen, Director, Narcotics Affairs Section, at the American Embassy in Bangkok, during the plenary session.

He added that he would refer the proposals made at the meeting to Washington for a firm decision.

Japan, which is currently in the throes of a recession, came out strongly in favour of the plan.

"Japan appreciates the ACCORD process, which we believe is a significant step in promoting cooperation in the drug area, said Mr Keiji Ide, Director, Regional Policy Division, Asian and Oceania Affairs Bureau, Ministry of

Foreign Affairs in Tokyo."

He also said that Japan would continue to support for drug control projects in the future.

Several Asean nations such as Malaysia and Singapore said they would continue with existing arrangements for the drug fight including bilateral initiatives.

The meeting also agreed to strengthen cooperation among Asean and China on issues ranging from demand reduction, advocacy, law enforcement and alternative development.

The task force on the different issues will meet every year to discuss developments in their respective areas. The task force will also facilitate day-to-day work against the drugs scourge.

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December 11, 2001, Tuesday 6:46 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: WORLD NEWS; POLITICAL

LENGTH: 398 words

HEADLINE: Reducing Poverty Still Hard Work for Asian-Pacific Nations: **ESCAP**

DATELINE: BANGKOK, December 11

BODY:
Since the Asian financial crisis of 1997 drastically reduced economic growth, causing contraction in several Asia-Pacific economies, and then the global economic slowdown seriously dampened the recovery effort, poverty becomes the region's foremost scourge again.

The assessment came from Keiko Okaido, deputy executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**), here Tuesday.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the fourth session of the Committee on Socio-economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty, Keiko indicated that **ESCAP** member countries should implement more effective measures to achieve the goals laid down in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, Copenhagen5 and the Agenda for Action on Social Development. Because the region faced a bleak economic and social

outlook, the outlook for the achievement of three overriding objectives, namely, reducing poverty, expanding employment and achieving greater social integration, this year appears not so optimistic as in 1995, when the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development was adopted by 117 heads of State or Government, she said.

Social cohesion and stability in the region stood at crossroads as new forms of challenges confront governments and citizens alike, particularly the least developed countries, the Pacific island economies and the countries with economies in transition, Keiko warned.

She urged the governments in the region to redouble their efforts, find out innovative approaches and put them in motion, adding that greater cooperation at international as well as regional levels would also be needed to achieve the goals.

In order to address more effectively the complex issues of economic and social development in the region, the **ESCAP** had focused on three main topics: poverty reduction, managing globalization and emerging social issues.

Keiko also told representatives that a Poverty Center had been established at the **ESCAP** last month, which will be participated by the UNDP to publish a regular regional poverty monitoring report.

Moreover, the **ESCAP,** together with its U.N. partners, would assist governments in promoting strategies to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic, fighting the menace of drug abuse in the region and combating human trafficking of children and women for sexual purposes, she said.

LOAD-DATE: December 11, 2001

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December 11, 2001 Tuesday

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 207 words

HEADLINE: Thailand's poverty exacerbated by crisis: official

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Dec 11

BODY:
Poverty in Thailand has grown by nearly 50 percent in the aftermath of the 1997 regional financial crisis, leaving some 10 million Thais struggling to survive, an official said Tuesday.

Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Ladawan Wongsriwong said the number of poor people in Thailand had risen from 6.8 million to 10 million as a result of the crash. Ladawan said at a seminar on poverty reduction hosted by the United Nations **Economic and Social Commission for Asia** and the Pacific from December 11-13 that some 16 percent of the population now qualified as poor.

The deputy minister outlined anti-poverty policies introduced by the government of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, which swept January elections.

These include debt relief for farmers, a cut-price healthcare scheme and a fund that offers a million baht (22,800 dollar) for each of Thailand's 70,000 villages.

In November, the World Bank said block grants and other anti-poverty measures would be a better use of public money than universally distributed

funds.

Prior to the regional **economic** crisis, the percentage of impoverished Thais dropped from 32.6 percent of the population in 1988 to 11.6 percent in 1996, according to the World Bank.

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World News

Asian Countries Look For Ways To Reduce Urban Poor At UN-Backed Meeting

United Nations

Posted Tuesday December 11, 2001 - 06:02:59 PM EST

United Nations - Alleviating poverty was high c the agenda as delegates gathered in Bangkok tod at a meeting organized by the United Natio Economic and Social Commission for Asia and tl Pacific (ESCAP) to review the region's progress achieving goals set by recent global and region action plans.

Participants at the three-day Committee on Soci economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rur and Urban Areas are looking at opportunities reduce rural poverty through the increased use information and communication technology (ICT according to ESCAP. They will also discuss tl growing phenomenon of the urban poor, focusir on poverty, lack of access to services and exclusic from power.

The Committee will also review the regior

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The Committee will also review the regio progress in implementing the 1995 World Summ for Social Development Copenhagen Declaratic and related action plans. The reassessment w focus on obstacles encountered in alleviatir poverty, expanding employment and promoting tl social integration of disadvantaged and vulnerab groups.

According to ESCAP, a majority of the Asi population is expected to be living in urban are by 2025 and cities may become home to two thir of the region's poor. Other factors contributing the rise in poverty include the 1997 Asian financi crisis, which drastically reduced economic grow in the region, causing economic contraction. several countries and resulting in decreas spending on social development and increas unemployment. In addition, the tragic events of 1 September and their aftermath have also affect regional development.

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The Nation (Thailand)

December 12, 2001, Wednesday

LENGTH: 302 words

HEADLINE: Ladawan tells meeting 16% of Thais are poor

BYLINE: The Nation.

BODY:
Ladawan tells meeting 16% of Thais are poor

The number of poor in Thailand has risen from 6.8 million to 10 million - 16 per cent of the population - as a result of the 1997 financial crisis, said Deputy Labour Minister Ladawan Wongsriwong.

Ladawan was speaking at the Fourth Session of the Committee on Socio-economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas, which began yesterday at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok. The session ends tomorrow.

Participants will review the region's progress in achieving goals set by recent global and regional declarations and action plans.

"The international community has closely monitored progress in achieving goals set in global and regional documents such as the Manila Declaration, the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the **Escap** [UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific] Region, and the Copenhagen Declaration," said Keiko Okaido, **Escap's** deputy executive secretary.

Ladawan also highlighted some of Thailand's poverty-alleviation policies. They included the establishment of a three-year grace period on loans to

farmers; initiating the Village Revolving Fund Scheme, and the establishment of a people's bank.

A majority of the **Escap** region's population is expected to be living in urban areas by 2025, increasing the urban share of poverty, she said, adding that such areas could become home to as many as two-thirds of the region's people living in poverty.

Urban poverty reduction will require much greater attention from governments in the region, Ladawan said.

Information and communication technology (ICT) could help to create employment for the rural poor, the deputy minister said. Thailand had developed ICT policies to provide basic knowledge and tools for poor people.

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Poverty reduction uphill task for Asia

Updated on 12/12/2001 10:02:11 AM

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BANGKOK (Xinhua): Since the Asian financial crisis of 1997 drastically reduced economic growth, causing contraction in several Asia-Pacific economies, and then the global economic slowdown seriously dampened the recovery effort, poverty becomes the region's foremost scourge again.The assessment came from Keiko Okaido, deputy executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), here Tuesday.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the fourth session of the Committee on Socio-economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty, Keiko indicated that ESCAP member countries should implement more effective measures to achieve the goals laid down in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development.

Because the region faced a bleak economic and social outlook for the achievement of three overriding objectives, namely, reducing poverty, expanding employment and achieving greater social integration

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employment and achieving greater social integration.

Social cohesion and stability in the region stood at crossroads as new forms of challenges confront governments and citizens alike, particularly the least developed countries, the Pacific island economies and the countries with economies in transition, Keiko warned.

She urged the governments in the region to redouble their efforts, find out innovative approaches and put them in motion, adding that greater cooperation at international as well as regional levels would also be needed to achieve the goals.

In order to address more effectively the complex issues of economic and social development in the region, the ESCAP had focused on three main topics: poverty reduction, managing globalization and emerging social issues.

Keiko also told representatives that a Poverty Center had been established at the ESCAP last month, which will be participated by the UNDP to publish a regular regional poverty monitoring report.

Moreover, the ESCAP, together with its UN partners, would assist governments in promoting strategies to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Fighting the menace of drug abuse in the region and combating human trafficking of children and women for sexual purposes, she said.

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SEEKING SYMPATHY: A Cambodian woman with a small child begs in Bangkok, Thailand. Traffickers often buy children to beg or perform other labors. RAFAEL D. FRANKEL

Child trafficking takes new forms in Southeast Asia

Next week, Japan hosts a conference on sexually exploited children. Some say it ignores other problems.

By Rafael D. Frankel | *Special to The Christian Science Monitor*

BATTAMBANG, CAMBODIA – Head downcast, the boy peers nervously between strands of thick, black hair that fall in front of his eyes.

He won't give his name. He is reluctant even to sit at the table with an adult stranger. Trust does not come easily.

When he was 12, his parents in rural Cambodia sold him to a trafficker who forced him to beg on the streets of Bangkok, Thailand, and the resort town

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Pattaya. He lived with seven other children in one room. All were Cambodian. Some were as young as six.

"The trafficker told my parents he would send them $55 a month," the boy says. "But I would earn $18 or $25 every day or night I begged."

Over the next three years, the boy escaped twice and made his way home. But the trafficker found him, repurchased him, and took him back to Thailand. The second time, his parents sold his younger brother as well.

Finally, the boy, now 15, wound up at the Battambang Reception Center in Battambang, Cambodia. Since its founding three years ago, the center, on a pothole-ridden road 75 miles from the Thai border, has sheltered children who make it back to Cambodia. At first, most were teenage girls exploited in the vast and lucrative sex trade. But lately, aid workers say, they are also helping younger children, mostly boys, forced to beg or perform manual labor in Thailand.

"There are now many more reports of exploitation for labor, begging, and domestic work, not just prostitution as it was before," says Thetis Mangahas, regional adviser for the International Labor Organization's (IOM) international program for the elimination of child labor.

The Mekong region of Southeast Asia has seen rapid growth in the past five years of children trafficked from poorer countries - Cambodia, Laos, Burma (also known as Myanmar) and Vietnam - into relatively wealthy Thailand for purposes besides sex. And with the second world congress against commercial sexual exploitation of children set to begin Dec. 17 in Yokohama, Japan, some experts say a broader focus is needed.

"Child prostitution is dwarfing issues of child labor and begging, and these children are [also] in very hazardous situations and are being exploited," says Margie de Monchy, UNICEF's East Asia and Pacific regional adviser for child protection.

"There is the sense that some of these other forms of trafficking are being lost. But if we don't take a specific focus, then it's hard to get things done on an international level," says Ms. de Monchy, who is working on some of the legal issues to be addressed at next week's congress.

Exact figures, even reasonable estimates, of children trafficked are nearly impossible to calculate, according to the numerous nongovernmental and state-run organizations in this region.

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Still, a report released Friday by UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, as part of the Yokohama conference, said 30-35 percent of sex workers in the Mekong are between ages 12 and 17.

Another recent study, by the UN-affiliated Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), found there are 1 million child victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation alone in the Mekong region. "And if you' re talking about trafficking for nonsexual purposes, there's just no figures available, because they can be in places where they're very hard to find," says Laura Skolnik, ESCAP's social affairs officer.

Smuggling children into Thailand is not difficult. At the Cambodian border town of Poipet, thousands of people cross over and under a chaotic bridge each day. With hundreds of children working at the border pushing carts, selling flowers, and begging, police on both sides pay little attention to who crosses.

Corruption and insufficient resources can mean that even traffickers who are caught, are rarely punished. "There's a problem of corruption and lack of law enforcement in the countries throughout the region, because [the traffickers] act like a network of organized crime, transnational crime, with complexity and influence and money involved," says Thailand Senior State Attorney Piyatida Jermhansa. "Even though we have the laws, it's kind of a failure because there are only one or two cases [of traffickers] indicted to the court."

Meanwhile, at the Battambang Center, the boy awaits a decision on his permanent relocation. It's not clear if he will be sent home a third time.

"There are some situations where [the children] can be reunited with their family. But often, the family needs support in terms of their own sustainable survival," says Linda Manning, technical advisor to the shelter for the International Organization for Migration.

"Some [children] who have been repatriated wind up back on the streets of Bangkok before the social worker who took them gets there."

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BUSINESS DAY (THAILAND)

December 12, 2001

LENGTH: 290 words

HEADLINE: 16% of Thais living in poverty: Ladawan

BODY:

The number of poor in Thailand has risen from 6.8 million to 10 million, or 16 percent of the population, since the 1997 financial crisis, said Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Ladawan Wongsriwong.

Ladawan made these comments at the Fourth Session of the Committee on Socio-economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas at the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok. The seminar, which runs from Dec 11-13, is focusing on the region's progress in achieving goals, recent global and regional declarations and action plans.

"The international community has closely monitored progress in achieving goals set in global and regional documents such as the Manila Declaration and the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the **ESCAP** Region and the Copenhagen Declaration," said Keiko Okaido, deputy executive secretary officer-in-charge of **ESCAP.**

Ladawan also highlighted some of Thailand's poverty alleviation policies, including a three-year debt freeze farmers, the Village Revolving Fund scheme and the establishment of a people's bank.

A majority of the **ESCAP** region's population is expected to be living in

urban areas by 2025, possibly increasing the urban share of poverty to two-thirds of the region's people living in poverty.

Urban poverty reduction will require much greater attention from governments in the region. Information and communication technology (ICT) could help create employment for the rural poor, Ladawan said.

Thailand has developed ICT policies to provide basic knowledge and tools for poor people. They include education and training, lifelong learning and the provision of community-based training programs for women, older persons and persons with disabilities.

LOAD-DATE: December 12, 2001

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December 12, 2001, Wednesday

SECTION: WORLD; Pg. 7

LENGTH: 821 words

HEADLINE: Child trafficking takes new forms in Southeast Asia

BYLINE: Rafael D. Frankel Special to The Christian Science Monitor

DATELINE: BATTAMBANG, CAMBODIA

HIGHLIGHT:
Next week, Japan hosts a conference on sexually exploited children. Some say it ignores other problems.

BODY:
Head downcast, the boy peers nervously between strands of thick, black hair that fall in front of his eyes.

He won't give his name. He is reluctant even to sit at the table with an adult stranger. Trust does not come easily.

When he was 12, his parents in rural Cambodia sold him to a trafficker who forced him to beg on the streets of Bangkok, Thailand, and the resort town Pattaya. He lived with seven other children in one room. All were Cambodian. Some were as young as six.

"The trafficker told my parents he would send them $ 55 a month," the boy says. "But I would earn $ 18 or $ 25 every day or night I begged."

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Exact figures, even reasonable estimates, of children trafficked are nearly impossible to calculate, according to the numerous nongovernmental and state-run organizations in this region.

Still, a report released Friday by UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, as part of the Yokohama conference, said 30-35 percent of sex workers in the Mekong are between ages 12 and 17.

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December 18, 2001, Tuesday 6:44 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: WORLD NEWS; POLITICAL

LENGTH: 362 words

HEADLINE: Joint Efforts Urged to Enhance Welfare for the Disadvantaged in Asia-Pacific

DATELINE: BANGKOK, December 18

BODY:
In order to meet the international goal of ensuring access by all to basic social services, all sectors in the Asia-Pacific region need to combine their efforts to enhance welfare for the region's poor and other disadvantaged groups, a regional seminar urged here Tuesday.

"It is generally recognized the access to and provision of social services for the poor and other disadvantaged groups are not just determined by one side, because no one can ensure that alone," said Lim Kim Lan, chief of the Social Development Department of the local-based Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**), at the opening of the regional meeting on social welfare.

The three-day seminar was sponsored by the **ESCAP** and was attended by some 100 officials and experts from 17 governments as well as some international organizations in the region. Although the state has a major role

in providing social services to its citizens, but in order to maximize the use of resources and funds, all sectors --the public, private, the voluntary and the informal--have to be included into the course, Lim argued.

"The vulnerability of disadvantaged groups to access social services has become a major concern at recent global and regional meetings on social welfare, including the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995 and its review conference in Geneva in June 2000," she said.

"I hope the outcome of this meeting will provide the inspiration and stimulation in the continuing efforts to promote social development and the improvement of the quality of life of poor and other disadvantaged groups, " said Lim.

During the seminar, delegates are expected to review the regional situation with regard to social services and exchange their national experiences on social welfare for the disadvantaged. They will also touch upon specific issues such as the determination of needs, barriers to access, coverage of services, financing and partnership in helping the region's disadvantaged.

Promoting social welfare is one of the major tasks for **ESCAP,** the region's largest intergovernmental socioeconomic organization.

LOAD-DATE: December 18, 2001

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January 12, 2002 Saturday

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 268 words

HEADLINE: World told to reject poverty to save environment

DATELINE: BANGKOK, Jan 12

BODY:
The world must reject the notion of poverty as a human condition if protection of the environment and sustainable development are to be achieved, a regional environment conference was told Saturday.

Speaking at the Asia-Pacific Forum on Environment and Development, UN representative Kim Hak-Su said the world faced five choices to achieve progress on sustainability. These included rejecting poverty as an acceptable human condition, confronting and managing globalisation, conserving natural resources, improving governance and providing the required financial resources.

"However, our real success towards that end will hinge upon the timely implementation of the initiatives," he said.

The conference, initiated by the Japanese government, aims to ratify a program that will be put to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in August.

The forum also formally adopted initiatives from a similar conference held in Phnom Penh last November to reflect the region's priorities for Johannesburg.

Kim, the UN executive secretary for its **economic and social commission for Asia/**Pacific, said these related to poverty reduction, cleaner production, sustainable energy and ocean management.

In Phnom Penh, the forum claimed the growing gap between rich and poor countries had undermined the agenda set by the landmark 1992 Earth summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

In Rio, 179 countries agreed on a comprehensive strategy for sustainable development, adopting Agenda 21, the first global agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

LOAD-DATE: January 12, 2002

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January 30, 2002

LENGTH: 389 words

HEADLINE: STUDENTS AIM TO CONNECT COMMUNITIES TO THE NET

BYLINE: Sasiwimon Boonruang

BODY:

Agroup of Thammasat University students will work together to develop a web site for rural communities after winning the Rural ICT Award."

The project, called ThaiRuralNet, is funded by the World Bank and supported by organisations from both the public and private sectors.

According to ThaiRuralNet project manager Kritaya Sreesunpagit, the objectives are to transform rural capability through the power of ICT, to find out how to reduce technology gaps in the community and create a business opportunity, and to have students participate in developing the country. Ms Kritaya said that the web site would support rural communities by providing knowledge about basic laws, general information and new techniques for community management.

Content on the web site has been presented in a simple manner so that the community can easily access information that has been made available with support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kasetsat University and other public organisations," she said.

She pointed out that a key difference of ThaiRuralNet from other web sites was that the rural people participated in its creation.

Through two-way communication, communities can exchange information and knowledge.

Currently the project is working with the Tha-nad Farm Youth Group of Rachaburi, Jae-Son Hill Tribe community of Lampang, and Kra-jok-ngoa Group of Chiang Rai.

ThaiRuralNet is also supported by UN **ESCAP,** Boston Consulting Group, AU-System, Access-Capital, AMEX Team, Compaq and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

According to World Bank private sector development specialist Magdi M Amin, ICT can clearly make an impact on poverty reduction, adding that access to knowledge is at the heart of poverty reduction.

Access to markets, information, and service is directly related to productivity and income. The exchange of information complements social capital with rich local wisdom.

However, the distribution of ICT access reflects and perpetuates resource imbalance, he said, adding that in Thailand 72% of Internet users are in Bankok and suburbs and 2% in Chiang Mai.

Technology can empower and strengthen communities by democratizing knowledge, he said, adding that community ownership or participation is key to financial and operational sustainability.

JOURNAL-CODE: FBKP

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United News of Bangladesh

February 3, 2002 Sunday

SECTION: Nationwide International News

LENGTH: 969 words

HEADLINE: PM-Handicapped, 1

DATELINE: Dhaka, Feb 3

BODY:
Prime Minister Khaleda Zia today said the pace of national development could be accelerated through proper education, training and creating employment opportunity for the handicapped as great potential may be latent in many of them.

She cited names of world-famous personalities who have done great task being handicapped. Among the prodigies are Physics scientist Stiffen Hocking who innovated the earth-shaking new theory sitting in wheelchair, Helen Keller, with impaired eyesight, Blind Poet Homer, world-famous scientist, deaf, Tomas Alva Addison and Beethoven.

"Progress can be expedited by integrating the latent talent of the handicapped in national development," she said addressing a function organized to give away certificate and grants to physically handicapped persons who had taken vocational training. Some 149 handicapped, particularly young boys, completed courses on Mechanical Workshop, Poultry Farming and bamboo-and-cane works, woodwork and tailoring at Tongi Vocational Training and Rehabilitation Center. They were given Tk 4,000 each as grants along with certificate.

Social Service Directorate of the Social Welfare Ministry organized the function at Osmani Memorial Auditorium.

Social Welfare Minister Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujaheed, Social Welfare Secretary Mohammad Rafiqul Alam and Mohammad Saifuzzaman, DG of the Social Service Directorate, also spoke on the occasion.

Saidur Rahman, trainer of the deaf and dumb of National Social Service Academy, interpreted the speech of Prime Minister and other guests with signs to the tongue-tied persons in the audience.

"These handicapped are our brothers, sisters, children or relatives and we have a social responsibility towards them," Begum Zia reminded.

She urged all concerned to ensure special arrangements for ascent and descent of the handicapped in high-rise buildings, lifts, buses, trains, launches and aircraft. She also requested separate queue, and if possible assistants, for them at different counters.

Referring to those disabled due to accident, illness or wrong treatment, the Prime Minister said society should not neglect them and extend a helping hand towards them so that they can live with

dignity.

According to the World Health Organization, 10 per cent of the people are handicapped in one way or the other which means more than 10 million people in Bangladesh are handicapped.

"We cannot treat this huge population as a burden rather rearing them as a workforce through proper medicare and training would be the right job done," the Prime Minister said.

She mentioned that the government has a plan to build the handicapped as resource, and programmes had been chalked out to create employment opportunities and make them self-reliant.

Begum Zia urged the non-governmental organizations and the affluent to come forward to supplement government efforts for rehabilitation of the impaired population.

Referring to the State's responsibility of ensuring security and cooperation to the weaker segment of society, Begum Zia said her government attaches priority to this.

"We consider doing welfare to the poor, unhappy, hapless, neglected, backward and handicapped as our sacred responsibility," she said reminding that this led the BNP in 1995, for the first time by any government, into formulating a national policy on the handicapped.

The Social Welfare Ministry took up development and welfare programmes for the handicapped, development foundations for the handicapped were set up and handicapped welfare laws drawn, Begum Zia recalled.

She mentioned that the constitution clearly ensured equal rights and social security for all. She also said the UN Charter clearly stated about education, training, medicare, rehabilitation, employment and recreation of all handicapped children and Bangladesh had signed the Charter as a pledge to ensure all.

The Prime Minister said that the present government is carrying out efforts as pledged in the Beijing **ESCAP** Conference which pronounced formulation of national policy for handicapped and their equal participation, opportunity and rights.

Lauding the role of vocational training and rehabilitation center for handicapped in Tongi by Social Welfare Directorate under Social Welfare Ministry, Khaleda said: "I'm happy to know that a plastic industry unit named "Moitre Shikkha" has been set up in this center."

The trained handicapped people are conducting this education unit, she said, adding scope for more employment would be created for handicapped if such institutions are built up.

In this regard she reminded all of 10 percent quota had reserved in government services for handicapped and orphans. "It should be remembered so that the quota is fully implemented."

She requested all concerned to think whether such facility can be provided in private sector.

Encouraging them not to feel hapless and helpless, the PM said, "We as well as patriotic people are beside you."

She assured that her government would do all possible for their welfare as well as generous people would extend hand for their rehabilitation and employment.

Urging the handicapped people to keep self-confidence, she said enormous potential, vast genius and huge capability also remained dormant in them. "You can put great contribution for society and human welfare by hard work and worship."

The Prime Minister said she became hopeful for their mental stamina as they got training despite being physically incapable.

Later, handicapped boys and girls took photograph with the Prime Minister.

Khaleda was impressed at patriotic song "Prothom Bangladesh Amar, Shesh Bangladesh" sung by a group of blind girl students. She also joined them in the song and clapped. The PM also went emotional as a blind girl recited a poem "Who is Handicapped".

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新华通讯社 Xinhua News Agency

Title: Lao Rural Training Center Wins U.N. Award

Summary: BANGKOK, Mar 1, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The local-based United Nations Econ and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) announced here Friday that its Human Resources Development (HRD) Award will be given to a Lao training center, who extraordinary work empowered the rural poor through HRD."

Source: Xinhua News Agency
Date: 03/01/2002 04:38
Price: Free
Document Size: Very Short (292 words)
Document ID: FB2002030131000070
Subject(s): XIN; Art; Asia; Children; Community; Contributions; Education; Entertainment; Government; Laos; Marketing; Media; Poverty; Technology; Training; United Natio

新华通讯社 Xinhua News Agency

Lao Rural Training Center Wins U.N. Award

Story Filed: Friday, March 01, 2002 4:38 AM EST

BANGKOK, Mar 1, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The local-based United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) announced here Friday that its annual Human Resources Development (HRD) Award will be given to a Lao training center, whose " extraordinary work empowered the rural poor through HRD."

The Vientiane-based Participatory Development Training Center (PDTC) was picked out by a jury of regional experts in HRD and poverty reduction, according to an ESCAP announcement.

The ESCAP HRD award, which is worth 30,000 U.S. dollars, is designed to praise those individuals or organizations which made outstanding contributions to HRD development in the region.

ESCAP said PDTC's activities in training of appropriate technology, micro-enterprise development, media development and social marketing are "components of a comprehensive and innovative approach to strengthening the rural poor's livelihood opportunities and participation." One highlight of the center's program is an outstanding volunteer scheme designed as an efficient means of community mobilization and capability building, it said.

PDTC was also singled out for "its creativity in combining education with entertainment and the complementarity of its approach with government efforts in Laos," said ESCAP, the U.N. regional arm.

Sangkom Thongmee, a Thai national, was chosen as runner-up for the award due to his innovative work in using art education to foster the creativity of poor rural children and youth.

The award will be presented at the 58th ESCAP commission session to be held here in May.

According to ESCAP, two-thirds of the world's 1.3 billion poor live in the Asia and Pacific region and over 75 percent of the region's poor live in rural areas where access to HRD opportunities is much needed.

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Title: Southeast Asian Seminar on Counter-Trafficking in Women, Children Opens in Cambodia

Source:	**Xinhua News Agency**
Date:	03/19/2002 03:06
Price:	Free
Document Size:	Very Short (193 words)
Document ID:	FA20020319780000030
Subject(s):	XIN; Asia; Cambodia; Children; Indonesia; Laos; Legal; Malaysia; Thailand; Vietnam; Women

新华通讯社 Xinhua News Agency

Southeast Asian Seminar on Counter-Trafficking in Women, Children Opens in Cambodia

Story Filed: Tuesday, March 19, 2002 3:06 AM EST

PHNOM PENH, Mar 19, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The South-East Seminar on Using Legal Instruments to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children was opened here on Tuesday, jointly sponsored by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) and the Cambodian Ministry of Women's Affairs.

With the continued rise in trafficking in women and children for sexual purposes, the **ESCAP** has decided to launch a Resource Guide on Using Legal Instruments to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children as a weapon in the fight against this modern form of slavery, according to a press release from the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

The seminar is attended by about 50 participants from six countries in South-East Asia, that is, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as U.N. organizations and NGOs.

The participants will exchange their experiences and put their recommendations to governments on using legal instruments in combating the trafficking, Cambodian Minister of Women's Affairs Mu Sochua said at the opening ceremony.

The seminar will last for three days, from March 19 to 21.

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Title: **ESCAP** Urges Increase in Aid for Asia-Pacific Poor Nations

Summary: MONTERREY, Mexico, Mar 18, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) – The Economic and Social Commission for Asi (**ESCAP**) appealed Monday for an increase in international development aid spending to be channeled into the countries of the region.

Source: **Xinhua News Agency**
Date: 03/19/2002 01:22
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Document Size: Very Short (413 words)
Document ID: FA2002031934000025
Subject(s): XIN; Asia; China; Corporate; Education; Environment; Executive; GDP; Government; India; Millennium; P Restructuring; Trade; Turkey; Tuvalu; Women; World Trade Organization

新华通讯社 Xinhua News Agency

ESCAP Urges Increase in Aid for Asia-Pacific Poor Nations

Story Filed: Tuesday, March 19, 2002 1:22 AM EST

MONTERREY, Mexico, Mar 18, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (**ESCAP**) appealed Monday for an increase in international development aid spending to be channeled into the poor countries of the region.

Without further resources, it will be difficult, if not impossible, for most of the less-developed Asian nations to achieve development goals, set by the United Nations during its Millennium Summit in September 2000, to cut by half the number of people living in dire poverty by 2015, said **ESCAP** Executive Secretary Kim Hak-Su.

In his speech at the U.N. International Conference on Financing for Development in northern Mexican city of Monterrey, Kim Hak-su, who is also U.N. Under-Secretary-General, said that millions in Asia and the Pacific region live in extreme poverty.

Poverty eradication, promotion of elementary education, and women's equality, reduction in infant mortality, and the improvement in maternal attention will need to raise substantially extra resources for development, he added.

"The Asia-Pacific region's needs are both vast and diverse. It extends from Turkey in the northwest to the Cook Islands in the southeast. It has giants like China and India and countries as small as Tuvalu with populations of a few thousand," the official said.

The region has economies that have joined the ranks of the developed in the last few years, as well as 13 of the world's least developed economies, he noted.

ESCAP emphasizes the need to raise the official development assistance support to 0.7 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of donor countries and to earmark 0.15 to 0.2 percent of their GDP for the least-developed countries, Kim Hak-Su said.

He said **ESCAP** undertakes a restructuring that focuses on poverty reduction, managing globalization and handling the emerging social issues in the countries of the region.

Kim Hak-Su said poor countries cannot opt out of globalization, but it is necessary they proceed at a moderate pace.

The senior official said ESCAP will keep on supporting less- developed countries to enter the World Trade Organization (WTO) as a means for development.

He asserted that the promotion of growth and the solution to social problems are vital government issues, as stated by the 24th special session of the United Nations General Assembly.

"Public institutions free of corruption and accountable corporate governance are necessary elements of an environment conductive to the effective mobilization and allocation of domestic resources," he concluded.

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Press/Media: THE NATION
Page(s): 1A (*Front page*)
Date:31st March 2002

A hopeful JOURNEY

A play by Monaqui Porter reflects common problems faced by women around the world.

■ *By Lekha Shankar*
THE NATION

As creator and star of the one-woman play *Hope*, Monaqui Porter has performed to audiences and bowed to standing ovations over seventy times around the world. And on International Women's Day, she came to Thailand.

As a guest of the UN, she performed at the FCCT and also addressed a distinguished gathering at the UN to discuss her play, its message and its motivation.

"My play is about the inner demons that every individual has to fight in order to succeed," she said. "The play does not talk just of women but of many universal issues: drugs, family ties, sexual abuse, homelessness, hopelessness."

The story centres on a young girl, Hope, who adores her mother. But the first tragic scar in her life comes when her mother's boyfriend, Leroy, molests her. She goes on to find love with Joe who introduces her to drugs only to leave her lonely and desperate.

LONG ORDEAL

It took Monaqui three months to write the script of *Hope*. It all started in a New York city street when she encountered a woman dressed in filthy garbage bags.

"Her body was dead but she had such a light in her eyes," said Monaqui. It was this woman that spurred her to write *Hope*.

"I realised the similarities between her and me. The journey through life is full of ups and downs. But through it all there's hope. Hope is the belief that desires and dreams are going to come true," said Monaqui.

Some of the people living on the street that she talked with were graduates from prestigious universities like Brown and Harvard who all told her that "there are no barriers for drugs".

"Most of the drug addicts I met were middle class well-to-do white people," said Monaqui, "which challenges everything that society says are pre-requisites for drug-users."

Monaqui came to the conclusion that it is not family or educational background that shapes life. "What shapes one's image is self love."

This is the essential message of her play with all its varied songs, speeches and flower-symbols.

What is self-love? "The ability to look at the mirror and feel good about yourself," said Monaqui. She believes women in particular have problems discovering self-love.

"The problems of women are universal. I feel their pain in America. As women we're not taught to love ourselves," said Monaqui.

"We're always doing things to please others, especially men. I find this as true of Asian women as anywhere else. That's why I think the women of Thailand, Brazil, Harlem all share the same problems."

In her play, Hope views herself through other people's eyes. "In the end she faces her

Next- P-3.

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PERSONALITY PROFILE



HIGH HONOUR *Monaqui Porter speaks at a UN conference.*



PLAYWRIGHT *Monaqui Porter.*

Press/Media: THE NATION
Page(s): 1A (*Front page*)
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demons to heal herself," said Monaqui.

The last dance is one of exorcism as Hope breaks free intoning "self- love plus inner strength is fulfilment". The crushed flower in her hand slowly re-gains life.

Monaqui's roots have a lot to do with both her work and the woman she has become. An African-American, she was born in the Akron ghetto in inner city Ohio. "In Ohio there's only black or white – nothing in between."

> "The problems of women are universal. I feel their pain in America. As women we're not taught to love ourselves."

MIXED HERITAGE

Born into a family of preachers, Monaqui, was brought up on tales of brave African-Americans rising above their situation. She described her as mother as "a self-educated blue collar worker who has a PhD in life".

Monaqui started singing and dancing as a child and wrote her first play when she was in high school. She graduated with honours from Wright State University and was recruited by the Yale School of Drama. But instead of attending the prestigious school, she "wanted to learn more from real life. Theatre was always in me. I wanted to be more diverse."

So Monaqui left for Brazil and studied Economics and Portuguese. She also travelled to Venezuela, Paraguay and Europe. The people she met, especially the women and other black people, were big influences in her work.

Other successful African-Americans also influenced her, such as the director Spike Lee, Oprah Winfrey, Colin Powell and the author James Baldwin, whom she quoted, "The soup and salad are in other countries. But the meat and potatoes [meaning 'opportunities'] are in America."

"So I took the play and made it my huge opportunity," she said.

"In America, you can be anything you want, but there are many 'huts'," she said. To help others overcome these "huts" and "to give something back to my background," she often returns to America to teach in Brooklyn.

"When I go there I get back to my slang and I love it," said Monaqui. "The ghetto dialect is as valid today as the chopped up Irish dialect. I'm proud of the ghetto language and hip-hop and everything else I'm told is not 'propah'."

At a performance of her play to an affluent, "propah" theatre audience she was advised to change the dialect and improve the grammar.

"I tried it out but it just didn't seem right and I went back to the original language," she said.

She also spoke of her performance before a ghetto crowd of noisy, non-theatre folk in the Bronx who watched the play in pin-drop silence.

At the end of the show one man exclaimed in tears that it was his story too.

The play is being translated to Spanish and Monaqui looks forward to staging it for the Latino people of New York. She is also excited about her present work with the UN where she is involved with ESCAP's "Young Asia Television" series of short films on the rights of developing countries.

"I see my craft as global," said Monaqui. "You're not limited unless you limit yourself."

Experts sound alarm on baby shortage in Asia

by Martin Abbugao ATTENTION - ADDS quotes, threat of social tensions ///

SINGAPORE, April 10 (AFP) - Population experts expressed alarm on Wednesday over falling fertility rates in Asia's richer countries, warning the trend could lead to economic and political problems.

Fourteen countries and cities in Asia have fertility rates below the 2.1 births per woman required to replace the older generations, the experts said at a seminar here.

This is more pronounced in the region's more affluent nations and cities, such as Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Macau, where fertility rates are below 1.5 per woman, while Thailand is marginally higher at 1.8.

Women in these countries are having fewer babies or no children at all because of career pressures, and experts said European-style flexible working conditions must be explored.

Asia's fertility rate plunged from around six children per woman from 1950-1955 to 2.7 children per woman between 1995-2000, according to Bhakta Gubhaju, of the United Nation's Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**).

"The implications are far reaching and profound, as they affect the age structure of the population, giving rise to population ageing, labour force shortages, increased elderly dependency ratios and feminisation of the elderly population," Gubhaju told the seminar.

Experts said the ageing population will strain pension funds and health care services in several countries.

One key impact will be on the labour force, where there will be fewer younger people to take over jobs left by the greying generation, who may have to work longer than normal before retiring.

By 2050, Japan's old-age population -- categorised as people aged 65 and above -- is forecast to be more than 36 percent of the total population, up from 17 percent in 2000.

The proportion of the old-age population will exceed that of the younger population in Singapore by 2020, 2025 in South Korea, 2035 in China and 2040 in Thailand, according to Gubhaju.

"The labour force in major eastern Asian countries will age faster than any population in history over the next several decades," according to a paper by Gui-Ying Cao of the Austrian-based International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis.

C. Michael Douglass of the department of urban planning at the University of Hawaii said the "magnitude of the impact of fertility decline marks a decisive historical turning point for the Pacific Asia."

Citing the world's second largest economy, Douglass said Japan's population will decline by about 20 percent by 2050, with those aged over 65 outnumbering those under 15, and the labour force shrinking faster than the total population.

"Other Pacific Asia countries ... are expected to follow this same pattern," said Douglass.

Japan, Singapore and South Korea have resorted to allowing more foreign workers to fill the labour shortage, but this cannot be the only solution and other policies must be explored, the experts said.

Jerrold Huguet, also of the Thailand-based **ESCAP**, said Japan needs 615,000 migrants annually between 2000 to 2025 to maintain the size of its working population. South Korea needs 41,000 foreign workers annualy in the same period.

Huguet warned that rising migration could lead to tensions between citizens and migrant populations, and urged governments to implement political and social reforms to deal with the changing demographic patterns.

"Unless Pacific Asia countries can successfully shift toward an acceptance of their multicultural futures, their future is likely to be one of rising social inequalities and strife based on cultural and ethnic differences," he said.

Peter McDonald, a demographic expert with the Australian National University, said the majority ethnic Chinese in Singapore risked being overtaken by other community groups if their fertility rate of 1.3 children per woman remained.

This could alter the race mix in the ethnically diverse city-state, which also has large numbers of Indians and Malay Muslims, and become a political problem, McDonald said.

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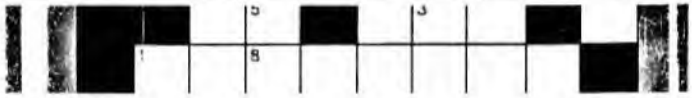
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Alarming rise in HIV/Aids cases

Bangkok - HIV/Aids cases are increasing in parts of Asia and the Pacific, and urgent attention must be focussed on combating the problem, a new UN study said on Monday.

"There is a need for governments, civil society groups and the private sector to focus urgent attention to building political commitment and partnerships in the region to combat HIV/Aids," the UN Economic and Social Commission for the Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) report said.

While some countries in the region have faced epidemics for some time, other countries in South and East Asia in particular were experiencing a dramatic increase in numbers of people living with HIV/Aids, it found.

"Until recently, only Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand had documented significant nationwide epidemics," it said.

"However, globally, India is second only to South Africa in the number of people living with HIV/Aids." Some 3.5 million Indians are believed to be infected with the disease, it said.

There are some seven million people living with HIV/Aids in Asia and the Pacific, and with the present rate of new infections, the number of people with the disease could reach monumental proportions, ESCAP said.

Unless prevention programmes and other measures are stepped up, China could have as many as 10 million people infected with HIV by 2010.

More than four percent of the adult population in Cambodia and two percent of Thailand's adult population is infected, it said.

Overall people aged under 24 account for more than 50 percent of all new infections, it added.

The study is to be presented to government ministers at the 58th Commission Session of UN-ESCAP, which will be attended by representatives of 61 countries and territories from May 16 to 22 in Bangkok.

The theme for the session will be "Sustainable social development in a period of rapid globalisation: challenges, opportunities, and policy options". - Sapa-AFP

Pacific Islands: Action on Improving the Lives of Persons with Disabilities

Bangkok--May-13--UNISBKK

Bangkok (United Nations Information Services) -- A theme study conducted for UN ESCAP has found disabled persons in Asia and the Pacific still face deep rooted stigmatization, despite this being the final year of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

A two-day session of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries, opening in Bangkok, tomorrow, Tuesday, 14 May, 2002, will highlight the participation of persons with disabilities in the region.

The delegates will examine progress in prioritizing and implementing the Decade Agenda for Action. various NGO's are also expected to attend. Among their representatives will be Mr Setareki S Macanawai, of Fiji, an advocate for the rights of people with disabilities in the Pacific.

Recommendations from this session will be considered at a high-level governmental meeting in Japan later this year. It will review the achievements of the Decade goals and launch the Millennium Framework for Action towards Inclusion of People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region.

You or your representatives are cordially invited to attend the seventh session of the Special Body, which will be opened by Mr. Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary, ESCAP at 0900 hours on Tuesday, 14 May 2002 in Room 3 of the United Nations Conference Centre. There will also be access to the delegates during a reception at 5:30 PM in the Public Foyer, UNCC. End.

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Asia faces social upheaval as population ages: UN

AP
Bangkok, May 15

The Asia-Pacific region faces social upheaval from the demographic changes that are aging the world 's population because many countries lack social programmes to care for the elderly, a United Nations agency said on Wednesday.

A new study by the UN's Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific warns that the combination of a declining birth rate and inadequate programmes for senior citizens could leave many people destitute.

The study, summarised in a news release, says that the proportion of the population aged 65 and older is expected to more than double between 1995 and 2050 in almost all countries in the region.

The declining birth rate means there will be fewer children to support their parents as they grow older, and this in turn will mean a smaller work force, shrinking the tax base which could support future social security programmes.

"Public assistance benefits and related services that would be the last resort for many of the rural aged have shrunk or are unavailable," says the study. The rural poor will be especially hard hit because most of them have never had formal jobs and thus have no access to pension benefits, the report says.

Women will also suffer, as they tend to live longer than men, and so need more resources to support them.

ESCAP called for more measures to tackle the problem, although it noted that in recent years some Asian countries have expandec public help for the aged and that others are about to introduce social safety nets for the first time.



U.s. Donates For Asia Anti-drug Efforts

Monday May 20, 2002 4:20 PM

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - The United States has given a U.N. regional agency $300,000 for anti-drug programs in Asia, a U.S embassy official said Monday.

It was the first time Washington earmarked funds for a specific project of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, or ESCAP, Joseph Yun, embassy counselor for economic affairs told The Associated Press. U.S. contributions to the commission normally come from overall American payments to the United Nations.

The money is intended for programs that target young people and ways to prevent and treat drug abuse, Yun said.

The funding, presented during ESCAP's 58th annual meeting at its Bangkok headquarters, will support programs in Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and China's Yunnan province.

ESCAP Executive-secretary Kim Hak-Su welcomed the contribution in a prepared statement, saying "The funds come at an important time with the growing drug problem in the Asia-Pacific."

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UN Worries About Declining Births, Increasing Elders In Asia

[Add to Briefcase]

NEW YORK, May 23, 02 (C-fam.org/CWNews.com) - The United Nations continues to voice concern over the dual demographic trends of declining births and an increasingly elderly population, this time focusing its attention on what it considers the increasingly worrisome situation in Asia. According to a UN press release, delegates meeting at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN/ESCAP), being held in Bangkok, concluded that this combination of fertility decline and aging "could result in future destitution for many people, especially women," throughout the continent.

This is the first paragraph of the story.

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จากการประชุมการเข้าถึงเทคโนโลยีสารสนเทศและสื่อสารสำหรับคนพิการซึ่งมีผู้แทนคนพิการจากประเทศในภาคพื้นเอเชียแปซิฟิกเข้าร่วม เมื่อวันที่ 21 มิ.ย. ที่ศูนย์ประชุมสหประชาชาติ รศ.ดร.วิริยะ นาบครินทร์ ประธานสภาคนพิการทุกประเภทแห่งประเทศไทย เปิดเผยว่า ที่ประชุมได้มีการหารือถึงการยกร่างกฎหมายและนโยบายรัฐเพื่อให้คนพิการได้เข้าถึงข้อมูลและการสื่อสารทุกรูปแบบ เนื่องจากปัจจุบันเทคโนโลยีสารสนเทศและการสื่อสารก้าวหน้าไปมาก ดังนั้นจึงควรมีการกำหนดมาตรฐานของเว็บไซต์และซอฟต์แวร์ต่าง ๆ เพื่อให้คนพิการเข้าถึงได้ เช่น เว็บไซต์ที่เป็นของรัฐบาลหรือรัฐบาลให้การอุดหนุนจะต้องสามารถต่อเข้ากับเครื่องอ่านตัวหนังสือของคนพิการโดยเฉพาะทุกหนวกและตาบอดได้ เป็นต้น

รศ.ดร.วิริยะ กล่าวต่อไปว่า ในประเทศไทยยังไม่มีกฎหมายดังกล่าว แต่ขณะนี้อยู่ระหว่างการยกร่างกฎหมายเกี่ยวกับข้อมูลข่าวสาร ดังนั้นคนพิการจะเสนอเรื่องนี้บรรจุไว้ในกฎหมายดังกล่าวด้วย ทั้งนี้ในเร็ว ๆ นี้ จะมีการประชุมสมัชชาคนพิการที่ประเทศญี่ปุ่นเพื่อทบทวนการสิ้นสุดทศวรรษที่ 2 และประกาศทศวรรษที่ 3 ในการจัดสิ่งที่เป็นอุปสรรคของคนพิการในการเข้าถึงสิ่งต่างอย่างสะดวก และสื่อข้อมูลข่าวสารต่าง ๆ

นายสุวิทย์ คุณกิตติ รมว.ศึกษาธิการ กล่าวว่า รัฐบาลพร้อมให้การสนับสนุนข้อเสนอของคนพิการเพื่อสร้างโอกาสและความเสมอภาคของประชาชน และคิดว่าเป็นไปได้ที่ข้อเสนอของคนพิการเหล่านี้จะได้รับการพิจารณาจากกระทรวงเทคโนโลยีสารสนเทศที่กำลังจะจัดตั้งใหม่.

06/25/2002 03:44:05

Asian Experts Review Regional Campaign for Disabled

BANGKOK, Jun 25, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Some 50 experts from over 10 Asian countries and several international agencies on Tuesday kicked off a four-day review of a regional campaign for the disabled persons during the past decade.

"As you are aware, the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) adopted a resolution last month, calling for promoting an inclusive, barrier-free and right-based society for people with disabilities in the Asia-Pacific region in the 21st century," Lim Kim-lan, chief of **ESCAP**'s Social Development Division (SDD), said in her opening statement at the meeting.

"By that resolution, the campaign of 'Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2002' will be extended for another decade between 2003 and 2012," she said.

"Therefore, we are here not only to review work of the last decade, but also to consider the framework of a new regional campaign, which will be more action-oriented to accelerate progress in meeting priority needs of the region to remove all the barriers for the disabled people," said the official.

During the meeting here between June 25 and 28, participants will first have a general review of the experiences of the regional campaign during the past decade, focusing on several areas such as education for disabled children, training and employment, access to information and communication technology for the disabled, poverty and disability, community-based services for the disabled and protection of disabled women.

While assigned to give recommendations to the plan for the campaign of the next decade, they will also exchange views on regional issues including multilateral cooperation for the disabled, monitoring mechanism and pushing for an international convention of the rights of the disabled people.

The campaign of "Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons" was initiated by the **ESCAP** in 1993, aimed to build regional cooperation among governments, international agencies and non-governmental organizations to promote rights and well-being of the disabled in the Asia-Pacific region.

A high-level inter-government conference for formally concluding the first "Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons" is scheduled for October in Japan.

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Asian mayors hear warning on urban poverty at UN conference

BANGKOK, July 8 (AFP) - Asia's overcrowded cities risk being overwhelmed by masses of urban poor forced to seek better-paying work in national capitals, mayors from 50 Asian cities heard at a UN conference Monday.

The UN's Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) said that according to its studies, "rather than discovering prosperity, many are finding only poverty of a different kind in a new environment."

Delegates at the Fourth Asian Mayors Forum, which is focusing on poverty reduction and urban development, were told that the migrants must be given a greater role to play in the economy.

"I'm afraid that all too often in this region, urban policies and regulations do not effectively support poverty reduction," said UN-ESCAP chief Kim Hak-Su.

Governments need to do more to eliminate "barriers that prevent the poor from participating in the economy, and in benefiting from development," he said in a welcoming speech.

Kim said that in the face of unprecedented challenges that urbanization and economic globalization are posing to Asian cities, the meeting aims to identify the best strategies to reduce poverty.

The mayors, as well as local and national government officials, non-government organisations (NGOs) and others, are among more than 150 participants taking part in the forum which runs until Thursday.

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Asian cities urged to move barriers to reduce urban poverty: ESCAP

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Asian cities urged to move barriers to reduce urban poverty: **ESCAP**, XINHUA
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Asian cities urged to move barriers to reduce urban poverty: **ESCAP**, XINHUA

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BANGKOK, July 9 (Xinhua)--Asian cities are facing the challenge of an urbanization of poverty, and the only way to solve the problem is to accommodate the poor in urban system, Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) warned here Tuesday.

Speaking at the Fourth Asian Mayors Forum and Regional Workshop, which focuses on good urban governance for poverty reduction and social development, he explained that the problem stems from the trend that more and more Asia's poor are migrating from rural area to the cities.

He said that rapidly changed rural-to-urban ratio in the region did not help to reduce poverty, on the contrary, it brought new problems, such as lack of basic urban infrastructure, lack of credit or market information.

Urban poverty is a complex and troublesome condition that requires simultaneous actions in many area, Kim Hak-Su noted, adding that poverty reduction policies and programs can only be effective through the coordinated of different stakeholders, while the primary actors are the poor themselves.

On the other hand, he indicated that poor persons also had the aspirations to take part in the urban economy, to contribute to the urban growth and share in the benefits of development.

Thus the best method to support the urban poverty reduction is to accommodate the poor in the urban society and economy instead of to block the migration or disregard the realism, Kim Hak-Su said.

He appealed that rulers of the cities to remove barriers that prevent the poor from participating in the economy, in decision-making and in benefiting from development and increasing the capacity of poor to participate.

More than one hundred mayors of Asian cities, representatives of Asian cities, United Nations and nongovernment organizations attended the meeting, which will conclude on July 11.

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---ASIA AND THE PACIFIC---

ASIAN MAYORS JOIN FORCES TO TACKLE URBAN POVERTY

Mayors from 50 Asian cities have been told that poverty could soon overwhelm Asia's cities and towns unless the urban poor are given a greater role to play in the economy and allowed to share in the benefits of urban development. The urbanization of poverty is largely a result of Asia's rural poor flocking to the cities in increasing numbers in search of better paying work. Rather than discovering prosperity, many are finding only poverty of a different kind in a new environment, according to studies conducted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

The mayors, as well as local and national government officials, NGO's and others, are among more than 150 participants taking part in the Fourth Asian Mayors Forum and Regional Workshop on Good Governance for Poverty Reduction and Social Development - Exchange of Tools, Techniques and Good Practices, co-sponsored by ESCAP, taking place at the United Nations Conference Centre inh Bangkok from 9-11 July 2002.

"I'm afraid that all too often in this region, urban policies and regulations do not effectively support poverty reduction," Mr. Kim Hak-Su, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, said in a welcoming speech to delegates. He added that governments needed to do more to eliminate "barriers that prevent the poor from participating in the economy, and in benefiting from development." According to ESCAP, cities face unprecedented challenges due to rapid urbanization and economic globalization. The objective of the meeting is to develop mechanisms to collect and analyze good practices in poverty reduction, and to make the experiences available for replication and up scaling.

For more information on the United Nations and its activities, please visit the main UN website at www.un.org or the UN Pakistan website at www.un.org.pk

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Asian Tribune
"Striving for Asian Solidarity"

Date : 11/07/2002 , Thu

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Vol. 1 No. 1



Announcement

Asian Tribune is on a trial run. We will be continuing it until our next announcement. We begin with News, Articles, Interviews, Book Reviews and Stories of real life in Sri Lanka. A team of journalist led by Mr. T Sabaratnam, Editor - Asian Tribune, Sri Lanka who is a veteran journalist and the former Deputy Editor of 'Daily News,' would be working round the clock, to update the latest developments in Sri Lanka.

Once we are ready with Sri Lanka, then we will be soon doing the trial run of India and Thailand. Await for the announcement. We intend to cover all the 47 Asian Countries, which includes Turkey and Russia, in time to come and would also cover the newly born Timor.

Please remember Asian Tribune is just born. We open our eyes to stars with amazement, look with wonderment and to gape with astonishment, the world around us. We promise that our readership, whom we will be building around us, would enjoy every moment of their life, along with us, today, tomorrow and forever.

If anyone wishes to contact us, feel free to send in email to us – info@asiantribune.com and we guarantee that, it would be given VIP treatment.

Close

Date : 2002-07-10

Let's help each other - Asian Mayors pledge

By

(Bangkok) 10 July: - Asian mayors are vowing to invest in each othe, by working together to overcome poverty, the devastating effects caused by war, and lack of access to clean water.

Mayors from 50 Asian cities are taking part in the Fourth Asian Mayors Forum and Regional Workshop on Good Governance for Poverty Reduction and Social Development - Exchange of Tools, Techniques and Good Practices, co-sponsored by UN ESCAP. The meeting runs until 11 July at the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok.

In the war-ravaged city of Kabul, Afghanistan, deprivation, homelessness, and poor sanitation are three of the most pressing issues, according to the city's mayor.

"Our people need everything. Sixty to seventy percent of Kabul is destroyed," said Mr. Fazil Karim, Mayor of Kabul. "We have difficulty getting clean water, and disposing of solid waste. Each day the city of Kabul accumulates 1,600 cubic meters of solid waste that is not being disposed of properly," the mayor said.

The situation in Kabul is aggravated by the daily influx of homeless migrants. "Every day 300 - 400 families are coming to Kabul," said Mr. Karim. Since the fall of the Taliban administration, the population of Kabul has nearly doubled from 1.2 million inhabitants to 2.3 million. Rents for the few habitable buildings in the shattered city have skyrocketed by "up to US$5,000 - 10,000 per month," said the mayor.

Seventy percent of Kabul's population is living in illegal structures.

'Urban reconstruction following any war is an expensive proposition. Anybody who can convert a building does so,' said Mr. Yap Kioe Sheng, UN ESCAP's Chief of Human Settlements Section.

Other Asian cities are affected as well. In Nepal, an ongoing rebel insurgency has dealt a heavy blow to the tourist industry.

"In Kathmandu, the tourist section has been affected and business is down," said Mr. Keshav Sthapit, Mayor of Kathmandu. "We usually see 300,000 tourists each year but a few days ago I couldn't find any," he said.

Although their stories can be harrowing, the fact these Mayors have come together to search for some common solutions is a step forward, the participants said.

"This meeting co-sponsored by UN ESCAP lets Mayors develop solidarity with their counterparts from other cities," said Ms. Ema Witoelar, a former Minister of Human Settlements and Regional Development from Indonesia.

Inter Press Service

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For Kabul, Reconstruction a Double-edged Sword

By Marwaan Macan-Markar

BANGKOK, Jul 10 (IPS) - Fazil Karim, the mayor of war-ravaged Kabul, has been getting his first taste of an inevitable reality: the bubble economy that balloons in a destroyed city awash with foreign money for reconstruction efforts. Rents for few of the liveable buildings in the Afghan capital provide the clearest indicator that this phenomenon is emerging in Afghanistan, half a year after the Taliban was ousted amid U.S.-led military attacks last year and just months after foreign funds and growing numbers of aid workers started to come in.

Rents have skyrocketed to unprecedented heights, says the soft-spoken Karim, interviewed on the sidelines of an Asian meeting here on urban poverty. Some of the buildings fetch "up to 5,000 U.S. dollars or 10,000 a month", he explains. Karim adds that the takers range from embassies, foreign aid agencies and international development bodies that are competing to pay high rents to move into the few available buildings. This is so because the scale of destruction after 23 years of war in Afghanistan has left over half the houses in Kabul, an estimated 200,000, destroyed due to conflict.

On top of that, nearly 70 percent of the remaining 200,000 houses are illegal structures, built on lands allocated for parks and other open public property, says Ghulam Bhawai, Kabul's deputy mayor. "Most of these houses are fragile, mud structures." They were built when Afghanistan was under the Taliban government, he adds. "These houses were not approved, not part of the city's plan. Some have been constructed on top of

Continued on page 3

Earth Will Need Another Earth, says WWF

Continued from page 1

roads." But that is not all Karim and Bhawai wanted to share at a United Nations-sponsored meeting of mayors from 50 Asian cities underway here.

The challenges they face set them apart from the rest of their Asian peers, given the daunting task of rebuilding a city that suffers from the lack of basic urban utilities, such as clean water, proper solid waste disposal, electricity and useable roads. Currently, only 20 percent of Kabul's more than 2 million people have access to safe drinking water from underground wells, says Bhawai. "These are deep underground wells." Others, out of desperation, are settling for water from shallow wells. "This is dangerous. The water is not clean, can be easily contaminated, and there are children suffering from diarrhoea," he adds.

City officials are also up against the difficulty of disposing of Kabul's solid waste. "Each day the city accumulates 1,600 cubic metres of solid waste that is not being disposed of properly," Karim told a press conference Tuesday. The city has a fleet of only 40 trucks, each with a carrying capacity of three cubic metres, to take a crack at transporting the mountains of waste to assigned areas. This burden on the city is expected to worsen, furthermore, given the scale of Afghans flooding back into the capital since the Taliban regime fell. "Everyday 300 to 400 families are coming to Kabul," Karim added.

These waves of returnees, including large numbers of Afghan refugees from Pakistan and Iran, have doubled Kabul's population in six months from 1.2 million people to 2.3 million. Kabul's predicament can well be compared with that of East Timor as it undertook reconstruction efforts as huge amounts of foreign funds came in after the 1999 independence ballot -- and Cambodia, whose capital Phnom Penh faced similar challenges in the early nineties.

After the 1991 Paris peace accord ended two decades of conflict and a U.N.-sponsored election in 1993 gave way to reconstruction, Phnom Penh, too, had its bubble economy, the lack of housing for returnees, a city infrastructure in tatters, and problems with solid waste disposal and the supply of clean water. The similarity also applies in a less visible but equally troubling area -- the lack of skilled local people to run the affairs of the local government, such as urban planners, civil engineers, architects, and economists.

"Like in Cambodia, Afghanistan has a lack of human resources. This is a big problem in quantity and quality, not having your own professionals," says Yap Kioe Sheng, head of the human settlements section at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). "This is not so in the Balkans, where the conflict destroyed cities physically, but there was no loss in terms of human resources, the skilled people," he adds. "But Kabul, like Phnom Penh, has lost both, so there will be greater problems in rebuilding."

This distinction is not lost on Bhawai, who is acutely aware that talented city officials have either been killed or fled Afghanistan during the years of war. He was Kabul's deputy mayor from 1993 to 1997, while Karim served as mayor. Both Karim and Bhawai, belonging to the Tajik community, were driven out after the Taliban, who belonged to the Pashtun ethnic group, took control of Kabul. "The Taliban did not like educated people. They called the educated 'kafirs' (non-believers of Islam) and put some in jail," says Bhawai. "Others were forced out of government jobs."

"So now we have to attract these people back," adds Bhawai. "We need city planners, civil engineers, finance and economics people." The Afghans are hoping to draw lessons from their Cambodian counterparts and Asian local government officials familiar with rebuilding war-ravaged towns and cities. Already, the Cambodian officials participating at this week's ESCAP meeting have warmed up to the idea of sharing their triumphs and failures with the Afghans -- be it on their quest to attract talent back, coping with the flood of refugees returning or dealing with the bubble economy that foreign aid presence helps create.

"Kabul officials must be ready to manage the large amount of assistance that will come from outside," says Mann Chhoeurn, chief of Phnom Penh's municipal Cabinet. "We were not prepared. The government was not ready for the way all the foreign assistance created an artificial economy." According to U.N. expert Yap, the post-conflict situation and the rehabilitation that follows can be overwhelming. "Suddenly, Kabul's municipality with a small staff keen on reconstruction finds itself overwhelmed by so many countries and international agencies wanting to help," he says. "Reconstruction can be a double-edged sword."

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---ASIA AND THE PACIFIC---

50 ASIAN MAYORS PLEDGE COOPERATION TO OVERCOME REGION'S ILLS

Mayors from 50 Asian cities gathered at a United Nations-sponsored meeting in Bangkok have agreed to work together to overcome poverty, the devastating effects caused by war, and lack of access to clean water. They made their pledge at the "Fourth Asian Mayors Forum and Regional Workshop on Good Governance for Poverty Reduction and Social Development - Exchange of Tools, Techniques and Good Practices," co-sponsored by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The meeting ended on 11 July.

"This meeting co-sponsored by ESCAP lets Mayors develop solidarity with their counterparts from other cities," said Erna Witoelar, a former Minister of Human Settlements and Regional Development from Indonesia. In war-ravaged Kabul, deprivation, homelessness, and poor sanitation were three of the city's most pressing issues, according to its mayor. "Our people need everything. Sixty to 70 per cent of Kabul is destroyed," said Fazil Karim, the Mayor of Kabul. "We have difficulty getting clean water, and disposing of solid waste. Each day the city of Kabul accumulates 1,600 cubic meters of solid waste that is not being disposed of properly."

The situation in the Afghan capital was aggravated by the daily influx of homeless migrants, Mr. Karim said, noting that every day 300 to 400 families were coming to Kabul. Since the fall of the Taliban, the population of Kabul has nearly doubled from 1.2 million inhabitants to 2.3 million. "Urban reconstruction following any war is an expensive proposition. Anybody who can convert a building does so," said Yap Kioe Sheng, a senior ESCAP official. Other Asian cities are affected as well. In Nepal, an ongoing rebel insurgency has dealt a heavy blow to the tourist industry. "In Kathmandu, the tourist section has been affected and business is down," said that city's mayor, Keshav Sthapit. "We usually see 300,000 tourists each year but a few days ago I couldn't find any," he said.

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Press/Media: **International Herald Tribune** | Date: 18 July 2002
Page(s): 6

Summary

Aging in East Asia ▪ *By* Kim Hak-Su

Help the young to care for the old

BANGKOK

Imagine a future where there is no such thing as retirement, where elderly citizens must work to survive, and where there are few younger people around to care for aging parents. Not in Asia, one might think, because Asian children are almost duty-bound to ensure that their elders are well looked after.

But Asia is aging rapidly. Only a generation ago, Asian women were bearing, on average, five children each. Now the figure is 2.5.

In Singapore, where the fertility rate in 2001 fell to just 1.42 children per woman, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong has warned that if there isn't an increase in the birthrate, Singapore "might not survive as a nation."

Japan's health minister, Chikara Sakaguchi, issued a similar warning in May. He said the Japanese race would face extinction unless something were done to increase the birthrate. A fertility rate of 1.35 means that the country's population of 127 million could start shrinking in 2007.

Figures issued in April show that the number of children under 15 in Japan has fallen for 21 straight years.

Family planning programs were popular in East Asia, attracting much support from international organizations, bilateral donors and private foundations. More recently, new educational and employment opportunities available to many women in the region have resulted in a conscious decision to postpone childbirth.

Governments must prepare for population stabilization and a decline in working age population. United Nations projections indicate that the ratio of people aged 15 to 64 to older persons will fall by roughly half over the next 25 years in China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand.

Demand for migrant workers in East Asian economies has not diminished, despite the economic slowdown. According to a UN report, Japan is graying so quickly that it will need to import around 600,000 workers annually until 2050 to keep its working population stable. By then nearly one-third of the population would be of foreign descent.

The family remains cohesive in Asia; the great majority of older people are still cared for by younger relatives. But trends toward smaller family units, migration of young adults and urbanization are making it harder to maintain this cycle of young caring for old.

Millions of people fell below national poverty lines as a result of the Asian economic crisis in 1997. To prepare for a rapid increase in the number of older persons, and for falling percentages of the working age population, governments in the region must move more quickly to establish and strengthen social protection systems, or face the consequences.

In particular, health insurance and contributory pension systems are needed. It is essential that such systems be financially viable and integral elements of national development, rather than social welfare schemes. A first step toward financial sustainability would be a review of the official retirement age. If it is set too low, it could prove unrealistic for a broad-based social security system.

Government policies should aim to strengthen and assist the family. For example, governments could provide home care, day care and meal services for older persons. This would free younger people to spend more time pursuing careers, increasing the overall income of the extended family unit.

Women in Asia and the Pacific are sometimes refused the right to own property. With little or no access to a pension fund, many will not have enough money to look after themselves in their old age. It is not surprising that an increasing number of educated women in East Asia are opting out of marriage and childbearing altogether.

The writer, executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, contributed this to the International Herald Tribune.

08/13/2002 04:20:11

ADB: ADB hosts National Workshop on disability and poverty in Sri Lanka

Colombo, Sri Lanka, Aug 13, 2002 (M2 PRESSWIRE via COMTEX) -- A National Workshop organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to discuss disability and poverty will be held at the Galadari Hotel, Colombo, from 15 to 17 August, 2002.

The workshop will bring together representatives from government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), donors, United Nations agencies, associations for persons with disabilities, and the private sector. Participants will develop a national action plan to mainstream disability issues in poverty reduction strategies.

The workshop is part of an ADB regional technical assistance project to develop similar plans in India, Cambodia and the Philippines. In Sri Lanka, where the project is being implemented through the Ministry of Social Welfare, the findings of earlier provincial workshops in Kandy and Hikkaduwa will be discussed at the national meeting.

The ADB project is associated with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) Regional Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993 to 2002, as well as related activities of the International Labour Organization and the World Bank.

The ADB project, which will help to extend **ESCAP**'s work beyond the decade, focuses on inclusion and stresses to change attitudes towards disability. Persons with disabilities should not be regarded as recipients of charity but as people with rights who are valued and productive members of society.

The findings of the ADB project in four countries will be presented at a Regional Meeting in Manila from 2 to 4 October.

This will contribute to the **ESCAP** regional review to be discussed at a High-level Intergovernmental Meeting in Japan from 25 to 28 October 2002.

* Country Offices

ADB 2002 Asian Development Bank

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PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: **The Manila Bulletin** Date: 27 August 2002

Page(s): http://www.mb.com.ph/news.php?art=17871&sect=3&fname=OE02082717871f.txt

Summary:

Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (1993-2002) culminating conference

SOME 100 representatives of the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) sector, the government, and non-government organizations are currently holding a meeting at the Holiday Inn Manila assessing major achievements in the field of PWD and disability. This three-day conference serves as a culminating activity of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (1993-2002).

Efforts to promote the welfare of persons with disabilities and keep them as productive members of society are rooted in the United Nations' founding principles promoting human rights, fundamental freedoms, and equality of all human beings. Through the years, governments and regional organizations have joined forces, thereby making PWD programs global.

At the initiative of the UN General Assembly in 1976, 1981 was declared as the International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP) and called for concrete plans of action by governments emphasizing measures promoting equalization of opportunities, rehabilitation, and prevention of disabilities. The UN General Assembly proclaimed 1983-1992 as the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and December 3 as the International Day of Disabled Persons. This UN declaration defined the fundamental freedoms and basic rights of persons with disabilities and made provisions for equal opportunities for education and employment as means to encourage them to participate in all productive human endeavors.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) picked up the UN initiative and declared the period of 1993-2002 as the Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons. This year 2002 is the end of this decade of observance and the 3day conference is the culminating activity.

The United Nations has reported that more than half a billion persons suffer from various forms of disabilities as a result of mental, physical, and sensory impairments. Eighty percent of these PWDs are in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific and most of them are poor, their conditions and rights neglected.

Pro-PWD measures should be sustained. Our leaders and public officials should be sensitive to PWDs' needs and conditions. PWDs should be recognized for their human resource potential. Within this framework it is hoped that the Filipino people can actively join in concretizing the United Nations' vision of "a society for all."

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UNWIRE
UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

AGING: Asians Endorse Regional Strategy At ESCAP Talks

Twenty Asian and Pacific countries at a meeting in Shanghai yesterday approved a regional implementation strategy on aging.

Gathered at the invitation of China and the U.N. **Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific** to follow up on decisions made at the World Assembly on Aging this year in Madrid, the countries' representatives endorsed actions in support of families and caregivers, stronger social services and improved housing for the old.

The region is home to two-thirds of the world's people and several countries whose populations are among the oldest in the world. More than 320 million people aged 60 and over live in the region, where many countries have few social programs for the elderly, according to ESCAP.

ESCAP Executive Secretary **Kim Hak-su** called it a "sad fact that older persons remain among the poorest in many countries in the region," adding, "The lack of adequate social protection and security has made their effort to achieve a decent living in old age an uphill battle" (ESCAP release, ~~Sept~~. 26).

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Tuesday, October 1st, 2002

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Foundation hails campaign for `barrier-free' campuses

PHYSICAL CHALLENGES: The Eden Social Welfare Foundation wants to help the disabled in Southeast Asia with similar accessibility campaigns at schools



Students try out wheelchairs yesterday to experience the inconveniences that disabled students face every day on school campuses. They were taking part in a ``barrier-free campus'' event sponsored by the Eden Social Welfare Foundation.
PHOTO: LIAO CHENG-HUEI, TAIPEI TIMES

By Chang Yu-jung
STAFF REPORTER

The Eden Social Welfare Found-ation (¥ã¯ª¾A ¦ºÖ§Q°ò¤ß |) hopes to take its "barrier-free campus" cam-paign to other Asian nations, the foundation said yesterday as it hailed the success of its latest campaign on university and college campuses.

"We hope to help the disabled in other developing countries to live in a better environment by introducing the campaign to other nations, such as Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam," said Chiu Kuan-ming (°ê¥ú©ú), the CEO of the foundation's Double Blessing department, at a press conference.

Among the achievements the foundation heralded at the press conference were wheelchair ramps in classrooms and auditoriums at Fu Jen University, designated pathways for the physically-challenged at Tamkang and Soochow universities and modified toilets for the physically-challenged at all three schools.

The foundation's "barrier-free campus" campaign was launched in March 2001 and concluded last month. It involved a series of one-day activities in which student volunteers used crutches or wheelchairs to get around their schools in order to gain first-hand experience of the difficulties and dangers faced by the disabled on a daily basis.

After each activity, the foundation and the students made suggestions to their universities and colleges regarding places needing to be modified or rebuilt in order to make them more accessible for the disabled.

The foundation said nearly 20,000 students from 50 colleges and universities nationwide participated in the campaign this year alone.

It said that among the 100,000 students who had "experienced disability" as part of its programs over the past two years, nearly 90 percent said the activity had increased their awareness of the needs

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Cuddly as a bunny

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of the disabled.

"Educating students about the importance of establishing friendly space on campuses is the first step to realizing a friendly city," said Chiu.

According to statistics released by the Ministry of Education in July, there are nearly 2,000 disabled students studying in local colleges.

Last month the foundation worked with Han Chiang College in Malaysia on a "barrier-free campus" campaign in which nearly 200 students participated.

The foundation plans to launch a similar campaign at the Hanoi University of Foreign Studies in Vietnam this month before it sends delegates to the Osaka Forum.

"We will share our experience in pushing the barrier-free campaign at the forum, [which is] supervised by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP]," Chiu said.

The foundation will represent Taiwan in Osaka at the "International Forum on Disabilities to Mark the End Year of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons," which will be held from Oct. 21 to 23.

The forum is the last in a series of annual campaigns organized by the Regional NGO Network for the Promotion of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons. ESCAP had declared 1993 to 2002 to be the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons and encouraged both governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Asia-Pacific region to promote the human rights, full participation and equality of people with disabilities.

The Eden Social Welfare Foundation was founded by the writer Liu Shia (¦¿Bæ¿L) in the 1980s to promote the welfare of the disabled and offer assistance with training, job-hunting and applications for medical subsidies. Liu herself must use a wheelchair because of rheumatoid arthritis.

The story has been viewed 217 times.

Printer-friendly Version

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Independent Financial Commentary

悅讀英文 領先群倫

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PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest
Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th

Date: 8 October 2002

Summary

IQ InfoQuest

World Bank and United Nations ESCAP Organize Seminar for Managers

Bangkok--Oct 8--UNISBKK

World Bank and United Nations ESCAP Organize Seminar for Managers on Monitoring and Evaluation of Poverty Reduction Programmes and Millennium Development Goals in Bangkok

Bangkok (United Nations Information Services) -- The World Bank and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific, together with the Asia Development Bank and the National Statistics Office of Thailand will organize a regional seminar for senior officials on monitoring and evaluation of Poverty Reduction Programmes and Millennium Development Goals from 9 to 11 October 2002, at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. The officials will represent National Planning Commission, National Statistical Offices (NSO), Research Institutions and Non-governmental Organizations (NGO). More than a hundred participants from 30 countries plus several multi-lateral and UN Specialized Agencies are expected to attend the seminar, including Mr. Aynul Hasan, Coordinator, LDCCU/Poverty Centre of UNESCAP.

The programme of seminar is divided into plenary sessions and group discussions around three key themes: (1) an overview of poverty reduction strategies, their linkages with the MDGs and the demands for statistical data; (2) overview of the organization and management of national statistical systems, and (3) a review of data producing systems for poverty reduction strategies that support PRSPs and MDGs, and improving data availability and quality. Presentations on six country-studies will the main feature of the seminar.

The group discussion segment will provide an opportunity to debate the main points raised in the different case studies by the respective authors. The participants will discuss these from the perspective of the participants, identifying to what extent these issues are important in their countries and what types of responses and actions may be needed.

It is hoped that the seminar will allow each participant to gain insight into the overall picture of poverty reduction strategies and statistical data demands and to discuss with colleagues from other countries as well as key representatives from the user community on how to respond to these new challenges.

By the end of the seminar, the participants should have a deeper understanding of the demands and limitations of statistical agencies in generating quality data to support the PRSP, MDGs and other similar initiatives. The seminar is expected to assist senior managers in identifying how to engage effectively in the PRSPs and MDG processes and to use available resources both to meet immediate demands for data and to enhance sustained capacity in the medium term.

Officials from NSOs may acquire a better understanding of the new statistical data demands from the users. Government policy makers may be able to increase their understanding on the limitations and resource requirements of a well-functioning statistical system. Participants from research institutions and NGOs would be able to appreciate the underlying mechanisms and the limitations of the government policy making and the data produced by national statistical agencies. End.

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: **Asian Tribune**
Page(s): http://www.asiantribune.com/show_news.php?id=830

Date: 8 October 2002

Summary



Trafficking in women and children is a serious problem worldwide

Bangkok October 08: The conference "Promoting Gender Equality to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children" was opened in Bangkok this morning by Swedish State Secretary, Gun-Britt Andersson. The three-day conference is being co-convened by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) with the support of United Nation Economic and Social Council for Asia and Pacific (UN-ESCAP).

In her opening address, Andersson called attention to the "great injustice that makes many women and children vulnerable to trafficking" and said that trafficking in persons is "a serious problem all over the world, in Asia as well as in Europe". She said trafficking "illustrates not only discrimination, but also the worst forms of gender inequalities.<BR.
In recognition of the impact of these gender inequalities, Andersson said this week's meeting in Bangkok will focus on trafficking in persons from a gender and rights approach. She said those attending the conference had gathered to "identify and formulate how trafficking in persons can be prevented by developing and strengthening measures directed at promoting gender equality". Andersson also outlined ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) initiatives in response to trafficking, which she said had intensified in recent years, in recognition of the need for regional and global efforts to tackle the phenomenon. Andersson mentioned in particular, the ASEM Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which was developed and welcomed by Foreign Ministers at their meeting in Beijing in May, 2001. This week's meeting in Bangkok is one of the follow-up activities of the Action Plan.

The Action Plan has four priority areas: to strengthen knowledge and overall coordination, to prevent and combat trafficking, to strengthen law enforcement and protect the victims of trafficking, and to promote the recovery, repatriation and reintegration of victims of trafficking.<BR.
The opening address was followed by a presentation by UNIFEM Regional Programme Director, Rosa Linda Miranda. Miranda described the conference as a "landmark initiative" and welcomed the focus on gender equality, saying that while trafficking affects primarily women and children, presently anti-trafficking interventions were not necessarily gender sensitive. Neither was there, she said, sufficient emphasis on long-term, sustainable preventive strategies.

Miranda said broad cooperation was needed given the increasing magnitude and global dimensions that trafficking had acquired. She said she could not "overemphasis the need for regional and international cooperation" and that she hoped the ASEM initiative to combat trafficking would be "the beginning of a more substantive cooperation among the countries o Asia and Europe" on the issue.

Concluding the opening session, Deputy Executive Secretary for UN-ESCAP, Keiko Okaido, described trafficking in women and children as "a major concern for many countries in the region, either as sites of origin, transit or destination" and said it should be recognized as a priority development issue.

Akaido said the lower status of women in relation to men and the differential impact of gender roles and stereotypes made women more vulnerable to trafficking and its consequences. She reflected however, that mainstream inventions on trafficking were almost universally gender-unresponsive. In light of this, she called this week's conference a "timely undertaking" and drew attention to its two objectives ? to enhance understanding of the gender dimensions of trafficking in women and children in Asia and Europe by focusing on the linkages between gender inequalities and trafficking in women and children, and to enhance the efficacy of preventative efforts by promoting gender equality initiatives or components.

Akaido pledged the support of UNESCAP to respond to the issue, and said the conference participants had a "unique opportunity to formulate an approach to trafficking that is gender-responsive in order to more effectively prevent and eradicate the trafficking in women and children."

10/08/2002 11:58:19

Wide participation vital in caring for disabled persons

SHANGHAI, Oct 8, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Resources from all sectors of the community, and not just the government, should be utilized to improve the quality of life of disabled people, experts said here at an international seminar.

Addressing the 20th DPI (Disabled Peoples' International) Asia and Pacific Regional Leadership Training Seminar, Venus M. Ilagan, chairperson of DPI Asia-Pacific Region, said that much progress has been made over the past decade in improving the lives of disabled people in this region.

Ilagan attributed the progress partly to a program launched by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) in 1993 entitled "Asia and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons", which aimed at promoting cooperation between governments, international organizations and community organizations in caring for the region's disabled people. Of the world's 600 million disabled people, said Ilagan, 60 percent are living in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Deng Pufang, chairman of the China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF), said at the seminar that most Asia-Pacific countries are developing nations with limited resources on hand to spend on disabled people. Therefore, it is essential to mobilize all available resources to improve the quality of life of disabled people.

The four-day conference is expected to draft an action plan on improving the caring and well-being of disabled people in the Asia- Pacific Region in the new millennium.

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THOMSON
NEWSEDGE

Human trafficking eradication in Asia has long way to go

Trafficking in woman and children for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation has been recognized by many Asian countries as a priority developmen problem, but effective measures to eradicate the crime still a desirous gift for experts and victims.

As more than 150 European and Asian human rights experts attended a United Nations-sponsored conference from Oct. 7 to Oct.9 in Bangkok with an aim to step up operation to combat the growing phenomenon of human trafficking, some optimistic officials described the 25-country gathering as "the beginning of a more substantive cooperation among the countries of Asia and Europe."

However, more experts said before the effective measures, such as every country adopting a set of proposals on prevention, service, advocacy and demand, and setting up a regional network to monitor and control human trafficking, were taken into effect, people will still stand in starting point as ever before. In her opening speech at the conference, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Deputy Executive Secretary, Keiko Okaido described human trafficking as "a major concern for many countries in the Asian region, either as sites of origin, transit or destination."

Her view was shared by the experts, officials and representatives of the non-governmental organizations which provided a lot of terrible examples and figures.

According to the estimate of Tides Foundation, there are more than 300,000 prostitutes in Thailand, of which one of third are minors who have been sold to brothel from neighboring countries to meet the demand of "sex tourists".

In Cambodia, 35 percent of the total 100,000 prostitutes are minors, 48 percent of them are abducted and sold. In the Thai-Cambodian border, the guest can pay the brothel owners 500 to 600 US dollars to "buy a girl's freedom".

In India, among the 2.3 million prostitutes, a quarter are minors, most of them were bought by the brothel owners from their parents through economic incentives, such as fake jobs or marriage promises.

The UN Population Fund consultative meeting in Slovakia last week said Southeast Asia is the world's largest source of trafficked persons, with more than 225,000 people trafficked every year, and is a major destination for sex tourism, while the South Asia is the third largest source of the world.

More sadly, the bloody facts had been figured out for many years and many concerned international agreements, conventions and protocols had been adopted,

but human trafficking still remains to be the fastest-growing transnational crime.

So the participants of the seminar appealed that the international society to review and rework its tactic for the longtime war.

UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) specialist Jean D'Cunha said that many well-intentioned efforts to curb the trafficking, which tend to focus on immediate post-trafficking assistance, suchas arresting, detaining and deporting trafficked persons as illegal immigrants, only resulted in placing the onus unfairly on the victims of an unjust social order and a chain of coercive and deceptive events.

She brought forward the suggestion that trafficking should be treated as a development concern instead of solely as a social problem, with a focus on long-term preventive measures that take into account unsafe and discriminatory environments, and build women's capacity to deal with exploitation.

It's no doubt that D'Cunha's idea is mulled, but it is also very difficult to be carried out.

Some experts argued that gender inequalities is maybe a more complex question than human trafficking, for this reason, how to design and implement the effective measures to set up the prevention system and which measure would be the most effective ones for every country, both are the puzzled questions.

In fact, during the discussions of the seminar, experts found because of the multiformity of the Asian countries, implementing laws required by the internationa covenants, cooperation between different countries and lots of measures which had been inked in papers for many years were only desires of few peoples.

Thus, Alfhild Petren, senior adviser at the Swedish Foreign Ministry, a sponsor of th seminar pointed out at the closing ceremony that more research needs to be done and "we still need to find ways to measures."

For experts, the first step will better be figuring out the firm number of trafficked persons -- because the victims all are illegal immigrants, there is no data about their numbers till now -- at least, it will benefit the combat rather than an acting plan which can not be brought into effect.

Xinhua new

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Press/Media: **ABS-CBN.COM**
Page(s): http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/abs_news_body.asp?section=Provincial&OID=1700

Date: 12 October 2002

Summary

U.N.: Govt's role in creating cities needs rethinking

By REXCEL JOHN SORZATODAY Correspondent

KUALA LUMPUR - The policies and initiatives formulated and being put in place by governments and experts to meet the challenges of the rapidly changing world should be rethought and redefined, said an official of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap) on Tuesday.

"We need to find out what is the role of the local government, as well as the role of the [national] government, in creating cities," and "rethink and redefine what the government should do," said Dr. Yap Kioe Sheng, Escap Human Settlements Section chief, during the 18th Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Housing (Earoph) World Planning Congress here.

"How do we create a city that we want to create? Everybody has this idea that we want a city that is really sustainable, participatory, that really looks after the poor, looks after the disabled, gender sensitive, etc. Whatever your ideals are, my question is how do we get there? How do we come up with a strategy and create that city?" he said in a speech titled "Urban Governance and Social Construction of the City in Asia."

In the cities of Asia and elsewhere, a multitude of actors at local, national and global levels influence the way cities develop. The choice for free market principles requires the choice for a strong local government, Yap said. However, local government needs to accept that it cannot plan the city alone, but only in partnerships and through negotiations with other stakeholders.

He said that if the aim is the creation of socially just and ecologically sustainable cities, the question remains on how to institutionalize good urban governance given the great variety of interests, market imperfections and civil-society imperfections in Asia. Local government and civil-society have a limited capacity to defend the interests of the marginalized and the future generations, while the market is unlikely to be concerned with either issue.

Putting the blame on the pluralism and diversity of interests for the problems now being faced by cities around the world, Yap said: "Everybody wants to make their own decision. Everybody is trying to push his own agenda. And so, to create a city that we like to see think it is extremely difficult."

And with the two factors, he said Bangkok, Jakarta and Manila could go the way of the more economically sound Kuala Lumpur and Singapore, but it could also be the other way around. "I came from the Netherlands, a very organized and well-planned country, but it is facing problems of planning and managing society because of this pluralism and great diversity of interests."

Diversity and pluralism could also be a result of globalization, informalization (deregulation), privatization and democratization, which are the trends in most countries today.

Globalization, he says, benefits Southeast Asia with the increase in trade and investments that created employment, and generated income and taxes. But cities compete with each other like what is happening between the Thailand, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur with their airports.

"They are competing to become the hub of Southeast Asia. It may be good to attract more airlines, more planes, or more tourists. But if you come to Amsterdam, they say, 'Get rid of these airports because they are environmentally bad. They are polluting. They are noisy. We don't want airports anymore.' What is the decision taken?"

Privatization also creates the same, he argues, although it makes things work better. "But what I also see is that many governments are not really in a position to negotiate with private companies about the delivery of a particular service" like in Cambodia, where "they are selling out the country to private companies."

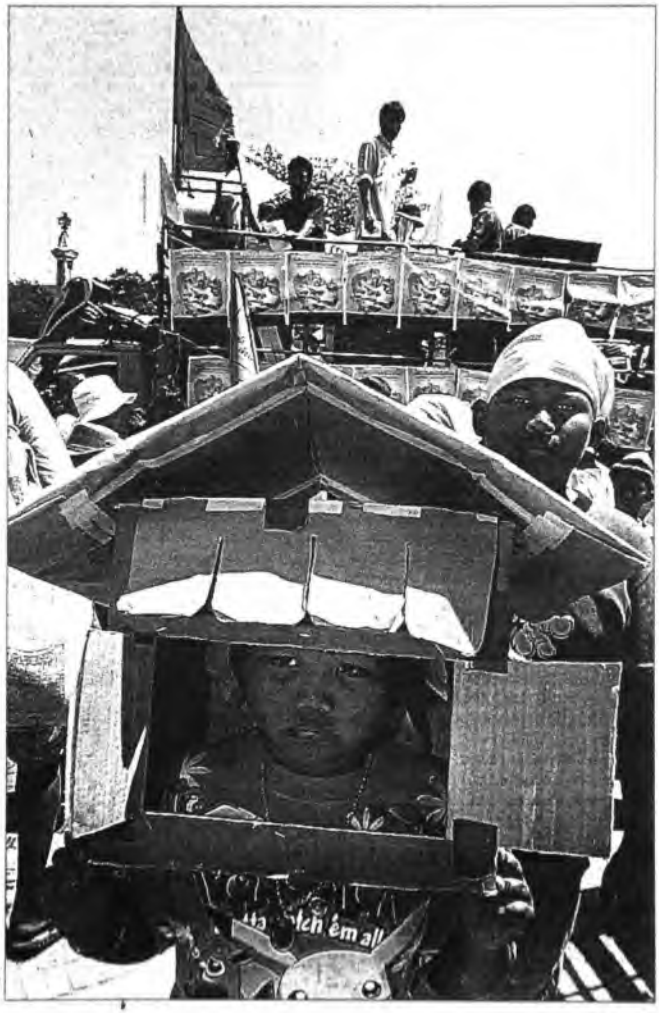
"The [Cambodian] government is very weak, very small, down on itself and also cannot negotiate. So how can you give solid waste collection or transport or running the museum to a private company and still make sure that the public interest is served?"

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TODAY

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 3
Date: 12 October 2002

Summary



LEASES FOR POOR SOUGHT

Members of the Four-Region Slum Coordinating Network rally at the United Nations office on Ratchadamnoen avenue yesterday to mark World Habitat Day. They demanded the government allow poor people to lease state land to make a living. — APICHIT JINAKUL

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 2

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST Date: 12 October 2002

Page(s): 3

Summary

LAND REFORM

Slum-dwellers want 30-year leases on state properties

Charter changes also sought to help poor

Ploenpote Atthakor

Slum-dwellers and activists called on the government yesterday to allow the poor to lease state land, sparing them from eviction from city areas.

Chalerm Borisut, chairman of the Four-Region Slum Coordinating Network, said eviction from state land must be stopped, while long-term leases of at least 30 years should be allowed if people agreed to put their living spaces in order.

Long-term leases would provide security to the poor, Mr Chalerm told during a function to mark World Habitat Day at the United Nations, which was attended by thousands of slum people.

State agencies with wealthy landlords such as the State Railway of Thailand should allow access to the poor, and place less emphasis on commercial return.

"The government must adopt a housing policy which allows the poor to be part of the city, rather than pushing them to the outskirts, because these people need to stay close to their source of income," said Mr Chalerm.

Suwit Watnu of the Human Settlement Foundation said housing rights for the poor should be guaranteed since housing was a basic need.

"The constitution needed to be amended to include housing rights," he said.

Deputy Prime Minister Chamnong Chaisaeng pledged to revive a national body to solve slum problems.

He spoke in response to a call for partnership among state agencies, the public and NGOs.

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST Date: 14 October 2002

Page(s): 3

Summary

Decent public housing answer to slums

Porpot Changyawa
Kuala Lumpur

Bangkok is tackling its slum problem the wrong way, said an expert on human settlement.

Yap Kioe Sheng, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap) Human Settlement section chief, said the poor chose to live in slums because they were close to the inner city.

To persuade them to move into public housing, which were often more remote from the centre of town, decent public transport would have to be provided, he said. "The poor chose to live in slums because they are closer to the city. Slums are a better choice than poor quality rental housing, sometimes," said Mr Yap, speaking at the 18th World Planning Congress of Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing last week.

As many as 1.5 million people or more than 10% of Bangkok's population are thought to live in slums.

Mr Yap said slums in Bangkok were of higher standard than other countries in Asia, and could be made better still by connecting them to water and electricity to cut the cost to residents.

11/09/2002 05:05:08

Countries urged to confirm women, children's rights

BANGKOK, Nov 9, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Judges from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Singapore and Thailand have urged countries to amend laws to confirm their international legal obligation regarding the rights of women and children.

The call was made at a meeting, held at the UN Regional Office' s Conference Center here between November 4 and 6, according to a report of Thai News Agency Saturday.

Participants recommended that judges, other judicial officers and lawyers be made aware of the international legal standards applicable to women and children so that they could be sensitive to these principles when they were conducting trials and formulating judgments.

Law schools and colleges in the region were urged to introduce international human rights law into their curricula.

Chief of the Gender and Development Section of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**UNESCAP**) Thelma Kay said that judges could play an important role in applying principles derived from international human rights law in their decisions.

She said they could make it a practice to regularly refer to the legal obligations inherent in the human rights treaties signed by their governments before reaching their verdicts.

Other participants included resource persons from Australia, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

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Press/Media Xinhua News Agency
Page(s): http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2002-12/02/content_646817.htm
Date: 2 December 2002

Summary

Xinhua News Agency www.xinhuanet.com

More efforts needed to erase social woes of Asian crisis: ESCAP

XINHUANET 2002-12-02 14:58:33

BANGKOK, Dec. 2 (Xinhuanet) -- To overcome enduring social impacts brought by the 1997 Asian financial crisis, countries in the region need to continue and broaden programs for increasing employment and income, a UN agency said.

"The sudden loss of employment and the reduction in household income resulting from slowdown in economic growth are the major factors responsible for the adverse impact of the Asian crisis," said the Bangkok-based UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in a report released here Monday.

"Providing employment and income support is considered to be the most important form of social protection and the most effective instrument for alleviating poverty in the crisis-hit countries," said the publication named as Protecting Marginalized Groups During Economic Downturns.

In the aftermath of the crisis, Asian countries have adopted several methods aimed at income or employment protection, including public work programs, micro-credit schemes, unemploymentinsurance policies and providing credit for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), it said.

The report noted that some countries which used the above measures have so far achieved different degrees of success.

In Indonesia, most people who got re-employed in government-financed public projects have increased their income by over 50 percent while receivers of Thailand's micro-credit scheme have reported a 95-percent ratio of success of their new businesses which were set up with loans provided by the government.

In South Korea, combined efforts of unemployment insurance and credit provided to SMEs have strengthened the country's economic recovery, which is the fastest among crisis-hit nations in the region.

However, the ESCAP report said that to ensure assistance is provided to all people affected by economic downturns, these income and employment support programs should be "participatory, capable of quickly disbursing benefits, transparent while also maintaining effective accountability."

Moreover, countries concerned need to set up long-term social safety mechanisms and support them via legislation, it pointed out.

The report is the result of a three-year study of an ESCAP expert group which focused on the effectiveness of social programstaken by countries hit by the Asian crisis, with the aim to improve such programs to eventually erase social woes brought by the crisis. Enditem

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Pakistan Part of U.N. Poverty-alleviation Effort

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BEIJING, China: Dec 02 (PNS) - Pakistan would continue to take active part in the United Nations programme of poverty alleviation. This was stated by Dr. Nadeem Amjad, a senior official of Pakistan Agriculture Research (PARC), who represented the country at a ceremony held in Beijing at the opening of Headquarters of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (APCAEM)

The ceremony was inaugurated by the Chinese Vice-Premier Wen Jiabao. It was also attended by Pakistan Ambassador to China, Riaz Muhammad Khan and other Beijing-based diplomats from the member countries. Dr. Amjad said Pakistan has been founder member of PCAEM and vigorously supported the efforts of establishing a strong mechanized farming system.

A senior agricultural scientist Dr. Zia Rehman had been representing the country in the organization till his retirement in 1997. Sources told APP that in fact, it was Pakistan that has conceived the idea of establishing regional cooperation network for developing mechanized farming system. In his inaugural address, Wen Jiabao M is the first China-based official UN organization, and the move of the center from Bangkok, Thailand to Beijing marks a step forward for cooperation between China and the UN, thanks to concerted efforts by all parties concerned. He expressed his belief that more UN and other international organizations will set up their headquarters in China and said the Chinese government is ready to give support and provide work conditions for their operation.

Wen said the Beijing-based APCAEM will bring a positive impact by promoting Asia-Pacific cooperation in agricultural engineering and machinery, and boost regional agricultural development as a whole. He also hoped the APCAEM would contribute to poverty-elimination and common progress in the region via coordinated efforts of members in research and development, capacity building and resource sharing. Wen Jiabao and Kim Hak-Su, UN under-secretary and executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, jointly unveiled the APCAEM plaque.

Song Jian, vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, handed Kim Hak-Su the key to the APCAEM office.

The End.

Talk

Press/Media: Page(s):	**Pakistan News**	Date: 3 December 2002

Summary

U.N. / PAKISTAN 2002 - A weekly newsletter, published by the UN Information Centre (UNIC) in Islamabad on behalf of all Agencies of the United Nations System in Pakistan.

Weekly Issue No. 49/2002 (3 December 2002)

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---ASIA AND THE PACIFIC---

ESCAP PUBLICATION WARNS OF SEVERE HARDSHIP FOR WORKERS IN ASIA

Five years after the 1997 financial crisis, many workers in Southeast Asia are just one pay cheque away from extreme poverty, according to a new publication by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). "Protecting Marginalized Groups During Economic Downturn: Lessons From the Asian Experience," warns that another financial crisis - or sudden economic downturn - could result in more severe hardship for millions of people across the region, especially for those in the so-called "informal sector," many of whom are self-employed.

With the Southeast Asia still recovering from the economic shock that accompanied the sudden devaluation of regional currencies, the people worst affected continue to be individuals toward the bottom of the socio-economic ladder, ESCAP said. Many countries in the region still have few or no social safety nets, like unemployment benefits, and this disadvantaged group would suffer most during the onset of a fresh and rapid recession, depression, or currency devaluation. The main fear is job loss due to downsizing or restructuring.

The study, conducted in Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, also finds that most of the programmes introduced following the last financial crisis did not benefit persons who lost jobs in the urban formal sector, which is especially vulnerable to fluctuations in the economy and competitive pressure. Women are affected disproportionately. Aggravating the situation is the pattern of shifting production centres, according to changes in competitive and comparative advantages across the region, further perpetuating the boom-and-bust cycle. The revolution in information and communication technologies and a freer flow of goods, services and technologies further exacerbate the situation.

For more information on the United Nations and its activities, please visit the main UN website at www.un.org or the UN Pakistan website at www.un.org.pk

12/06/2002 05:15:16

Thailand supports development of people with disabilities

BANGKOK, Dec 6, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Thai government will support the development of potential and quality of life of persons with disabilities (PWDs), Deputy Prime Minister Chaturon Chaisang has said Friday.

Speaking at the International Day of Disabled Persons here, Chaturon said that he could confirm the government's determination and commitment to providing opportunities for PWDs to develop their potential. Then they could rely on themselves and have good quality of life with full participation in social activities.

Chaturon said the government saw the significance of the framework of actions for the Second Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 2003-2012, and would also support the operation of the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD).

Governments in the Asian and Pacific region proclaimed the extension of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons for another decade, from 2003 to 2012, at the 58th Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-**ESCAP**). This was aimed to develop the Asian and Pacific region as a integrated society with no obstacles and discrimination against PWDs in all areas.

Participants saw progress on the development of PWDs in the first decade, but considered more work left to be done in the second decade.

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Sunday, December 15, 2002

Seeking new schemes to shield jobless

By MARWAAN MACAN-MARKAR

BANGKOK: Asian governments have still to usher in durable programmes to protect the region's labour force in the event of job loss or steep pay cuts due to an economic downturn, say development experts.

Such initiatives are in dire need, since the region will be more vulnerable to economic shocks given the pace at which it is embracing globalisation, add the experts from 12 countries who participated in a two-day discussion here recently on the need for social protection in the Asia-Pacific region.

However, the region's governments should conceive relief measures that are tailor made to their particular needs, rather than depend on a one-model-fits-all panacea, pointed out the experts during the meeting organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap).

"Asian governments must focus on what policies and social protection schemes will work for

Lifestyle
Technology
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Classifieds
Directory
e-Cards
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30-Day
Archives
Chat
Clubs
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Weather
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EarthWeek

them," Linda Low, an associate professor at the National University of Singapore's business school, told the gathering. "There is no template solution."

Likewise, the region should go beyond the "rights-based approach" that prevails in Western countries, where the state guarantees unemployment insurance for those without work, adds Raj Kumar, head of Escap's development research and policy analysis division.

"In the West, there is a framework that is universally accepted and the people know where they stand regards their rights," he explains.

"This is not so in Asia, and the 1997 financial crisis brought this to the surface."

In Thailand, for instance, where the financial contagion began before spreading to other countries in East Asia, government schemes did not offer an adequate social security net to those thrown out of jobs, says Dr Juree Vichit-Vadakan, a Thai development policy expert.

"Some people we surveyed after the 97 crisis said they turned to their families and community for help," adds Juree, director at the centre for philanthropy and civil society at the Bangkok-based National Institute of Development Administration.

Such a reality – the significance of the family and the community to serve as a social security net in Asian countries – needs to be included as one of seven features that national policy makers should consider when conceiving a country's social protection programme, a study released during this meeting declares.

Governments must take the lead as the "social protection provider" of the last resort, "thus requiring the creation of a comprehensive social safety net system with the participation of local communities," says the study.

In addition, an Asian social protection framework should recognise the need for rural public works programmes, in addition to strengthening the informal sector, adds the 136-page study, *Protecting Marginalised Groups During Economic Downturns.*

The study also underscores the need for unemployment insurance schemes, for social safety initiatives jointly shaped by governments, the private sector and non-government organisations and government-funded social services for health and education.

So far, only the East Asian countries have gone ahead with a few initiatives to absorb the shock of an economic downturn, says Ian Chambers, director of the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) East Asia division.

"There has been distinct progress to deal with the next crisis."

South Korea has led the way, with its unemployment insurance schemes and government training programmes in place to deal with its citizens forced out of the labour market due to economic contractions.

Thailand, on the other hand, has still to implement similar unemployment insurance methods, although the government has initiated a universal healthcare scheme.

Under this health programme, a Thai citizen can

Under this health programme, a Thai citizen can seek medical assistance for any ailment in the country's hospital by paying 30 baht (about RM3) per visit.

"Malaysia, which weathered the 97 crisis in its own way, is moving ahead with some social security programmes," adds Chambers.

The financial crisis that began in Thailand and spread across Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Hong Kong and the Philippines, forced economic contractions of up to 13%.

Women in countries like South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia were among the first to be retrenched, lose social welfare from the state or, if hired, were taken in only as part-time, contractual labour, according to the ILO.

Currently, while the East Asian countries are struggling to achieve the impressive economic heights they struck prior to the crisis, this sub-region along with the rest of Asia has to grapple with the growing spectre of youth unemployment.

The Asia-Pacific region, according to a report released early this year by the UN's labour agency, has over 50%, or some 33 million people, of the global figure of 66 million youth who are without jobs.

They include Sri Lanka, with 29% unemployment among its youth, the Philippines, with 25%, South Korea, with 15%, and recession-plagued Japan, with almost 10%.

"We live in an age of risks," Singaporean academic Low told the meeting. "The more Asia accepts globalisation, the more we will be crisis-

prone."

Despite such growing vulnerability, the countries in the region are still searching for a "structural foundation on which social protection schemes should be built," says Escap's Kumar. – Inter Press Service

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1.2 The Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET), Bangkok, Thailand 29 Oct – 2 Nov. 01

Bangkok Post
WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 3, 2001



CITYNET CONGRESS

Bangkok officials show one of the banners to be hung at various spots in the capital to promote Citynet Congress on Oct 29-Nov 2. Bangkok will play host to the conference, which will be attended by more than 300 administrators from 66 capitals in Asia and the Pacific region, to exchange views on urban management. — BOONNARONG BHUDHIPANYA

SIAMRATH
3 OCTOBER 2001

LOTS OF BENEFITS FOR HOST OF CITYNET CONGRESS 2001

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สยามรัฐ
3 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 6.

ประชุมซิตี้เน็ตกทม.มีแต่ได้

เผยแพร่ศักยภาพการบริหารเมืองที่มีความพร้อมทางสาธารณูปการ และเผยแพร่การท่องเที่ยว

นายมุคตาฝ้า หมันงะ รองผู้ว่าฯกทม.เปิดเผยว่า การประชุมองค์การเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชียแปซิฟิก ว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์ (CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001) ที่กทม. จะเป็นเจ้าภาพระหว่าง 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย.นี้ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ จะมีผู้บริหารระดับผู้ว่าการนคร และนายกเทศมนตรีเมืองสำคัญต่างๆ จากประเทศแถบเอเชียแปซิฟิก 66 นครจาก 20 ประเทศเข้าร่วม ซึ่งนอกจากจะได้แลกเปลี่ยนการบริหารเมืองเพื่อนำไปใช้พัฒนาแต่ละเมืองแล้ว ยังเผยแพร่ศักยภาพการบริหารเมืองและความพร้อมสาธารณูปโภคสาธารณูปการของกทม.ในสายตาของนักลงทุนต่างชาติ และเผยแพร่การท่องเที่ยวกทม.และไทยด้วย

น.ส.อมรรัตน์ กฤตยาภรัช ผอ.กองประชาสัมพันธ์กทม.กล่าวว่า กทม.ได้ทำสื่อประชาสัมพันธ์ทั้งป้ายไตรวิชั่น 6 จุดสำคัญที่เป็นแหล่งชุมชน, ป้ายผ้าติดตามชุมชนใน 50 เขตที่พักผู้โดยสาร 8 จุด, ป้ายข้างที่พักผู้โดยสารรถเมล์ 220 จุดทั่วกรุง เพื่อให้คนกทม.ทราบว่ากทม.กำลังดำเนินการอะไร และมีความสำคัญอย่างไร เพื่อช่วยกันร่วมมือต้อนรับแขกเมือง

THAI NEWS AGENCY
3 OCTOBER 2001

BMA TO PROMOTE CITYNET CONGRESS 2001

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สำนักข่าวไทย
3 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 6

กทม.ติดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์ประชุมซิตี้เน็ตทุกมุมเมืองรณรงค์ชาวกรุงร่วมเป็นเจ้าภาพต้อนรับ

กทม. ๓ ต.ค. - กทม.ติดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์รณรงค์ชาว กทม.ร่วมเป็นเจ้ าภาพประชุมซิตี้เน็ต ที่ กทม.จะเป็นเจ้าภาพในระหว่างวันที่ ๒๙ ตุลาคม- ๒ พฤศจิกายนนี้

นายมุคตาฝ้า หมันงะ รองผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร เป็นประธานเปิดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS ๒๐๐๑ ที่บริเวณ ศาลาที่พักผู้โดยสารรถประจำทาง หน้ากรมทางหลวง ถนนศรีอยุธยา เขตราชเทวี โดยนายมุคตาฝ้า กล่าวว่า การประชุมครั้งนี้ นอกจากจะทำให้กรุงเทพมหานคร (กทม.) และเมืองสมาชิกได้แลกเปลี่ยนความรู้ด้านวิชาการในเรื่องการบริหารเมือง เพื่อนำความรู้ไปใช้ประโยชน์ในการพัฒนาเมืองของตนต่อไปและยังเป็นการเผยแพร่ศักยภาพการบริหารเมือง และความพร้อมด้านสาธารณูปโภค สาธารณูปการของ กทม.ในสายตาของนักลงทุนต่างชาติ ตลอดจนเป็นการเผยแพร่การท่องเที่ยว กทม.และประเทศไทย และส่งเสริมให้สื่อประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุมซิตี้เน็ตมีในหลายทิศทาง ทั้งหนังสือพิมพ์ วิทยุ โทรทัศน์ และการติดตั้งป้ายตามจุดสำคัญต่าง ๆ ทั่วพื้นที่ กทม. จะทำให้ประชาชนรับทราบถึงความสำคัญ และเป็นการรณรงค์ให้ชาว กทม.ได้ร่วมมือในการต้อนรับแขกผู้มาเยือนเพื่อให้การประชุมครั้งนี้มีประสิทธิภาพ

สำหรับการประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS ๒๐๐๑ จะมีขึ้นระหว่างวันที่ ๒๙ ตุลาคม - ๒ พฤศจิกายน พ.ศ. ๒๕๔๔ ณ ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ โดยการรณรงค์ประชาสัมพันธ์ได้วางแผนไว้หลายรูปแบบ อาทิ ป้ายไตรวิชั่น ๖ จุดสำคัญ ได้แก่ บริเวณแยกอุรุพงษ์ แยกถนนศรีอยุธยา ตัดถนนพระราม ๖ แยกอโศก-สุขุมวิท แยกเพลินจิต แยกราชประสงค์ และบนถนนสุขุมวิท ระหว่างซอย ๘-๑๐ ป้ายผ้าจำนวน ๕๐ ผืน กระจายตามพื้นที่ ๕๐ เขต เป็นต้น.-๓๑๘ ๑๗/

MATICHON
3 OCTOBER 2001

THE BILLBOARDS TO PROMOTE CITYNET CONGRESS TO BE PUT UP AROUND THE CITY

ข่าวสด
3 ต.ค. 2544

15
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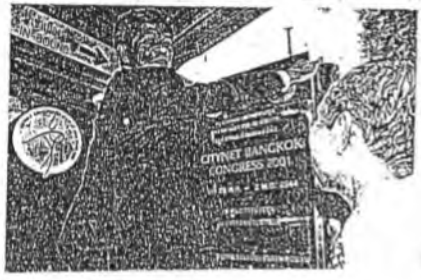


ประชุมซิตี้เน็ต – นายมุตตาฬี หมันยะ รองผู้ว่าฯกทม. เป็นประธานพิธีเปิดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ที่หน้าที่พักผู้โดยสารรถประจำทาง หน้ากรมทางหลวง ถนนศรีอยุธยา เขตราชเทวี ซึ่ง กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมระดับผู้ว่าการนคร นายกเทศมนตรีเมืองเมืองหลวงต่างๆ กว่า 200 คน จาก 44 เมืองหลวงทั่วเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก วันที่ 29 ตุลาคม-2 พฤศจิกายนนี้ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งชาติ

สยามรัฐ
3 ต.ค. 2544

หน้า 6.

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กทม.เจ้าภาพซิตี้เน็ต มุตตาฬี หมันยะ รองผู้ว่าฯกทม. เป็นประธานในพิธีเปิดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม CITYNET-BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ที่กทม.จะจัดประชุมผู้นำ 44 เมือง จาก 20 ประเทศ ในเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก โดยติดไว้ตามป้ายรถเมล์

SIAMRATH
3 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK OFFICIALS OPEN THE BILLBOARD TO PROMOTE CITYNET CONGRESS, 29 OCT- 2 NOV 2001

PIMTHAI
4 OCTOBER 2001

BIG PR FOR CITYNET CONGRESS IS PLANNED

พิมพ์ไทย
-4 ต.ค. 2544

๒)
กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 8

ประชาสัมพันธ์ CITYNET ทั่วเมือง

นางสาวอมรรัตน์ กฤตยานวัช ผู้อำนวยการกองประชาสัมพันธ์ รายงานว่า ขณะที่กรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมองค์การเครือข่าย ความร่วมมือเมืองในเอเชีย แปซิฟิค ว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์ (CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001) ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม - 2 พฤศจิกายน 2544 ณ ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งชาติ โดยในการประชุมดังกล่าวจะมีผู้บริหารระดับผู้นำกรุงเทพมหานคร และนายกเทศมนตรีเมืองสำคัญต่างๆ กว่า 300 คน จาก 16 เมืองหลวง และเมืองสำคัญของประเทศในแถบเอเชีย แปซิฟิค เดินทางมาร่วมประชุมเพื่อหารือแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดเห็นอันจะเป็นประโยชน์อย่างยิ่งต่อแนวทางการบริหารเมืองนั้น เพื่อประชาสัมพันธ์ให้ประชาชนชาวกรุงเทพมหานครในฐานะเจ้าบ้าน ทราบถึงการมาเยือนของผู้นำเมืองในครั้งนี้อย่างทั่วถึง

รวมทั้งมีส่วนร่วมในการต้อนรับและสร้างความประทับใจด้วยอัธยาศัยไมตรีอันดีซึ่งเป็นเอกลักษณ์ของคนไทย กองประชาสัมพันธ์ จึงได้จัดทำสื่อประชาสัมพันธ์หลากหลายรูปแบบขึ้นนี้ ป้ายไวนิลขนาด 6 จุดสำคัญที่เป็นแหล่งชุมชน ได้แก่ บริเวณแยกอุรุพงษ์ แยกถนนศรีอยุธยาตัดถนนพระราม 6 แยกอโศก ถนนวิทย์ แยกเหลิมจัด แยกราชประสงค์ และบนถนนสุขุมวิท ระหว่างซอย 8-10 ป้ายผ้า (BANNER) จำนวน 50 ผืน ติดตั้งตามแหล่งชุมชนต่างๆ ในพื้นที่ 50 เขต ป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์ที่พักผู้โดยสารรถประจำทาง (BUS SHELTER) 8 ป้าย ป้ายข้างสถานที่พักผู้โดยสารรถประจำทาง (ป้ายไซด์บอร์ด) 220 จุดทั่วกรุงเทพฯ ได้รับความอนุเคราะห์จากบริษัทเจซีเดอโก (ประเทศไทย) จำกัด การประชาสัมพันธ์ป้ายเลื่อนเปลี่ยนภาพขนาดใหญ่ ด้านหน้าที่ทำการองค์การสหประชาชาติ (UN) ซึ่งเป็นสถานที่จัดประชุม รวมทั้งการประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุมผ่านสื่อหนังสือพิมพ์ วิทยุ โทรทัศน์ และเพจเจอร์ด้วย ซึ่งในวันนี้ กองประชาสัมพันธ์ได้จัดกิจกรรมเปิดตัวสื่อประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ด้วยการเปิดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์ผู้โดยสารรถประจำทาง (BUS SHELTER) ป้ายข้างสถานที่พักผู้โดยสารรถประจำทาง (ไซด์บอร์ด) และป้ายผ้า (BANNER) ซึ่งเป็นกิจกรรมหนึ่งที่จะทำให้ประชาชนได้รับทราบข่าวสารเกี่ยวกับการประชุม CITYNET เป็นระยะๆ อย่างต่อเนื่อง

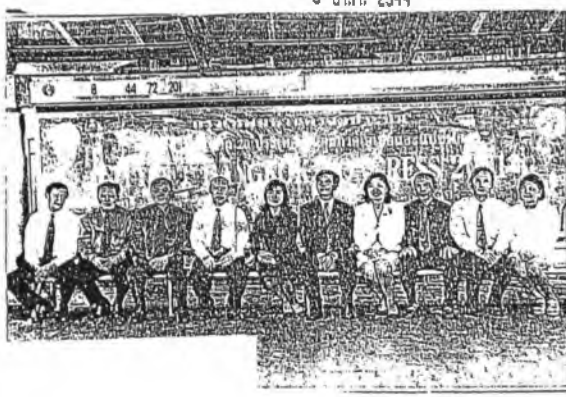
นายมุตตาฝ้า หนิมพะ รองผู้ว่า กรุงเทพมหานคร กล่าวว่า การประชุม CITYNET นอกจากจะทำให้กรุงเทพมหานครและเมืองสมาชิกฯ ได้แลกเปลี่ยนความรู้ด้านวิชาการในเรื่องการบริหารเมืองเพื่อนำความรู้ไปใช้ประโยชน์ในการพัฒนาเมืองของตนเอง รวมถึงก่อให้เกิดมิตรภาพและความร่วมมือในระดับผู้นำเมือง เป็นพลังสร้างสรรค์ให้เกิดสิ่งที่ดีแก่เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิคแล้ว ยังเป็นการเผยแพร่ศักยภาพการบริหารเมืองและความพร้อมทางด้านสาธารณูปโภค สาธารณูปการของกรุงเทพมหานครในสายตาของนักลงทุนต่างชาติ ตลอดจนเป็นการเผยแพร่การท่องเที่ยวกรุงเทพมหานครและประเทศไทยอีกด้วย การส่งเสริมให้มีสื่อประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม CITYNET อย่างหลากหลายทั้งทาง หนังสือพิมพ์ วิทยุ โทรทัศน์ เพจเจอร์ และการติดตั้งป้ายตามจุดสำคัญต่างๆ ทั่วพื้นที่กรุงเทพมหานครจะทำให้ประชาชนได้ทราบว่าขณะนี้กรุงเทพมหานครกำลังดำเนินการอะไร และมีความสำคัญอย่างไร ซึ่งจะก่อให้เกิดความร่วมมือที่ดีระหว่างประชาชนกับกรุงเทพมหานครในการต้อนรับแขกผู้มาเยือนและส่งผลให้การประชุมครั้งนี้เป็นไปอย่างมีประสิทธิภาพได้ผลสมดังเจตนารมณ์ของการประชุมทุกประการ

DIALY NEWS
5 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK OFFICIALS OPEN THE BILLBOARD TO PROMOTE CITYNET CONGRESS, 29 OCT- 2 NOV 2001

เดลินิวส์
- 5 ต.ค. 2544

ของประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
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ป้าย CITYNET นายมุตตาฝ่า แม้นระ รอง ผู้ว่าฯ กทม. เป็นประธานเปิดป้ายประชาสัมพันธ์ การประชุมองค์กรเครือข่ายความร่วมมือด้านภูมิภาค เอเชีย-แปซิฟิก พร้อมกับ นางฉวีนนท ทวีสิน รอง ปลัด กทม. ซึ่งงานนี้ กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพระหว่างวัน ที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย.

อาทิตย์วิเคราะห์รายวัน

23-26

- 7 ต.ค. 2544



SUNDAY ANALYSIS DAILY
7 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK TO HOST THE CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

ข่าวสด
๑ ๓ ต.ค. 2544

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หน้า 28

ข่าวไทย

★ เจ้าภาพซิตี้เน็ต

กรุงเทพฯ - นางมัฐนันท์ ทวีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร (กทม.) กล่าวว่า กทม.ได้รับเกียรติเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม "Citynet Bangkok Congress 2001" ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย. นี้ ณ ศูนย์ประชุมแห่งชาติ โดยการประชุมครั้งนี้จะมีผู้บริหารในระดับผู้ว่าราชการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีเมืองสำคัญต่างๆ กว่า 200 คน จาก 66 เมืองหลวง และเมืองสำคัญของประเทศในแถบเอเชียแปซิฟิก มาแลกเปลี่ยนหารือเกี่ยวกับแนวทางแก้ปัญหาของเมืองร่วมกัน

KAO SOD
13 OCTOBER 2001

BMA TO HOST THE CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

เก้าแม่อิง
22 ตค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม
หน้า 21

กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพประชุม CITYNET

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รายงานพิเศษ

กรุงเทพมหานครได้รับเกียรติเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม "CITYNET Bangkok Congress 2001" ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย.2544 ณ ศูนย์ประชุมแห่งประเทศไทย โดยการประชุมดังกล่าวจะมีผู้บริหารในระดับผู้ว่าการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีเมืองสำคัญต่างๆ กว่า 300 คน จาก 66 เมืองหลวงและเมืองสำคัญของประเทศในแถบเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก เดินทางมาเข้าร่วมประชุมเพื่อหารือและแลกเปลี่ยนแนวทางการแก้ปัญหาของเมืองร่วมกัน

นางณฐนนท์ ศรีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร เปิดเผยว่า การประชุม "CITYNET Bangkok Congress 2001" ประกอบด้วยการประชุมใหญ่คณะกรรมาธิการบริหารองค์การ CITYNET ในวันที่ 29 ต.ค.และ 1 พ.ย.2544 ซึ่งจะมีการเลือกตั้งผู้บริหารใหม่ รวมทั้งกำหนดประเทศเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม CITYNET ในอีก 4 ปีข้างหน้า และระหว่างวันที่ 29-31 ต.ค.2544 จะมีการประชุมกลุ่มย่อยภายใต้หัวข้อต่างๆ อันเกี่ยวข้องกับการพัฒนาและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง ซึ่งเรียกว่า "Bazaar of Ideas" มีหัวข้อที่น่าสนใจ อาทิ การเสวนาระหว่างภูมิภาคเอเชียและยุโรป เรื่องความร่วมมือในการกระจายอำนาจด้านการจัดการเมืองสู่ท้องถิ่น การขยายการบริการสาธารณะสู่ผู้มีรายได้น้อยในชุมชนเมือง การสื่อสารระหว่างนคร ความร่วมมือระหว่างภาครัฐและภาคเอกชนในการพัฒนาการคมนาคมขนส่ง รวมถึงการบริหารการปกครองเมืองที่เป็นศูนย์กลางประชากร เป็นต้น

นอกจากนี้ ณ ห้องโถงชั้นล่างของศูนย์ประชุมแห่งประชาชาติจะมีการจัดนิทรรศการทางวิชาการของเมืองสมาชิกองค์การ CITYNET นิทรรศการเผยแพร่ของชุมชน 50 เขต และนิทรรศการการท่องเที่ยวของกรุงเทพมหานคร ซึ่งเป็นโอกาสที่กทม.จะได้แสดงศักยภาพของชุมชนในการจัดกิจกรรมพัฒนาชุมชนและสร้างสรรค์ผลิตภัณฑ์คุณภาพที่สร้างรายได้ให้แก่ท้องถิ่น รวมทั้งเป็นโอกาสที่จะแนะนำสถานที่ท่องเที่ยวที่สำคัญในกรุงเทพฯให้เป็นที่รู้จักของชาวต่างชาติ ซึ่งประเทศในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกมีที่ตั้งอยู่ใกล้เคียงกัน ไม่เอื้ออำนวยต่อการเชื่อมเครือข่ายด้านการท่องเที่ยวระหว่างกันเป็นอย่างยิ่ง

ทั้งนี้ กรุงเทพมหานครยังได้เตรียมสร้างความประทับใจให้แก่ผู้มาร่วมประชุม CITYNET โดยในค่ำวันที่ 31 ต.ค. ซึ่งเป็นเทศกาลลอยกระทงนั้น กทม.ได้จัดให้ผู้นำเมืองล่องเรือชมแสงประทีปจากกระทงในแม่น้ำเจ้าพระยา ซึ่งเป็นความงดงามของประเพณีลอยกระทง เอกลักษณ์วัฒนธรรมไทยที่เลื่องลือไปทั่วโลก และในวันที่ 2 พ.ย. กทม.ได้จัดโปรแกรมการท่องเที่ยวทัศนาจร 3 เส้นทางที่เน้นให้เห็นถึงการอนุรักษ์ศิลปวัฒนธรรมไทยในอดีตให้คงอยู่คู่กับการพัฒนาเมืองให้ก้าวหน้าทันสมัย ได้แก่ เส้นทางที่ 1 การดูงานรถไฟฟ้า BTS เยี่ยมชมตลาดนัดจตุจักรและตลาดอตก. เส้นทางที่ 2 เยี่ยมชมการบริหารงานของสำนักงานเขตทวีวัฒนา ล่องเรือชมวิถีชีวิตริมคลองและเที่ยวสวนสามพราน เส้นทางที่ 3 ศึกษาดูงานโรงบำบัดน้ำเสียสี่พระยา และเยี่ยมชมพระบรมหาราชวัง วัดพระศรีรัตนศาสดาราม นอกจากนี้ ยังมีการจัดโปรแกรมทัศนาจรพิเศษตามอัธยาศัย สำหรับคู่สมรสและผู้ติดตามของผู้นำเมือง

การประชุม CITYNET Bangkok Congress 2001 นอกจากจะทำให้กรุงเทพมหานครและเมืองสมาชิก CITYNET ได้รับและแลกเปลี่ยนความรู้ด้านวิชาการในเรื่องการบริหารเมือง เพื่อนำความรู้ไปใช้ประโยชน์ในการพัฒนาเมืองของตนต่อไปแล้ว ยังเป็นการประชาสัมพันธ์ศักยภาพการบริหารเมืองและความพร้อมทางด้านสาธารณูปโภคของกรุงเทพมหานครในสายตาของนักลงทุนต่างชาติ รวมทั้งเป็นการเผยแพร่การท่องเที่ยวกทม.และประเทศไทยอีกด้วย

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กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
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CITYNETงานใหญ่ที่กลัดตัว....

ไต้ฝุ่น กทม.

เกิดเหตุวิกฤติขึ้นที่ไร ไม่ว่าจะเป็นเพียงมุมหนึ่งของโลก แต่ปลาเล็กปลาน้อยอย่าง ประเทศในแถบเอเชียก็พลอยติดร่างแห และรับผลกระทบไปด้วย

นั่นเป็นข้อพิสูจน์อย่างหนึ่งว่า แม้ว่าเราจะพยายามหลีกเลี่ยงอย่างไร ก็ไม่อาจจะหลบกระแสของโลกไร้พรมแดนได้พ้น จึงต้องหันกลับมามองตัวเราเองว่า วันนี้เรา "แกร่ง" พอแล้วหรือยัง โดยเฉพาะสายใยที่เกาะยึดกันไว้ด้วยสายสัมพันธ์ทางด้านเศรษฐกิจ การค้า การลงทุน การท่องเที่ยว ตลอดจนสังคม และวัฒนธรรม ระหว่างกลุ่มประเทศในอเซีย ด้วยกันจำต้องเหนียวแน่น พอที่จะปรับการ ก้นกันอันตรายทั้งปวงที่จะมาถึงได้เป็นอย่างดี

ด้วยความเป็นมหานคร อันเป็นศูนย์รวมของทุกสิ่ง ทั้งด้านเศรษฐกิจ สังคม ความเจริญ และผู้คน ทำให้กรุงเทพมหานครเป็น "จุดรวมของปัญหา" ไปโดยปริยาย และเป็นภาระของ เมือง ซึ่งไม่อาจจะปฏิเสธที่จะแก้ไขได้ แต่แนวทางใดจึงจะเป็นการแก้ไขปัญหาของเมือง ที่ได้ผลดีที่สุด และสอดรับการกับเครือข่ายระหว่างกัน ไม่มีใครจะสรุปได้เพียงลำพัง จึงจำเป็นที่เมืองทุกเมืองจะต้องมาพบปะพูดคุยกัน แลกเปลี่ยน และระดมสมองในการแก้ไขปัญหาของเมืองร่วมกัน

ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม ถึง 2 พฤศจิกายน นี้ ผู้นำเมือง 66 เมือง จาก 20 ประเทศ ในกลุ่มภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกจะมาพร้อมกันที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ กรุงเทพฯ ในการประชุมใหญ่ "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ซึ่งกรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพร่วมกับองค์การสหประชาชาติ และองค์กรเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์ (CITYNET) โดยนายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร ซึ่งดำรงตำแหน่ง Vice President ขององค์กร CITYNET จะทำหน้าที่เป็นท่องานในครั้งนี้

ประเด็นสำคัญที่กลุ่มผู้นำเมืองสมาชิกเครือข่าย CITYNET จะหยิบยกขึ้นมาหารือกันในครั้งนี้ ล้วนแต่เป็นปัญหาของเมืองที่ต้องเร่งรัดแก้ไขทั้งสิ้น โดยจะมีการแบ่งกลุ่มสัมมนาออกเป็นกลุ่มย่อย 8 กลุ่ม ได้แก่ กลุ่มสัมมนาในหัวข้อ ชุมชนร่วมใจรักษาสิ่งแวดล้อม และกิจกรรมการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย, การอภิปราย ระหว่างกลุ่มเอเชียและยุโรปในหัวข้อความร่วมมือในการกระจายอำนาจด้านการบริหารจัดการเมืองสู่ท้องถิ่น, การร่วมทุนระหว่างภาครัฐและเอก ชนด้านการขนส่งในเมือง, ธรรมรัฐโดยประชาชน, การสร้างเครือข่ายให้เมืองได้เข้าสู่แหล่งความรู้และทรัพยากร, การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างการปกครองส่วนท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน, การขยายบริการไปสู่ผู้มีรายได้น้อยในชุมชนเมือง และหัวข้อการสร้างเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับเด็กหรือ "เมืองเพื่อนเด็ก"

> ***ด้วยความเป็นมหานคร อันเป็นศูนย์รวมของทุกสิ่ง ทั้งด้านเศรษฐกิจ สังคม ความเจริญ และผู้คน ทำให้กรุงเทพมหานครได้เป็นจุดรวม ของปัญหา" ไปโดยปริยาย และเป็นภาระของเมืองซึ่งไม่ อาจจะปฏิเสธที่จะแก้ไขได้***

"กรุงเทพมหานครมีโอกาสเป็นเจ้าภาพการจัดการประชุมใหญ่ระดับนานาชาติหลายครั้งแล้ว แต่ครั้งนี้เป็นครั้งที่น่าติดตามเพราะเรื่องที่จะพูดคุยกันล้วนเกี่ยวข้องกับตัวประชา ชนโดยตรง การประชุมทั้ง 8 หัวข้อนั้นจะทำให้เกิดการแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดในการบริหารและพัฒนาเมืองร่วมกันจะหว่างผู้นำเมืองต่างๆ ซึ่งจะนำไปสู่การแก้ไขปัญหาและการพัฒนาเมืองที่น่าอยู่อย่างยั่งยืนต่อไป" นางณฐนนท ทรีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร กล่าว

การประชุมเครือข่ายระหว่างเมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกครั้งนี้ ถือเป็นเกียรติอย่างหนึ่งที่กรุงเทพมหานครได้เป็นเจ้าภาพ ซึ่งจะเป็นผลดีที่เมืองต่างๆ ของประเทศไทย รวมทั้งกรุงเทพฯจะได้เปิดตัวให้บรรดาทูตานุทูต และผู้นำจากเมืองต่างๆได้เห็นศักยภาพของเมืองว่ามีความเจริญก้าวหน้ามากขึ้นเพียงใด ขณะเดียวกันก็เป็นโอกาสดีที่กรุงเทพฯจะแสดงความเป็น "เมืองแห่งวัฒนธรรม" City Of Culture ให้ต่างชาติได้สัมผัสกับบรรยากาศประเพณีลอยกระทง ซึ่งเป็นเอกลักษณ์ที่งดงามของไทยด้วย

เวลานี้ผ่านไปทางไหนจะเห็นป้ายข้อความประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ติดอยู่ตามแยกต่างๆ บ้าง ป้ายรถเมล์และตามชุมชนต่างๆ บ้าง เพื่อเชิญชวนให้ชาวกรุงเทพฯร่วมเป็นเจ้าภาพในการประชุมครั้งนี้ ซึ่งเป็นโอกาสดีแล้วที่เราจะได้มีส่วนในการสร้างความประทับใจให้แก่ผู้ที่จะมาพบเห็นบ้านเมืองของเรา โดยการเป็น "เจ้าบ้าน" ที่ดีต้อนรับขับสู้ด้วยไมตรี ให้สมกับที่ได้ชื่อว่าเมืองแห่งวัฒนธรรมและรอยยิ้ม..

PIMTHAI
22 OCTOBER 2001

THE CITYNET TO FOCUS ON CITY PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENT

สยามรัฐ
22 OCT. 2544

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กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 6

ประชุม CITYNET งานใหญ่ที่ว่าด้วยเรื่องใกล้ตัว

เกิดเหตุวิกฤติขึ้นที่ไหน ไม่ว่าจะเป็นเพียงมุมหนึ่งของโลก แต่ปลาเล็กปลาน้อยอย่างประเทศในแถบเอเชียก็พลอยพัดร่วงแห และรับผลกระทบไปด้วย

นั่นเป็นข้อพิสูจน์อย่างหนึ่งว่า แม้ว่าเราจะพยายามหลีกเลี่ยงอย่างไร ก็ไม่อาจจะหลบการแสของโลกไร้พรมแดนได้พ้น จึงต้องหันกลับมามอง ตัวเราเองว่า วันนี้เรา "แกร่ง" พอแล้วหรือยัง

โดยเฉพาะสายใยที่เกาะยึดกันไว้ด้วยสาย สัมพันธ์ทางด้านเศรษฐกิจ การค้า การลงทุน การท่องเที่ยว ตลอดจนสังคมและวัฒนธรรม ระหว่างกลุ่มประเทศในเอเชียด้วยกันจำต้องเหนียวแน่น พอที่จะเป็นปราการกั้นภัยอันตรายทั้งปวงที่จะมากรีดให้เป็นรอยได้

ด้วยความเป็นมหานคร อันเป็นศูนย์รวมของทุกสิ่ง ทั้งด้านเศรษฐกิจ สังคม ความเจริญ และผู้คนทำให้ทุกเมืองกลายเป็น "จุดรวมของปัญหา" ไปโดยปริยาย และเป็นภาระของเมืองซึ่งไม่มีทางจะปฏิเสธที่จะแก้ไขได้ แต่แนวทางใดจึงจะเป็นการแก้ไขปัญหาของเมืองที่ได้ผลดีที่สุด และเหมาะกับเครือข่ายระหว่างกัน ไม่มีใครจะสรุปได้เพียงลำพังจึงจำเป็นที่เมืองทุกเมืองจะต้องมาพบประพูดคุยกัน แลกเปลี่ยน และระดมสมองในการแก้ไขปัญหาของเมืองร่วมกัน

ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม -2 พฤศจิกายนนี้ จะมีผู้นำเมือง 66 เมือง จาก 20 ประเทศในกลุ่มภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกจะมาพร้อมกันที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ กรุงเทพฯ ในการประชุม ใหญ่ "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ซึ่งกรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพร่วมกับองค์การสหประชาชาติ และองค์กรเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์ (CITYNET) โดยนายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร ซึ่งดำรงตำแหน่ง Vice President ขององค์การ CITYNET จะทำหน้าที่เป็นพ่องานในครั้งนี้

ประเด็นสำคัญที่กลุ่มผู้นำเมืองสมาชิกเครือข่าย CITYNET จะหยิบยกขึ้นมาหารือกันในครั้งนี้ ล้วนแต่เป็นปัญหาของเมืองที่ต้องเร่งรัดแก้ไขทั้งสิ้น โดยจะมีการแบ่งกลุ่มสัมมนาออกเป็นกลุ่มย่อย 8 กลุ่ม ได้แก่ กลุ่มสัมมนาในหัวข้อ ชุมชนร่วมใจรักษาสิ่งแวดล้อมและกิจครุรมการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย, การอภิปรายระหว่างกลุ่มเอเชียและยุโรปในหัวข้อความร่วมมือในการระจายอำนาจด้านการ



บริหารจัดการเมืองสู่ท้องถิ่น, การร่วมทุนระหว่างภาครัฐและเอกชนด้านการขนส่งในเมือง, ธรรมรัฐโดยประชาชน, การสร้างเครือข่ายให้เมืองได้เข้าสู่แหล่งความรู้และทรัพยากร, การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างการปกครองส่วนท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน, การขยายบริการไปสู่ผู้มีรายได้น้อยในชุมชนเมือง และหัวข้อการสร้างเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก หรือ "เมืองเพื่อนเด็ก"

"กรุงเทพมหานครมีโอกาสเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมใหญ่ระดับนานาชาติหลายครั้งแล้ว แต่ครั้งนี้เป็นครั้งที่น่าติดตามเพราะเรื่องที่จะพูดคุยกันล้วนเกี่ยวข้องกับตัวประชาชนโดยตรง การประชุมทั้ง 8 หัวข้อนั้นจะทำให้เกิดการแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดในการบริหารและพัฒนาเมืองร่วมกันระหว่างผู้นำเมืองต่างๆ ซึ่งจะนำไปสู่การแก้ไขปัญหาและการพัฒนาเมืองที่น่าอยู่อย่างยั่งยืนต่อไป" นายสุรนนท หริลิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานครกล่าว

การประชุมเครือข่ายระหว่างเมืองใหญ่ภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกครั้งนี้ ถือเป็นเกียรติอย่างหนึ่งที่กรุงเทพมหานครได้เป็นเจ้าภาพ ซึ่งจะเป็นผลดีที่เมืองต่างๆ ของประเทศไทย รวมทั้งกรุงเทพฯ จะได้เปิดตัวให้บรรดาทูตานุทูตและผู้นำจากเมืองต่างๆ ได้เห็นเสี้ยวภาพของเมืองว่ามีความเจริญก้าวหน้ามากขึ้นเพียงใด

ขณะเดียวกันก็เป็นโอกาสดีที่กรุงเทพฯ จะแสดงความเป็น "เมืองแห่งวัฒนธรรม" City Of Culture ให้ต่างชาติได้สัมผัสกับบรรยากาศประเพณีลอยกระทงซึ่งเป็นเอกลักษณ์ที่งดงามของไทยด้วย

เวลานี้ผ่านไปทางไหนจะเห็นป้ายข้อความประชาสัมพันธ์การประชุม "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ติดอยู่ตามแยกต่างๆ บ้าง ป้ายรถเมล์และตามชุมชนต่างๆ บ้าง เพื่อเชิญชวนให้ชาวกรุงเทพฯ ร่วมเป็นเจ้าภาพในการประชุมครั้งนี้ ซึ่งเป็นโอกาสดีแล้วที่เราจะได้มีส่วนในการสร้างความประทับใจให้แก่ผู้ที่จะมาพบเห็นบ้านเมืองของเรา โดยการเป็น "เจ้าบ้าน" ที่ต้อนรับขับสู้ด้วยไมตรี ให้สมกับที่ได้ชื่อว่า เมืองแห่งวัฒนธรรมและรอยยิ้ม

■ ฝ่ายเผยแพร่ กองประชาสัมพันธ์กทม.

SIAMRATH
22 OCTOBER 2001

THE CITYNET'S AGENDA ON PRESENT SITUATION

DAILY NEWS
23 OCTOBER 2001

GOVERNOR SAMAK CHAIRED A PRESS CONFERENCE ON
"CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001"

เดลินิวส์
23 ต.ค. 2544
กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 26



ประชุม CITYNET นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าฯกทม. เป็นประธานแถลงข่าว การจัดประชุมใหญ่ "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ระดมสมองผู้นำเมือง 119 คนจาก 68 เมืองในเอเชีย แปซิฟิก เพื่อหาแนวทางแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง 29 พ.ย.-2 ธ.ค.นี้

พิมพ์ไทย
24 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 8

21

รับยิ่งใหญ่แขกเมือง ร่วมเสวนาซิตี้เน็ต

น.ส.อรมรัตน์ กฤตยานวัช ผู้อำนวยการกองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.เปิดเผยว่า กรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย.44 นี้ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ ถนนราชดำเนินนอก โดยมีผู้ว่าการนคร และนายกเทศมนตรีเมือง จาก 66 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิค เดินทางมาร่วมประชุม ในการนี้ กรุงเทพมหานครได้จัดเส้นทางท่องเที่ยว 3 เส้นทางต้อนรับผู้นำเมือง ผู้ติดตามและคู่สมรส เพื่อแสดงให้ผู้มาเยือนได้เห็นถึงความผสมกลมกลืนระหว่างการอนุรักษ์วัฒนธรรมไทย และความก้าวหน้าทันสมัยของเมือง โดยเส้นทางที่ 1 ดูงานรถไฟฟ้า BTS เยี่ยมชมตลาด อตก.และตลาด

จตุจักร เส้นทางที่ 2 เที่ยวงานราษฎร์บูรณะแฟร์ ดูงานสำนักงานเขตทวีวัฒนา ล่องเรือชมวิถีชีวิตริมคลอง และเที่ยวสวนสามพราน เส้นทางที่ 3 ศึกษาดูงานโรงบำบัดน้ำเสียห้องนนทรี เขตยานนาวา และชมความงามของพระบรมมหาราชวังรวมทั้งได้จัดให้ผู้นำเมืองร่วมงานประเพณีลอยกระทงอันมีชื่อเสียงของไทยในคืนวันลอยกระทง วันพุธที่ 31 ต.ค. 44 ณ ได้สะพานพระราม 8 อีกด้วย

นอกจากนี้ หลายสำนักงานเขตของกรุงเทพมหานครยังได้ดำเนินการพัฒนาทำความสะอาดความเป็นระเบียบเรียบร้อยของพื้นที่ เพื่อต้อนรับและสร้างภาพลักษณ์ที่ดีให้ผู้นำเมืองที่มาร่วมประชุม CITYNET เกิดความประทับใจ

PIMTHAI
24 OCTOBER 2001

AN IMPRESSIVE WELCOMING CEREMONY FOR ATTENDANTS OF "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" IS PLANNED

17-19

24/10/44

น.ส.พ.เกียอัวตงง้วนรายวัน (กรีนดร) 報台合聯原中華京 KIA HUA TONG NGUAN (SIRINA

亞太大城市網絡會議下週在泰舉行

討論提高各國城市社區生活素質，曼谷市議員選舉明年六月間舉行

【本報訊】京市網絡會議」將于二十九日上午九時至六月廿四日進行。

另，選舉地方市議員選舉（選舉區此方之議員）將于十月廿九日舉行。

十月廿九日至十一月二日在本京聯合國會議中心舉行

京警首長乃沙

泰亞太區城合作

之網絡，通常每四年舉行一次，係在會員國之間輪流舉行，而現事會則每年舉行。本人以身為，根據副主席身份，去年秒到馬來西亞舉行過一次理事會議。

對于是次由京加建次會議之重要，他組織，「被邀參人物，便係予人比門前間，主人必須便訪問者有賓至如歸的感覺，讓他們留下美好的印象。」

（本報訊）京警方政警權處主任乃塔都猶目前報告

泊，由於每日五十

五四一年四月廿六日現場的，納診二五四九年四月廿五日起為期一週，塔猶選舉後的一批市參議員米代表任期

滿者。對此，對於各城市必須改善的問題作出調查工作，目前仍然二三八年京警方政規劃條例和二三二一年選舉曼谷市議員和京

警方安排選舉

京警首長乃沙和京警副首長，今正在上議院答辯中。

規定，並將須在不超六十天前二五四五年六月廿四日進行。

防部長維立上將的「二〇〇一城市網絡會議」，將于十月廿九日至十一月二日在本京聯合國會議中心舉行

京警首長乃沙

將在部份縣曼谷少年（季一日）中心

設置安全機代，與投票所合作。

京警首長發後將保出來負實選舉人用，選舉委員會和京警首

長會，而在期後選舉，也是屆滿任切換不超四十五天內進行

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（本報訊）京市議員，關發民間機構（ZGOS），擬有教育機關，研究總等，在經濟、貿易、投資、社會、文化合作，並且是交換泊理大城市問題

驚見驚見，將安排討論重要向

鄉計九個議題，當各城市必須改善的問題作出調查。城市管理，權力分佈，開發住屋，城市與人問題，環境交通問題等等。

「二〇〇一城

包括四太區域六個大城市之首長，

針有城市網絡會員機構「二九宗

理事會議。

衛生局供叻甲曼縣服務

京警衛生局長吉聯生說：衛生局為更深入為民眾在醫療方面提供服務，乃長期出動流動公共衛生服務中心到鄉鄉地帶去。

衛生局長組這：流動公共衛生服務中心，下次將於十月廿四日上午九時至中午赴叻甲曼縣干坑哈叻甲曼鄉本社區服務，服務項目計有診療一般病疾，口腔健康，治牙齒，牙病，予初出世至不超五歲的幼孩提供注射預防白喉，百日咳，破口風，麻痺症和B型肝病，並有檢驗視探糞肺病，此外還有對心理健康，藥品和艾滋病提供預防服務。

此外，市府還有計劃超事為家畜注射防染水底射菌和實施育手術。

กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดประชุม CITYNET ระดมความคิดพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตชุมชนเมือง

KIA HUA TING NGUAN
24 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK TO HOST THE CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

24 / 10 / 44 14-16

น.ส.พ. ของเอเชียนวารสาร — 新中原报 New Chinese Daily News

二零零一城市網絡會議

曼谷市府與聯合國及亞太區國家聯辦討論改善社會問題提高市民生活水準

京華訊聯合國機構副主席舟份，去年抄到馬來西亞舉行城市一次理事會議，對于是次由京華和亞太區域辦事處必須改善的問題作出立網絡合作（CITYNET）的「二〇〇一城市網絡會議」，將于十月廿九日至十一月二日在本京華會議中心舉行。

京華市長乃沙包括亞太區域六大個大城市之首長，國際機構，開發民間機構（NGOS），還有教育機構，研究團等，在經濟，貿易，投資，社會，文化合作，並且是交換而舉辦。

會期間舉辦，為城大城市問題意見之論台，將安排

（1100）城市網絡會議」，將于廿九日上午九時揭幕，各全體代表出席。

京華市長表示，是次會議之重要主持開幕儀式，會中並舉行曼谷五十公路外國之圓環路線，雖然見附近的下馬路的印象。

京華副次長乃是里十九報告道，久華辦「四四曼谷馬拉松賽跑」，

京華訊報道：曼谷是有許多「首度」點城市，包括城市關係，市場物品在賓會地七時，京華官員將在

京華副次長乃是里十九報告道，久華辦「四四曼谷馬拉松賽跑」，

四四曼谷馬拉松賽

十一月廿五日開跑

是期日）舉辦「四四曼谷馬拉松賽跑」，

京華副次長乃是里十九報告道，久華辦「四四曼谷馬拉松賽跑」，

旨在使之成為曼谷固定常年賽跑，加吸引外國長跑家來上促進以便與人民舉國旅遊，收入將是歐盟上施下充作推廣泉，並是南塔希八世基金會基金會，能夠夢基金會基金

乘一日）中心設宴，席先生對路，京華將舉辦，他道：「歡迎參加，一、四二、一九五公里是馬拉松長跑，凌晨三、三十分時開始，二、十公里小馬拉松，早晨六時正開始，三、輪椅類，自凌晨三、廿時開始，出發點和終點者在沙南寶路，估料將有超過一萬人參加，報名費馬拉松和輪椅每人五百銖，小馬拉松每人三百銖，年齡不超十九歲者每人一五〇銖，有意參加者可撥電〇二一二八〇七六七至八報名，（現場並有報名）。CZ

參跑分為三項類，地點在沙南寶路，

1. กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดประชุม CITYNET ระดมความคิดพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตชุมชนเมือง

NEW CHINESE DAILY NEWS
24 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK TO HOST CITYNET CONGRESS 2001

關於2545年選舉市參議員

京華行政督導署主任乃塔越頒十九日報告道：由於參合五十縣之市參議員（第二五四一屆）四月廿六日選舉的，將于二五四五年四月廿五日滿屆任期，將舉選舉新的一批市議員來代替任滿屆者，目前仍照二五二八年京華行政規則條例和二五三一年選舉參合市參議員和京華首長條例，舉例由京華負責執選舉事宜，並將須在不超過六十天即二五四五年六月廿日舉行。

另，選舉地方參議員或地方行政員條例草案，其中實制及選舉市參議員和京華首長，今正在上議院審查中，倘該條例草案何時施用，選舉委員會將係出席負責選舉市參議員和京華首長者，而在屆滿任期後重新選舉，也是自屆滿任期後不超四十五天內進行。

報 24日 / 界 10世 / 4ก หนังสือพิมพ์สากล 12-13

亞太城市網絡會議廿九日曼谷舉行

【本報訊】京署與聯合國和亞太區域關於建立網絡合作（CITYNET）的「二〇〇一城市網路會議」，將於十月廿九日至十月二日在本京舉行國際會議中心舉行。

京署首長乃沙昌十九日在新聞發佈會報告道，CITYNET是一大區域合作之網絡，通常每四年舉行一次，係在會員國之間輪流舉行，而理事會則每年舉行。本人以身爲本機構副主席身份，去年秒到馬來西亞舉行過一次理事會議。

對於是次由京署主辦是第五屆大會，計有城市網路會員機構二十九宗，包括亞太區域六六個大城市之首長，市長，區際機構，開發民間機構（NGOS），還有城會機構，研究所等，在經濟，貿易，投資，社會文化合作，並且是交換資訊大城市問題意見之講台，將安排討論重要問題計九個集團，要各城市必須改善的問題恍似例如：城市管理，權力分佈，開發社區，城市窮人問題，環境，交通問題等等。

「二〇〇一城市網絡會議」將於廿九日上午九時揭幕，副總理兼國防部長陳哇立將將主持開幕儀式，會中並舉行曼谷五十縣精品服裝會。晚七時，京署首長將在某餐廳舉行少年（泰籍）中心設宴爲各地代表餞風。

京署首長陳後還，曼谷是有許多「悠閒」點城市，包括城市開發，市內交通網絡，高速公路外圍之圓環路線，雖然是剛發動，惟是走對路了，京署將繼續推進。他繼道：「希望參加這次會議之重要人物，便像客人登門訪問，主人必須使訪問者有賓至如歸的感覺，讓他們留下美觀的印象。

2. กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดประชุม CITYNET ระดมความคิดพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตชุมชนเมือง

UNIVERSAL NEWS
24 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK TO HOST THE CITYNET CONGRESS 2001

25 / 10 / 44 10-11

น. ส. พ. ดงฮั่ว 中華日報 TONG HUA DAILY NEWS

曼谷市議員選舉明年六月間舉行

（本報訊）內政部警政署保安警察總隊第一大隊長王任乃塔越獄目前報告指出，由於曼谷五十名市參議員係二五四一年四月廿六日選出的，將於二五四五年四月廿五日屆滿任期，將依據現行地方行政法案，其中曼谷市參議員和市長選舉，今年在上議院修正中，倘該修例法案何時通過，選舉委員會將依法來決定選舉日

มติชน

25 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 15



ประชุมซิตี้เน็ต – นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร แถลงข่าวจัดประชุมใหญ่ "ซิตี้เน็ต แมง กรอก คองเกรส 2001" ระดมสมองผู้นำเมือง 116 กทม. อาทิ อดีตเมืองไทเปเซี่ยงไฮ้ ที่ปรึกษาด้านนโยบายแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง รองนายกฯ ที่ ธรรมศาสตร์ ที่ศูนย์ราชการประชุมสหประชาชาติ อนุสรา ศันนิยา ไพฑูรย์ ธนะชัย นนท ศรีอิน รองปลัด กทม. และตัวแทนอาเซียนร่วมแถลงข่าวที่ศาลาว่าการ กทม. เมื่อวันที่

MATICHON
25 OCTOBER 2001

GOVERNOR SAMAK AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ON
"CITYNET CONGRESS 2001"

พิมพ์ไทย
25 ตค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 8

ทั่ว กทม.พัฒนาความสะอาด ต้อนรับประชุม CITYNET

น.ส.อมรรัตน์ กฤตยานวัช ผู้อำนวยการกองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม. เปิดเผยว่า กรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย. 44 นี้ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ ถนนรัชดำเนินนอก โดยมีผู้ว่าการนคร และนายกเทศมนตรีเมือง จาก 66 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิค เดินทางมาร่วมประชุม ในการนี้กรุงเทพมหานครได้จัดเส้นทางท่องเที่ยว 3 เส้นทางต้อนรับผู้นำเมือง ผู้ติดตามและคู่สมรส เพื่อแสดงให้ผู้มาเยือนได้เห็นถึงความผสมกลมกลืนระหว่าง การอนุรักษ์วัฒนธรรมไทย และความก้าหน้าทันสมัยของเมือง โดยเส้นทางที่ 1 ดูงานรถไฟฟ้า BTS เยี่ยมชมตลาดอตก. และ ตลาดจตุจักร เส้นทางที่ 2 เที่ยวงานราษฎร์บูรณะแฟร์ ดูงานล่าน้างานเขตทวีวัฒนา ล่องเรือชมวิถีชีวิตริมคลอง และ เที่ยวสวนสามพราน เส้นทางที่ 3 ศึกษาดูงานโรงบำบัดน้ำเสียช่องนนทรี เขตยานนาวา และชมความงามของพระบรมมหาราชวัง ร่วมทั้งได้จัดให้ผู้นำเมืองร่วมงานประเพณีลอยกระทงยี่เป็งของไทยในคืนวันลอยกระทงวันพุธที่31 ต.ค. 44 ณ ใต้สะพานพระราม 8 อีกด้วย

นอกจากนี้ หลายสำนักงานเขตของกรุงเทพมหานครยังได้ดำเนินการพัฒนาทำความสะอาด ความเป็นระเบียบเรียบร้อยของพื้นที่ เพื่อต้อนรับและสร้างภาพลักษณ์ที่ดีให้ผู้นำเมืองที่มาร่วมประชุม CITYNET เกิดความประทับใจ มากมายไม่ว่าจะเป็น เขตราษฎร์บูรณะ ได้จัดโครงการล้างทำความสะอาดทางเท้าในถนนต่างๆ ทั่วพื้นที่เขตราษฎร์บูรณะเพื่อต้อนรับผู้นำเมือง ที่มีกำหนดมาเที่ยวชมงานราษฎร์บูรณะแฟร์ ในวันที่ 2 พ.ย.นี้ โดยวันที่ 25 ต.ค. 44 ตั้งแต่เวลา 09.00-12.00 น. ทำความสะอาดบริเวณถนนสุขสวัสดิ์ (ขาออก) เริ่มจากสามแยกถนนราษฎร์พัฒนา ถึงซอยไต้ทางด่วนสุขสวัสดิ์

เขตพระโขนง ในวันพุธที่ 24 ต.ค. 44 เวลา 22.00-24.00 น. จะดำเนินการทำความสะอาดทางเท้าบริเวณปากซอย ถนนสุขุมวิท 101 - ปากซอยสุขุมวิท 101/1 วันเสาร์ที่ 27 ต.ค. 44 เวลา 22.00-24.00 น. ดำเนินการทำความสะอาดทางเท้าในบริเวณซอยสุขุมวิท 101/1 หน้าตลาดมหาสิน โดยมีเจ้าหน้าที่รักษาความสะอาดและเจ้าหน้าที่เทศกิจ สำนักงานเขตพระโขนงดำเนินการ, เขตวัฒนา จะทำความสะอาดบริเวณสะพานลอยคนข้ามปลายซอยเอกมัย ในวันพุธที่ 24 ต.ค. 44 เวลา 05.00-06.00 น.,เขตคลองเตย ตั้งแต่บัดนี้ถึงวันที่ 31 ต.ค. 44 เขตคลองเตยกำหนดปรับปรุงเกาะกลางถนนสุขุมวิทตลอดสาย ตัดแต่งต้นไม้ ปลูกต้นพลับพลึง ต้นไทรทอง และล้างทำความสะอาดทางเท้า ณ จุดผ่อนผันผู้ค้า ถ.สุขุมวิท และถ.พระราม 4

เขตจตุจักร วันที่ 23 ต.ค.44 กำหนดพัฒนาความสะอาดพื้นที่บริเวณปากซอยพหลโยธิน 35 ถึง ถนนวิภาวดี วันที่ 27 ต.ค.44 พัฒนาทำความสะอาดซอยเสือใหญ่อุทิศ วันที่ 28 ต.ค.44 ล้างรั้วเหล็กกั้นเกาะกลางถนนพหลโยธินตลอดสาย,เขตพระนคร วันที่ 23 ต.ค.44 ล้างทางเท้าบริเวณวัดตรีทศเทพ วันที่ 24 ต.ค.44 ล้างทางเท้าและบริเวณโดยรอบวัดเทพธิดาราม วันที่ 25 ต.ค.44 ล้างทางเท้าและผิวจราจร ถ.อัษฎางค์ วันที่ 26 ต.ค. 44 ล้างทางเท้าและผิวจราจร ถ.กรุงเกษมตลอดสาย วันที่ 27 ต.ค. 44 ทำความสะอาด ถ.ประชาธิปไตย ตั้งแต่สะพานวันชาติ-แยกกรุงเกษม ทั้ง 2 ฝั่ง วันที่ 29 ต.ค. 44 ทำความสะอาด ถ.วิสุทธิกษัตริย์ ตั้งแต่แยกบางขุนพรหม-ถ.ราชดำเนินนอก วันที่ 30 ต.ค. 44 ทำความสะอาด ถ.พระสุเมรุ จากแยกราชดำเนินกลาง-แยกบวรนิเวศน์ ทั้ง 2 ฝั่ง

จึงขอประชาสัมพันธ์ให้ประชาชนที่สัญจรไป-มา บริเวณดังกล่าว โปรดใช้ความระมัดระวัง และขออภัยในความไม่สะดวก มา ณ โอกาสนี้ ทั้งนี้ขอให้ประชาชนโปรดร่วมมือกันรักษาความสะอาด ความเป็นระเบียบเรียบร้อยของบ้านเมืองตลอดระยะเวลา ที่จัดการประชุมเพื่อภาพลักษณ์ที่ดีของกรุงเทพมหานครด้วย

PIMTHAI
25 OCTOBER 2001

ALL BANGKOK AREA TO BE CLEANED TO WELCOME CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

พิมพ์ไทย
26 ตค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า

กลุ่มยอยชี้เน็ตเน้นเมืองน่าอยู่เพื่อเด็ก

นางณฐนนท ทรีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร เปิดเผยว่า ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม-2 พฤศจิกายน 2544 นี้ กรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือสำนักภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิค (CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001) ณ ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งชาติ การประชุมดังกล่าวได้จัดแบ่งกลุ่มย่อยออกเป็น 9 กลุ่ม ซึ่งมีเรื่อง การสร้างเมืองให้น่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก หรือเมืองเพื่อนเด็ก (Child Friendly Cities Cities for Children) เป็นหัวข้อสำคัญในการประชุมครั้งนี้ ในการนี้ทางกรุงเทพมหานครจะนำเสนอการดำเนินงานที่ทำให้กรุงเทพฯเป็นเมืองสำหรับเด็ก ตามที่ได้ริเริ่มนำร่องโครงการ "เมืองเพื่อนเด็ก" ในพื้นที่ 6 เขต โดยมีการจัดอบรมเข้มหน่วยเขต ตำรวจ ครู พยาบาล ผู้นำชุมชนในพื้นที่ ให้มีความรู้ความเข้าใจในโครงการและร่วมจัดทำร่างแผนเมืองเพื่อนเด็กร่วมกัน จากนั้นจึงได้จัดอบรมผู้แม่ ผู้ปกครอง อาสาสมัครชุมชน ให้มีความรู้ ความเข้าใจเกี่ยวกับบทบาทพ่อแม่ การเลี้ยงดูบุตรที่เหมาะสม การตอบสนองความต้องการของเด็ก รวมทั้งตระหนักถึงความสำคัญของการสร้างสรรค์ครอบครัวที่อบอุ่น เข้มแข็งและป้องกันการละเมิดสิทธิเด็ก ตลอดจนกระบวนการปกป้องคุ้มครองเด็กจากการกระทำทารุณ และขณะนี้ครู จิตแพทย์ ผู้นำกิจกรรม และนักพัฒนาชุมชน จาก 6 เขตนำร่องเพื่อจัดตั้ง "ชมรมพ่อแม่" ต่อไป

รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร กล่าวว่าการประชุมดังกล่าวเป็นการประชุมใหญ่ซึ่งจะมีบรรดานายกเทศมนตรี ผู้ว่าการเมือง ผู้นำจากเมืองสำคัญๆ ในประเทศไทยและภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกรวมทั้งองค์กรเอกชนที่ทำงานด้านสิทธิเด็ก สภาเยาวชนแห่งประเทศไทย และกระทรวงศึกษาธิการเข้าร่วมแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์และหาข้อคิดถึงแนวทาง แนวคิดใหม่ๆ ในการพัฒนาเมืองให้เหมาะสำหรับเด็ก โดยประกอบด้วยครอบครัวที่อบอุ่น ชุมชนเอื้ออาทร ประชากรสมานฉันท์ และโรงเรียนเพื่อนเด็ก ตลอดจนสร้างเครือข่ายระหว่างเมืองต่างๆ ในภูมิภาคเอเชียแปซิฟิก ในการทำงานร่วมกันเพื่อเด็กๆ ทั้งนี้การประชุมในหัวข้อ การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างการปกครองส่วนท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชนจะมีขึ้น ในวันจันทร์ที่ 29 ตุลาคม 2544 เวลา 13.00-16.30 น. ณ ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งชาติ โดยนางณฐนนท ทรีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร จะเป็นตัวแทนของเมืองกรุงเทพมหานครเข้าร่วมประชุมในครั้งนี้ เพื่อนำเสนอแนวทางในการสร้าง "เมืองเพื่อนเด็ก"

PIMTHAI
26 OCTOBER 2001

CITIES FIT FOR CHILDREN IS THE TOP AGENDA AT THE CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

มติชน

26 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 23

CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

วิสัยทัศน์ผู้นำนครใหญ่ทั่วโลก

ไม่บ่อยนักที่กรุงเทพมหานคร(กทม.) จะได้มีโอกาสเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมระดับนานาชาติกับเขาบ้าง และยิ่งในช่วงภาวะวิกฤตทั้งภายในและนอกประเทศแล้ว หากประเทศเพื่อนบ้านไว้วางใจให้ไช้สถานที่กรุงเทพฯ จัดประชุมด้วยละก็อย่าหวังว่าจะเป็นไปได้

การจัดประชุม "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ที่ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งประชาชาติ ถนนรัชดาภิเษก กรุงเทพฯ ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม ถึงวันที่ 2 พฤศจิกายน นี้ จะเป็นการประชุมระดับนานาชาติล่าสุด ที่ กทม.ได้รับเกียรติเป็นเจ้าภาพร่วมกับสหประชาชาติ และองค์การเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์(CITYNET) ซึ่งจะมีผู้เข้าประชุม 119 ราย ประกอบด้วย ผู้ว่าราชการและนายกเทศมนตรีจาก 88 เมือง องค์การระหว่างประเทศ องค์การพัฒนาเอกชน(NGOs) สถาบันการศึกษา และสถาบันวิจัย

โดยสมาชิกจาก 88 เมือง มาจากประเทศในภูมิภาคเอเชีย แปซิฟิก ได้แก่ บังกลาเทศ กัมพูชา ฟิจิ อินเดีย อินโดนีเซีย อิหร่าน เกาหลี มาเลเซีย พม่า เนปาล ปาปัวนิวกินี จีน ปากีสถาน ฟิลิปปินส์ ศรีลังกา เวียดนาม ออสเตรเลีย ฝรั่งเศส และไทย

"CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" เป็นการประชุมใหญ่ครั้งที่ 6 มี นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร ดำรงตำแหน่ง VICE PRESIDENT ของ CITYNET สำหรับวัตถุประสงค์ของการประชุมนี้เพื่อสร้างความสัมพันธ์ระหว่างประเทศ และนำไปสู่ความร่วมมือในการพัฒนาด้านเศรษฐกิจ การค้า การลงทุน สังคม การศึกษา วัฒนธรรม อีกทั้งยังเป็นเวทีแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดเห็นประสบการณ์ในการบริหารและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง

ปัญหาของ "มหานคร" หรือ "เมืองใหญ่" ในแต่ละประเทศแม้จะมีความแตกต่างกันไปตามสภาพพื้นที่ สังคม วัฒนธรรม อีกทั้งปัญหาจากโลกภายนอก แต่ไม่ใครปฏิเสธได้ว่าทุกๆ ปัญหามีผลกระทบติดเนื่องเป็นลูกโซ่ ไม่เว้นแต่ประเทศเล็กๆ ก็หลอยติดร่างแหตามไปด้วย ทุกเมืองจึงเป็นจุดศูนย์รวมของปัญหาที่คล้ายคลึงกัน เช่น ปัญหาการบริหารเมือง การกระจายอำนาจ การพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย ปัญหาผู้ยากไร้ในเมือง ปัญหาสิ่งแวดล้อม ปัญหาจราจร เป็นต้น และเป็นหน้าที่ของผู้นำท้องถิ่นที่จะเข้ามาช่วยแก้ไข

ในภาวะการสื่อสารของโลกไร้พรมแดน การระดมสมองของบรรดาผู้นำจากเมืองต่างๆ จึงเป็นอีกแนวทางหนึ่งที่ "มหานคร" จะนำมาเป็นทิศทางแก้ไขปัญหา สำหรับประเด็นสำคัญที่กลุ่มผู้นำเมืองสมาชิกเครือข่าย CITYNET จะหยิบยกมาหารือในที่ประชุมครั้งนี้ ล้วนแต่เป็นปัญหาของเมืองที่ต้องเร่งรัดแก้ไขทั้งสิ้น สามารถแบ่งได้เป็น 9 กลุ่ม ได้แก่

1.กลุ่มสัมมนาหัวข้อ ชุมชนร่วมใจรักษาสิ่งแวดล้อมและกิจกรรมการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย 2.การถ่ายทอดประสบการณ์ระหว่างกลุ่มเอเชียและยุโรปหัวข้อความร่วมมือในการกระจายอำนาจด้านการบริหาร จัดการเมืองสู่ท้องถิ่น 3.การร่วมทุนระหว่างภาครัฐและเอกชนด้านการขนส่งในเมือง 4.ธรรมรัฐโดยประชาชน 5.การสร้างเครือข่ายให้เมืองได้เข้าสู่แหล่งความรู้และทรัพยากร 6.การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างการปกครองส่วนท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน 7.การขยายบริการไปสู่ผู้มีรายได้น้อยในชุมชนแออัด 8.โรดแอคชั่นกับชุมชนเมือง หรือ 9.การสร้างเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก หรือ "เมืองเพื่อนเด็ก"

นางณฐนนท ทวีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร เปิดเผยว่า CITYNET เป็นองค์การที่ก่อตั้งขึ้นเพื่อมุ่งหวังให้เกิดความร่วมมืออย่างเป็นเครือข่าย ระหว่างเมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก การจัดประชุมแลกเปลี่ยนความรู้ ประสบการณ์ และเทคโนโลยีที่ใช้ในการบริหารจัดการและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง เพื่อพัฒนาเมืองในภูมิภาคนี้จะทำให้มีความเป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับประชาชน (People-friendly Cities)

นับเป็นผลดีที่เมืองต่างๆ ของประเทศไทยรวมทั้งกรุงเทพฯ จะได้มีโอกาสเปิดตัวให้บรรดาทูตานุทูต และผู้นำจากเมืองต่างๆ ได้เห็นศักยภาพของเมืองว่ามีความเจริญก้าวหน้าอย่างไร และนอกเหนือจากนี้กรุงเทพฯ จะได้แสดงออกถึงความเป็น "เมืองแห่งวัฒนธรรม" (City Of Culture) แล้ว กรุงเทพฯ ยังได้ประโยชน์ในด้านความรู้และประสบการณ์ในการบริหารเมือง เช่น การจัดการขนมหาศาลในเมือง การจัดการที่อยู่อาศัย การจัดการขยะมูลฝอย การจัดการน้ำเสีย คลองแสนแสบ การส่งเสริมให้ประชาชนมีส่วนร่วมอีกทั้งยังได้มีโอกาสเผยแพร่ผลิตภัณฑ์ชุมชนจาก 50 เขต ซึ่งเป็นสินค้าของคนไทยล้วนๆ

และที่สำคัญยิ่งส่งเสริมการท่องเที่ยวในพื้นที่เมืองจากกรุงเทพฯมีแหล่งท่องเที่ยวที่น่าสนใจมากมาย และช่วงที่มีการประชุมจะมีเทศกาลวันลอยกระทง ซึ่งคาดว่าจะสร้างรายได้ให้กับท้องถิ่นมากขึ้น

นอกจากนี้ ยังจะได้รับความช่วยเหลือทางด้านวิชาการ เทคโนโลยีและการลงทุนจากเมืองที่มีความเจริญกว่า หรือจากองค์กรสากลต่างๆ ที่พร้อมให้ความช่วยเหลือด้วย

● น.รินี เรืองหนู ●

MATICHON
26 OCTOBER 2001

WORLD CITY LEADERS' VISION

19-20

น.ส.พ. ชิงเสียนเยอะเป้า 26 星 10 日 報 Sing Sian Yit Pao 143

京署招待各國賞水燈節

京署副次長姚路培曉廿四日上午主持二五四四年在亞洛港舉行水燈節籌委會議，出席者有京署促進委員會主任、京總縣長乃吉帝南和有關

京署副次長事後透露，在首城（亞洛港舉辦之水燈節盛會是治觀泰化風俗的盛大節日之一，除了每處公園開放予民衆放水燈外，還有表演各域之風俗，例如舉行路怕自女神拾相比賽、長鼓舞比賽等。此外，水燈節天正是京署主辦「二〇〇一年城市網絡會議期間，將有亞太區域六六個城育長，市長出席，連同國際機構以至教育機關研究院等代邀三〇〇人出席，故正是介紹泰族文化、風俗予外間人認識大好機會。對京署邀請委令和內地民衆如來觀賞水燈節。

京署副次長姚說：如來觀賞水燈節之民衆，請戒絕燃爆竹，煙火，盡除造成噪音公害外，可能使遊人受到傷害，尤其高齡者易於受驚，或肝病發，此外，京署連與京都警指揮處協調，領出對點爆竹，煙火者之前則，拘後即解在公倫之流動囚車中，直至午夜爲止，或者更長時間，藉視其犯之程度如何而定。

SING SIAN YIT PAO
26 OCTOBER 2001

LOY KHATONG FESTIVAL BE PROMOTED TO PARTICIPANTS AT CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

2. เผยแพร่ประเพณีลอยกระทงแก่ผู้เข้าประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

21-23

九年已申曆農 น.ส.พ.เกียฮั่ว ตงก้วน รายวัน (ดิรันดร) 報日合聯原中華京 KIA HUA TONG NG

二百亞太代表觀賞水燈節盛會邀應

劃計展發年十谷曼示展局圖藍市城，況盛有將港洛空俗習化文族泰介推

（本報訊）京華中學原聯合會為慶祝該校創校一百週年，特邀請亞太地區六個城市首長，市長或代表，於十月廿六日至廿九日，參加該校舉辦的水燈節盛會。

京華副次長李亞福表示，此次邀請六個城市首長，市長或代表，參加水燈節盛會，主要是為了促進曼谷與這些城市之間的友誼與合作關係。

李亞福說，今年的水燈節與往年不同，今年的水燈節是在泰國對土地作用途之限制，加上新冠病毒的影響，使得人民能夠與正常之節慶。

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1. เผยแพร่ประเพณีลอยกระทงแก่ผู้เข้าประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

2. ฝังเมืองจัดแสดงนิทรรศการในงาน "LIFE & LIVING 2001"

KIA HUA TONG NGUN
26 OCTOBER 2001

1. LOY KHATONG FESTIVAL BE PROMOTED TO PARTICIPANTS AT CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

2. CITY PLANNING SHOWS "LIFE & LIVING 2001" EXHIBITION



หนังสือพิมพ์ เอเชียนิวส์ไทม์ 26 1/10/44 报日洲亚 ASIA NEWS TIME 24-26

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2 京署招待各國賞水燈節

京署副次長與署長級官員等廿四日上午主持二五四四年佛曆水燈節籌備會議，出席者有署佐證委員會旅遊中心主任，京畿縣長乃曾經和有關者。

京署副次長事後表示，在曹城華——空洛佛曆水燈節委員會設宴款待文化局局長之風俗，例如舉行賞水燈比賽，長鼓舞比賽等。此外，水燈節當天正是京署主辦「二〇〇一年城市網絡會議期間，將有亞太區城六個城市首長，市長出席，還同時舉行城市展覽會，展出電子政府，電子教育機關研究院等代表團三〇〇人出席，並且舉行城際文化，風俗方面人民歡大好機會。對此京署副秘書谷和先生表示水燈節之民眾，京署副次長繼說，節慶期間水燈節之民眾，京署副次長繼說，節慶期間水燈節之民眾，尤其是青年人受到感染，了這次機會公開外，可能使人受到感染，尤其是青年人受到感染，了這次機會公開外，可能使人受到感染，了這次機會公開外，可能使人受到感染，了這次機會公開外，可能使

น.ส.พ.ของเอียน.รายวัน 新中原報 New Chinese Daily News 43

26/10/44 27-29

曼谷主辦二零零一城市網絡會議

與會亞太六十六個城市首長歡聚共慶水燈節

主辦「二〇〇一年城市網絡會議」的曼谷市政府，將有亞太區域六六個城市首長，連同國際機構，促進民運機構以至教育機構，研究院等代表，共三〇〇人出席，故正是介紹發展文化了絕佳機會。對此，司能使遊人受到，大好機會。對此，大其高齡者易於受難，或許，另者，今年的，水燈節和西岸的兒，童和有關單位將在，吉盼路舉行鬼扮相比賽。

京警廳次長張，京警廳次長張，在接受，空港專題之，節慶會場文化風俗的，日之一，除了每，公開開放予民眾，水燈外，還有表，各部族之風俗，如舉行婚姻，扮相比賽，長鼓舞，比賽等。此外，水，燈節當天，正是京

1. เอกสารประกอบการแถลงข่าว CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

NEW CHINESE DAILY NEWS
26 OCTOBER 2001

TO PROMOTE LOYKHATONG FESTIVAL TO CITYNET PARTICIPANTS

1 of 57 DOCUMENTS

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October 29, 2001, Monday 6:45 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: WORLD NEWS; POLITICAL

LENGTH: 200 words

HEADLINE: Bangkok Hosts **Citynet** Congress 2001

DATELINE: BANGKOK, October 29

BODY:

Over 300 city governors and mayors as well as representatives of international organizations and research institutes in Asia and Pacific are gathering here as Bangkok is hosting the **Citynet** Congress 2001, the Thai News Agency (TNA) reported Monday.

Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh presided over the opening ceremony of the landmark regional conference, held at the United Nations Convention Center here between October 29 and November 1.

In his address at the opening session of the four-day forum, Bangkok Governor Samak Sundaravej welcomed all the over 300 participants, saying this was a good opportunity that governors and mayors of the 66 cities, as well as other honorable participants would exchange experiences, ideas, and opinions on development of cities.

Discussions at the landmark conference will also include ways to address urban problems through the public participation, which is the promotion of their basic right in the democratic rule.

Exhibitions on projects and performances of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) as well as of other cities in region were also included in the four-day regional conference.

LOAD-DATE: October 29, 2001

3 of 57 DOCUMENTS

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BANGKOK POST

October 29, 2001

LENGTH: 97 words

HEADLINE: City conference to focus on urban matters

BODY:

The BMA will host a five-day international conference on human settlements at the United Nations Conference Hall starting today.

About 190 city administrators from the Asia and Pacific region were expected to attend the **Citynet** Bangkok Congress 2001, which would focus on urban development and management.

Deputy city clerk Nattanon Thavisin said the conference provided an opportunity for participants to exchange "best practices'' and experience in the area of urban development. Deputy Premier Chavalit Yongchaiyudh would preside over the opening of the event.

LOAD-DATE: October 29, 2001

MATICHON
29 OCTOBER 2001
CHILD FRIENDLY CITIES TO BE BUILT

มติชน
29 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ ฉทน.
หน้า 13
2

● **สร้างเมืองเพื่อนเด็ก** นางฉวีวรรณ ทุวีลิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร เผยว่า กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดประชุมระดมสมองผู้เชี่ยวชาญระดับนานาชาติ เรื่อง แนวทางการสร้างเมืองเพื่อเด็ก ครั้งที่ 2 ในวันที่ 29 พฤศจิกายนนี้ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งประชาชาติ ในการหารือเรื่องการสร้างเมืองให้น่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก หรือเมืองเพื่อนเด็ก (Child Friendly Cities :Cities fit for Children) ซึ่งกรุงเทพฯจะเริ่มนำร่องโครงการเมืองเพื่อนเด็กในพื้นที่ 6 เขต โดยจัดอบรมเจ้าหน้าที่เขต ตำรวจ ครู หมอ ผู้นำชุมชนให้มีความรู้ ความเข้าใจในโครงการร่วมจัดทำร่างแผนเมืองเพื่อนเด็กร่วมกัน ถึงบทบาทพ่อแม่ การเลี้ยงดูอย่างมีคุณภาพ การตอบสนองความต้องการของเด็ก การสร้างสรรค์ครอบครัวที่อบอุ่น พิทักษ์และป้องกันการละเมิดสิทธิเด็ก รวมถึงการจัดตั้ง "ชมรมพ่อแม่" ด้วย

พิมพ์ไทย
29 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 8

7

สุมหัวผู้นำเมืองทั่วเอเชีย สร้างเมืองสำหรับเด็กอยู่

นางณุนนท หวังสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร เปิดเผยว่า ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม- 2 พฤศจิกายน 2544 นี้ กรุงเทพมหานครจะเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิค (CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001) ณ ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ การประชุมดังกล่าวได้จัดแบ่งกลุ่มย่อยออกเป็น 9 กลุ่ม ซึ่งมีเรื่องการสร้างเมืองให้น่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก หรือเมืองเพื่อนเด็ก ในการนี้ทางกรุงเทพมหานครจะนำเสนอการดำเนินงานที่ทำให้กรุงเทพฯเป็นเมืองสำหรับเด็ก ตามที่ได้เริ่มนำร่องโครงการ "เมืองเพื่อนเด็ก" ในพื้นที่ 6 เขต ได้แก่ เขตปทุมวัน เขตจตุจักร เขตคลองสาน เขตบางพลัด เขตดินแดง และเขตประเวศ โดยมีการจัดอบรมเจ้าหน้าที่เขต ตำรวจ ครู พยาบาล ผู้นำชุมชน ในพื้นที่ให้มีความรู้ความเข้าใจในโครงการและร่วมจัดทำร่างแผนแม่บทเพื่อเด็กร่วมกัน จากนั้นจึงได้จัดอบรมผู้ปกครองอาสาสมัครชุมชนให้มีความรู้ความเข้าใจเกี่ยวกับบทบาทพ่อแม่การเลี้ยงดูบุตรที่เหมาะสม การตอบสนองความต้องการของเด็ก รวมทั้งตระหนักถึงความสำคัญของการสร้างสรรค์ครอบครัวที่อบอุ่น เพื่อพิทักษ์สิทธิเด็ก และป้องกันการละเมิดสิทธิเด็กจากการกระทำทารุณ

PIMTHAI
29 OCTOBER 2001

ASIA CITY LEADERS COOPERATE TO BUILD CITIES FIT FOR CHILDREN

มติชน
29 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 3

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กรุงเทพมหานครขอต้อนรับผู้นำ 66 เมือง จาก 20 ประเทศ
ในภูมิภาคเอเชียและแปซิฟิก ในการประชุม

CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

วันที่ 29 ตุลาคม - 2 พฤศจิกายน 2544

ณ ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ

เวทีแห่งการระดมสมองเพื่อพัฒนาเมืองในประเด็นต่อไปนี้

- ชุมชนร่วมใจรักษาสิ่งแวดล้อมและกิจกรรมการพัฒนาเคหะสถาน
- ความร่วมมือแบบกระจายอำนาจในการบริหารจัดการเมือง
- การร่วมทุนระหว่างรัฐและเอกชนด้านการขนส่งในเมือง
- ธรรมรัฐโดยประชาชน
- การสร้างเครือข่ายความรู้และทรัพยากร
- การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างการปกครองส่วนท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน
- ปัญหาโรคเอดส์และเมือง
- การขยายตัวในการบริหารสำหรับคนยากจน
- การส่งเสริมเมืองเพื่อนเด็ก

เชิญชาว กทม.ร่วมเป็นเจ้าภาพต้อนรับ
สร้างความประทับใจ แก่ผู้มาเยือน



MATICHON
29 OCTOBER 2001

CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 TO BE HELD AT UNCC

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 4
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ไทยโพสต์
29 ต.ค. 2544

บันทึกหน้า 4

THAIPOST
29 OCTOBER 2001

CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 STARTS TODAY

เมื่อแล้ว "ซิตี้เน็ต" การประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก 29 ตุลาคมถึง 2 พฤศจิกายน กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ ผู้ว่าการนคร นายกเทศมนตรี ผู้แทนรัฐบาล และองค์กรเอกชน กว่า 300 คน จาก 66 เมือง 20 ประเทศ ร่วมประชุม. พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ เป็นประธานเปิดประชุมตอนเช้า 29 ตุลาคม ตกเย็น สมัคร สุนทรเวช เลี้ยงต้อนรับที่อาคารกีฬาเวสน์ 2 ศูนย์เยาวชน กทม. (ไทย-ญี่ปุ่น)..... ไม่ให้เสียชื่อพ่อครัวนักชิม สมัคร สุนทรเวช เลือกรายการอาหารเอง แกงมัสมั่นไก่ หอหมกปลาช่อน ทอดมันสามกษัตริย์ ต้มยำกุ้ง เปิดย่าง ผัดผัก หมี่กรอบ ข้าวสวยและขนมปัง ของหวานก็ชื่นใจแบบไทย ไอศกรีมใส่มะม่วงและผลไม้รวม เครื่องดื่มมี ชเวปส์ น้ำมะนาวโซดา.....● ซิตี้เน็ตจัดตั้งโดยเอสแคป สหประชาชาติ ตั้งแต่ พ.ศ.2532 ปัจจุบัน โทชินิคชิ ชิมิดชิ นายกเทศมนตรีโยโกฮามา ญี่ปุ่น เป็นประธาน..



สมัคร สุนทรเวช

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 9 (ex-cite)
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ไทยโพสต์
29 ต.ค. 2544

บันทึกสังคม

ประชาชาติ ซึ่งจะมีผู้บริหารในระดับผู้ว่าการนคร และนายกเทศมนตรีเมืองสำคัญต่างๆ กว่า 300 คน จาก 66 เมืองหลวง และเมืองสำคัญของประเทศในแถบเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ร่วมประชุม..

สังคมบันทึกเริ่มต้นสัปดาห์นี้ ขอประเดิมด้วยกำหนดการที่กรุงเทพมหานคร เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการ ประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์ (CITY NET Bangkok Congress 2001) ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย. 2544 ณ ศูนย์การประชุมสห

THAIPOST
29 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK WELCOMES CITY LEADERS FROM 66 CITIES FROM 20 COUNTIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION.

Press/Media: Daily News	Date: 30 October 2001
Page(s): 30	

Summary:



เริ่มแล้ว CITYNET พล.อ.ชาติชาย ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกรัฐมนตรี รมว.กลาโหม เป็นประธานประชุม CITYNET กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดขึ้นระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย. มีผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร นายกเทศมนตรีจาก 66 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชียเข้าร่วม

General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, presided over the opening of the CITYNET Bangkok Congress 2001. The congress is hosted by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and ESCAP from 29 October to 2 November 2001. The participants are mayors from 66 cities in Asian region.

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media Page(s): 15	Matichon	Date: 30 October 2001

Summary

Brainstorming to revive the city

The Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlement (CITYNET) meet in Bangkok at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) on 29 October 2001. The meeting was hosted by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and ESCAP, and was declared open by General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense. The meeting was very well attended by over 100 mayors, deputy mayors, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations. Hence, the security was very tight; that would benefit the safety of the participants and Bangkok's image.

Mr. Yap of UN/ESCAP answered questions from media about the impact of media in the globalization of urban people. His view was that "drama" is the most popular form of media for Bangkok people. However, the information presented through drama nowadays is not correct if we would like the media to be useful to people, we have to present correct information to the media.

Mr. Yap said that to solve urban problems the migration of rural people to urban areas needs to be controlled. Importance should be given to the rural people. They sometimes made demands through the media. That expresses what they want; we called this "people participation", which should be supported, he said.

CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001

ระดมสมองปฏิรูปเมืองแห่งศตวรรษหน้า



พิมพ์ไทย
30 ตค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 8
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ยกแรกร่วมซิตี้เน็ต เอเชีย-แปซิฟิกตรึม

วานนี้ (29 ต.ค. 44) เวลา 09.00 น. ที่ศูนย์การประชุมแห่งชาติ ถนนรัชดาภิเษก เขตพระนคร พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกรัฐมนตรีและรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงกลาโหม เป็นประธานพิธีเปิดการประชุม "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ซึ่งจัดขึ้นระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม-2 พฤศจิกายน 2544 โดยมีผู้ว่าการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีจาก 66 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ผู้แทนองค์การระหว่างประเทศ ผู้แทนองค์กรพัฒนาเอกชน (NGOs) นักวิชาการจากสถาบันการศึกษาและสถาบันวิจัยต่างๆ ร่วมประชุมกว่า 300 คน

ผู้สื่อข่าวรายงานว่า กรุงเทพมหานคร องค์การสหประชาชาติ และองค์การเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ว่าด้วยการตั้งถิ่นฐานของมนุษย์ (CITYNET) ร่วมกันจัดประชุม "CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001" ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมใหญ่ขององค์การ CITYNET ครั้งที่ 5 มีสมาชิกองค์การ CITYNET จำนวน 17 ราย ประกอบด้วย ผู้ว่าการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีจาก66 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก องค์การระหว่างประเทศ องค์กรพัฒนาเอกชน (NGOs) รวมทั้งสถาบันการศึกษาและสถาบันวิจัยเข้าร่วมประชุมกว่า 300 คน

โดยมีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อสร้างความสัมพันธ์ต่อกัน อันจะนำไปสู่ความร่วมมือในด้านเศรษฐกิจ การค้า การลงทุน สังคม การศึกษา และวัฒนธรรม ในอนาคต และเป็นเวทีสำหรับแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์ในการบริหารและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง โดยจะมีการจัดกลุ่มหารือกันในประเด็นสำคัญ 9 กลุ่ม ทั้งนี้ทุกๆ เมืองต่างก็มีปัญหาสำคัญที่ต้องแก้ไขคล้ายคลึงกันขึ้นแตกต่างกันออกไป การได้แลกเปลี่ยนกันในครั้งนี้จะนำไปสู่แนวทางที่เหมาะสมที่สุดในการแก้ไขและพัฒนาเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่ได้อย่างยั่งยืน

สำหรับพิธีเปิดการประชุมวันนี้ 29 ต.ค. 44 เริ่มขึ้นตั้งแต่เวลา 09.00 น. โดยนายสมัคร ศุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานครกล่าวต้อนรับผู้เข้าร่วมประชุม หลังจากนั้นกล่าวต้อนรับ เป็นสารจาก Mr.Hidenobu Takahide ประธานองค์การ CITYNET และ นายกเทศมนตรีเมืองโยโกฮามา (กล่าวโดย Mr.toshimitsu Shimitzu รองนายกเทศมนตรีเมืองโยโกฮามา) และ Ms.Keiko Okaido รองเลขาธิการองค์การ UNESCAP กล่าวสุนทรพจน์แก่ผู้เข้าร่วมประชุม จากนั้น พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกรัฐมนตรีและรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงกลาโหม กล่าวเปิดการประชุมและเปิดนิทรรศการและชุมชน 50 เขต ภายหลังพิธีเปิดเป็นเวลาประมาณ 10.30 น. Ms.Erna Witoelar อดีตรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงจัดสรรและพัฒนาที่ดินของอินโดนีเซีย เป็นผู้กล่าวปาฐกถาเปิดประเด็นหัวข้อการประชุม (Keynote Speech) ก่อนจะเข้าสู่การอภิปรายวัตถุประสงค์ของการจัดประชุมโดยองค์การที่มีส่วนรับผิดชอบในการจัดประชุม ในภาคบ่ายเริ่มการประชุมกลุ่มย่อยและการประชุมคณะกรรมการบริหารขององค์การ CITYNET ส่วนช่วงค่ำเวลา 19.00 น. ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานครเป็นเจ้าภาพเลี้ยงอาหารค่ำต้อนรับผู้นำเมือง ณ ศูนย์เยาวชนกรุงเทพมหานคร [ไทย-ญี่ปุ่น] ดินแดง

ทางด้านนางณฐนนท ทรัพย์สิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร กล่าวว่า องค์การ CITYNET เป็นองค์การที่ก่อตั้งขึ้นโดยมุ่งหวังที่จะสร้าง "ความร่วมมืออย่างเป็นเครือข่าย" ระหว่างเมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก มีการจัดประชุมแลกเปลี่ยนความรู้ประสบการณ์ และเทคโนโลยีที่ใช้ในการบริหารจัดการและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง เพื่อพัฒนาเมืองในภูมิภาคนี้ให้มีความเป็น People-friendly Cities หรือเป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับประชาชน ในการประชุมนี้ทางองค์การ CITYNET ได้แบ่งการประชุมออกเป็น 9 กลุ่มย่อย มีหัวข้อการประชุมหลากหลายซึ่งล้วนแต่เกี่ยวข้องกับการพัฒนาและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง ได้แก่ ชุมชนร่วมใจรักษาสิ่งแวดล้อมและกิจกรรมเพื่อการพัฒนาท้องถิ่นอาศัย การแลกเปลี่ยนระหว่างเอเชียและยุโรปหัวข้อความร่วมมือในการกระจายอำนาจด้านการจัดการเมืองสู่ท้องถิ่นการร่วมหุ้นระหว่างภาครัฐและภาคเอกชนในการพัฒนาการคมนาคมขนส่งของเมือง การบริหาร จัดการเมืองโดยประชาชนมีส่วนร่วมการสร้างเครือข่ายให้เมืองได้เข้าถึงแหล่งความรู้และทรัพยากร การส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างส่วนปกครองท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน การขยายบริการสู่ผู้มีรายได้น้อยในชุมชนเมือง และการสร้างเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก หรือเมืองเพื่อนเด็ก และปัญหาโรคเอดส์กับชุมชนเมือง ทั้งนี้รูปแบบกลุ่มย่อยจะเปิดโอกาสให้ผู้นำเมืองได้ร่วมระดมสมอง นำประสบการณ์ในการแก้ไขปัญหาเมืองของตนมาบอกเล่าให้ผู้นำเมืองอื่นได้ศึกษา รวมทั้งเพื่อให้มีการปรึกษาถึงแนวทางการแก้ไขปัญหาต่างๆ อย่างจริงจัง อันจะทำให้การประชุมครั้งนี้ประสบผลสำเร็จตามเจตนารมณ์ของการประชุมทุกประการ

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สำนักข่าวไทย

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
เลขที่ 8-9
3

ซิตี้เน็ตประชุมซิตี้เน็ต หวังขยายกลุ่มเครือข่ายและสร้างชุมชนร่วมแก้ปัญหาเมือง

ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ ๓๐ ต.ค. - เจ้าภาพ กทม.เปิดการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือด้านภูมิภาคเอเชียแปซิฟิก หวังขยาย กทม.ได้แสดงผลงาน ชูวิวข้อหารือดึงชุมชนร่วมแก้ปัญหาเมือง

พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกรัฐมนตรีและรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงกลาโหม เป็นประธานเปิดการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือด้านภูมิภาคเอเชียแปซิฟิก (CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS ๒๐๐๑) ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมผู้ว่าการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีจาก ๖๖ เมืองในเอเชียแปซิฟิก ผู้แทนองค์การระหว่างประเทศ เช่น ไอ และสถาบันการศึกษา สถาบันวิจัยรวมกว่า ๓๐๐ คน ระหว่างวันที่ ๒๕ ตุลาคมถึง ๒ พฤศจิกายนนี้ ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ โดย พล.อ.ชวลิต กล่าวเปิดการประชุมว่า ปัญหาเมืองประกอบด้วยหลายปัญหา ซึ่งกรุงเทพฯ ก็เป็นเมืองหลวงที่เจริญ ไม่ว่าจะเป็นปัญหามลพิษ สิ่งแวดล้อม เศรษฐกิจ การว่างงานและความยากจน ทั้งนั้น เป็นที่น่ายินดีที่กรุงเทพฯ จะไม่ต้องแก้ปัญหาต่าง ๆ ที่เกิดขึ้นในเมืองโดยลำพัง แต่ได้มีโอกาสแลกเปลี่ยนแนวคิดในการพัฒนาแก้ปัญหาเมืองจากหลายๆประเทศ

ด้านนายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร (กทม.) กล่าวต้อนรับผู้เข้าร่วมประชุมว่า การประชุมครั้งนี้ชูประเด็นสำคัญไปที่ทรัพยากรมนุษย์ หัวข้อ "People Centre Cities In A Globalising World" ซึ่งเชื่อได้ว่าการแก้ปัญหาต้องส่งเสริมสิทธิขั้นพื้นฐานให้ประชาชนได้เข้ามามีส่วนร่วมกับการบริหารเมือง เพราะปัญหาเมืองทุกวันนี้ไม่สามารถแก้ไขได้ง่ายหรือจำกัดอยู่เฉพาะเมืองใดเมืองหนึ่ง แต่ต้องมองไกลไปถึงระดับภูมิภาคหรือระดับโลก ที่ทุกส่วนต้องเชื่อมโยงกัน โดยการประชุมครั้งนี้ จะมีการหารือถึงหัวข้อย่อย ๕ เรื่อง คือ ชุมชนกับผลกระทบต่อสิ่งแวดล้อมและกิจกรรมเพื่อการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย ความร่วมมือในการกระจายอำนาจด้านการจัดการเมืองสู่ท้องถิ่น การพัฒนาระบบขนส่งเมืองธรรมรัฐโดยประชาชน การสร้างเครือข่ายให้มีผลเข้าถึงแหล่งความรู้และทรัพยากร การปกครองท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน การขยายบริการและรัฐสู่ผู้มีรายได้น้อยในชุมชนเมือง เอดส์กับชุมชนเมือง และการสร้างเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก

จากนั้นนายสมัคร ร่วมกับประธานองค์การซิตี้เน็ต และรองเลขาธิการคณะกรรมการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมสำหรับเอเชียและแปซิฟิก (UNESCAP) แถลงข่าวเกี่ยวกับการประชุมครั้งนี้ โดยนายสมัคร กล่าวว่า นอกจากการประชุมครั้งนี้จะเป็นโอกาสในการแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์ของแต่ละเมืองและยังสอดคล้องกับนโยบายให้ กทม. เป็นศูนย์กลางการประชุมนานาชาติและการเผยแพร่การท่องเที่ยว ขนบธรรมเนียมประเพณีไทย ขณะที่ประเทศมหาอำนาจอย่างสหรัฐกำลังประสบภาวะสงคราม และมีแนวโน้มว่าประเทศอื่น ๆ แม้แต่ประเทศไทยจะได้รับผลกระทบแต่กรุงเทพฯ ยังมีศักยภาพความเป็นเมืองน่าอยู่ สงบ ปลอดภัย มีการขยายตัวทางเศรษฐกิจ การลงทุน และยังได้รับการยอมรับจากต่างประเทศ ถ้าการประชุมครั้งนี้ กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพดำเนินการประสบความสำเร็จด้วยดี ประเทศไทยก็จะเป็นที่น่าสนใจจากชาวต่างชาติ

ผู้สื่อข่าวถามว่า การประชุมครั้งนี้ กรุงเทพฯ จะได้ประโยชน์อย่างไร นายสมัคร กล่าวว่า นอกเหนือจากได้แสดงนิทรรศการงานฝีมือของคนไทย เพื่อหวังสร้างอาชีพสร้างรายได้แล้ว กรุงเทพฯ ยังได้รับการแลกเปลี่ยนข้อมูลและได้รับการช่วยเหลือจากประเทศที่เจริญกว่า เพื่อนำกลับมาพัฒนาคนพัฒนาเมือง ผลงานต่าง ๆ ที่ กทม.จะนำเสนอในที่ประชุมครั้งนี้ คือ เรื่องระบบการจัดการกับขยะในเมือง และการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย โดยระบบการจัดการกับขยะเป็นผลงานที่ใช้การดำเนินการโดยทรัพยากรมนุษย์หัวคนเป็นกลไกสำคัญ ซึ่งนอกจากเรื่องการจัดการขยะแล้วระบบงานอื่นเช่นการระบายน้ำ การบำบัดน้ำเสียซึ่งเหล่านี้ กทม.ก็ได้ทำเป็นกลไกดำเนินการ ในส่วนของการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย กทม.ก็กำลังมีโครงการแฟลตฝักข้าวโพดที่จะเป็นที่อยู่อาศัยสำหรับคนกรุงเทพฯ ที่มีคุณภาพมากขึ้น นอกจากนี้ การประชุมซิตี้เน็ต ยังส่งผลให้มีการแลกเปลี่ยนหน่วยงานเข้าไปดูปัญหาและวิธีการจัดการกับปัญหาของประเทศสมาชิกอื่นได้

ทั้งนี้ นายไทซึมิชุ ซุบซุ ประธานองค์การซิตี้เน็ต กล่าวว่า ช่วงการเปลี่ยนทศวรรษ ๒๐๐๑ นี้ มีปัจจัยหลายส่วนในการผลักดันให้ต้องมีการพัฒนาเมือง ซึ่งรัฐบาลท้องถิ่นมีบทบาทสำคัญ และมีส่วนในการผลักดันสภาพต่าง ๆ ทั้งเศรษฐกิจ สังคม สภาพแวดล้อมของประเทศได้

ขณะที่นางเคียวโกะ ไอไกได รองเลขาธิการ UNESCAP กล่าวว่า การเปลี่ยนแปลงในยุคโลกาภิวัตน์ ที่มีการเคลื่อนไหวทั้งเศรษฐกิจ สังคม และเทคโนโลยี มักเกิดขึ้นในเมืองมาก การประชุมซิตี้เน็ตจึงมีความสำคัญเพื่อการแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์และการแก้ปัญหา - ๓๐๔๗ น. ๙/

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สำนักข่าวไทย

วันอังคารที่ ๓๐ ตุลาคม ๒๕๔๔ รอบเช้า ข่าวสังคม-ทั่วไป หน้า ๑๖

ข่าวสั้น

"สมัคร" เลือกอาหารไทย ๆ เลี้ยงต้อนรับผู้แทนประชุมซิตี้เน็ต

ในโอกาสงานเลี้ยงต้อนรับผู้แทนจากประเทศสมาชิกองค์การซิตี้เน็ต ที่เข้าร่วมประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS ๒๐๐๑ นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร เป็นผู้เลือกรายการอาหารด้วยตนเอง โดยเน้นเลือกอาหารไทยเป็นหลัก โดยเป็นอาหารคาว ๕ ชนิด ได้แก่ แกงมัสมั่นไก่ ห่อหมกปลาช่อน ทอดมันสามกษัตริย์ ต้มยำกุ้ง เปิดสับ ขนมปังปอนด์ ผัดผัก หมี่กรอบ และข้าวสวย ตบท้ายด้วยขนมหวานแบบไทย คือ ไอศกรีมใส่มะม่วงและผลไม้รวม โดยนายสมัครจะเป็นผู้บอกเล่าเกี่ยวกับอาหารให้ผู้ร่วมงานได้รู้จักอาหารไทยดีขึ้น นอกจากนี้ รอบ ๆ งานเลี้ยง กรุงเทพมหานครได้จัดซุ้มอาหารว่าง ได้แก่ ลาดูไส้หมู ข้าวเกรียบปากหม้อ ไส้กุ้ง ปิ่นขลิบ ไส้กรอก-ปลาแนม และขนมไทยหลากหลายชนิด เช่น ข้าวเหนียวหน้าต่าง ๆ ทองหยิบ ทองหยอด ฝอยทอง เม็ดขนุน ซึ่งจะมีการแสดงกรรมวิธีในการทำให้ผู้ร่วมงานได้ชม รวมทั้งมีซุ้มสาธิตการเย็บกระทง ร้อยอุบะ ร้อยกระแต รวมถึงตลอดงานจะมีการแสดงดนตรีสากลพาเหรีไทย เพลงประยุกต์ การแสดงพื้นบ้าน และนาฏศิลป์ไทย ๔ ภาค สำหรับงานเลี้ยงต้อนรับ จัดขึ้นที่ศูนย์วัฒนธรรมชุมชนไทย-ญี่ปุ่น ดินแดง เวลา ๑๘.๐๐ น.วานนี้ (๒๙ ต.ค.). – ๓๑๘ ๗/

กรุงเทพมหานครเข้มงวดความปลอดภัยประชุมซิตี้เน็ต

นายมุคตาฝ้า หมันงะ รองผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร กล่าวถึงมาตรการรักษาความปลอดภัยในการประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS ๒๐๐๑ ที่จัดขึ้นระหว่างวันที่ ๒๕ ตุลาคม -๒ พฤศจิกายน ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ ว่า ได้วางมาตรการในหลายส่วน ในส่วนความปลอดภัยระหว่างการประชุมเจ้าหน้าที่รักษาความปลอดภัยของศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติจะตรวจสอบผู้เข้าออกอย่างเข้มงวด อนุญาตเฉพาะผู้มีบัตรเข้าร่วมในการประชุม และต้องมีการตรวจระเบิดใต้ท้องรถทุกคัน สำหรับนอกเวลาการประชุม กรุงเทพมหานครเป็นหน่วยงานจัดทำแผนรักษาความปลอดภัยและอำนวยความสะดวกด้านจราจร โดยความร่วมมือจากหน่วยงานที่เกี่ยวข้อง ได้แก่ สำนักงานตำรวจแห่งชาติ กรมเจ้าท่า กองทัพเรือ กองบังคับการตำรวจน้ำ เป็นต้น นอกจากนี้ ยังได้จัดตั้งศูนย์การสื่อสารที่โรงแรมอิมพีเรียล ควีนส์ปาร์ค ตลอดการประชุม และกำหนดช่ายสัญญาณการติดต่อสื่อสารพิเศษเพื่อการติดต่อกับหน่วยงานที่เกี่ยวข้องได้สะดวกขึ้น. – ๓๑๘ ๗/

THAI NEWS AGENCY
30 OCTOBER 2001

SAMAK CHOOSES THAI FOOD TO WELCOME CITYNET PARTICIPANTS

SIAMRATH
30 OCTOBER 2001

SAMAK SHOWS HIS "CORN FLAT" PROJECT
TO OVER 20 CITY LEADERS

สยามรัฐ
30 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 6

'สมัคร'ชูแฟลตข้าวโพดอวด 66ผู้ว่า-นายกฯในซิตี้เน็ต

ซิตี้เน็ตเริ่มแล้ว "สมัคร" เตรียมโชว์ผลงานให้ 20 ประเทศทั่ว ทั้งการจัดการขยะ-ปัญหาที่เน่าคน แทนเครื่องจักร ที่ลืมไม่ได้คือแฟลตฝักข้าวโพด บอก ประชุมครั้งนี้กทม.มีแต่ได้

วานนี้ (29 ต.ค.44) พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกฯ และรมว.กลาโหมได้เป็นประธานในพิธีเปิดประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก หรือซิตี้เน็ตที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ โดยมีผู้ว่าการนครและนายกเทศมนตรี ผู้แทนองค์การระหว่างประเทศ นักวิชาการ และองค์กรพัฒนาเอกชน จาก 66 เมือง 20 ประเทศในเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกเข้าร่วม

นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าฯกทม.ในฐานะ Vice President ขององค์การซิตี้เน็ต กล่าวว่า กทม.ที่เป็นเจ้าภาพการประชุมครั้งนี้ จะเป็นเมืองที่ถูกรับตามองทิศทางระบบบริหารและจัดการเน่องว่ามีการพัฒนาอย่างไรและมีปัญหาอะไร ซึ่งนับว่ากทม.ได้ประโยชน์มากมาย โดยจะได้แลกเปลี่ยนข้อมูลและได้รับการช่วยเหลือจากประเทศที่เจริญกว่า เพื่อนำกลับมาพัฒนาคนพัฒนาเมือง สำหรับผลงานที่กทม. จะนำเสนอในที่ประชุมคือ เรื่องระบบจัดการขยะในเมือง และการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย โดยระบบจัดการขยะที่นำเสนอจะเป็นผลงานที่ใช้คนเป็นกลไกสำคัญ

ผู้ว่ากทม.กล่าวว่า นอกจากนี้แล้ว ระบบระบายน้ำการป้องกันน้ำเสีย กทม.ก็ได้คนต่างเน้นการ ส่วนการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย ก็สิ่งมีโครงการแฟลตฝักข้าวโพด สำหรับคนทุกๆที่มีคุณภาพมากขึ้น และการประชุมครั้งนี้ยังทำให้มีการแลกเปลี่ยนเจ้าหน้าที่ไปดูปัญหาและวิธีจัดการกับปัญหาของประเทศสมาชิกได้ นอกจากนี้ งานนี้ยังจะเป็นโอกาสดีในการแสดงนิทรรศการ สิ่งต่างๆ ฝีมือของคนไทยช่วยสร้างอาชีพสร้างรายได้

เดลินิวส์
30 ต.ค. 2544

สองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 30

ประชุมผู้นำเมืองนานาชาติ สมัครชู'แฟลตฝักข้าวโพด'

ประชุมใหญ่ "ซิตี้เนท" กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดระดมสมองนานาชาติ ไขวิสัยทัศน์พัฒนาเมือง สมัครชู "แฟลตข้าวโพด" แนวทางพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัย เพื่อลดอาชญากรรม พร้อมพัฒนาสินค้าชุมชน

นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าฯ กทม. เปิดเผยภายหลังการเปิดประชุมซิตี้เนท คอนเกรส 2001 ซึ่ง กทม. เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดระหว่างวันที่ 28 ตุลาคม–2 พฤศจิกายน ว่าการประชุมครั้งนี้เป็นการประชุมใหญ่ซึ่งมีนักวิชาการจากเมืองต่าง ๆ และองค์กรราวๆ 1,200 ราย จาก 20 ประเทศ ประกอบด้วยผู้นำเมืองจากประเทศในภูมิภาคเอเชียและแปซิฟิก ซึ่งปัจจุบันนี้ปัญหาของเมืองมีมากขึ้นเรื่องระบบการขนส่ง ไปจนถึงสภาพแวดล้อม ทำให้ผู้นำเมืองแต่ละประเทศต้องนำปัญหาขึ้นมาถกกัน เพื่อแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์และร่วมกันแก้ไขต่อไป การประชุมครั้งนี้จะทำให้ กทม. ได้แลกเปลี่ยนภาพอย่างเต็มที่ในการจัดประชุมระดับนานาชาติ และยังได้รับข้อมูลใหม่ ๆ จากการแลกเปลี่ยนข้อมูลของสมาชิกในด้านการจัดการเมือง สิ่งแวดล้อม สาธารณสุข การปรับปรุงระบบขนส่งมวลชน ที่อยู่อาศัย ซึ่งทั้งหมดนี้ล้วนแต่มีผลต่อการพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตทั้งสิ้น

นายสมัครกล่าวต่อว่า ในส่วนของ กทม. ต้องการนำเสนอประเด็นเรื่องการพัฒนาชุมชนท้องถิ่น ซึ่งปัจจุบันได้พยายามตอบสนองนโยบายของรัฐบาลด้วยการพัฒนาสินค้าชุมชน เพื่อให้ชุมชนมีสภาพความเป็นอยู่ที่ดีขึ้น นอกจากนี้ กทม. ยังได้นำเสนอโครงการแฟลตข้าวโพด เพื่อนำเสนอให้ที่ประชุมทราบว่าจะช่วยให้คนอาชญากรมีอาชีพเข้ามาอยู่อาศัยได้ในราคาไม่แพง เป็นแนวทางการพัฒนาที่อยู่อาศัยในอนาคตเพื่อให้คนอาชญากรมีความเป็นอยู่ที่ดีขึ้น ทั้งนี้ในการประชุมได้มีการกำหนดหัวข้อหลักไว้ที่การพัฒนาคนให้มีความเท่าเทียมกัน เพราะการที่จะพัฒนาด้านต่าง ๆ จำเป็นต้องพัฒนาคนซึ่งเป็นจุดศูนย์กลางทั้งหมดเสียก่อนเป็นอันดับแรก.

DAILY NEWS
30 OCTOBER 2001

SAMAK SHOWS HIS "CORN FLAT" PROJECT TO CITYNET ATTENDANTS

พิมพ์ไทย
30 ต.ค. 2544

กองบรรณาสนเทศ กทม.
หน้า 8
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อย่าแค่คลื่นกระทบฝั่ง

เริ่มแล้ววันวานการประชุม CITY NET ที่กรุงเทพมหานครเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดขึ้นระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2พ.ย. โดยมีผู้ว่าราชการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีจาก 66 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกทั้งผู้แทนองค์กรระหว่างประเทศและผู้แทนเอ็นจีโอ รวมทั้งนักวิชาการจากสถาบันการศึกษาและสถาบันวิจัยต่างๆ กว่า 300 คน เข้าร่วมเสวนา

สำหรับการประชุมในครั้งนี้ที่กรุงเทพมหานครคาดหวังสานฝันการที่จะได้รับประโยชน์หลากหลายด้าน ตั้งแต่ความรู้และประสบการณ์ในการบริหารเมือง จากผู้นำที่เข้าร่วมนั้นมาจากหลายเมืองที่มีการยอมรับกันว่ามีการบริหารจัดการเมืองที่ดี ไม่ว่าจะเป็นการจัดการด้านคมนาคมขนส่งในเมือง การจัดที่อยู่อาศัย การกำจัดขยะมูลฝอยและน้ำเสีย รวมทั้งการส่งเสริมการมีส่วนร่วมของประชาชน

นอกจากนั้นยังมีเมืองที่รุดหน้าทางด้านเทคโนโลยีที่ทันสมัย ซึ่งได้นำมาใช้ในกิจการต่างๆ โดยหวังไว้ว่ากรุงเทพมหานครจะนำเอาประสบการณ์เหล่านั้น มาปรับใช้เพื่อพัฒนาเมืองต่อไป และที่สำคัญคาดว่าจะได้มีการเจรจาเพื่อแลกเปลี่ยนความร่วมมือระหว่าง เมืองต่างๆ ทั้งทางด้านวิชาการ เทคโนโลยี การค้า และการลงทุน และยังถือเป็นโอกาสให้ประเทศที่ต้องการพัฒนาได้เสนอ ข อ ความช่วยเหลือจากประเทศที่เจริญมากกว่า หรือองค์กรสากลต่างๆ ที่พร้อมให้ความช่วยเหลือ

ครับ....ตรงนี้นับเป็นประเด็นหลักที่เราคาดหวังว่าจะได้รับจากการจัดประชุมในครั้งนี้ โดยปัจจัยอื่นนั้นเป็นเรื่องรองไม่ว่าจะเป็นการส่งเสริมการท่องเที่ยว การเผยแพร่วัฒนธรรมประเพณี หรือการเผยแพร่ผลิตภัณฑ์ชุมชนเหล่านี้ที่จะถือเป็นส่วนเสริม

แต่นั่นก็คงต้องมาติดตามดูกันต่อไปว่าสิ่งที่คาดและหวังนั้นจะสามารถสานฝันให้เป็นจริงได้หรือไม่ อย่าเพียงแค่น้ำพริกละลายแม่น้ำ ซึ่งในที่สุดก็ถูกกลืนหายกลายเป็นคลื่นกระทบ ฝั่งกันไปเท่านั้นนะคงต้องรังเวงมิใช่หรือ?

มณฑ์ สุทรา

PIMTHAI
30 OCTOBER 2001

CITYNET HOPE SHOULD BE FULLFILED

30 ต.ค. 2544

หน้า 6



วัฏจักร

30 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 5

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เปิดงาน : พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกรัฐมนตรี ควงคู่นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าฯกทม. ดูนิทรรศการที่ตัวแทนสภาเมืองต่างๆหลายประเทศทั่วเอเชียนำมาแสดง หลังเป็นประธานเปิดประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ที่ศูนย์ประชุมแห่งชาติ

เดลินิวส์

30 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 30

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ภาพเล็ก : CITYNET พล.อ.ชวลิต ยงใจยุทธ รองนายกรัฐมนตรี ม.ร.ว.กลาโหม เป็นประธานประชุม CITYNET กทม. เป็นจังหวัดเดียวในระหว่างวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-2 พ.ย. มีผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร นายเทศบาลต่างๆ 20 เมืองในภูมิภาคเอเชียเข้าร่วม

SIAMRATH, WATTAJAK, DAILY NEWS
30 OCTOBER 2001

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER CHAVALIT OPENS

ฐานเศรษฐกิจ
28 - 31 ต.ค. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
รับที่ 16, 10.

กทม.จัดงาน'CITYNET' ระดมสมองแก้ปัญหาเมือง

กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดงาน CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ระดมสมองผู้นำเมืองเอเชีย-แปซิฟิกแก้ไขปัญหาชุมชนเมือง เปิดโอกาสผู้นำเมืองแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์ สร้างความร่วมมือระหว่างประเทศ เผยเป็นโอกาสดีของไทยเผยแพร่ผลิตภัณฑ์ชุมชน และสร้างช่องทางตลาดต่างประเทศ ผู้ว่าฯ "สมัคร สุนทรเวช" วอนทุกหน่วยงานทำตัวเป็นเจ้าบ้านที่ดีเพื่อต้อนรับแขกต่างชาติ

นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร เปิดเผยว่า CITYNET เป็นองค์การเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก ซึ่งโดยปกติจะมีการประชุมสภาองค์การ CITYNET CONGRESS ทุก 4 ปี หมุนเวียนกันไปในประเทศสมาชิก และมีการประชุมคณะกรรมการบริหารองค์กรทุกปี

โดยเมื่อปลายปีที่ผ่านมาตนได้เข้าร่วมประชุมคณะกรรมการบริหารที่กรุงกัวลาลัมเปอร์ ประเทศมาเลเซีย ในฐานะที่ดำรงตำแหน่ง VICE PRESIDENT ขององค์การเพื่อหารือถึงการประชุมครั้งนี้ที่กรุงเทพฯ CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคม-2 พฤศจิกายน 2544 ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมใหญ่ครั้งที่ 5 มีสมาชิก 119 ราย ประกอบด้วย องค์การพัฒนาเอกชน NGOs รวมทั้งสถาบันการศึกษาและวิจัยมาร่วมประชุมในครั้งนี้ มีวัตถุประสงค์ที่จะสร้างความสัมพันธ์ต่อกัน เพื่อนำไปสู่ความร่วมมือในด้านเศรษฐกิจ การค้า การลงทุน สังคม การศึกษา และวัฒนธรรม ในอนาคตจะเป็นเวทีแลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์ในการบริหารและแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง โดยจะมีการจัดกลุ่มย่อยด้วย

ด้าน นางณฐนนท ทวีสิน รองปลัดกรุงเทพมหานคร เปิดเผยว่า CITY NET จะเป็นการแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง เพื่อพัฒนาเมืองในภูมิภาคนี้ให้มีความเป็น People-friendly Cities หรือเป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับประชาชน ในการประชุมครั้งนี้ทางองค์กร CITYNET ได้แบ่งการประชุมย่อยออกเป็น 8 กลุ่มย่อย มีหัวข้อที่เกี่ยวกับการพัฒนาเมือง และแก้ไขปัญหาเมือง รวมทั้งการสร้างเมืองให้เป็นเมืองน่าอยู่สำหรับเด็ก

อย่างไรก็ตามในการประชุมและเป็นเจ้าภาพครั้งนี้ของกทม. จะได้ประโยชน์ในหลายด้าน คือ ได้รับความรู้ประสบการณ์ในการบริหารเมือง การจัดการคมนาคมขนส่ง การจัดการที่อยู่อาศัย การจัดการขยะมูลฝอย-น้ำเสีย ตลอดจนการส่งเสริมการมีส่วนร่วมของประชาชน และเมืองที่มีความก้าวหน้าทางด้านเทคโนโลยีกทม.ก็สามารถนำประสบการณ์นั้นมาพัฒนางานของกทม. ต่อไป รวมไปถึงงานทางด้านวิชาการ

สำหรับประโยชน์ทางด้านเศรษฐกิจ ขณะนี้กทม.กำลังผลักดันให้สินค้าผลิตภัณฑ์ชุมชนเป็นที่รู้จักของประชาชนทั้งชาวไทยและชาวต่างประเทศ ในช่วงที่มีการประชุมกทม.จะจัดนิทรรศการผลงานของชุมชน 50 เขต บริเวณห้องโถงศูนย์การประชุมแห่งชาติสิริกิติ์ เพื่อเผยแพร่ผลงานกิจกรรมของชุมชน และผลิตภัณฑ์ของดีของชุมชน เป็นสินค้าที่อยู่ในความสนใจของชาวต่างชาติ เช่น ผ้าไหม ดอกไม้ประดิษฐ์ งานฝีมือ และสลัดของจิ๋ว ฯลฯ และยังสามารถเข้าชมสินค้าได้ที่ www.bangkokcommunityemail.com

รองปลัดกทม.กล่าวต่อว่า ประโยชน์ที่จะได้รับอีกด้านหนึ่งคือด้านการท่องเที่ยว ในวันที่ 2 ตุลาคม 2544 กทม. ได้จัดเส้นทางท่องเที่ยว 3 เส้นทางต้อนรับผู้นำเมือง โดยเส้นทางที่ 1 ดูงานรถไฟฟ้า BTS เยี่ยมชมตลาดอตก. และตลาดนัดจตุจักร เส้นทางที่ 2 เที่ยวงานราชภัฏบุรณะแฟร์ ดูงานสำนักงานทรัพย์วัฒนา ลองเรือชมวิถีชีวิตริมคลอง และเที่ยวสวนสามพราน เส้นทางที่ 3 จะศึกษาดูงานโรงบำบัดน้ำเสียสี่พระยา และชมความงามของพระบรมมหาราชวัง นอกจากนี้ในคืนวันที่ 31 ตุลาคม ผู้ว่าฯ กทม. จะเป็นเจ้าภาพเลี้ยงอาหารค่ำแก่ผู้นำเมืองบนเรือเจ้าพระยา ริเวอร์ ครุช และเชิญผู้นำเมืองร่วมงานประเพณีลอยกระทงบริเวณใต้สะพานพระราม 8 ซึ่งการจัดการท่องเที่ยว 3 เส้นทางจะเป็นการผสมกลมกลืนระหว่างวัฒนธรรมไทย และความก้าวหน้าทันสมัยของเมืองรวมถึงความพร้อมทางด้านสาธารณูปโภคของกทม.

ทั้งนี้ในโอกาสที่กทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพจัดการประชุมครั้งนี้ กทม.ได้เตรียมพร้อมต้อนรับ อำนวยความสะดวก และสร้างความประทับใจแก่ผู้นำเมือง โดยจะจัดให้ผู้นำเมืองเข้าพักโรงแรมอิมพีเรียล ควีนส์ปาร์ค สุขุมวิทซอย 22 ซึ่งเป็นโรงแรมที่มีมาตรฐานในระดับสากล และได้ติดตั้งเครื่องคอมพิวเตอร์ 2 เครื่องที่โรงแรม

ด้านผู้ว่าฯกทม.กล่าวในตอนท้ายว่า กทม.เป็นเมืองที่สามารถ "ขาย" ได้ เพราะมีสิ่งดึงดูดหลายด้านที่จะอาจดอดสายตาชาวต่างชาติ ทั้งในเรื่องการพัฒนาเมือง การพัฒนาเครือข่ายจราจรในเมือง เช่น ถนนวงแหวนรอบนอกทางด่วน แม้จะยังเป็นจุดเริ่มต้นแต่เป็นการเดินถูกทางแล้ว ซึ่งกทม.จะต้องพัฒนาต่อไป นอกจากนี้ในด้านศิลปวัฒนธรรมประเพณีที่เป็นเอกลักษณ์ที่สร้างความตื่นตาตื่นใจให้แก่คนต่างเมือง

"บุคคลสำคัญที่จะมาร่วมประชุมในครั้งนี้ ก็เหมือนกับแขกที่มาเยี่ยมเยือนกทม. ดังนั้นจึงต้องเตรียมความพร้อมเพื่อต้อนรับผู้มาเยือนให้ได้รับความสะดวกสบาย และพาเขาไปเที่ยวชมสิ่งดีๆ ของประเทศไทย ให้เขาได้รับความประทับใจกลับไป ซึ่งจะส่งผลดีต่อภาพลักษณ์ของเมือง การท่องเที่ยว และเศรษฐกิจในอนาคต"

THANSETTAKIT
28-31 OCTOBER 2001

BANGKOK HOSTS CITYNET CONFERENCE TO FIND WAYS SOLVING CITY PROBLEMS

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■ BATTLING HIV-AIDS

'Fight starts at home'

■ *Arthit Khwankhom*
THE NATION

POLITICAL AND financial commitments to overcoming HIV/Aids must be made in Thailand before the country seeks external support in its battle against the disease, Senator Meechai Viravaidya said yesterday.

"We must stop lying to ourselves and others that the country is seriously combating this epidemic. People living with the virus still depend mainly on themselves and some help from foreign agencies," Meechai, a UNAIDS ambassador, said in a speech to a meeting convened here by the United Nations, CITYNET and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration.

People living with HIV/Aids, he said, continued to suffer discrimination, stigmatisation and outright denial at the hands of a society that still does not understand their plight.

Despite the country's success in reducing the number of new infections among sex workers and their clients, infections continued to mount in other high-risk groups, especially young heterosexuals with multiple partners and intravenous drug users, he added.

"All parties must stay involved and continue to participate in this fight. We cannot let up even for a minute," Meechai said.

"You know, nowadays people must buy their own condoms if they want to have safe sex: The free-condom campaign was hit by a reduction in the AIDS-prevention budget a couple of years ago. How many people are aware of this – even the government is downplaying it," he said.

Meechai said the government needs to make a financial commitment as well as a political one if Aids-prevention measures are to be implemented successfully.

"Start inside the country, then ask for support from other countries," Meechai said.

He also suggested the government integrate its Aids education and condom-promotion campaigns. "People won't think to use a condom unless they see a need for it. So we have to make them concerned about Aids prevention as well as provide them with what they need to accomplish it," he said.

The goal of Aids education, the senator said, should not be limited to teaching people how to keep from contracting the virus, but should also help people understand how to live side-by-side with HIV-positive members of society without fear.

Thailand topped a recent list of 10 Asia-Pacific countries ranked according to number of Aids cases, according to Nand Kiriksh, chief of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's (Escap) Social Development Division.

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October 31, 2001, Wednesday

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LENGTH: 369 words

HEADLINE: 300 to brainstorm ideas for more liveable cities

BYLINE: Edward Tang, Thailand Correspondent

BODY:
BANGKOK -- From urban transport to child-friendly schools, about 300 mayors and local government officials worldwide are meeting in Bangkok this week to exchange ideas on developing better cities for residents.

Representing some 50 cities, including Calcutta, Yokohama, Paris and Brussels, the participants at the week-long CityNet Congress, which began on Monday, discussed solutions to common urban problems like pollution, traffic congestion, and overcrowding.

CityNet is an independent institution that works closely with governments, the private sector and non-governmental organisations to create more people-friendly cities. Held once in four years, the current meeting is hosted by the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority and the United Nations' Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**Escap**).

Subjects being covered include the fight against Aids and Asian-European cooperation on urban projects.

One of the problems highlighted at this meeting was the lack of child-friendly cities.

Senior educationist Kasama Varavarn pointed out that Bangkok lacked the physical space for children to enjoy let alone wander safely.

"My son cannot even ride a bicycle safely in Bangkok," she said.

To improve the situation, the city has come up with a pilot scheme under which 12 Bangkok schools would be made child-friendly with new features such as more open spaces and greenery, safe drinking water and more social events for children.

At the urban transport workshop, lessons were drawn from other cities like Kuala Lumpur and Manila which have successfully involved the private sector in developing mass transit systems and expressways to ease traffic jams in those cities.

A World Bank representative gave a presentation on Infocity -- a Web-supported interactive solution -- for cities embarking on the information-technology trail.

The "networking approach" would enable cities to be plugged into real-time data banks and gain exposure to electronic commerce.

Mr Yap Kioe Sheng, who heads the human settlement division at **Escap,** said the aim of the Bangkok meeting was to provide an opportunity for city administrators to network and share problem-solving experiences.

LOAD-DATE: November 1, 2001

MATICHON
2 NOVEMBER 2001

CITYNET DESCRIBES "BTS" AN EXAMPLE OF GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE

มติชน
- 2 พ.ย. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 23

1


สมัคร สุนทรเวช

ซิตี้เน็ทยก'บีทีเอส'ตัวอย่างล้มเหลวของรัฐ

เมื่อเวลา 14:30 น. วันที่ 1 พฤศจิกายน นาย สมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร แถลงผลการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชีย-แปซิฟิก หรือซิตี้เน็ท ว่าในหัวข้อว่าด้วยการพัฒนาระบบขนส่งในเมือง กรุงเทพมหานคร(กทม.)ได้นำเสนอกรณีตัวอย่างของโครงการระบบขนส่งมวลชนกรุงเทพฯ หรือรถไฟฟ้าบีทีเอสว่าเป็นโครงการที่ล้มเหลว เนื่องจากโครงการนี้ ให้เอกชนลงทุนและบริหารจัดการทั้งหมด ในการที่มีความสั่นพ้องทางการเงิน ขณะที่ทิศทางการพัฒนาระบบขนส่งในเมืองในศตวรรษที่ 21 นั้น จะต้องแสวงหาความร่วมมือระหว่างภาครัฐและเอกชน ซึ่งโครงการนี้ไม่สอดคล้องกับสภาพความเป็นจริง อย่างไรก็ตาม จากการหารือในที่ประชุม มีความเห็นร่วมกันว่าการพัฒนาระบบขนส่งในเมืองในอนาคต รัฐจำเป็นต้องร่วมมือกับเอกชน จึงจะทำให้โครงการมีประสิทธิภาพ และคุ้มค่าความเสี่ยงต่างๆ ได้

สยามรัฐ
- 2 พ.ย. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
ฉบับ 6
2

ซิตี้เน็ตห่วงเอดส์ปัญหาใหญ่ ขณะที่ สมัคร โชว์ประเบสำเร็จ

ผลประชุมซิตี้เน็ต 66 เมืองห่วงไฮโรคเอดส์ ปัญหาใหญ่ในการพัฒนา แนะเมืองต้องโตให้เหมาะกับเด็ก-ระบบขนส่งต้องมีเอกชนช่วย-ทุนนอกรีไฟแนนซ์สร้างชุมชนให้เข้มแข็ง ทั้งนี้ สิ่งที่ต้องคำนึงถึงเป็นสำคัญ คำนึง คือ ให้ทุกฝ่าย ทุกระดับ ทั้งในระดับประเทศรายภูมิภาค ท้องถิ่น ชุมชน ประชาชน ตลอดจนภาคธุรกิจเอกชน องค์กรต่างๆ เข้ามามีส่วนพัฒนาเมือง "สมัคร" ยกนิทัศน์ให้ต่างชาติดูเป็น จุดหรอบโครงการที่รัฐปล่อยเอกชนทำจนล้ม

นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่ากทม.เปิดเผยว่า จากการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือเมืองมหานครเอเชียแปซิฟิก เมื่อวันที่ 29 ต.ค.-1 พ.ย. ที่ผ่านมา กลุ่มองค์กรจาก 66 เมือง ได้แลกเปลี่ยนความคิดเห็นเพื่อหาแนวทางแก้ไขปัญหาและพัฒนาเมืองร่วมกัน โดยการประชุมได้แบ่งออกเป็น 9 กลุ่ม ซึ่งสรุปได้ว่า ปัญหาโรคเอดส์ในเมืองเป็นปัญหาใหญ่ของการพัฒนาประเทศ การตื่นตัวต่อการส่งเสริมให้เมืองเติบโตไปในทิศทางที่เหมาะกับเด็ก ส่วนการพัฒนาระบบขนส่งในเมืองนั้นได้ประสิทธิภาพดีนั้นจำเป็นต้องมีการร่วมทุนกับเอกชน และอาจจำเป็นต้องมีการส่งเสริมสตรีให้มีบทบาทเป็นผู้นำชุมชนและมีสิทธิมีเสียงมากขึ้น โดยการส่งเสริมให้ชุมชนสร้างวัฒนธรรมขึ้นในชุมชนด้วยตนเอง ไม่ควรเน้นสนับสนุนให้ทุกคนมีบทบาทสำคัญต่อการแก้ปัญหาสิ่งแวดล้อมในชุมชน

ผู้ว่ากทม. กล่าวว่าในที่ประชุมหนนี้ได้รับประสบการณ์ความสำเร็จในการแก้ปัญหาโรคเอดส์ เมื่อรู้ว่าที่ผ่านได้ประสบความสำเร็จในการแก้ปัญหาโรคเอดส์เป็นอย่างดี และรู้ถึงความสัมพันธ์ของระบบขนส่งในกทม. โดยเฉพาะการก่อสร้างโครงการรถไฟฟ้าบีทีเอสว่าเป็นโครงการที่สังเคราะห์มาจากมีความเสี่ยงในหลายด้าน และเป็นการลงทุนและบริหารโดยเอกชน ซึ่งเมื่อเกิดการขัดข้องกิจจะทำให้เอกชนไม่มีกำลังพอในการพัฒนาเมืองในส่งต่อไปได้ ทั้งนี้ ในศตวรรษที่ 21 รัฐบาลควรจะต้องแสวงหาความร่วมมือระหว่างภาครัฐและเอกชนให้สมดุลกัน

SIAMRATH
2 NOVEMBER 2001

CITYNET CONGRESS CONCERN OVER AIDS WHILE BANGKOK GOVERNOR CONFIDENT PROBLEM WILL BE REDUCED

MANAGER DAILY
2 NOVEMBER 2001

CITY HEADS AGREE ON IMPORTANCE OF AIDS PROBLEM
APPOINTED SAMAK AS VICE-CHAIRMAN

ผู้จัดการรายวัน
- 2 พ.ย. 2544

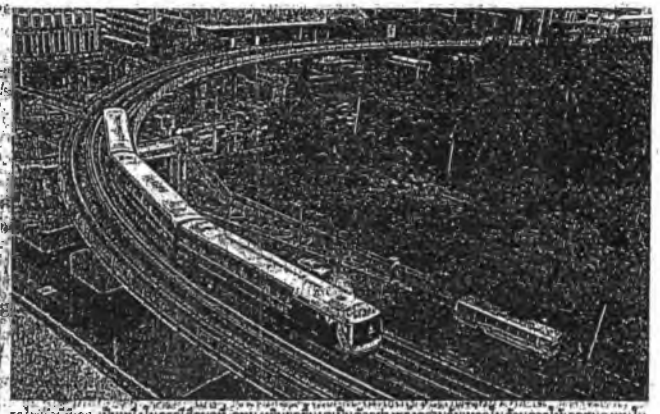
กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 5
3

ผู้นำเมืองใหญ่เห็นพ้องปัญหาเอดส์ ตั้ง 'สมัคร' เป็นรองประธานคนที่1

ผู้จัดการรายวัน - ผู้ว่าราชการ กทม. เผยผลการประชุมผู้นำเมืองสำคัญในภูมิภาคเอเชีย ว่าที่ประชุมเห็นพ้องกันว่า สิ่งที่เมืองใหญ่ต้องตระหนักมากที่สุด คือ ปัญหาโรคเอดส์ ส่วนแนวทางการพัฒนาที่ควรเป็นคือการทำให้เป็นเมืองเพื่อเด็ก คุยได้รับเลือกจากที่ประชุมเป็นรองประธานคนที่ 1

นายสมัคร สุนทรเวช ผู้ว่าราชการกรุงเทพมหานคร(กทม.) เปิดเผยถึงผลการประชุม CITYNET BANGKOK CONGRESS 2001 หรือการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคระหว่างผู้นำเมืองสำคัญในภูมิภาคเอเชียแปซิฟิค จาก 66 เมือง 20 ประเทศ ระหว่างวันที่ 29 ตุลาคมถึงวานนี้ (1 พ.ย.) ว่า ทุกฝ่ายต่างมีการแสดงความคิดเห็นกันอย่างกว้างขวาง เพื่อแสวงหาแนวทางในการแก้ไขปัญหาและพัฒนาเมืองร่วมกัน

โดยในที่ประชุมเห็นพ้องกันว่า สิ่งที่เมืองจะต้องตระหนักและเพิ่มความสำคัญมากขึ้นก่อนที่จะลุกลามกลายเป็นปัญหาที่แก้ยาก ได้แก่ ปัญหาโรคเอดส์ในเมือง ซึ่งกำลังเป็นปัญหาใหญ่ของการพัฒนาประเทศ และการตื่นตัวต่อการส่งเสริมให้เมืองเติบโตไปในทิศทางที่เหมาะกับเด็ก คือ เป็นเมืองเพื่อเด็ก



รถไฟฟ้าบีทีเอส เป็นหนึ่งในกรณีศึกษาที่ กทม. หยิบยกขึ้นมาเป็นตัวอย่างของความสำเร็จในด้านการให้บริการระบบขนส่งมวลชนเต็ม 100 เปอร์เซ็นต์

นอกจากนี้ยังได้มีการเสนอแนวทางที่ดีที่สุด ในการพัฒนาระบบขนส่งมวลชนในเมืองโดยการร่วมทุนกับเอกชน การส่งเสริมให้สตรีมีบทบาทในการเป็นผู้นำชุมชน และทัดเทียมบุรุษ การส่งเสริมให้ชุมชนสร้างธรรมรัฐในชุมชนของตัวเอง และการสนับสนุนให้ชุมชนมีบทบาทสำคัญต่อการแก้ปัญหาสิ่งแวดล้อมในชุมชน

ทั้งนี้ กทม. ได้ยกความสำเร็จเรื่องบีทีเอส เป็นตัวอย่างให้กับเมืองอื่นๆ ด้วย ที่ว่าให้เอกชนลงทุนร้อยละ 100 แล้วสัมปทาน

"หลังการประชุมระหว่างเมืองต่อเมือง มีอะไรที่น่าสนใจก็จะดำเนินการต่อไป เราปราบปรามเอดส์ ได้ดีกว่าคนอื่น จึงนำเสนอคนอื่นเขาจึงจะเอาเป็นตัวอย่าง หรือบทเรียนสัมเหลวอย่างบีทีเอส ซึ่งจะเป็นตัวอย่างว่า ใครอย่าไปทำอย่างตัวอย่างนี้" นายสมัครกล่าว

พร้อมเผยว่า ในการประชุมครั้งนี้ กทม. ได้รับความร่วมมือจากคณะกรรมการบริหารเมืองและชุมชนว่าสามารถเป็นเจ้าภาพจัดงานครั้งนี้ได้อย่างยิ่งใหญ่ และมีการเผยแพร่วัฒนธรรมประเพณีไทยได้อย่างน่าสนใจ ผู้เข้าร่วมประชุมต่างพึงพอใจในการต้อนรับและอำนวยความสะดวกของ กทม. เป็นอย่างสูง แสดงศักยภาพของเมืองว่า พร้อมที่จะพัฒนาเป็นเมืองศูนย์กลางของการประชุมในระดับนานาชาติ

นอกจากนี้ ในที่ประชุมยังได้มีมติให้ตั้งเป็น รองประธานองค์การ CITYNET คนที่ 1 ด้วย โดยวันนี้ (2 พ.ย.) เป็นวันสุดท้ายของการประชุม ทางคณะผู้จัดจะนำผู้เข้าร่วมประชุมไปทัศนศึกษาดูงาน ซึ่งจะมีการนำขึ้นรถไฟฟ้าบีทีเอส ชมโรงบำบัดน้ำเสีย ช่องนนทรี และพระบรมมหาราชวัง สำหรับการประชุมครั้งต่อไป จะจัดขึ้นที่เมืองซานอย ประเทศเวียดนาม ในปี พ.ศ.2549 ■

DAILY NEWS
2 NOVENBER 2001

CITYNET CONGRESS CLOSES WITH PLEDGE TO SOLVE AIDS PROBLEM



4

ข่าวสด

๒ ๗ พ.ย. 2544

กองประชาสัมพันธ์ กทม.
หน้า 28

5

ประชุมซิตี้เน็ตฯ2001

เน้นเสมอภาคชาย-หญิง

กทม. - ในการประชุมเครือข่ายความร่วมมือส่วนภูมิภาคเอเชียแปซิฟิก หรือซิตี้เน็ตแบงก์คอกคองเกรส 2001 ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมผู้ว่าการนครและนายกเทศมนตรีจาก 66 เมือง ในเอเชียแปซิฟิก โดยกทม.เป็นเจ้าภาพและแบ่งการประชุมเป็นกลุ่มย่อย 9 กลุ่ม ซึ่งมีการหยิบยกกลุ่มย่อยเรื่องชุมชนร่วมใจรักษาสิ่งแวดล้อม และกิจกรรมการพัฒนาเครือข่าย ความร่วมมือแบบกระจายอำนาจในการบริหารจัดการเมือง ธรรมรัฐโดยประชาชน การสร้างเครือข่ายความรู้และทรัพยากร ปัญหาโรคเอดส์และเมือง และการส่งเสริมความร่วมมือระหว่างการปกครองท้องถิ่นกับสตรีผู้นำชุมชน

นางผัสนุนท์ ทรัพย์ รองปลัดกทม. กล่าวว่า การประชุมครั้งนี้จะทำให้ผู้นำสตรีจากเมืองสำคัญๆ ได้แลกเปลี่ยนประสบการณ์ความคิด เพื่อเพิ่มการมีส่วนร่วมของสตรีและกระตุ้นให้ตระหนักถึงความเสมอภาคระหว่างหญิง-ชายในการพัฒนาและแก้ปัญหาเมือง

KAOSOD
2 DECENBER 2001

CITYNET CONFERNCE 2001 CALLS FOR EQUALITY
BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

1.3 High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, Otsu City, Shiga, Japan, 25-28 October 2002

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: **Pakistan News** Date: 15 October 2002
Page(s):

Summary

U.N. / PAKISTAN 2002 - A weekly newsletter, published by the UN Information Centre (UNIC) in Islamabad on behalf of all Agencies of the United Nations System in Pakistan.

Weekly Issue No. 42/2002 (15 October 2002)

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---ASIA AND THE PACIFIC---

ASIAN GOVERNMENTS URGED TO ACT ON DISABILITY-RELATED POVERTY

If the cycle of poverty faced by persons with disabilities is to be overcome, Governments in Asia and the Pacific must accept that persons with disabilities should be treated as equal members of society free from discrimination. This is the message that will be delivered from 25 to 28 October in Otsu, Japan, at a high-level meeting with more than 300 representatives from Governments, NGO's and United Nations agencies in attendance. The meeting, convened by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific - UNESCAP, will officially conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993 - 2002.

During the last ten years, the general awareness of the special needs of persons with disabilities has improved markedly in the Asian and Pacific region, but two-thirds of the world's disabled persons live in this region and 40 % of them (roughly 160 million) still live below the poverty line. Research carried out by UNESCAP has shown that many persons with disabilities face stigmatization when it comes to seeking employment and access to public services.

"People with disabilities, particularly in developing countries, are often the victims of negative social attitudes and are subject to stigmatization, neglect, and sometimes exacerbation of the disabling condition or the onset of new disabling conditions, as a result," states a UNESCAP Review Paper to be presented to delegates at the meeting. "Exclusion and marginalization reduce the opportunities for people with disabilities to contribute productively to the household and the community, and increase the risk of falling into poverty," it concludes. Women and girls continue to struggle with a double discrimination based on their gender and impairment. They have less access to health care and rehabilitation services, and fewer education and employment opportunities.

For more information on the United Nations and its activities, please visit the main UN website at www.un.org or the UN Pakistan website at www.un.org.pk

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest
Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th

Date: 16 October 2002

Summary

IQ
InfoQuest

Bangkok Press Briefing Ahead of Otsu Meeting

Bangkok--Oct 16--UNESCAP

Bangkok Press Briefing Ahead of Otsu Meeting More Action Planned to Help Persons With Disabilities

BANGKOK - (United Nations Information Services) - The barriers are coming down for persons with disabilities in Asia and Pacific, but there is still much work to do as the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons draws to a close.

More than 300 representatives from governments, NGO's and United Nations agencies are expected to attend a meeting in Otsu, Japan from 25 - 28 October 2002 to officially conclude the Decade.

This meeting of high-level officials will review the achievements of the last ten years, which includes a growing awareness among governments and the general public of the special challenges faced by persons with disabilities and the inherent rights they hold as contributors to society.

To brief Bangkok-side media about the issues to be discussed in Japan, H.E. Mr Atsushi Tokinoya, the Ambassador of Japan and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP Kim Hak-Su and senior UNESCAP officials will brief the press on Monday, 21st October at the United Nations Conference Centre, UNCC at 10.30 p.m. refreshments will be served.

Approximately two-thirds of the world's 600 million persons with disabilities live in the Asian and the Pacific region. Roughly 160 million of them live below the poverty line. Many continue to face institutional, environmental and social discrimination and barriers in this region. Women with disabilities are often the worst affected.

A new decade is expected to be dedicated to continue the improvements in awareness with the theme "Towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities".

Mr. Kim and Mr. Yoshitsugu Kunimatsu, Governor of Shiga Prefecture, will make welcoming statements in Japan. A senior dignitary of the Government of Japan will inaugurate the meeting. Among the other speakers will be Senator Eita Yashiro, the only wheelchair parliamentarian in Japan. Mr. Satoshi Fukushima, Associate Professor at Tokyo University, will make the keynote address. He cannot see nor hear and uses "Finger Braille" to communicate. This was a method invented by his mother.

For more information, please check the website: http://www.unescap.org/decade

For more information, please contact: Mr. David Lazarus, Chief, United Nations Information Services UN Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand Tel: 02 288 1864-9 E-mail: unisbkk.unescap@un.org End.

-NM-

Saturday, October 19th, 2002

ONLINE TAIPEI 台北時報 TIMES EDITION

www.taipeitimes.com

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41,943,438 visits

Eden Foundation group heads for Osaka conference

CNA, TAIPEI

A seven-member delegation from the private Eden Social Welfare Foundation is scheduled to depart for Japan today to take part in an international conference devoted to the well-being of disabled persons.

The Campaign 2002 to Promote the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons is co-sponsored by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and opens in Osaka tomorrow.

The foundation delegation will be headed by Lin Chin-chuan (ÀL· A*f*t), executive director of the foundation's Resource Development Department.

Lin and delegation members will report on the situation facing Taiwan's physically and mentally-challenged people and the progress of various programs for these people that the foundation has been running since 1985.

They are also scheduled to give reports at different panel discussions on issues pertaining to international cooperation, the seeking of rights for the physically and mentally-challenged, social reconstruction, and a barrier-free environment in Taiwan.

According to Eden Foundation chief executive officer Chen Chun-liang (' - ĀT»}), after six years of strenuous efforts, the foundation was recently admitted into UNESCAP, allowing it to take part in all UNESCAP activities as a full member.

Chen said that efforts made on behalf of disabled people in Taiwan and

those in need throughout the world, have resulted in the Eden Foundation's UNESCAP admission.

On behalf of the Taiwan government, DPP Legislator Hsiao Bi-khim (‡fiÔ ÷^), presented the Eden delegation with a national banner yesterday and offered her blessing to the group, wishing them success at the Osaka meeting.

At a press conference yesterday, Lin said the foundation has for years taken part in UNESCAP activities as a non-governmental group.

Over the past several years, the foundation has participated in UNESCAP activities promoting the Friendly City Movement and the Barrier-Free Movement, with both receiving overwhelming support and responses from .nember countries, he added.

Now that the foundation is a full member of UNESCAP, Lin said, its greatest hope is that Taiwan will be awarded the oppor-tunity to host the next UNESCAP Campaign to Promote the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

The foundation was founded by wheelchair-bound writer Liu Hsia (› BĀL) more than 17 years ago. Liu, now 60, now serves as a "spiritual leader" of the organization.

This story has been viewed 101 times

URL=[http://www.taipeitimes.com/news/2002/10/19/story/0000176259]

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Asian Tribune
"Striving for Asian Solidarity"
Date : 22/10/2002 , Tue A Newspaper Published by Asian Tribune Co.,Ltd. Vol. 1

Close

Date : 2002-10-21

Disparity in the midst of the human beings is the threat to the development

By K.T.Rajasingham



Atushi Tokinoya

Bangkok, October 21:"Disabled persons are now viewed as independent individuals with much potential and not merely as recipients of welfare services. I would also like to note that in Japan efforts have been made to strengthen the legal framework for the benefit of persons with disabilities. The disabled persons' fundamental law was amended and strengthened in 1993. There have been national efforts to develop disability plan and to bring about positive changes to various aspects to disabled people lives."

Atsushi Toknoyo, the Japanese ambassador in Thailand, said this. The ambassador was at the press conference on the High-level Intergovernmental meeting to conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok.

The press conference was held to brief Bangkok-side media. Atsushi Tokinoya, the Ambassador of Japan and Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP) Kim Hak-Su and senior UNESCAP officials were involved in briefing the press.

Atsushi Tokinoya, the Japanese ambassador in his address to the press said:

"I am pleased that the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons will be held from 25 to 28 October in Otsu, Shiga Prefecture, Japan.

"In 1992, recognizing that large number of persons with disabilities in the Asia and Pacific region were deprived of the benefits of socio-economic development and equal opportunities, Japan took an initiative to launch the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons from 1993 to 2002, in order to achieve the United Nations goal of full participation and equality for persons with disabilities in the region.

"Japan has been actively involved in the major activities and programmes of the Decade. These activities include efforts to help create a 'barrier-free' society. Ten

years ago 'barrier-free' was by no means a common term. The important of its meaning has received full recognition only recent years. Japan has supported ESCAP projects, which disseminate the idea of barrier-free developing countries. Pilot projects were also carried out in Bangkok, Beijing and New Delhi. These three cities have been chosen as models for improved accessibility to promote and improve accessibility are being enacted in these respective countries.

"I would also like to note that in Japan efforts have been made to strengthen the legal framework for the benefit of persons with disabilities. The disabled persons fundamental law was amended and strengthened in 1993. There have been national efforts to develop disability plan and to bring about positive changes to various aspects to disabled people lives. Disabled persons are now viewed as independent individuals with much potential and not merely as recipients of welfare services.

"Last year, the United Nations launched preparation for an international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities in the ESCAP Commission session in May this year. It was decided to proclaim an extended Decade for persons with disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region from 2003 to 2012. Japan made an offer to host the High-level meeting in Japan to conclude the present Decade and to launch the new Decade. During this decade efforts will be made to put into practice the concept of full participation and equal opportunities. 'Towards an inclusive, barrier-free and rights based society for persons with disabilities' is the theme of the new Decade, and the Biwako Millennium Framework (BMF) to be adopted at Otsu will be the guiding document for the next Decade.

"Biwako - which is Lake Biwako, Japan's largest fresh water lake, on which Otsu city, the host city of the meeting is situated.

"Another important initiative on the part of Japan is to establish in collaboration with Thailand an Asian and Pacific Development Center on Disability in Bangkok, as a legacy of the past Decade, which will be opened in 2004. This center will be a focal point to empower persons with disabilities in the region," said the Japanese ambassador while concluding his speech and declared that Japan would continue to support the vital activities and programmes during the new Decade.

"Persons with disabilities are still discriminated against in many ways," UNESCAP Executive Secretary, Kim Hak-Su, also told journalists at a pre-Otsu news briefing in Bangkok. "Many barriers - physical, social and institutional - still stand in their way to rights and benefits that most non-disabled citizens enjoy and take for granted." He further added that, there are 400 million disabled people in the Asian-Pacific region, which is nearly 2/3 of the world-disabled population. He further said, "Less than 10 percent of children and youth with disabilities in this region have access to education, About 160 million people with disabilities live below poverty line; another indication of their lack of access to education, healthcare, assets and decent employment said Kim Hak-Su.

Across Asia and the Pacific, persons with disabilities "remain disproportionately undereducated, untrained, unemployed, underemployed and poor," according to a UNESCAP review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993 - 2002.

It is women and children with disabilities that have suffered the most in the Asian and Pacific region.

Women with disabilities are multiply disadvantaged through their status as women, as persons with disabilities and because, as a group, they make up the majority of those persons living in poverty.

Only one child in ten with a disability in the Asian and Pacific region has access to any form of education, compared with a regional enrolment rate of over 70 per cent for non-disabled children and youth in primary education.

The UNESCAP review concludes that because so many children with disabilities are being denied their schooling, the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary

education will not be achieved by 2015 in this region without increased commitment by Governments and civil society.

The review urges UNESCAP Member and Associate Member Governments in the region to take further steps to prepare their school systems for inclusive education, and to officially acknowledge that every child has a right to attend school, and that it is the responsibility of the school to accommodate differences.

Some countries in the region have already taken steps to improve the lives of persons with disabilities.



This an original mouth-painting by Lovely, a resident of Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), in Bangladesh. Lovely is tetraplegic; she has no sensation or muscle power below her neck. She suffered a cervical spinal cord injury as a result of a fall from a building in 1995 when she was about ten years of age. Her treatment at CRP - like that of many other desperately poor people in Bangladesh - is entirely supported by donation.

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Asia to launch 2nd "decade for disabled persons"

XINHUANET 2002-10-21 19:18:54

= = BANGKOK, Oct. 21 (Xinhuanet) -- Asia-Pacific nations will launch the second "decade for disabled persons: 2003-2012," a region-widecampaign to promote the rights of those disabled, at a upcoming meeting, a UN regional arm said here Monday.

= = "Governments in the region have decided to extend the 'decade for disabled persons: 1993-2002' for another 10 years and this will be formally announced at a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conclude the first decade between Oct. 25 and 28 in Shiga, Japan," UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Executive-Secretary Kim Hak told a press conference here.

= = The meeting, which will gather 300 officials and experts on thedisabled issue across the region, is expected to adopt a frameworkof actions to meet the goal set for the second decade, "an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific," according to him.

= = The meeting will also assess what has been achieved in the first decade, which is initiated by the ESCAP and participated by 41 countries and regions, under the goal of "full participation and equality of people with disabilities."

= = "During the first decade, much has been achieved in realizing the goal which is seen in improvements in legislation, public awareness and national coordination on disability issues and in more accessibility of communication for the disabled," said Kim.

= = However, much remains to be done, he said. The Asia-Pacific is home 400 million disabled persons, two-thirds of the world's total disabled, while some 200 million disabled in this region need the use of specific assisting devices and their needs are largely unmet.

= = Some 160 million Asian disabled are still living below the poverty-line, due to lack of education and employment discrimination. Disabled women and children suffered most. Women face double discrimination of disability and gender while less than 10 percent of the disabled children in the region have a chance to go to school.

= = "People with disabilities continue to face institutional, environmental

and attitudinal barriers," said Kim.

= = As a result, he said the second decade will mainly address following issues, including self-help organization of the disabled, women with disabilities, early intervention and education, training and employment, access to public transport, access to information and communication technology (ICT) and poverty reduction via social security.

= = Founded in 1947 and grouping 61 members, the Bangkok-based ESCAP is t largest intergovernmental socio-economic organizationin the Asia and Pacific. The first "decade for disabled persons inAsia-Pacific", an ESCAP brainchild, is the first of its kind in the world and has served as a mod for other regions to follow. Enditem

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Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest
Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th

Date: 21 October 2002

Summary

IQ
InfoQuest

Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific: A Legacy of Poverty, Illiteracy, Discrimination- Women & Children Suffer Most

Bangkok–Oct 21–UNISBKK

A Threat to Millennium Development Goal for Universal Primary Education

Across Asia and the Pacific, persons with disabilities "remain disproportionately undereducated, untrained, unemployed, underemployed and poor," according to a UNESCAP review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993 - 2002.

Despite this special decade dedicated to raising awareness and improving access to public facilities for persons with disabilities much work remains to be done, the 300 delegates attending the High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 25 - 28 October at Otsu City, Shiga, Japan, will be told.

"Persons with disabilities are still discriminated against in many ways," UNESCAP Executive Secretary, Mr. Kim Hak-Su, told journalists today at a pre-Otsu news briefing in Bangkok. "Many barriers - physical, social and institutional - still stand in their way to rights and benefits that most non-disabled citizens enjoy and take for granted."

It is women and children with disabilities that have suffered the most in the Asian and Pacific region.

Women with disabilities are multiply disadvantaged through their status as women, as persons with disabilities and because, as a group, they make up the majority of those persons living in poverty.

Only one child in ten with a disability in the Asian and Pacific region has access to any form of education, compared with a regional enrolment rate of over 70 per cent for non-disabled children and youth in primary education.

The UNESCAP review concludes that because so many children with disabilities are being denied their schooling, the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education will not be achieved by 2015 in this region without increased commitment by Governments and civil society.

The review urges UNESCAP Member and Associate Member Governments in the region to take further steps to prepare their school systems for inclusive education, and to officially acknowledge that every child has a right to attend school, and that it is the responsibility of the school to accommodate differences.

Some countries in the region have already taken steps to improve the lives of persons with disabilities.

"Japan has been actively involved in the major activities and programmes of the Decade," said H.E. Mr. Atsushi Tokinoya, Japan's Ambassador to Thailand, reaffirming Japan's commitment "to establish, in collaboration with Thailand, an Asian and Pacific Development Center on Disability, in Bangkok, which will be opened in 2004."

A new decade is expected to be dedicated at the Otsu meeting with the theme "Towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons With Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific." The aim of this new decade is to enable a paradigm shift from a charity-based approach to a rights-based approach to protect the civil, cultural, economic, political, and social rights of persons with disabilities.

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新华通讯社 Xinhua News Agency

Feature: Asia's disabled get a chance to improve their lives by Yang Qingchuan

BANGKOK, Oct 22, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The UN poster for the upcoming Asia- Pacific meeting for the disabled in Japan highlights a watercolor painting showing green leaves and joyful birds. The drawing may not be perfect in the sense of artistic standards, but it is really a small wonder for it is a work from a young girl who has no sensation below her neck. She made it by biting a pen with her teeth.

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Feature: Asia's disabled get a chance to improve their lives by Yang Qingchuan

Story Filed: Tuesday, October 21, 2002 11:17 PM EST

BANGKOK, Oct 22, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The UN poster for the upcoming Asia- Pacific meeting for the disabled in Japan highlights a watercolor painting showing green leaves and joyful birds. The drawing may not be perfect in the sense of artistic standards, but it is really a small wonder for it is a work from a young girl who has no sensation below her neck. She made it by biting a pen with her teeth.

Lovely (the painter's name), a 15-year-old Bangladeshi lass, became heavily handicapped after falling from a high building five years ago. But she is lucky to have developed her talent in painting under a government help scheme, like many of the 400 million disabled across the region who got a chance to change their lives in recent years due to a region-wide campaign called " the Asia-Pacific Decade for the

Disabled: 1993-2002."

"Much has been achieved for meeting the goal of the Decade-- to ensure the full participation and equality of persons with disabilities," said Bangkok-based UN senior-official Kim Hak-Su at a recent local press conference.

The Decade was initiated by the UN Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) and participated in by 41 governments in the region. It is the first of its kind in the world and gives Asia a reputation of leading the world's efforts for helping the disabled.

After the Decade started in 1993, 27 governments in the region formed national coordinating committees on disability while national policy and actions plans for the disabled have been developed in 16 countries and regions. Many Asian countries also included disability issues within their national development plans.

In Fiji, India, Malaysia and Thailand, the right to equality for people with disabilities has been incorporated into their constitutions. Comprehensive disability legislation has been passed by 13 governments in the region. China and Japan made exemplary progress with amendments to over 40 substantive and procedural laws each.

Meanwhile, many countries have taken actions to collect updated data on disabilities. South Korea is conducting national surveys on disability every five years, findings of which facilitate timely policy adjustments.

In the Decade, public awareness events on disability have become frequent in Asia. Malaysia hosted a culture festival for the disabled and Thailand launched an annual "Art for All" project. China, Japan and a number of other countries held national campaigns for promoting public awareness on disability.

In terms of improving the access of the disabled to communication, there is an increasing use of Braille and sign language in the region, with popular usage and access by the blind and dumb people in China and Thailand.

Education is viewed as a key to empower the disabled. Twenty governments in the region are adopting mandatory education for all children including those disabled.

Disabled persons are often discriminated in employment and thus their lives become even harder. To solve the problem, 27 governments in the region established job training services for the disabled. In Hong Kong, now over 80 percent of the disabled graduated from such training centers can find their jobs.

The importance of disability-prevention has been understood by regional governments during recent years. Comprehensive prevention policies have been implemented in China, India and Bangladesh. Meanwhile, rehabilitation services for the disabled have

been set up across the region.

At the regional level, there is active participation and cooperation of Asian governments in events concerning the Decade. Countries like China, Japan and Thailand have contributed significantly to such cooperation by hosting a variety of important meetings.

Under UN mechanism, over 50 governments, 11 UN agencies and a number of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) formed a committee for disability-related concerns in Asia and the Pacific.

ESCAP, the largest intergovernmental socio-economic organization in the region, played a leading role to push forward regional campaign for the disabled during the Decade. It supported governments in policy making and legislation on disability and organized various meetings to consolidate regional efforts.

The upcoming high level intergovernmental meeting to conclude the Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons: 1993-2002, between Oct. 25 and 28, in Shiga, Japan, is organized by the **ESCAP** and will extend the regional campaign for another decade starting next year.

Although much has been achieved in improving the lives of the Asian disabled, more remain to be done. Disabled people in the region account for two-thirds of the world's and 40 percent of them, or 160 million, still live below the poverty line.

Only one in 10 disabled children in Asia-Pacific has the chance to get educated and disabled women continue to suffer from double discrimination of disability and gender.

"Many barriers-- physical, social and institutional-- still stand in the way of the disabled to rights and benefits most non- disabled Asian citizens enjoy,"said Jerrold W. Huget, chief for disability affairs in **ESCAP**.

However, the meeting to take place in Japan later this week presents another chance for the region's massive disabled persons like Lovely, the Bangladeshi girl, to make a difference for their future. The process of improving the lives of the disabled in the region will be continued and the next Decade has been given a higher goal: to create an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for Asia-Pacific disabled people in the 21st century.

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Summary

U.N. / PAKISTAN 2002 - A weekly newsletter, published by the UN Information Centre (UNIC) in Islamabad on behalf of all Agencies of the United Nations System in Pakistan.

Weekly Issue No. 43/2002 (22 October 2002)

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A THREAT TO MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL ON EDUCATION

Across Asia and the Pacific, persons with disabilities "remain disproportionately undereducated, untrained, unemployed, underemployed and poor," according to a UNESCAP review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993 - 2002. Despite this special decade dedicated to raising awareness and improving access to public facilities for persons with disabilities much work remains to be done, the 300 delegates attending the High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 25 - 28 October at Otsu City, Shiga, Japan, will be told.

It is women and children with disabilities that have suffered the most in the Asian and Pacific region. Women with disabilities are multiply disadvantaged through their status as women, as persons with disabilities and because, as a group, they make up the majority of those persons living in poverty. Only one child in ten with a disability in the Asian and Pacific region has access to any form of education, compared with a regional enrolment rate of over 70 per cent for non-disabled children and youth in primary education.

The UNESCAP review concludes that because so many children with disabilities are being denied their schooling, the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education will not be achieved by 2015 in this region without increased commitment by Governments and civil society. The review urges UNESCAP Member and Associate Member Governments in the region to take further steps to prepare their school systems for inclusive education, and to officially acknowledge that every child has a right to attend school, and that it is the responsibility of the school to accommodate differences.

For more information on the United Nations and its activities, please visit the main UN website at www.un.org or the UN Pakistan website at www.un.org.pk

10/24/2002 20:27:19

BC-ESCAP 10-25 0183 ESCAP discussing measures to upgrade policies

on disabled

OTSU, Japan, Oct. 25 (Kyodo) A four-day U.N. meeting on economic and social issues in the Asia-Pacific region began Friday in Otsu, capital of Shiga Prefecture, focusing on measures for the disabled.

In the high-level intergovernmental meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**), some 400 participants from about 30 nations are to discuss measures to upgrade policies on disabled people so that such people will have equal opportunities for social participation, organizers said.

At the opening of the meeting, Japanese delegate Issei Anan, parliamentary secretary of the Cabinet Office, will read out a speech on behalf of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi. Participants will begin discussions in the afternoon, they said.

The meeting will also evaluate progress on policies on disabled people in the past 10 years, as an action plan dubbed the Asian Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2002 expires at the end of this year.

Participants are expected to adopt a new 10-year framework on policies on disabled people during the meeting.

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◆2002年10月24日◆
(木曜日)

【最新ニュース】

◆週間ニュースへ

●拉致問題で脅迫の高校教師逮捕 17:45更新

大津市の男性がホームページに載せた、北朝鮮に拉致されたとされる有本恵子さんに関する評論が気に入らないとこの男性に「殺してやる」などと電子メールを送って脅迫したとして、県警などはきょう、和歌山市の高校教諭を逮捕しました。逮捕されたのは和歌山市の県立高校定時制の教諭・酒井康喜容疑者(52)です。警察の調べによりますと、酒井容疑者は北朝鮮に拉致されたとされる神戸市出身の有本恵子さんに関して「自発的に朝鮮に渡ったのであり、他の拉致被害者とは根本的に意味が違う」などと大津市に住む評論家の男性が自分のホームページに載せた論評が自分の考えに反しているとして、今年9月22日から23日にかけて3回に渡って右翼団体を名乗って「殺してやる」などと男性を脅迫する電子メールを送った疑いが持たれています。調べに対し、酒井容疑者は犯行を大筋で認めているということです。なお男性は拉致問題に関する論評を既にホームページから削除しています。

Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons Will Start Tomorrow

●明日から「アジア障害者の十年」会合 17:45更新

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合の開催を明日に控え、メイン会場となる大津市のホテルでは準備作業に終われています。この会合はESCAP・国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会の定めるアジア太平洋障害者の十年が今年で終了するのを受けて開かれるもので、30の国と地域から政府関係者や国連機関、それにNGOなど370人余りが参加します。この会合のメイン会場となる大津プリンスホテルではメイン会場の設営や受付の準備、更には福祉用具の展示など、急ピッチで作業が進められていました。また、ホテルのロビーでは宿泊の手配をする人の姿も見られました。会合は明日から28日までの4日間に渡って開かれ、様々な角度から障害者施策について話し合われることになっています。

Pre-Events for Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled

●「アジア障害者の十年」会合前夜祭 21:30更新

また夕方からは大津市のびわ湖ホールで前夜祭が開かれ、一足早く大津入りした150人余りの関係者が出席するなか、園児らによる華やかなステージも繰り広げられました。この前夜祭では車イスマラソン世界記録保持者の土田和歌子さんが自身の体験談を交えて講演を行い「明日からの会合では障害者を特別視することなく心のバリアを取り除くきっかけになって欲しい」と呼びかけました。

Related Art Exhibition, "Tangible Art"

●関連イベント『さわるアート』展 13:15更新

あすから「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」ハイレベル政府間会合が大津市で始まりますが、この関連行事のひとつとして大津市のデパートではきょうから視覚障害者らのオブジェなどの作品に手に触れて鑑賞してもらおうという展示『さわるアート～触覚の庭』がはじまりました。この展示は実際に手で触れて想像し、耳をすませることで作品を鑑賞してもらおうと開かれるもので、会場には13点のオブジェが紹介されています。このうち、全盲の作家・光島貴之さんの作品「身体のイメージ」はモデルと対話しながら顔と手を触り、そのイメージを表現しました。モデルとの対話の様子を備え付けの器具で聞くことができ、光島さんの感じた世界の一端を伺うことができます。また、石部町の知的障害者施設「もみじ寮・あざみ寮」の入所者とアーティストの富野昌昭さんとが作りあげた「音のカーテン」は、連ねられた不揃いの陶器に触れるとやわらかな音と風を楽しむことができます。この展示は西武大津ショッピングセンターで今月28日まで開かれます。

ESCAP会合、あす大津市で開幕 会場のホテルなど受け入れ態勢整う /滋賀

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会(ESCAP)主催の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」が25日から大津市で始まる。障害者も多いとみられ、会場のホテルではエレベーターやトイレを車いす対応に改修。出席者が宿泊する市内のホテルでは客室を改造して、受け入れ態勢を整えている。

会合では、ESCAP域内の各国が10年間の障害者施策の取り組みの報告・評価を行い、今後10年の行動の枠組みを話し合う。30カ国から約370人が参加。うち、車いす利用者も30人程度が訪れる予定という。

会場の大津プリンスホテル(大津市におの浜4)はコンベンションホールのエレベーター1基に車いす用のボタンと手すりを設け、車いす用トイレも1カ所増設した。

車いす対応の客室が2室あるが、今月、新たに8室でトイレのドアと壁をアコーディオンカーテンに替えたり、浴室に手すりを取り付けるなど改造。ホテル側は「段差の少ない構造なので、大掛かりな改修はしていない。今後の高齢者の利用も考え対応したい」としている。

また、これまで車いす対応の客室がなかった琵琶湖ホテル(同市浜町)でも、15室を改造。カードキー差し込み口には点字シールを張るなどしている。【北川功】(毎日新聞)

[10月24日20時9分更新]

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- ESCAP会合、あす大津市で開幕 会場のホテルなど受け入れ態勢整う /滋賀(毎日新聞)
- [選挙]栗東市長選 候補者アンケート/中 届け出順 /滋賀(毎日新聞) - 24日(木)20時9分
- 豊郷小解体改築工事、山土搬入でけが人 阻止の豊郷町議、もみ合いで /滋賀(毎日新聞) - 24日(木)20時4分
- [遊!!ホテル]エレガントコンサート 味膳撰 /滋賀(毎日新聞) - 24日(木)20時4分

記事一覧 2002年10月25日(金) 表示

トップ 主要ニュース 国内 海外 経済 エンターテインメント スポーツ コンピュータ 地域
ヘルプ・お問い合わせ

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UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002

(✓) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

朝日
H14.10.25(金)
夕刊 12面

「障害者の10年」貧困減へ目標も

大津で政府間会合開幕

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」（93～02年）を締めくくる最終年の政府間会合が25日、大津市で開幕した。30以上の国・地域の政府代表や非政府組織（NGO）関係者が参加。28日までの4日間、障害者の完全参加と平等に向けた「十年」の成果を検証し、新たな10年に向けた行動指針「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択する。障害者団体の政策決定参加や1日1㌦以下で暮らす貧困層の半減などについて、年次を切った目標が盛り込まれる見通しだ。

Asahi Shimbun Newspapers

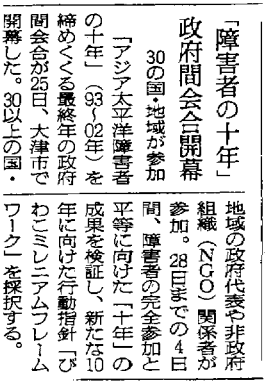
High-level Intergovernmental Meeting Starts in Otsu: Discuss to Make Plans to Reduce Poverty.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002

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Tokyo Edition.



「障害者の十年」政府間会合開幕

30の国・地域が参加

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」（93～02年）を締めくくる最終年の政府間会合が25日、大津市で開幕した。30以上の国・地域の政府代表や非政府組織（NGO）関係者が参加。28日までの4日間、障害者の完全参加と平等に向けた「十年」の成果を検証し、新たな10年に向けた行動指針「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択する。

Asahi Shimbun Newspapers (TOKYO EDITION)

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons Starts: 30 countries participate.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002

( ) Asahi (V) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

毎日
H14.10.25(金)
夕刊 9面

「障害者の10年」最終年会合開幕

大津

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）に加盟する国・地域が障害者施策を話し合う「アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」が25日、大津市で始まった。31カ国・地域から政府、国連、国際NGOの関係者ら約380人が参加。過去10年のそれぞれの取り組みを報告し、来年から10年間の達成目標となる枠組みについて話し合う。

ESCAPには太平洋地域の61カ国・地域が加盟。93～02年を「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」と定め、法律、雇用など12項目の目標を掲げた。会合最終日の28日、今後10年間の指針となる「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択する。【北川功】

Mainichi Shimbun Newspapers

Meeting to Conclude the Decade of Disabled Persons Starts in Otsu.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
(✓) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

「障害者の10年」

政府間会合 大津で開幕

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」が最終年を迎えたのに伴い、今後十年間の行動方針を決めるハイレベル政府間会合が二十五日、大津市で開幕した。

アフガニスタン、中国など三十の国・地域の代表や民間活動団体（NGO）の約三百八十人が出席。障害者を取り巻く現状報告や過去十年間の施策の評価を行い、最終日の二十八日に、「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択する。

読売
H14 10.25(金)
夕刊 13面

Yomiuri Shimbun Newspapers

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting Starts in Otsu: Decade of Disabled Persons.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002
( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
(√) Kyoto

10年間の行動目標協議

政府間会合開幕 30ヵ国、400人参加

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合（大津会合）が二十五日、大津市で開幕した。二十八日までの四日間、アジア太平洋地域での過去十年の障害者施策の達成状況を点検、今後十年間の行動目標「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を協議する。大津プリンスホテルで開かれた開会式には、三十カ国から約四百人が参加。主催者の国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（UNESCAP）のキム・ハクス事務局長が「立法や施設の整備は進んだが、教育の遅れや地域間格差が残る。会議で新しい方向性を示し、一里塚としたい」と会議への期待を語った。国松善次滋賀県知事は「琵琶湖の名を冠する行動目標策定に期待する」と歓迎のあいさつをした。

また、NGO（非政府組織）と障害者団体を代表し、記念フォーラム組織委員長の八代英太衆院議員が「障害者の権利とバリアフリー政策を明確にする会議にしてほしい」と強調。視覚障害者の福島智東京大助教授が基調講演した。

午後から、立法や雇用など十三の領域別に、各国政策の達成状況が報告される。

アジア太平洋障害者の10年 おおつ会合

京都新聞
H14 10.25(金)
夕刊 1面

Kyoto Shimbun Newspapers

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting Starts in Otsu: Discuss Action Plan for the Next Decade.

◆びび割れ隠しどころでなかった。検査逃れに原発データを不正操作。腐り切った東電。

◆ロシア劇場で「チェチェン解放」を叫ぶ女性兵士。悲壮な捨て身作戦だが、共感呼ばぬ。

三十六峰

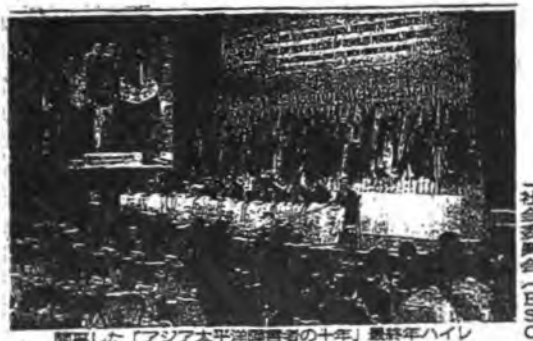
◆米狙撃事件の容疑者やっと捕まる。やれやれ。現地ではさそや。さて銃規制だが…。

◆障害者の未来を開け。アジア太平洋の代表が施策目標づくり。大津から世界に発信。

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
(v) Chunichi / evening



開幕した「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合＝25日午前9時、大津市のホテルで

障害者の10年 達成状況検証

ESCAP びわこ会議

中日 10/25 9

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年びわこ会議が二十五日、大津市のホテルで、加盟する約三十カ国・地域の政府や非政府組織（NGO）から約三百八十人が集まって始まった。

会議では、ことしが最終年となる「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」の目標達成状況を検証。最終日の二十八日には、延長が決まっている今後十年のアジア太平洋地域の障害者施策の指針として「びわこミレニアム・フレームワーク」を採択する。

開会式では、キム・ハクスESCAP事務局長が「びわこミレニアム・フレームワークが採択されれば、各国政府、関係者への勧告が期待できる」と会議の意義を強調した。

Chunichi Shimbun, Oct 25, 2002 (Evening)
ESCAP Biwako Meeting starts: Reviews the achivement of the past 10 years.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 25 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
(v) Chunichi

中日 10/25

大津

和やかに前夜祭

参加者、会議成功へ誓い

アジア太平洋障害者の十年 びわこ会議

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年びわこ会議が、二十五日から大津市で始まるのを前に二十四日、前夜祭が開かれたほか、関連行事もスタートした。ことしは十年の最終年にあたり、会議では、これまでに各国や国連機関が取り組んだ障害者施策の目標達成状況を検証し、延長が決まっている十年に重点的に取り組むべきことを検討する。ESCAPに加盟する約二十カ国・地域から約二百八十人が出席予定。【松村 裕子】

元気よく園児演奏

○…びわこ会議の成功へ向け「イブ・フェスティバル（前夜祭）」が大津市のびわ湖ホールで約三百人が参加して開かれた。星の子保育園（大津市）のマーチングバンドで開幕。園児が「上を向いて歩こう」の演奏にのって元気に行進し、会場を盛り上げた。

国松善次知事や山田豊三郎市長が「会議が大津市で開かれることを祈りに思う」と歓迎のあいさつ。

国内初の障害者のプロスポーツ選手で車いすマラソンの世界最高記録保持者、土田和歌子さん（○―写真＝は調統で、パラリンピックでのレースを振り返り「君は達成することで変化する」などと語った。

さわるアート開幕

○…目の見えない人も触って鑑賞できる作品展「さわるアート 触覚の庭」が大津市の大津西武で開幕。県内の障害者らが作った十三点が展示された。二十八日まで。

金官の美術作家、光島貴之さんの「身体のイメージ2」はモデルになった人の声が聞こえる。知的障害者施設・もみじ寮、あさみ寮（石部町）の障害者も制作に携わった「音のカーテン」＝写真＝は、約千五百個の陶片で作られ、陶片が当たると風鈴のような涼しい音がする。

三つの穴があり、一人が穴すべてを別の穴から聞く陶作品「マイクのついた島」や、真っ暗な中で鑑賞する陶作品もあり、大人も手と耳で楽しんでいた。「いつも視覚に頼っているので真っ暗な中では、どんな作品か分からなかった。



日本の首席代表 外務副大臣追加

二十五日から大津市で開かれる国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年びわこ会議で、内閣府は二十四日、日本の首席代表に矢野哲朗・外務副大臣が加わると発表した。

同代表にはほかに、阿南一成・内閣府大臣政務官が決まっている。



Chunicni Shimbun, Oct 25 2002

Pre-ceremony for Biwako Meeting held:

Participants vowed to make the Biwako Meeting successful.

Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs will participate in the meeting.

25/10/2002

朝日新聞社
www.asahi.com
asahi.com MYTOWN 滋賀

ESCAP「障害者の十年」きょう開幕

ESCAP Event on "Decade of Disabled Persons" Starts Today



アイマスクをし、展示されているオブジェに触る大学生＝大津西武で

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」ハイレベル政府間会合（25～28日）が大津市で開かれるのを前に24日、障害者が手がけた芸術作品の展覧会や講演会などの記念イベントが市内各所で始まった。各会場には大勢の市民が訪れ、障害者の豊かな感性や力強い生き方に触れた。

大津市におの浜2丁目の大津西武6階催事場では、全国各地の視覚障害者らが制作したオブジェなどに手で触れながら鑑賞できる展覧会「さわるアート 『触覚の庭』」が開幕した。会場には、木材、陶土、ポリエステル、ステンレスなど様々な素材で仕上げた作品13点を展示。全盲の女性作家は、太いヘビのような粘土を何重にも複雑に積み上げた「ジャングルジム」と題する作品を出展した。このほか、ステンレスをいくつも連結させ、触るたびに形が軟体動物のように変わる作品など、触れる喜びを味わえる作品が多い。

3歳の長女と訪れた大津市朝日が丘1丁目の主婦高橋一代さん（37）は「つるつる、ざらざら、といった感触は大人よりも子どもの方が敏感だし、子どもはいろいろな物に触るのが大好き。娘もとても楽しそう」と話していた。

会場では、触覚だけで作品を鑑賞してもらおうと、アイマスクも用意されている。26日午後2時からは、同市におの浜1丁目のピアザ淡海で、出品者らが参加して「見えないことの文化」と題したシンポジウムがある。展覧会は28日まで。いずれも入場無料。

一方、同市打出浜のびわ湖ホールでは、午後5時半から「イブ フェスティバル（前夜祭）」が開かれ、車いすマラソン世界最高記録保持者の土田和歌子さんが講演した。高校2年生の時、友人とドライブ中に事故に遭い、車いす生活を送るようになった土田さんは「夢は生きていくための活力であり、いつか現実のものになる」と話し、パラリンピック出場の思い出などを披露した。

前夜祭では、ESCAPの会合期間中、市内で車いすの補助や耳の不自由な人向けの手話通訳、英語通訳などに当たるボランティアの決意表明などもあり、開催ムードを盛り上げた。

(10/25)

25/10/2002

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ニュース

障害者と健常者250人が「歓喜の歌」

Song of Rejoice Enjoyed by 250 Persons with and without Disabilities

「歌声で障害というバリアを超え、感動を届けたい」――。障害のある人もない人も一緒にベートーベンの第九交響曲「歓喜の歌」を歌う「命輝けびわ湖第九コンサート」が、27日午後3時から大津市打出浜のびわ湖ホールで開かれる。大津市で25日に始まる国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会(ESCAP)の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合の関連行事で、障害者約100人と健常者約150人が舞台に立つ。

第九は通常、混声4部合唱で歌われるが、ドイツ語の歌詞に加え、音程やリズムが難しい。このため、音程を1オクターブ下げ、テンポの速い部分を除いた5番目のパートを設け、障害のある人や高い声の出しにくい人らが参加できるようにした。

栗東市内のホールで20日にあった合同練習には、本番で指揮をするプロの指揮者本名徹次さんが訪れ、「声にもっと響きを」「リズムを歯切れよく」などと指示しながら、約2時間にわたって歌声をそろえた。参加者らは時折、難しいリズムや音程に苦しみながらも、晴れ晴れとした表情で歌った。

公演当日は、一般の聴衆のほか、ESCAPの国際会議に参加する約30カ国・地域の政府関係者が聴く予定。合唱参加者で高島郡安曇川共同作業所(今津町)で働く知的障害者の万木初乃さん(43)は「第九は難しくて、カラオケのようにはいきませんが、力いっぱい歌いたい。障害や国境といった壁を超え、心と心がつながるコンサートにしたい」と話した。

指揮の本名さんは「障害のある人もない人も手を携えて『すべての人々は兄弟になる』とうたう第九は音楽の原点だと思います。会場で多くの人と感動を分かち合いたい」と語った。

コンサートでは聴覚障害者の鑑賞を手助けするため、大阪府堺市のふれあいサークル「手話隊」が第九を手話通訳する。

独唱はヤドビガ・スクフィエシ(ソプラノ)、矢守真弓(アルト)、尾形光雄(テノール)、萩原次己(バリトン)のみなさん。管弦楽は関西フィルハーモニー管弦楽団。入場料3千円。問い合わせは県社会福祉事業団(0748・75・8615)へ。

(10/24)

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京都新聞 インターネットニュース

アジア太平洋障害者の10年 大津で政府間会合開幕

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合（大津会合）が二十五日から、滋賀県大津市のプリンスホテルで始まる。過去十年に各国が進めた障害者施策や国連機関の達成状況を報告、点検するとともに、今後十年間の障害者施策の行動目標を討議する。

会合は、国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（UNESCAP）が主催する。三十カ国の政府、NGO（非政府組織）、国際団体の三百八十二人が参加登録している。

会合は二十八日までの四日間。初日は開会式に続き、過去十年間に各国政府で取り組んだ施策が十三の領域別に報告される。国内調整、立法、情報、広報、施設、教育、雇用、予防、リハビリテーション、介助機器、自助団体、地域協力、ジェンダーの各領域。

二日目以降、今後十年間の行動目標である「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を議論する。素案では、障害者の自助団体の重視や、障害者が自宅から情報を得やすいようインターネットに接続する条件を二〇〇五年までに整備することなどを盛り込んでいる。

ニュース目次 | ジャンル別 | バックナンバー | お悔やみ（京都・滋賀関係分） | ホーム

Inter Governmental Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons Starts in Otsu Today

YAHOO! JAPAN NEWS
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INSユーザー必見

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政治 社会 人

時事通信

International Meeting on the Decade of Disabled Persons in Otsu

社会ニュース - 10月25日(金)10時4分

「障害者の10年」で国際会議＝大津市

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会(ESCAP)主催の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合が25日、大津市内を会場に4日間の日程で開幕した。30の国・地域の約400人が参加する。（時事通信）
[10月25日10時4分更新]

このニュースについて話そう！

トピックス
石井代議士を刺殺 男は逃走
爆破予告メール女子大生逮捕
曽我さん「びっくりした」
福島原発 密閉試験で不正
明治屋産業に排除命令
工作船の偽装手口判明
ツーショット詐欺1億稼ぐ
一覧

前後の記事 - [社会]
- ＜JR京都駅＞ポイント事故は人為ミス 事故調が最終報告書(毎日新聞) - 10時27分
- ＜小倉連続監禁殺人＞緒方容疑者が関与認める供述(毎日新聞) - 10時21分
- 「障害者の10年」で国際会議＝大津市(時事通信)
- 預かった姪を殺し23歳女性が投身自殺？(読売新聞) - 9時46分
- 工事現場で壁が崩れ生き埋め、2人死亡(読売新聞) - 9時46分

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International Meeting on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons in Otsu

社会ニュース - 10月25日(金)14時2分

<ESCAP>「障害者の10年」最終年会合が開幕 大津

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会(ESCAP)に加盟する国・地域が障害者施策を話し合う「最終年政府間会合」が25日、大津市で始まった。31カ国・地域から政府、国連、国際NGOの関係者ら約380人が参加。過去10年のそれぞれの取り組みを報告し、来年から10年間の達成目標となる枠組みについて話し合う。(毎日新聞)

[10月25日14時2分更新]

このニュースについて話そう!

前後の記事 - [社会]
- 5人永住「国交交渉で協議」 北朝鮮が政府に回答(読売新聞) - 14時39分
- <窃盗事件>ATMと4600万円盗まれる 茨城・谷和原村(毎日新聞) - 14時26分
- <ESCAP>「障害者の10年」最終年会合が開幕 大津(毎日新聞)
- 生後2時間の乳児が置き去り=茨城(時事通信) - 14時2分
- ショベルカーでATM盗む=重さ500キロ、4600万円入り-茨城(時事通信) - 14時2分

記事一覧 2002年10月25日(金) 表示

トピックス
石井代議士を刺殺 男は逃走
爆破予告メール女子大生逮捕
曽我さん「びっくりした」
福島原発 密閉試験で不正
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YAHOO! JAPAN NEWS Yahoo! JAPAN - カスタマイズ - ヘルプ Mainichi INTERACTIVE

トップ 主要ニュース 国内 海外 経済 エンターテインメント スポーツ コンピュータ 地域
毎日新聞 北海道 東北 関東 信越 北陸 東海 近畿 中国 四国 九州 沖縄
滋賀ニュース - 10月25日(金)20時2分 大阪 | 兵庫 | 京都 | 滋賀 | 奈良 | 和歌山

ESCAP前夜祭 車いすマラソン世界記録保持者、土田和歌子さんが記念講演／滋賀

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会(ESCAP)主催の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」の前夜祭が24日夕、大津市打出浜のびわ湖ホールで行われた。車いすマラソン世界記録保持者の土田和歌子さんが記念講演。参加者約300人に、「一緒にバリアフリーを進めよう」と話した。

私立星の子保育園の園児ら約50人のマーチングドリル演奏で開会。手話や通訳のボランティアら約40人が紹介された。

土田さんは東京都出身。高校2年の時、交通事故で せき髄を損傷し、車いすの生活に。長野、シドニーの冬夏パラリンピックに連続出場し、シドニーではマラソンで銅メダル。01年秋に大分国際車いすマラソン大会で、世界記録を達成した。

土田さんは自らの体験を振り返り、「周囲に支えられて、障害者一人一人が強くなれる。スポーツを通じて自分の心のバリアフリーを進めたい」と話した。

会合は25日に開会。30の国・地域の政府や非政府組織(NGO)の関係者約380人が参加。大津市の大津プリンスホテルの会場で各国の障害者施策などを話し合い、最終日の28日に今後10年の障害者施策の政策的枠組みとなる「びわこミレニアム・フレームワーク」を採択する。期間中、交流会やコンサートなど多彩な催しもある。【河出伸】(毎日新聞)

[10月25日20時2分更新]

このニュースについて話そう！

前後の記事 - [滋賀]
- [選挙]栗東市長選 候補者アンケート／下 届け出順 ／滋賀(毎日新聞) - 20時2分
- [高齢社会を歩く]大津市の「あじさいくらぶ」 今月は戦争体験を語り継ぐ活動／滋賀(毎日新聞) - 20時2分
- ESCAP前夜祭 車いすマラソン世界記録保持者、土田和歌子さんが記念講演／滋賀(毎日新聞)
- 草津市制施行46周年 各団体が活動を紹介 園児らがマーチングバンド披露 ／滋賀(毎日新聞) - 20時2分
- <滋賀>アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年(朝日放送) - 19時48分

トピックス
米軍基地が警備強化
大阪空港格下げで要望書
小倉監禁 関与認める供述
合併したら土地あげます
効果ある? 車の昼間点灯
京都パーク&ライド拡大も
果物安全 PR懸命の小売店
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注6: ESCAP Pre-events Wakako Tsuchiya World Record Holder of Wheelchair Marathon as the Key-note Speaker

<滋賀>アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年

今年は、障害者への施策向上を促す「アジア太平洋障害者10年」の最終年です。大津市で、この10年間の成果について報告しあう政府間会合が、始まりました。

「アジア太平洋障害者10年」は1993年に国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会が、アジア地域での障害者への認識を高め、立ち遅れている障害者施策の水準向上を目指そうという目的で制定しました。大津市のホテルで、きょうから始まった会合にはアフガニスタンなど加盟30カ国の政府関係者やNGOなど380人が参加して、各国の障害者施策が報告されています。会合は28日まで行われ、1日1ドル以下で暮らす人たちを半減するための目標や、さらに延長が決まっている今後10年間の行動目標が話し合われることになっています。(朝日放送)
[10月25日19時48分更新]

トピックス
米軍基地が警備強化
大阪空港格下げで要望書
小倉監禁 関与認める供述
合併したら土地あげます
効果ある? 車の昼間点灯
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ニュース記事 条件検索

このニュースについて話そう!

前後の記事 - [滋賀]
- ESCAP前夜祭　車いすマラソン世界記録保持者、土田和歌子さんが記念講演／滋賀(毎日新聞) - 20時2分
- 草津市制施行46周年　各団体が活動を紹介　園児らがマーチングバンド披露／滋賀(毎日新聞) - 20時2分
- <滋賀>アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年(朝日放送)
- 大津署が事故多発注意報　2日続けて管内で交通死(中日新聞) - 10時48分
- 長浜ゆう歌舞伎座が曳山博物館で「招き上げ」(中日新聞) - 10時48分

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Title: Concluding Year for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: ( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
OCT 2 6 2002 ( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
(✓) Chunichi (Website)

中日新聞 Chunichi Web Press
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総合ニュース
政治
経済
国際
スポーツ
社会
地域ニュース
愛知
岐阜
三重
静岡
長野
滋賀
福井
教育と新聞をNIE
こどもタイムズ
2005 愛知万博
浜名湖花博2004ニュース
ノーベル賞対談
東海北陸経済
訃報
東海地震/災害
専門学校ガイド
イメージキャラクター 高橋尚子
新聞大会
バイオテック 次世代育毛、誕生！
LED搭載・新発想のヘッドフォンスタイル
国際的新システム「バイオレザクス」
滋賀
中日新聞 地域ニュース〔滋賀〕
カテゴリー一覧

「障害者自ら情報発信を」

びわこ会議で福島・東大助教授



障害者が作ったさまざまな商品が並ぶ「ナイス・ハート・バザール」＝大津市の浜大津アカースで

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年びわこ会議が二十五日、大津市のホテルで開幕した。開会式後に記者会見した国松善次知事は「福祉を大切にする滋賀県として、障害者福祉を前進するチャンスにしたい」と抱負を語った。会議では各国がこの「十年」（一九九三―二〇〇二年）に取り組み、成し遂げたことを報告し合った。

目と耳の不自由な福島智・東京大助教授が基調演説し「障害者が望むのは、社会からの一方的な情報伝達でなく、自分たちからも情報を発信すること。社会に愛される障害者になることではなく、障害者が社会を愛する存在になること。新しい十年にこの望みが実現されることを切望する」と訴えた。

初日の報告は「十年」の課題に挙げられたうち、立法や教育、移動の自由と、独立した生活が取り上げられた。日本は立法について「盲導犬だけでなく介助犬や聴導犬も支援する法律ができた。十月から公共施設で、来年からはレストランなど民間でも犬を受け入れる」と紹介。教育に関しタイは「障害者の教育基金を創設した。障害者のための奨学金制度をつくった」と報告した。

アフガニスタンは「地雷で障害を持った人が多く、障害者の数を把握するためデータベースを作った。国際会議でアフガニスタンとして話ができるのはうれしい。今後は法の整備を考えている」と延長が決まっている次の「十年」に向けた発言をした。

'www.chunichi.co.jp/00/sga/20021026/lcl___sga___000.shtml

Chunichi Shimbun Newspapers (Website)
ESCAP Biwako Meeting Starts: Associate Professor Satoshi Fukushima of Tokyo University appeals that disabled persons should send messages from their side.

OCT 26 2002
Asahi Newspaper

ESCAP 障害者の十年

福祉への取り組み報告

政府間会合始まる

30カ国・地域の政府代表や非政府組織（NGO）関係者ら約400人が参加し、「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年の政府間会合が25日、大津市で始まった。初日は、この10年間の取り組みや成果などが報告された。会合は28日まで4日間の日程で、障害者の教育や雇用の推進、貧困層の削減など、今後10年間の具体的な行動目標を策定する。



障害者福祉の向上に向けて開幕した政府間会合＝滋賀県大津市の浜4丁目の大津プリンスホテルで

「心理的な障壁」課題も

朝日 10/25 (24) (県版)

61の国と地域が加盟する国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）が主催。この「十年」は、6億人以上とされる世界の障害者のうち約4億人が暮らすとみられるアジア太平洋地域の障害者福祉推進を目指して定められた。各政府の包括的な障害者立法が進む一方で、教育や貧困などの課題は積み残され、障害のある児童や若者で学校に通えるのは10％に届かないという。このため、今年5月には「十年」を12年まで延長することが決まった。

開会式では、ESCAPのキム・ハクス事務局長が「重要なのは次の10年の障害者施策となり、新しい方向に踏み出すことになる。滋賀県は福祉制度の基盤を築いた故糸賀一雄氏の活動の地。糸賀氏の考え方はアジアに広まるだろう」とあいさつ。国松善次知事は「すべての人は障害者になる可能性がある。障害の有無に関係なく、地域で暮らし、働き、活動ができる社会に向けて取り組んでいる」と話した。

この後、政府代表らがそれぞれの取り組みなどを紹介。中国の代表は「バリアフリーの建物の必要性が認識されてきた。人権と社会発展を考慮しながら、言葉だけでない生活の改善を向上平等に取り組むこと」と訴えた。インドの代表は「人間は平等でなければいけない。障害者の視点が欠けていたことに気づくなど変化が起きている」と表した。

開会式直後、記者会見したキム事務局長は、この10年間で施設や交通アクセスなどに進展がみられたとする一方、「心的な障壁はなくなっていない。カンボジアやアフガニスタンなどの紛争で、障害者がつくられている。平和的な手段で平和を達成したい」と述べた。

ESCAP: Decade of Disabled Persons: The Decade of Disabled Persons- ntergovernmental Meeting Convened' Report on Addressing Welfare'

ESCAP organizes 'Hi-Level Intergovenmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Person, 1993-2002'

'The Decade', designated to promote welfare or the disabled, is to enter another ten years because he goal is left unachieved.

At the opening meeting, Mr. Kim Hak-Su and Gov. Kunimatsu of Shiga Pref. made a speech, ollowed by the reports on the measures by the lelegates from around the world, including China and ndia.

At the press conference right after the opening ession, Mr. Kim pointed out the progress made in the lecade for facilities and transportation access, though here still exists psychological barrier. "the conflicts re causing more disabled persons. We hope we reate world peace through peaceful measures.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 26 2002

( ) Asahi (✓) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

ESCAP開幕

「福祉発展のスタートに」

大津各地で始まる

10/26 ヨミウリ(いち)[地方] 関連イベントや国際会議

大津市で25日開幕した、国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）主催の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」。関連イベントや国際会議も市内各地で始まった。



ESCAP会合の開会式＝大津プリンスホテルで

開会式は大津プリンスホテルであり、30の国・地域の政府や非政府組織（NGO）の関係者ら約380人が出席。国松善次知事が「アジア太平洋地域の福祉の発展のスタートとなることを確信します」とあいさつ。続いて全体会合に入った。

琵琶湖ホテルでは、アジア太平洋障害者ワークセンターネットワーク（APWD）の総会に、共同作業所などの代表約100人が出席。「伝統工芸など昔からの職種から脱却できず、新技術が取得できない」（マレーシア）、「障害者がアクセスできる場所を増やすよう交通整備が必要」（台湾）など、海外の事情を報告した。

会場隣の近大産アーカスでは、各国の障害者が作ったカバンやアクセサリーなどの工芸品を展示即売する「ナイス・ハート・バザール」も行われた。【北川功】

'Should be a start for developing welfare'

At the opening ceremony of High-Level Intergovernmental meeting held at Otsu Prince Hotel, Shiga Governor Kunimatsu talked that this meeting would be the good starting point for developing welfare in Asia and the Pacific.

Many relevant events are held in Otsu city. At Biwako hotel, theAPWD plenary meeting was held and about 100 people attended. The speaker from Malaysia reported that new working area was not supplied so that they could not obtain new techniques for jobs. The Taiwan speaker talked that traffic conditions should be improved for disabled persons to go out to more places.

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補助犬導入検討も

大津・障害者施策国際会合 スリランカ高官が関心

大津市で25日始まった「アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」（国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会主催）の全体会合で、日本政府は今月1日に施行された身体障害者補助犬法を紹介した。厚生労働省障害保健福祉部の足利聖治・企画課長が「犬を用いて障害者の自立生活と社会参加を支援する法律です。介助犬は物を拾ったり運んだり、車椅子を押したりする。聴導犬は電話の呼び出し音などを聞き分け、必要な情報を聴覚障害者に伝える」と説明、「障害者の社会参加をより一層促進するため、補助犬に対する広い理解を求めていきたい」とスピーチした。

スリランカ社会福祉省のW・B・J・フェルナンド次官は「補助犬はとてもいいアイデア。わが国にはまだいないが、導入を考えたい」と強い関心を示した。【遠藤哲也】

'Interest in the introduction of Aid-Dog'

At the plenary meeting, the Japanese government introduced the Law on Aid-Dog for the Disabled. Mr.Ashikaga, an official of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labor, made a speech on the 'Aid-Dog'.Mr. Fernand, a Sri Lankan official, showed the interest in the Aid-Dog though the nation has none yet.

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市民として当然の権利と義務、自由と責任を

障害者の10年・政府間会合基調講演

福島東大助教授訴え



「障害者は市民としての当然の権利と義務、自由と責任を求める」二十五日、大津市で始まった「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年のハイレベル政府間会合三十の国、地域の代表らが参加した開会式で基調講演した、全国盲ろう者協会理事の福島智・東京大助教授(39)＝写真＝は訴えた。

福島助教授は九歳で失明し、十八歳で聴覚を失って盲ろう者となった。孤独感から絶望したが、手を指でたたいて対話する「指点字」を母親が見つけ、周囲の支えを受けられるようになったことで苦しみから抜け出すことができたという。

この体験から、障害者解放のポイントとして、生きるための基礎的な手段の提供、身近な他者の協力、安定的に支援者の協力を得るための社会制度を挙げた。

そのうえで、今後の「新しい十年」に対して、障害者は「同情や哀れみではなく、市民としての当然の権利と義務、自由と責任を、単なる慈善や施しではなく、適切な教育やリハビリテーションを受ける機会と働ける場所を、一生過ごせる収容施設ではなく、地域での家族や友人との生活を求める」と訴えた。

'Give us right and duty, freedom and responsibility as Citizens'

Prof. Fukushima appealed that rights and duties, freedom and responsibilities should be given to disabled persons. He lost his eye-sight at his age of 9 and lost his hearing at 18. But he escaped from this torment when his mother invented the way of communication by using 'Finger Braille'

He emphasized that what we need is suitable education, rehabilitation and good workplace, not an asylum.

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有意義な議論うまく還元を

オブザーバーで参加の県脊髄損傷者協会会長 岡本幸助さん



開幕した政府間会合には(24日付朝日新聞大阪本社版)、県内からも障害者が出席し、それぞれが実際の施策や地域活動に(10日)にうまく還元されなければならない」と指摘している。オブザーバーとして参加した県脊髄損傷者協会の岡本幸助会長(51)＝信楽町西＝は「障害者問題を国際的レベルで話し合うことは大変有意義だ」と喜ぶ。一方で「あるべき方向性をいくら議論しても、そ

岡本さんは、会合に参加する国内外の障害者らの受け入れのため、県職員らに宿泊先のホテルなどのバリアフリーを助言してきた。

障害者には、ドアノブの回り具合からわずかな段差まで様々な「壁」がある。すべての壁を取り除くのは難しいが、会合の誘致で、大津市内の歩道などはバリアフリーが進み、行政関係者らの意識改革を促すこともできたという。

ただ、アジア太平洋地域では「障害者は社会のお荷物」と考える人がまだまだ多く、家庭に閉じこもったまま、就労機会に恵まれない障害者は多い。岡本さんは「地域間で障害者施策をめぐる格差も見られ、その溝をどう埋めるかが大きな課題だ」と話している。

会合への期待などを話す岡本幸助さん＝大津プリンスホテルで

'Meaningful debate should be converged to activities.'

Mr. Okamoto, the President of the Association of the Spinal-damaged in Shiga Pref., who attended the meeting as an observer, pointed out that the significance of the talk over the issue of the disabled at the international level. He also said that the debate should be utilized in the actual measures and activities.

He made various suggestions on the preparation at accommodation facilities. Hosting of the conference also contributed to raise the awareness among the administrative staff in the prefecture. He also refereed to the situation where the disabled has scarce opportunity to get a job because of the notion that the disabled is the burden to the society.

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アジア大平洋障害者の10年 最終年

いま暮らしは ⑧

国際協力

教育と人材が不可欠

カンボジアで地雷づくりを進める栗本さん（右）と、佐藤さん（京都市下京区）

'Education is indispensable'

After the cold war, new type of disabled persons were born.

One NGO member, Ms. Tokuyo Sato(77) met children who lost legs by landmine in Cambodia. The other member, Mr.Hideyo Kurimoto(51) is teaching how to read to children who lost their parents in this war.

Mr. Kurimoto regrets that children could not read the sign which warns them the danger of landmine. He says landmine brings not only disabilities but also death. Education is important for prevention.

At Otsu meeting on 25th, Mr. Kim of UNESCAP stressed that we need inclusive, Barrier-

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DPI Assembly held in Sapporo

Disabled People's Right Treaty: How to change passive Japanese government?

The Disabled People's International (DPI) World Assembly was held 15-18 October in Sapporo City, Japan, and "Sapporo Declaration" was adopted. Sapporo Declaration calls for 1) the United Nations to enact the rights' treaty of disabled people and 2) governments to enact a law to prohibit the discrimination of disabled people.

While the international society have been getting aware of protecting the rights of people with disabilities, the Japanese government has shown less active stance on this issue.

Since 1993, when a basic law on disabled people was enacted, the Japanese government several legislation to create a barrier-free society. NGOs, however, criticize these changes were done just to fulfill the administration's work quota.

In spite of the UN Human Rights Commission's recommendation to urge the enactment of anti-discrimination law, the government is not active to create a new law.

How to change passive Japanese government? NGOs are required to prove their ability.



障害者権利条約

消極的政府を動かせるか

135の国・地域の障害者団体が加盟する非政府組織（NGO）「障害者インターナショナル」（DPI）の世界会議札幌大会が、15日から4日間、札幌市で開かれ、国連に障害者権利条約、各国に障害者差別禁止法制定の推進を求める「札幌宣言」を採択した。条約制定はすでに国連で議論のテーブルに上り、障害者への差別の禁止を規定した法律を持つ国は40カ国以上にのぼる。障害者の権利擁護が世界的な流れとなる中、日本政府の消極的な姿勢が目立っている。

国連は昨年12月、権利条約に関する特別委員会設置を決めた。特別委は今年7月末、ニューヨークで開かれ、11月開催の総会での条約の審議促進を勧告。また、社会開発委員会が2月、人権委員会が4月、権利条約をテーマにそれぞれ討議した。

国連での権利条約制定は、87年にイタリア、89年にスウェーデンがそれぞれ提起したが、「子供や女性の権利条約などにすでに障害者の権利も含まれている」との異論が多かった。その後、論議の焦点は「障害者をいかに社会に適応させるか」との観点から、「障害者を取り巻く社会環境をどう変えるか」に移り、平等基準として「障害者の機会均等化に関する基準規則」を93年に採択した。しかし、法的拘束力がなく、障害者団体から拘束力のある条約制定を求める声が高まっていた。

一方、米国で90年にADA法（障害のあるアメリカ人法）が成立。権利擁護と差別禁止を世界で初めて明記し、罰則規定も盛り込んでいる。①雇用②交通③公共施設のほか、ホテルやレストランなど民間の公共的施設④電話通信――の4分野で、障害者の機会均等を打ち出した。英国でも95年に法律を制定。教育面で、障害者を特殊学級や養護学校で教育する「分離教育」から、健常者と一緒に学ぶ「統合教育」に転じ、分離教育を受ける障害者は一%に過ぎないという。

では、日本の状況はどうなっているのか。障害者基本法が93年に施行され、障害者の自立と社会参加を図るため、国に基本計画の作成と着実な実施を義務づけた。交通バリアフリー法も高齢者、障害者らが円滑利用できる特定建築物を促進するハートビル法も施行され、交通機関や建物のバリアフリー化の促進が図られている。さらに、自動車運転免許の取得が認められないなどの障害者の欠格条項見直しも進んでいる。

しかし、障害者団体は「いずれも政府の努力目標を定めただけ。基本となる障害者の権利と差別禁止が法律に明記されていない」と批判している。また、国連人権規約委員会が昨年8月、差別禁止法の制定を求める勧告を行った。これに対し、日本政府は国会で継続審議中の人権擁護法案で障害者の権利は保障できるとし、新法には慎重な構え。権利条約に対しても、「分離教育が原則」を掲げる文部科学省の抵抗があり否定的だ。

札幌大会でも権利条約がメーンテーマとなった分科会では、参加者から「制定の過程で、障害者の意見が反映できるシステムづくりが必要」「条約が各国で守られているかどうかをチェックする独立した監視機関の設置を」といった具体的な意見が出された。DPI日本会議の久野玉・事務局次長は「札幌宣言に条約制定を盛り込んだことは意義深い。制定目的の明確にて、国際社会に強く働きかけるきっかけにしたい」と話している。

東大先端科学技術研究センターの長瀬修・特任助教授は「条約は手段であるだろうが、目標はのような中身にするかだ」と指摘する。札幌宣言を踏まえて、日本の障害者団体が権利条約制定をどのように動かすか、真価が問われるのはこれからだ。

ニュース展望

（DPI関連）

北海道報道部　板垣　博之

海外から多くの参加者が集まったDPI世界会議札幌大会＝札幌市で15日、竹内幹撮す

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障害者自ら情報発信を

福島・東大助教授 基調演説で訴え

中日 10/26

アジア太平洋障害者の十年 ひわこ会議

第1日

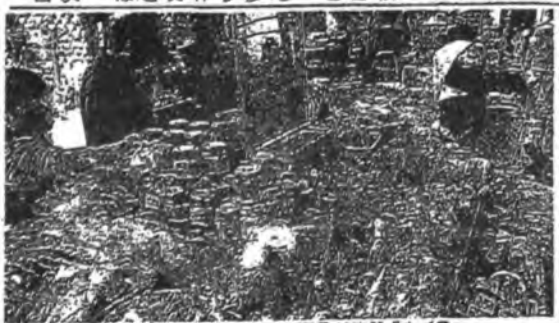
国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ひわこ会議が二十五日、大津市のホテルで開幕した。開会式後に記者会見した国松善次知事は「福祉を大切にする滋賀県として、障害者福祉を前進するチャンスにしたい」と抱負を語った。会議では各国がこの「十年」（一九九三―二〇〇二年）に取り組み、成し遂げたことを報告し合った。【松村 裕子】

日本の介助、聴導犬 支援立法など報告も

目と耳の不自由な福島智・東京大助教授が基調演説し「障害者が望むのは、社会からの一方的な情報伝達でなく、自分たちからも情報を発信すること。社会に受け入れられるだけではなく、障害者が社会を変える存在になること」と訴えた。

初日の報告は「十年」の課題に挙げられた、立法や教育、移動の自由と、独立した生活が取り上げられた。日本は立法について「盲導犬だけでなく介助犬や聴導犬も支援する法律ができた。十月から公共施設で、来年からはレストランなど民間でも犬を受け入れる」と紹介。教育に関しタイは「障害者の教育基金を創設した。障害者のための学校制度をつくった」と報告した。

アフガニスタンは「地雷で障害を持った人が多く、障害者の数を把握するためデータベースを作った。国際会議でアフガニスタンとして話ができるのはうれしい。今後は法の整備を整えている」と議長が決まっている次の「十年」に向けた抱負をした。



障害者が作ったさまざまな商品が並ぶ「ナイス・ハート・バザール」＝大津市の浜大津アーカスで

作業所商品バザー

○…全国各地のアジア太平洋地域の障害者作業所の商品を販売するナイス・ハート・バザールが浜大津アーカスで始まった。スリランカのゾウの置物やラオスのメモ帳、フィリピンの木製おもちゃなどが販売された。北海道から沖縄まで約百カ所の共同作業所や授産施設で作られた製品が並べられた。焼き物や織物、菓子、和紙などのほか、サツマイモなどの農産物、香川県のうどんなど郷土色あふれる製品もあり、訪れた親子連れらが見て回っていた。二十八日まで。



眼鏡に超実視覚装置を取り付けると、「信号は赤」などの音声で視覚障害者の道路横断を助けてくれる＝大津市の大津プリンスホテルで



反射シートを杖に張り付けただけで、信号機の赤外線装置が反応、視覚障害者の道路横断を助けるシステム＝大津市の大津プリンスホテルで

福祉用具の展示も

○…会議会場の大津プリンスホテルには、福祉用具の展示コーナーが設けられた。三重県では視覚障害者専用に点字入力を音声化する機械が展示された。

静岡県の外郭団体が開発した視覚障害者用の交通システムも紹介された。つえに張った反射テープを赤外線で感知して交差点が近いことを知らせたり、眼鏡に取り付けた超実視覚装置を使って信号の色を知らせたりする仕組み。横断の信号や点字ブロック付き交差点が設けられ、関心のある人が説明を受けて体験していた。

Chunichi Shimbun, Oct 26, 2002

Mr. Satoshi Fukushima, Professor Fukushima of Tokyo University, appealed at the ESCAP Meeting that disabled persons should actively send their

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Date: 26 October 2002

Summary

The Japan Times ONLINE

Saturday, October 26, 2002

Talks begin on helping the disabled

OTSU, Shiga Pref. (Kyodo) A four-day United Nations meeting on economic and social issues in the Asia-Pacific region began here Friday with a focus on measures for the disabled.

Some 400 participants from about 30 nations are participating in the meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, discussing measures to upgrade policies for disabled people and ensure they have equal opportunities to participate in society, organizers said.

At the meeting's opening, Japanese delegate Issei Anan, parliamentary secretary of the Cabinet Office, read a speech on behalf of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi. Participants began their discussions in the afternoon.

The meeting will also evaluate progress on policies covering disabled people in the past 10 years, as an action plan dubbed the Asian Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2002 expires at the end of this year.

Participants are expected to adopt a new 10-year framework on policies for disabled people.

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中日 10/27

自助団体や女性障害者など 優先取り組み 分野明示

「びわこミレニアム・フレームワーク」案

アジア太平洋障害者の十年 びわこ会議

第2回



表賞一地記念賞を受賞した（前列左から）中西由起子さん、フィン・ヴァン・カムさん、セタレキ・セル・マカナワイさん＝大津市の琵琶湖ホテルで

3氏に糸賀一雄賞

○…先駆的に知的障害児施設・近江学園（currently 日部町）を創設した故糸賀一雄氏を顕彰し「糸賀一雄記念賞」がアジア太平洋地域で障害者福祉の分野で活躍する人に贈る糸賀一雄記念賞の授賞式が、市内のホテルであった。

自らも肢体不自由で高校生を務めるセタレキ・セル・マカナワイさん（フィジー）、ベンチェ宮知事時代に盲学校教師として勤務したフィン・ヴァン・カムさん（ベトナム）、アジア太平洋地域の障害者支援団体「アジア・ディスアビリティ・インスティテート（ADI）」代表の中西由起子さん（東京都）の三人が、国松知次知事から表彰状を受け取った。近江学園の児童が三人に花束を贈った。

受賞者の記念講演で、中西さんは「障害者の自己選択と自己決定を基本に運動を進めている。受賞に感謝している」と語った。

撮影秘話を紹介

○…文化会「人権を考えるフォーラム」がビアザ淡海であった。障害者と健常者が、地域でともに暮らす理想郷を描いた映画「老荷村見聞記」（山田典吉監督）の観賞会に続き、故山田監督の妻で、映画プロデューサーの山田火砂子（ひさこ）さんによる講演「映画制作から見た福祉の世界」があった。

知的障害のある娘がいる山田さんは「知的障害者の心は豊かだ。それを知ってもらいたくて映画を作り始めた」と話し、数々の映画撮影秘話を紹介。さらに「これからも知的障害者の映画を作っていきたい」と抱負を語った。

会場盛り上げる

○…大津プリンスホテル横の市民プラザでは、大津市による歓迎イベント「ふれあい広場」が開かれた。福祉団体による模擬店や会場を盛り上げる太鼓の演技、チャリティーオークションなど多彩な催しがあった。

バザーと模擬店には、市内外から十八団体が出店。大津視覚障害者協会のコーナーでは、目の不自由な人の指導で点字の名刺を作る「点字体験」が人気を集めた。おでん、焼きそばの模擬店も出店され、大勢の人でにぎわった「ふれあい広場」＝大津市のなぎさ公園市民プラザで



勇壮な太鼓の演技を披露する子どもたち＝大津市のなぎさ公園市民プラザで

The 2nd day of the ESCAP Meeting, seven priority areas for the Biwako Millennium Framework shown; such as self-help groups and women with disabilities.

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DATE: OCT 27 2002

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京都新聞
H14.10.27(日)
(6面)
〔注目〕

自助団体や女性重視など

今後10年の目標 提案

雇用問題 「罰則強化を」

「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）は二十六日、大津市内のホテルで二日目の会議を開き、各国政府や国際機関が障害者の雇用や団体育成について討議した。また、今後十年の障害者施策の行動目標「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」も提案された。

障害者の雇用問題では、国際労働機関（ILO）が「今後は精神や知的障害者の重視、地域社会に根ざした就労、新技術活用の三点が必要だ」と述べた。障害者インターナショナル（DPI）日本会議は「法定雇用率を長年達成していない企業名の公表など、罰則を強化すべきだ」と主張した。

障害者団体について、インドネシアは「民主化の過程で障害者の自信が増し、自助団体の発展に役立った」と、政治体制の変化が障害者施策にも好影響をもたらしたことを紹介した。

提案された行動目標は、アジア太平洋地域で優先的に取り組む政策領域として、障害者の自助団体や女性障害者の重視など七項目を挙げた。

Proposal For Goal for Next Decade
Self-Help Groups and Focus on Women
Employment Issue Requires Stricter Punishment

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade for Disabled Persons (the Otsu Meeting) met the second day. Biwako Millenium Framework was also proposed for the activity goal for measures.

ILO stated on the employment problem for which DPI Japan insists stricter punishment.

Regarding the disabled persons group, Indonesia told that the shift in the political system has influenced the measures for the disabled.

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障害者の社会参加テーマに

ネット会議や授賞式

ESCAP 多彩なイベント

10/27 毎日(夕)(地版)

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）主催の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」は26日、大津市の大津プリンスホテルで地域別の分科会を開催。市内各地では、障害者の社会参加をテーマに多彩な関連イベントが開かれた。【北川功】

ピアザ淡海では、会場のホテルと韓国、県内2カ所をインターネットで結んで、情報交換。障害者や一般参加者らが小型カメラやマイクの付いたパソコンに向かい、互いに会場の様子などを伝えるなどした。

県障害者福祉協会と、肢体不自由者らの共同作業所「アイ・コラボレーション」（草津市）が企画した。



インターネットを通じ、他の参加者らと会話する共同作業所のメンバーら＝大津市のピアザ淡海で

琵琶湖ホテルでは、奥

アジア、西太平洋地域で障害者福祉に顕著な貢献をしている人を表彰する第6回糸賀一雄記念賞の授賞式が行われた。

NGO（非政府組織）障害者インターナショナル・アジア太平洋支部オセアニア担当副会長のセタレキ・セル・マカナワイ氏（フィジー）やESCAP本部に障害者部門を設立した中西由起子氏（東京都）ら3人に対する表彰が行われ、マカナワイ氏は「16歳で視力を失い、さまざまなつらい経験をして障害者福祉への道に進んだ。受賞で今後の運動に向けて、勇気づけられました」と記念講演した。

Internet Conference, Commendation Ceremony are among ESCAP Events

Theme: the Disabled People's Participation in the Society

The High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting, organized by ESCAP held subregional meetings in Otsu. Various events also took place in the surrounding area, including the Internet conference and the commendation ceremony.

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英の雇用確保策報告

ネットワーク構築を強調

アジア太平洋地域の障害者の就労を支援するネットワーク組織・APWDなど主催の国際セミナーとシンポジウムが二十六日、大津合合の関連行事として大津市内のホテルで開かれた。障害者雇用や就労機会の拡大をテーマに活動報告や意見交換が行われた。

英国の非営利団体・ショウ・トラストのディム・パペ代表は、企業に資金援助して障害者の雇用確保を促すワークステップ計画を報告。障害者を雇用した企業に対し、政府から得た職業訓練費や賃金を使って一定額を援助する方策で約二千人を「一般企業に送り込んだ」とした。企業の理解に加え、障害者も技術収得など「自己開発を続けることが重要」と話した。

シンポジウムでは、職業訓練や就労支援活動を行うフィリピン、インド、韓国、香港の団体や施設代表が連携のあり方を議論。香港のデボラ・ワン氏（精神障害者リハビリテーション協会）は、各国間のネットワーク構築の必要性を唱える一方、「自国でどこまでやるかがまず重要」と強調。フィリピンの施設・段差のない家のジェス・ドコット氏は「政府の財政援助が無理な国もある」と訴え、課題解決の難しさを浮き彫りにした。

Reports on Measures for Securing Employment in England
Emphasis on Network Building

The international seminar and symposium were held in Otsu by APWD and other NPOs. A representative of British NPO, Show Trust, reported on a work step plan to promote employment of people with disabilities.

At the symposium, representatives from the various countries discussed the exchange and the necessity of network building.

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図書館協会

著作権法で録音や拡大化できず
知る権利侵害 改正を

著作権法改正を訴えた日本図書館協会の佐藤専門委員（大阪市内のホテル）

障害者の情報アクセス（入手）を主要なテーマに取り上げられた。公立図書館や盲学校にしかない大量の資料にでも録音や拡大化できない著作権法が障害者の知る権利を侵しているとして改正を訴え、国連障害者の権利条約に情報アクセス権を明記するよう求めた。

や職員でつくる日本図書館協会は、著者の許可がなければ図書を録音や拡

会合では、同協会の佐藤聡一・障害者サービス専門委員（目の不自由な人のための図書の音声録音は特例で、点字図書館や盲学校にしかで

きない。高齢者や肢体障害者、誰でもが「図書館の利用はすべて」として、障害者の知る権利を盛り込む権利条約を制定し、各国が著作権関係の法改正を進める必要性を指摘した。

また、パソコン画面に表れた文字や画像に合わせ、音声を聞くことができる視覚障害者向けの新しいシステム「デイジー」も会合で紹介された。日本や韓国の政府が障害者のパソコン購入への助成などIT（情報技術）普及に向けた支援策を報告した。

一方、世界ろう連盟は「今後十年の行動目標はIT問題に集中し過ぎていて、手話や点字など通常のコミュニケーションが軽視されている。手話の普及や人材育成に努めるべきだ」と訴えた。

Japan Library Association "Infringement on the Right to Know Should be Rectified"
Copyright Law Hinders Recording and Enlargement

At issue was the right to information access. J.L.A. said that that the right should be defined in the UN Convention of the Right of the Disabled and suggested that each country proceeds to rectify the laws related to copyright.

At the same time, the Federation of the Deaf Persons claimed there should be more efforts for diffusion of sign languages and human resources development.

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Newspaper

) Tokyo

障害者ネットで語ろう

体験コーナー設置

草津の作業所と県脊髄損傷者協会 普及呼びかけ

ピアザ淡海



ネットミーティングを試す参加者ら（大津市・ピアザ淡海）

大津会合の関連イベント「アイ・コラボレーション」（草津市）は二十六日、インターネットでつながったパソコンで画像を見ながら会話する「ネットミーティング」の体験コーナーを大津市のピアザ淡海に設けた。

同作業所は障害者の会話機会を増やし、障害者団体が情報を共有して障害者施策に生かす目的で、ネットミーティングの普及を進めている。体験コーナーには小型のビデオカメラを取り付けたパソコンを五台設置、電話回線で政府間会合の主会場の大津プリンスホテルと、草津市の同作業所を結んだ。

参加者はモニターに映る相手の動画を見ながら「周りにどれくらい人がいますか」などと会話していた。同作業所スタッフの角井敬明さん（29）は「市販のパソコンとビデオカメラ、無料で配布されている専用のソフトがあればすぐできるのでぜひ利用して」と話していた。同コーナーは二十七日も設け

アジア太平洋障害者の10年 おおつ会合

Conversation on the Internet

In collaboration with the Otsu Meeting, the Association of the Spinal Damaged in Shiga Pref. and the Eye Collaboration demonstrated a net meeting. The system connects three places with five video camera-mounted PCs.

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雄一賀念記賞

中西さん（JICA支援委員）ら3人に

障害者の10年最終年 今年は1人増

小学生から花束を受け取るマカナワイさん

障害者福祉の分野で活躍する人を表彰する今年度の糸賀一雄記念賞の授賞式が二十六日、大津市内のホテルで開かれた。「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年ハイレベル政府間会合が同市で開かれていることを記念して、例年二人だった受賞者を増やし、国際協力事業団（JICA）障害者支援委員の中西由起子さん（54）ら三人が表彰された。

受賞者は中西さんと、フィジー在住で民間活動団体「障害者インターナショナル」オセアニア担当副会長のセタレキ・セル・マカナワイさん（37）、ベトナム・ペンチェ省児童基金会長のフィン・ヴァン・カムさん（61）。

式典には関係者約百五十人が出席し、三人がそれぞれ記念講演。マカナワイさんは「活動を続けていく勇気を与えられた」と受賞を喜び、カムさんは「ベトナムには多くの障害者がいる。福祉増進に向けて努力する」と意気込みを語った。

同賞は、重症心身障害児施設「びわこ学園」（草津市）の設立など全国でも先進的な取り組みをした糸賀一雄さん（故人）の精神を受け継ごうと、県などで作る記念財団が一九九七年に創設した。

また、同政府間会合では、この日、障害者の就労支援などをテーマにしたシンポジウムやセミナーが行われ、活発な議論が交わされた。

Itoga Commemorative Foundation Awarded 3 Winners Including Ms. Nakanishi
This Year has one extra winner

Commemorating the holding of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade for Disabled Persons in the city, the Commemorative Foundation of the Late Mr. Kazuo Itoga awarded the people who are playing active roles in promoting welfare of the disabled

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尽力の3人が受賞

糸賀一雄記念賞



糸賀一雄記念賞で受賞するフィジーのマカナワイさん（大津市内のホテル）

障害者福祉に貢献した人に贈られる「糸賀一雄記念賞」の表彰式が二十六日、大津市内のホテルで行われた。六回目の今年は「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）の関連事業に位置づけられ、三人が受賞した。受賞したのは、障害者インターナショナル・アジア太平洋支部オセアニア担当副会長でフィジーのセタレキ・セル・マカナワイさん（五七）、ベトナム・ベンチェ省児童基金会長フィン・ヴァン・カムさん（六二）、アジア・ディスアビリティ・インスティテート代表の中西由起子さん（五五）＝東京都＝。

受賞式のあと三人は関係者ら約百八十人の前に記念講演。フィジー唯一の盲学校の校長で、障害者福祉の指導者のマカナワイさんは「教育や就職、結婚など障害者差別は依然厳しい。障害者にも学び、働く権利があることを教育を通して伝えたい」と訴えた。また、十六歳の時、ラグビーでけがを負い全盲となったことを説明、「つらい経験をした。後に続く人が悩まなくていい社会を、と頑張ってきた」と

Exertion Brought Itoga Awards to 3 Winners

The ceremony of the late Mr Kazuo Itoga Commemorative Awards took place in Otsu. The awards were given to three winners who gave memorial addresses afterwards.

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ESCAP
障害者の十年

糸賀一雄記念賞

アジアの障害者 自立に貢献

障害問題専門官務めた 中西由起子さん受賞

障害者として初めて、国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）で障害問題専門官を務めた中西由起子さん（55）＝東京都八王子市＝が26日、大津市内のホテルで、障害者福祉に貢献した人々に贈られる糸賀一雄記念賞を受賞した。授賞式の記念スピーチで、車いすに乗った中西さんは、アジアの障害者の自立と生活の質の向上に向けて障害者が当事者としてかかわっていくことの大切さを説いた。



賞状を手渡される中西由起子さん
＝大津市浜町の琵琶湖ホテルで

中西さんは生後7日目にポリオ（小児まひ）と診断され、手足に軽い障害が残った。大学院生だった約30年前から、障害者関連の国際会議や講演会で通訳などを担当。「障害者も自宅に住み、結婚し、地域で働こう」と米国で自立生活運動に取り組んだ故エド・ロバーツ氏らと交流を深めたことが、今の活動の原点となったという。

86年から約8年間、ESCAPの障害問題専門官となり、バングラデシュなどで障害者の自助団体の育成に取り組んだ。この経験をもとに、90年には非政府組織（NGO）の「アジア・ディスアビリティ・インスティテート」（ADI）を設立。以来10年余り、アジア各国の障害者約500人を国内の障害者の自宅などに招いて、施設や家族に頼らないで生きるノウハウを学んでもらう活動などを続けている。

授賞式には、ESCAPが主催して開催中の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年の政府間会合の参加者ら約300人が出席。中西さんは、受賞後の記念スピーチで、「自立生活の概念をもっとアジア地域にいる障害者へ伝えていけば、生活の質が向上していくはずです」と訴えた。

今後10年間の障害者施策の方向性などを話し合う今回の会合について、中西さんは「日本政府の途上国援助（ODA）は、リハビリテーション施設や学校といったインフラ整備から、障害当事者への支援に向きつつある。障害者福祉で日本はアジア地域のモデルとならなければならない」と話している。

＊　＊　＊

今回で第5回になる糸賀一雄記念賞は、中西さんのほか、フィジーの盲学校教諭、もの点字教育などに取り組むセタレキ・セル・マカナワイさん（37）＝障害者インターナショナル（DPI）フィジーのアジア太平洋支部オセアニア担当副部長＝と、車いす補の改善・普及活動で実績を挙げたフィン・ヴァン・カムさん（61）＝ベトナム・ベンチェ障害児基金会長＝にも贈られた。

ESCAP: the Decade of the Disabled Persons

Itoga Commemorative Award was given to Ms. Yukiko Nakanishi, who served as an expert on disability issue at ESCAP.

Ms. Nakanishi suffered infantile paralysis which left her slightly disabled on the limbs. The starting point of her activities was getting an acquaintance with the late Mr. Ed Roberts. She served as an expert on the disability issue at ESCAP for three years from 1986, later established ADI in 1990.

Ms. Nakanishi made her commemorative address, saying that Japan could be a model in Asia in the field of welfare for the disabled persons.

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ナイス・ハート・バザール 浜大津アーカス

作業所の手作り品500点並ぶ

政府間会合に合わせ、大津市浜町の浜大津アーカスでは、アジアの障害者作業所や県内の共同作業所など約90施設で障害者が作った商品を展示販売する「ナイス・ハート・バザール」が開かれている＝写真。

会場には、スリランカの作業所で作られた牛革製のバッグ類のほか、エイの皮を使ったキーホルダー、山形県内の作業所で手作りされた紬（つむぎ）の帯やネクタイなど約500点が並ぶ。県内からはヨシを原料にした手すき紙をはじめ、クッキーなどのお菓子、木製小物なども出品されている。

開催は28日までで、時間は午前10時～午後8時（最終日は午後1時まで）。

あすまで



Nice Heart Bazaar
500 Hand Made Goods

Nice Heart Bazaar, selling products made by the people with disabilities, was held in concert with the Intergovernmental Meeting.

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戦乱アフガン 増える障害者

国連会議で大臣訴え

「国際会議でアフガニスタンとして発言でき、うれしく思う」。アジア太平洋地域の今後十年の障害者施策の方針を決めるため、大津市で二十五日から開かれている国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の会議に、アフガン暫定政権の代表者が出席している。旧ソ連侵攻、米国テロに伴う空爆など二十年以上の戦乱で障害者が増え続ける中、政府代表が初めてESCAPの舞台で自国の立場を訴えた。



戦乱で増えた障害者対策に意欲を燃やすアフガニスタン拘束障害者省のワルダク大臣＝大津市の大津プリンスホテルで

会議は、ESCAPの「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合で、三十カ国・地域から閣僚などが出席している。アフガンからは、昨年末に暫定政権とともに発足した拘束障害者省のアブドラ・ワルダク大臣がやってきた。

「戦乱による障害者の数は計り知れず、いまだに正確なデータが取れない」。かつては政府や民間組織が障害者福祉を手掛けたが、タリバン支配時にほとんどなくなってしまった。障害者は「人口の5%、百五十万人はいるはず」という。

現政権樹立前は、北部岡駐の一員だった。「戦闘や貧困による病気で、親せきや友人も身体機能を奪われた。だから、障害者の役に立ちたい気持ちが強い」

平和が訪れた今、国外の非政府組織（NGO）などによる療養施設の設置が進むが、まだ多くはない。「カブールでは今も、戦乱で手足をなくした人が物ごいをする姿が目立ちます」。雇用問題も深刻だ。

会議は最終日の二十八日、活動方針を採択する。そこには、タリバン政権下で迫害された女性障害者の権利回復も盛まれる。ワルダク氏は会議に先立ち、障害者の社会参加と平等についての宣言文に署名する。

「われわれの障害者施策は始まったばかり。ここで耳にする発言、手にする資料すべてが貴重なんだ」。琵琶湖のほとりの会場で、濃密な四日間を過ごしている。

開催ESCAPで大津『150万人が被害』

More disabled people in the devastated Afghanistan

The Afghan Minister appealed at the ESCAP Meeting in Otsu that 1.5 million people are damaged in Afghanistan.

OCT 2 8 2002 (V) Kyoto UNIC Tokyo, Japan

今後10年の行動

目標年限を修正後退も

全駅や空港のバリアフリー 途上国「25年かかる」

アジア太平洋障害者の10年 おおつ会合



障害者の就労を議論する国松知事（左から2人目）右へベリーILO担当官、依田前厚労省企画官

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）は二十七日、大津市内のホテルで三日目の会議を開き、今後十年の障害者施策の行動目標「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」案を討議した。政策実現に向けて拘束力や年限を明示した同案の表現に、途上国などから修正を求める意見が相次いだ。二〇一二年までに、障害者がすべての鉄道駅や空港などの公共交通機関を利用できるようにするという意図が盛り込まれた。オーストラリアが「実現には二十五年以上かかる」と修正を要求。マレーシアやフィリピンも同調し、「可能な限り速やかに」との表現に後退した。

日収一ドル以下の障害者を一五年までに半減させるという貧困緩和の目標にも、パキスタンとフィジーが修正を求めたが、議長団は「障害者だけが貧困層に取り残されてはならない」と反論、原案通りとなった。

また、行動目標に「すべきである」との表現が多用されており、一部の途上国から「拘束力があるように受け取れる。推奨や考慮するとの表現に変更してほしい」との意見も出た。

会議では他に、障害者の自助団体育成に関する議論で、家族や親の会の役割を重視する意見が相次いだ。行動目標は、二十八日年後に採択される予定。

雇用問題 自営や農業でも促進

アジア・太平洋地域の障害者の就労を支援するネットワーク組織・APWDなど主催のシンポジウムが二十七日、前日に続いて大津市内のホテルで開かれた。

デブラ・ペリーILO（国際労働機関）障害者雇用促進アジア太平洋担当官、依田晶男・前厚生労働省官房総務課企画官、国松善次滋賀県知事の三人が、障害者の雇用や就労機会拡大の課題や方策を意見交換した。

ペリー担当官は、アジア太平洋の十四カ国対象の最新調査結果として、十三カ国で障害者に関する法律があるが、特にアジアで、教育や情報の欠如から障害者の多くが「心理的、社会的に疎外され、貧困な状態に陥っている」と指摘。法律の効果を上げる仕組みの必要性を強調した。また今後十年の戦略として▽企業ニーズの把握▽自営業や農業など企業以外の就労促進▽地域を拠点とする作業所活動の充実―などを挙げた。

依田氏は、過去十年で企業での障害者就労が「かなり進んだ」と強調。今後の課題に、身障者中心だった就労支援で、知的障害者や精神障害者に対しても力を入れることと、福祉施設や作業所の活動を企業就労につなげることを挙げた。

国松知事は、県の取り組みを踏まえ「環境や農業の分野で雇用拡大できる」と述べたほか、作業所の収益性を上げるため「障害者の製品の温かみという価値を生かし、マークを付けて売るのも良いのでは」と提起した。

権利条約の障害者団体関与 日本政府発言に各国反発

国連障害者権利条約の策定に向け、障害者団体のかかわり方を議論した二十七日の大津会合で、日本政府が、障害者団体の関与を制限するとも受け取られかねない発言を繰り返した。

地域レベルや各国での条約策定に向け、「障害者団体がすべての手続きに参加する」とした提案に対し、日本は「すべての」を削除するよう求めた。これに対し、サモアが「障害者が一部の手続きから除外されてしまう」と強く反論、フィジーやタイも同調した。結局「それぞれの手続き」の表現に落ち着いた。

条約策定に向け、障害者団体の完全参加の促進を明記した条文でも、日本は「完全」の表現を変更するよう要求。タイが「完全参加と平等の精神」が骨抜きになってしまう」と批判し、会議の進行役も「障害者問題で」

障害者の完全参加」は「一般的な言葉だ」と日本をたしなめた。

外務省アジア大洋州地域政策課は「条約の策定に障害者団体がどうかかわるかは、国連特別委員会の権限であり、それを超えて（大津会合で）決議するのは不適当と考えた。国内施策で障害者のかかわりを担う意味はない」と説明している。

The third day of ESCAP Otsu Meeting:

1) Developing countries demand revise on goal terms of Biwako Millennium Framework.

2) Participating countries offend remarks of Japanese Government on disabled people's right treaty.

3) Ms.Perry of ILO exchanges ideas on labor issues of disabled people in a symposium.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 2 8 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
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今後、各団体のHPづくりを支援

マレーシア社会開発相 大津の福祉施設も見学

大津会合に参加してい
るマレーシアのシティ・
ザハラ国家統合社会開発
大臣＝写真＝は二十
七日、会合で議論さ
れている「IT（情報
技術）普及や障害者
団体育成に関連し
て、京都新聞社の取
材に「わが国では今
後十年で障害者グループ
のホームページづくりを
支援する。障害者の親同
士の交流にも役立てた
い」と強調した。

同国は、東南アジア諸
国連合（ASEAN）での
IT振興の先進役。しか
し「国の財政事情によっ
て、IT整備の違いがあ
る」ことを課題に挙げた。



ザハラ大臣はこの日、大津市の障害者施設やまびこ総合支援センター（馬場二丁目）と特別養護老人ホーム柳原の里（真野首門三丁目）を見学。「現代的で機能が充実していて参考になる。マレーシアは大半の福祉施設を国が整備しているのに、日本は市単位で行っている」と感心していた。

Malaysia's Social Development Minister visited facilities for disabled persons in Otsu City: "We will support our organizations to create websites."

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( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
(V) Chunichi

中日 10/28

関連行事

障害者、伸び伸びサンデー

「びわこミレニアム・フレームワーク」案検討

アジア太平洋障害者の10年 びわこ会議 第3日

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年「びわこ会議」は二十七日、三日目を迎え、二十六日に採択された次の「十年」の指針となる「びわこミレニアム・フレームワーク」案を検討した。日曜日とあって、障害者も歌ったり走ったりの多彩な関連行事が展開された。【松村 聡子、谷 昌子】



障害者の労働について話し合われた「ナイス・ハート・メッセ'02」＝大津市の琵琶湖ホテルで

会議では、次の「十年」（二〇〇三―一二年）に重点的に取り組む分野ごとに目標を掲げた「びわこミレニアム・フレームワーク」案について太平洋や東南アジアなど四つの地域別会合で検討した結果が報告された。

案の中で達成が難しい目標は「…すべきだ」との表現を「努力する」などに和らげるよう求める国もあったが「拘束力やペナルティーはない。政府の意志を示す意味だ」として「すべきだ」の表現が残された。二〇一二年までに既存の公共交通機関を障害者が利用できるようにするとの目標は、「設備がかかる」として目標年を設けず「できるだけ早くする」にした。

知的障害者の働く場所、知事が提案

ハート・メッセ

○…障害者の雇用・就労問題について考える、アジア太平洋障害者ワークセンターネットワーク（APWD）の「ナイス・ハート・メッセ'02 in 滋賀」（社会就労推進大会）は、大津市内のホテルで開かれた。

国際労働機関（ILO）・障害者雇用促進アジア太平洋担当官のデブラ・ベリー氏、前厚生労働省大臣官房総務課長の面谷信昌男氏、国松善次知事の三人が出席。国内では、障害者の主要な就職先である製造業の生産拠点が海外に移ったため、サービス業への職域開拓が進んでいることなど、障害者雇用の現状が報告された。

ベリー氏は「雇用の機会を拡大するためには、市場の調査を行い、その需要に応じて障害者の職業技術訓練をすることが必要」と訴え、知事は「県内の農業の全般は知的障害者が大いに働ける場所ではないかと提案した。

健常者と車いす使用者マイペース

記念マラソン

○…障害者と健常者が一緒に走る「ESCAP」記念マラソンには、大津市のなぎさ公園市民プラザを発着点に開かれた。障害者約二十人を含む二百十二人の市民ランナーが参加。時折吹く強風にも負けず、紅葉した木々



ゴールを目指し元気よく走る選手たち＝大津市におの浜で

情報と通信に関しては、情報通信技術だけでなく手話や点字の大切さを強調する声や、地方によって手話が異なる事情から視覚的な手話をつくり普及させることが必要との意見があった。

フレームワークは各国の意見を受けて修正したうえ、最終日の二十八日に採択する予定。

遠方との情報交換

パソコン使い実演

ネット・フォーラム

○…情報通信機器を使い、遠方の人と討論するインターネット・フォーラムが大津市のピアザ淡海であり、障害があってもインターネットを使えば遠方とも情報交換が可能だ」ことを実演した。

障害者ら約百人が参加し、県身体障害者福祉協会の北嶋勝紀・青年部長ら五人が発言。北嶋部長は「インターネットは電話線一本で障害の有無に関係なく参加できる」と強調した。



障害者も参加、約250人が合唱した「2002年命輝けびわ湖九コンサート」＝大津市のびわ湖ホールで

歌う喜び を実感

九コンサート

○…障害者も含めた約二百五十人の大合唱団による第九（ベートーベンの交響曲第九番）のコンサートが、大津市のびわ湖ホールであり、会場は満席の約二千人に「歓喜の歌」を共に歌う感動を伝えた。

合唱団は、県内の共同作業所などの六団体の障害者約百人を含む十一六十代の素人集団で構成。ソプラノやアルトなど通常の四声に加え、障害者らの声が出にくい人も歌いやすいよう新曲した第五パートを設けた。関西フィルハーモニー管弦楽団の演奏に合わせ、大合唱団に手話通訳も加わり、共に歌う喜びをそれぞれの方法で表現した。

かかわらず情報を得たり発信したりできる」と語った。会場のモニターには、米原町の県立文化芸術交流会館と膳所・太郎坂の会場がパソコンを使って映し出され、途中で途切れるトラブルもあったが、遠方の障害者からの発言を聞いた。

障害者も含め加人

The 3rd day of the ESCAP Meeting, Disabled people enjoyed some related events such as the marathon race and the Internet forum.

The plan for the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action is now examined.

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( ) Asahi (✓) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
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車椅子ダンスパーティー 第九コンサートも

ESCAP関連イベント



車椅子ダンスの演技を披露する中瀬朱さん・古川浩之さんのペア＝大津市の皇子が丘公園体育館で

大津市で国連ESCAP（アジア太平洋経済社会委員会）が開いている国際会議の関連イベントが27日、市内であった。会場は障害者施設を訪問するものや、車椅子のダンスパーティーなどが開かれた。

交流ダンスパーティー「車ダンス（教師歴5年目、毎日新聞社など後援）は、皇子が丘公園体育館で、県内を中心に、車椅子の約10人を含む約150人が参加。車椅子ダンス世界選手権の日本代表、中瀬朱さん（22）・古川浩之さん（31）のペアがゲスト出演し、車椅子の滑らかな動きや息の合った演技を披露。来場者から盛んな拍手が起きた。

ESCAP related events: Wheelchair dance party and classical music concert

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「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年政府間会合を記念して開かれたマラソン大会（大津市におの浜4丁目）



アジア太平洋障害者の10年 おおつ会合

距離は短いけど、自信になった

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）開催を記念し、大津市内では二十七日、マラソン大会や記念講演会など多彩な催しが開かれた。

琵琶湖岸でマラソン大会 障害者ら力走

○…琵琶湖岸では、記念マラソン大会が開かれ、車いすやつえを使う障害者と健常者が、ともにさわやかな汗を流した。

市民による実行委員会が主催。なぎさ公園サンシャインビーチ（由美浜）を発着点に、びわ湖ホール（打出浜）を折り返す五㌔と三㌔のコースで、六歳から七十五歳までの二百十二人が参加した。

レースは午前十時にスタート。琵琶湖から強い風が吹く中、沿道の声援を受けた。バイク事故で手足に障害のある本堀仁彦さん（28＝大津市一里山三丁目）は、友人の介添えで出場。コース途中で引き返したが、約一㌔を四十五分かけて歩いた。本堀さんは「これまで五百㍍ほどしか続けて歩けなかった。わずかな距離ですが、自信になりました」と話していた。

多くの人との出会い大事に バーグランド氏講演

○…ピアザ淡海（におの浜一丁目）では、今年で終わる「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」以降の取り組みを考える集いがあり、ジェフ・バーグランド帝塚山学院大教授（異文化コミュニケーション学）が、障害者と健常者の積極的な交流をテーマに講演した。

教授は「人生を楽しむには心の強さが必要。多くの人と出会い自分と違う文化や価値観と接して視野を広げてほしい。閉じこもってしまったら絶対にいけない」と話した。

このほか、びわ湖ホール（打出浜）では、健常者と障害者が共に歌う「2002余輝けびわ湖第九コンサート」があり、公募で集まった約二百五十人の合唱団が、息のあった歌声を響かせた。合唱が終わると、大津会合の参加者やボランティアを含む約六百人の観客から、拍手がわき起こった。

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ESCAPの関連行事で交流

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）のハイレベル政府間会合に合わせ、大津市内では27日、様々な関連行事が開かれた。

大津市打出浜のびわ湖ホールでは、障害者と健常者がともに同じステージに立ち、ベートーベンの「第九交響曲」歌詞の歌を合唱した。出だしの耳慣れない発音に戸惑いながらも、約800人の聴衆から惜しみない拍手が送られた。

同市におの浜一丁目のピアザ淡海では「アジア太平洋地域障害者の十年後の取り組みを考える集い」があった。県内の障害者ら約150人を前に、帝塚山学院大学教授のジェフ・バーグランドさんが「障害者の社会参加」をテーマに講演した。

このほか、国際協力機構（JICA）の研修員らが参加したESCAP記念マラソンなども開かれ、障害の有無に関係なく、互いの交流を深めた。

ESCAP related events:

1) Disabled people enjoyed running in the marathon race on the coast of Biwako Lake.

2) Mr. Jeff Burgland, a professor of Tezukayama Gakuin University, gave a lecture about active interactions between disabled people and non-disabled people.

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障害者施策

新しい戦略と行動を示し ESCAP閉幕

国連ESCAP（アジア太平洋経済社会委員会）の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」が28日、閉幕した。来年から10年間の障害者施策の枠組みを定めた「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択。25日からの期間中は市内でさまざまなイベントも開かれ、琵琶湖畔から各国に障害者が参加した社会の実現を訴えた。

フレームワークには、優先課題として障害者の公共交通機関へのアクセス、教育や雇用の促進、地域での協力体制、ITによるコミュニケーションの促進などを明記。特に女性や子どもの障害者に対する権利の充実を強調している。今後、2年ごとに会議を開き、目標の達成状況を評価、再検討する。

閉会式後に、ESCAPのキム・ハクス事務局長らが、会場となった大津市の大津プリンスホテル内で会見。「この地域の障害者にはいまだに権利や利益を享受できない多くの課題がある。今後取り組むべきことは多い。フレームワークでは過去10年の事例に基づき、新しい戦略と行動を示した」と述べ、会合の成果を強調した。【北川功】

UN ESCAP's Meeting closed with new strategies and action for disabled persons

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 2 9 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai (√) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi



行動計画と年次目標採択

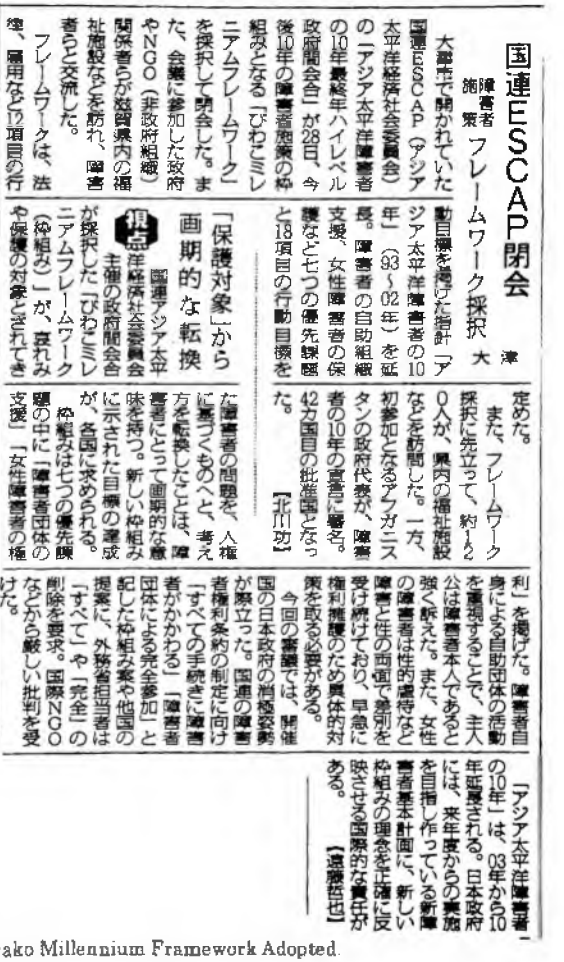
ESCAP 政府間会合が閉幕

大津市で開かれていた示した「ひのミレニア
国連のアジア太平洋経済 ム・フレームワーク」を
社会委員会（ESCAP） 採択して閉幕した。
P）主催の国際会議 開催に当たり、キム・
「アジア太平洋閣僚会 ハクス・ESCAP事務
の十年」最終年ハイレベ 局長は「国連等の社会参
ル政府間会合」は二十八 加の面に於ては世界各
日、今後十年の具体的な 国の閣僚、社会的、制
行動計画と年次目標を明 度的な壁を除去するた

Sankei Shimbun Shiga Edition, Oct 29 2002
Closed ESCAP High-level Intergovernmental Meeting closed: Adoption of Action Plan and Annual Goal

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 29 2002 ( ) Asahi (✓) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi



国連ESCAP閉会

障害者施策 フレームワーク採択 大津

大津市で開かれていた国連ESCAP（アジア太平洋経済社会委員会）の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年最終年ハイレベル政府間会合」が28日、今後10年の障害者施策の枠組みとなる「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択して閉会した。また、会議に参加した政府やNGO（非政府組織）関係者らが滋賀県内の福祉施設などを訪れ、障害者らと交流した。

フレームワークは、法律、雇用など12項目の行動目標を掲げた指針「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」（93～02年）を延長。障害者の自助組織支援、女性障害者の保護など七つの優先課題と18項目の行動目標を定めた。

また、フレームワーク採択に先立って、約120人が、県内の福祉施設などを訪問した。一方、初参加となるアフガニスタンの政府代表が、障害者の10年の宣言に署名。42カ国目の批准国となった。【北川功】

「保護対象」から画期的な転換

視点 国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会主催の政府間会合が採択した「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク（枠組み）」が、これまで保護の対象とされてきた障害者の問題を、人権に基づくものへと、考え方を転換したことは、障害者にとって画期的な意味を持つ。新しい枠組みに示された目標の達成が、各国に求められる。

枠組みは七つの優先課題の中に「障害者団体の支援」「女性障害者の権利」を掲げた。障害者自身による自助団体の活動を重視することで、主人公は障害者本人であると強く訴えた。また、女性の障害者は性的虐待など障害と性の両面で差別を受け続けており、早急に権利擁護のため具体的対策を取る必要がある。

今回の審議では、開催国の日本政府の消極姿勢が際立った。国連の障害者権利条約の制定に向け「すべての手続きに障害者がかかわる」「障害者団体による完全参加」と記した枠組み案や他国の提案に、外務省担当者は「すべて」や「完全」の削除を要求。国際NGOなどから厳しい批判を受けた。

「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」は、03年から10年延長される。日本政府には、来年度からの実施を目指し作っている新障害者基本計画に、新しい枠組みの理念を正確に反映させる国際的な責任がある。【遠藤哲也】

Mainichi Shimbun Newspaper

UN ESCAP Meeting Closed: Biwako Millennium Framework Adopted.

Mr. Tetsuya Endo, reporter, *Mainichi Shimbun*'s Otsu Bureau, highly estimated the Biwako Millennium Framework as a landmark change, because it converts the concept of the disability issue from a charity-based to rights-based one.

Among the seven priority areas, Mr. Endo especially referred to "self-help organization" and "women" issues. He also pointed out that the Japanese government was remarkably passive during the discussion over the establishment of UN Disability Convention, which he said drew harsh criticism from participating international NGOs.

Mr. Endo concluded his report, saying that the Japanese government is responsible to reflect the concept of Biwako Millennium Framework in their new basic plan for disabled persons, which will be enforced from next fiscal year.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 2 9 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
(✓) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi



障害者の10年
政府間会合開会

初参加のアフガン代表

「次は積極的に参加」

二十八日閉幕した「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」の最終年ハイレベル政府間会合。開会式では参加した国、地域の代表から「意義深い会議」「ボランティアの支援が素晴らしかった」との声が上がった。

主催の国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の金学洙事務局長は「反対中の新たな障害者基本計画、障害者プランに今回の成果を反映したい」と述べ、各国・地域で生み出された素晴らしい成果を確認できた」と指摘。議長の阿南一成内閣府政務官も「国が検討の差別立法や障害者の自助団体への支援など過去十年で

会合に初参加したアフガニスタン殉教・障害者相のアブドラ・ワルダク氏は「このような歴史的会議に国家の代表として初めて参加できたことを光栄に思う」とあいさつ。相次ぐ戦禍で百万人を超える障害者を取り巻く環境は非常に深刻といい、「我々は国外からのサポートが必要。次の十年の取り組みに積極的に参加していきたい」と決意を語り、各国・地域代表から大きな拍手を受けた。

Otsu Meeting closed: The delegate of Afghanistan said, "We will commit actively next time."

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: (√) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
OCT 2 9 2002 ( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

Tokyo Edition

政府間会合が閉幕

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」（93～02年）最終年の政府間会合が28日、大津市のホテルで開かれ、新たな10年に向けた行動目標などを盛り込んだ「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択して閉幕した。

フレームワークは障害者の自助団体▽女性障害者▽職業訓練と雇用▽施設や公共交通機関へのアクセスなど7領域を優先政策課題としている。

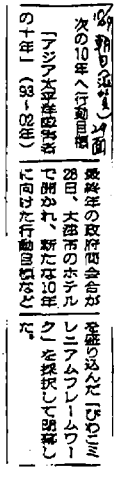
Intergovernmental Meeting closed with the adoption of the Biwako Millennium Framework

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 2 9 2002

(✓) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

Shiga Edition.



ESCAP Biwako Meeting closed: Action plan for the next decade (Biwako Millennium Framework) adopted

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE:
OCT 29 2002
( ) Asahi
( ) Yomiuri
(v) Kyoto



今後10年間の行動目標を採択した大津会合（大津市）

IT含め情報基盤整備を

大津会合が閉幕

障害者の社会参加で議論

権利獲得へ 日本に大きな期待

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）は、教育や雇用など幅広い分野で今後十年の障害者施策の行動目標を議論し、二十八日閉幕した。会合では「見る、聞く、話す」といった手段を使えない障害者の社会参加に向け、IT（情報技術）にとどまらない情報基盤の整備に議論が集中した。（滋賀本社 石崎立矢、松尾浩道）

東京大の福島智助教授（全国盲ろう者協会理事）（障害者に、最も必要な手段として情報を挙げた。基調講演で「他者とのコミュニケーションが消えたのが最大の苦痛。障害者が慈悲を受けて（愛さ）れる存在でなく、愛する存在として地域で暮らし（術へのアクセス充実）を」と訴え、慈善対象から権利主体へと変わるべきだ」と強調。優先的な行動目標とし て、国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（UNESCAP）は「情報通信技術へのアクセス充実」を掲げた。会場周辺でも、インターネットでの会議やパソコン画面の文字を読み上げる最新の仕組みが展示、紹介された。

しかし、途上国や障害者団体を中心に「ITに重点が置かれ過ぎ」（カンボジア）との批判が相次いだ。貧困国は「IT十二年前から進展がない」（ラオス）として、国連障害者の権利条約に障害者の知る権利を明記するよう求め受けられず、「国の廃化されていない」（ベトナム）などの現状が報告された。世界ろう連盟や日本の主張で、環境的な手話や点字などの普及項目が盛り込まれた。

一方、アジア太平洋地域で「最も先進的である」UNESCAP事務局は「このアジア太平洋地域での協力が主的な役割を担いたい」と述べた。日本図書館協会は、著者の許可がなければ図書を録音や拡大資料にできない著作権法の改正を主張。同協会の佐藤一幸専門委員は「国はもとより、政府開発援助（ODA）や情報の分野で先行している日本の「期待は大きい」（ム事務局長）。日本はCAP事務局長）はずの日本の法整備の遅れも指摘された。日本図書館協会大津会合の議論の反映を目指す。

国内外の障害者の情報獲得を進めてきた障害団体やNGOの活動家はもとより、政府開発援助（ODA）や情報の分野で先行している日本域や障害者の事情に応じた支援や技術、経験の供が求められている。



UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 29 2002

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最終日

「大津は素晴らしい」

参加者、施設見学や観光



瑠璃寺を見学する大津会合の参加者ら（大津市）

アジア太平洋障害者の10年

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）最終日の二十八日、会議参加者らは四班に分かれ、大津市内観光や障害者施設の見学を行った。

（3、26面に関連記事）

比叡山延暦寺を見学したグループは、お守りを買ったり、参加者同士で記念撮影をした後、びわ湖大津館（柳が崎）に移動し、湖岸の景色を楽しんだ。館内の茶席では和菓子やせん茶を味わった。

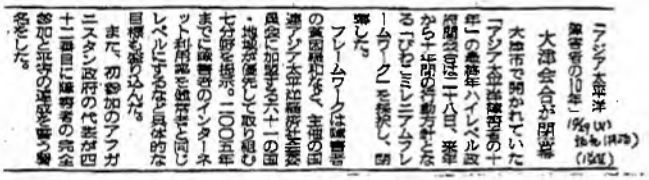
インドのNGO（非政府組織）が設立した障害者専用病院の医師H・S・チャープラさん（主心）は「大津は他のどの街より美しく、人なも礼儀正しくて親切だ。素晴らしい街でいい会議ができた」と喜んでいた。

The final day of Otsu Meeting: participants visited facilities for disabled persons and enjoyed sightseeing in Otsu City

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OCT 2 9 2002



アジア太平洋
閣僚会議の10年」
(5月10日 掲載)
(5版)

大津会合が閉幕

大津市で開かれていた「アジア太平洋環境開発閣僚会議の十年に一度の会合」ハイレベル政府間会合は二十八日、来年から十年間の行動方針となる「びわこ・ミレニアムフレームワーク」を採択し、閉幕した。

フレームワークは環境保全の実現期限などを、主権の国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会に加盟する六十一の国・地域が優先して取り組む七分野を提示。二〇〇五年までに環境省のインターネット利用者を都市住と同じレベルにするなど具体的な目標も盛り込んだ。

また、初参加のアフガニスタン政府の代表が四十二番目に閣僚署の完全参加と平和の実現を誓う署名をした。

ESCAP Otsu Meeting closed. Biwako Millennium Framework was adopted

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 2 9 2002

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( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
(V) Kyoto



行動目標採択し閉幕 政府間会合

アジア太平洋障害者の10年

ムワーク」を確認一致で採択し、閉幕した。約三十カ国の政府やNGO（非政府組織）の四百人が参加した。

行動目標は、日収一ドル以下の障害者を二〇一五年までに半減させる貧困緩和や、情報技術（IT）に接する条件整備、女性障害者の地位向上など七項目の優先的な取り組み分野を盛り込んだ。

閉会式や記者会見で、国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（UNESCAP）のチム・ハクス事務局長は「歴史的な会議になった。アジア太平洋地域の障害者に社会参加の改善をもたらすことができる」と述べ、国松善次滋賀県知事は「障害者の社会参加と自立に向けた新たなスタートが、琵琶湖で切られたことを歓迎する」と話した。

「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年政府間会合（大津会合）は二十八日、大津市で四日間の日程を終え、今後十年間の障害者施策の行動目標「びわ」ミレニアムフレ

Intergovernmental Meeting closed with the adoption of Biwako Millennium Framework; UNESCAP Executive Secretary Mr. Kim Hakusu said, "It was a historical meeting"

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 2 9 2002 ( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo ( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi (√) Kyoto

アジア太平洋障害者の10年

アフガンが参加調印

「平和の10年に」と演説



調印式で握手を交わすワルダ大臣（右）とキム・ハクス・事務局長（大津市）

「障害者の完全参加と平等に向け、平和の十年となること」を望む」。二十八日の大津会合で、アフガニスタンのアブドラ・ワルダ厚生大臣が「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」への参加調印後、スピーチし、各国代表の温かい拍手で歓迎された。

アフガニスタンは、一九八九年の旧ソ連軍撤退後、内戦やタリバンの首都制圧、米英軍による空爆を経て、今年六月にカルザイ移行政権が発足したばかり。今も地雷や不発弾の被害者は多い。

ワルダ大臣は「過去十年、わが国は戦争の下にあり、この枠組みに参加できなかった」と述べた上で「インフラの破壊で教育、雇用などのサービスも中断した。障害者は百万人を超える。第二の十年には積極的に参加し、各国の支援を受けて目標達成に取り組みたい」と誓った。

大臣と握手を交わしたUNESCAPのキム・ハクス事務局長は「参加を歓迎し、支援することを約束する」と述べた。

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons: Afghanistan promises full commitment to the next decade of disabled persons

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 29 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri
(v) Chunichi



日本、自らの課題克服カギ

ESCAPびわこ会議閉幕

貧困で施策進まぬ
他国の先導役期待

行動目標 位置づけ温度差

ESCAP「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年びわこ会議の開会式＝大津市のホテルで

Chunichi Shimbun Newspaper

ESCAP Biwako Meeting Closed: Japan should get over its problem in the first place.

Mr. Tomoyuki Suzuki of *Chunichi Shimbun's* Otsu Bureau reported that Japan should tackle its own problems relating to the disability issue before being a model for the other regional countries, which are behind in promoting related policies because of poverty.

Mr. Suzuki also pointed out that it is not easy for the participating countries to have targets in common because of the economic disparity in the Asian and Pacific region.

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UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

DISABILITIES: ESCAP Delegates Adopt Plan On Millennium Goals

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The U.N. **Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific** yesterday concluded a meeting in Otsu, Japan, to mark the end of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, with participants adopting a wide-ranging regional action plan to incorporate the concerns of disabled persons into efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

About 400 million of the world's 600 million people with disabilities live in Asia and the Pacific region, and 40 percent of those live in poverty, ESCAP said. The commission added that less than 10 percent of children with disabilities have access to education, compared with 70 percent of their nondisabled counterparts. The action framework addresses such issues, as well as access to public transportation, information, training, employment and regional cooperation. A special emphasis is placed on women and children.

Three hundred delegates from 27 countries attended the meeting, reviewing the achievements of the last 10 years and discussing what the United Nations called a growing awareness of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities. Participants launched a new decade to focus on an "inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities."

"What we want is neither charity nor handouts but appropriate education, a chance for rehabilitation and a place to work," said **Satoshi Fukushima**, a university professor who is deaf and blind (U.N. release, Oct. 28).

"We have made tremendous progress, and now we ought to achieve more. UNESCAP will do its part," said ESCAP Executive Secretary **Kim Hak-su** (ESCAP release, Oct. 28).

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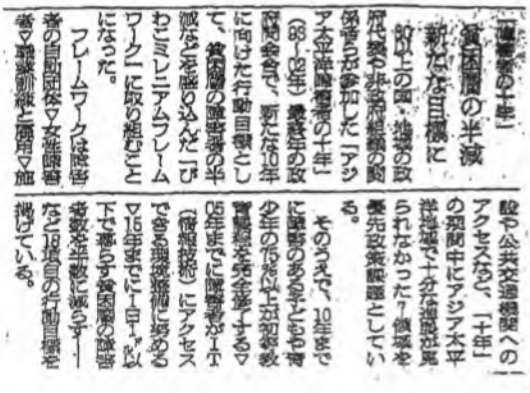
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H14.10.30 朝日



「障害者の十年」
貧困層の半減
新たな目標に
前回上の国・地域の政
府代表や非政府組織の関
係者らが参加した「アジ
ア太平洋障害者の十年」
(93―02年)最終年の政
府間会合で、新たな10年
に向けた行動目標として、
貧困層の障害者の半
減などを盛り込んだ「びわこミレニアムフレーム
ワーク」に取り組むことになった。
フレームワークは障害者の自助団体や女性障害
者や職業訓練と雇用を加
設や公共交通機関へのアクセスなど、「十年」の期間中にアジア太平洋地域で十分な進展が見られなかった7領域を最先政策課題としている。
そのうえで、10年までに障害のある子どもや青少年の75%以上が初等教育課程を完全修了するや05年までに障害者がIT(情報技術)にアクセスできる環境整備に努めるや15年までに1日1ドル以下で暮らす貧困層の障害者数を半数に減らすなど18項目の行動目標を掲げている。

Asahi Shimbun, Oct 30 2002
Decade of Disabled Persons:
A new goal is set to reduce the poverty by half.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 30 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

(V) Chunichi

笑顔光った4日間 写真で回顧

アジアびわこ会議

障害者と市民、心触れ合い

参加者から滋賀へ熱いメッセージ

大津市であった国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の「アジア太平洋障害者の十年」最終年びわこ会議が閉幕した。国内外の参加者には、開催地・滋賀へのメッセージを寄せてもらい、オブザーバーとして参加した県内の障害者団体の代表には、今後の展望などを聞いた。一方、会議や関連行事に参加した障害者やボランティアは、それぞれ心の触れ合いを深め合った。誰もが生き生きとした笑顔が光った四日間を写真で振り返る。（松村裕子、写真は写真部・佐藤善彦）



手話通訳をするボランティア＝大津市のホテルで



市民との交流会でハーモニカ演奏を楽しみ拍手を送る会議参加者ら＝大津市のびわ湖大統部で

アジアや世界と関係広げて

アジア太平洋地域の障害者福祉分野で活躍する人に贈られる滋賀一誠記念賞を受けた「障害者支援団体「アジア・ディスアビリティ・インスティテュート（ADI）」代表の中西由起子さん（左）＝障害者福祉分野で働く人が会議で築いたネットワークを大切に、アジア太平洋地域や世界と関係を広げてほしい。



海外とのパイプ、協力関係を

国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）の社会開発部（障害者担当官、西脇康二さん（左）＝会議のホスト役を務め、これまでの成果を踏まえて障害者の完全な社会参加に向け積極的に取り組んでほしい。アジアの地域都市と障害者交流をするなど、アジア太平洋地域とのパイプを広げ、協力関係づくりを進め。





環境問題と障害者の環境改善

大津市に拠点やセミナーを開いたアジア太平洋障害者ワークセンターネットワーク（APWD）の事務局長、丸山一郎さん（左）＝アジア太平洋地域に自ら手掛けた会議をつくるなど、先駆性のあった方だから、今後はナンバーワンのバリアフリーの実現を、環境面とともに障害者福祉の環境改善も進めてほしい。

Chunichi Shinbun October 30 2002

Four days with smiles and friendly interactions: Reviewing the ESCAP Meeting with photos, messages from the participants.

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: OCT 30 2002

( ) Asahi ( ) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi

(V) Chunichi



ESCAP記念マラソンで、笑顔を見せて走る車いすランナー＝大津市で



「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年ひわこ会館の記念に参加する車いすの障害者＝大津市のホテルで

全国の成果・地域でどう生かす

オブザーバー 課題語る

辻久孝・県ろう協会長（ろう者）県内のろうあ者も国際手話を勉強し、手話通訳ボランティアとして参加。国際手話を勉強

今井一夫・県手をつなぐ育成会長（こ）交流会を担当したが、一般の人

たちも参加するよう広がりがなかったのが残念です。

栗前茂・県視覚障害者福祉協会長（ま）総会で、アジアの仲間と手をつないで頑張っていこうという意識の成果を、県内約三千人の視

障害者にしっかり伝えたい。

岡本幸助・県身体障害者連合会長（こ）障害者の意識向上が図れたと思う。問題は今後、この会議を地域でどう生かすかで、当事者の私たちに課せられた課題だ。

Observers say that challenges are left how to make use of the results of the Meeting in each region.

30 October 2002

UN-backed meeting adopts action plan to help disabled persons in Asia, Pacific



Kim Hak-Su, ESCAP

28 October – Concluding the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled People, a United Nations-backed meeting held in Japan today adopted a wide-ranging regional framework for action to integrate the concerns of disabled persons into development programmes.

The Biwako Millennium Framework for Action, which incorporates the Millenium Development Goals adopted by world leaders meeting at the UN in 2000, addresses such issues as access to public transport, information, education, training, employment and regional cooperation – all with special emphasis on the needs of women and children, according to the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

About 400 million of the world's 600 million persons with disabilities live in Asia and the Pacific region, 40 per cent of them living in poverty, ESCAP said. Less than 10 per cent of children and youth with disabilities have access to of education, compared to 70 per cent of their non-disabled counterparts in the region.

The meeting, which was attended by 300 people from 27 countries, including representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies, reviewed the achievements of the last ten years, including a growing awareness of the

Related news stories

Senior UN official reports sharp deterioration in Palestinians' health conditions - 27 September

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Annan salutes Ecuador's efforts to promote rights of disabled persons - 19 September

special challenges faced by persons with disabilities.

Participants also agreed to launch a new decade under the theme "Towards an inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities."

"What we want is neither charity nor handouts but appropriate education, a chance for rehabilitation and a place to work," said Satoshi Fukushima, a university professor who is deaf and blind, communicating in "Finger Braille," a method invented by his mother.

ESCAP's Executive Secretary, Kim Hak-Su said that while a tremendous progress had been made in improving the welfare of persons with disabilities, more still needed to be done, and pledged his Commission's full efforts towards this end.

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: Mass Communications Organizations of Thailand MCOT) Page(s) http://www.mcot.org/query.asp?id=19370	Date: 31 October 2002

Summary:

MCOT.ORG

UN announces second decade of disabled persons in Asia-Pacific

BANGKOK, Oct 31 (TNA) - The United Nations Economic and Social Commission in Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) has announced the year 2003 to 2012 as the Second Asian Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

The announcement was made at the 20th Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) Asia-Pacific Regional Training Seminar and the Sixth World Congress of DPI, held recently in Shanghai and Supporo of Japan.

The two disabled international forums mark the end of the UN-ESCAP Asian Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2002.

ESCAP said that its First Asian Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2002 has successfully increased, to some extents, awareness of governments and the public in the region of the development of persons with disabilities (PWDs) and their integration into the mainstream of the societies in all areas, namely employment and education, leading to improved human rights and quality of life of PWDs, but much remains to be achieved.

It, therefore, announced the Second Asian Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 2003-2012 to continue the remained tasks for the sake of the achievement of the recognition of equality and full participation of PWDs among the general public amicably.

ESCAP also cited Thailand as an example of the achievement, to some extents, of the increased public awareness of PWDs and their improved quality of life, leading to the country's being awarded of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award 2001 by the United Nations.

Thailand's implementation of the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act 1991 and its inclusion and enforcement of PWDs' demands in the 1997 constitution made the country to be awarded the UN honourable prize.

The 1997 constitution states that discrimination against national comrades due to physical difference is prohibited, and that laws which restrict PWDs' rights are against the constitution.

The present constitution also promote self-reliance and independent living of PWDs, but provide assistance to those who cannot rely on themselves.

The constitution indicates clearly as well about equal rights and freedom of all Thai citizens, including PWDs and the underprivileged, particularly basic rights in education and politics.

It supports PWDs' participation in deliberation of laws concerning disability and PWDs, and states that PWDs have the rights to be provided with public facilities.

Contents of the constitution maintain ideal concepts of the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act 1991, and support moves, campaigns, measures and policies which encourage people in the society to have positive attitudes and better understanding toward PWDs.

The constitution also supports grouping, networking, and collaborative forces of PWDs, as well as their full participation in the mainstream of the society.

The implementation of the new constitution led to increased public awareness and care of PWDs with improved benefits and facilities provided for them, including the cabinet's approval of a plan in 1998, requiring that government agencies and state enterprises provide facilities to PWDs; the Bureau of the Budget's circular letter to government agencies and state enterprises in 1999, calling for their provision of facilities for PWDs to support the equalization of PWDs in the society and to enhance their social opportunities, including their access to public buildings; the exemption of import duties of necessary materials and assistive devices for the rehabilitation, and development of PWDs by agencies concerned; and the cabinet's approval of a resolution on support of sports of PWDs, which requires that sports of PWDs be organized in every province hosting national sport events. (TNA)--E002

Last Update : 10/31/2002 Time : 5:09:29 PM (-7=GMT)

BANGKOK POST • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2002

opinion & analysis

A barrier-free era for the disabled

KIM HAK-SU
Otsu City, Japan

This week in the picturesque Japanese city of Otsu on the shores of tranquil Lake Biwako, high-level government officials from across Asia and the Pacific reached a major milestone, by agreeing to work together to bring to an end the centuries old practice of discriminating against persons with disabilities.

The importance of this move cannot be understated.

By adopting the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action, the governments have agreed to a new set of guiding principles that will lead persons with disabilities out of the shadows and toward their rightful place as productive members of society — free from discrimination and stereotypes.

Forty-two countries and territories have now signed the UN ESCAP regional plan of action — the most recent of them, Afghanistan, where 600,000 people with disabilities struggle to survive in a country ravaged by a generation of war.

Many of their disabilities are direct consequences of that conflict.

During the last decade governments in this region have made progress towards eliminating the barriers faced by persons with disabilities.

But much more remains to be done.

Around 400 million people in Asia and the Pacific are living with some form of disability.

That makes this massive region home to more than two-thirds of the world's total population of persons with disabilities — 100 million live below the poverty line.

While life can be difficult for those persons living in developed countries, here in Asia and the Pacific living with a disability often means leading a truly wretched existence.

In developed countries, a wheelchair is considered a near essential tool for a person who cannot walk.

However, in many countries across Asia and the Pacific, that same individual would be considered fortunate to have such a device.

Many would need to find another way to make their way along the often teeming and pot-holed streets.

For too long persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific have been treated as second-class individuals — a class of people to be pitied — and to be shown the occasional act of charity, perhaps in the form of a coin dropped into the cup of a legless beggar at the side of the road.

All too often, families have quite literally kept their disabled relatives hidden from view inside their homes.

In this region, only one child in 10 with a disability receives an education — an appalling figure.

Women and girls with disabilities fare the worst.

By ignoring the intellectual and often entrepreneurial abilities of people simply because they have a disability deities our societies valuable human resources.

One of the Thai delegates to the meeting, Ms Benja Chonlatanon, from the Rajabhat Institute Suan Dusit, Bangkok, has called for governments to develop and coordinate a standardised sign language and for the collaboration of governments to ensure the success of the new Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability being established here in Thailand.



Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The centre is a joint venture of the Thai and Japanese governments, and an indication that governments in this region are serious about creating a rights-based and barrier-free society for persons with disabilities.

Perhaps the keynote speaker at Otsu, Professor Satoshi Fukushima, summed it up best when he said: "What we want is neither charity nor handouts but appropriate education, a chance for rehabilitation and a place to work."

UN Escap and the countries adopting the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action are now in a better position to tackle these challenges head on, by helping to change prevailing attitudes.

In order to keep this issue in the spotlight, we have launched a new Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons from 2003-2012, on the theme, "Towards an Inclusive Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities".

I am greatly encouraged that this major step has been taken to sweep away these discriminatory practices. The peoples of Asia and the Pacific, as a whole will be better off because of it.

• *The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific meeting titled "High-Level Inter-governmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002" was held in Otsu, near Kyoto, from October 25-28. A total of 325 delegates attended, representing 27 ESCAP member governments.*

UNIC Tokyo, Japan

DATE: NOV - 7 2002

( ) Asahi (✓) Mainichi ( ) Nihon Keizai ( ) Sankei ( ) Tokyo
( ) Yomiuri ( ) Japan Times ( ) Daily Yomiuri ( ) Herald & Asahi
[TOKYO EDITION]

記者の目



障害者の完全参加と平等を目指す国連の「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」について話し合う国際会議が10月、全国各地で開かれた。大阪と大津での会議や、毎日新聞社会面などに連載の「みんな一緒」キャンペーンの取材を通して「障害者問題はもはや福祉ではない」と強く感じている。それは、障害を持つ子の親としての実感でもある。

個人的な体験から、まず考えたい。私は、知的障害のある小学2年の娘と暮らしている。

「今、病院に行ってきた。娘が校内で大けがをして……」。妻が携帯電話に連絡してきたのは今年5月のことだ。夕方だった。医師は「脳腫だったはずです。けがをした状況を知りたい」と妻に伝えた。娘は「学校のお兄ちゃんに棚でバンバンされた」と話し始めた。娘は十分に話せないが、ゆっくり話し合えば、原因の推測ができる。しかし、娘の証言は、学校に全く信じてもらえなかった。

障害児に対するいじめは、教育現場で数え切れない。取材でも何度聞いても辛い話を、障害児を持つ親から聞いたことだろう。

福祉的発想での問題解決は「だから障害児は養護学校へ行けばいいじゃないか」ということだ。いじめられる障害児もかわいそうだし、健常児にとってもその方がよい、という理由である。

そうではない。同じ地域にともに暮らし、同じ学校に通う子どもの一人として、権利が守られているのかという視点こそが、重要なのだと私は思う。

娘に対する暴力の件は結局、日元から校庭などで上級生に棒でたたかれている娘の姿を、他の健常児らが目撃しており、学校が、事実を認め、謝罪し再発防止を約束した。

障害者数はどの国でも人口の10%前後を占め、日本では約563万人（01年度障害者白書）。障害者と向き合い暮らす家族を含めると1500万人以上になる。「福祉部の半分は福祉」なのが、現実かもしれない。

しかし、社会の多数を占める健常者にとって、障害者問題は依然、「人ごとか「気の毒な人たちの話」なのが、現実かもしれない。

その背景になっているのが、障害者を「保護対象」と見る福祉的発想と言い換えてもいい。

「アジア太平洋の障害者が何を望んでいるか。同情や哀れみではない。権利と義務、自由と責任です」

会議で耳の聞こえない福島智・東京大助教授は、大津市で10月26日から28日まで開かれた国連アジア太平洋経済社会委員会（ESCAP）主催の政府間会合で訴えた。約30の国・地域から参加した政府や国際NGO（非政府組織）の代表から大きな拍手がわいた。

「保護」は過去の発想法

会合で採択された域内の今後10年の障害者施策の枠組み「びわこミレニアムフレームワーク」は、「障害者のための権利に基づく社会に向けた行動」と定義付けられている。キム・ハクSESCAP事務局長は、「今まで障害者はどうしてもケアの対象と見られていた。しかし障害者も全く同じ人間なのです。今後は人権に基づくアプローチをしていかなければならない」と、記者会見で強調した。

障害者の権利保障は、一人一人の心のバリアフリーを待っていても実現しない。法律に基づく必要なのだ。

米国は90年、「障害のあるアメリカ人法（ADA法）」を制定。雇用や交通など公共サービスやホテルなど公共的施設・サービス（教育、雇用、交通、住宅、アクセス、参政権）の4分野で差別禁止を明記している。特徴は施設も対象にしている点で、差別を受けた場合、司法救済制度がある。こうした法律は、英国、豪州、アフリカ諸国など世界40カ国以上で作られたが、日本にはまだない。

それぞれの国際会議でメインテーマになった国連の障害者権利条約制定についても、日本政府は積極的姿勢に欠けている。

今、求められているのは、日本での差別禁止法の実現と国連権利条約の制定に向け、障害者本人たちによる力と知恵の集結だと私は思う。障害のある人を「哀れみや保護の対象」と見る福祉的な発想の時代は過ぎ去った。「福祉から権利へ」――権利の主人公が障害者自身であることをだれもが当たり前のことと考え、認める社会を実現しなければならないと感じる。



びわこミレニアムフレームワークを採択した「アジア太平洋障害者の10年」最終年政府間会合＝大津市で、遠藤写す

権利保障する法こそ必要

■■■■■障害者問題は福祉ではない

遠藤 哲也（大阪学芸部）

みんな一緒 バリアフリーキャンペーン

ご意見、ご感想は〒100-8051 毎日新聞「記者の目」係へ。メールアドレスkishanome@mbx.mainichi.co.jp

Mainichi Shimbun Newspaper

Reporter's' Viewpoint: Disability issue is no longer a welfare issue.

Mr. Tetsuya Endo, reporter, *Mainichi Shimbun*'s Otsu Bureau, strongly insisted the need of legislating laws to secure rights of disabled persons.

Mentioning his personal experience as a father of girl with intellectual disabilities, Mr. Endo believes that the disability issue would never be resolved as long as the society regards it as a matter of welfare.

Quoting Associate Professor Fukushima's statement and ESCAP Executive-Secretary Mr. Kim's remarks at the press conference, Mr. Endo underlines that Otsu Meeting and the Biwako Millennium Framework contributed to a better change of the disability issue from a charity-based to rights-based one.

1.4 Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 11-17 December 2002

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th	Date: 4 December 2002

Summary

IQ InfoQuest

POPULATION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ONCE IN TEN YEARS FOCUS ON POVERTY ALLEVATION

Bangkok--Dec 4--UNISBKK

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) are convening the Ministerial-level Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference from 11 to 17 December 2002 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok.

Held once every ten years, the last meeting took place in Bali, Indonesia in 1992.

The Conference will focus on population and poverty incorporating the challenges set out in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that were agreed upon by 147 heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit in New York in 2000.

The Conference will be divided into two segments; the senior officials segment from 11-14 December, and the ministerial segment from 16-17 December.

One of the foremost targets of the MDGs is to halve by 2015, the proportion of persons who live in extreme poverty (whose income is less than $1 a day). This has particular relevance for the countries of the UNESCAP region because the overwhelming majority of the world's poor live in this region.

"The relationship between poverty and population trends is significant yet complex. These aspects will be dealt with in all its facets by the forthcoming Conference which will gather Ministers, senior officials, researcher-scientists, and representatives of civil society from numerous countries and territories of the region", said a UNESCAP expert.

Some of the foremost experts in the world will speak on issues relating to population and poverty, present interesting findings that reflect new developments and discussing innovative proposals for tackling the issues.

The Conference is expected to adopt a comprehensive plan of action aimed at further advancing the implementation of the 1992 Bali Conference and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo in 1994, with regard to population and development, gender, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, etc. and their relations with poverty.

The plan of action will seek to highlight the problems and areas that require concerted attention from Governments, international donors and organizations, and civil society during the next 10 years.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

You or your representatives are cordially invited to attend the opening session of the Senior Officials' Meeting on Wednesday, 11 December 2002 at 9:00 a.m. and the inauguration of the Ministerial Segment on Monday, 16 December 2002 at 9:00 a.m. as well as other sessions. An end-of-session Press Conference will be held on Tuesday, 17 December 2002. Further notice on the time and place will be issued in due course.

Due to tight security measures, please kindly bring your accreditation badge; if you do not have it, please get one issued soonest by contacting David Lazarus, Chief, UN Information Services.

For further information, please contact: and media enquiries and requests for media accreditation should be directed to:

Mr. David Lazarus, Chief, United Nations Information Services
UNESCAP, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel: (+66) 02 288 1864-9; Fax: (66+2) 28810523
Email: unisbkk.unescap@un.org End.

SN-

12/05/2002 00:45:48

Bangkok to host Asia-Pacific population conference

BANGKOK, Dec 5, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) and the UN Population Fund (UNFP) will convene a regional conference on population here later this month.

The UN Information Service announced here Thursday that held once every ten years, the 5th Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC), running from Dec. 11 to 17, will focus on population and poverty issues incorporating challenges set out in the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

One of the foremost MDG targets -- to halve the proportion of persons who live in extreme poverty of less than one US dollar a day by 2015 -- has particular relevance for countries in the region, because the overwhelming majority of the world's poor live in Asia-Pacific, said **ESCAP** officials.

"The relationship between poverty and population trends is significant yet complex. These aspects will be dealt with in all its facets by the forthcoming conference," said **ESCAP** Executive-Secretary Kim Hak-Su.

The meeting is expected to gather hundreds of ministers, senior officials, researchers and representatives of civil society from 61 **ESCAP** members in the region.

The conference is also expected to adopt a comprehensive plan of action aimed at further advancing the implementation of agreements reached at last APPC, held in Bali, Indonesia, in 1992.

The plan will also try to highlight problems and areas that require concerted attention from governments, international donors and organizations, and civil societies during the next 10 years.

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NGOs Voice Strong Support for Int'l Family Planning
U.S. Newswire
6 Dec 13:23

NGOs Worldwide Voice Strong Support For Int'l Family Planning, Women's
Reproductive Health, Development; Diverse Groups Say Commitment To
ICPD Must Remain Steadfast
To: National Desk
Contact: Roxanne Evans of Catholics for a Free Choice, 202-986-6093

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 /U.S. Newswire/ -- Today, more than 400 non-governmental organizations and concerned individuals from 74 countries issued a statement in support of the groundbreaking 20-year Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development. That programme proclaimed the right of all people to decide for themselves how many children to bear and when, and the right of all individuals to reproductive and sexual health free from the fear of death and disease, including those in the world's poorest countries. The statement was issued because of recent attempts by the Bush administration to undermine the ICPD Programme of Action. At the recent preparatory session for the Fifth Asian and Pacific Conference on Population in Bangkok, Thailand, the US delegation stated that the U.S. would not reaffirm its support for the ICPD Programme of Action and that this position was not negotiable.

The statement reads in part: "We call on the United Nations and all its agencies, under whose aegis the 1994 ICPD Programme of Action was drafted and agreed, especially UNFPA and WHO, and international and national organizations and all governments around the world who support the Programme of Action, to re-affirm and stand firm in their support for all its goals wherever the Programme of Action may come under threat . . . ."

The letter notes that the unwillingness of the Bush administration to support the ICPD Programme of Action marks a

fundamental shift in longstanding U.S. foreign assistance policy and conflicts sharply with oft-repeated U.S. support for women's rights, family planning and related health programs. The letter states, "It is tragic that the US now seeks to break the consensus that was forged, with their support, in 1994."

The statement is being sent to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, the heads of all United Nations agencies, and to Asian, Pacific, US and European governmental officials and nongovernmental organizations attending the Fifth Asian and Pacific Conference on Population in Bangkok, Thailand, next week, 11-17 Dec. 2002.

OPEN LETTER

In Support of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action 1994

Nov. 8, 2002

The year 2004 will mark the halfway point in the 20-year Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), which was adopted in 1994 by 179 countries after several years of debate, discussion and negotiation. Since its adoption, efforts have been ongoing worldwide to implement the Programme of Action through national policies and programmes in support of family planning, women's reproductive health and development.

The ICPD Programme of Action is a groundbreaking agreement for improving women's health. It affirms the most basic of human rights: the right of all people to decide for themselves how many children to bear and when, and the right of all individuals to reproductive and sexual health free from the fear of death and disease. It represents a hard-won global consensus which involved delegations from every government and representatives of hundreds of non-governmental and other civil society organizations from all over the world, representing diverse social, religious and

political points of view.

Today, we are facing a major threat to this global consensus, posed by one of the most powerful countries in the world, whose national and foreign policy has become actively anti-abortion, anti-sex education, anti-reproductive health and increasingly restrictive of family planning provision under George W Bush.

At the preparatory session for the 5th Asia-Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok last month, the US delegation stated that the US would not reaffirm its support for the ICPD Programme of Action and that this position was not negotiable. In subsequent statements, the Bush Administration called for many of the key concepts and all language referring to reproductive health services, reproductive rights and sexual health to be removed altogether. As regards abortion, it wants to remove language about preventing the public health problem of unsafe abortions, and instead "minimise the incidence of abortion". The unwillingness of the Bush Administration to support the ICPD Programme of Action marks a fundamental shift in longstanding US foreign assistance policy and conflicts sharply with oft-repeated US support for women's rights, family planning and related health programmes. Indeed, it is tantamount to a declaration of war on women's health. Yet the US was one of the first countries to provide both technical and financial family planning aid, and U.S. leadership in the past has encouraged other nations to strengthen their support for these critical programmes. It is tragic that the US now seeks to break the consensus that was forged, with their support, in 1994.

We, the undersigned, representing a diverse group of women's organizations, other non-governmental organizations and concerned individuals in every world region, wish to reaffirm our support for the 1994 ICPD Programme of Action in its entirety.

To claim, as anti-abortion advocates do, that in the ICPD Programme of Action reproductive health equals abortion, or that reproductive health services only means abortion services, is a deliberate distortion of the breadth of focus of that document, aimed at discrediting it and undermining its legitimacy. We

reject these claims as false.

We re-affirm our support for women's right to control their fertility without fear of dying. Deaths and morbidity from clandestine and dangerous abortion practices remain a serious public health problem in countries where abortion is illegal and unsafe. We call on governments to re-affirm their support for preventing all pregnancy-related deaths, including by making abortions safe.

Furthermore, we reject attempts by any single government, even the most powerful, to impose its policies on other nations through unilateral demands or to bypass, ignore or violate democratic processes in relation to international agreements and commitments.

We call on the United Nations and all its agencies, under whose aegis the 1994 ICPD Programme of Action was drafted and agreed, especially UNFPA and WHO, and international and national organizations and all governments around the world who support the Programme of Action, to re-affirm and stand firm in their support for all its goals wherever the Programme of Action may come under threat -- through public statements, active participation in regional and international meetings on population and development, and through continued funding, policy and programme support and technical assistance.

Lastly, we call on all world governments to re-affirm and redouble their commitment of resources and to give increased policy and programme priority to implementing the 1994 ICPD targets and goals in their countries, as a necessary part of achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

(For full text of letter and list of signers and their countries of origin, please visit http://www.catholicsforchoice.org.)

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Religious Leaders Urge Powell To Remain Committed to ICPD
U.S. Newswire
6 Dec 13:25

Religious Leaders Urge Powell to Remain Committed to ICPD; Waning Support Threatens Women's Lives, Leaders Say
To: National Desk
Contact: Roxanne Evans of Catholics for a Free Choice, 202-986-6093

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 /U.S. Newswire/ -- More than 100 religious leaders today signed and sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell calling on the Bush administration to reaffirm its commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action on international family planning.

Christians, Muslims, Hindus and Jews signed the letter. It reads, in part, "As people of faith and leaders in the religious community, committed to women's rights around the world, we the undersigned urge you to ensure that current U.S. policy towards the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action reflect the core of all religious values: respect for the conscience of individuals, religious pluralism and compassion for the world's poorest, including women who face the consequences of unintended and unsupportable pregnancies."

The letter was sent to Powell in advance of the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, next week. At a preparatory meeting for the conference in Bangkok in October, a State Department staffer said the US was unable to reaffirm its commitment to ICPD unless all references to sexual rights and to reproductive health services were removed.

Frances Kissling, president of Catholics for a Free Choice, said, "The Bush administration is hearing only from religious conservatives who do not represent mainstream religious views on reproductive health. The fact is that most of the world's religious are strongly supportive of family planning. This letter marks the entry of mainstream religious leaders into the U.S.

debate on international family planning. We expect strong follow-up over the coming years."

Signers of the letter said the fears of the Bush administration that the Programme of Action endorses abortion are unwarranted. The letter read, "the Programme clearly states, "In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning." (POA, Para. 8.25)

--- Letter Follows ---

December 6, 2002
Secretary of State Colin L. Powell
The Department of State
2201 C. Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Powell:

It is our understanding that at a preparatory meeting for the Fifth Asian and Pacific Conference on Population in Bangkok, Thailand, the U.S. publicly announced that it was unable to reaffirm its commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action unless, as Louise Oliver, a special assistant in the State Department's population office and member of the U.S. delegation specified, all references to reproductive health rights, including the benign phrase "reproductive health services," are bracketed and that all references to sexual rights and health are removed.

As people of faith and leaders in the religious community, committed to women's rights around the world, we the undersigned urge you to ensure that current U.S. policy towards the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action reflect the core of all religious values: respect for the conscience of individuals, religious pluralism and compassion for the world's poorest, including women who face the consequences of unintended and unsupportable pregnancies.

As you know, the ICPD was the largest intergovernmental conference on population and development ever held, with more

than 180 states participating. The United States had a great deal of influence at this conference and played a large role in crafting the policy language. The resulting Programme of Action endorsed a new strategy that emphasized the linkages between population and development and stated for the first time that people should have the means and the information to exercise their right to control their own fertility. The key to the new approach was to empower women and provide them with more choices through access to health services, education and employment. Out of 179 countries signing on to the ICPD Programme of Action, only 17 countries lodged reservations. The U.S. endorsed the Programme without reservation.

The United States' current lack of support for the Programme of Action appears to be based on the Bush administration's alarming trend of supporting ultra conservative religious views on family planning and abortion. We want to make clear that while people of various faith traditions believe abortion to be a serious moral issue, most religious denominations affirm the moral right of women to decide when abortion is morally justified in light of their circumstances, the teachings of their denomination and the dictates of their conscience. With over 500,000 women dying annually due to pregnancy-related causes, including at least 70,000 from substandard clandestine abortions, the religious community must provide solutions that will save women's lives and protect their children.

A fair, unbiased reading of the Cairo Programme of Action clearly shows that it offers morally sound solutions. It frames reproductive health rights and services in a non-controversial way by offering a model for pregnancy prevention, including both family planning and the education and empowerment of women. While some might wish that the Programme went further by expressly favoring legal abortion and others might wish that abortion was explicitly condemned, the Programme itself is silent on these matters, limiting references to abortion to the single question of public health and safety. In light of the alarmingly high death toll from illegal abortions, it would be immoral for the UN not to call for safe abortion where such services are

already legal, and to ask that all nations review their abortion policies in light of the severe public health consequences of illegal abortion. Furthermore, the Programme clearly states, "In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning" (POA, Para. 8.25).

Highly respected religious leaders have supported modern family planning as a moral goal. The Dali Lama has said "family planning is crucial, especially in the developing world." Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu stated, "Planned parenthood is an obligation of those who are Christians. Our church thinks we should use scientific methods that assist in planning families."

We support women's access to reproductive health services worldwide. Promotion of and access to family planning reduces abortion and maternal mortality. We respectfully urge you to respond with compassion and reaffirm the United States' commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action. The Programme represents a significant moral advance in support of truly voluntary, non-coercive, woman-centered approaches to reproductive health and a rejection of demographically driven population policies. It would be a mistake for either a conservative or liberal administration to reject such an ethical program. A decision by the U.S. to step back from its commitment to the Programme would seriously hamper the social and economic progress of women around the world.

We urge the State Department to seek out the voices of a wide range of religious leaders on these and other foreign policy issues. The faith groups of which we are leaders are significantly engaged in international health, humanitarian and development assistance efforts. Our perspectives would enrich the policy debate.

Sincerely,

Note: Organizations listed for identification purposes only and does not imply representation of institutional views

Buddhist

Ani Choying Drolma
Founder, Nuns Welfare Foundation
Kathmandu, Nepal

Rita M. Gross
University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
Wisconsin, USA

(for full list of signers and their country of origin, visit http://www.catholicsforchoice.org)
Secretariat: 1436 U Street, NW, Suite 301, Washington, D.C. 20009, USA; Tel: 202-986-6093; Fax: 202-332-7995

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CFFC: Ad Campaign Exposes Attack By Bush, Vatican
U.S. Newswire
9 Dec 11:56

International Ad Campaign Exposes New Attack By Bush Administration, Vatican On Women And Family Planning
To: National and International Desks, Political and Religion Reporters
Contact: Roxanne Evans for Catholics for a Free Choice, 202-986-6093, http://www.catholicsforchoice.org

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 /U.S. Newswire/ -- An international ad campaign starting this week exposes an attempt by the Bush administration, the Vatican and their allies to overturn a global consensus achieved in 1994 in Cairo on reproductive health and family planning. Catholics for a Free Choice (CFFC) is placing ads in major newspapers in Asia, Europe and the U.S. on opening day of the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok, Thailand to focus worldwide attention on this strategy.

The ad's headline -- "The Bush Administration has picked its next target" -- is placed over a compelling photo of a mother and child from a developing country. Ad text explains how the Bush administration is joining forces with the Vatican and Christian fundamentalists in the U.S. to sabotage a landmark U.N. agreement that supports life-saving reproductive health care. The ad states that "they will try to impose minority religious views on the rest of the world," and that "women and families in the developing world will pay the price."

"Bad politics is mixing with bad religion in a powerful axis of the Vatican and the newly conservative U.S. government," stated Frances Kissling, president of CFFC, an advocacy organization of Catholics who disagree with Vatican positions on sexuality and reproduction. "This growing partnership is extremely dangerous for women worldwide. Unless this attempt to undermine the Cairo agreement is stopped at the Bangkok meeting, we fear that the U.S. and the Vatican will turn important UN efforts to evaluate success

of family planning into polarized debates, thus blocking progress on making family planning available to all women and men. What is meant to be a meeting on 'Cairo Plus 10' will become 'Cairo Minus 10.'"

The ad's sub headline -- "If religious extremism wins, the whole world loses -- aims to mobilize supporters of family planning worldwide. The public is urged to contact their government leaders and express support for the consensus reached by more than 160 countries at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo. A website connection provides contacts to decision makers for the Bangkok conference in each country.

On December 11, the Bangkok conference's opening day, the CFFC ad will appear in The International Herald Tribune (Asia Pacific Edition), USA Today (Asia and Europe Editions), The Nation in Thailand, and on the Federal Page of The Washington Post. The ad will also appear in The European Voice, The National Journal, and Roll Call.

The ad can be viewed at http://www.catholicsforchoice.org.

Catholics for a Free Choice shapes and advances sexual and reproductive ethics that are based on justice, reflect a commitment to women's well-being, and respect and affirms the moral capacity of women and men to make sound decisions about their lives. Through discourse, education and advocacy, CFFC works in the United States and internationally to infuse these values into public policy, community life, feminist analysis, and Catholic social thinking and teaching.

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News Advisory: Bangkok population conference
U.S. Newswire
11 Dec 10:32

Will the Bush Team Try to "Turn Back the Clock" at Bangkok?
To: Assignment and International Desks, Political and Medical Reporters
Contact: Kimberley Cline, 202-557-3423
Karyn Beach, 202-557-3419
Mark Daley, 202-557-3446
All of Population Action International

News Advisory:

Will they or won't they?

Will the Bush Administration grab an opportunity at this week's UN Regional population conference in Thailand to enhance the rights and health of millions more women? Or will the White House instead try to impose its domestic reproductive health agenda -- an obsession with abstinence-only sexuality education and abortion -- on the Asian and Pacific nations and the rest of the world?

All will be revealed at the Fifth United Nations Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok (December 11 -- 17). The weeklong event will focus on the challenges still facing the international community in fully implementing the specific actions agreed upon at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo. At that groundbreaking gathering, 179 nations agreed to a specific Programme of Action to promote sustainable, human-centered development and population stabilization.

The Programme -- which aims to empower women with better access to reproductive health care, economic opportunities and education -- has been widely credited with improving the quality of millions of people's lives worldwide.

Population Action International (PAI) is your resource for media covering this story. Our services include:

-- Speedy access to PAI's -- and other -- expert analysts in Bangkok and Washington, D.C.
-- Regular updates on conference developments, and
-- Background information on the issues being discussed at the conference.

Full details at our website: http://www.PopulationAction.org

For more information:
PAI's communication team can supply you with an expert in Bangkok or Washington, D.C. Contact:

Kimberley Cline, 202-557-3423
Karyn Beach, 202-557-3419
Mark Daley, 202-557-3446.

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Politics

Abortion Debate Highlights Asian Population Summit

By Robert B. Bluey
CNSNews.com Staff Writer
December 11, 2002

(CNSNews.com) - A host of international organizations supporting abortion have launched a campaign against the United States and the Bush administration on the eve of a population conference focusing on Asia and the Pacific.

Diplomats from across the globe have gathered in Bangkok, Thailand, for the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which starts Wednesday. It is the first of a series of regional meetings being held in advance of the 10-year anniversary of the International Conference of Population and Development.

Activists on both sides of the abortion debate are closely watching the conference and specifically the language of an action plan that the countries are expected to adopt. Pro-life groups want the United States to send a strong message opposing abortions, but abortion supporters claim that view is detrimental to the reproductive health of women.

Catholics for a Free Choice, an organization that rejects the Vatican's stance on abortion, has led the campaign to drum up opposition and decry the Bush administration. It organized two petitions -- one signed by 100 religious leaders and the other by 400 individuals -- that endorse the agreement reached at the 1994 population conference in Cairo.

"Since the Bush administration came into office, we've seen a very programmed and strategic effort by the U.S. delegation to roll back the language of these agreements," said Ellen Sweet, a spokeswoman for the International Women's Health Coalition, which signed one of the statements.

"We are expecting more of the same at this current meeting," Sweet said.

"The United States is going to lead the attack on words like 'reproductive rights' and 'sexual rights.' These are all terms that the United States sees as adding up to abortion, when actually they represent a huge range of reproductive health services."

The plan that is ultimately adopted in Bangkok will not be binding, but groups like Catholics for a Free Choice fear that it could sway future decisions, including a 10-year review of the Cairo agreement that could take place in 2004.

"Unless this attempt to undermine the Cairo agreement is stopped at the Bangkok meeting, we fear that the U.S. and the Vatican will turn important U.N. efforts to evaluate success of family planning into polarized debates, thus blocking progress on making family planning available to all women and men," said Frances Kissling, the group's president.

An organization that supports the Bush administration's position and has applauded its efforts to stress abstinence over abortion downplayed Kissling's accusations.

Austin Ruse, president of the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute, said the agreement reached by 179 countries in Cairo was anything but unanimous in 1994, and deep divisions remain today in the United States and abroad.

"The Bush administration is not the Clinton administration and has no obligation to uphold the pro-abortion positions of the Clinton administration," Ruse said. "The Bush administration is not rejecting the entire Cairo document, only the parts of the document that endorse abortion."

In addition, he said more countries are following the lead of the United States under Bush's leadership, which is shifting the focus on population control from abortion to abstinence.

"A lot of governments all over the world are rallying to the Bush administration for leadership on these issues and you'll see this in the negotiations in Bangkok," Ruse said. "The Bush administration will lead the negotiations and it will win."

But a Canadian group that opposes the Bush administration's policies claims the United States uses threats and deception to get its way, which increases the chance that a watered-down version of the Cairo agreement will be adopted at the Asian and Pacific summit.

"The United States may only hold one vote, but they hold the purse strings for many aid dollars," said Katherine McDonald, president of Action Canada for Population and Development. "They will bully other governments to come on side with them."

McDonald maintains that Bush's policies are out of step with most other countries. Her organization is lining up supporters of the Cairo agreement to counter U.S.-led efforts at other regional conferences that will follow the Bangkok meeting.

Sweet's organization has a policy expert on the ground in Bangkok who will be watching the meeting closely. She said the outcome of the conference would set a tone and create a precedent for the other regional summits.

Ruse also understands the importance of the meeting as well, but he is confident that U.S.-backed language will be adopted.

E-mail a news tip to Robert B. Bluey.

Send a Letter to the Editor about this article.

AP Associated Press

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Population conference opens in Bangkok

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December 12, 2002
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Population conference opens in Bangkok, JAKARTA POST
Tantri Yuliandini
ASIA WorldSources, Inc. 322 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE 2ND FLOOI

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The Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC) opened here on Wednesday with a dispute between the United States and the other 60 countries over the preamble of the draft document of the conference's Plan of Action.

The draft Plan of Action is scheduled to be endorsed by heads of state at the conference's Ministerial Meeting on Dec. 16 and Dec. 17. Once endorsed, the document will be used as a basis for the endorsing countries' national action programs for population and poverty eradication.

Whereas all the other 60 member countries of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-**ESCAP**) agreed to reaffirm the commitments from previous population conferences, the U.S. rejected the wording and insisted it would only ``take note of'',"acknowledge" or ``recall'' the

commitments.

``Reaffirm means we must stand by it, replaced with any other language will dilute the meaning and the spirit of ICPD,'' a representative from India said during the drafting committee meeting.

Previous commitments mentioned include the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development from the fourth APPC meeting in Bali in 1992, the Program of Action adopted at the International Conference of Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, Egypt, in 1994, Platform for Action at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, five-year reports on the implementation of the Bali Declaration and the ICPD Program of Action, as well as the Millennium Declaration.

Some of the commitments mentioned include halving the proportion of the world's population whose income is less than US$1 a day by 2015, and to encourage the pharmaceutical industry to make essential drugs more widely available and affordable to all who need them in developing countries.

At the call of Indonesia, Bangladesh and other members, the chairman of the drafting committee, Shahab Khawaja from Pakistan, finally ruled that the reaffirmation was formalized while allowing the U.S. delegation until Thursday morning to deliberate with Washington whether or not to go along with the consensus.

``If the U.S. still refuses the ruling then a footnote will be added indicating the U.S.'s position,'' Shahab said.

Earlier, Rita Kalibonso from Indonesian non-governmental organization (NGO) Yayasan Kesehatan Perempuan (Women's Health Foundation) said that without the countries' affirmation of the commitments already made in the ICPD and Bali Declaration, many countries, including Indonesia, would face major setbacks in their population programs, such as family planning and HIV/AIDS prevention and management.

``For those programs to work, cooperation between countries especially in the region is needed. To learn from each other's experiences and have support from more advanced countries as to

medication for HIV/AIDS, for instance," she told The Jakarta Post here.

Until Dec. 14, senior officials from **ESCAP** members will deliberate 15 main agendas, including population and poverty in Asia and the Pacific; fertility levels and trends and their implication for policies and programs; mortality and morbidity trends and poverty reduction; migration, urbanization and poverty.

In her opening statement, **ESCAP** deputy executive secretary Keiko Okaido said that one of the main objectives of the conference was to make recommendations for future actions to further advance the Bali and ICPD agendas.

``Many governments in the region have taken determined action and launched ambitious population programs in the years since the first (APPC) Conference in 1963," she said.

She explained that since then the average population growth rate for Asia and the Pacific had decreased more than 50 percent to around 1.2 percent a year, total fertility rate was down to 2.4 children per woman today compared to 6 per woman in 1963, and the infant mortality rate had been reduced to 53 per 1,000 births from around 130 per 1,000 births.

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United States Stands Alone in Blocking Consensus at Bangkok Conference on Population, Say U.S. Groups

BANGKOK, Thailand, Dec 12, 2002 (U.S. Newswire via COMTEX) -- In the following joint statement released today, representatives of Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and **Population** Action International (PAI) attending the Fifth **Asian** and **Pacific Population Conference**, report the United States is attempting to block reaffirmation of a landmark agreement on **population** and development. The **conference** is expected to adopt a comprehensive plan aimed at further advancing the Programme of Action of the International **Conference** on **Population** and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo in 1994.

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United States Stands Alone in Blocking Consensus at Bangkok Conference on Population, Say U.S. Groups

Story Filed: Thursday, December 12, 2002 1:46 PM EST

BANGKOK, Thailand, Dec 12, 2002 (U.S. Newswire via COMTEX) -- In the following joint statement released today, representatives of Planned

Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and **Population** Action International (PAI) attending the Fifth **Asian** and **Pacific Population Conference**, report the United States is attempting to block reaffirmation of a landmark agreement on **population** and development. The **conference** is expected to adopt a comprehensive plan aimed at further advancing the Programme of Action of the International **Conference** on **Population** and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo in 1994.

Statement by Valerie DeFillipo, senior director, Global Partners and International Initiatives, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, and Terri Bartlett, Vice President for Public Policy, **Population** Action International:

It is clear that the overwhelming majority of country delegations came to this meeting intent on reaffirming the Programme of Action of the 1994 International **Conference** on **Population** and Development. Recent State Department claims to the contrary, it seems clear that reaffirmation is the furthest thing from the U.S. delegation's mind.

The U.S. delegation seems insistent upon watering down language on women's health and rights in a draft Plan of Action under consideration, despite the steadfast resistance of other country delegations in the room. At this point in the deliberations, every country but the United States has spoken in support of reaffirming the ICPD consensus; not one has supported the U.S. position.

What the U.S. delegation seems to have forgotten is that these are not simply words on a page. The ICPD Programme of Action laid the groundwork for the dropping of targets and quotas in family planning programs in India; the improvement in the quality and range of services offered in clinics in dozens of countries; and the changing of laws in countries -- such as Nepal -- that previously sent women to jail for having an abortion.

Most disturbing in all this is the fact that all this is being done to satisfy the narrow conservative domestic political base to which President Bush is beholden -- and with the potential for significant harm to women's health and lives.

Women's lives are the issue; women's lives are at stake; and the U.S. here is-

putting more women's lives in peril.

Just a few weeks ago, the State Department went on record as supporting many of the goals of the 1994 **conference**. It is now increasingly clear that the Bush Administration's definition of 'support' differs significantly from the definition used by every other delegation at this **conference**. Indeed, it would be more accurate to say that the delegation here is intent on dismantling ICPD.

The only heartening aspect of this situation is the overwhelming response of the other countries represented at the **Conference**. They came here to improve the health situation of the world's men and women. Indeed, we join with groups from Australia, New Zealand and the **Pacific** Island countries in congratulating the many delegations that continue to reaffirm their commitments to the principles, goals and actions of the Programme of Action.

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Karyn Beach of **Population** Action Internat 202-557-3419 or www.populationaction.org
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US disputes with 60 countries over "Plan of Action" in Bangkok

Kuala Lumpur, Dec 12, IRNA -- The Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC) entered second day on Thursday with a dispute between the United States and the other 60 countries over the preamble of the draft document of the conference's Plan of Action.

The draft Plan of Action is scheduled to be endorsed by heads of state at the conference's Ministerial Meeting on Dec. 16 and Dec. 17.

Once endorsed, the document will be used as a basis for the endorsing countries' national action programs for population and poverty eradication.

Whereas all the other 60 member countries of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) agreed to reaffirm the commitments from previous population conferences, the U.S. rejected the wording and insisted it would only "take note of", "acknowledge" or "recall" the commitments.

"Reaffirm means we must stand by it, replaced with any other language will dilute the meaning and the spirit of ICPD," a representative from India said during the drafting committee meeting, as quoted by the Thai newspaper, The Nation.

Previous commitments mentioned include the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development from the fourth APPC meeting in Bali in 1992, the Program of Action adopted at the International Conference of Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, Egypt, in 1994, Platform for Action at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, five-year reports on the implementation of the Bali (Indonesia) Declaration and the ICPD Program of Action, as well as the Millennium Declaration.

Some of the commitments mentioned include halving the proportion of the world's population whose income is less than US$1 a day by 2015, and to encourage the pharmaceutical industry to make essential drugs more widely available and affordable to all who need them in developing countries.

At the call of Indonesia, Bangladesh and other members, the chairman of the drafting committee, Shahab Khawaja from Pakistan, finally ruled that the reaffirmation was formalized while allowing the U.S. delegation until Friday morning to deliberate with Washington whether or not to go along with the consensus.

"If the U.S. still refuses the ruling then a footnote will be added indicating the U.S.'s position," Shahab said.

Earlier, Rita Kalibonso from Indonesian non-governmental organization (NGO) Yayasan Kesehatan Perempuan (Women's Health Foundation) said that without the countries' affirmation of the commitments already made in the ICPD and Bali Declaration, many countries, including Indonesia, would face major setbacks in their population programs, such as family planning and HIV/AIDS prevention and management.

"For those programs to work, cooperation between countries especially in the region is needed. To learn from each other's experiences and have support from more advanced countries as to medication for HIV/AIDS, for instance," she told newsmen in Bangkok.

Until Dec. 14, senior officials from ESCAP members will deliberate 15 main agendas, including population and poverty in Asia and the Pacific; fertility levels and trends and their implication for

policies and programs; mortality and morbidity trends and poverty reduction; migration, urbanization and poverty.

In her opening statement, ESCAP deputy executive secretary Keiko Okaido said that one of the main objectives of the conference was to make recommendations for future actions to further advance the Bali and ICPD agendas.

"Many governments in the region have taken determined action and launched ambitious population programs in the years since the first (APPC) Conference in 1963," she said.

She explained that since then the average population growth rate for Asia and the Pacific had decreased more than 50 percent to around 1.2 percent a year, total fertility rate was down to 2.4 children per woman today compared to 6 per woman in 1963, and the infant mortality rate had been reduced to 53 per 1,000 births from around 130 per 1,000 births.

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End

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U.N. Population Summit Set Get Under Way

U.S. Anti-Abortion Stand Will Dominate U.N. Population Meeting

The Associated Press

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BANGKOK, Thailand Dec. 15 —

The Bush administration's opposition to funding abortion was expected to dominate a United Nations population conference set to begin Monday.

The United States has threatened to withdraw its support for a 1994 family planning agreement because the Bush administration believes some of the language in the accord can be seen as promoting abortion a stance that has angered some Asian and European countries.

Several Asian countries including India, Pakistan and China that accept abortion to control population have debated the issue with U.S. officials during preliminary meetings that began Wednesday in Bangkok

About 30 countries will be represented at the U.N.-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which will focus on population, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and poverty

The dispute between the United States and other participants stems from an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994 that called for controlling population by improving the legal rights and economic status of women and by expanding access to health care.

The Bangkok conference is expected to adopt a series of steps to implement the Cairo plan at the end of the ministerial meetings on Tuesday

However, the United States has threatened to withdraw support for the Cairo agreement, saying some of the phrases in it, including "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights," can be interpreted as promoting abortion.

Asian officials and private groups fear that a U.S. refusal to budge from that position will undermine the conference, preventing it from dealing with other important issues as well.

During four days of preliminary discussions that ended Saturday, the United States was

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virtually isolated in its stance against abortion.

"It is sad to see the U.S. move from being a leader on these issues, to that of a minority voice," said Ninuk Widyantoro of the Women's Health Foundation, a private Indonesian group.

The U.S. government has made it clear that it will not support any programs that promote abortion. As part of its stand, the Bush administration earlier this month blocked $34 million in funds appropriated by Congress for the United Nations Population Fund.

The Bangkok meeting is organized by the U.N. Population Fund and the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

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Population Connection: Bush Policy Reduces US to Footnote
U.S. Newswire
15 Dec 11:00

Population Connection: Bush Policy Reduces U.S. to A Footnote at UN Conference
To: National Desk
Contact: Tim Cline of Population Connection, 202-745-3155, or 202-286-6495, Email: tim@populationconnection.org

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 /U.S. Newswire/ -- The following statement on reproductive health was released today by Population Connection:

"The Bush administration is now proving to be completely out of touch not just with America, but with the rest of the world as well on family planning," said Peter H. Kostmayer, president of Population Connection. "The administration is continuing to turn its back on women everywhere in order to curry favor with its right-wing supporters."

"The latest example is going on right now at a United Nations conference in Thailand. Some 60 countries have agreed to a Plan of Action reaffirming past agreements on reproductive health and family planning -- agreements that this country has always supported. But now the U.S. refuses to join the consensus.

"It is unconscionable that the country which has always lead the way on reproductive rights is now the biggest stumbling block to international cooperation."

The U.S. delegation was given one last chance to agree to the consensus, but the chair of the drafting committee said, "If the U.S. still refuses the ruling then a footnote will be added indicating the U.S.'s position."

"So the administration's policies on reproductive health are reducing us to a footnote among the other nations of the world," said Kostmayer, a former seven-term member of the House of Representatives."

Note: Peter H. Kostmayer is available today (Dec. 15) for interview and background on these issues. Contact Tim Cline, 202-486-6495.

Background from the Kaiser Network.org

U.S. officials at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference that began (December 11) in Bangkok, Thailand, said they would not "reaffirm" provisions from past agreements on reproductive health and family planning, The Jakarta Post reports. All other 60-member countries of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific have agreed to the conference's draft Plan of Action. The United States has said that it will only "take note of, acknowledge, or recall" the commitments agreed to at previous conferences, including the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development agreed to at the fourth APPC meeting in Bali, Indonesia, in 1992, the Program of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference of Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt, the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, five-year reports on the implementation of the Bali Declaration and the ICPD Program of Action and the Millenium Declaration.

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December 15, 2002

At U.N. Family-Planning Talks, U.S. Raises Abortion Issue

By JAMES DAO

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 — Taking its fight against abortion overseas, the Bush administration opened a sharp debate over a landmark family-planning agreement during a United Nations conference this week, angering several of its allies, European and Asian diplomats said today.

The skirmish has been taking place at a United Nations regional family-planning conference in Bangkok, where the United States has threatened to withdraw its support for a 1994 family-planning agreement reached in Cairo that cr"d for bringing population growth under control by improving the legal rights and economic status of women, as wel as broadly expanding access to health care.

Administration officials contend that some phrases in the Cairo agreement — including "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights" — can be construed as promoting abortion. The Bush administration has also called for inserting language that promotes "natural" family-planning methods, officials said.

But an array of Asian and European diplomats attending the conference, as well as representatives of nonprofit organizations observing the event, asserted on Friday that the United States delegation was virtually isolated in its position. These observers said the administration was opposed by the majority of the approximately 30 nations represented at the conference, including India, Indonesia, China and Pakistan.

They also argued that the American delegation's refusal to budge from its demands had stalemated the conference and made discussion of other pressing issues, like H.I.V. and AIDS prevention, impossible.

"People hoped to discuss very practical, service oriented things: how to develop services to deal with sexually transmitted infections, H.I.V. and AIDS, how to do sex education," an Asian diplomat said. "People's frustration was th we're not able to discuss what we really want to discuss, because the U.S. insists on renegotiating key Cairo concepts which we are not willing to do."

Representative Carolyn B. Maloney, a New York Democrat who supports abortion rights and who sent an observer to the conference, said, "This is another example of the Bush Administration versus the world that, regrettably, will be at the expense of women."

But a State Department official asserted that "some participants in the conference are seeking to force the United States to agree to language supporting abortion."

"Our goals are to focus on poverty, health and education, respect for women and the family as the fundamental unit of society," the official said. We seek an outcome that does not support or promote abortion."

The fight in Bangkok comes at a time when the Bush administration has been trying to win international support for its Iraq policies and to dispel the perception that it is increasingly acting on its own. Some delegates argued that the dispute was undermining both efforts.

Those critics also asserted that the Bush White House, like the Reagan White House before it, was carrying the abortion fight overseas mainly to bolster its support among Catholic and fundamentalist Christian voters.

The critics also pointed to the presence of a former adviser to the Vatican, John Klink, on the United States delegation in Bangkok and at previous family-planning conferences. A State Department official said Mr. Klink was serving in a voluntary capacity at the behest of the White House.

"This is purely about domestic politics," said Adrienne Germain, president of the International Women's Health Coalition.

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U.S. anti-abortion stand to dominate U.N. population meeting

Sunday December 15, 2002

By VIJAY JOSHI
Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) The Bush administration's opposition to funding abortion was expected to dominate a United Nations population conference set to begin Monday.

The United States has threatened to withdraw its support for a 1994 family planning agreement because the Bush administration believes some of the language in the accord can be seen as promoting abortion a stance that has angered some Asian and European countries.

Several Asian countries including India, Pakistan and China that accept abortion to control population have debated the issue with U.S. officials during preliminary meetings that began Wednesday in Bangkok.

About 30 countries will be represented at the U.N.-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which will focus on population, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and poverty.

The dispute between the United States and other participants stems from an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994 that called for controlling population by improving the legal rights and economic status of women and by expanding access to health care.

The Bangkok conference is expected to adopt a series of steps to implement the Cairo plan at the end of the ministerial meetings on Tuesday.

However, the United States has threatened to withdraw support for the Cairo agreement, saying some of the phrases in it, including ``reproductive health services'' and ``reproductive rights,'' can be interpreted as promoting abortion.

Asian officials and private groups fear that a U.S. refusal to budge from that position will undermine the conference, preventing it from dealing with other important issues as well.

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During four days of preliminary discussions that ended Saturday, the United States was virtually isolated in its stance against abortion.

``It is sad to see the U.S. move from being a leader on these issues, to that of a minority voice,'' said Ninuk Widyantoro of the Women's Health Foundation, a private Indonesian group.

The U.S. government has made it clear that it will not support any programs that promote abortion. As part of its stand, the Bush administration earlier this month blocked $34 million in funds appropriated by Congress for the United Nations Population Fund.

The Bangkok meeting is organized by the U.N. Population Fund and the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

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新华通讯社

China signs population agreements with Thailand, Indonesia

BANGKOK, Dec 16, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- China on Monday signed bilateral population cooperation agreements with Thailand and Indonesia, separately on the sidelines of the ongoing fifth Asia-Pacific Population Conference (APPC).

Source: **Xinhua News Agency**
Date: 12/16/2002 06:17
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Document ID: FC20021216040000010
Subject(s): XIN; AIDS; Asia; China; Conference; Family; Government; Health; Healthcare; HIV; Indonesia; Marketing; Population; Poverty; Products; Standards; Thailand; Women

China signs population agreements with Thailand, Indonesia

Story Filed: Monday, December 16, 2002 6:17 AM EST

BANGKOK, Dec 16, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- China on Monday signed bilateral population cooperation agreements with Thailand and Indonesia, separately on the sidelines of the ongoing fifth Asia-Pacific Population Conference (APPC).

"The agreements are aimed to strengthen our cooperation with the two countries in the fields of reproductive healthcare and family planning and to support international efforts in addressing population issues," said Zhang Weiqing, head of China's State Family Planning Commission, after inking

the deals with Thai Health Minister Sudarat Keyuraphan and Yaumil Achir, chairman of Indonesia's National Family Planning Coordinating Board, respectively.

The two agreements focus on the same terms, including enhancing bilateral exchange of related government officials and experience, organizing joint training courses for related officials and experts, conducting joint research and marketing campaign for reproductive healthcare products and enhancing cooperation in addressing HIV/AIDS.

Zhang told both Thai and Indonesian officials that China will stick to its commitment made to the 1994 International Population and Development Conference and adopt a people-centered approach in providing reproductive healthcare service and will promote women's status and the living standards of all Chinese people.

The two-day 5th APPC opened here Monday morning, gathering some 500 officials and experts from over 40 countries in the region. It is organized by the UN Population Fund UNFPA) and the local-based UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) under the theme of "population and poverty."

The last APPC was held in the Indonesian resort of Bali ten years ago.

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Summary

POPULATION ISSUES

US anti-abortion stance may wreck conference

Delegates fear other topics to be sidelined

Rigid United States opposition to abortion is expected to dominate a United Nations population conference attended by cabinet ministers from the Asia-Pacific region beginning today.

Several Asian countries — including India, Pakistan and China — that accept abortion to control population have already locked horns on the issue with US officials during preliminary meetings that began in Bangkok on Wednesday.

About 30 countries will be represented at the UN-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held every 10 years.

The meetings are to focus on population, reproductive health, HIV/Aids and their effect on poverty.

The dispute between the US and other participants stems from an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994 that called for controlling population by improving the legal rights and economic status of women and by expanding access to health care.

The Bangkok conference is expected to adopt steps to implement the Cairo plan at the end of the ministerial meetings tomorrow.

However, the US has threatened to withdraw support for the Cairo agreement, saying some of the phrases in it, including "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights," can be read as promoting abortion.

Asian officials and private groups fear that a US refusal to budge from that position will wreck the conference, preventing it from dealing with other important issues as well.

The conference is to focus on population and poverty by incorporating the goals accepted by leaders of 147 countries at the Millennium Summit in New York in 2000. One of the foremost goals is to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who earn less than US$1 a day — including many in the Asia-Pacific region.

During four days of preliminary discussions that ended on Saturday, the United States was virtually isolated in its rigid stance against abortion.

Nina Puri, South Asia chairwoman for the International Planned Parenthood Federation, said a US attempt "to snuff out the voice of 3.8 billion people of the Asia-Pacific region ... imperils the lives of some of the poorest women and children and families in the world".

She warned that the stance would endanger "the health and welfare of not only this generation, but of generations to come".

The US government has said it will not support any programmes that promote abortion. As part of its stand, the Bush administration this month blocked US$34 million in funds appropriated by Congress for the UN Population Fund.

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Population conference yet to agree on Plan of Action

Tantri Yuliandini, The Jakarta Post, Bangkok, Thailand

Senior officials at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (APPC), hosted by Bangkok this year, have failed to agree on the final draft of the Plan of Action on population and poverty eradication due to reservations from the United States.

This failure would then shift the burden of finalizing the draft Plan of Action to ministers of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN-ESCAP), who will open their meeting on Monday.

The chairman of the drafting committee at APPC, Shahab Khawaja from Pakistan, said that all member countries had actually agreed to the draft except the United States, which gave its reservation over clauses on people's reproductive rights leading to abortion.

"We regret that the draft does not have the consensus of every member of the committee. There are still a lot of brackets, meaning there were no agreements," he said.

"We have received a proposal from the United States; we have considered it but an agreement could not take place, meaning differences

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between the countries and the United States cannot be bridged," he further said, adding that the issue would be brought to the ministerial meeting.

The chairman of the Senior Officials Meeting-Committee of the Whole, J.V.R. Prasada Rao of India, said that the UN-ESCAP ministers may either decide to accept the document or extend the mandate for the drafting committee to continue deliberations over the text until an agreement is reached.

The U.S. delegation has indicated that should the ministers decide to adopt the draft Plan of Action, it would ask for a recorded vote.

The U.S. delegation posed as the lone barrier towards a consensus with its strong stance against some of the wording in the text, particularly over the chapter on reproductive rights and reproductive health, and the chapter on adolescent reproductive health, which it claimed to advocate abortion and underage sex.

To clarify their stance, the United States proposed a footnote to the draft Plan of Action which stated that "it is the view of the United States that none of these terms as employed in the documents listed and throughout this Plan of Action should be interpreted to constitute in any way an expression of support, endorsement, or promotion of abortion."

Despite the footnote, however, the delegation still insisted on changing some of the wording in the draft Plan of Action.

A member of the Indonesian delegation, Syamsiah Achmad, said that the proposed changes, however, would only dilute the commitments already made in the Cairo International Conference on Population Development (ICPD) in 1994.

She pointed out the agreements made during the ICPD in Cairo and its five-year review (known as ICPD+5) in 1999 clearly stated that "in no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning."

The ICPD stated further that "any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to national legislative process."

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) which held their meeting in conjunction with APPC, expressed suspicions that the U.S. was "using" the international forum to push for amendments of its own laws on abortion.

"We would like to express our dismay and disappointment with the recent standpoint taken by the United States with regards to the ICPD," the AFPPD said in its statement of commitment.

In the statement, parliamentarians also agreed to "give high priority to achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health services in

national health and poverty reduction frameworks, both in terms of budget allocations and in terms of program activities."

Although the Plan of Action adopted at the Bangkok conference will not be binding, it will be usefull as a yardstick to assess CIPD implementation during the next population meeting in 2004.

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US Defends Family Planning Policies at Bangkok Conference
Ron Corben
Bangkok
16 Dec 2002, 12:21 UTC

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The United States has been defending its aid policy on family planning at an international conference in Bangkok. Delegates at the fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference say Washington's concerns about abortion are already being addressed.

The American delegation faced criticism Monday over Washington's concerns about using abortion as a means of family planning.

The U.S. team defended Washington's family planning aid, amid diplomatic skirmishes in Bangkok over whether abortion was a key element of an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994.

Eugene Dewey is a U-S assistant secretary of state and the head of the delegation to the United Nations' fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok.

"The U.S. spends over $2 billion per year on health assistance through the U.S. Agency for International Development alone," said Eugene Dewey, the U.S. assistant secretary of state who heads the American delegation to the United Nations' fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok. "The U.S. spent over $700 million on reproductive health care last year, including about $450 million to developing countries."

Washington, however, wants to revise the action plan reached at the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development, or ICPD. The plan supports "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights."

The U.S. delegation says those terms support abortion as a family planning measure. President George W. Bush's administration opposes abortion.

"We have been asked to reaffirm the entirety of the ICPD principles and recommendations even though we have repeatedly stated that to do so would constitute an endorsement of abortion," stressed Mr. Dewey.

Other delegates - including Britain, China, Turkey and Indonesia - have protested the U.S. proposal to change the plan.

Washington has cut funding to the U.N. Family Planning Association, saying it helps the Chinese government force women to have abortions.

But Gillian Greer, executive director of the New Zealand Family Planning Association, says those concerns are addressed in the Cairo Plan of Action Agreement. "There are numerous statements in the program of action that say that in no way is abortion to be promoted as a method of family planning," said Ms. Greer. "So in other words, the concerns of the U.S. are already well and truly substantively met and repeatedly addressed in the document."

Ms. Greer says the plan of action works toward responsible sexual behavior and the use of safe sex practices.

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U.S. presses fight on abortion at UN family planning talks

James Dao The New York Times
Monday, December 16, 2002

WASHINGTON Taking its fight against abortion overseas, the Bush administration has opened a sharp debate over a landmark family-planning agreement at a United Nations conference, angering several of its allies, European and Asian diplomats said.

The skirmish has been taking place at a UN regional family-planning conference in Bangkok, where the United States threatened last week to withdraw its support for a 1994 family-planning agreement reached in Cairo that called for bringing population growth under control by improving the legal rights and economic status of women, as well as broadly expanding access to health care.

Administration officials contend that some phrases in the Cairo agreement - including "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights" - can be construed as promoting abortion. The Bush administration has also called for inserting language that promotes "natural" family-planning methods, officials said.

But an array of Asian and European diplomats attending the conference, as well as representatives of nonprofit organizations observing the event, asserted Friday that the U.S. delegation was virtually isolated in its position. These observers said the administration was opposed by the majority of the approximately 30 nations represented at the conference, including India, Indonesia, China and Pakistan.

They also argued that the American delegation's refusal to budge from its demands had stalemated the conference and made discussion of other pressing issues, like HIV and AIDS prevention, impossible.

"People hoped to discuss very practical, service-oriented things: how to develop services to deal with sexually transmitted infections, HIV and AIDS, how to do sex education," an Asian diplomat said. "People's frustration was that we're not able to discuss what we really want to discuss, because the U.S. insists

on renegotiating key Cairo concepts which we are not willing to do."

Representative Carolyn Maloney, Democrat of New York, who supports abortion rights and who sent an observer to the conference, said, "This is another example of the Bush administration versus the world that, regrettably, will be at the expense of women."

But a State Department official asserted that "some participants in the conference are seeking to force the United States to agree to language supporting abortion."

"Our goals are to focus on poverty, health and education, respect for women and the family as the fundamental unit of society," the official said. "We seek an outcome that does not support or promote abortion."

The fight in Bangkok comes at a time when the administration of President George W. Bush has been trying to win international support for its Iraq policies and to dispel the perception that it is increasingly acting on its own. Some delegates argued that the dispute was undermining both efforts.

Those critics also asserted that the Bush White House, like the Reagan White House before it, was carrying the abortion fight overseas mainly to bolster its support among Roman Catholic and fundamentalist Christian voters.

In July, for example, the administration decided to withhold $34 million in previously approved aid to the UN Population Fund, contending the agency provides aid to Chinese government agencies that force women to have abortions. The critics also pointed to the presence of a former adviser to the Vatican, John Klink, on the U.S. delegation in Bangkok and at previous family-planning conferences. A State Department official said Klink was serving in a voluntary capacity at the White House's behest.

"This is purely about domestic politics," said Adrienne Germain, president of the International Women's Health Coalition.

A senior State Department official denied that, saying, "The Bush administration is not willing to support or endorse abortion, either domestically or internationally."

American officials at the conference objected repeatedly to any efforts to move the discussion away from their concerns, and spoke at length about the dangers of abortion and the effectiveness of what it considers natural methods of family planning, participants said. One U.S. delegate described in great

planning, participants said. One U.S. delegate described in great detail how women properly equipped with thermometers could avoid pregnancy by limiting sex to the right times of the month. But other delegates said such methods were ineffective in undeveloped countries where women have few rights.

Delegates also said the United States tried to block an effort led by the Netherlands to strengthen some of the 1994 agreement's provisions dealing with sexual education for adolescents and the use of condoms to prevent the spread of AIDS.

When the impasse continued, the State Department sent a forcefully worded statement to the foreign ministries of many participating countries accusing the conference chairman of "gross transgressions" by trying to close debate on the American delegation's demands.

Some diplomats present in Bangkok said this was viewed as a threat to cut aid to developing countries. But the State Department official said, "That's just not how we do the business."

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December 16, 2002

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US Angers Allies over Abortion Issue at UN Population Conference

The Bush administration angered several allies over the issue of abortion and reproductive health at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok this past week. Officials in the Bush administration argue that phrases such as "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights" can be used to promote abortion, according to the *New York Times*. The Bush Administration wants the language to be changed to promote more "natural" family-planning methods, the *Times* reports. The US has threatened to back out of the landmark United Nations (UN) population policy developed at a 1994 conference in Cairo over its disagreement with the language of the policy.

The goal of the conference is to rethink the population-development links within the various agencies of the UN, such as the linkages among population, environment, resources and poverty. According to the *Times*, many European and Asian diplomats and representatives of non-profit organizations that attended the conference, representing over 30 nations, felt that the refusal of the Bush administration to budge from discussion of the language regarding reproductive rights made the discussion of other important issues, like HIV prevention, virtually impossible. Representative Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) told the *Times* that "This is another example of the Bush Administration versus the world that, regrettably, will be at the expense of women."

This is only the latest in a series of Bush-led attacks on reproductive rights worldwide. In May, the Bush Administration allied itself with the Vatican and several Islamic countries at the UN special session on children in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to pass a policy that would prevent teenagers from getting abortions, according to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Bush was successful, however, in getting "reproductive health services" dropped from the language of this agreement as well as removing any strong language in favor of comprehensive sexuality education. In August, the US again united with the Vatican and Islamic nations in an attempt to prevent the inclusion of human rights language in the document produced at the UN's World Summit on Sustainable Development. However, at the last minute, Canadian and European delegates were able to add 10 important words to a paragraph that promotes the strengthening of women's health care: "and in conformity with all human rights and fundamental freedoms." Canada originally proposed the inclusion of a specific statement of human rights tied to women's healthcare in an effort to prevent such atrocities as female genital mutilation and to safeguard abortion rights.

Bush's most publicized break from the international community on family planning, however, was withholding $34 million appropriated by Congress for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the basis of inflammatory rhetoric by the far-right wing Population Research Institute alleging that the UNFPA supports coercive population control in China. According to the *Toronto Star*, since Bush withdrew funding for the UNFPA last summer, programs in several countries have been slashed or suspended, including family planning programs in eight rural districts of Kenya, an initiative to cut maternal deaths in Mozambique, a program to stop the spread of AIDS in Mozambique, the training of emergency obstetrics for doctors in Bangladesh, the first population study in East Timor to help plan AIDS prevention, and a two-year plan in India to reduce neonatal mortality.

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Feminist.org: Your daily source for the feminist perspective on national and global events. Media Resources: Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference website; NY Times 12/15/2002, 12/16/02; 11/1/02; Philadelphia Inquirer 11/2/02; Toronto Star 11/20/2002; Feminist Daily News Wire

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Asian, Pacific Nations Commit to Plan of Action to Reduce Regional Poverty

Ron Corben
Bangkok
17 Dec 2002, 18:01 UTC

Listen Ron Corben's Report from Bangkok (RealAudio)
Corben Report - Download 269k (RealAudio)

Asian and Pacific countries have reaffirmed a plan of action aimed at reducing regional poverty over the next decade, but the agreement came only after the United States joined the consensus on the plan.

The delegates reaffirmed a plan of action after almost a week of heavy debate over the issues of reproductive health and adolescent sex. More than 40 countries attended the United Nations-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok.

The United States delegation led the debate, arguing that sections of the plan promote abortion as a method of family planning and could encourage underage sex. Both are key concerns for the administration of President Bush.

The plan of action was adopted in 1994 at the International Conference on Population and Development, or ICPD, in Cairo.

The plan makes recommendations on poverty reduction, tackling issues such as sustainable development, migration, ageing, gender equality and the damage to communities from the AIDS epidemic.

The debate finally ended Tuesday when the United States called for an unprecedented vote on amendments it proposed. The United States lost the vote by an overwhelming margin.

Kim Hak-Su is the executive secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). He said that while debate was heated at times, the vote decided the issue. "The majority of our member countries thought maybe, that the ICPD is not really promoting, neither abortion nor the adolescence sex," said Mr. Kim.

The executive director of the U.N. Family Planning Agency, Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, welcomed the result. "Even though the United States was the only

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Obaid, welcomed the result. "Even though the United States was the only dissenting voice in the meeting, however, it did join the consensus at the end and we thank the U.S. for being part of the consensus," said Mr. Obaid.

The United Nations next will sponsor similar conferences in other regions, to reaffirm the plan of action.

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Population aging, new challenge for Asia: ESCAP

BANGKOK, Dec18, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Asia's success in reducing fertility rates and mortality levels has resulted in a new challenge for many countries in the region-- population aging, a UN agency said here Wednesday.

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Population aging, new challenge for Asia: ESCAP

Story Filed: Tuesday, December 17, 2002 11:35 PM EST

BANGKOK, Dec18, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Asia's success in reducing fertility rates and mortality levels has resulted in a new challenge for many countries in the region-- population aging, a UN agency said here Wednesday.

The average lifespan of people in the region has increased remarkably from a little over 40 years in 1950s to 66 years presently, according to a report released by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**).

"However, no country in the region will escape the substantial aging of its population within this century," it warned.

Today, roughly one in 11 Asians is aged 60 or above, and by 2050 it will be one out of four.

By the year 2025, the region will be home to over 700 million older people and by 2050 the figure is expected to reach 1.2 billion.

Population aging, the report said, does not just mean that people are living longer on average, it also means the working-age population is declining.

In fact, Asia is aging at a faster rate than other regions of the world. In Sweden, for example, it took 114 years for the population aged 60 and older to double from 7 to 14 percent of the total population.

On the other hand, China and India, are expected to make that same transition in a mere quarter of century.

In the wake of population aging, the report said it is cruc for Asian governments not to view elderly persons as "probl Instead, concerns of older persons should be mainstreame development agendas.

"There is an urgent need to develop institutions and national capacities, and set up policy groups to anticipate, understand and plan for the needs of increasingly older population in the region, " it said.

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Press Media: BANGKOK POST Date: 17 December 2002

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Summary

FIFTH ASIAN AND PACIFIC POPULATION CONFERENCE

Reproductive health key to eradication of poverty

600 women die daily in birth complications

Anjira Assavanonda

Governments of about 30 Asia-Pacific countries were told yesterday to pay serious attention to the issues of population and reproductive health, considered a key to poverty reduction.

Their representatives met in Bangkok yesterday at the UN-sponsored Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference focusing on links between poverty and population.

The conference also incorporated one of the goals agreed by 147 nations at the Millennium Summit in New York in 2000, which is to halve by 2015 the proportion of people earning less than US$1 a day, of which two-thirds are in Asia.

Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, executive director of the United Nations Population Fund, pointed out that in order to eliminate poverty, it was essential for governments to promote reproductive health and rights.

Ms Obaid said 350 million couples today lack access to safe and affordable family planning, and 48% of all births in the developing world took place without skilled medical assistance.

"More than 600 Asian women die each day from complications of pregnancy and childbirth, even though we know what needs to be done to reduce maternal deaths," she said.

The lifetime risk of maternal death in Asia was 18 times greater than in Europe, she added. Ms Obaid also urged countries to make young people a priority focus.

Adolescents comprised more than 20% of the total Asian population, and most were married before the age of 20. Early pregnancy and childbearing posed a grave health risk to adolescent girls, she said.

Her concern was echoed by Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who said Thailand, like many other countries, was going through a period when the number of young people was at its peak.

Girls and young women, he said, would be more affected and were extremely vulnerable to exploitation.

"We need to remain active and address the issues of teenage pregnancy, the high prevalence of HIV/Aids among youth, and to ensure that young people have access to reliable information and services to protect their reproductive health," he said.

Despite success in reducing the country's birth rate, Mr Thaksin raised concern over the future increase of the ageing population, which will put severe pressure on the social security system and the welfare of older people.

"Women significantly outnumber men at older ages and many women will not have the economic means to support themselves. This will emerge as a very vulnerable group in the future," he said.

Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap), said population issues were at the heart of all these problems.

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Summary



Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra arrives at the office of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the opening of the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference yesterday. — APICHIT JINAKUL

"The goal to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger cannot be achieved if questions of population and reproductive health are not equally addressed," Mr Kim said. At the end of the conference today, participants are expected to adopt an action plan to advance the implementation of an international population and development agreement reached at Cairo in 1994. The action plan will seek to highlight the problems and areas that require concerted attention from governments, international donors and organisations and civil society in the next 10 years.

NZ critical of US block to UN population plan

TUESDAY, 17 DECEMBER 2002

BANGKOK: New Zealand has criticised the United States' efforts to block a document supporting a United Nations plan of action on population development due to the Bush administration's stand against abortion.

The criticism came as more than 30 countries, together with non-government organisations, met in Bangkok the fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference to reaffirm a population plan of action decided in 1994.

The plan of action was set down in a Cairo meeting – the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) – which had followed a 1992 Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Developmer

But the United States delegation yesterday remained steadfast against reaffirming the earlier agreements am disputes over terminology referring to "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights."

In some cases, the US has interpreted the terms as a support for abortions as part of family planning.

The US was seeking to have a "conditional proposal" adopted to include the words related to "abortion-relatec mortality and morbidity"; a proposal rejected by other attending states, including Britain, China, Indonesia an Turkey.

Eugene Dewey, a US assistant secretary of state and head of the delegation, told the conference the Bush administration had made a clear stand on the issue of abortion.

"(Mr Bush) said we should set a great goal that unborn children should be welcomed and protected in law. For this reason, the US supports the sanctity (of life) from conception to natural death," Mr Dewey said.

Mr Dewey accused other countries attending the ministerial level conference of trying "to create a gulf" by pushing the US to violate its principles and accept language that promotes abortion.

"We have been asked to reaffirm the entirety of the ICPD principles and recommendation even though we hav repeatedly stated that to do so would constitute endorsement of abortion," he said.

The Bush administration's strong so-called "pro-life" stance has already led to a cut in assistance to the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and cut of $US34 million ($NZ66.87 million) in funds to tl United Nations Family Planning Association (UNFPA).

The US alleges that UNFPA provides aid to Chinese government agencies that force women to have abortions.

But Gillian Greer, executive director of the New Zealand family planning association, says the US is misreadin the earlier plan of action.

"The US view is that it cannot accept the ICPD in its entirety. And that's because they state the ICPD programme of action promotes abortion," Ms Greer said.

She says this is incorrect. "There are numerous statements in the programme of action that say that in no wa is abortion to be promoted as a method of family planning."

Instead, the documents say government must seek to minimise the incidence of abortion and that any change to abortion within the health sector can only be made within the countries' legislative framework and addresse the elimination of unsafe abortion in countries where it is legal.

"In other words the concerns of the US are already well and truly, substantively and repeatedly addressed in t document. It in no way promotes abortion, it in no way promotes underage sex as they have put it," she said

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

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ESCAP Meeting

H.E. Mr. Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Thailand, inaugurals the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference on 17 December 2002 at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC).



ประชุมเอสแคป : พ.ต.ท.ทักษิณ ชินวัตร นายกรัฐมนตรีร่วมเป็นประธานในการประชุม "United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific " โดยมีนายคิม ฮัก ลู เลขาธิการบริหารคณะกรรมาธิการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมสหประชาชาติสำหรับภูมิภาคเอเชียและแปซิฟิก (เอสแคป) เข้าร่วมประชุม ที่ทำเนียบรัฐบาลวานนี้

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U.S. Loses Vote at Population Conference

The Associated Press, Tue 17 Dec 2002

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — The United States lost a vote at an international conference Tuesday as As countries rejected the Bush administration's stand against abortion and condom use among adolescents.

The vote was held at the end of the U.N.-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which ado of action on population policies in a bid to reduce poverty in the region.

U.S. delegates had said some of the wording, including ``reproductive health services'' and ``reproductive could be read as advocating abortion and underage sex. But U.S. demands for changes or deletions wer overwhelmingly rejected in a vote that allowed the plan to be adopted as the conference ended Tuesday.

``We wanted a development oriented conference, but the issue we had a heated debate on was abortion underage sex,'' said Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for A Pacific.

The fifth Asian and Pacific Population conference was attended by UNESCAP's member nations, includir United States, India, Pakistan and China, as well as several activist organizations.

Delegates said the ministerial meetings were often heated, with the United States seeking to pressure oth countries.

Faced with a deadlock, the conference took a vote — highly unusual at United Nations conferences — or chapters of the plan. The United States lost the first vote 31-1 with two abstentions, and the second 32-1 abstentions.

The United States ended up agreeing on the plan being adopted without change, said Thoraya Obaid, ex director of the U.N. Population Fund. Its concerns were attached in a separate document that will not affe

``By joining the consensus they were part of the whole group. It is not loss or gain. It is multilateralism,'' sl

The 22-page plan includes a series of recommended steps to implement an international family planning reached in Cairo in 1994. It suggested fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas including family plan gender equality and combatting HIV/AIDS.

The plan aims to halve the number of people in the Asia-Pacific region living on less than $1 per day by 2 67 percent of the world's estimated 1.2 billion people who live in extreme poverty are in this region.

Population policies ``must encompass the principle of voluntary and informed decision making and choice preservation and protection of human rights, including the matters related to reproductive rights and repro health services,'' the plan says.

It also includes the phrase ``consistent condom use'' — a phrase the United States wanted struck out — reduce vulnerability to infection from the virus that causes AIDS.

The U.S. delegation was not available for comment, but the Americans had said Monday that their goverr cannot support any program that seems to promote abortion. The United States also prefers that adolesc practice abstinence instead of using condoms to avoid pregnancy.

U.S. support for population programs is important for the region. Earlier this month, the Bush administrati $34 million in funds appropriated by Congress for the U.N. Population Fund.

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TIMES NEWS T

Over U.S. Protest, Asian Group Approves Family Planning Goals

By JAMES DAO

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 — A United Nations regional conference on population issues closed contentiously today, with Asian nations overwhelmingly rejecting efforts by the Bush administration to insert anti-abortion provisions into an international agreement on family planning.

The head of the United States delegation also stirred controversy at the conference, held in Bangkok, by declaring on Monday, "The United States supports the sanctity of life from conception to natural death." Abortion rights groups said the statement overstepped rulings by the Supreme Court that uphold the right to abortion.

The seven-day Asian and Pacific Population Conference was almost completely consumed by an often acrimonious debate pitting the American delegation against Asian countries over abortion, sex education and methods of birth control, participants said.

The United States had sought to win support from the more than 30 nations for changing language in a 1994 Cairo agreement on family planning, which called for controlling population growth by improving health care and education, fighting poverty and AIDS and expanding legal rights for women.

The Bush administration contends that portions of the Cairo agreement — which has become a blueprint for family planning policies in many developing countries — promote abortion, pointing specifically to the phrases "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights."

Over the past week, the American delegation pushed forcefully to delete or amend those phrases. It also pressed language promoting "natural" family planning methods, including abstinence, and it tried to remove references to adolescents in a section dealing with reproductive rights, arguing that the

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provision promoted sexual activity among teenagers.

Today the American delegation's attempts to change portions of the Cairo agreement were rejected by votes of 31 to 1 and 32 to 1. It also unsuccessfully attempted to have a strongly worded "general reservation" denouncing abortion added to the conference's final plan for action.

"Because the United States supports innocent life from conception to natural death, the United States does not support, promote or endorse abortions, abortion-related services or the use of abortifacients," the addendum said, referring to substances that induce an abortion.

The plan that was adopted includes steps to implement the family planning agreement reached in Cairo. It suggested fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas, including family planning, gender equality and combatting H.I.V. and AIDS. Nearly 67 percent of the estimated 1.2 billion people who live in extreme poverty are in the Asia-Pacific region.

The State Department said in a statement: "Some participants at the conference sought to force the U.S. to agree to language supporting abortion. We are disappointed that so much attention at the conference was focused on this language rather than on improving the lives of people in the region."

Asian and European diplomats said it was the American delegates who kept discussion focused on abortion. They also argued that the Cairo agreement already contains language stating, "In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning."

United States support for population programs is important for the region. Earlier this month, the Bush administration blocked $34 million appropriated by Congress for the United Nations Population Fund.

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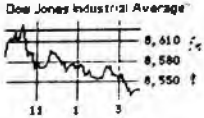
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U.S. stance on abortion and condom use rejected at population conference

Tuesday December 17, 2002

By VIJAY JOSHI
Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) The United States lost a vote at an international conference Tuesday as Asia-Pacific countries rejected the Bush administration's stand against abortion and condom use among adolescents.

The vote was held at the end of the U.N.-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which adopted a plan of action on population policies in a bid to reduce poverty in the region.

U.S. delegates had said some of the wording, including ``reproductive health services'' and ``reproductive rights,'' could be read as advocating abortion and underage sex. But U.S. demands for changes or deletions were overwhelmingly rejected in a vote that allowed the plan to be adopted as the conference ended Tuesday.

``We wanted a development oriented conference, but the issue we had a heated debate on was abortion and underage sex,'' said Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The fifth Asian and Pacific Population conference was attended by UNESCAP's member nations, including the United States, India, Pakistan and China, as well as several activist organizations.

Delegates said the ministerial meetings were often heated, with the United States seeking to pressure other countries.

Faced with a deadlock, the conference took a vote highly unusual at United Nations conferences on two key chapters of the plan. The United States lost the first vote 31-1 with two abstentions, and the second 32-1, with two abstentions.

The United States ended up agreeing on the plan being adopted without change, said Thoraya Obaid, executive director of the U.N. Population Fund. Its concerns were attached in a separate document that will not affect the plan.

``By joining the consensus they were part of the whole group. It is





not loss or gain. It is multilateralism," she said.

The 22-page plan includes a series of recommended steps to implement an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994. It suggested fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas including family planning, gender equality and combatting HIV/AIDS.

The plan aims to halve the number of people in the Asia-Pacific region living on less than $1 per day by 2015. Nearly 67 percent of the world's estimated 1.2 billion people who live in extreme poverty are in this region.

Population policies ``must encompass the principle of voluntary and informed decision making and choices, the preservation and protection of human rights, including the matters related to reproductive rights and reproductive health services,'' the plan says.

It also includes the phrase ``consistent condom use'' a phrase the United States wanted struck out as a way to reduce vulnerability to infection from the virus that causes AIDS.

The U.S. delegation was not available for comment, but the Americans had said Monday that their government cannot support any program that seems to promote abortion. The United States also prefers that adolescents practice abstinence instead of using condoms to avoid pregnancy.

U.S. support for population programs is important for the region. Earlier this month, the Bush administration blocked $34 million in funds appropriated by Congress for the U.N. Population Fund.

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U.S. Loses Vote On Sex Semantics

BANGKOK, Thailand, Dec. 17, 2002

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The 22-page plan includes a series of recommended steps to implement an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994. It suggested fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas including family planning, gender equality and combating HIV/AIDS.

The plan aims to halve the number of people in the Asia-Pacific region living on less than $1 per day by 2015, in accordance with an identical worldwide poverty reduction goal contained in the United Nations Millennium commitment. Nearly 67 percent of the world's estimated 1.2 billion people who live in extreme poverty are in this region.

Population policies "must encompass the principle of voluntary and informed decision making and choices, the preservation and protection of human rights, including the matters related to reproductive rights and reproductive health services," the plan says.

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U.S. support for population programs is important for the region. Earlier this month, the Bush administration blocked $34 million in funds appropriated by Congress for the U.N. Population Fund.

The administration said it worried some of that money would be used to fund forced abortions and sterilizations in China, contrary to U.S. law. Administration opponents say the White House wishes to de-fund all birth control programs overseas.

Two days after taking office, President Bush reinstated President Reagan's "Mexico City Policy," which prohibits federal funding for nongovernmental organizations that either provide or promote abortion.

Development experts often claim that reproductive rights are essential to fighting poverty in developing countries. Lower birth rates create a so-called "demographic window" that gives a society more workers per dependents, increasing productivity and wealth

A recent report by the population fund found that, "inadequate efforts to provide reproductive health services and combat gender inequality result in continued high fertility among the poor, perpetuating poverty and inequality within both households and nations."

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POSTED AT 1:28 PM EST Tuesday, December 17

Population conference spurns U.S. stand

Associated Press

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Bangkok — The United States lost a vote at an international conference Tuesday as Asia-Pacific countries rejected the U.S. administration's stand against abortion and condom use among adolescents.

The vote was held at the end of the UN-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which adopted proposals on population policies in a bid to reduce poverty in the region.

U.S. delegates had said some of the wording, including "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights," could be read as advocating abortion and underage sex. But U.S. demands for changes or deletions were overwhelmingly rejected in a vote that allowed the plan to be adopted as the conference ended Tuesday.

"We wanted a development oriented conference, but the issue we had a heated debate on was abortion and underage sex," said Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The fifth Asian and Pacific Population conference was attended by UNESCAP's member nations, including the United States, India, Pakistan

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and China, as well as several activist organizations.

Delegates said the ministerial meetings were often heated, with the United States seeking to put pressure other countries.

Faced with a deadlock, the conference took a vote — highly unusual at United Nations conferences — on two key chapters of the plan. The United States lost the first vote 31-1 with two abstentions, and the second 32-1 with two abstentions.

The United States ended up agreeing on the plan's being adopted without change, said Thoraya Obaid, executive director of the UN Population Fund. Its concerns were attached in a separate document that will not affect the plan.

"By joining the consensus, they were part of the whole group. It is not loss or gain. It is multilateralism," she said.

The 22-page plan includes a series of recommended steps to implement an international family planning agreement reached in Cairo in 1994. It suggested fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas including family planning, gender equality and combatting HIV/AIDS.

The plan aims to halve the number of people in the Asia-Pacific region living on less than $1 per day by 2015. Nearly 67 per cent of the world's estimated 1.2 billion people who live in extreme poverty are in this region.

Population policies "must encompass the principle of voluntary and informed decision making and choices, the preservation and protection of human rights, including the matters related to reproductive rights and reproductive health services," the plan says.

It also includes the phrase "consistent condom use" — a phrase the United States wanted struck out — as a way to reduce vulnerability to infection from the virus that causes AIDS.

The U.S. delegation was not available for comment, but the Americans had said Monday that their government cannot support any program that seems to promote abortion. The United States also prefers that adolescents practise abstinence instead of using condoms to avoid pregnancy.

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Morning Smile
I just had a pacemaker implanted yesterday. All went well, except that the batteries were not included. John J. Horvath

U.S. support for population programs is important for the region. Earlier this month, the Bush administration blocked $34-million in funds appropriated by Congress for the UN Population Fund.

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Population conference ends with renewed commitment to ICPD

Tantri Yuliandini, The Jakarta Post, Bangkok, Thailand

The fifth Asia Pacific Population Conference (APPC) ended here on Tuesday with the reaffirmation of all participating countries, except the United States, to commitments made in the 1994 International Conference on Population Development (ICPD) in Cairo, Egypt and its five-year review known as ICPD+5.

The U.S 's general reservation will be noted in the APPC's Plan of Action document and a statement of its interpretation would be inserted in part two of the APPC report of proceedings, part one of the proceedings being the Plan of Action document itself.

"In no case should the footnote in the Plan of Action document indicate a call for action," the rapporteur general of the ministerial segment, Siswanto Agus Wilopo from Indonesia, said in the assembly.

The Indian delegation also stressed that the reservations should never be referred to as a Plan of Action.

Although the Plan of Action adopted at the Bangkok conference will not be binding, it will be useful as a yardstick to assess the ICPD implementation in the next population meeting in 2004.

Deliberations over the draft Plan of Action have been intense during the seven-day conference due to the U.S.'s claim that the text was endorsing abortion and under-aged sex despite explanations from other delegations that the Cairo commitment was clear that "in no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning."

Many, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), expressed regret that the U.S 's tough stance on the subjects had taken away attention from other pressing issues on population and poverty alleviation such as migration and migrant workers.

As a result, two chapters concerning reproductive rights and reproductive health, and adolescent reproductive health went to a recorded vote, in which only the U.S. voted "no".

"The United States has failed in its attempts to water down the ICPD commitment, in this case it only

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succeeded in blocking consensus," councillor at the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York Salman Al-Farisi told *The Jakarta Post*.

He said the U.S.'s "no" vote for the two chapters would consequently mean that the country would have no moral obligation to support programs on reproductive rights and health in terms of financial or technical aid.

The U.S. general reservation stated, among other things, that in regards to "reproductive rights, reproductive health, reproductive health care and services, family planning services, and sexual health should not be interpreted to constitute support, endorsement, or promotion of abortion or abortion-related services or the use of abortifacients."

Regardless of the U.S. reservations, the conference was deemed successful by participating countries.

Among other things, the conference acknowledged that the ESCAP region was still home to most of the world's poor, that population and reproductive health issues were inextricably linked to development and poverty, and that the twin challenges of population concerns and poverty alleviation required a broad approach, including the fostering of economic growth and social development, and sustainability as well as the establishment of safety-nets for the poor.

The conference also emphasized that people, including adolescents, had the right to make their own choices and decisions responsibly and on the basis of sound information. It placed high priority on reproductive health services and rights, noting that there was a clear link between these aspects and the achievement of the millennium development goals.

The goals include halving the proportion of the world's population whose income is less than US$1 a day by 2015, to reduce maternal mortality by 75 percent by 2015 and under-five child mortality by 66 percent of their current rates, and by 2015 have halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria and other major diseases that afflict humanity.

Separately, the Indonesian delegation expressed regret that the UN-ESCAP secretariat was not more prepared for the kind of "sensitive" debate that the chapters on reproductive health had ensued, and failed to employ a legal council to sit at deliberations.

"The secretariat should have anticipated problems that could arise from these sorts of deliberations. It should have learned from the experience at Johannesburg where the chapter on reproductive health was the last to be adopted and then only when it was watered down," Salman said, referring to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in the

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Population conference defies U.S. on action plan

By Vijay Joshi
The Associated Press

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BANGKOK, Thailand — The United States lost a vote at an international conference yesterday as Asia-Pacific countries rejected the Bush administration's stand against abortion and condom use among adolescents.

The vote was held at the end of the U.N.-sponsored Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which adopted a plan of action on population policies in a bid to reduce poverty in the region.

U.S. delegates had said some of the wording, including "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights," could be read as advocating abortion and underage sex. But U.S. changes were rejected.

"We wanted a development-oriented conference, but the issue we had a heated debate on was abortion and underage sex," said Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

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The fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference was attended by UNESCAP's member nations, including the United States, India, Pakistan and China, and activists.

Faced with a deadlock, the conference took a vote on two key chapters of the plan. The U.S. lost the first vote 31-1 with two abstentions, and the second 32-1 with two abstentions.

The United States ended up agreeing on the plan being adopted without change, said Thoraya Obaid, head of the U.N. Population Fund. Its concerns were given in a separate document.

The plan includes a series of steps to implement an international family-planning agreement reached in Cairo, Egypt, in 1994. It suggested fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas including family planning, gender equality and combating HIV/AIDS.

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BUSINESS SPORTS WORLD NATION SHANGHAI FEATURES

U.N. links population to poverty

China records 'spectacular' reduction

Poverty rates have steadily declined in most countries in tl Asia-Pacific region, largely due to effective population cont methods, a United Nations conference in Bangkok said yesterday.

"The successful reduction of poverty among the majority c countries and territories of the region results from various causes, but controlling and reversing explosive population growth holds the key," said a report released at the 5th As Pacific Population Conference which closed yesterday.

The two-day meeting, which drew participants from more 40 countries and regions, focused on the link between population and poverty.

According to a study of 18 Asian countries by the Asian Development Bank, these countries' average poverty rate from 65 percent in 1960 to 17 percent in 2000, with "Chin seeing the most spectacular reduction of poverty in humar history."

Despite the 1997 Asian financial crisis, the target of halvin the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 201 forth in the U.N. Millennium Declaration is likely to be reac in the Asia-Pacific region with effective birth control, it saic

"One important reason for such confidence is the steady a continuing decline in fertility rates across the region," said report.

The United States lost a landmark vote at the conference yesterday as Asia-Pacific countries rejected its hard-line st against abortion and condom use among adolescents.

The United States had objected to several paragraphs in a draft plan, claiming some of its wording, such as "reprodu health services" and "reproductive rights," could be read a advocating abortion and underage sex.

U.S. representatives demanded changes or deletions, whic were rejected by other countries.

"We wanted a development-oriented conference, but the i we had a heated debate on was abortion and underage se said Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the U.N. Economi and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, or UNESC which hosted the two-day event.

Faced with a deadlock, the conference took a vote - highly unusual at United Nations conferences - on two key chapt the plan. The United States lost the first vote 31-1 with tw abstentions, and the second 32-1 with two abstentions.

Eventually, the United States agreed on the plan being adopted without change, said Thoraya Obaid, executive director of the United Nations Population Fund.

The 22-page plan recommends fighting poverty by concentrating on 12 areas, including family planning, genc equality and combating HIV/AIDS. It is not binding on UNESCAP's 43 member nations.

The plan aims to halve the number of people in the Asia-P region living on less than US$1 per day by the year 2015.

(Xinhua/The Associated P

2. Transport, communication, tourism, infrastructure development

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BERNAMA THE MALAYSIAN NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY

October 15, 2001

LENGTH: 1043 words

HEADLINE: GOOD PROSPECTS FOR RAIL FREIGHT GROWTH IN ASIA PACIFIC

BODY:

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 15 (Bernama) -- An estimated 3.6 billion tonnes of freight traffic was carried by the Asia-Pacific region's 47 railway operating systems in 1999.

This was almost unchanged from the tonnage carried in 1994.

"Declining freight tonnages in the Russian Federation as well as stagnant rail freight demand in China appear to have contributed to most of this result," according to a **ESCAP** senior official Pierre Chartier.

In his paper on "Review of Railway Development in the **Escap** Region (1994-1999) at the 23rd Asean railway general managers conference held here recently, he said: "By contrast, Georgia (+28.6% per annum), Kyrgyzstan (+25.3 percent p.a.) Armenia (+10.2 percent p.a.), New Zealand (+9.6 percent p.a.) and Australia (+5.2 percent p.a.) all appeared to have registered significant increase in their rail freight tonnages over the five-year period." In addition, Indonesia recorded an average annual increase of 3.7 percent in its railway freight volume, despite the adverse effects of the Asian economic crisis.

But it is likely that this result was mostly due to the movement of export-bound coal on the South Sumatran railway system.

In 1999, three countries - China, India and the Russian Federation - accounted for about 80 percent of the region's average rail freight tonnage.

According to **ESCAP,** between 1994 and 1999, the overall railway "freight traffic task" of the region is estimated to have declined at a rate averaging 1.5 percent per annum, from 2.98 billion to 2.76 billion net tonne-km.

The figure excludes the rail freight traffic task of Australia, which owing to its growing freight tonnage and long freight hauls, would possibly be expected to add significantly to the regional estimate.

According to Chartier, the fastest decline (-3.9 percent p.a.) was registered in North and Central Asia, where the freight traffic task of the Russian Federation alone declined at an average rate of 3.4 percent per year.

The freight tonne-km for East and Northeast Asia (and for China in particular) showed little change over the five-year period of the review, suggesting that both the tonnage and the average length of haul remained constant between beginning and the end reference years of the review.

"The freight tasks of South and Southwest Asia and Southeast Asia appear to have grown at moderate rates (2.3 percent and 2.6 percent pa. respectively)."

"But in the case of these sub-regions the rate of growth in their freight traffic tasks was exceeded by that of their freight tonnage. "This is reflected in a declining average haul distance over the period."

Chartier said the average distance over which rail freight traffic moves was one of the indicators of the financial viability of the rail freight business.

According to the **Escap** official, average freight haul of less than about 300 km are unlikely to generate sufficient net revenue to be able to offset fixed costs "unless they involve regular high tonnage shipments (of the type which can be generated in the region by container feeder train movement between ports and inland terminals).

He said railway freight haul distances are getting shorter. For instance, within the Asia-Pacific region, rail freight was hauled an average distance of 758 km in 1999, down from 818 km in 1990.

In the East and Northeast Asia sub-region, average freight haul distance appeared to be little changed (at about 785 km between 1994 and 1999, but in the case of every other sub-region they appear to have declined.

In the case of Southeast Asia and New Zealand, average freight hauls appear to be less than 300 km.

According to Chartier, sharply declined levels of economic activity associated with the Asian economic crisis of 1997-99 resulted in falling transport demand throughout much of the region.

This was reflected in depressed passenger and freight traffic growth for rail in those parts of the region, such as East, Northeast and the Southeast Asia, which were hardest hit by the crisis.

There were, said Chartier, a few exceptions, however,to this trend, one being the continuing strong growth in rail passenger traffic in Indonesia (the country which perhaps fared worst of all during the crisis).

But these were the results of local factors, such as the influence of a drop passenger fares policy in the case of Indonesia. The **Escap** senior official said the economic downturn also brought with it the cancellation or delay of a number of major transport infrastructure projects.

In Indonesia, for example, a major mass transit system project (the Jakarta MRT project) was delayed.

In Thailand, several railway lines capacity expansion projects were postponed and construction of the Hopwell elevated tollway and mass transit system for Bangkok (which had been beset by financial problems before the crisis) was abandoned.

However, the economic recovery evident in most of the region's hard-hit economies in mid-late 1999 seemed to have accompanied a tentative recovery in the demand for rail transport.

One positive development has been the introduction of container landbridging services by rail between Malaysia and Thailand.

"And there is a strong growth outlook for these services as the economies of these countries regain upward momentum," the **Escap** official said.

Further, he added, there has been in recent years evidence in Europe and North America of a railway renaissance.

"In the **Escap** region, after explosive development of roads, there are signs of a strong awareness among transport policy planners for the benefits that rail could bring to the countries."

According to Chartier, the inherent advantages to be realised by railway services would have to be perceived by potential customers as efficient and cost-effective, relative to its competitors.

"Initiatives, now underway in the region to transform railway into vibrant, customer-oriented, market-driven service providers, are a step in this direction."

"These initiatives, however, have to be backed up with a determination by the region's governments to restore competitive equity to transport markets, so that customers will receive the appropriate price signals to guide their decision about mode choice."

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November 6, 2001, Tuesday 11:15 AM Eastern Time

SECTION: WORLD NEWS; POLITICAL

LENGTH: 330 words

HEADLINE: Better Transport Much Needed in Asia: **ESCAP** Chief

DATELINE: BANGKOK, November 6

BODY:
In the wake of global economic slowdown, Asian countries should step up efforts to strengthen their transport facilities and links for promoting economic and social development, a United Nations regional chief urged here Tuesday.

"For example, the expansion of the planned Asian Highway and Trans-Asia Railway will link all continental Asian countries together with the European market, further promoting regional trade and creating more jobs, " said Kim Hak-Su, executive-secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**). Briefing a group of reporters here in preparations of the upcoming second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure in Seoul, South Korea, Kim said transport is not only significant to economic growth but also vital for social development and poverty-reduction.

"The great majority of the Asian poor in both urban and rural areas face a

basic problem owing to deficiencies in transport infrastructure," he pointed out.

Kim said improving the transport services would enhance the poor's access to social and economic opportunities.

However, the **ESCAP** chief cautioned that once transport is established, management of its spillover effects, namely pollution, safety and congestion, will be critical.

For instance, road-accident death rates in the developing part of the region are 10-50 times higher than those in countries of the industrialized world. More than 400,000 are killed annually on the road and several millions of others injured in the region.

Lack of funding poses another bottle-neck for the transport development in many Asian countries, Kim said.

He said the infrastructure ministerial meeting, to be held in the mid-November, is expected to touch upon all the above issues and try to find a solution.

Aside from organizing the Seoul meeting, **ESCAP** had convened the first regional ministerial conference on infrastructure in New Delhi in 1996.

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Title: UN **ESCAP** MEETING TO TAKE PLACE IN SEOUL NEXT WEEK

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PULSE

UN ESCAP MEETING TO TAKE PLACE IN SEOUL NEXT WEEK

Story Filed: Tuesday, November 06, 2001 5:43 PM EST

SEOUL, Nov 07, 2001 (AsiaPulse via COMTEX) -- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission of Asia and Pacific (**ESCAP**) will hold a meeting of infrastructure-related ministers of the regional countries in Seoul from November 12 to 17.

Kim Hak-soo, **ESCAP** secretary general, said in a press conference held Tuesday that in the meeting, ministers from the regional countries will shift the

field of vision from their respective countries to the whole region for establishing an integrated region-wide transportation systems, including trans-Asian railways and highways and region-wide sea routes.

The **ESCAP** will double the quantity of container cargo using seaports of the Asia-Pacific region over the next 10 years and expand trans-Asian railways and highways for increased trade not only between regional countries but also between Asia and Europe.

In the meeting, the participating ministers will review the achievements of the New Delhi action plan to develop infrastructure in the region between 1997 and 2001 and will discuss attracting private investment into infrastructure expansion projects, among others.

The meeting will adopt the second action plan for the development of regional infrastructure in the 2002-2006 period.

(YONHAP)

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Press/Media: **Mass Communication Organization of Thailand**
Page(s):
Date: 7 November 2001

Thailand to join high-level transport talks in Seoul

BANGKOK, Nov. 7 (TNA) – Thailand will join other countries in the region in attending the upcoming Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure, to be held in Seoul next week.

The conference, organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), will be hosted by the government of the Republic of Korea at the Grand Intercontinental Hotel in Seoul between November 12 and 17.

Transport and Society will be one of the three main issues on the agenda of the six-day conference.

Participants will review development in transport and communications in the ESCAP region.

They will also evaluate the implementation of the regional action programme for phase I (1997-2001) of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific, and draft a programme for phase II (2002-2006) of the action plan.

The other two main issues included in the agenda are globalization, and integration of transport and infrastructure, which have proven to be increasing difficult.

The conference will concentrate on how ESCAP member countries can benefit from more efficient transport infrastructure and services, which will help increase competitiveness in both the regional and world markets.

"Ministers will be invited to look beyond individual issues, and translate a vision of the region's transport system into an integrated network that would seamlessly link all countries through the promoted Asian Highway, the Trans-Asian Railway and maritime transport", said Mr. Kim Kak-Su, Executive Secretary of ESCAP.

"They will identify the priority transport issues confronting the region and developing ESCAP member countries, and how to address infrastructure development issues and the removal of excessive delays at ports and border crossings", he added.

ESCAP is projecting a doubling of the region's international maritime container traffic over the next ten years.

The expansion of the ESCAP-promoted Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway will link all continental Asian countries together and with the European market, which will further promote regional trade.

"This can mean more jobs in regional factories and farms, but many countries are struggling to provide efficient transport capacity. The result is added cost and late delivery, which, in the globalizing market, means lost opportunities", said Mr. Kim.

The conference, to be divided into two parts—the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) between November 12 and 14, and the Meeting of Ministers (MM) between November 16 and 17, will also examine the involvement of the private sector in infrastructure development as a mean to increasing efficiency. Discussions will be focused on stimulating innovative approaches to financing and risk-sharing. (TNA)—E002

http://www.koreaherald.com
Wednesday, November 7, 2001

The Korea Herald

Business

Pilot container service via TKR, TSR possible next year ministry

A pilot container transportation service on the connected T Korean Railway (TKR) and the Trans-Siberian Railway (TSR) c start as early as next year, the Ministry of Construction a Transportation said yesterday.

The ministry said the pilot service is contained in the pha plan for the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Develo in Asia and the Pacific which will be adopted at the second meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia the Pacific (ESCAP) slated for Nov. 12-17 in Seoul.

Therefore, the ministry said the trial container transporta project via the Trans-Asian Railway embarking from Busan wo possible late next year or early 2003, since the restoratio the Gyeongui Line, which links Seoul and Shinuiju, near the border between North Korea and China, via Pyongyang, will b completed early next year.

The ministry plans to sign a memorandum of understanding (M with neighboring countries, including Russia, China and Mon for the effective realization of this project.

The ESCAP conference, to be attended by 650 delegates from member nations, such as China, Russia and Japan, is compose the Senior Officials Meeting (Nov. 12-13) and the Meeting o Ministers (Nov. 16-17).

Major issues to be discussed at the meeting include the reg action program for phase II (2002-2006) of the New Delhi Ac Plan and the effects of globalization on the transportation sector in the Asian Pacific region.

The phase I agenda for the plan was adopted in 1996 during first ESCAP meeting in New Delhi.

Twenty-three new projects in eight areas, including the establishment of railway and highway networks, road mainten and container transportation via the northern route of the Asian Railway, are expected to be executed as part of the p II project.

The pilot container service on the Trans-Asian Railway will
at five starting points, including Vladivostok of Russia, T
of China, and Busan. The four cities, excluding Busan, will
operation early next year.

(jhl@koreaherald.co.kr)

By Lee Jae-hee Staff reporte

2001.11.07

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Economic News

November 14, 2001 Wednesday

LENGTH: 325 words

HEADLINE: Conference Of Ministers For Infrastructure Development In Asia-Pacific Region To Take Place November 16-17, 2001 In Seoul

BODY:
Moscow. A conference of ministers for development of infrastructure in the Asia- Pacific region will be held November 16-17 in Seoul (South Korea) under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**). The commission contributes to social and economic development of Asian and Pacific countries, regional and interregional cooperation.

As was reported by the press service of the RF Railway Ministry, Russia considers collaboration with **ESCAP** as an important factor of its policy in the Asia- Pacific region. Emphasis is laid on the commission's capacities for full integration of the Russian Federation (Siberian and Far Eastern areas in particular) in the Asia-Pacific region.

Participation in transportation development projects is one of the most important spheres of cooperation between Russia and **ESCAP.** Russian specialists take active part in the Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development (ALTID) project. Connection of the Trans-Siberian railway with the Trans-Korean railway which will be reconstructed soon is of primary importance to Russia. Russia's interests are also centered around development of networks of the Asian Highway and the Trans-Asian railway which run through Russia's territories.

ESCAP projects for studying the possibilities of establishing a North-South railway corridor (North Europe-Russia-Persian Gulf), port infrastructure

development, modernization of port facilities and using the Northern Sea Route as the shortest one between ports of North and West Europe and Japan, China, Korean Peninsula.

It is expected that questions of infrastructure development in the Asia-Pacific region, transport globalization and integration, funding of infrastructure projects and participation of private sector in these projects will be discussed at the conference in Seoul. The Acting Railway Minister Alexander Tselko will lead the Russian delegation.

LOAD-DATE: November 14, 2001

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November 19, 2001 Monday

SECTION: Northern Territory Regional

LENGTH: 193 words

HEADLINE: ESCAP ADOPTS SEOUL DECLARATION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE COOPERATION

DATELINE: SEOUL, Nov 19

BODY:
The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific **(ESCAP)** adopted the Seoul Declaration calling for development of sustainable infrastructure polices, the Ministry of Construction and Transportation said Saturday.

The ministry said that the declaration outlines the leading role of governments in setting up a comprehensive transportation system, and the need to bolster greater participation of private companies in infrastructure development. Such measures are expected to increase market access and greater opportunities for positive change in this field.

Prior to the declaration, a separate meeting between South Korea, Russia, Mongolia, and Kazakhstan was held to discuss the feasibility of container transportation through the northern route of the trans-Asian railroad and the four countries exchanged memorandum of understanding to begin experimental runs next year.

The 2nd Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure was kicked off Monday at the Grand Intercontinental Hotel in southern Seoul, and was divided into two large parts with the Senior Officials Meeting preceding the Meeting of Ministers. (Yonhap)

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BANGKOK POST

November 19, 2001

LENGTH: 158 words

HEADLINE: Thailand pushes for greater development

BODY:

Thailand pushed for the creation of regional transport and communication networks during the second meeting of Asia-Pacific infrastructure ministers in South Korea last week.

Puvanida Khunpalin, spokeswoman for the Transport and Communications Ministry, said Minister Wan Muhamad Nor Matha stressed to the meeting that the networks would be key factors in boosting production and income in the region. During the meeting last Thursday and Friday, the minister asked the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**Escap**) to help co-ordinate legal amendments to allow the regional networks, especially in the area of maritime navigation.

Ms Puvanida said **Escap** had suggested Thailand improve its transport agencies, allow a greater private sector role in transport, review transport charges and promote multi-purpose transport terminals.

Thailand will host an international traffic conference in June next year.

LOAD-DATE: November 19, 2001

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ESCAP urged to start talks with member states

Dhaka for road links with India, Myanmar

ESCAP urged to start talks with member states on Asian Highway

Bangladesh requested UN agency ESCAP to moot talks with the member states for installing Bangladesh-India-Myanmar direct transport communications as part of the planned Asian Highway, reports UNB.

Dhaka also called upon the ESCAP to take effective initiatives in development of direct traffic running through SAARC and BIMSTEC nations in South and Southeast Asia.

The call came from Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda as Bangladesh representative in a two-day ministerial conference of the Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific at the Grand Intercontinental Hotel in Seoul yesterday.

ESCAP organised the conference on road and rail communications infrastructure development in the Asia-Pacific region of the globe.

The South Korean President inaugurated the meet on Friday and the Executive Secretary of ESCAP gave address of welcome.

Placing the proposals at the meet the Communications Minister mentioned that Bangladesh had taken up special programmes, including development of road infrastructure and modernisation of rail communications system, aiming at developing transport networks linking to Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway.

Expressing interest of Bangladesh in setting up direct surface

transport link with Myanmar through southeastern region of the country, he focused on tremendous contributions of the Jamuna Bridge along the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway.

"The Jamuna Bridge has opened up a scope for reestablishing communication links between South Asia and Southeast Asia," he told the ESCAP conference.

It also created facility for installing broad-gauge rails along Mongla-Dhaka-Nepal route.

The Bangladesh Minister also extended support to joint-venture efforts of the United Nations and ESCAP for development of communications infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific, especially development of Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway communications in the present perspective of globalisation and regionalisation.

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The Times of India

November 24, 2001

LENGTH: 311 words

HEADLINE: IRISET TO TRAIN STAFF OF BRITISH RAILWAYS

BODY:

SECUNDERABAD: The Indian Railways Institute of Signal Engineering and Telecommunication (IRISET) will impart training to the staff and officers of the British Railways. IRISET director A C Huria, in a press release, said that besides Britain, many countries were showing keen interest in training their railway personnel at the state-of-the-art IRISET training centre. The institute has also been recognised as a premier institute in the entire South-East Asia region by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (**ESCAP**). In all, the institute trained a total of 2,017 Railways people, representing 94 countries, during 2000-2001. Out of a total of Rs 17,000 crore railway safety funds, an amount of Rs 3,400 crore has been earmarked for replacing the outdated signal and telecommunication equipment.

Huria said the institute was fully equipped to impart training in the latest safety devices, including the use of anti-collision device, invented by Konkan Railway corporation.

The institute has also acquired the latest portable signal and telecommunication equipment, which could be linked to satellites and could put to use during the calamities, said the director.As part of the IRISETs

44th annual day on November 24, outstanding personnel of the institute will be felicitated, according to a press release.

Meanwhile, according to another press release, the South Central Railway will issue Second Class Low Value Monthly Season Tickets from December 1. The Railways will issue the low value season tickets to those who get certificates from MLAs and MPs.

The applicants must belong to the local area of the concerned MP or MLA, who recommends the issuance of low value season ticket. The season ticket applicants should also produce the income certificates issued by the competent authorities, according to the press release.

JOURNAL-CODE: WTIN

LOAD-DATE: November 24, 2001

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Monday, November 26, 2001

Urgent call for Asean to take lead

By Nathaniel Xavier

THERE is an urgent need for ports in Asean to take the lead role to become the catalysts for the region's logistics growth as logistics systems were still at an early stage of development in the area.

UN-Economic and Social Commission for the Asia-Pacific (Escap) transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development division economic affairs officer Dong-Woo Ha said the increased volumes of containers moving through ports would put stress on the land transport interface and create the need for more efficient inter-modal connections to hinterlands.

"At the same time, shippers' demands for seamless logistics are likely to continue and intensify.

"With increasing integration of economies brought about by globalisation, the tradeof Asian economies has expanded rapidly over the last decade and is showing increasing reliance on intra-Asian trade.

"This places heavy demands on infrastructure development and pressure on increasing the efficiency of transport logistics services," noted Dong in his paper Trends in Transport Policy and Port Development Strategies presented at the recent Asean Ports Association Conference and Exhibition in Vietnam.

A study by Escap had shown that the Asian full container trade was expected to increase at an annual average rate of 7% since last year to 2011 compared to 6.3% of the world average, he said.

Dong added that the total volume of international containers handled by ports in Escap region would increase from 95 million TEUs to 216 million TEUs during the same period, an average growth of 7.2% a year.

"With increased demands for capital investment in ports, prioritisation of port development projects and promotion of private sector participation will become increasingly necessary to avoid wasteful investment and to ensure that funds are available for port development projects.

"An increased focus on port productivity can reduce the need to invest significant quantities of new capital in expanding facilities," he said.

Dong said that 50% of the world's container port throughputs were handled by ports in Asia Pacific, the bulk of which was through ports in East Asia (20%), followed by Asean (15%), North Asia (10%).

He added that 26% of world trade in terms of value originated from or was destined for Asia Pacific countries, the majority of which was to or

Pacific countries, the majority of which was to or from North Asia, while 52% of Asian exports and imports consisted intra-Asia trades.

"The number of ships that would be required along the Asia-related routes is forecasted to be more than 3,257 by the year 2011, most of the vessels being between the 750 TEU to 1,750 TEU and 3,500 TEU to 9,000 TEU range.

"There will also be a need for an additional 434 container berths, with 38% in East Asia, 20% in North Asia and 29% in South East Asia," he added.

Dong said the economies in ESCAP region controlled 40% of the world's shipping fleet and accounted for more than half of the world port container throughput with the four busiest container ports in the world handling 25% of the world container throughput.

He said ports needed to provide its users with total logistics solutions that offered a variety of value-added logistics services.

"This requires increased investment in hardware and software and globalisation of terminal operations.

"Port productivity must be improved and ports have to review their productivity and identify major impediments including using technology to enhance operations," he said.

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12/03/2001 15:23:34

Asia industry: Regional ports urged to upgrade services

EIU ViewsWire 3 Dec 2001

COUNTRY BRIEFING

FROM THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

A United Nations economist said southeast Asian ports must improve productivity and technology if they expect to keep pace with logistics growth in the region.

"With increasing integration of economies brought about by globalization, the trade of Asian economies has expanded rapidly over the last decade and is showing increasing reliance on inter-Asia trade," said Dong-woo Ha, an economic affairs officer with the United Nations' Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific." This places heavy demands on infrastructure development and pressure on increasing the efficiency of transport logistics services."

Dong told the Asean Ports Association conference in Vietnam that increased volumes of containers moving around the region will put pressure on ports and land transport interchanges, bringing a need for more efficient intermodal connections.

The U.N. agency known as **Escap** forecasts Asian full-container trade will rise at an annual rate of 7% through 2011, with the volume of international containers handled by ports in the region increasing from 95 million TEUs to 216 million TEUs in that time.

"With increased demands for capital investment in ports, prioritization of port development projects and promotion of private sector participation will become increasingly necessary to avoid wasteful investment and ensure that funds are available for port development projects," said Dong.

A study will be commissioned to formulate a five-year plan for transport and logistics within Asean (Association of Southeast Asian

Nations) countries, which include Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia,

Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam, Myanmar (Burma), Laos, Brunei and Cambodia.

Between now and 2007, nearly all trade and other restrictions will be swept away under the Asean free-trade zone arrangement.

Within the Asia-Pacific, Asean countries account for more than 300f port container traffic and a third of the region's merchant fleet. Asean countries have more than 200 international ports and 3,700 domestic terminals. .

SOURCE: The Journal of Commerce

EIUviaNewsEDGE

:SUBJECT: BURM VIET SING MALA INDO THAI PHLP LAOS BRUN

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Bangkok Post, Thailand

December 3, 2001, Monday

KR-ACC-NO: TH-TRAVEL-COLUMN

LENGTH: 1159 words

HEADLINE: Bangkok Post, Thailand, Travel Column

BYLINE: By **Imtiaz Muqbil**

BODY:

Facing a major cash crunch in getting regional transport infrastructure projects moving again, Asia-Pacific governments will have to clean out the bottlenecks and inefficiencies keeping out private investment in these projects, according to a report by the UN Economic and Social Commission for the Asia-Pacific.

Escap's just-concluded ministerial conference on infrastructure has acknowledged that the regional transport system is riddled with inefficiencies, the extra costs of which are eventually passed on to consumers, affecting the competitiveness of Asian products in regional and global markets.

While the network of railways, roads, highways, airports and ports being developed through the Asia Pacific is designed mainly to facilitate intra-regional trade and transport of goods, it also contributes to the development of travel and tourism by opening up access to new destinations and giving tour operators opportunities to create more competitive packages and itineraries.

So far, the most important means of transport in the Asia-Pacific region is

by air but this could change once projects like the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway are completed. According an to an Escap report, the region has 42 rail networks operating 350,000 route kilometres and a road network of over nine million kilometres. Just the planned new railway projects in the region alone will require about US$ 73 billion from 2001 to 2006.

"Exploring the potential synergies between the various land transport modes, more specifically between the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks, and linking to maritime, inland water and air transport could be an important step toward the emergence of a comprehensive intermodal transport system that could meet the ever-growing demand for fast, reliable and safe connections reaching all parts of the continent."

The report notes that infrastructure so far has been mainly funded by government budgets (general taxation), specific user taxes, earmarked funds, retained earnings, tolls, domestic and foreign loans and official development assistance.

Today, massive investment in transport will be needed even as governments face competing demands to channel money into education, health services, social safety nets, poverty alleviation, regional cohesion, law and order and national defence.

While national budgets will remain a significant source of funds, "there is clearly a need for more collaborative arrangements or partnerships with the private sector, thereby confirming the governments' commitment, increasing commercial viability and demonstrating their willingness to share risks as well as future benefits on an equitable basis, and spreading limited public sector funds over a larger number of projects".

The Escap reported noted instances of both success and failure in past collaborative investments. Among the reasons for past failures has been a misunderstanding of project risks by the contracting parties.

"The public sector has assumed sometimes that the private sector should accept all risks. The private sector has assumed that the government will

bail them out in the event of the project running into difficulties."

The report cited two prominent projects, among others, that did not deliver the financial results they were intended to: In Kuala Lumpur, severe financial problems forced the government to take over two mass-transit systems in June 2001; and in Bangkok, the skytrain continues to bleed because passenger usage is well short of projected demand and the baht devaluation has affected loan repayments.

Such experiences heighten consciousness not only of perceived failures in specific countries but also of whether such failures could occur in other countries, the report said.

To encourage more private sector involvement in developing transport infrastructure, the report says "some of the generic problems" faced by the private sector in dealing with various branches of government will have to be tackled. These include complex participation procedures. In some cases, a project may require 25 to 30 approvals from 10 to 15 agencies on such matters as investment incentives, import and corporate tax exemptions, land use, environmental impact assessments and engineering design.

"Laws related to private sector participation and infrastructure are scattered over many different instruments. In some cases legislation may be absent or inadequate to deal with specific issues, while in others powers and duties to provide physical infrastructure may be vested in public monopolies, with limited scope for private sector participation."

The report says that within institutions, too, a large number of agencies have different or ill-defined responsibilities, some of which are overlapping both horizontally between different agencies and ministries, and also vertically between different levels of government, including central, state or provincial, municipal or district.

Some agencies in charge of regulating infrastructure simultaneously perform the functions of policy formulation, operations and regulation. This inevitably leads to a conflict of interest and demand separation of the functions. Governments review agreements after signing, for example, in

the areas of pricing or the construction or rehabilitation of competing projects.

These difficulties point to an urgent need for a review of institutional structures, development of human resources and the provision of appropriate incentives to induce experienced personnel to enter the civil service.

There is a problem of mindset: a need to adopt service-oriented attitudes and to purge deep-rooted corrupt practices from government.

The judiciary, too, will need to be reformed. In many countries, there are inadequate appeals procedures against administrative decisions; lengthy judicial processes; inconsistent judicial decisions; and a perception that the treatment for nationals is not afforded to foreign appellants.

The report said governments would need to develop investor-friendly procedure charts that place time limits on approval processes, establish appeals procedures against administrative decisions, one-stop shops and marketing and communications strategies within co-ordinating agencies.

Governments may also wish to consider setting up mechanisms for identifying and prioritising viable projects for public-private partnership. They may also consider establishing task forces with staff co-opted from the private sector, to build capabilities within the public sector and provide expertise in negotiating partnerships.

--**Imtiaz Muqbil** is executive editor of Travel Impact Newswire, an e-mail-delivered feature and analysis service focusing on the Asia-Pacific travel industry. e-mail: imtiaz@loxinfo.co.th.

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Economic News

December 11, 2001 Tuesday

LENGTH: 286 words

HEADLINE: Extraordinary Meeting Of Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA Opened In Tbilisi

BODY:

Tbilisi. A two-day extraordinary meeting of the Intergovernmental commission (IGC) TRACECA opened in Tbilisi on Tuesday, informs our reporter. The meeting is partaken in by delegations of 12 countries that signed the Baku agreement of 1998 on revival of the Great Silk Road, representatives of the IGC standing secretariat basing in Baku, and representatives of the European commission. The meeting is also attended by representatives of UN **economic and social commission for Asia** and the Pacific region and representatives of Turkmenistan - a TRACECA projects member that did not sign the Baku agreement - all as official guests.

Following persons spoke at the opening of the conference: president of Georgia Eduard Shevardnadze, IGC TRACECA chairman, Georgian minister of transport and communications Merab Adeishvili, EuroCommission representative Kornelius Vittebroot, and heads of the national delegations. The work of the conference takes place behind closed doors.

On the first day, they planned to adopt a resolution of simplification of procedures for passing the TRACECA corridor by humanitarian transit cargoes bound for Central Asia and to approve priority projects for 2002-2003 and a new map of the transport corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia with account of connection to it of Turkey, Bulgaria, and Rumania. They will listen to information of the job group about the course of preparation for the

second conference of IGC TRACECA in Tashkent in March next year. On Wednesday, the meeting participants will discuss the format of the Tashkent conference, in particular, the status of its guests with account of addresses of third countries and organizations and approve the closing resolution.

LOAD-DATE: December 11, 2001

DE LA CORÉE
bimensuel d'information

ECONOMIE

Print Edition

[CONFÉRENCE À SÉOUL] Le transport : facteur essentiel de promotion de la coopération régionale

La deuxième Conférence interministérielle sur les infrastructures (Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure), qui s'est ouverte le 12 novembre dernier à Séoul, a porté principalement sur le thème de la mondialisation et de l'intégration des infrastructures de transport, qui constituent un facteur essentiel de promotion de la coopération régionale, a déclaré Kim Hak-su, secrétaire général de la Commission économique et sociale des Nations unies pour la région Asie-Pacifique (ESCAP, U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific). "La question de la coopération régionale a pris encore plus d'importance depuis les attentats terroristes du 11 septembre, dans la mesure où l'Europe et les Etats-Unis constituent les destinations finales de la majeure partie des expéditions de marchandises en provenance du continent asiatique", a-t-il affirmé au cours d'un entretien accordé à la presse locale. "Mettre en ©«uvre les moyens de promouvoir le commerce international et celui entre les régions parmi les pays membres de l'ESCAP, tel est l'un des objectifs clés que s'est fixé la conférence". Par ailleurs, il est important de développer les infrastructures dans leu ensemble, afin de consolider la coopération économique régionale su la base d'un renforcement des équipements de transport, a précisé le secrétaire général. Faciliter le passage des frontières représente un autre aspect de la question qui doit être abordé si l'on veut réaliser ce objectif.

La Corée, la Russie, le Kazakhstan et la Mongolie

posent les jalons de la liaison ferroviaire Asie-Europe

Dans ce but, un protocole d'accord a été signé par quatre pays membres, à savoir la Corée du Sud, la Fédération de Russie, le Kazakhstan et la Mongolie, le 16 novembre dernier au cours de la réunion des ministres. Le protocole permet aux pays signataires de mettre en place un comité directeur en vue de discuter des moyens à mettre en ©«uvre afin d'éradiquer les obstacles au franchissement des frontières, et de procéder à des essais sur la partie septentrionale

du réseau ferroviaire trans-asiatique qui relie l'Asie et l'Europe. La Chine, la Pologne et la Biélorussie ont par ailleurs manifesté leur intention de signer le protocole d'accord, tandis que la Corée du Nord devrait prochainement y adhérer, a ajouté M. Kim. Une fois que le comité directeur sera fixé sur l'itinéraire, le calendrier et les méthodes de coopération prévus pour l'opération test, les huit pays procéderont au lancement d'un parcours de démonstration sur la ligne trans-asiatique, en vue d'identifier les problèmes éventuels et d'y apporter les solutions adaptées, a annoncé Kim Hak-su. L'ESCAP a proposé cinq points de départ pour la liaison septentrionale de la ligne trans-asiatique, qui couvre la péninsule coréenne, la Chine, le Kazakhstan, la Mongolie, la Fédération de Russie, la Biélorussie, la Pologne et l'Allemagne, a fait savoir M. Kim. Les cinq points de départ proposés sont les villes de Busan, Najin en Corée du Nord, Vostochny en Russie, et Tianjin et Lianyun en Chine. Le secrétaire général de l'ESCAP a affirmé que le trajet de démonstration partant de Busan serait possible dès que le rétablissement de la ligne Gyeongui, qui relie Séoul et Shinuiju en Corée du Nord, sera effectif entre les deux Corées. Faciliter le passage des frontières, en standardisant les documents et en simplifiant les procédures de dédouanement, permet en outre de réduire les coûts de logistique, qui constituent l'un des soucis majeurs rencontrés par les pays exportateurs, a expliqué Kim Hak-su. Ainsi, dans le cas de la Corée, les frais d'expédition représentent 16 % de son produit intérieur brut (PIB), tandis que pour le Japon et les Etats-Unis, ils se limitent respectivement à 9,5 % et 9 %. "Si la Corée parvenait à réduire d'un point seulement les frais d'expédition, elle pourrait renforcer sa compétitivité sur les marchés mondiaux", a estimé le secrétaire général de l'ESCAP. Un autre thème de discussion abordé au cours de la conférence fut la question du financement des infrastructures et de la participation des entreprises du secteur privé. La conférence a d'autant plus encouragé la participation du secteur privé aux travaux de construction des infrastructures, que les ressources financières dont dispose le gouvernement dans ce domaine ne sont pas suffisantes à elles seules pour être en mesure de couvrir la totalité des investissements nécessaires pour construire des autoroutes ou des voies ferrées, a précisé M. Kim. La conférence s'est achevée le 17 novembre dernier avec l'adoption de la Déclaration de Séoul pour le développement des infrastructures dans la région Asie-Pacifique (Seoul Declaration for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific), qui appelle à un redoublement d'efforts de la part des pays membres en vue d'affermir l'intégration des équipements de transport, dans le but de réduire les coûts et d'accélérer le rythme de livraison des marchandises.

Lee Jae-hee

2001.12.04

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The Business Times Singapore

January 4, 2002, Friday

SECTION: Pg. SHIP1

LENGTH: 386 words

HEADLINE: Tanjung Pelepas port surpasses target of 2m TEUs

BYLINE: Donald Urquhart

BODY:
[SINGAPORE] Malaysia's young Port of Tanjung Pelepas rang in the New Year with higher than expected container throughput volumes, exceeding its targeted volume of 2 million TEUs (20-ft containers) for 2001.

South-east Asia's newest and fastest growing transhipment hub posted a throughput of 2.05 million TEUs for its first full year of operation since officially opening in March 2000.

Pelepas chief executive officer Mohd Sidik Osman said the achievement was a reflection of PTP's resilience in the face of the current economic downturn which has depressed container volumes world-wide. "Although the shipping and port sector has seen volumes drop, PTP's exceeding of its targets can be attributed to the increasing local cargo through PTP both from the port free zone area and the local hinterland," said Mr Sidik.

PTP's gains were also Singapore's loss, as an estimated 1.8 million TEUs of PTP's total throughput was won over from Singapore's PSA Corporation when its largest customer -- Maersk Sealand -- shifted its transhipment hub from PSA to PTP starting from the third quarter 2000.

But while local cargo volumes helped boost PTP's final tally, an estimated 30 per cent of PTP's hinterland cargo still ships through Singapore's PSA terminals, according to Malaysian Transport Ministry parliamentary secretary Donald Lim.

"Some businessmen still have the pre-conceived idea that the Singapore port is much more efficient in handling their goods although large shipping companies have good things to say about Malaysian ports," Mr Lim said at a reception commemorating the recent maiden call of Hapag-Lloyd's new ultra-large containership, the Hamburg Express.

But while PTP continues to enjoy steep volume gains, a recent United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Commission for the Asia-Pacific (Escap) report noted that while, "Tanjung Pelepas has the potential to build a very strong trans-shipment business ... it is unlikely to pose a major threat to the dominance of Singapore within the forecast period."

The Escap study forecasts throughput at PTP to grow to 4.5 million TEUs by 2011 -- of which more than 80 per cent will be trans-shipment cargo -- while Singapore is expected to reach 23.1 million TEUs over the same period. In 2000, PSA handled just over 17 million TEUs.

GRAPHIC: Mr Sidik : port resilient in face of current economic downturn

LOAD-DATE: January 7, 2002

Associated Press

02/04/2002 12:53:53

ABUILDING-ASIA-PACIFIC, sked,0466

Abuilding Asia-Pacific ICT Network to Bridge Digital Gap: **ESCAP**

Chief, XINHUA

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February 04, 2002
XINHUA
CHINA
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Abuilding Asia-Pacific ICT Network to Bridge Digital Gap: **ESCAP**
Chief, XINHUA

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BANGKOK, February 4 (Xinhua)--A to-be-formed Asia-Pacific network for information and communication technology (ICT) development will help to shorten the ``digital divide'' between developing and developed economies in the region, a United Nations regional chief said here Monday.

"The rapid progress of ICT has accelerated broad-based growth and sustainable development in the region and elsewhere in the world, and it is also widely recognized as a potential powerful tool to combat poverty," Kim Hak-Su, executive-secretary of the local-based U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) told a preparatory meeting for setting up the network.

"However, not all countries in the region have benefited equally from such progress, and the disparities between developed and developing countries, especially in Internet access, are widening. So establishing such kind of network to enhance regional cooperation in ICT development should be encouraged and supported, `` he said.

Some fifty experts from a dozen of international organizations concerned attended the one-day meeting, which is the first of its kind for preparing the birth of the network.

The setting-up of the ICT network, along with three other regional peers in Middle East, Africa and Latin America, is an initiative of the newly-established U.N. ICT Task Force. ``The United Nations see the network as one-stop-shops for helping to design regional, sub-regional and national strategies for ICT development and also as conduits for exchanging experiences, best practices and policies," said Kim.

The **ESCAP**, under his leadership, is U.N.'s largest intergovernmental organization in the region which plays as the host for discussions of the ICT network plan.

"I believe the ICT network will further enhance our efforts to effectively bridge the digital divide in the region and **ESCAP** is willing to play the leading role for the establishing the organization," he said.

Under U.N.'s principle, the network will be an intergovernmental regional organization under the guidance of the U.N. ICT Task Force.

During the meeting, participants will exchange their ideas on the structure, objectives, working mechanism, fund-raising and other concrete plans of the yet-to-be-born body.

U.N. officials said they hope the network to begin operation before the opening of the World Summit for the Information Society (WSIS), to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, in November 2003.

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United News of Bangladesh

February 7, 2002 Thursday

SECTION: Nationwide International News

LENGTH: 178 words

HEADLINE: UNJS-2

DATELINE: Asian

BODY:
ighwaySangsad Bhaban,-Feb 7 - The government is holding discussion with the neighbouring countries and UN agency **ESCAP** for constructing the planned Asian Highway, which will open up a great opportunity for transcontinental communications by road.

This was disclosed in parliament today (Thursday) by Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda replying to a question from MA Hashem of the ruling BNP. "The construction of the Asian Highway will be completed in phases with the cooperation of the donors," the minister told parliament.

He said trade and business cooperation with the neighbouring nations would get a boost on completion of the Asian Highway which will have an impact on socioeconomic development of the country.

To another question, the minister said the government is actively considering constructing the Trans-Asian Railway connecting Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia.

Barrister Huda told Golam Md Siraj (BNP) that the government is also planning to convert the rails to dual-gauge so that both metre and broad gauge trains can run.

LOAD-DATE: February 7, 2002

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Bridging the Informatio
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
Monday 11 Febr

PAKISTAN: UN official calls for regional cooperation

ISLAMABAD, 10 Feb 2002 (IRIN) - Kim Hak-Su, the Executive Secretary of the UN's Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), has urged the need for regional cooperation between Pakistan and Central Asian countries, including Afghanistan, in the light of 11 September.

In an interview with IRIN in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, Hak-Su said he would be attending an important regional meeting in Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan, from 14 to 15 February to discuss regional economic cooperation, including matters related to trans-regional highways.

"This is especially important after 11 September, promoting regional economic cooperation, like road networks and railway networks - [it] is very essential," he said. "There are tremendous trade - rather, interregional trade potentials - and that is through transport or roads," he added.

Hak-Su said ESCAP, pursuing social and economic development in Asia and the Pacific region, was in a special position to help on the interregional road and railway networks. Some mapping and routing work had already been done by its experts.

The issue of regional economic cooperation and road networks is also due to be discussed at the Bishkek meeting.

ESCAP, in February 2000, had created a Special Programme for Central Asian Economies, which had identified programmes related to transport, environment, energy and water, Hak-Su explained. It first met in February 2000 and September 2001. The February 2002 meeting would be its third.

"The meeting is to check the progress of the working group and discuss other matters," Hak-Su added.

[ENDS]



Press/Media: UN Pakistan 2002 Page(s):	Date: Weekly Issue No. 07/2002 (12 February 2002)

E.S.C.A.P. TO MAP OUT TRANS-ASIAN RAILWAY

Speaking at a press confeřence at the UN Information Centre in Islamabad on 8 February, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Mr Kim Hak-Su, underlined the importance of improving cross-continent land transportation. "We are sketching the trans-Asian railway, and trans-Asian highway", he said. The trans-Asian highway, when realized, would run "from Istanbul to Shanghai", whereas the trans-Asian railway would go "from South Korea, Pusan, to North Korea, and then Mongolia, China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Poland". In this regard, ESCAP's role is to provide technical advisory services and encourage countries to realise the project. Through these projects, ESCAP intends to promote not only the transport connection "but we are also promoting regional economic co-operation".

In the discussions with the Pakistani Minister of Finance, Mr Kim also explained that the two sides had identified "three areas for co-operation: central banking and commercial banking; capital market; and insurance". The Pakistan side also expressed a desire to hold a WTO training workshop and offered to co-operate in the area of information technology. Furthermore, the Pakistani Government proposed the Executive-Secretary co-operation in the training of elected officials especially for women. "We will take note and study how we can help Pakistan", Mr Kim stressed.

Referring to the meeting with President Musharraf, Mr Kim said that the President "showed keen interest in poverty reduction and various programmes such as micro-credit scheme." Comparing his previous visit to Pakistan four years ago, the Executive-Secretary summarized the impression of his two-day visit: "I noted that the country was full of dynamism and full of energy, so I hope Pakistan will come out strong in the next few years".

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Bloomberg News

February 19, 2002, Tuesday 4:25 AM Eastern Time

LENGTH: 170 words

HEADLINE: ASIA NEEDS TO INVEST $27 BLN BY 2011 ON PORTS, UN OFFICIAL SAYS

BYLINE: Tan Hwee Ann in Kuala Lumpur through the Singapore newsroom (65) 212-1581, or hatan@bloomberg.net Editor: Jenkinson

DATELINE: Kuala Lumpur

BODY:
Asia will need to invest about $27 billion to develop its ports by 2011 to meet cargo growth, especially in China, said a United Nations official.

About 415 new container berths will be required in Asia by 2011, with about 160 of those in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, according to a UN study. "We expect China to grow very rapidly, that's one of the most important reasons," said Ha Dong-Woo, an **economics** affairs official at the UN's **Economic and Social Commission for Asia** and the Pacific, speaking at a port terminal conference in Malaysia.

The additional capacity requirement would open opportunities for private port operators, including Hutchison Whampoa Ltd. and AP Moeller, to expand in other Asian countries.

"It is almost imperative to get private investors," Ha said, adding that AP Moeller and PSA Corp., which runs Singapore's main port, would have the ability to raise funds. "Otherwise, how can this many container berths be developed based on individual countries' capabilities."

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Title: U.N. Regional Transport Chiefs Meet to Enhance Cooperation

Summary: BANGKOK, Mar 13, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Some 40 transport-development chiefs and experts of the Nations' five regional commissions kicked off a three-day discussion here Wednesday, exploring ways to enhar regional cooperation for collective transport improvement.

Source: Xinhua News Agency
Date: 03/13/2002 04:44
Price: Free
Document Size: Very Short (357 words)
Document ID: FB20020313340000033
Subject(s): XIN; Africa; Asia; Education; Egypt; Employment; Europe; Executive; Health

U.N. Regional Transport Chiefs Meet to Enhance Cooperation

Story Filed: Wednesday, March 13, 2002 4:44 AM EST

BANGKOK, Mar 13, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Some 40 transport-development chiefs and experts of the United Nations' five regional commissions kicked off a three-day discussion here Wednesday, exploring ways to enhance trans-regional cooperation for collective transport improvement.

"At a time when globalization is an inescapable fact of modern life, transport has a major role to play in ensuring that the benefits can be shared by people of all regions in the world," said Kim Hak-Su, executive-secretary of the local-based U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), one of the U.N.'s five regional arms.

Other U.N. regional commissions include the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

"Transport creates opportunities for greater access to employment, health care and education, and it is an area where the U.N. agencies have a lot to do to assist countries of the respective regions in their development efforts," Kim said.

Therefore, he said, a common objective for the five U.N. regional commissions is to serve as a catalyst for action in formulating and implementing national, regional and inter-regional transport initiatives to improve access to domestic and global markets.

"Now, much remains to be done in the transport sector of developing countries in our respective regions, and I hope all of us here can explore new ways and new concepts that will help to fulfill our mandate, " said the ESCAP leader.

During the meeting between March 13 and 15, participants are expected to review significant events of transport development in all the five regions during 2001, exchange experience in implementation of specific projects and work out a detailed plan for cooperation.

Participants will also sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on transport cooperation among the five U.N. regional commissions.

This is the third meeting of its kind. In 1999, transport chiefs of the five U.N. regional commissions held their first meeting in Cairo, Egypt, and agreed to enhance cooperation and meet regularly.

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BBC

Burmese leader urges development of tourism in Mekong region

BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political; London; Apr 7, 2002;

Start Page: 1
Dateline: BURMA
Personal Names: Khin Nyunt

Abstract:
*Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, officials at the State Peace and Development Council Office, the ambassadors of foreign missions in Yangon, high-ranking delegates of the member countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion - Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Thailand; officials of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA); Asian Development Bank (ADB); Economic and Social Commission of Asia and Pacific (**ESCAP**); Agency for Coordinating Mekong Tourism Activities; UNESCO; tourism operators of 23 countries; officials of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and domestic tourism operators.*

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen [Khin Nyunt] said: I am greatly delighted to have this opportunity to deliver an address at the opening ceremony of the Seventh Mekong Tourism Forum organized by the Pacific Asia Travel Association. This is the first time that Myanmar is hosting the Forum and I wish to express our sincere thanks to all concerned in choosing Myanmar as the host nation. The theme of this forum is "Bridging the Mekong, Branding the Jewels" is indeed most relevant as the meeting will be discussing ways of enhancing tourism cooperation among the Greater Mekong sub-region states as well as endeavouring to promote the region as a common tourist destination. We in Myanmar have a saying: "If it is a genuine ruby, even mud cannot hide its lustre". It is therefore our sincere belief that while many tourist sites in the region remain to be discovered by the world, it will just be a matter of time before the world travellers enjoy these jewels for the benefit of all. At the same time, it is also incumbent on the governments, the national tourist authorities, the private sector as well as regional tourist organizations like PATA to make them known to the rest of the world.

Full Text:
The New Light of Myanmar web site, Rangoon, in English 6 Apr 02/BBCMonitoring/(c) BBC

Burmese leader Khin Nyunt has spoken on tourism as a sector of enormous potential for Southeast Asia and Burma in particular. He said that "it is the ordinary people themselves, the men on the street, who benefit most from the development of tourism". He also said tourism would increase goodwill and understanding between Myanmar and the rest of the world. A Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has been set up to help develop the relatively new industry. The following is an excerpt from a report in English by the Burmese newspaper The New Light of Myanmar web site on 6 April

Yangon [Rangoon], 5 April: A ceremony to open the Seventh Mekong Tourism Forum held in Myanmar [Burma] took place at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this morning with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Brig-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, officials at the State Peace and Development Council Office, the ambassadors of foreign missions in Yangon, high-ranking delegates of the member countries of the Greater

Mekong Subregion - Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Thailand; officials of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA); Asian Development Bank (ADB); Economic and Social Commission of Asia and Pacific (ESCAP); Agency for Coordinating Mekong Tourism Activities; UNESCO; tourism operators of 23 countries; officials of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and domestic tourism operators.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt said: I am greatly delighted to have this opportunity to deliver an address at the opening ceremony of the Seventh Mekong Tourism Forum organized by the Pacific Asia Travel Association. This is the first time that Myanmar is hosting the Forum and I wish to express our sincere thanks to all concerned in choosing Myanmar as the host nation. The theme of this forum is "Bridging the Mekong, Branding the Jewels" is indeed most relevant as the meeting will be discussing ways of enhancing tourism cooperation among the Greater Mekong sub-region states as well as endeavouring to promote the region as a common tourist destination. We in Myanmar have a saying: "If it is a genuine ruby, even mud cannot hide its lustre". It is therefore our sincere belief that while many tourist sites in the region remain to be discovered by the world, it will just be a matter of time before the world travellers enjoy these jewels for the benefit of all. At the same time, it is also incumbent on the governments, the national tourist authorities, the private sector as well as regional tourist organizations like PATA to make them known to the rest of the world.

The potential of the region in the tourism sector is indeed enormous. It is a truism that tourism contributes much to the economic development of the individual nations, particularly in terms of poverty reduction. It is the ordinary people themselves, the men on the street, who benefit most from the development of tourism. At the same time, it is our belief that tourism promotes more than economic prosperity for it also serves to strengthen friendship and understanding among the nations of the world through direct people-to-people contacts. In this manner, everybody - the people of the host country as well as the tourists - gains unique knowledge and experience, thus enriching the lives of everyone involved. It is with these sentiments that Myanmar is endeavouring to promote tourism.

In our consideration, tourism means more than a way of bringing economic improvement to the nation and its people. It also represents a means for acquainting the world with the unique beauty and characteristics of Myanmar while increasing goodwill and understanding between Myanmar and the peoples of the world. Our government is therefore committed to developing the tourist industry and towards this end, it has already initiated the necessary institutions and framework. A separate government ministry called the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism was created to supervise and support the tourism industry in the country. Moreover, a special inter-ministry body entitled the Management Committee for Development of Tourism Industry was also established to provide overall guidance and coordination.

Tourism industry is relatively new to our country and we are still to develop its full potential. But we are confident that with the abundance of tourist sites, combined with the support of the government and the participation of the private sector, Myanmar will in the near future become one of the major tourist destinations. Myanmar is endowed by nature with mountains including the only snow- capped mountains in Southeast Asia, forests, rivers, lakes and beaches still untouched by mass tourism. Myanmar is also rich in historical and archaeological sites including the world-renowned 11th century Bagan [Pagan] capital and the glorious Mandalay, the last capital of Myanmar Kings as well as numerous pagodas and temples. They constitute the rich heritage of our culture.

Moreover, there are over one hundred national races with their own dialects, traditions and customs. All these, together with the charming smiles and simple hospitality of its people, make Myanmar a unique tourist destination. There is also peace and stability in the country and Yangon has been internationally recognized as one of the safest capitals in the world. It is indeed most appropriate that Myanmar, which has been called the Golden Land, is deservedly called one of the jewels of the Mekong Region. Allow me also to reaffirm Myanmar's determination to strengthen cooperation with the states of Greater Mekong Sub-Region in developing tourism. The promotion of Mekong Region as a single destination holds great prospects and hopes for regional development down to grassroots levels.

This programme, I believe, will be successful with closer cooperation among the governments of the member countries and active participation of the private sector. Once again I wish to express my deep-felt thanks to PATA, ESCAP and ADB for their kind assistance and contributions in holding this forum. The agenda before the meeting is wide-ranging and of great relevance for the promotion of tourism in the region. I am fully confident that the deliberations will be of great significance for the region. In conclusion, I would therefore like to wish the Seventh Mekong Tourism Forum success and all the distinguished delegates a most pleasant and enjoyable stay in Myanmar. [Passage omitted]

Credit: The New Light of Myanmar web site, Rangoon, in English 6 Apr 02

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Drive to promote tourism in Mekong countries

April 18, 2002 4:44am

PAVAPHUN TOHSAENG
04/18/2002

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) organised the Seventh Mekong Tourism Forum at the Sedona Hotel in Rangoon, Burma between April 4-6.

Held in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and United Nations' Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the event was hosted by the Ministry of Hotel and Tourism, Burma.

The theme of the forum was "Bridging the Mekong, Branding the Jewels".

It aimed to unite co-operation between public and private-sector bodies, including national tourism organisations, airlines, hotels and tour operators.

In regional co-operation, Burma has developed closer ties with all neighbouring regional countries and actively participated in regional meetings and forums.

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"In order to facilitate intra-regional travel, we have opened up entry points along the borders with Yunnan province in China, and also with Thailand," said Maj Gen Saw Lwin, minister of hotels and tourism, during the opening speech ceremony.

The forum featured an assembly of powerful international and regional speakers, such as Dr Paul Temporal, the author of "Branding in Asia"; Mr. Paisan Wangsai, director, the Agency for co-ordination of Mekong Tourism Activities-AMTA, and Mr. Tim Robinson, of PATA UK.

Apart from the forum speeches, there was a small buyer and seller session which provided an opportunity to meet and conduct businesses in a free flow arrangement.

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PATA also introduced the PATA Mekong Forum Innovative Product Awards to acknowledge spectacular achievements of winning organisations in creating new tourism products within the Mekong Region.

Malinee Kitaphanich, the director of Southeast Asia PATA said: "PATA has organised the Mekong Tourism Forum for years.

"But for 2002, we received the largest number of delegates participating in this event.

"I intend to use the forum as a stage for all nations, who wish to deliver their message or extend ideas, as an activity-driven event to improve tourism in the GMS countries," she said.

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Charges in RP ports lowest in Asia-Pacific —

Publish Date: [Monday, April 29, 2002]

Port tariff levels in the Philippines are the lowest in Asia-Pacific but that doesn't make the country really competitive in the highly globalized and almost borderless world trade.

That's because while wharfage, cargo handling, and other port charges are low, Philippine port facilities are not as modern as those of many neighboring Asian countries.

The government needs billions of pesos to put Philippine ports at par with most countries in the region but cannot raise enough resources either from taxes or port tariff collections to fund its port modernization and expansion program.

And efforts to hike tariff rates have always been met with opposition from shipping companies, exporters, and importers.

Yet, a comparative analysis by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) of port tariffs in the region showed that total port costs for a 3,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU) container ship, including cargo handling, are lowest in Manila based on nominal exchange rates.

The ESCAP study, released in New York early this year, involved 21 ports in Australia, China (including Hong Kong), India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Using exchange rates to convert the local currency values of port charges in their selected ports in these countries, the ESCAP found that Manila total port charges for a 3,000 TEU container ship for seven days of dwell time to load and unload cargo are about one-sixth of the charges in Japan's Port of Yokohama, one-fourth of the cost in Hong Kong, and nearly a third of the rates in Sri Lanka.

Compared to those in Manila, port charges are higher by 33 percent in Indonesia, 50 percent in Malaysia, 60

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percent in Vietnam and 80 percent in India and Pakistan, the ESCAP said in its evaluation.

While stressing the need to identify the main cause of the great disparities in prices, ESCAP also took note of the increasing requirement for ports to be financially viable and sustainable.

It noted, however, that in most countries including the Philippines, adjustment of port tariffs normally goes through a lengthy process requiring government approval. This, the ESCAP said, not only serves as a disincentive to port operators and potential private sector investors in port modernization, but also can be problematic for port users.

Which is exactly the case with the calls for a rollback of the 10 percent increase in stevedoring and arrastre charges in Philippine ports supposed to have taken effect last February.

Shipping lines are asking for the rollback despite a pressing need for the increase in view of rising port operations costs brought about by the higher dollar exchange rate.

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04/29/2002 04:25:40

IMF Financing Facility Can Be Extended to Tourism Sector/ UN-ESCAP

Xinhua via NewsEdge Corporation : KUALA LUMPUR, Apr 26, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- The International Monetary Fund's(IMF) compensatory and contingency financing facility, although primarily meant for meeting shortfalls in commodity receipts, could be extended as an option to cover unexpected shortfalls in earnings from services such as tourism.

According to a Bernama report, the United Nations' Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UN-**ESCAP**) said in a survey summary that there was a pressing need to provide assistance to those countries experiencing unexpected declines in services receipts, particularly tourism simultaneously with higher insurance and security cost.

In the summary which was released here Friday, the UN-**ESCAP** also suggested other measures that could be taken at international levels to soften the impact of the world's economic slowdown on the most vulnerable group of countries, the least developed countries and the Pacific and landlocked economies.

It said the World Bank and regional development institutions should also give urgent consideration to speeding up the flow of disbursement to counter the economic slowdown.

Certain policy initiatives could also be promoted at the regional level such as greater regional cooperation which can counter some aspects of the global slowdown, UN-**ESCAP** said.

The summary said that India and China who have been relatively immune to the slowdown, and Australia, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea who are still growing at reasonable rates, could provide a useful stimulus to other economies.

They could do this by partially offsetting the decline in the external demand from within and outside the region, it said, adding that by this way the **ESCAP** region as a whole could move forward with growth-enhancing trade agreements that boost both trade flows and investors' confidence.

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Bangladesh to Submit Proposal on Asian-Highwa

XINHUANET 2002-05-06 00:44:49

DHAKA, May 5 (Xinhuanet) -- Bangladesh will propose for inclusi of Dhaka-Chittagong-Cox's Bazar-Teknaf route in the southeast and Sylhet-Austogram route in the northeast of the country under the Asian Highway.

This was decided at a meeting on Sunday on selection of routes in the Asian Highway, with Communication Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda in the chair, said a press release.

A three-day meeting of expert groups on the Development of Asian Highway Network will be held in Bangkok under the auspices of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on May 8.

A three-member delegation of Bangladesh will present the proposed Asian Highway routes in the meeting. Enditem

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PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: Daily News
Page(s): 6

Date: 24 May 2002

Daily News, Friday 24 May 2002, page 6, reported on the "Asian Highway" saying that while the Trans-Asian Railway project is facing many obstacles, yet another road transport project linking to the present a route from India to the Pacific Ocean is now being revived. It seems it will finalized before than the earlier one.

The Asian Highway concept was initiated in 1995 by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP]. The project was revived last April by Burma, Thailand and India. They agreed to continue construction of the missing links. After completion, the highway will contribute towards considerable progress and unity in the region.



เอเชียนไฮเวย์

ขณะที่โครงการทางรถไฟสายข้ามทวีป "ทรานส์-เอเชีย" ยังถูกคนค้วยสารพัดอุปสรรค แม้ว่าจะได้ไฟเขียวเดินหน้าเต็มสูบไปแล้ว อีกโครงการสัญจรทางบกด้วยรถยนต์ เชื่อมต่อเส้นทางแนวขนานจากอินเดียสู่มหาสมุทรแปซิฟิก ก็ถูกปลุกให้ฟื้นคืนชีพขึ้นมา และทำท่าว่าจะถึงเป้าหมายก่อนโครงการแรกเสียด้วย

เส้นทางบกเชื่อมต่อจากแคว้นมณีปุระในอินเดีย ผ่านพม่ามายังไทยเลยข้ามแม่น้ำโขงไปยังลาวแล้วทะลุไปสิ้นสุดที่เมืองดานังของเวียดนาม ซึ่งเป็นท่าเรือน้ำลึกบนฝั่งทะเลจีนใต้ ตามแผน การพัฒนาแนวพื้นที่เศรษฐกิจเฉพาะฝั่งตะวันออก-ตะวันตก หรือ EWEC (East-West Economic Corridor) เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของเครือข่ายโครงการขนาดใหญ่ เชื่อมต่อเอเชียกลางและตะวันออกไกล ที่เรียกกันว่า "เอเชียนไฮเวย์"

โครงการเอเชียน ไฮเวย์ ริเริ่มมาตั้งแต่ปี 2502 โดยคณะกรรมการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมแห่งเอเชียแปซิฟิก (เอสแคป) แต่ขาดความกระตือรือร้นจานรับจากประเทศที่เกี่ยวข้องโครงการเลยค้างเติ่งมาตลอด เพิ่งจะมาเรื่อฟื้นขึ้นใหม่ โดยพม่า ไทยและอินเดีย นัดหารือกันที่กรุงย่างกุ้งเมื่อเดือน เม.ย. ที่ผ่านมา ซึ่งทั้ง 3 ประเทศ ตกลงที่จะสร้างเส้นทางเชื่อมต่อที่ขาดหายให้เสร็จ คือเส้นจากอำเภอแม่สอด จังหวัดตากไปยังเมืองผาอ่างในพม่า และต่อไปยังเมืองโมเรห์ในอินเดีย

ที่เริ่มดำเนินการไปแล้วและกำลังอยู่ในระหว่างก่อสร้างคือ ช่วงจากดานังมายังชายแดนลาว ด้วยทุนสนับสนุนจากธนาคารพัฒนาเอเชีย (เอดีบี) เช่นเดียวกับถนนความยาว 200 กม. ในลาว และสะพานข้ามแม่น้ำโขงแห่งใหม่ เชื่อมต่อจังหวัดมุกดาหารของไทยไปยังฝั่งสะหวันนะเขตของลาว ซึ่งรัฐบาลญี่ปุ่นให้ทุนสนับสนุน และคาดว่าจะเสร็จและเปิดใช้สะพานได้ในปี 2548 นี้

จะว่าไปแล้ว โครงการนี้นับเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของนโยบาย "เหลียวมองตะวันออก" ของอินเดีย ที่มุ่งเน้นความเกี่ยวพันทั้งทางด้านการค้าและการเมืองกับเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้ เป็นความเคลื่อนไหวหลังจากที่อาเซียนเจรจากับจีน หาทางก่อตั้งเขตการค้าเสรีขนาดใหญ่ที่สุดของโลก ภายใน 10 ปีข้างหน้า

จะอย่างไรก็ตาม หากโครงการนี้เสร็จสิ้นพร้อมกับการปรับระบบต่าง ๆ ด้านการผ่านแดน การสัญจรไม่ว่าจะเพื่อการท่องเที่ยวหรือติดต่อค้าขายตามแนวเส้นทาง คาดว่าจะคล่องตัวคึกคักขึ้นทันตาเห็น

เหลียวกลับไปดูโครงการทรานส์-เอเชีย กันบ้าง ทางรถไฟเชื่อมต่อจากสิงคโปร์ผ่านมาเลเซีย ขึ้นมายังไทย วกไปออกกัมพูชาแล้วเลี้ยวขึ้นไปเวียดนาม ก่อนจะอ้อมไปสิ้นสุดปลายทางที่คุนหมิง ในมณฑลยูนานทางตะวันตกเฉียงใต้ของจีน โดยอาจจะมีอีก 2 เส้นทางแยกจากไทย คือไปพม่าและไปลาว ซึ่งจะทะลุต่อจนไปบรรจบกับเส้นทางหลักที่เวียดนาม

โครงการนี้ผู้นำของ 10 ประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียน อนุมัติไฟเขียวเดินหน้าระหว่างการประชุมสุดยอดประจำปีที่บรูไน เมื่อเดือน พ.ย. ปีที่แล้ว แต่ถึงขณะนี้ยังมีอุปสรรคมากมาย ไม่ว่าจะเป็นการปรับระบบรถไฟให้เข้ากัน ของไทยและมาเลเซียไม่มีปัญหา แต่ของกัมพูชา เวียดนามและพม่า ยังต่ำกว่ามาตรฐานไม่เหมาะสำหรับเครือข่ายขนส่งสินค้าสมัยใหม่ ขณะที่ลาวนั้นก็เป็นอันทราบกันดีว่าไม่มีทางรถไฟ อีกประการคือเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้ใช้รางขนาด 1,000 มม.- แต่จีนใช้ขนาด 1,435 มม.

ที่สำคัญโครงการนี้ยังไม่เป็นที่สนใจของกลุ่มนักลงทุนทั้งภาครัฐและเอกชนเท่าที่ควร เนื่องจากส่วนใหญ่เห็นว่าไม่น่าจะคุ้มทุนง่าย ๆ โดยเฉพาะด้านการขนส่งสินค้า รวดเร็วถูกทางรถยนต์ไม่ได้.

เลนซ์ซูม

Project has troubled track record

The trainspotters of Laos have been kept waiting. The track stops out there in the middle of the Mekong. The Asean railway project, so many years the subject of enthusiastic discussion, has been too often shunted aside and is a slow train coming.

SARITDET MARUKATAT

The track stops dead smack dab in the middle of the Friendship Bridge which spans the Mekong river to join together Thailand and Laos. It's been that way since 1994.

The new station built by the State Railway of Thailand in Nong Khai, planned to become one of the busiest stations in the Northeast, serving regular passenger and freight traffic moving into and out of the country, stands largely empty.

Across the river in Laos, the government in Vientiane inaugurated a brand new Railway Authority in exited anticipation that the country at last would have the railway line it has been waiting for for so long.

Now, eight years on, Laos has not seen a single metre of track laid on its soil. While waiting on some sort of progress, the train regulators in Vientiane have been left to twiddle their thumbs.

"Nong Khai will be very important as the gateway station linking Thailand with Laos, like the gateway in Badang Besar," said station master Thaveep Suarod, referring to the train stop on the Thai-Malaysian border in Songkhla.

But Mr Thaveep could not say exactly when this gateway would open for business. "But there has been word that new foreign investors are coming in to revive the project," he said.

Vientiane-based diplomats, however, hold little hope. One called the system "the dead railway project".

Not quite, asserted a Lao official, who insisted the scheme was just idle, not dead.

The Lao government, he said, was still trying to attract investors after it severed ties with Pacific Transportation, a Thai investment firm which won the contract to build the railway from Nong Khai to Vientiane. There are also plans to open lines to other parts of the country.

"The delay has affected us because we were using the project as part of our campaign to entice foreign investors," said a senior officer with the Communication, Transport, Post and Construction Ministry.

While Laos has many lessons to learn from its partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the 10-strong grouping also has a thing or two to learn from this suspended train project. Big projects need big money, and investors who are patient enough and secure enough to stand a slow rate of return. This project in Laos is reportedly estimated to cost around $30 million (1.25 billion baht).

Asean hopes to see passenger and cargo trains running from Singapore to Kuala Lumpur, through Bangkok to Burma, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, and then on to non-member China.

The grand plan calls for another track to be added to the Bangkok-Kanchanaburi line, further on along the Death Railway renowned for its World War Two associations, and on into central and northern Burma and then southern China. Another suggested line is from China to Laos. And then there is the last and most favoured route linking China via Cambodia and Vietnam with the eastern Thai border town of Aranyaprathet in Sa Kaeo.

Asean has had trouble picking one or the other route to begin with, partly due to the tradition of trying to accommodate every member of the family. But thanks to the 1997 financial crisis, the bloc has come more down to earth and has realised the most viable route must be the first one built, and quickly at that.

The latest meeting of senior officers on the project was in Rangoon last month. It was decided there to press the Cambodian government to list the project on its national agenda so it was eligible for financial support from the Asian Development Bank for a detailed and technical study.

"Money from the ADB could come in next year if the Cambodian government puts it in the national plan," said one Thai Foreign Ministry officer.

Cambodia needs cash to rebuild a 48km line from Poipet, opposite Aranyaprathet, to Sisophon, and to rehabilitate the line from there to Phnom Penh. Once completed, this would connect Bangkok with Phnom Penh and onwards to Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi and southern China.

Pan Aung, Burma's transport minister, whose country chairs the Asean train project, emphasised the urgency of the scheme at last month's meeting. Burma, like Laos, wants badly to be part of the Asean railway, but is given a low priority.

Merchants believe railways will be an essential conduit for trade between Asean countries — especially its newer members, Burma, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam — where there is a combined market of over 142 million consumers, because of the lower transport costs. The advantages would increase even further as Asean enters a free trade area agreement with China, giving improved access to an additional market of 1.2 billion consumers.

Asean's two-way trade with China now amounts to about $40 billion (1.67 trillion baht) a year and the figure will rise after the trade barriers are lowered under the free trade area.

When that happens in Laos, according to Kiat Sitheeamorn, deputy secretary-general of the Thai Board of Trade, it will be even more important to enhance the country's appeal because the railway could turn the landlocked country into a rail hub facilitating Thai trade with southern China. Mr Kiat was speaking at a recent roundtable discussion on Laos at the Foundation for International Human Resource Development.

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific also sees railways as a way of developing its members' territory. That was the rationale of a study, launched in 1992, or before the Asean initiative, for a transcontinental railway that would connect Asia with Europe.

"In this new environment, transport has become both an economic source and a servant of economic activity," Escap said in the study on the development of the Trans-Asian Railway. It was referring to global competition, which raises demand for the movement of people, good and services.

When details of the plan are ready, all Asean members have agreed to get on board to solicit interested investors and to seek help from international financial institutions — almost certainly the bumpiest part of this long ride.

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Tourism resources need more administrative measures

The Saigon Times Daily; Ho Chi Minh City; Sep 9, 2002; Van Oanh;

Start Page: 1
Personal Names: Van Luu, Nguyen
Bauer, Thomas

Abstract:
[Nguyen Van Luu] said this at a seminar on sustainable tourism resource management held in the national capital by the VNAT and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP).

Participants spoke on their research on tourism development plans and durability of tourist sites, among others, and their experience with sustainable tourism resource management in Thailand, and Korea.

The concept of sustainable development in tourism is not well understood in Vietnam, the seminar was told. There are still overlaps in managing the resources, such as the defense sector being assigned to manage revolutionary relics while local governments are responsible for beaches and vocational villages. Such assignment is one of the reasons for the erosion of many resources.

Full Text:
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(SGT-HANOI) The Government should have unique administrative policies to prevent over-exploitation of tourism resources and should invest more to preserve them, an official of the Vietnam National Administration for Tourism said yesterday.

Nguyen Van Luu, head of VNATs International Cooperation Division, said sustainable development measures should be carried out to protect the resources not only for the present but also future generations.

Luu said this at a seminar on sustainable tourism resource management held in the national capital by the VNAT and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP).

Participants spoke on their research on tourism development plans and durability of tourist sites, among others, and their experience with sustainable tourism resource management in Thailand, and Korea.

Tourism resources in the country, as mentioned at the seminar to help the country use and manage the <r

resources sustainably, are natural landscapes and <r historical and revolutionary relics. According to researchers, there are many problems in managing the resources.

The concept of sustainable development in tourism is not well understood in Vietnam, the seminar was told. There are still overlaps in managing the resources, such as the defense sector being assigned to manage revolutionary relics while local governments are responsible for beaches and vocational villages. Such assignment is one of the reasons for the erosion of many resources.

Little has been spent to preserve the resources, Luu said, adding that many local tourist companies just wanted to earn money from the resources, not to protect them. He said the role of governmental administration should be stressed in sustainable tourist resources management.

The Government should direct the development and set up a legal framework and policies to encourage the development of the tourism industry.

According to Le Van Lanh, general secretary of the National Gardens and Reserves Association, the countrys flora and fauna are in danger for many reasons, among which is the unsustainable development of tourism.

The development of the tourism industry also affects the diversity of Vietnams flora and fauna, Lanh said.

Lanh said many tourists liked to buy orchids, ornamental trees, insects, coral or wild animals, encouraging local people to damage the natural resources. Thus, in Lanhs opinion, environmental education is necessary for sustainable tourism development.

Ryuji Yamakawa of UN ESCAP told the seminar that tourism was an agent for the development of a country. However, he said the <r

Government should focus on a well-planned and overall sustainable development plan for tourism, especially in areas where the environment could easily be damaged.

Yamakawa said governmental bodies, residential communities and educational organizations should raise their management abilities to use resources reasonably and sustainably.

Thomas Bauer of Hong Kong University said that in the future, tourist site operators should care more about measures to manage the sites when visitors come, not only how to attract more visitors as now.

Bauer said tourism was developing in Vietnam. To see it developed sustainably, he said the country should have measures to strictly manage tourist activities.

Administrators of big tourist sites should pay more attention to protecting the environment, Bauer said. According to Bauer, planning and administration play a very important role in the development of tourism.

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TheStraitsTimes INTERACTIVE

OCT 22, 2002

Asian ports 'to handle 100m TEUs in 2015'

Some 120 new berths will be required to deal with the higher volumes, says Transport Ministry permanent secretary

By Nicholas Fang
TRANSPORT REPORTER

THE overall outlook for regional ports in the medium term remains bright despite growing concerns over maritime security after recent events linked to terrorism.

At the opening ceremony of the 28th Asean Ports Association (APA) annual meeting in Singapore yesterday, Transport Ministry permanent secretary Peter Ong said that the total number of containers moving through South-east Asia is expected to grow significantly over the next 13 years.

'Ocean Shipping Consultants has predicted that container throughput in South-east Asia would increase from 36 million TEUs in 2000 to around 100 million TEUs in 2015,' he said at the meeting, which is being held in Singapore for the second time. TEUs refer to 20-foot equivalent container units.

'In addition, a study published by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has predicted that Asia's share of containerised exports is expected to rise from 46 per cent of the world total in 1999 to 51 per cent in 2011.'

Mr Ong said that this growth in container volumes at Asian ports would drive demand for new port infrastructure, with some 120 new berths required to handle the anticipated traffic in South-east Asia by 2011.

The growth in volumes is also expected despite increased concerns over maritime security following the Sept 11 events last year, he said.

He said that the APA members would have to work closely with enforcement agencies to ensure that key regional waterways remained safe and open to navigation.

He added that another factor that is likely to boost growth in Asean ports is the opening up of China and its entry into the World Trade Organisation.

'The potential for Asean to take part in China's growth is tremendous if we seize the available opportunities and capitalise on marketing ourselves as a region that is at the doorsteps of China, and that can complement its growth.'

AP Associated Press

10/31/2002 19:09:06

Train travel to boom in 21st century Asia

BC-FEA-Asia-Taking the Train,0947
Train travel to boom in 21st century Asia
AP Photos, AP Graphic ASIA RAIL LINK
By DENIS GRAY=
Associated Press Writer=
BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) _ Train buffs of the world, get ready for some extraordinary rides: Seoul to Moscow, for example, or tropical Singapore to the highlands of southern China.

Plans are also chugging along for high-speed trains in South Korea and China, lines through onetime war zones and within rail-less Laos, even an Asia-Europe passage under the Bosporus Straits.

``Past cooperation has been slow, but now there is more political will and interest,'' Barry Cable, a United Nations transportation expert, says of a decades-old project to link the farthest corners of Asia with Europe while developing regional rail networks.

Regardless of political backing, experts say train transport in Asia will inevitably boom this century since roads simply won't be able to carry the mounting traffic. Tourism promoters and environmentalists are likewise enthusiastic.

``The train projects will open up many tourism opportunities. They will certainly attract new business for the whole region,'' says Luzi Matzig of Asian Trails, a Bangkok-based tourist agency that has pioneered travel to remoter areas of Southeast Asia.

When complete, the Trans-Asian Railway, or TAR, will encompass two major east-west flows: A northern corridor will link the Korean peninsula to Moscow and the eastern gates of Europe. A southern one is to run from Bangladesh through the Indian subcontinent, Iran and on to Istanbul. A tunnel under the Bosporus Straits would seal the Asia-Europe connection. Both these flows would be coupled to Southeast Asia.

A major regional initiative, first proposed by Malaysia in 1995, calls for a 5,382-kilometer (3,344-mile) route from Singapore to Kunming, the capital of China's southernmost province of Yunnan. Spur lines to Myanmar and within Laos, which does not yet have a single meter (yard) of track, would also be part of the

project, spearheaded by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The Singapore-to-Kunming project, expected to move forward at the Nov. 3-5 summit of ASEAN leaders in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, is viewed as a vehicle to better bind the economies of the region and provide southern China with easier access to the sea and to ASEAN markets.

ASEAN members include Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore and the Philippines.

Honorio R. Vitasa of the ASEAN Secretariat says the major challenge facing the Singapore-Kunming Rail Link, which may take a decade to complete, is attracting some US$2.5 billion in needed funds.

Rickety old tracks require rehabilitation and 431 kilometers (267 miles) of missing links in Cambodia will have to be filled in before a Singapore-Kuala Lumpur-Bangkok-Phnom Penh-Ho Chi Minh City-Hanoi-Kunming journey is possible.

North Korea and Myanmar are key barriers to the TAR dream, first proposed in 1960 and now supported by 24 nations.

But in September, the two Koreas agreed to restore the 24-kilometer (15-mile) rail link through the Demilitarized Zone between the onetime arch-enemies, and preliminary work has already begun. The last train ran through the area at the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950.

``We're very optimistic and enthusiastic. There will be some hiccups, but this time it seems there is a real commitment to reconnection,'' said Cable, an official of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Rail passage through the DMZ would benefit both Koreas and the Russian Federation, which now relies on sea routes to ship the products of its mines to South Korea's industries.

There are, however, no signs of progress on a railway through Myanmar, crucial to the southern Asia corridor that would link the region to Europe. The military-run nation, also called Burma and shunned by many Western countries, is plagued by economic problems and insurgencies, some along the proposed railway route.

The focus now, Cable said, is on moving freight in containers along the northern corridor, and demonstration runs are being planned. Freight on rails can travel from northern Asia to Europe in 10 days, as opposed to 25 days by sea. Links from the northern corridor to the landlocked countries of Central Asia will be a later step.

The United Nations says that over the past half-decade, expanded roadways accounted for most of the growth in Asian land transport. But railways remained

vital.

Asian trains carry about 18 billion passengers and 3.6 billion tons of freight a year over 350,000 kilometers (217,500 miles) of track. They employ some 7 million people.

Pierre Chartier, another U.N. expert, says Asian planners are becoming more aware of ``congestion costs'' and environmental harm from road travel. Rail offers greater safety, lower fuel consumption and less pollution.

Some US$73 billion will be spent in Asia on rail projects between 2001 and 2006, with China accounting for US$45 billion, according to the United Nations.

The Chinese are planning to bring high-speed trains into service, while South Korea has already begun work on a link between Seoul and the port of Busan that will see trains whiz along at 300 kph (186 mph). The first phase is due for completion in 2004.

On the Net:
United Nations site at www.**unescap**.org/tctd/tar

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PULSE

VIETNAM GOVT UPGRADES PORTS, OPENS MARKET TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

HANOI, Nov 05, 2002 (AsiaPulse via COMTEX) -- Vietnam will allow selected foreign shipping lines to set up joint ventures with their local counterparts, the Maritime Department said.

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VIETNAM GOVT UPGRADES PORTS, OPENS MARKET TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

Story Filed: Tuesday, November 05, 2002 1:04 AM EST

HANOI, Nov 05, 2002 (AsiaPulse via COMTEX) -- Vietnam will allow selected foreign shipping lines to set up joint ventures with their local counterparts, the Maritime Department said.

Acting director of the department, Chu Quang Thu, said the move is an effort to enforce the ASEAN Maritime Agreement in Vietnam and another step towards World Trade Organisation membership.

The implementation of the policy will be a prudent process, he said, since opening up the domestic maritime service market will toughen conditions for local shipping lines.

Under the maritime industry plan, foreign sailors will be allowed to work on Vietnamese vessels of joint venture shipping lines, but their number should not exceed one third of the total crew and the captain must be a Vietnamese citizen.

The new policy will reduce discrimination between domestic and foreign liners in terms of docking, warehouse, navigational and cargo handling fees.

While Vietnam's current shipping fleet has expanded rapidly in past years, the quality of the craft has degraded and is operating on short-haul routes, Thu said. Vietnamese shipping companies account for a mere 15 per cent market share of the local market.

The national development strategy for the shipping industry will focus on expanding the current fleet of oil tankers and container vessels, he said.

The total flow of maritime cargo is expected to reach 69 million tonnes in 2005, 96 million tonnes in 2010 and 192 million tonnes in 2020.

Of these figures, the Vietnamese shipping lines will handle 15 million tonnes and expect to occupy a 15 per cent market share by 2005; 29 million tones and a 29 per cent share in 2010; and 77 million and a 40 per cent share in 2020.

There are also too few large vessels, resulting in low competitiveness in the international market. The Vietnam Port Authority said local ports should be upgraded if the country is to become a container transport hub in the region.

Vietnam's 90 ports possess only six high-capacity container handling cranes, worth around US$4.5-6.5 million each, while Singapore claims to have up to 100 high capacity cranes worth around $8.5-11 million each.

Current Vietnamese ports have a combined handling capacity of about 3,000 tonnes per pier metre annually, whereas corresponding rates in the region often reach 5,000 tonnes.

Ports in Vietnam have therefore been unable to accommodate heavy-weight vessels and local shipping vessels are limited to 15,000 tonnes although larger sizes are more effective, the Vietnam Port Authority said.

Vu Ngoc Son, general director of the Vietnam Maritime Corp, said container transport fees to and from Vietnam are currently higher than those in other ASEAN countries due to high operating costs.

This factor must be dealt with to face forecasts, from the United Nations' **Economic** and **Social Commission Asia** and the Pacific, of a 7.1 per cent growth in the region's container flows next year.

Building deep sea ports now seems an urgent task for Vietnam, industry experts said.

Current constructions include the Cai Lan Port in northern Quang Ninh Province, the ports of Chan May, Da Nang, Dung Quat and Van Phong in the central province, and Phu My, Ben Dinh-Sao Mai and Cai Mep in the south.

(VNA)

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---ASIA AND THE PACIFIC---

ASIAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES TO CONSIDER REGIONAL POLICY ON E-COMMERCE - BY 2005, ONE DOLLAR IN EVERY FIVE SPENT IN ONLINE PURCHASES WILL BE ASIAN

As people in Asia and the Pacific region spend more time and money online, questions are being raised about whether a need exists for a region-wide plan of action to coordinate development of e-commerce.

As a result, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in close collaboration with the Royal Thai Government, are jointly organizing a regional conference to explore the option of a coordinated strategy in dealing with the rapid growth of electronic commerce.

Ministers and senior officials as well as all stakeholders of the e-commerce policy-making process, from both the public and private sectors will be among the more than 150 delegates expected to attend the UNCTAD-UNESCAP Asia-Pacific Regional Conference: E-Commerce Strategies for Development, at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, from 20 -22 November 2002.

The three-day conference will examine various policy options for the development of e-commerce in the Asia and Pacific region. Based on best practices, it will identify key elements of national and regional e-strategies.

On 22 November, Government Ministers and Deputies from various countries of the region will be take part in a High-level round-table debate on e-commerce strategies for development in the Asia-Pacific region, with a keynote address by Thailand's Prime Minister, H.E. Thaksin Shinawatra.

The conference is expected to adopt a Declaration on Electronic Commerce for Development, expressing the political will of governments to promote e-commerce as an instrument of development in the region.
For more information on the United Nations and its activities, please visit the main UN website at www.un.org or the UN Pakistan website at www.un.org.pk

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Date: 1 December 2002

Summary

Sunday, December 01, 2002 - 12:00 a.m. Pacific

On track: Asian governments plan cross-continental rail networks

By Denis Gray
The Associated Press

Train buffs of the world, get ready for some great rides: Seoul to Moscow, for example, or tropical Singapore to the highlands of Southern China.

Plans are also chugging along for high-speed trains in South Korea and China, lines through one-time war zones and within rail-less Laos, even an Asia-Europe passage under the Bosporus.

"Past cooperation has been slow, but now there is more political will and interest," said Barry Cable, a United Nations transportation expert, of a decades-old project to link the farthest corners of Asia with Europe while developing regional rail networks.

Regardless of political backing, experts say train transport in Asia will inevitably boom this century, since roads simply won't be able to carry the mounting traffic. Tourist promoters and environmentalists are likewise enthusiastic.

"The train projects will open up many tourism opportunities. They will certainly attract new business for the whole region," says Luzi Matzig of Asian Trails, a Bangkok-based tourist agency that has pioneered travel to more remote areas of Southeast Asia.

When complete, an envisioned trans-Asian railway is to encompass two major east-west flows: A northern corridor will link the Korean peninsula to Moscow and the eastern gates of Europe. A southern route is to run from Bangladesh across India, Pakistan and Iran and on to Istanbul, Turkey. A tunnel under the Bosporus would make the Asia-Europe connection. Both routes would be coupled to Southeast Asia.



Enlarge MANISH SWARUP / AP

Indian commuters sit atop an overcrowded train as it leaves Palam station in New Delhi. One of the world's longest train rides, a 9,400-mile journey from Singapore to Scotland, may not be far off as planners and engineers cobble together the last links of a vast railway network spanning the Asian continent.

INFORMATION

See the United Nations Web site on trans-Asian railways: www.unescap.org/tctd/tar

Search web archive

A major regional initiative, first proposed by Malaysia in 1995, calls for a 3,344-mile line from Singapore at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula to Kunming, capital of China's southernmost province of Yunnan.



Enlarge CHARLES DHARAPAK / AP, 1997

A Thai baggage handler watches as passengers step from a train arriving from Butterworth, Malaysia, at Bangkok's Hua Lumphong station.

Spurs to Myanmar and within Laos, which does not yet have a single foot of track, would be part of the plan, which is being pushed by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The project is viewed as a vehicle to better bind the economies of the region and provide Southern China with easier access to the sea and to markets in the area.

Honorio R. Vitasa of ASEAN says the major challenge facing the Singapore-Kunming line, which would take a decade to complete, is attracting some $2.5 billion in needed funds.

Rickety old tracks need rehabilitation and 267 miles of gaps in Cambodia will have to be filled before a Singapore-Kuala Lumpur-Bangkok-Phnom Penh-Ho Chi Minh City-Hanoi-Kunming journey is possible.

North Korea and Myanmar are key barriers to the dream for the trans-Asian railway, which was first proposed in 1960 and is now supported by 24 nations.

But this fall, North and South Korea agreed to restore the 15-mile rail link through the demilitarized zone dividing those nations, and preliminary work has already begun. The last train ran through the area at the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950.

"We're very optimistic and enthusiastic. There will be some hiccups, but this time it seems there is a real commitment to reconnection," says Cable, an official at the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The United Nations says that over the past half-decade, expanded roadways accounted for most of the growth in Asian land transport. But railways remained vital.

Asian trains carry about 18 billion passengers and 3.6 billion tons of freight a year over 217,500 miles of track. They employ 7 million people.

Pierre Chartier, another United Nations expert, says Asian planners are becoming more aware of "congestion costs" and environmental harm from road travel. Rail offers greater safety, lower fuel consumption and less pollution.

Some $73 billion will be spent in Asia on rail projects between 2001 and 2006, with China accounting for $45 billion, the United Nations says.

The Chinese are planning to put high-speed trains into service, while South Korea has already begun work on a link between its capital, Seoul, and the port of Busan that will see trains whiz along at 186 mph.

The first phase is due for completion in 2004.



Enlarge

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Press/Media: BANGKOK POST - Business
Page(s): 3
Date: 9 December 2002

Summary

Travel Monitor

IMTIAZ MUQBIL

Asian Highway closer to reality

Regional road-transport officials have taken yet another step forward on the Asian Highway by clearing the first reading of the proposed intergovernmental agreement designed to harmonise the technical and legal aspects of this far-reaching infrastructure project.

With funding help from the Japanese government, representatives of 26 Asia-Pacific countries met in Bangkok early last month to discuss the first draft of the agreement, prepared by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap).

Based on the European agreement on international traffic arteries (AGR), the agreement pinpoints hundreds of towns and cities in 31 countries that will be linked by the 130,000-km network of the Asian Highway.

It specifies the technical details of the roads that will qualify for inclusion in the network as well as the legal processes by which states can accede to or withdraw from the agreement or propose amendments to the routes in their respective territories.

Barry Cable, chief of Escap's transport and tourism division, described the meeting as the beginning of a long process in the build-up to the Escap annual ministerial session in Shanghai in 2004, when the agreement should be finalised for endorsement.

Over the next few months, the draft will be further refined at four subregional seminars planned in the Asean, South, Northeast and Central Asian regions. Thereafter, the working group that met in Bangkok will meet again in the third quarter of 2003 to consider the draft prior to final submission.

First launched in 1959, the Asian Highway is designed to develop road transport infrastructure in Asia and link Asia with Europe, promoting regional and international economic and social development, as well as opening up new potential for tourism and trade.

It is part of the comprehensive Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development (Altid) project that includes the Trans-Asian Railway. Escap is working to integrate the highway and railway projects and further link them to inland waterways and maritime transport.

Road and rail transport is critical to the development of the region's many landlocked countries such as Laos, Bhutan, Nepal, Mongolia, Afghanistan and the Central Asian republics.

Further integration with airports will give the region's tourism industry huge advantages in terms of upgraded transportation infrastructure, a major deficiency in realising the tourism potential of many developing economies.

"The coordinated development of the AH network is seen as being essential to cope with the increased potential for cross-border and transit movements of goods and vehicles, particularly in light of the ongoing process of globalisation," said Mr Cable.

He said regional transport officials realise that there is an unprecedented level of demand for transport in the region and are worried that inefficiencies in the transport system are adding costs unnecessarily.

In designing the Asian Highway network, the basic principle is to minimise

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 2

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST - Business Date: 9 December 2002

Page(s): 3

Summary

the number of roads, primarily for cost reasons, and to make maximum possible use of existing infrastructure.

This allows countries to stay focussed on developing and upgrading what exists, rather than adding new roads.

There is a huge amount of work to be done in terms of construction of missing links and bridges, upgrading of substandard sections and allocating adequate resources for maintenance.

Running parallel to the AH project is the Trans-Asian Railway project, which has a much longer way to go but also has great potential for tourism, especially in view of the upmarket travellers who are attracted by luxury regional rail journeys such as the Eastern and Oriental Express between Singapore and Thailand, and the Palace on Wheels in India.

All these road, rail and road-cum-rail routes are based on maximising the potential of existing and potential trade and tourism flows. Hence, they focus on capital-to-capital links, connections to main industrial and agricultural centres, major sea and river ports and major container terminals and depots.

One primary objective of the draft agreement for the Asian Highway is to ensure that the roads identified for development meet specific uniform standards and link up with each other at border crossings.

At the many preparatory meetings held to take the project forward, each AH member country has been asked to update the information on its national highways and submit country reports covering the general status of the national road network, including the Asian Highway routes, future plans for road development, an update of border crossing procedures and facilities, and promotional activities.

In several countries, the poor condition of existing roads is a major problem. Key areas include India, Laos, Bangladesh, Burma and the Central Asian republics.

To increase awareness of the importance of the Asian Highway, Escap has been providing information to highway administrations, road developers, financing institutions, road users, tourists, private sector parties and the general public. It has also developed an Asian Highway Database, which currently includes details of the AH network within 26 member countries.

Once the draft agreement is implemented and states begin acceding to it, they will be required to facilitate recognition of the Asian Highway by all road users by installing AH route signs along the routes within their borders. New maps are also planned to replace some of the old ones.

Mr Cable said that while most of the countries would fund their own highway upgrading projects, some of the least developed would require outside help from groups such as the Asian Development Bank.

The Asian Highway web site address is: www.unescap.org/tctd/ah/

◆ *Imtiaz Muqbil is executive editor of Travel Impact Newswire, an e-mail-delivered feature and analysis service focusing on the Asia-Pacific travel industry.*



12/09/2002 13:21:39

Asia Highway project closer to reality: ESCAP official

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Asia Highway project closer to reality: **ESCAP** official, XINHUA
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December 09, 2002
XINHUA
CHINA
ENGLISH

Asia Highway project closer to reality: **ESCAP** official, XINHUA

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BANGKOK, Dec. 9 (Xinhua)--After nearly a half century's efforts, the proposed project to link Asia's highway system is closer to reality as regional governments have worked out a draft agreement, a UN official said.

The Bangkok Post newspaper Monday quoted Barry Cable, chief of the transportation division of the local-based UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**), as saying so.

The draft pact, which was agreed at an **ESCAP** meeting here last month, pinpointed hundreds of towns and cities in 31 Asian countries which will be linked by the 130,000 km continental highway network known as Asia Highway, he said. For the next few months, the draft will be further refined at four subregional seminars in the Southeast, Northeast, South and Central Asian

regions before another **ESCAP** meeting to reconsider the draft in 2003, according to Barry.

The regional governments are expected to finalize the agreement for endorsement at the annual session of the **ESCAP** in 2004 in Shanghai, he said.

First initiated in 1959, the Asia Highway project is designed to develop road transport infrastructure in Asia and link Asia with Europe, promoting regional and international economic and social development, as well as opening up new potential for tourism and trade.

It is also part of the more comprehensive Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development project that includes the Trans-Asia Railway scheme.

ESCAP, the largest intergovernmental socioeconomic organization in the region, is working to integrate the highway and railway projects and further link them to inland waterways and maritime transport.

Barry said road and rail transport is critical to the development of the region's many landlocked countries such as Laos, Bhutan, Nepal, Mongolia, Afghanistan and the Central Asian republics.

To increase awareness of the importance of the Asia Highway, **ESCAP** has been providing information to highway administrations, road developers, financing institutions, road users, tourists and the general republic in the region.

It has also developed an online database of Asia Highway which is accessible for all.

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3. Various

Press/Media: Page(s): 4	Krungthep Turakij	Date: 4 October 2001

Summary



ต้านสงคราม : สหพันธ์นิสิตนักศึกษาแห่งประเทศไทย เดินทางมายังสถานเอกอัครราชทูตสหรัฐ ที่เตรียมทำสงครามกับอัฟกานิสถาน ที่หน้าตึกองค์การสหประชาชาติ ถ.ราชดำเนินนอก

Members of the Students Federation of Thailand submit the letter to the Representative of the United Nations' Secretary-General, requesting to revise its policy and stop supporting US plans to Afghanistan.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press Media: Thai Rath Page(s): 1	Date: 4 October 2001

Summary



Members of the Students Federation of Thailand submit the letter to the Representative of the United Nations' Secretary-General, requesting to revise its policy and stop supporting US plans to Afghanistan.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

TOTAL PAGE(S):

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST

Page(s): 1 (front page)

Date: 4 October 2001

Members of the Students Federation of Thailand rally in front of the United Nations in Bangkok yesterday. They want the UN to withdraw support from US plans to fight Afghanistan and for Washington to consider reviewing its policy. — APICHART HNAM-I

UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

UNWIRE

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Oct. 24, 2001

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GUINEA-BISSAU: Parliament Adopts No-Confidence Motion On President

Quote of the Day:

"There are those on both sides who believe that blood must wash blood. ... The leaders carry a heavy burden to break this dangerous logic."

-- U.N. special envoy for the Middle East **Terje Roed-Larsen**, saying yesterday that violence has brought the Middle East to the most dangerous moment in a decade.

Read the full story

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U.N. AFFAIRS

U.N. DAY: Leaders, Countries Commemorate Work Of World Body

In honor of U.N. Day today, U.N. Secretary General **Kofi Annan** said he hopes the recent awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the world body will inspire all its members to tackle challenges with even greater determination.

"Today, on U.N. Day 2001, I urge the entire United Nations family to stay true to our mission, and to work harder than ever to alleviate suffering in every part of the world," he said. "As the world confronts a new challenge, old ones remain. The United Nations is more central than ever to creating a better and safer world for all" (U.N. release, Oct. 24).

U.N. Undersecretary General **Kim Hak-Su** said in comments marking U.N. Day that the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States "raised serious questions about respect for the rule of law and individual freedoms" and that the need to deal with the threat of terrorism "squarely and effectively" places enormous responsibilities on the United Nations.

"No individual groups or people or states can lay claim to a moral higher ground," he said. Kim also pointed out that the pursuit of peace is "inextricably linked with economic and social development" and called for collective action to ensure freedom in the Asia-Pacific region (U.N. release II, Oct. 24).

Pakistani President **Pervez Musharraf** expressed great pleasure in celebrating the 56th anniversary of the United Nations. "The tragic events of Sept. 11 underscore the need for the international community to work together even more closely in addressing the complex challenges being faced by us today. On this U.N. Day, we need to reiterate our pledge to make this world a better place to live for all of us," he said (Associated Press of Pakistan/*Dawn*, Oct. 24).

Bangladesh also celebrated U.N. Day today, renewing its commitment to the principles of the U.N. charter, but called the celebration "ironic," in light of the U.S.-led campaign against Afghanistan in the international fight against terrorism (Dhaka *Independent*, Oct. 24).

(Back to Contents)

HEALTH

TUBERCULOSIS: World Bank, WHO Launch $9.3 Billion Global Initiative

With the goal of creating a tuberculosis-free world in 50 years, the Stop TB Partnership, a project of the **World Health Organization**, the **World Bank**, Partners in Health and the Open Society Institute, yesterday officially unveiled a five-year, $9.3 billion global plan to stop the disease's rapid spread across the planet.

"The overriding principle of the plan is to communicate this one simple message: We can control TB," WHO Director General **Gro Harlem Brundtland** said at a Washington press conference. "It will grant hundreds of thousands of people with TB the measures needed to fight this curable illness," she said, calling the global burden of TB "immense." According to Brundtland, TB each year affects 8 million people and kills 2 million, "even though there is a simple, cost-effective intervention cure that has been available for decades."

Brundtland said that in the past 18 months, almost all of the 22 countries that account for 80 percent of tuberculosis cases have developed comprehensive national plans to fight the disease -- plans that will be an "integral" part of the Global Plan to Stop TB. These countries "will provide their share," she said, calling for a "major injection of development aid" to achieve the plan's goals in light of the current $4.5 billion funding gap.

With the tuberculosis rate increasing in industrialized countries, Brundtland said, "This is not only the right thing to do ... but it is also an act of enlightened self-interest." Billionaire philanthropist and Open Society Institute founder **George Soros** echoed Brundtland's statements, saying that the $1 billion cost of eradicating an outbreak of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis on New York's Rikers Island justifies the role developed countries have in combating the disease "at its source." He added, "By treating cases now and preventing future transmission of the TB bacillus, countries can avoid much more costly interventions in the future."

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 15 (sports)
Date: 24 October 2001

ATHLETICS

UN Day Run takes place on Sunday

On Sunday (October 28), over 8,000 runners are expected to participate in the 19th annual United Nations Day 10-km international run in Bangkok which will start and finish at the UN building, Rajdamnern Nok Avenue.

Starting times are 6.25am for wheelchair athletes and 6.30am for the 10-km Run.

The annual run attracts the largest number of athletes, both local and foreign, of any road race in Thailand.

A special Marafun for Kids, organised with the kind permission of the Royal Thai Army, starts at 6.30am in the Royal Thai Military Headquarters adjacent to the UN building.

The Marafun is open to all children below the age of 12 years.

All proceeds from the UN Day Run, expected to be around 200,000 baht, will be donated by the organisers to Thai charities, particularly those devoted to helping people with disabilities, especially children.

Recipients include the Home for Mentally Handicapped Girls (Ban Rachavadi) Pakred, the Center for the Protection of Children's Rights Foundation (CPCR) and Outward Bound Thailand.

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S):

Press/Media: **BANGKOK POST** Date: 29 October 2001

Page(s): 16 (*sports*)

Scores & Standings



UN RUN PROVES A HIT

Thousands of runners joined the UN Day 10-km marathon in front of the UN Building, Rajadamnoen Rd, yesterday. The event was won by Bunchu Chandecha. — SOMCHAI LAOPAISARNTHAKSIN

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: **Thai Rath** Page(s): 4	Date: 2 November 2001

Summary



วันสหประชาชาติ ดร.สุรเกียรติ์ เสถียรไทย รมว.ต่างประเทศ เป็นผู้แทนนายกรัฐมนตรี ไปกล่าว ... ในงานวันสหประชาชาติ โดยมีเด็กจากสถานรับเลี้ยงเด็กบ้านราชวิถี ไปร้องเพลง ประสานเสียงในงานด้วย ที่ศูนย์ประชุมสหประชาชาติ ถนนราชดำเนิน วันก่อน

United Nations Day – H.E. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand addressed on behalf of the Prime Minister in the occasion of the United Nations Day at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok on 24 October. The children from Child Care Centre (Ban Rajchavithi) had performed a chorus on this event.

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M2 PRESSWIRE

December 19, 2001

LENGTH: 734 words

HEADLINE: UN
Libraries in China and Republic of Korea designated United Nations depository libraries

BODY:

Three libraries, located in China and the Republic of Korea, have been designated United Nations depository libraries, becoming part of an international network of 406 libraries in 144 countries and territories that brings United Nations documents and publications to users around the world.

They are the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing, China), Yan-Tai University (Yan-Tai, China) and Dong-eui University (Pusan, Republic of Korea).

The Institute of Law of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) in Beijing becomes the nineteenth United Nations depository library in China. Established in 1977, CASS is the highest academic research organization in this field in China. The Library of the Institute of Law, whose facilities are used by 430 persons on a regular basis, holds about 300,000 monographs and 20,000 serials in Chinese as well as other languages. Two librarians will be assigned to maintain the United Nations deposit, which consists of online access to the full text of parliamentary documents and printed publications in Chinese and English. The Law School of Yan-Tai University in Yan-Tai, established in 1984, becomes the twentieth United Nations depository library in China. The Law School Library, which

provides service to 1,500 regular users, holds approximately

15,000 monographs and 16,000 serials in Chinese and other languages. Two librarians will be assigned to maintain the United Nations deposit, which consists of printed publications and masthead documents of the United Nations, including Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) masthead documents, in Chinese and English.

Dong-eui University in Pusan becomes the eighth United Nations depository library in the Republic of Korea. Founded in 1979 as Dong-eui College, the University has about 22,600 students and 850 faculty members. Its Central Library, which holds 635,000 monographs and serials, established the Dong-eui Library Information Automation System, the first library automation project in the country. More than 24,000 persons use the Library annually. Two librarians will be assigned to manage the United Nations deposit, which consists of online access to the full text of parliamentary documents and printed publications in English.

Since 1946, the Dag Hammarskjold Library at United Nations Headquarters in New York, which is part of the Department of Public Information (DPI), has arranged for the distribution of United Nations documents and publications to users around the world through its depository library system.

At present, there are 406 United Nations depository libraries: 55 are located in Africa, 111 in Asia and the Pacific, 19 in Western Asia, 31 in Eastern Europe, 81 in Western Europe, 51 in Latin America and the Caribbean and 58 in North America. These libraries receive United Nations materials, with the understanding that their collections will be maintained in good order and made available to the general public free of charge.

United Nations Member States, as well as non-members, are entitled to one free depository, usually the national library in the capital city. In addition, the national parliamentary library, if open to the public, is also entitled to receive material free of charge. Other depository libraries pay a token annual contribution to receive United Nations documentation. Developing countries pay a significantly smaller amount than developed countries.

The designation of depositories is carried out by the United Nations Publications Board. The degree of development of the requesting libraries and the overall geographic distribution of depository libraries in the countries concerned are among the criteria used.

United Nations professional librarians and information officers make periodic visits to depository libraries to provide assistance and training in the management of the United Nations collection. In addition, special training seminars for depository librarians are periodically organized by the Dag Hammarskjold Library in New York and by the Library of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

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LOAD-DATE: December 19, 2001

02/13/2002 04:02:42

UN/ United Nations staff raise more than USD150,000 for victims of terror

attacks against United States

NEW YORK, M2 PRESSWIRE via NewsEdge Corporation : United Nations staff members have raised over $150,000 for a special relief fund set up by the United Nations Staff Union to help victims of the 11 September terror attacks against the World Trade Center in New York. The United Nations Staff Committee at Headquarters announced the establishment of the fund at a memorial service in September with an initial contribution of $25,000. The Secretary-General subsequently matched the staff union's donation and urged staff to add to that initial contribution as generously as possible. Staff from around the world have responded to his call.

The United Nations Staff Relief Committee for the Victims of the Terrorist Attack on the City of New York met several times since the end of October to vote on ways to disburse the funds. There was a general agreement to try and disburse the funds to those directly affected by the tragedy and to organizations that need it the most. To date, the Committee has approved and distributed $143,500, to be sent directly to victim families or to organizations that were asked to distribute the funds as soon as possible. Most of the funds were distributed between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

The largest disbursement, of $43,000, went to the families of restaurant workers lost at the top of the World Trade Center.

Amounts to others groups or individuals were: $24,000 for various service employees lost, $20,000 for electrical workers lost, $25,000 for families of United Nations-related individuals lost; $9,000 for municipal members lost; and $22,500 made to victim families through special requests by various staff members and other United Nations affiliates.

The Committee has identified another group of victims' families that need help and hopes to send the balance of the funds to them in the near future.

After the Staff Union announced the establishment of the Fund, staff responded with individual donations that in some cases ranged up to $3,000. In addition, many staff associations -- including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS)/ Staff Association and the staff councils of United Nations Office in Vienna, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) -- made donations and/or helped in collecting funds.

Contributions were received from various peacekeeping missions, especially from the staff of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, which raised over $4,000. United Nations Information Centres from Paris to Tokyo also responded generously.

Groups like African Action on AIDS and the United Nations Hospitality Committee donated money, as well as helped collect funds.

The President of the Staff-Management Coordination Committee, Joseph Verner Reed, serves as Co-Chairperson of the Committee along with the President of the United Nations Staff Union, Rosemarie Waters. Other members include Guy Candusso, Coordinator; Christiane Leboeuf, Treasurer; and Emad Hassanin, member. All monies collected are going directly to help the victim families.

Burmese leader Khin Nyunt meets UN Asia body chief
BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political; London; Feb 26, 2002;

*Sic:***928120**
Start Page: 1
Dateline: BURMA
Companies: United Nations*Sic:***928120**
Abstract:
Lt-Gen [Khin Nyunt], secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC] received Executive Secretary Mr Kim Hak-su and party from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP] of the United Nations...

Full Text:
TV Myanmar, Rangoon, in Burmese 1330 25 Feb 02/BBC Monitoring/(c)BBC

Text of report by Burmese TV on 25 February

Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council [SPDC] received Executive Secretary Mr Kim Hak-su and party from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP] of the United Nations [UN] at the guest house of the Ministry of Defence at 0730 [local time] on 25 February.

Also present at the call were U Soe Tha, minister of National Planning and Economic Development; U Win Aung, minister of Foreign Affairs; U Khin Maung Win, deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and Thura U Aung Htet, director-general of the Protocol Department.

Credit: TV Myanmar, Rangoon, in Burmese 1330 25 Feb 02

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Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): *(Opinion & Analysis)* 3
Date: 25th March 2002

Guards at Escap site to carry arms

Despite praising levels of safety in Thailand, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has outlined a major plan to beef up security at the Escap compound in Bangkok that includes the stationing of armed guards, as well as the installation of motion detectors and closed-circuit TV at the site.

Mr Annan revealed the measures, estimated to cost about 30 million baht, in a 38-page report on UN security around the world. The dramatic upgrade at the regional headquarters of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, located on Ratchadamnoen avenue, was required "to provide an adequate level of security for the complex."

Also under the plan, mail destined for the 22-rai compound would be scanned and sorted at a reinforced off-site facility, and concrete barriers would ring the perimeter of the complex to prevent unauthorised parking.

Guards stationed at the compound would be trained in the use of firearms and issued unspecified weapons, as well as bullet-proof vests and four-wheel-drive vehicles.

"It is a standard requirement that all UN security officers carry firearms when on duty," according to Mr Annan's report.

Although many embassies in Bangkok are guarded by special units, the Escap compound will be the first foreign-owned mission to post its own armed security personnel in public.

Regardless of the planned security upgrade, Mr Annan praised public safety in Thailand and said there was no immediate threat to the UN complex.

Law and order "is well under control by local authorities. The crime rate is considered relatively low," the report said. "There are no specific threats against the United Nations."



U.N. to beef up security at ESCAP

BANGKOK, Mar 25 (TNA) — The United Nations will beef up security at the Bangkok-based headquarters of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) although there are no threats against the U.N. compound, according to a U.N. report.

In a report on U.N. security around the world, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said that the stepped up security measures would include the stationing of armed guards, and the installation of motion detectors and closed-circuit T.V. at the ESCAP regional office, located on Ratchadamnoen Avenue here.

Guards stationed at the 22-rai ESCAP compound would be trained in the use of firearms and unspecified weapons, as well as bullet-proof vests, and four-wheel drive vehicles, he stated.

With the beefed up measures, the Bangkok-based ESCAP compound will be the first foreign mission in the country to set up its own armed security guards in public.

Letters and documents sent to the ESCAP compound would also be scanned and sorted at a reinforced off-site facility, Mr. Annan said in the 38-page report.

Concrete barriers would also be put around the perimeter of the ESCAP regional office to prevent unauthorized parking, he indicated.

The U.N. Secretary-General, however, praised the public safety in Thailand, saying that there has been no threat against the ESCAP compound.

"There are no specific threats against U.N. offices in Thailand; while law and order in the kingdom is under control, and the crime rate is relatively low", said the U.N. Secretary-General in the report. (TNA)—E002

Last Update : 3/25/2002 Time : 2:34:34 PM (-7=GMT)

:: Stock Exchange of Thailand

National News

- BOT set to regulate credit cards issued by non-bank institutions
- Traditional fishing boats to be phased out
- 400 year-old battleship found in pristine condition
- Govt to abolish university entrance exam
- Poll finds tourists happy in Thailand
- Cigarette packets to soon be printed with graphic health warnings
- Cobra Gold 2002 expected to generate over Bt100 into Thai economy
- Opposition to lodge no confidence motion against govt this week
- Car thieves slip up on petrol
- Father of quadruplets pleads for help
- Thailand-Malaysia to sign electricity deal

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Local News:

Bangkok Post | The Nation | Business Day | Pattaya Mail | Phuket Gazette | Thai TV global network

World News:

Business World (Philippines) | South China Morning Post (Hong kong) | The Hindu (India) | Asahi Shimbun (Japan) | The Star (Malaysia) | Jakarta Post (Indonesia) | China Daily (China) | The Korea Herald (South Korea) | Xinhua (China) | WAM (Emirates) | VOANews | Reuters Asia | News Analysis | Asiaweek

■ MCOT News Search

Associated Press

04/08/2002 15:37:46

Escap representative among award recipients

BC-**ESCAP**-REPRESENTATIVE, sked,0235

Escap representative among award recipients, NEW STRAITS TIMES-MANAGEMENT TIMES
xfdws **ESCAP**-REPRESENTATIVE sked Emerging Markets Datafile
April 08, 2002
NEW STRAITS TIMES-MANAGEMENT TIMES
MALAYSIA
ENGLISH

Escap representative among award recipients, NEW STRAITS TIMES-MANAGEMENT TIMES

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JOHOR BARU, Sun.-The Minister Counsellor/Permanent Representative to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**Escap**), Halimah Abdullah, heads the list of 617 award recipients in conjunction with the Sultan of Johor's 70th birthday tomorrow.

Halimah, who is attached to the Malaysian Embassy in Bangkok, is joined by Satish Sehgal, adviser to the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department at the top of the list.

They will receive the Darjah Paduka Mahkota Johor Yang Amat Mulia Pangkat Dua (DPMJ) award, which carries the title ``Datuk''.

There are 23 recipients of the Pingat Lama dan Baik Dalam Pekerjaan (PLP) award.

Three will receive the Pingat Kerana Jasa dan Lama Dalam Pekerjaan (PJP), 497 the Pingat Ibrahim Sultan Pangkat Kedua (PIS II) award, and 92 the recipient list of the Pingat Ibrahim Sultan Pangkat Ketiga (PIS III) award.

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387

Soul-searching

Imtiaz Muqbil

World religions renew their vows of relevance

The World Council of Religions is about to descend on Bangkok where, for once, it will put finding solutions to worldly problems ahead of religious differences

Ministers responsible for the social and economic development of Asia Pacific countries will gather in Bangkok this week for their annual talk-fest on the never-ending range of regional problems. In the august halls of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, they will moan and groan about imbalanced trade and globalisation, poverty, environmental degradation, money shortages, the rich-poor gap, etc., etc.

At the end of it they will sign off on another bunch of resolutions saying pretty much the same things as last year before being driven off in their limousines to Bangkok's waiting department stores to stock up on some gifts and goodies.

As for all the problems they discussed, ESCAP will have to report back next year about what was done to alleviate them. Needless to say, many of them will still be around, the problems anyway, if not necessarily the ministers.

Next month, however, another group of leaders will fly into Bangkok, not those in charge of socio-economic development, but the "development" of the spirit and the soul. Their job: To approach many of these same problems from a loftier angle. After years of relying on ministers, bureaucrats, consultants and experts of various ilks, and making limited progress, if any, the United Nations has decided to seek higher-level help.

A total of about 80 abbots, archbishops, muftis, swamis, lamas, reverends and rabbis are to be in Bangkok for the historic launching of the World Council of Religious Leaders on June 12-14 at Buddhamonthon and at the ESCAP headquarters.

For the first time, the UN has decided that because it shares the same goals as the world's religions and religious leaders, it is time to permanently rope them into the effort and bring their wisdom to bear in achieving a just, peaceful and sustainable world. The Mission Statement of the meeting declares thus:

"The World Council of Religious and Spiritual Leaders aims to serve as a model and guide for the creation of a community of world religions. It seeks to inspire women and men of all faiths in the pursuit of peace and mutual understanding. It will undertake initiatives to provide the spiritual resources of the world's religious traditions to assist the United Nations and its agencies in the prevention, resolution and healing of conflicts, and in addressing global social and environmental problems.

"By promoting the practice of the universal human values shared by all religious traditions, and by uniting the human community for times of world prayer and meditation, the Council seeks to aid in developing the inner qualities and external conditions needed for the creation of a more peaceful, just and sustainable world society."

The Bangkok meeting is a follow-up to the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders held in August 2000 at the UN HQ in New York.

For the first time, nearly 2,000 religious leaders from all faith traditions and regions of the world convened for the unprecedented meeting.

Mr Emvu Jain, Secretary General of the Summit, says that the World Council of Religious and Spiritual Leaders is being created as a follow-up to that.

"In order to achieve this vision [of solving critical world problems], a coalition must be built between religion, government and business.

Such a coalition will provide the resources, wisdom and capabilities needed for addressing critical issues of conflict, intolerance, poverty and environmental degradation. Religion brings insight and understanding as well as the grassroots outreach to the community. Government brings the vehicle for change and business brings resources and ingenuity," says Mr Jain.

"This coalition is essential if the world is to progress to a more peaceful and just human society."

After the launching, a regional headquarters of the World Council will be set up in Bangkok, under the aegis of Mahachulalongkorn University.

Mr Jain says it will bring yet another international focus to the city and to the peace efforts of the world's faith traditions.

He added, "Bangkok can be a major venue as a zone of peace in Asia where people from different nations of Asia could come together to seek resolution to conflicts, especially those based on ethnic or religious differences. The Council will also work in collaboration with the UN to address the major social challenges confronting more than 40% of the world's population on the continent of Asia."

The meeting will be inaugurated by His Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn. It has the blessings and active participation of the Supreme Sangha, ESCAP and the Thai government.

By last week, the following were among the many leaders who had confirmed participation: Mr W.J.M Lokubandara, Minister of Buddhasasana, Sri Lanka; Mr Mohan Lal Mittal, President, World Hindu Congress; Mr Abdullah bin Abdul Mohsin Al-Turki, Secretary General, Muslim World League; Rabbi Meir Lau, Chief Rabbi of Israel; Reverend Ian Brown Campbell, Director, Department of Religion, Chautauqua Institution, New York; and Jawahar Manjit Singh of Anandpur Sahib, India.

Private companies and individuals are being approached to sponsor the gathering and help fund the participation of the religious leaders. Patrons and sponsors will have the opportunity to join the religious leaders at Buddhamonthon and attend the Plenary Sessions at ESCAP as well as all the private dinners, functions and press conferences. They will also be publicly recognised and listed on all materials as sponsor.

After a day of speeches at Buddhamonthon the gathering will move to ESCAP for more specific discussions on the very same issues that will be debated and discussed at the ESCAP ministerial session this week.

In an age when religions are being seen as outdated, controversial and part of the problem, Mr Jain says it is important for the leaders to propose new initiatives that will make them part of the solution. For years, societies have thrown both laws and money at problems, only to make progress that can best be described as two steps forward and one backward.

The meeting is significant in another way because it is designed to transcend the traditional focus on building inter-faith dialogue (which often gets bogged down in turf wars and get right to the heart of issues affecting common people, especially the poor and the marginalised.

The end goal is to alleviate conflict at sources of conflict, but in doing so, the religious leaders will have to first end conflicts amongst themselves. That has historically proven to be a daunting task. It will be interesting to see how this gathering will be different, as it has to be, if the religious leaders are to prove themselves capable of succeeding where ministers clearly have not.

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 3

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 5 (opinion & analysis)
Date: 9 June 2002

Summary

United Nations not about religion

Much as I enjoyed reading Imtiaz Muqbil's fine column last Sunday, June 2, I was not too pleased that he billed the forthcoming World Council of Religious Leaders Conference in Bangkok as being under the auspices of the United Nations.

While we encourage all efforts by civil society in the cause of peace and brotherhood, the UN is not about religion. The conference is being co-organised by the Maha Chula University and the Millennium World Peace Summit.

David Lazarus
Chief, UN Information Services

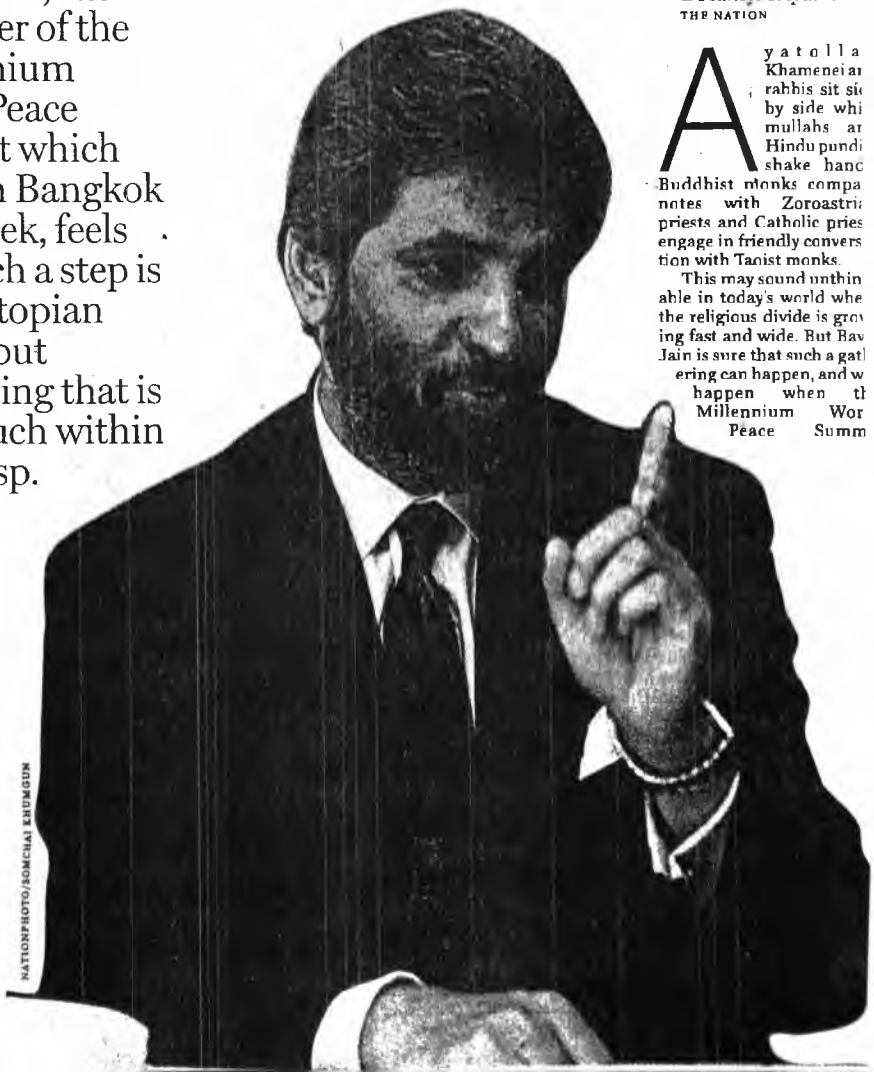
S CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 2
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: 6B (variety)
THE NATION
Date: 9 June 2002

Tolerance and mutual respect between religions are the stepping stones towards a global peace. Bawa Jain, the organiser of the Millennium World Peace Summit which starts in Bangkok next week, feels that such a step is not a Utopian dream but something that is very much within our grasp.

■ *Manote Trivathi*
THE NATION

Ayatolla Khamenei ar rabbis sit si by side whi mullahs ar Hindu pundi shake hanc Buddhist monks compa notes with Zoroastri priests and Catholic pries engage in friendly convers tion with Taoist monks.

This may sound unthin able in today's world whe the religious divide is gro ing fast and wide. But Bav Jain is sure that such a gat ering can happen, and w happen when th Millennium Wor Peace Summ



NATIONPHOTO/SOMCHAI KHUNGUN

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 2

Press/Media THE NATION Date: 9 June 2002

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starts in Bangkok next week for a three-day discussion.

Having just arrived in town to chair the summit, Bawa Jain is hoping to sow the seeds of peace in this region in his role as secretary-general. His mission transcends religious boundaries. During the past 20 years or so, Jain has been zipping around the world to meet religious and spiritual leaders to engage them in helping to solve critical problems of the world – from social and economic to ethnic.

"There are many challenges that religious leaders can deal with to help the world," says Jain, with a grin.

An Indian from the Punjab who grew up in Simla and Delhi, Jain is working in close liaison with the United Nations in an attempt to seek global harmony through non-violent means. Wearing a business suit, Jain has a thick bundle of hair, a long greying beard, and a sunny disposition; a testimony to his erudition and strong religious attachment. He's a practising Jain and often refers to Mahatma Gandhi for his strict following of non-violence.

But Bawa Jain is also receptive to the teachings of other religions as his mission is to rally religious leaders together for a series of peace conferences.

"Bringing them together is already a challenge," says Jain, adding, "you may have heard about some religious leaders not talking to those from countries considered their enemies. But at previous summits they have talked openly and engagingly with each other. The Jewish rabbis discuss important matters with Muslims. It's amazing."

Jain is a great believer in peace. The upcoming summit, which will include 200 leaders from major religions, as well as Taoism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, and Confucianism, has a major a goal of setting up World Council of Religious Leaders where these leaders can discuss solutions.

"It's impossible to go and ask one religious leader of a country to help solve the world's problems. He will not help. But if you bring them together and let them develop a dialogue with representatives from other faiths, then they will act," says Jain.

Jain's religious approach to social issues might not be new, but with international support and optimism he's confident that he can do the impossible. He can still recall how he met with Ayatollah Khamenei, the current supreme spiritual leader of Iran who enlightened him on the widespread misinterpretation of *jihad*, the buzzword that has spun out of many terrorist acts across the world.

"He told me once that *jihad* is not about killing. The real *jihad* is about protecting the environment because our very existence depends on it," he says.

Jain prefers not to comment on whether Ayatollah Khamenei is coming to Bangkok for the summit but believes that if the late Ayatollah Khomeini were still alive he would have been able to bring him to Bangkok.

"I enjoy making special efforts to go and meet these people, and because they are not like-minded, the summit will be a fascinating gathering."

But since the UN is the political body, Jain hints that some countries might want to maintain a clear separation from others to avoid confrontation. In essence, the summit offers an opportunity for these leaders to define how they want their religions to be perceived by the world. "That's why the summit will be a defining moment," he says.

The fundamental teaching of every religion is peace, he adds, but these days an act of violence is increasingly committed in the name of religion.

> "Ayatollah Khamenei told me once that jihad is not about killing. The real jihad is about protecting the environment because our very existence depends on it."

"Why is that? Traditionally, religions have been exploited for political reasons. So many conflicts are based on religious conflicts. Some countries resort to violence to end conflicts; but that's not a permanent solution. When you bring these leaders together, they can reflect on their own scriptures and teachings and come up with some peaceful solutions when they return to their homelands."

Indeed, the most important outcome of the summit will be to see whether these leaders *can* actually influence their political leaders in helping to reduce the exploitation of religion while empowering their faith, he adds.

"Religious leaders have enormous influence. Many political leaders follow a religion, true or not? And if they are experiencing difficult times who do they turn to? Religious leaders, right?" he enthuses.

Jain once dismissed a Camp David summit as unsuccessful when leaders of Israel, Palestine and Egypt came together to discuss peace in their region but never consulted their religious leaders. He says they were pressurised into coming and settling the issues.

In negotiations, everybody loses: "We have to go with the understanding that everybody has to sacrifice something...to let go of something to see that we can coexist peacefully."

His mission won't produce immediate results, he insists. Peace is a utopian concept and there will never be peace today, or tomorrow. But what we can do is to create a "moral awareness of responsibility of how humans can co-exist in harmony. This can help reduce the killings."

The Millennium World Peace Summit will be held from June 12 to June 14 at Buddhamonthon and UN Escap. Present at the conference will be Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, chief rabbi of Israel; Ayatollah Mahmoud Mohammadi Araghi, president of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organisation of Iran; Dr Abdullah Abdul Muhsin Al-Turki, secretary general of the World Muslim League; Ven Phra Thepsophon, rector of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University; and top religious leaders from the various nations.

PRESS CLIPPINGS
Press/Media: Thai Rath
Page(s): 15
Date: 11 June 2002
TOTAL PAGE(S): 2

"ประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ 1" ลบวิกฤติความขัดแย้ง

ศาสนาเสียสันติภาพของโลก!

นั่นคือ หัวใจและที่มาของการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก ครั้งโดยมีประเทศไทยเป็นเวทีในการแลกเปลี่ยนระหว่างผู้นำศาสนาทั่วอาทิ พุทธ อิสลาม คริสต์ ฮินดู ซิกข์ เชน เต๋า ขงจื๊อ บาไฮ โซโรเจเนียส ลัทธิ ไม่มีการแบ่งแยกลัทธิหรือความเชื่อ

กำหนดจัดงานใหญ่ครั้งนี้ คือ วันที่ 12-14 มิถุนายน 2545 ทธมณฑล และศูนย์ประชุมองค์กรสหประชาชาติ โดยมหาวิทยาลัยาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัย เป็นเจ้าภาพ

สำหรับการจัดงานระดับโลกครั้งนี้ สืบเนื่องจากเมื่อวัน 28-31 สิงหาคม 2543 คณะพระสงฆ์ไทย จำนวน 11 รูป นำสมเด็จพระพุทธโฆษาจารย์ กรรมการมหาเถรสมาคม เจ้าคณะพระสังฆาธิการ ผู้บริหารมหาจุฬาฯ ได้เดินไปร่วม ประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำศาสนาและจิตญาณเพื่อสันติภาพโลกในปีสหัสวรรษ ที่ สำนักงานใหญ่สหประชาชาติ กรุงนิวยอร์ก ประเทศรัฐอเมริกา ตามมติมหาเถรสมาคม ซึ่งการะชุมครั้งนั้น มีผู้นำศาสนาทั่วโลกเข้าร่วมะชุมกว่า 1,000 ชีวิต

และมติจากที่ประชุม คือ การตั้งาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก

ต่อมาเมื่อวันที่ 22-26 ตุลาคม 2544 มีการประชุมเตรียมการจัดตั้งสภาผู้นำาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ที่ประชุมได้ติจัดตั้งสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณโงโลก เพื่อทำหน้าที่เป็นองค์กรที่กษาด้านศาสนาและสันติภาพให้กับค์กรสหประชาชาติ ซึ่งจะมีผู้นำศาสนาโลกเป็นกรรมการ พร้อมกันเลือกประเทศยเป็นเจ้าภาพในการประชุมครั้งแรก



3. ยุติความขัดแย้ง โดยการใช้คำสอนทางศาสนาเป็นเครื่องเยียวยาบาดแผลของความขัดแย้งที่เกิดขึ้นในโลก รวมทั้งปลุกปลอบจิตใจของประชาชนด้วยคำสอนทางศาสนา

ทำอย่างไรก็ได้ให้เกิดสันติภาพ

พระศรีปริยัติโมลี รองอธิการบดีมหาจุฬาฯ ฝ่ายกิจการต่างประเทศ ขยายความต่อว่า การสร้างสันติภาพทางศาสนากับความเข้าใจของพระศรีปริยัติโมลี ยังมองลึกลงไปด้วยว่า การประชุมครั้งนี้เป็นโอกาสที่ดี เพราะปัญหาที่เกิดขึ้นเป็นสิ่งที่ท้าทายผู้นำของทุกศาสนา ถ้าจะให้ศาสนามีพลังในการสร้างสันติภาพให้เกิดขึ้นจริง ผู้นำศาสนาจะต้องสะสาความศิดกันใหม่ โดยเฉพาะเรื่องของความเข้าใจในหลักของศาสนา เพราศาสนาเป็นเรื่องของทิฐิ ขณะเดียวกันความขัดแย้งที่เกิดในหลายพื้นที่ขอโลก มีเรื่องของศาสนาเข้าไปเกี่ยวข้องด้วย

"การประชุมครั้งนี้จะมีการยกร่างธรรมนูญของสภาที่เกี่ยวข้องกับสิทธิมนุษยชน ความปลอดภัยในชีวิตทรัพย์สินของประชาชน การขจัดความยากจน ปัญหาอาชญากรรม สงครามและยาเสพติด รวมทั้งความเสื่อมโทรมด้านสิ่งแวดล้อม โดยใช้หลักคำสอนของศาสนามาประยุกต์ เพื่อช่วยแก้ปัญหาในเรื่องต่างๆเหล่านี้ นอกจากนี้ บทบาทที่สำคัญของสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก คือ การวางตนเป็นทั้งคนกลางและเป็นผู้ให้คำปรึกษาแก่องค์กรสหประชาชาติ ในกรณีที่เกิดปัญหาจากความขัดแย้งอันเนื่องมาจากศาสนา"

การประชุมจะมีชุมาชิกในสภาผู้นำศาสนาของโลกประมาณ 1,200 ชีวิต ร่วมหารือกำหนดบทบาทของสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก และจะมีข้อตกลงในการจัดตั้งสำนักงานสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลกในภูมิภาค

สานศรัทธาสู่สันติภาพ !

"การที่ประเทศไทยและมหาจุฬาฯ ได้รับเกียรติ เพราะมีความพร้อมในการดำเนินงานประชุมใหญ่ๆ ทางด้านศาสนา ที่สำคัญไทยตั้งอยู่ในทวีปเอเชีย ซึ่งเป็นต้นกำเนิดของศาสนาสำคัญๆของโลก นอกจากนี้ ยังเป็นประเทศที่มีพระพุทธศาสนาเป็นศูนย์กลางยึดเหนี่ยวจิตใจของประชาชนมาช้านาน และมีสิทธิเสรีภาพในการส่งเสริมกิจกรรมทางศาสนาของทุกศาสนา ทั้งยังมีสถาบันพระมหากษัตริย์เป็นองค์เอกอัครศาสนูปถัมภกทำนุบำรุงทุกศาสนา" พระเทพโสภณ อธิการบดีมหาจุฬาฯ ในฐานะประธานจัดงาน กล่าวถึงเหตุที่ไทยได้รับเกียรติให้เป็นเจ้าภาพประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ ๑

ส่วนจุดพักเหซึ่งนับเป็นสาเหตุสำคัญที่ต้องรีบจัดให้มีการประชุมอย่างเร่งด่วนนั้น พระเทพโสภณ ระบุว่า มาจากเหตุการณ์ถล่มตึกเวิลด์เทรด วันที่ ๑๑ พฤศจิกายน 2544 ทั้งนี้ เพื่อรักษาสันติภาพแห่งโลกให้เกิดขึ้น ดังนั้น ประเด็นหลักในการประชุมครั้งที่มี ๓ ประเด็น

๑. การป้องกันความขัดแย้ง

๒. การแก้ไขความขัดแย้งและ

ผู้นำทางการเมืองและคนทั่วไปไม่เหมือนกัน เพราะคนทั่วไปเข้าใจคำว่าสันติภาพ คือการไม่มีสงคราม แต่ความหมายทางศาสนาคือความหลุดพ้น ความสงบร่มเย็นภายใน ตราบใดที่ประชาชนยังอยู่ภายใต้กิเลส รัก โลภ โกรธ หลง เมื่อนั้นไม่มีสันติภาพ

"ขณะนี้โลกมี ๓ ปัญหาใหญ่ที่ต้องแก้ไข คือ ๑. สันติภาพ ๒. ความยากจน และ ๓. การเอารัดเอาเปรียบแก่งแย่งชิงดีและทำลายสิ่งแวดล้อม ทั้ง ๓ ประเด็นที่[illegible] จะหวังพลังทางการเมือง[illegible] คงแก้ไขไม่ได้ ต้องใช้พลังทางศาสนา เพราะอย่างน้อยประชาชนส่วนใหญ่มีความศรัทธาต่อศาสนา"

เขียนด้วย :

สำหรับผลที่คาดว่าจะได้จากการประชุมนั้น พระเทพโสภณกล่าวว่า คือการให้หนดบทบาทและทำที่

ร่วมกันอย่างจริงจัง ในฐานะที่เป็นผู้นำสันติภาพแก่องค์กรสงฆ์ประชาชาติในการเข้าไปใกล้เกลี่ยข้อพิพาทของแต่ละประเทศ ในฐานะผู้เผยแพร่ธรรมะไปให้ความช่วยเหลือ เรื่องความขัดแย้งที่เกิดขึ้น ถือเสียว่าธุระไม่ใช่ ซึ่งไม่ถูกต้อง เพราะปัญหาของเราแต่ละที่ล้วนเกี่ยวข้องกันและเป็นหนึ่งเดียว

ที่สำคัญเสียดายเปลี่ยนตัวนายกฯ ไม่มีสิ้นสุด

๓. การร่วมมือและการสร้างศรัทธาสัมพันธ์อันดีระหว่างผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณทั่วโลก ซึ่งเป็นวาระสำคัญยิ่งยวด

ในโลกที่เต็มไปด้วยความแก่งแย่งชิงดีเช่นนี้ และการต่อสู้เพื่อให้ได้มา

พระเทพโสภณกล่าวปิดท้ายว่า สิ่งที่ยังขาดอีกคือ การขับขานเพลงธรรมะสู่โลกศรัทธา เพื่อนำไปสู่ความสงบและสันติภาพอย่างแท้จริง!!

ทีมข่าวศาสนา

Newspaper: "Thai Rath"
Date: 6/11/02
Pg. 15

Thai newspaper "Thai Rath" reported on the background of the World Council of Religious Leaders meeting which will be held in Bangkok on 12-14 June, 2002. The theme is of aiming to minimize conflicts and harmonizing all beliefs into peace. The topics included are key issues such as peace, poverty and the environment. The team reports conclude that the key to a long lasting friendship is to preach religious values that promote a true peacefulness.

Seeking common ground

The secretary-general of the Millennium World Peace Summit, talks to 'Outlook' about the need for all religions to look deep into what their teachings have to offer and work together to counter the increase in violence around the world

VASANA CHINVARAKORN and ATTIYA ACHAKULWISUT

PRESS CLIPPINGS
Press/Media: BANGKOK POST OUTLOOK
Page(s): 3
Date: 12 June 2002
Summary

As political tension rises around the globe and with it the possibility of conflict, religious leaders are now convening in Bangkok to launch an international interfaith organisation called the World Council of Religious and Spiritual Leaders.

A spin-off from the World Peace Summit in New York, the World Council will function as an advisory body and a forum to create mutual understanding among different religions as well as work with the United Nations on alleviating conflicts, poverty and environmental degradation.

Below Bawa Jain, a Jain religious leader in Bangkok for the launch, talks about this new global effort to tackle conflicts, many of which stem from religious intolerance.

◆ *How did the World Council of Religious and Spiritual Leaders come into being? Why is it being launched here in Bangkok?*

Bawa Jain: The Millennium Peace Summit had two goals. First, for religious leaders to come together and sign a common commitment to world peace. Second, to begin a process to create an advisory council — the World Council of Religious Leaders.

During the last year and a half, I have been travelling around the world, preparing meetings on the structuring of the council.

Why Thailand? I have talked to many religious leaders. They felt comfortable coming to Bangkok. They felt this to be a neutral place. And Bangkok is also the regional headquarters of the United Nations.

◆ *The last Peace Summit was attended by more than 1,000 religious leaders but HH the Dalai Lama, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate and prominent spiritual leader, was not invited. Do you foresee a similar problem this time?*

I sat down with His Holiness before hand. We had a private meeting. I asked him what he would like me to do? I was in a dilemma. He said, 'This is a unique opportunity. For the first time, religious leaders from all over the world are coming to work at the UN. This is the beginning of a process.' He said, 'Don't worry. You should go ahead. Let's not lose this opportunity.'

◆ *Has political animosity stymied progress at past meetings?*

That is inevitable. When you bring these people together, the media come and they first ask: There is a problem between your countries, what are you going to do about it?

◆ *Religion does not exist in a vacuum.*

Many times, religion is at the centre of these conflicts. So what are religious leaders going to do? Rather than getting into the differences, we ask: What is it we can do together to fight poverty and issues about the environment.

As soon as these people came together, they started interacting with one another. They built up a certain trust. They developed confidence, becoming more open-minded and beginning to discuss these issues.

◆ *How do you reconcile the differences among religions?*

Sometimes, the difficulty is not between religions but within one religion. They will talk to people from other religions but they won't talk to those within their religion.

◆ *How would you describe the past two years of working to establish the World Council?*

There have been enormous challenges. Some religions do not have one head. Within the religion, there are many sects. So how do you work with that?

◆ *In the age of globalisation and advanced technology, religions are becoming more and more important. Is that why you choose to push for the issue among religious leaders?*

It is not even a choice. It has become a necessity. Either we are going to come and work together or we are going to perish together.

When you look back at the last century, it is the bloodiest in human history. About 30 million were killed and 80 percent of those conflicts were in the name of religion. One has to see this to evaluate: What is the use of religions? Are they bringing people together or are they dividing people and exacerbating conflicts?

◆ *Will each religion be equally represented at the World Council?*

What is equal? How do you judge? Based on the number of followers in such and such tradition? Say, if there are 100 people coming and the world is 25 percent Christian, do 25 of them need to be Christian?

No matter what we do, some people will be upset that they do not get into this. We realise that. What we initiated is a process, a long-term commitment.

What usually happens is an introspection. Perhaps one area to start is our scripture. Can religious scholars and leaders look back into the scriptures and reinterpret them for modernity? So that there is a new meaning based on the current time and the time that we are going into ...

To redefine your religion is a humbling experience. That means you have to acknowledge that something is not right. You have to have many brave people.

◆ *How many adherents does Jainism have?*

Around the world, an unofficial estimate has it that there are about 20 million Jains.

The Jain religion is a way of life. If you follow the path of non-violence in thought, words and deeds, and you follow vegetarianism for life, you are a Jain in spirit. It is that simple.

◆ *You mentioned in some interviews about the need to recognise and honour small people, local heroes who have done something for peace.*

It is important to acknowledge people who do things out of the ordinary in their communities because by recognising them, you are inspiring others to emulate them.

I always encourage people not to look for heroes out there. There are always people within your own circles. Look to them. Acknowledge them. Honour them. Emulate them.

◆ *But at the same time, you work with people at the world level. How will you be able to bridge the gap?*

If you start honouring local heroes today, they could be there [on the international level] in future.

◆ *What is your next plan of action?*

We will keep our focus on Asia. We plan to have our regional headquarters established in Bangkok and start to work with leaders in different countries in Asia.

Harnessing the power of religions is an enormous outreach. If we can only get a fraction of the percentage of people who believe in some religious traditions to work together, the potential is simply huge.

Press/Media: **Kao Sod**
Page(s): 31

Date: 12 June 2002



ม.มหาจุฬาฯจับมือยูเ
ประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำโล

พระสุธีวรญาณ รองอธิการบดีฝ่ายวิชาการมหาวิทยาลัย มหาจุฬาฯ เผยว่า สืบเนื่องจากเมื่อปีพ.ศ. 25
ไทยจำนวน 11 รูป นำโดยสมเด็จพระพุทธโฆษาจารย์ พร้อมด้วยคณะผู้บริหารมหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬา
ไปร่วมประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณเพื่อสันติภาพโลกในปีสหัสวรรษ ณ หอประชุมส
องค์การสหประชาชาติ นิวยอร์ก อเมริกา ตามมติมหาเถรสมาคม ต่อมาปี 2544 พระเทพโสภ
มหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬาฯ ได้เดินทางไปเข้าร่วมประชุมการจัดตั้งสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณ
สหรัฐอเมริกา ที่ประชุมได้มีมติให้กำหนดจัดการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก
กรุงเทพมหานคร โดยขอให้มหาวิทยาลัยเป็นเจ้าภาพร่วมกับที่ประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำฯ

รองอธิการบดี กล่าวอีกว่า สภามหาวิทยาลัยจึงได้จัดการประชุมระหว่างวันที่ 12-14 มิ.ย. 2545 ณ ห
มณฑล จ.นครปฐม และมีการประชุมต่ออีก 2 วัน ณ ศูนย์การประชุมองค์การสหประ
ราชดำเนินนอก กทม. ซึ่งจะมีผู้เข้าร่วมประชุมจำนวน 1,200 รูป/คน โดยมีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อเป็น
ประสบการณ์ในการใช้หลักการทางศาสนาสร้างสันติภาพโลก เพื่อสร้างความสัมพันธ์และความร่วมมื
ผู้นำทางศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณทั่วโลก และเพื่อให้ผู้นำต่างๆ ได้รู้วิธีการสร้างสันติภาพโลกเพื่อ
องค์การสหประชาชาติต่อไป

Newspaper: "Kao Sod"
Date: 6/12/02
Page: 31

Mahachulangkornrajavidyalaya Universty shakes hands with U.N. in a meeting of world leaders.

In 2000, 11 Thai monks travelled to the meeting of World Council of Religious Leaders in the United Nations Headquarters and in 2001 Venerable Phhra Thepsophon went to the meeting for developing the committee of the World Council of Religious Leaders. At that meeting, it was decided that the 1st World Council of Religious Leaders meeting would take place in Bangkok with the help of Mahachulalonkornrajavidyala University. The objective of the meeting is to provide a forum to exchange experiences in using religion to promote peace, to build relationships and partnerships between different religious leaders in promoting peace and to find ways to promote peace to suggest to the U.N.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

TOTAL PAGE(S)

Press/Media: **Rai Wun**
Page(s): 20

Date: 12 June 2002

12มิ.ย.ประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาโลก

พระเทพโสภณ อธิการบดีมหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัย เปิดเผยว่า มหาจุฬาฯ ร่วมกับที่ประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณเพื่อสันติภาพแห่งโลก และสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก จัดประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลกครั้งที่ 1 ระหว่างวันที่ 12-14 มิถุนายน ที่หอประชุมพุทธมณฑล และศูนย์ประชุมสหประชาชาติ ทั้งนี้ สืบเนื่องจากเมื่อเดือนตุลาคม 2544 ในการประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณเพื่อสันติภาพแห่งโลก ที่กรุงนิวยอร์ก สหรัฐอเมริกา ได้มีมติจัดตั้งสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก เพื่อทำหน้าที่เป็นองค์กรที่ปรึกษาด้านศาสนาและสันติภาพให้แก่สหประชาชาติ ซึ่งจะเชิญผู้นำศาสนาทั่วโลกเป็นกรรมการ พร้อมกันนี้นได้กำหนดจัดประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลกครั้งที่ 1 ที่กรุงเทพฯ โดยขอให้มหาจุฬาฯเป็นเจ้าภาพร่วมกับที่ประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณเพื่อสันติภาพแห่งโลก และสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก โดยจะมีผู้เข้าร่วมประชุมประมาณ 1,200 รูป/คน ทั้งนี้ ถือเป็นการประชุมครั้งสำคัญในประวัติศาสตร์ด้านสันติภาพโลก

Newspaper: "Rai Wun"
Date: 6/12/02
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12th June meeting of World Council of Religious Leaders

Venerable Phra Thepsophon, Rector of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, revealed that the University and the World Council of Religious Leaders are holding a conference from 12-14th of June at Buddahmonthon and the United Nations. In 2001at a meeting of World Council of Religious at New York, it was decided that a council of religious leaders of the world should be established with the purpose of advising the United Nations on issues of religion and peace. With that mandate in mind, it was decided the 1st Millennium World Peace Summit would be held in Thailand with over 1,200 participants from all over the world.

Press/Media: THE NATION
Page(s): 12A (*Variety*)
Date: 12 June 2002

Talk of the TOWN



A spiritual summit

Religion is cited as the cause of many wars, yet all faiths aspire to peace among men. In August 2000, more than one thousand religious leaders from all over the globe gathered for the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders held at UN headquarters in New York.

Among those present were 11 monks from Thailand led by Somdet Phra Phuddhakhosachan of Supreme Sangha Council, officers from Mahachaulakornrajvidyalaya University and the director of the religious affairs department. The meeting agreed on a resolution to establish a World Council of Religious and Spiritual Leaders.

In October last year, the first Steering Committee meeting was held in New York. Phra Thepsophon, rector of the university, participated in the meeting, which formally established the Nations in matters concerning religion and peace. It was also decided that the first meeting of the World Council would be held in Bangkok.

Today, almost two years after the Millennium Summit, the City of Angels plays host to the first meeting of this new World Council, which brings together 220 religious and spiritual leaders from various countries and another 2,000 participants from Thailand, including religious leaders, guests, students and teachers at the university.

During the three day conference, which opens at the Conference Hall at Buddhamonthon, Nakhon Pathom, before moving to the UN Conference Centre on Rajdamneorn Road in Bangkok, the leaders will exchange experiences and ideas for building world peace through religious principles. The recommendations will later be

Archbishop of New Delhi; Right Reverend T J Tshawane, Bishop of South Africa; Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, chief Rabbi of Israel and the World Council's co-chair, Ayatollah Mahmoud Mohammadi Araqghi, president of the Islamic Cultural and Relationship Organisation of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Gregorios Theocharous, Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain and the interim co-chair of the World Council.

HRH Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn will preside over the conference at 2.30pm.

Besides sharing experiences, the leaders from other countries will be taking time out to visit the Kingdom's religious landmarks and cultural sites, including the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, the Temple of Dawn (Wat Arun) and Wat Pho as well as Wat Mongkombophit and Wat

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s) :4
Date: 13th June 2002

RELIGIOUS SUMMIT



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn talks to world religious leaders yesterday at Buddha Monthon park in Nakhon Pathom. The Crown Prince presided over the launch of the World Council of Religious Leaders, and the opening of the Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders, which ends tomorrow.
— SOMCHAI LAOPAISARNTAKSIN

Peace conference of world's major faiths

Over 100 of the world's pre-eminent religious figures gathered in Bangkok yesterday to launch the inaugural World Council of Religious Leaders intent on reducing regional conflicts.

Representatives of the world's major faiths held prayer ceremonies in Buddha Monthon park before their sessions were due to open today, according to the Millennium World Peace Summit (MWPS), which created the initiative.

One of the primary objectives at the session will be to determine ways that religious leaders can reduce tensions in current areas of conflict, it said.

"There is a sense of sombre urgency among the leaders who will participate in the conference," Bawa Jain, secretary-general of the MWPS, said in a written statement.

"The use of religion to promote divisiveness and violence must be countered by religious leaders from all traditions willing to become actively engaged in peace building," he said.

The council is being attended by senior monks, reverends, archbishops, rabbis, ayatollahs and other dignitaries.

Organised by the MWPS in August 2000 during its landmark gathering of 1,000 spiritual leaders at the United Nations, the council aims to serve as a resource to the UN and governments in conflict in their prevention and resolution efforts.

"We hope participants will formulate specific action plans they can take back to their governments," said one source close to the council.

She also said the council would likely address the effects that the events of Sept 11 terrorist attacks on the United States and the subsequent war on terrorism have had on perceptions and influence of different faiths, particularly Islam.

The council's leadership will be announced tomorrow. — AFP

PRESS CLIPPINGS
TOTAL PAGE(S):
Press/Media: Matichon
Page(s): 20
Date: 13 June 2002

ประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาโลกเน้นสันติภาพ

เมื่อเวลา 14.30 น. วันที่ 12 มิถุนายน ที่หอประชุมพุทธมณฑล จ.นครปฐม สมเด็จพระบรมโอรสาธิราชฯ สยามมกุฎราชกุมาร เสด็จฯเป็นองค์ประธานพิธีเปิดการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ 1 โดยมีผู้นำศาสนา 13 ศาสนา คณะผู้แทน และนักวิชาการเข้าร่วมประมาณ 1,200 คน ทั้งนี้ ทรงมีพระราชดำรัสตอนหนึ่งว่า การที่ผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณทั่วโลกมาประชุมร่วมกันเพื่อแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดเห็นกัน ในอันที่จะใช้หลักธรรมทางศาสนาช่วยเสริมสร้างสันติสุขในโลก เป็นกรณียกิจที่ทุกฝ่ายควรนิยมและร่วมมือโดยพร้อมเพรียง

พระเทพโสภณ อธิการบดีมหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัย กล่าวว่า สภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลกเป็นองค์กรอิสระ มีหน้าที่ในการสร้างและรักษาสันติภาพในโลก ในฐานะของผู้นำทางศาสนาจะต้องเป็นผู้นำของศาสนิกในการเผยแผ่ความเชื่อในความสงบสุขเพื่อให้เกิดสันติภาพในโลก และต้องประสานงานกับองค์การสหประชาชาติในการแก้ไขปัญหาความขัดแย้ง โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งต้องผลักดันไม่ให้เกิดการอ้างเรื่องศาสนาเพื่อทำสงคราม

พระอาจารย์เซน เยง ผู้ก่อตั้ง Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhis Assoisation กล่าวว่า ศาสนามีภารกิจในการช่วยเหลือมนุษย์จากปัญหาสำคัญของโลก ได้แก่ ปัญหาความขัดแย้งจากความแตกต่างของเชื้อชาติ ศาสนา ซึ่งในความเป็นจริงทุกศาสนาไม่มีความขัดแย้งกัน แต่มนุษย์ที่โง่เขลาเป็นผู้สร้างความขัดแย้งให้เกิดขึ้น

นายคาเมล อัล-ชาริฟ เลขาธิการสภาอิสลามนานาชาติ กล่าวว่า ในพระคัมภีร์ทางศาสนาก็ได้กล่าวว่าศาสนาต่างๆ ไม่มีความแตกแยกกัน และไม่ให้เอาศาสนาเป็นข้ออ้างในการรุกรานผู้อื่น จึงขอให้ผู้นำศาสนาแสดงบทบาทในการสร้างความเข้าใจกันและนำความสงบสุขมาสู่ประชาชนทุกศาสนา

นายวินเซนต์ คอนเซซา อาร์กบิชอปแห่งนิวเดลี กล่าวว่า หากมนุษย์มองผู้อื่นเป็นเหมือนพี่น้องแล้ว ความมืดก็จะหมดไปและเกิดแสงสว่างในจิตใจ หน้าที่ของผู้นำศาสนาต้องมองให้ออกว่า สัตว์ที่แท้จริงคือความหิว ความยากจน ความไม่เสมอภาค ความไม่รู้หนังสือ ความไม่ซื่อสัตย์ และการย่ำยีกัน ถ้าเข้าใจจุดนี้แล้วจะทำให้เกิดความสงบสุขและสันติภาพขึ้น

อนึ่ง การประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาในวันที่ 13-14 มิถุนายน จะหารือเรื่องความขัดแย้ง ความยากจน และสิ่งแวดล้อม

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Meeting of World Council of Religious Leaders emphasizes Peace

The meeting of World Council of Religious Leaders was inaugurated on the 12th of June at the meeting hall of bhudthamonthon with a speech by H.R.H the Crown Prince of Thailand. Venerable Phra Thepsophon, rector of Mahachula.... University, stated that the World Council of Religious Leaders is an independent organization with it's objective to promote and maintain peace throughout the world. He also emphasized that it will to prevent religion being used in the name of war. H.E Kamel Al-Sharif, Secretary General of International Islamic Council For Daw'a and Relief asked for religious leaders to do their duty and to promote understanding and peace throughout their religion. The meetings, which will continue to the 14th, will focus on issues of conflict, poverty and the environment.

PRESS CLIPPINGS
Press/Media: THE NATION
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Summary



NATION PHOTO/BARAPUTR BUWANEKA

LEADERS *of different religions gather for a photo session marking the opening of the conference at the Buddhamonthon Religious Centre in Nakhon Pathom yesterday.*

Religious leaders urge peace, tolerance

■ *Agence France-Presse*
BANGKOK

OVER 100 of the world's key religious figures gathered here yesterday to open the inaugural World Council of Religious Leaders with calls for peace, tolerance and a reduction in conflicts.

The council, an initiative of the Millennium World Peace Summit (MWPS) of August 2000, is to serve as a resource to the United Nations and governments in conflict resolution efforts. "The launch of the council is ... timely at a moment when problems and tension are often seen as connected with religious, ethnic and cultural misunderstanding and intolerance," Kim Hak-Su, executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, said in his address.

The council "seeks to inspire men and women of all faiths in the pursuit of peace and mutual understanding," he added.

Its secretary-general, Bawa Jain, said Wednesday that the use of religion to promote divisiveness and violence "must be countered by religious leaders from all traditions".

Mary Robinson, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, sent a statement to the council urging religi[illegible] the session will be determining ways that religious leaders can reduce tensions in current areas of conflict, the MWPS said.

has also been misused, to divide communities and to fuel fear of difference," she said in a statement.

"This gathering today in Bangkok of world religious leaders is a powerful statement against these forces."

The council is being attended by senior monks, reverends, archbishops, rabbis, ayatollahs and other dignitaries.

Representatives of the world's major faiths held prayer ceremonies in Bangkok's

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เรียกร้องสภาผู้นำศาสนาโลกช่วยขจัด'ค้ามนุษย์

เมื่อวันที่ 13 มิถุนายน จากการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ 1 ที่ศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ โดยมีผู้เข้าร่วมประชุมประมาณ 1200 คน นายคิม ฮอก ซู เลขาธิการคณะกรรมการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมภาคพื้นเอเชียและแปซิฟิกแห่งสหประชาชาติ กล่าวว่า สภาผู้นำศาสนาที่เกิดขึ้นจะมีบทบาทสำคัญในการส่งเสริมภารกิจของสหประชาชาติ ในการลงเสริมสิทธิมนุษยชนและแก้ปัญหาความขัดแย้งที่เกิดขึ้น เพื่อสันติภาพของโลก

นายระวี ชอนี หัวหน้าฝ่ายพัฒนาทรัพยากรธรรมชาติและสิ่งแวดล้อม UN ESCAP กล่าวว่า การลดปัญหาความยากจน ปกป้องสิ่งแวดล้อมได้ จะต้องมีความร่วมมือไม่เฉพาะผู้นำการเมืองทั่วโลก แต่ต้องรวมถึงผู้นำศาสนาที่จะต้องนำความเชื่อและศรัทธาในศาสนามาแก้ไขปัญหาเหล่านี้ด้วย

พระศรีปริยัติโมลี รองอธิการบดี มหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัย กล่าวว่า การจะใช้วิธีการทางศาสนาแก้ปัญหาของโลก ทุกศาสนาจะต้องร่วมมือกันโดยเริ่มต้นที่การศึกษาทำความเข้าใจในคำสอนของศาสนาอื่น และแก้ปัญหาความขัดแย้งในจิตใจของตนเองเสียก่อน จึงจะทำให้เกิดความเข้าใจระหว่างศาสนา และร่วมมือกันทำงานเพื่อสันติภาพของโลก

ผู้สื่อข่าวรายงานว่า ในการประชุมมีการเสนอให้สภาผู้นำศาสนาเข้ามาช่วยแก้ไขปัญหาการค้ามนุษย์ โดยเฉพาะในภูมิภาคเอเชีย ที่มีปัญหาแรงงานเด็ก โสเภณี เด็กถูกเอารัดเอาเปรียบ

Newspaper: "Matichon"
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Calls for World Council of Religious Leaders to stop human trafficking

On the 13th of June Mr. Kim Hak-Su , Executive Secretary of ESCAP stated in his opening address that the World Council of Religious Leaders will play an important role in activities of the U.N by adding to human rights and resolving conflicts for peace. Venerable Phra Sripriyutmoli said that in order to use religion to solve the world's problems, it is necessary first for different religions to work together and to understand the teachings of other religions. Journalists reported that there was a proposal during the meeting for the World Council of Religious Leaders to try and stop human trafficking, most notably that of child labour and prostitution.

PRESS CLIPPINGS
Press/Media: Daily News
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สหประชาชาติหนุนผู้นำศาสนาโลกหาวิธีทำให้มนุษย์เลิกแบ่งแยก

จากการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ 1 เมื่อวันที่ 13 มิ.ย. ที่ศูนย์การประชุมองค์การสหประชาชาติ ถนนราชดำเนิน ซึ่งเป็นการประชุมต่อเนื่องเป็นวันที่ 2 นั้น ดร.คิม ฮอก ซู เลขาธิการคณะกรรมการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมภาคพื้นเอเชียและแปซิฟิกแห่งสหประชาชาติ (UN ESCAP) กล่าวว่า ศาสนิกของทุกศาสนามีหน้าที่ร่วมกันในการพัฒนาสิทธิมนุษยชน สภาผู้นำศาสนาฯ ที่เกิดขึ้นจะมีบทบาทสำคัญในการส่งเสริมภารกิจของสหประชาชาติในการส่งเสริมสิทธิมนุษยชนและแก้ปัญหาความขัดแย้งเพื่อสันติภาพของโลก

นายระวี ซอนี หัวหน้าฝ่ายพัฒนาทรัพยากรธรรมชาติและสิ่งแวดล้อม UN ESCAP กล่าวว่า การที่จะลดปัญหาความยากจน ปกป้องสิ่งแวดล้อม และอนุรักษ์ทรัพยากรได้นั้น จะต้องมีความร่วมมือไม่เพียงเฉพาะผู้นำทางการเมืองทั่วโลกเท่านั้น แต่รวมถึงผู้นำศาสนาที่จะต้องนำความเชื่อและศรัทธาในศาสนามาแก้ไขปัญหาเหล่านี้

พระศรีปริยัติโนฬี รองอธิการบดีฝ่ายต่างประเทศ มหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัย กล่าวในการประชุมกลุ่มย่อยว่าด้วยบทบาทหน้าที่ของศาสนาในการแก้ไขปัญหาสำคัญของโลกได้ว่า ปัญหาสำคัญของโลกปัจจุบันคือ ความขัดแย้ง ความยากจนกับการพัฒนา การอนุรักษ์และฟื้นฟูสิ่งแวดล้อม ซึ่งทุกศาสนามีแนวคิดหลักหรือจุดมุ่งหมายในการดำรงชีวิตที่คล้ายคลึงกัน คือต้องการให้เกิดสันติภาพขึ้นในชีวิตมนุษย์และในโลก ดังนั้นการจะใช้วิธีการของศาสนาในการแก้ปัญหาของโลกนั้น ทุกศาสนาจะต้องร่วมมือกันโดยเริ่มต้นที่การศึกษาทำความเข้าใจในคำสอนของศาสนาขึ้นและแก้ปัญหาความขัดแย้งในจิตใจของคนเองเสียก่อน ซึ่งจะทำให้เกิดความเข้าใจระหว่างศาสนาและร่วมมือกันทำงานเพื่อสันติภาพของโลกต่อไป

พระพัฒนกรโกศล ตัวแทนคณะสงฆ์อนัมนิกาย กล่าวว่า การที่มีความร่วมมือกันระหว่างศาสนาและได้จัดตั้งเป็นสภาผู้นำศาสนาฯ เป็นเรื่องที่ดีในการทำหน้าที่เชื่อมโยงประสานงานกันระหว่างศาสนาต่างๆ อย่างไรก็ตามไม่ควรให้องค์กรต่างกล่าวถูกใช้ไปเพื่อหวังผลทางการเมืองหรือผลประโยชน์ของประเทศมหาอำนาจ แต่ในทางตรงกันข้ามสภาผู้นำศาสนาฯ ควรทำหน้าที่ในการชี้นำประเทศมหาอำนาจให้มีความเมตตามากขึ้นและให้ความช่วยเหลือประเทศอื่นที่ด้อยกว่า

ผู้สื่อข่าวรายงานว่า ในวันเดียวกัน นางแมรี โรบินสัน ข้าหลวงใหญ่สิทธิมนุษยชนแห่งสหประชาชาติ ได้มีสารมาถึงผู้ร่วมประชุมว่า คุณค่าของความอดทน การไม่แบ่งแยก และความยุติธรรมในสังคมเป็นสิ่งเดียวกับที่ได้ประกาศไว้ในปฏิญญาสหประชาชาติว่าด้วยสิทธิมนุษยชน เป็นสิ่งที่สะท้อนวิสัยทัศน์ของคำว่าสิทธิมนุษยชนสำหรับมนุษย์ทุกคน โดยไม่คำนึงถึงฐานะทางสังคม เชื้อชาติ ความเชื่อ เพศ พรสวรรค์หรือการประสบความสำเร็จในชีวิต โรคไม่ดีที่ยังมีการใช้ศาสนาในทางที่ผิดในการแบ่งแยกมนุษย์และทำให้เกิดความไม่เชื่อใจกันเนื่องจากความแตกต่าง ดังนั้น การประชุมผู้นำศาสนาในครั้งนี้จะเป็นการสร้างความหลากหลายและความเป็นหนึ่งเดียวกัน เพื่อค้นหาคุณค่าพื้นฐานที่ว่ามนุษย์มายอยู่ร่วมกันเพื่อเอาชนะความแตกต่างที่แบ่งแยกมนุษย์ออกจากกัน.

The United Nations supports World Council of Religious Leaders to find way to stop Humans from disharmony

On the 13th of June at the ESCAP meeting hall, Dr Kim Hak Su gave an opening speech on the 2nd day of meetings His speech noted that the duty of each religion was to cooperate to improve human rights and that the council would play an important role in assisting the United Nations to promote peace. Mr. Ravi Sonny, *h*ead of environmental development of ESCAP, stated that in order to lessen the problem of poverty, protecting the environment and conserving resources it would be necessary for cooperation between not only between world leaders but also cooperation between religious leaders Journalists also reported that in the same day Ms. Mary Robinson sent a report saying that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights did not discriminate on the basis of Sex, Age, Nationality or Socio-economic standing and it was a pity that Religion was still used to discriminate against other human beings. But, the meeting of World Council of Religious Leaders will create unity and cause human beings to come together and overcome their differences.

Press/Media: THE NATION
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Summary

The younger the child, the stronger the message

Whenever a campaign against drugs is being planned, teenagers are usually the ones in the spotlight: famous teen role models discouraging the general teen public from getting involved with drugs.

This won't exactly be the case with upcoming charity concerts organised to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on June 26 and to commemorate the successful 30-year partnership of the Thai government and United Nations on drug control.

Performing onstage at the United Nations Conference Centre on June 27, in a concert to be presided over by Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn, and again the next day at Siam City Hotel, will be a crew of 30 children from the Suzuki Orchestra of Turin (Italy).

Aged between four and 14, the children have been trained in the renowned method of talent development at the famed Suzuki Music Academy in Turin. The academy has groomed a large number of children talented in classical music under the belief that children as young as two to two-and-a-half years old can be ready for formal classical music instruction with enough exposure to the music and proper training.

According to an officer of the United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), one of the many sponsors, even children this young fit the purpose of the anti-drug message the UN wants to convey.

The special charity concerts are aimed at raising awareness in Thai society about human security in the region, while communicating that only through a joint societal venture can various social calamities be overcome. The children, a symbol of purity and the future, will be accompanied in their performance by a multimedia show expressing drug abuse, HIV/Aids situations and human trafficking, especially focused on women and children.



Suzuki Orchestra *of Turin, Italy.*

Tickets, priced at Bt1,000 Bt700 and Bt500 for the performance at the United Nations, and Bt1,000 or Bt500 at the Siam City Hotel show, are available at www.thaiticketmaster.com. Proceeds will be donated to the newly created United Nations Asia-Pacific human security fund.

It is estimated that Thailand is now home

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Summary



Suzuki Music Academy's *students in performance.*

Anti-drug fest planned for Klong Toey

To mark International Day Against Drugs (June 26), UNDCP is holding three events in Bangkok.

Aside from the charity concert, it's joining forces with the Duang Prateep Foundation to raise awareness about drugs and HIV/Aids among the communities of the congested area of Klong Toey in Bangkok.

A "People's Forum" to discuss, present and exchange information about drugs and HIV/Aids issues among residents of Klong Toey and relevant organisations will be held on June 22 at Chumchon Muban Pattana School in Klong Toey.

Exhibitions from various organisations on drugs and HIV/Aids will be held at the same school.

In addition, parades and processions by residents of all 43 communities in Klong Toey are to be held on June 23. Members of the community are encouraged to use their own creative ideas for the parade format and campaign materials. The parades will start from Tha Rua Police Station and end at Chumchon Muban Pattana School, followed by music and Klong Toey children's performances.

The other event will take place that night at the Ministry of Sound on Sukhumvit Road, in collaboration with the Population and Community Development Association (PDA) and private sponsors.

The prevention message of the evening will focus on the dangers associated with drugs and the immediate risks associated with recreational substance abuse.

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music for a cause

The only thing better than watching an orchestra of talented young children is watching it for a cause. The United Nations is organising a team of 30 young musicians from Italy called the Suzuki Orchestra of Turin to play a benefit concert. Proceeds will be donated to the newly created United Nations Asia Pacific human security fund. The Orchestra will make their Asian debut at the United Nations Conference Centre, located on Rajadamnoen Nok Avenue, on Thursday, June 27 at 6pm. The second concert will be Friday, June 28 at 3pm at Bangkok's Siam City Hotel. Tickets are Bt500, Bt700, or Bt1000 for the performance at the UN and Bt500 or Bt1000 for the Siam City Hotel concert. Call Thai Ticketmaster Call Centre at 02-262-3837. For details, contact the UN Drug Control Program at 02-288-2091 or email rcdcp@undcp.un.or.th.



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Summary



The Suzuki Orchestra of Turin will make its Asian debut at the United Nations Conference Centre on Thur, June 27 at 6pm.

Concerts for the UN

The Suzuki Orchestra of Turin (Italy) will make its Asian debut at the United Nations Conference Centre on Thur, June 27 at 6pm at the first of two performances to promote human security in the Asia-Pacific region. The event, which will be presided over by HRH Princess Chulabhorn, will also mark "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2002" and commemorate 30 years of Thai government-UN drug control partnership.

A second concert will be given on Fri, June 28 at 3pm at the Siam City Hotel. The orchestra is composed of 30 children trained in the Suzuki method of talent development at the Turin Suzuki Music Conservatory.

The programme will consist of music with messages in support of UN's goals for human security and includes a multimedia presentation on child labour and other human security issues. The organisers aim to raise awareness of the role of civil society in fighting the growing threats to human security in the Asia-Pacific region. Proceeds will be donated to the newly-created United Nations Asia-Pacific human security fund.

In a joint statement, the United Nations said, "Human security refers to freedom from the dark forces of globalisation, which prey on the weak and vulnerable. Human and drug trafficking, organised crime, labour exploitation, and deadly diseases such as HIV/Aids are threatening the stability of Asia-Pacific society. To fight against these 'uncivil forces,' all sectors of civil society must unite to raise awareness, share experiences and promote a more secure Asia-Pacific."

The concerts are being organised by the United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP); International Labour Organisation (ILO); and Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/Aids (UNAIDS).

Sponsors include the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) of Thailand, Unicef, the European Union, the Embassy of Italy, Asiana Airlines, Thai Airways, Asia Pointe Co, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, Zenit Sales (Thailand) Co, the Japan Foundation, CMG Central Trading Co (KAWAI), Montri Transportation and Tipco Foods Co.

Tickets, priced at 500, 700 and 1,000 baht for the performance at the UN and 500 and 1,000 baht at the Siam City Hotel, are available from Thai Ticket Master. Call 02-262-3837, or visit www.thaiticketmaster.com.

● *For further information contact the United Nations Drug Control Programme, tel 02-288-2091, fax 02-281-2129, email rcdcp@undcp.un.or.th or visit www.undcp.un.or.th.*

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PEACE MEETING

Religious figures set up world council

Fighting poverty, terrorism on agenda

Achara Ashayagachat

World religious leaders yesterday vowed to work with political leaders to reduce global tensions and combat terrorism, poverty and environmental threats.

But Bawa Jain, secretary-general of the World Peace Summit in 2000 that spawned the gathering here, was unable to specify what the religious leaders could do to help solve the India-Pakistan conflict, saying they were still in the process of engaging in dialogues with respective governments.

The Dalai Lama decided not to come to the gathering, to ensure a successful launch.

At the end of a three-day meeting hosted by Mahachulalongkorn Buddhist University, 400 religious representatives launched a "World Council of Religious Leaders".

They appointed Thailand's Supreme Patriarch, Phra Nyanasamvara, one of the council's five co-chairs, along with Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, the chief rabbi of Israel, Jayendra Saraswati, the Shankaracharya of Kanchipuram, Ayatollah Mahmoud Mohammadi Araghi, president of the Islamic Culture and Relationship Organisation of Iran, and Aabdullah Abdul Muhsin Al-Turki, secretary general of the World Muslim League.

Mr Jain said the Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual leader, decided not to come to the gathering, to ensure a successful launch.

A women's organisation would work with the council.

The religious leaders presented their charter to Kim Hak-su, executive secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which supported the meeting.

Mr Jain said the world council had to work closely with political leaders to secure solutions to global problems.

One of the council's main objectives was to strengthen the UN system and enhance its social agenda with the power of religion.

Rabbi Arthur Schneir, president of the United States-based Appeal for Conscience Foundation, said the gathering showed the resolve of religious leaders to work for mutual understanding in a spirit of mutual respect, and to combat terrorism, poverty and environmental degradation.

Phra Thepsophon, Mahachulalongkorn rector, said the council would be a permanent organisation that would undertake unprecedented collaboration to defuse conflicts, promote peace and forge sustainable development.

The council would accept financial contributions from various sources in order to prevent any "dominating influence". It would work to avert and solve problems without resorting to use of force as some UN governments had done, he said.

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Date: 17th June 2002

Italian youth orchestra

Concert proceeds will go to UN Asia-Pacific human security fund

The Suzuki Orchestra from Turin, Italy, will make its Asian debut at the United Nations Conference Centre on June 27, starting at 6pm, for the first of two performances to promote human security in the Asia-Pacific region. The orchestra is composed of 30 children trained in the Suzuki method of talent development at the Suzuki Music Academy in Turin.

The event, which will be presided over by HRH Princess Chulabhorn, will also mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2002 and commemorate 30 years of successful collaboration between the government and the UN on drug-control issues.

A second concert will be given on June 28, starting at 3pm, at Bangkok's Siam City Hotel.

The concerts, organised by four UN agencies, will feature music with messages in support of UN goals for human security and includes a multimedia presentation on child labour. The organisers aim to raise awareness of the role of civil society in fighting the growing threat to human security in the Asia-Pacific region. Proceeds will be donated to the newly-created UN Asia-Pacific human security fund.

Tickets, priced at 1,000, 700 and 500 baht for the performance at the UN conference centre and 1,000 and 500 baht for the Siam City Hotel show are available from the Thai Ticket Master Call Centre. Phone 02-262-3837 or email www.thaiticketmaster.com.

◆ *For more information, phone the United Nations Drug Control Programme on 02-288-2091, fax 02-281-2129 or email rcdcp@undcp.un.or.th.*

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Meeting of the World Council of Religious Leaders

Aim to develop World Peace and reduce conflicts

ประชุมสุดยอดผู้นำศาสนาทั่วโลก! มุ่งสร้างสันติภาพขจัดความขัดแย้ง

รายงานข่าวแจ้งว่า เมื่อวันที่ 12 มิถุนายน สมเด็จพระบรมโอรสาธิราชฯ สยามมกุฎราชกุมาร ได้เสด็จพระราชดำเนินทรงเป็นองค์ประธานในพิธีเปิดการประชุมประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ 1 ณ หอประชุมพุทธมณฑล อ.พุทธมณฑล จ.นครปฐม โดยมีผู้นำศาสนา 13 ศาสนา คณะผู้แทน และนักวิชาการ เข้าร่วมประชุมประมาณ 1,200 คน

สมเด็จพระบรมโอรสาธิราชฯ สยามมกุฎราชกุมาร ทรงมีพระราชดำรัสว่า ศาสนาในโลกนี้แม้มีมากมายแต่ทุกศาสนาก็มีจุดมุ่งหมายและภารกิจอย่างเดียวกันคือการขัดเกลาความประพฤติและจิตใจของบุคคลให้ถึงพร้อมด้วยคุณธรรมจริยธรรม นอกจากนี้ยังต่างถือว่าการแผ่เมตตาสงเคราะห์ กันเคราะห์กันเป็นกรณียกิจสำคัญในการธรรโสงความสงบสุขของโลก การที่ผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณทั่วโลกมาประชุมร่วมกันเพื่อแลกเปลี่ยนความคิดเห็นกัน ในอันที่จะใช้หลักธรรมทางศาสนาช่วยเสริมสร้างสันติสุขในโลก จึงเป็นกรณียกิจที่ทุกฝ่ายควรนิยมและร่วมมือโดยพร้อมเพรียง

นายสุวิทย์ คุณกิตติ รมว.ศึกษาธิการ กล่าวในการประชุมว่า คนมีความหวังว่าผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลกทุกศาสนาที่มาประชุมกันในวันนี้จะสามารถเสนอแนวทางแก้ไขปัญหาใหม่ทางศาสนา พร้อมกับมีนโยบาย มาตรการใหม่ และความมุ่งมั่นที่จะปรับปรุง กำหนดบทบาทและภารกิจสำคัญร่วมกันในการที่จะก่อให้เกิดสันติภาพในโลก ช่วยเหลือบรรเทาความยากจนของประชากรโลก และยุติปัญหาความเสื่อมโทรมของสิ่งแวดล้อม โดยมีเป้าหมายในการประชุมครั้งนี้ คือการทำงานร่วมกันเพื่อให้ทุกคนเป็นคนดีของศาสนา และสร้างสันติสุขในโลกต่อไป

ด้านพระเทพโสภณ อธิการบดีมหาวิทยาลัยมหาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัย กล่าวว่า การประชุมครั้งนี้ เพื่อก่อตั้งสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก ถือเป็นองค์กรอิสระที่ไม่ได้เป็นหน่วยงานหรือองค์กรของสหประชาชาติ มีหน้าที่ในการสร้างและรักษาสันติภาพในโลก ซึ่งถือเป็นภารกิจเร่งด่วน เพราะปัจจุบันโลกกำลังเผชิญกับปัญหาความขัดแย้ง และการกลับมาของสงคราม ที่มีสาเหตุจากความแตกต่างทางอุดมการณ์ เชื้อชาติและศาสนา ในฐานะของผู้นำทางศาสนาต้องเป็นผู้นำของศาสนิกชนในการเผยแผ่ความเชื่อต่อความสงบสุขเพื่อให้เกิดสันติภาพในโลก และต้องประสานงานกับองค์การสหประชาชาติให้การแก้ไขปัญหาความขัดแย้ง เพื่อไม่ให้เกิดการอ้างถึงเรื่องของศาสนาเพื่อการทำสงคราม ซึ่งหากทุกฝ่ายร่วมกันแก้ไขปัญหาเหล่านี้ได้สันติภาพก็จะบังเกิดขึ้น อย่างแน่นอน

สำหรับการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ในระหว่างวันที่ 13 - 14 มิ.ย.นี้ จัดขึ้นที่ศูนย์ประชุมองค์การสหประชาชาติ ถ.ราชดำเนินนอก กรุงเทพฯ โดยมีประเด็นการประชุมเรื่องความขัดแย้ง ความยากจน และสิ่งแวดล้อม การประชุมร่วมกับผู้เชี่ยวชาญด้านการเมืองสนทนากับผู้นำศาสนา และในวันสุดท้ายการประชุมจะมีการลงนามในกฎบัตรของสภาผู้นำ ต่อไป

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สมเด็จฯเกี่ยวนะโยมตา-กรุณาธรรม

สมเด็จพระพุฒาจารย์ (เกี่ยว อุปเสโน) กรรมการมหาเถรสมาคม เจ้าคณะใหญ่หนตะวันออก เผยในที่ประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาและจิตวิญญาณแห่งโลก ครั้งที่ 1 ณ หอประชุมพุทธมณฑล จ.นครปฐม ว่า ในการประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลกครั้งนี้ที่สมเด็จพระบรมบพิตร สมเด็จพระบรมโอรสาธิราชฯ สยามมกุฎราชกุมาร ได้เสด็จพระราชดำเนินทรงเป็นประธาน พระองค์ทรงมีพระราชศรัทธามั่นคงในพระพุทธศาสนามาตลอด พระมหากษัตริย์ทุกพระองค์ถึงจะเป็นพุทธมามกะอย่างเคร่งครัด แต่ก็ทรงอุปถัมภ์ทุกศาสนาที่มีอยู่ ทำให้ศาสนิกชนของศาสนาต่างๆ อยู่ร่วมกันอย่างสันติได้ในประเทศไทย

เจ้าคณะใหญ่หนตะวันออก กล่าวอีกว่า ฉะนั้น การประชุมสภาผู้นำศาสนาแห่งโลก ซึ่งคณะผู้จัดงานมีมหาวิทยาลัยสงฆ์ มหาจุฬาลงกรณราชวิทยาลัยเป็นเจ้าภาพร่วม จึงได้รับการสนับสนุนจากคณะสงฆ์ไทย รัฐบาลไทยและได้รับพระมหากรุณาธิคุณจากสถาบันพระมหากษัตริย์ไทย การประชุมมีเป้าหมายสำคัญในการกำหนดบทบาทใหม่ของผู้นำศาสนาในการสร้างสันติภาพโลกร่วมกัน นับเป็นประโยชน์แก่ส่วนรวมมุ่งสันติภาพให้คนเป็นคนดี ดำรงรักษาสันติภาพไว้ได้ มีเมตตากรุณาต่อกัน



◇ **มุทิตาธรรม** - *ธนาคารกรุงเทพ จำกัด (มหาชน) จัดพิธีแสดงมุทิตาธรรมอวยพรภิกษุ-สามเณร ที่สำเร็จเปรียญธรรม 9 ประโยค ประจำปี 45 จำนวน 62 รูป โดยมีสมเด็จพระมหาวีรวงศ์คณาจารย์ วัดปากน้ำ เป็นองค์ประธาน ณ ห้องรับรอง ชั้น 29 ธนาคารกรุงเทพ สำนักงานใหญ่ สีลม*

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H.R.H the Crown Prince of Thailand encourages the usage of compassion

At the first meeting of the World Council of Religious Leaders held at Buddhamonthon, H.R.H the Crown Prince of Thailand addressed the crowd. In his speech, he noted that the H.M the King of Thailand had always been a devoted Buddhist as were the other Kings of Thailand as well. He also noted that the Kings of Thailand, despite their Buddhist background, had always been tolerant of other religions and that is why there is peace between different religions in Thailand. H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Thailand also said that he hoped this meeting would be beneficial for everyone, that peace would be secured, and to have compassion towards others.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please include your name and address on your letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Send your letters to: The Nation, Letters to the Editor, 44 Moo 10, Bangna-Trad highway, km 4.5, Bangna, Bangkok, 10260 Thailand, or by e-mail, send to: *editor@nationgroup.com*

Vorld Council of Religious eaders: no agenda, no esolution, no declaration

ll that glitters is not gold." A Shakespeare quotation is probably the most suitable summary of outcome of the World Council of Religious aders Summit in Thailand during June 12-14.

For the Thai people, who hardly see any colourful herings of religious people, it was quite an extraordary occasion. It was the first time that such an ecuical meeting ever took place in the history of ailand. The highlight of the meeting was the opencremony, inaugurated by His Royal Highness' nce Mahavajiralongkorn, which was broadcast live ionwide and via the Internet.

The other good which came out of this gathering the participation of Buddhist monks from ailand who have hardly had an opportunity to er into such a grand UN conference hall to listen to simultaneous translation provided by professional rpreters. No participant of the conference could ue that the meeting itself was not glamorous, startwith Her Highness the Princess of Cambodia ling officers of Unescap.

However, many were doubtful about the total outne of the event. Firstly, there was no official mesfrom the secretary-general of the UN. The welne was delivered casually by Bhava Jain, in spite of fact that the spirt of the gathering was directly ibuted to the UN Millennium Summit Meeting of ld Spiritual Leaders. Secondly, the official schedof the meeting was totally changed after the secday. Thirdly, there was no freedom of expression participants and guests of the meeting could y. Participants were not allowed to express their over the charter, which was hastily put for orsement by the audience.

The charter itself is problematic, full of unclear messages from the preamble. Unlike any international charter, ratified by members of the UN or NGOs, the WCRL Charter failed to address all the key issues and the rights and responsibilities of its membership.

Besides, there was no sentence that illustrated its relationship with the highly bureaucratic system of the UN. This does not include an immediate future of this half-baked organisation, WCRL.

Apparently the new organisation has a very grim future, once it returns to where it belongs, New York. It was one of the few international gatherings where there was no agenda, no resolution and no official declaration of any kind.

Don't ask the organisers of the first WCRL meeting. They won't tell you why they did it this way.

Name witheld by request
VIA INTERNET

Press/Media: THAI RATH	Date: 24 JUNE 2002
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UNITED NATIONS CONCERT TO OBSERVE THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

ด้วยความตระหนักถึงปัญหาต่างๆที่เป็นตัวบ่อนทำลายความมั่นคงปลอดภัยของประชากร ไม่ว่าจะเป็นการลักลอบค้ามนุษย์, ยาเสพติด, อาชญากร, การก่อการร้าย, โรคร้ายต่างๆ หน่วยงานที่เกี่ยวข้องกับสหประชาชาติ จึงได้ร่วมกันจัดคอนเสิร์ตพิเศษขึ้นเพื่อให้ประชาชน

คอนเสิร์ตสหประชาชาติ ฉลองวันต้านยาเสพติด

ตระหนักถึงภัยที่กำลังคืบคลานเข้ามาในภูมิภาคเอเชีย เป็นการแสดงของเด็กนักเรียน 30 คน ที่ได้รับการฝึกฝนไวโอลินมาเป็นอย่างดีจาก สถาบันการสอนดนตรีซูซูกิ เมืองตูริน ประเทศอิตาลี โดยคอนเสิร์ตรอบปฐมฤกษ์จะจัด ณ หอประชุมใหญ่ ชั้น 2 อาคารสหประชาชาติ ในวันที่ 27 มิ.ย. เพื่อเฉลิมฉลอง วัน



ต่อต้านยาเสพติดสากลแห่งสหประชาชาติ 26 มิ.ย. เวลา 18.00 น. โดย สมเด็จพระเจ้าลูกเธอ เจ้าฟ้าจุฬาภรณวลัยลักษณ์ อัครราชกุมารี เสด็จทอดพระเนตรบัตรราคา 1,000, 700, 500 บาท และวันที่ 28 มิ.ย. เวลา 16.00 น. ณ ห้องกมลทิพย์ โรงแรมสยามซิตี ถนนศรีอยุธยา บัตรราคา 1,000 และ 500 บาท ของบัตรไทยทิคเก็ตมาสเตอร์ โทร. 0-2262-3837

PRESS CLIPPINGS TOTAL PAGE(S): 1

Press/Media: **Thairath** Page(s): 4	Date: 1 July 2002

Summary



สมเด็จพระเจ้าลูกเธอ เจ้าฟ้าจุฬาภรณวลัยลักษณ์ อัครราชกุมารี เสด็จแทนพระองค์ ไปทรงเปิดนิทรรศการความร่วมมือระหว่างประเทศไทยกับองค์การสหประชาชาติ ในการต่อต้านยาเสพติด ณ ศูนย์ประชุมองค์การสหประชาชาติ เมื่อวันก่อน

Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn opened the exhibition of the commemoration of the successful Thai Government-UN drug control partnership at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok.

ทูลหม่อมอุบลรัตน์สนับสนุน นำศิลปะพัฒนาคนพิการ

ทูลกระหม่อมหญิงอุบลรัตนฯ สนพระทัยค่ายศิลปะเพื่อเด็กพิการ โดยทรงชื่นชมการนำศิลปะมาใช้เป็นเครื่องมือพัฒนาคนพิการ ถือเป็นการเสริมโอกาสให้คนพิการได้แสดงออกอีกทางหนึ่ง เพราะคนพิการบางคนมีพรสวรรค์ที่เป็นเอกลักษณ์เฉพาะตัว จึงควรได้รับการส่งเสริม

โครงการศิลปะ ART FOR ALL ได้ถูกริเริ่มขึ้นเพื่อการพัฒนาทรัพยากรมนุษย์และสังคม รวมถึงการพัฒนาศักยภาพความสามารถพิเศษหรืออัจฉริยภาพของคนพิการ ตั้งแต่ปี พ.ศ. 2542 และได้นำมาจัดเป็นค่ายศิลปะขึ้นอีกครั้งที่องค์การสหประชาชาติ โดยทูลกระหม่อมหญิงอุบลรัตนฯ ทรงเป็นองค์ประธานเปิด เมื่อ 23 ก.ค. รศ.ดร.ชาญเวงค์ พรรุ่งโรจน์ คณบดีคณะศิลปกรรมศาสตร์ ผู้ริเริ่มโครงการฯ ได้กล่าวว่า โครงการฯนี้ได้ใช้หลักของการปฏิรูปการเรียนรู้ โดยการปรับเปลี่ยนแนวคิดในการจัดกระบวนการเรียนการสอน และพัฒนาความคิดสร้างสรรค์ควบคู่คุณธรรมในลักษณะองค์รวม คือ ให้บุคคล 6 ประเภท ได้แก่ คนตาบอด หูหนวก พิการแขน-ขา ปัญญาอ่อน และคนไม่พิการ ได้แสดงศักยภาพที่มีอยู่ เพื่อขยายในสิ่งที่ยังคนหนึ่งขาด โดยให้คนควบคุมทำหน้าที่เป็นปาก-หู คนหูหนวกทำหน้าที่เป็นตา คนแขน-ขาขาดทำหน้าที่เป็นสมอง และคนปัญญาอ่อนทำหน้าที่เป็นมือ-เท้า ผ่านการประสานของคนที่ไม่พิการหรือที่เรียกว่า 6 คนรวมเป็น 1 อัจฉริยะ

ในการเข้าค่ายศิลปะนั้น คนทั้ง 6 จะทำงานและใช้ชีวิตอยู่ร่วมกันโดยไม่มีพี่เลี้ยง อย่างไรก็ตาม รศ.ดร.ชาญเวงค์ได้ทำการประเมินโครงการศิลปะที่ทำงานโดยอาสาสมัครที่ร่วมเข้าค่ายกับเยาวชน ซึ่งได้ผลเป็นที่น่าพอใจ คือ เสียงหัวเราะ ใบหน้าที่ยิ้มแย้มของเด็กๆ ถือเป็นความสำเร็จของโครงการฯ รวมทั้งมีการวัดความคิดสร้างสรรค์จากผลงานของเด็กๆ ที่สมือนเป็นการปลูกฝังให้เด็กๆมีความเชื่อมั่น และความรักในงานศิลปะ ซึ่งต่อไปเด็กๆก็จะเริ่มเขียนเองด้วยตัวเอง โดยเฉพาะเด็กปัญญาอ่อนจะช่วยเสริมพัฒนาการ





โอกาสนี้ทูลกระหม่อมหญิงอุบลรัตนฯ ให้ความสนพระทัยค่ายศิลปะสำหรับเด็กพิการเป็นอย่างมาก ทรงชื่นชมโครงการที่ให้โอกาสกับคนพิการ และพัฒนาคนพิการด้วยการให้การศึกษา ที่จะทำให้เป็นคนที่มีค่าต่อประเทศ ความหลากหลายของศิลปะเป็นองค์ประกอบที่ทำให้เกิดการพัฒนาอย่างไร้กรอบจำกัด พลังแห่งศิลปะจะทำให้เกิดความสมบูรณ์ ทั้งทางกาย ช่วยเสริมทั้งร่างกาย อารมณ์ สังคมและจิตใจ เพื่อให้มนุษย์มีความมั่นใจในตัวเองมากขึ้น และโครงการนี้มีเป็นตัวอย่างของนวัตกรรมในการส่งเสริมพัฒนาการมนุษย์ และช่วยเติมเต็มในส่วนที่บางคนขาดหายไป และยังทรงชื่นชมอีกด้วยว่า การนำศิลปะมาใช้กับเด็กพิการถือเป็นเครื่องมือที่ดีที่จะให้โอกาสคนพิการได้แสดงออก ซึ่งบางคนมีพรสวรรค์ที่ไม่ทุกคนจะมีเหมือนกัน ซึ่งควรจะได้รับการส่งเสริมต่อไป

"Art for All" Festival. The Empowering Art 22-27 July 2002. Thailand, ESCAP

Her Royal Highness Princess Ubol Ratana supported art as a tool for development of disabled persons.

Thai Rath 26 July 2002- page 24

Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th/prnewsGov.asp?i=0BC121EDC351E24050524700505247323730383200000000000000000000000000&g=GOV	Date: 19 September 2002

Summary

IQ
InfoQuest

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE OBSERVANCE

Bangkok--Sep 19--UNISBKK

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE OBSERVANCE
at the United Nations Conference Centre(UNCC), 20TH SEPTEMBER 2002

Bangkok (United Nations Information Services) -- The United Nations family in Bangkok will be observing the International Day of Peace at the UNCC from 9 to 12 noon on Friday 20th September. The public and students are invited to attend and particularly media with an interest in education, and non-violent conflict resolution.

Introduced by UNESCAP Executive Secretary, Mr. Kim Hak-Su, the programme highlights "global ceasefire and non-violence". It begins with a round table, the participants are Col. Nopadon Mungkalaton of the Peace Operations Centre, Royal Thai Armed Forces; Dr. Chaiwat Satha-anand of the Political Science Faculty, Thammasat University; Ms. Thelma Kay, Chief, Gender and Development Section, UNESCAP; and Mr. Gamini Abeysekera, UNICEF Representative Office for Thailand. The moderator is Dr. Apiwat Watanangura of JSL Co.Ltd., radio broadcaster, actor and TV presenter and former lecturer at the Bangkok University.

The importance of peace education will be addressed by this year's winner of UNESCO Prize for Peace Education, the City Montessori School in Lucknow India, represented by its founder and manager, Mr. Jagdish Gandhi, who is coming from India especially for the occasion.

In recognition of the contribution of the Royal Thai Armed Forces to the cause of peace, as evidenced by their successful service in the UN Peacekeeping Forces in Timor, and plans for further service, 77 Peace Poles with the message: May Peace Prevail on Earth will be donated for distribution to each province in Thailand. The presentation will be made on behalf of the donor by General Saiyud Kerdphol and received on behalf of Lt.General Boonsrang Niumpradit by Col. Nopapon Mungkalaton of the Peace Operations Centre, Royal Thai Armed Forces.

" This year every effort is being made by the United Nations to encourage worldwide observance of the International Day of Peace, Global Ceasefire and Non-violence, whether it be cessation of conflict on a battlefield, defusing personal anger and enmity or silent meditation and prayer" said the UN spokesman.

Heads of State, United Nations Ambassadors, international and national institutions, religious bodies and thousands of NGOs have been approached and committed to this observance on the actual fixed Day of 21st September (a Saturday).

We would encourage the media to publicize the upcoming International Day of Peace to the extent possible. Useful UN web links are:

http://www.un.org/events/peaceday;
http://www.un.org/depts.dhl/peace;
http://www.un.org/events/ref41.htm
http://www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus
Non UN links are:
http://www.peaceoneday.org Main international coordinating and global events details
http://www.idpvigil.com Details of vigil and global committed participants.

The media will have an opportunity to interview Mr. Gandhi immediately after the conclusion of the meeting.

For additional information regarding the City Montessori School see http://www.unesco.org/bpl/eng/unescopress/2002/o2-41e.shtml End.

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Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest
Page(s):
http://www.infoquest.co.th/prnewsGov.asp?i=325F377AEA51E24050524700505247323737323000000000000000000000000000&g=GOV

Date: 20 September 2002

Summary

IQ
InfoQuest

United Nations' Call For Peace Resonates Across Asia

Bangkok--Sep 20--UNISBKK

With memories of past wars still fresh in the minds of many, and amid increasing fears of future conflicts, the observance of this year's International Day of Peace has taken on even greater importance in Asia and the Pacific.

The United Nation's Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan has called for combatants around the world to lay down their weapons in a show of solidarity for a global ceasefire and day of non-violence on Saturday, 21st September 2002.

"Twenty-four hours is not a long time, but enough for the world's leaders to begin to listen to their peoples. Some of those peoples want an end to repression and intolerance. Others want relief from poverty and despair," the Secretary General said in his message for International Day of Peace, which, from this year forward, will be officially observed on the 21st of September.

On Friday 20th September, the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok played host to an advanced observance of International Day of Peace.

Student singers from Bangkok, Buddhist Monks, members of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, and this year's winner of the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education were among those attending the event.

"Peace between nations, and within nations, harmony and an absence of strife - it is up to all of us," said UNESCAP Executive Secretary Mr. Kim Hak-Su.

The Royal Thai Armed Forces were presented with 77 "Peace Poles" which will be distributed throughout the Kingdom of Thailand. The text inscribed on each reads: 'May Peace Prevail on Earth'.

In receiving the poles, Colonel Nopadon Mungkatataon said they were recognition of the Royal Thai Armed Forces' work in international peacekeeping. "We need to heed the lessons of the past and develop a deeper understanding of the way we can continue to develop our role in relation to civil society, hopefully to the extent that other Forces will follow suit," he said

Mr. Jagdish Gandhi, founder of the City Montessori School, in Lucknow, said the role of educating children about peace could not be over-emphasized.

"It is only during childhood that a lasting commitment to peace can be inculcated in children - later it is often too late." Mr. Gandhi is this year's recipient of UNESCO's Prize for Peace Education.

The Observance concluded with the singing of peace songs by 18 Jeremiah Singers from Bangkok's Ruamrudee International School. End.

-SN-

โลกกีฬาวันนี้

Sports World Today

12 บาท

ฉบับสุดสัปดาห์ รายงานพิเศษ มิสเตอร์ แอร์โซ่

ปีที่ 3 (5) ฉบับที่ 294 (424) วันเสาร์ที่ 28 กันยายน - 1 ตุลาคม 2545

วิ่งนานาชาติวันสหประชาชาติ ครั้งที่ 20



มร.ไบรอัน ฮีธ ผู้บริหาร ยู.เอ็น. และ คุณสงคราม โกรสนธิ์ กรรมการผู้จัดการ บริษัท อเมริ่ง ฟิตส์ จำกัด เป็นประธานแถลงข่าวการแข่งขันวิ่งนานาชาติวันสหประชาชาติ ครั้งที่ 20 โดยมีคุณภัทรินทร์ เจน อรรคกิโร ผู้จัดการการตลาดของผลิตภัณฑ์ในกี้ และนายสุชาติ แซ่ตั้ง จากบริษัท บุญรอดบริวเวอรี่ จำกัด รวมทั้งตัวแทนผู้สนับสนุนและประธานชมรมวิ่งร่วมแถลงข่าว ณ ห้องประชุมอาคารสหประชาชาติ เมื่อเร็ว ๆ นี้

20th UN day 10 km Int'l Run-Bangkok NIKE annual วันอาทิตย์ที่27ตุลาคม 2545 เวลา 05:30 น. ณ บริเวณถนนราชดำเนินนอกและถนนกรุงเกษม ด้านหน้าองค์การสหประชาชาติ (United Nations) สะพานมัฆวานรังสรรค์

ในยุคที่เริ่มมีการจัดวิ่งในเมืองไทยเมื่อ 20 ปีก่อนโน้น นักวิ่งที่มาร่วมงานจะเคยชินและเบื่อต่อการปล่อยตัวล่าช้ากว่ากำหนดเวลาหลายสิบนาที เนื่องจากมีภาคพิธีการยาวนานมากจนกลายเป็นประเพณีติดเมื่อ

แต่งานวิ่ง ยู.เอ็น.เคยี่ในขณะนั้นไม่เหมือนใครเลยคือ การปราศจากพิธีการ เมื่อใกล้จะถึงเวลาที่กำหนดปืนถนนชิงป้ายเพื่อให้รู้ว่าเส้น Start อยู่ตรงไหน แล้วให้สัญญาณปล่อยตัวทันทีเมื่อได้เวลา โดยไม่ต้องมีพิธีรีตอง กลายเป็นจุดขายที่บรรดานักวิ่งเทใจให้ทั้ง ๆ ที่การจัดวิ่งแบบเรียบง่าย

มร.ไบรอัน ดับเบิ้ยยู ฮีธ (Brian W. Heath) เจ้าหน้าที่ระดับบริหารของสำนักงานสหประชาชาติ (ยู.เอ็น.) ในประเทศไทย และทีมงานชาวไทยใน ยู.เอ็น นับเป็นผู้มีบทบาทสำคัญในการก่อตั้งงานวิ่งประเพณีแห่งนี้ ซึ่งตลอดมาได้รับการปรับปรุงให้มีสีสันมากขึ้นเรื่อย ๆ จากครั้งแรกวิ่งกันประมาณ 200 คน มาในปัจจุบันเป็นงานที่ได้รับความนิยมจากนักวิ่งสูงสุดบนหมื่นคนจากทั่วประเทศ เวลาผ่านไปเหมือนติดปีกบิน ปีนี้เป็นการจัดงานครั้งที่ 20 ครั้งที่จะมีบรรยากาศสนุกสนานกว่าทุก ๆ ปี ขอเชิญนักวิ่งมาร่วมฉลองครั้งนี้โดยทั่วกัน โดยเฉพาะจะมีการบันทึกภาพ (VCD) การวิ่งตลอดรายการด้วย

จุดเริ่มต้นและสิ้นสุดการแข่งขัน

จุดเริ่มต้นแยกไว้ 2 จุด สำหรับแต่ละประเภทคือ

1.จุดเริ่มต้นที่ถนนราชดำเนิน หน้าอาคารสหประชาชาติ สำหรับเก้าอี้ล้อเลื่อน (ชายและหญิง) และนักวิ่งชาย (และชายประเภทสอง) โดยจัดให้เก้าอี้ล้อเลื่อนเตรียมอยู่ด้านหน้า

2.จุดเริ่มต้นที่ถนนกรุงเกษมด้านหน้าโรงเรียนวัดมกุฎกษัตริย์ สำหรับนักวิ่งหญิง (การให้สัญญาณปล่อยตัวจะกระทำ 2 ครั้งตามลำดับ ครั้งแรกสำหรับล้อเลื่อน ครั้งที่สองสำหรับนักวิ่ง)

จุดสิ้นสุดการแข่งขันทุกประเภท จะเข้าเส้นชัย ณ ที่เดียวกัน คือบนถนนราชดำเนิน (ตรงนาน) ด้านหน้าอาคาร ยู.เอ็น.

จุดบริการหลังเส้นชัย เมื่อผู้เข้าแข่งขันเข้าสู่เส้นชัยต้องออกไปจากบริเวณหลังเส้นชัยทันที เพื่อใช้บริการต่าง ๆ เช่น น้ำ เครื่องดื่ม ฯลฯ ที่ถนนกรุงเกษม

กลุ่มผู้เข้าแข่งขัน

ประเภทวิ่ง ชาย อายุ 39 ปีและต่ำกว่า, ชายอายุ 40 ปีและเกิน, หญิง อายุ 34 ปีและต่ำกว่า, หญิง อายุ 35 ปีและเกิน (วิธีคำนวณอายุใช้ พ.ศ.2545 ตั้งลบด้วย พ.ศ.เกิดของผู้สมัคร)

รางวัลผู้ชนะแข่งขัน

ผู้ชนะแข่งขันวิ่งและล้อเลื่อนอันดับ 1-5 ของแต่ละกลุ่มจะได้รับถ้วยรางวัลเกียรติยศจาก ยู.เอ็น. และเฉพาะผู้ชนะอันดับที่ 1 ของแต่ละกลุ่มยังจะได้รับเกียรติอย่างสูงโดยได้สวมเสื้อแชมป์ (Blazer) ประจำปี 2545 อีกด้วย

รางวัลชมรมดีเด่นทุกภูมิภาค

ชมรมที่มีผู้สมัครแข่งขันวิ่งจำนวนมากที่สุดของแต่ละภาคอันดับที่ 1-3 จะได้รับโล่ประกาศเกียรติคุณดีเด่นพร้อมเงินรางวัลค่าบำรุงกิจกรรมชมรมจำนวน 4,000, 3,000 และ 2,000 บาท ตามลำดับ โดยแบ่งออกเป็นภาคเหนือ, ภาคตะวันออกเฉียงเหนือ, ภาคกลาง (ยกเว้น กทม.) ภาคใต้ และเฉพาะ กทม.

กติกา แต่ละชมรมที่มุ่งเน้นแข่งขันจะต้องรวบรวมใบสมัครของสมาชิก (ระบุชมรม) และดำเนินการสมัครให้แล้วเสร็จภายในวันที่ 15 ตุลาคม 2545 โดยหลังจากนั้นจะไม่นับจำนวนให้ และจะพิจารณาให้รางวัลชมรมที่สมัครจำนวน 30 คนขึ้นไป

เหรียญและของที่ระลึก

ผู้เข้าร่วมการแข่งขันจนครบระยะทางภายใน 1 ชั่วโมง 30 นาที จะได้รับเหรียญ ณ เส้นชัยทุกคนเมื่อในที่ระลึกบรรจุในกล่องสวยเก๋จากในกี้ ซึ่งผู้สมัครจะได้รับเสื้อ (กล้วย) ใส่วิ่งท่านละ 1 ตัว เฉพาะท่านที่สมัคร 6,000 คนแรกเท่านั้น

VCD บันทึกการแข่งขันเป็นของที่ระลึก

คณะผู้จัดงานจะทำการบันทึกภาพการแข่งขันเพื่อผลิต VCD ความยาวประมาณ 50 นาทีเผยแพร่บริการนักวิ่งที่ต้องการเก็บไปเป็นของที่ระลึก สำหรับท่านที่ต้องการโปรดจองพร้อมจ่ายเงิน 100 บาท โดยจะจัดส่งให้ตามที่ระบุไว้ในใบสมัคร ภายหลังจัดงาน 2-3 สัปดาห์

สถานที่และอัตราค่าสมัคร

ค่าสมัคร อัตราปกติ ถึง 20 ตุลาคม 2545 ท่านละ 300 บาท, ล่าช้ากว่ากำหนด 21-26 ตุลาคม ท่านละ 500 บาท วันแข่งขันรับสมัคร

สมัครด้วยตนเองที่ชุมนุมวิ่งต่าง ๆ (บางงาน), สมัครด้วยตนเองที่ บ.อเมริ่งฟิตส์ จำกัด 21/1 ซ.อินทามระ 38 ถ.สุทธิสาร ดินแดง กทม. 10400 โทร. 0-2277-6670-1, 0-2276-3605 โทรสาร 0-2277-2567 ผู้สมัครจะได้รับเบอร์วิ่งและเสื้อทันที และสมัครโดยวิธีอื่น ๆ ก็สอบถามที่เบอร์โทรดังกล่าว

Press/Media: THE NATION
Page(s):
Date: 13 October 2002

Summary

Give Peace A Chance

The paintings of such artists as Picasso, Joan Miro and Robert Rauschenberg, while masterpieces, are, truth be told, essentially art for art's sake. But when their designs appear on posters commissioned by various agencies of the United Nations, their value increases not in monetary terms but as a reminder of the concerns the world is still facing.

Today, the UN's collection of posters designed by leading artists go on show in the lobby of the United Conference Centre in Bangkok in the touring exhibition For a Better World.

This showcase of some 100 posters offers an artistic overview by some of the world's renowned artists, all featuring messages regarding peacekeeping; development; the environment; the fight against hunger, poverty and illiteracy; human rights; and disarmament.

The exhibition is not only of historical interest. It documents visually the concerns and priorities of the international community during the last century, and also has intrinsic artistic value. Many famous names are associated with the United Nations family's poster campaign, which has proved to be one of its most effective tools in publicising universal aims and ideals.

The Picasso dove, for example, graces the very first United Nations poster of 1946. In 1978, Joan Miro portrayed his colourful figurative signature for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights poster commissioned by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco). Several works by Robert Rauschenberg and New York graffiti artist Keith Haring are also on display.

Brussels-born Jean Michel Folon also created a poster for the UN. Through this medium, he found an opportunity to champion the causes he believes in: human rights, Amnesty International's campaign on behalf of political prisoners and ecological balance. Folon says of his painting, "Green Way": "My illustration shows the person in the image is simply one of us. We are responsible for remembering the essential: that each of us is, first and foremost, a centre of life, a centre of birth for the green suns."



The exhibition made its debut at United Nations headquarters in New York in December 2000. Since then it has travelled to Paris, Geneva, Berlin, Warsaw, Oslo, Tokyo, Osaka and Nagasaki. After Bangkok, the exhibition will move to Rangoon and then on to San Francisco where the United Nations Charter was signed some 55 years ago.

Kim Hak-Su, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of UN-Escap, and Robert England, UN Resident Co-ordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, will open the exhibition this morning at 10.30am.

The show, sponsored by the United Nations System in Thailand, the United Nations Department of Public Information and Ambassador Joseph Verner Reed, runs until October 25 and is open from 8am to 4pm. Admission is free.

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Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th	Date: 15 October 2002

Summary

IQ InfoQuest

UNESCAP NEWS BULLETIN Volume 1. Issue 5 : October 2002

Bangkok--Oct 15--UNESCAP

Governments Endorse Ageing Strategy

Longer life expectancy, lower birthrates and a lack of pension and health provision have prompted fears that without immediate action the Asian and Pacific region will soon face an ageing crisis. In response, representative of 20 Governments attending a regional seminar in Shanghai, China, hav endorsed a regional implementation counterstrategy. The participants endorsed moves to better support families and caregivers, strengthen social services and improve housing and living conditions for older persons. The region is home to more than 320 million people aged 60 or over.

Rejuvenating Asia's Banking Sector

UNESCAP is publishing the results of a major investigation into the current lending practices of banks in the Asian and Pacific region, as well as the creditworthiness of their corporate clients. The publication, "Rejuvenating Bank Finances in Asia and Pacific," will be launched on the 23rd of October at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok. A Round Table Seminar will follow the release.

Poster Exhibit Portrays 50 Years of UN Work

As part of an international tour, the first ever exhibition of posters published by the United Nations and its sister agencies - For A Better World - is being displayed at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from the 14th of October. With works by some of the world's most famous artists, the 100 posters are considered collectors' items. Together, they provide an artistic overview of some of the UN's most important undertakings, such as peacekeeping; human development; protecting the environment; the fight against hunger; poverty and illiteracy; human rights; and disarmanent. The exhibition runs from 14th - 25th October. Admission is free.

UNESCAP Events For UN Day

UNESCAP Executive Secretary Mr. Kim Hak-Su will be joined by Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and other dignitaries to take part in this year's commemoration of United Nations Day, on the 24th of October. The programme begins at 8 AM with the official UN flag raising ceremony at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok. The official delegation will then tour the poster exhibit, "For a Better World"(see above). Following the events, the Royal Thai Government has organized a walk to promote healthy lifestyles. Another event, the annual UN Run will take place the following Sunday, 27th October.

UNESCAP and World Habitat Day

In line with the Millennium Development Goal of "cities without slums," UNESCAP and the Royal Thai Government are coordinating this year's commemoration of World Habitat Day, on 11th October. A panel discussion is being held at Bangkok's UN Conference Centre and a series of plaques recognizing collaborative projects between the Thai Government and urban poor providing land tenure to slum dwellers along railways lines will be awarded.

Decade of Disabled Persons

More than 200 representatives from governments, NGO's and United Nations agencies are gathering in Otsu, Japan from 25-28 October 2002 to officially conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons. This high-level meeting will review the achievements of the last ten year, which include a growing awareness among governments and the general public of the special challenges faced by persons with disabilities and the inherent rights they hold as contributors to society. Approximately two-thirds of the world's 600 million people with disabilities live in the Asian and Pacific region. Roughly 160 million live below the poverty line. A new decade is expected to be dedicated to continue these improvements in awareness with the theme "Towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society."

UN News Centre

For all the latest United Nations news, please visit the UN News Certre. Web address:www.un.org/news

UN WORKS

To learn more about the United Nations and how its works affects lives of people everywhere, you can visit "The UN Works" at: http://www.un.org/works

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UNESCAP Calendar: October

7-9- Promoting Gender Equality to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children, UNCC

11- World Habitat Day, UNCC

11- UN Blood Donation Drive, UNCC (9am - Noon)

14-25- United Nations Poster Exhibit -"For a Better World," UNCC, Free admission

23- Seminar and launch of publication: "Rejuvenating Bank Finance in Asia and Pacific,"UNCC

24- United Nations Day, UNCC

25-28- Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, Otsu,Japan

For further event details please visit the UNESCAP website: http://www.unescap.org/

UNESCAP NEWS BULLETIN is a pulication of United Nations Information Service. Tel 02-288-1864-9 United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand Email:unisbkk.unescap@un.org End.

-OU/NM-

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 6 Outlook
Date: 16 October 2002

Summary

Art exhibitions

◆ **For a Better World**, a poster exhibition, in the lobby of the United Nations Conference Centre, Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue. About 100 posters provide an artistic overview of the most important undertakings of the United Nations, such as peacekeeping, development, the environment, the fight against hunger, poverty and illiteracy, human rights and disarmament. Until October 25. For more details call 02-288-1234.

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 8 Outlook
Date: 17 October 2002

art

Review

Ormkwan Sanasen

The picture at the UN

Poster exhibition to highlight the UN's successful use of this medium to convey its messages

It's rare to hear of an art exhibition in the lobby of the United Nations Conference Centre. Yet surprisingly, the UN has been a great supporter of the arts and has arranged many exhibitions throughout the years.

To commemorate the birthday of the United Nations on October 25, the UN has arranged a travelling exhibition of their collectable posters, which they have been producing over the past 55 years from the United Nations Headquarters in New York, and at more than 15 agencies worldwide.

The exhibition was inaugurated at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in December 2000, and has since been travelling through Paris, Geneva, Berlin, Warsaw, Oslo, Osaka, and Nagasaki. From Bangkok, the exhibition will continue to Yangon, then off to San Francisco, where the United Nations Charter was signed some 55 years ago.



Posters have been the quickest methods for conveying and relaying the work that the UN has done. Peace keeping, human rights, justice, racism and intolerance, to decolonisation, sustainable development and environmental concerns, are the issues for which the United Nation has been fighting to raise awareness.

The purpose of this exhibit is twofold, according to the message from the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. First, to collect and present some of the best of the hundreds of posters issued by the organisation over the years; and secondly, to tell the United Nations story in a colourful, graphical way.

Throughout the years, the United Nations has created some of the most wonderful works of art for their posters. Photographers, graphic artists and famous fine artists have made their mark helping the UN cause.

Works by Miro, Chagall, Keith Haring and Robert Rauschenberg can be seen in the exhibition, alongside some of the very beautiful black and white photographs, and funky colour graphics and designs.

The wonderful thing about these posters is not only the famous names that have created them, but also the issues and awareness these posters have raised. They are not only aesthetically beautiful but also touching, and serve as a quick and effective way to communicate matters of global concern to the public.

A lovely exhibition indeed, and I do recommend having a look. Do take your time reading the huge board where people have been leaving their comments, and don't forget to leave some your own.

◆ *"For a Better World" will be exhibited until October 25 in the Reception Lobby of the United Nations Conference Centre, Rajdamnoen Nok Avenue, Bangkok. Viewing hours are 8am to 4pm. Admission is free.*

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 11
Date: 18 October 2002

Summary

Art exhibitions

For a better world
UN Conference Centre
Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue
Tel 02-288-1234
9am-4pm Mon-Fri, until Oct 25

◆ "For a Better World" is a poster exhibition featuring around 100 posters that provide an artistic overview of the most important undertakings of the United Nations, such as peacekeeping, development, the environment, the fight against hunger, poverty and illiteracy, human rights and disarmament. The artists include Joan Miro, Robert Rauschenberg and Keith Haring.

Press/Media: IQ InfoQuest Page(s): http://www.infoquest.co.th	Date: 22 October 2002

Summary

IQ
InfoQuest

UNITED NATIONS DAY, 24 October 2002

Bangkok--Oct 22--UNISBKK

The 57th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations will be celebrated with a variety of activities to mark the United Nations Day on 24 October 2002. H.E. Mr. Korn Dabbaransi, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand will inaugurate the event.

The celebration will begin with the official ceremony from 8:15 to 9: 30 am at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok The programme includes a flag-raising ceremony followed by the viewing of the joint United Nations classic posters exhibition on "For A Better World", the exhibition of "Art for All" and "Peace Message Art " created by a famous Korean/Japanese artist, Ms. Hiroko Sai.

Mr. Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, President of the United Nations Association and the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand will deliver remarks.

The observance will continue with the publicity walk along Rajadamnern Avenue. At 9:30, the Deputy Prime Minister will light the Olympic torch to launch the Thai Government's Sport Campaign on "Healthy Mind, Healthy Body, and Healthy Nation-In Youth We Care!". The Deputy Prime Minister Dabbaransi will lead the publicity walk with the UNESCAP Executive Secretary, Heads of UN agencies, members of the diplomatic corps, Thai dignitaries and senior Government officials as well as UN staff member and civil society along Rajadamnern Avenue from the United Nations Conference Centre to the memorial statue of King Rama V in front of Suan Amphorn.

On Sunday, 27 October, the 20th annual UN Day 10 Km International Run will start and finish in front of the UN Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue.

Starting times are 06: 25 a.m. for wheel chair athletes and 06:30 a.m. for the 10 KM Run. Over 8,000 runners are expected to participate in this event which attracts the largest number of athletes, both local and foreign, of any road race in Thailand. The route passes by the Marble Temple, Chitralada Palace, Khoa Din Zoo, the National Library, and the streets of old Bangkok.

A special "Marafun for Kids" is also organized with the kind permission of the Royal Thai Army. The Marafun starts at 06:30 a.m. in the Royal Thai Military Headquarters adjacent to the UN Building. The Marafun is open to all children below the age of 12 years old.

All proceeds from the UN Day Run are donated by the organizers to Thai charities particular those devoted to helping people with disabilities, especially children.

NOTE TO EDITORS: You or your representatives are invited to attend both events on Thursday, 24 October which will commence at 8:15 a.m. at the flagpole area outside the United Nations Conference Centre and at 9:30 the Publicity walk along Rajadamnern Avenue. The UN Day 10 Km International Run on Sunday, on Sunday, 27 October will begin at 6:30 outside the UN Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue.

DUE TO TIGHT SECURITY, PLEASE KINDLY BRING YOUR PRESS ACCREDITATION.

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www.unescap.org End.

-SN-

Press/Media: THAIRATH
Page(s): 39
Date: 23 October 2002

Summary

Closed Rajadamnern Road for UN marathon

The United Nations day Marathon will be started in the morning on Sunday 27th October at Rajadamnern Road standard distance 10 km. in front of UN office, there are an award and a prize coat for the winner. The money from this activity will be donated to the children with disabilities.

ปิดราชดำเนิน

☆ต่อจากหน้า 21

ประลองความฮึดกันในการแข่งขัน "วิ่งมาราธอนชิงถ้วยพระราชทานสมเด็จพระเทพรัตนราชสุดาฯ สยามบรมราชกุมารี" หรือ "วิ่งยูเอ็น" ปีที่ 20 ในเช้าตรู่วันอาทิตย์ที่ 27 ต.ค. นี้ ที่ถนนราชดำเนินนอก บนระยะทางมาตรฐาน 10 กม. ชิงรางวัลถ้วยเกียรติยศและเสื้อเบลเซอร์ของสหประชาชาติ พร้อมเงินรางวัลติดปลายนวมอีกจำนวนหนึ่ง ซึ่งรายได้จากการแข่งขัน จะนำเข้าสมทบทุนการกุศลแก่เด็กพิการทางสมองและปัญญา

เวียนกลับมาบรรจบอีกปีสำหรับการแข่งขันวิ่งมินิมาราธอน ประเพณีรายการยิ่งใหญ่สุดยอดของเมืองไทย "วิ่งยูเอ็นเดย์" หรือชื่อเต็มๆว่า "วิ่งประเพณีนานาชาติวันสหประชาชาติ" ซึ่งจะวิ่งฉลองครบรอบปีที่ 20 ในเช้าตรู่วันอาทิตย์ที่ 27 ต.ค. นี้ เวลา 06.30 น. ที่ถนนราชดำเนินนอก บริเวณลานหน้าสำนักงานสหประชาชาติ โดยปีนี้คาดว่า จะมีนักวิ่งปอดเหล็กจากทั่วทุกสารทิศทั้งไทยและต่างประเทศเข้าร่วมการแข่งขันมากกว่า 1 หมื่นคนอย่างแน่นอน

การจัดงานวิ่งประเพณียูเอ็นเดย์ มีใต้ไผ่ใหญ่คือ คณะกรรมาธิการเศรษฐกิจและสังคมของเอเชียและแปซิฟิก แห่งสหประชาชาติ (ESCAP) และบริษัทอเมริซิ่งฟิสด์ จำกัด โดยจัดขึ้นเพื่อเป็นการฉลองวันครบรอบปีของสหประชาชาติ ซึ่งเงินรายได้ส่วนหนึ่งจะมอบเป็นทุนช่วยเหลือเด็กพิการทางสมองและปัญญา

สำหรับระยะทางมินิมาราธอน 10 กม. ของงานวิ่งยูเอ็น จัดได้ว่ามีมาตรฐานสมบูรณ์แบบที่สุดของเมืองไทย โดยผู้ชนะแข่งขันอันดับ 1-5 ในแต่ละรุ่น ซึ่งประกอบด้วย ชายหญิงรุ่นทั่วไป และรุ่นอาวุโส รวมทั้งเก้าอี้ล้อเลื่อนคนพิการจะได้รับรางวัลถ้วยเกียรติยศพร้อมคูณค่า และผู้ชนะที่ 1 ในแต่ละรุ่น จะได้สามเหรือสามารถหรือเบลเซอร์อีกด้วย

ส่วนนักวิ่งที่ชื่นชอบความสนุก และมีอารมณ์ขันแบบสร้างสรรค์ ก็จะมีการประกวดวิ่งแฟนซี เพื่อเป็นการสร้างสีสันให้งานด้วย ขณะเดียวกัน ในส่วนของชมรมวิ่งที่ส่งสมาชิกนักวิ่งเข้าร่วมมากที่สุดในแต่ละภาค และกทม. จะได้รับรางวัลเงินสด เพื่อสนับสนุนกิจกรรมชมรม จำนวน 4,000-3,000 และ 2,000 บาท ตามลำดับ

ผู้ที่สนใจติดต่อสอบถามรายละเอียดและสมัครเข้าร่วมการแข่งขันได้ที่ บ.อเมริซิ่งฟิสด์ โทร. 0-2277-6670-1 ซึ่งผู้สมัครทุกคนจะได้รับเสื้อวิ่งที่ระลึกพร้อมกระเบอกอเนกประสงค์ของ "ไนกี้" เป็นของแถม และเมื่อวิ่งเข้าถึงเส้นชัยจะได้รับเหรียญเกียรติยศคล้าสสิกออกแบบมาเพื่อฉลองครบรอบ 20 ปี ของการจัดงานวิ่งยูเอ็นโดยเฉพาะ

Press/Media: DAILY NEWS	Date: 23 October 2002
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Summary

UN co-operate with Nike to organize marathon

The United Nations and Nike Company (Thailand) will organize the marathon to celebrate the 20th United Nations Day Marathon on Sunday, 27 October at 6:30 am.

สหประชาชาติจับมือไนกี้จัดวิ่งมาราธอน

บานฉ่ำกีฬาชิงชนกีฬา

กรุงเทพฯ/...ข่าวแจ้งว่าองค์การสหประชาชาติ และบริษัท ไนกี้ (ประเทศไทย) จำกัด จะจัดการแข่งขันวิ่งมาราธอนในงาน "วิ่งนานาชาติวันสหประชาชาติ ครั้งที่ 20" โดยเปิดโอกาสให้นักวิ่งทุกรุ่นทุกวัยเข้าร่วมการแข่งขันและสนุกกับกิจกรรมหลากหลาย และร่วมลุ้นรับรองเท้าวิ่งไนกี้ได้ภายในงาน ที่บริษัทด้านหน้าองค์การสหประชาชาติ สะพานมัฆวานรังสรรค์ วันอาทิตย์ที่ 27 ตุลาคมนี้ ตั้งแต่เวลา 06.30 น. เปิดรับสมัครแล้วตั้งแต่วันนี้เป็นต้นไป สอบถามรายละเอียดเพิ่มเติมได้ที่ โทร. 0-2277-8670-1 หรืออีเมล amazingfield@hotmail.com

Press/Media: Page(s):	**Xinhua News Agency**	Date: 24 October 2002

Summary

UN Day celebrated in Thailand

XINHUANET 2002-10-24 11:46:29

BANGKOK, Oct. 24 (Xinhuanet) -- The 57th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations was celebrated here Thursday by local UN agencies and the Thai government.

"The United Nations was created 57 years ago as an instrument for peace, security and human progress in the world. Our greatest challenge is how to use this instrument effectively to prevent war," said local-based UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Executive-Secretary Kim Hak-Su at a grand ceremony to mark the UN Day of Oct. 24.

"But there is another war that we need to continue to wage-- the global war against poverty, hunger and deprivation. To win this war, we need to act collectively so that the poor may live a decent life, the hungry may be filled and the deprived may find consolidation," he said.

"On this special day, let us reaffirm our commitments to the four UN objectives, which are, to maintain international peace andsecurity, to develop friendly relations among nations, to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations," said the head of the ESCAP, the largest UN agency in the region.

The ceremony was attended by local UN officials and Thai government leaders, including Deputy Prime Minister Korn Dabbaransi.

Other activities were held here to commemorate the UN Day, including a flag-rising rite, a exhibition of UN's achievements and a sports campaign. Enditem

Press/Media: BANGKOK POST
Page(s): 3 (Outlook)
Date: 24 October 2002

Summary

US anti-war movement strengthens

March to UN office in Bangkok in the name of peace

KATHERINE FOO

A number of academics are concerned about the degree of dissent within the American government itself. The decision to go to war, their open letter emphasises, should have the clear support of the US Congress, the Secretary of State, and the commanding officers of the armed forces — support which it currently does not have.

Press/Media: **BANGKOK POST**
Page(s): 3 **(Outlook)**
Date: 24 October 2002

Summary

From metropolitan centres to obscure towns, President Bush's call to war is bringing Americans from their homes out onto the streets. Nearly every US city has witnessed this public response in the form of vigils, marches, demonstrations, speeches, and sit-ins. Two months ago, the word "peace activist" would have evoked suspicion and snickers from fellow Americans. But with Bush's threat of a pre-emptive strike on Iraq, peace groups are going mainstream.

This month's protests have assembled green activists, university students and well-dressed older couples alike. One University of Wisconsin student said, "My group, Stop the War!, is working with Amnesty International, the greens, the Student Labor Action Coalition, Muslim students, all kinds of groups."

Previously splintered activist groups have cohered into a growing peace movement. On a national level, independent media sources say the October 6-7 protests drew together more than 90,000 people. Over 27,000 academics alone have signed an open letter in objection to Bush's war plans. Students have planned so many events that prominent professors report that they cannot meet the demand for their presence. The Institute for Policy Studies has counted over 165 anti-war events planned for the upcoming weeks throughout 46 states. On a global level, anti-war protests have sprung up throughout Europe, including London, Madrid, Paris and Rome.

On Saturday, places as far apart as Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Belgium and Germany will host peace marches in solidarity with American marches on the same day in Washington DC [illegible]

Their reasons range from legal, strategic, and economic to moral, ethical, and humanitarian. But these diverse peoples have put aside their differences to broadcast the message loud and clear — Earth to Bush: We don't want war. No war, no way, not in our name. No war in Iraq.

They say a unilateral attack by the United States on Iraq would breach international law. It would violate the Charter of the United Nations, which gives exclusive legal authority to begin wars to the UN's Security Council.

Iraq's refusal to allow UN weapons inspection teams into the country is an issue between the Iraqi government and the United Nations, not the United States. Such aggression undermines the authority of the UN when non-military options are still available. Serious controversy exists as to the veracity of the Bush administration's claim that Iraq possession weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The Arab League, a conglomeration of Middle Eastern states, and many UN members support UN inspections rather than a US-led attack. As one Northeastern University student said, "We're talking about attacking Iraq, attacking first, which is something this country's never done before. We're turning into an imperialist power."

The widespread opposition to US war on Iraq reflects a variety of criticisms. The Bush administration claims a connection between bin Laden's al-Qaeda terrorist group and the Iraqi government as well as Iraq's potential ability to supply these terrorists with [illegible] Various groups accuse the administration of not substantiating these claims with hard evidence, citing the following: none of the hijackers were Iraqi; no prominent figure in al-Qaeda is Iraqi; and no funds received by al-Qaeda can be traced to Iraq.

Some weeks ago Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld declared the sighting of suspected al-Qaeda members in Iraq. In response, Miriam

Press/Media: **BANGKOK POST**
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Pemberton, peace and security editor for Foreign Policy in Focus, told the US Congress, that the sighting had been made in northern Iraq, which is under the protection of US warplanes. And if the presence of suspected al-Qaeda members were reason enough to attack, she added, we should be bombing Germany, and ourselves.

Rather than guarantee American and world security, Bush's opponents claim that the war will destabilise the Middle East while increasing anti-Americanism, political antagonism within Islamic governments, the appeal of radical Islamic movements, and terrorism on an international scale.

The United States' own CIA reports, "Should Saddam conclude that a US-led attack could no longer be deterred, he probably would become much less constrained in adopting terrorist actions A WMD attack against the United States would be his last chance to exact vengeance by taking a large number of victims with him."

More reasons cited by anti-war activists have economic, political, humanitarian, and ethical bases. Economically speaking, the oil-price hike has begun, with oil currently trading at $30 (1,290 baht)/barrel, an 18-month high. Many experts speculate the cost to rise to $50 (2,150 baht)/barrel if the US follows through [redacted] American economy into a full-blown recession, with international ramifications. Decline in tourism, the world's largest industry, would likely follow. The 1991 Gulf War depressed tourism as far as Costa Rica and East Africa.

Many US taxpayers point out that the direct and indirect costs of a US war against Iraq will be enormous. As the industrialised country with the most inequality, they say, America ought to strengthen its education and health-care systems rather than its military budget.

Further, a number of academics are concerned about the degree of dissent within the American government itself. The decision to go to war, their open letter emphasises, should have the clear support of the US Congress, the Secretary of State, and the commanding officers of the armed forces — support which it currently does not have.

Other protestors disagree with a US invasion on a country ravaged by the Gulf War and economic sanctions.

According to former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark, US bombs destroyed Iraqi water systems, electric power transmission, communications, transportation, manufacturing, commerce, agriculture, poultry and livestock, food-storage facilities, markets, fertiliser and insecticide production, business centres, archaeological and historical treasures, apartment houses, residential areas, schools, hospitals; mosques, churches and synagogues.

After the bombing ended, the US imposed what Clark has called genocidal sanctions on Iraq that continue to kill hundreds of people every day, particularly infants, children, the elderly, the chronically ill and emergency medical cases.

For these reasons, heated and controversial public discussions and action swell through the US and beyond. [redacted] The Thai Inter-religious Peace Network is inviting people to take part in a solidarity march to the UN office tomorrow, starting at 9am from Santi Chaiprakarn Park, Phra Arthit Road, Bang Lamphu.

Marchers will hand out blue peace flags along the route which will pass through Bang Lamphu, Thewet and along Phadung Krung Kasem Canal to the UN office. There, organisers will submit a statement to UN staff.

The march will conclude with a "peace contemplation" around noon.



Thailand supports UN stands on terror, poverty

BANGKOK, Oct 24, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Thailand firmly supports the UN policies on fighting global terrorism through multilateral institutions and cutting poverty through sustainable development, Deputy Prime Minister Korn Dabbaransi said Thursday.

Source: **Xinhua News Agency**
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Document Size: Very Short (239 words)
Document ID: FA20021024050000017
Subject(s): XIN; AIDS; Asia; Drugs; Government; HIV; Millennium; Poverty; Prime Minister; South Africa; Terrorism; Thailand

Thailand supports UN stands on terror, poverty

Story Filed: Thursday, October 24, 2002 12:23 AM EST

BANGKOK, Oct 24, 2002 (Xinhua via COMTEX) -- Thailand firmly supports the UN policies on fighting global terrorism through multilateral institutions and cutting poverty through sustainable development, Deputy Prime Minister Korn Dabbaransi said Thursday.

"The UN's task of maintaining peace in the world is much tougher following recent terror attacks across the globe and Thailand respects and observes all UN resolutions on combating the threat of terrorism," he said at a ceremony here to mark the 57th UN anniversary, which falls on Oct. 24.

"At the same time, our government and people believe that terror and violence are rooted in the world's other illnesses, namely poverty, inequality, HIV/AIDS and drugs," he said.

Korn said for many years, Thailand has been seeking ways to follow the UN guidance on poverty reduction through promoting sustainable development for its people.

"Thailand participated this year's World Summit for Sustainable Development in August in South Africa and supports the agreements reached at the conference," he noted.

The kingdom has recently ratified the Kyoto Protocol for Climate Change and is supporting the UN reforms to realize its Millennium Goals by 2015, said Korn.

He also praised the work of the local-based UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**) and said it acts like a bridge to pull together UN members in the region for achieving UN objectives.

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Press/Media: Matichon Page(s): 18	Date: 25 October 2002

Summary



วันสหประชาชาติ – นายกร ทัพพะรังสี รองนายกรัฐมนตรี ร่วมจุดคบเพลิงและเดินขบวนร่าลึกเนื่องในวันสหประชาชาติ พร้อมคนไทยทั่วประเทศ ที่ถนนราชดำเนินนอก หน้าศูนย์การประชุมสหประชาชาติ เมื่อวันที่ 24 ตุลาคม

United Nations Day

H.E. Mr. Korn Dabbaransi, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, leads a publicity walk on Rajdamnern Nok Avenue in front of the United Nations Conference Centre to celebrate the United Nations Day on 24 October 2002.

Press/Media: Kaosod	Date: 25 October 2002
Page(s): 3	

Summary



ฉลองยูเอ็น - นายกร ทัพพะรังสี รองนายกรัฐมนตรี พร้อมเจ้าหน้าที่สหประชาชาติ ร่วมเฉลิมฉลองในโอกาสวันคล้ายวันสถาปนาสหประชาชาติ ประจำประเทศไทย ที่ ถ.ราชดำเนิน วันที่ 24 ต.ค.

To Celebrate the United Nations Day

H.E. Mr. Korn Dabbaransi, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, leads a publicity walk on Rajdamnern Nok Avenue with the United Nations staff members to celebrate the United Nations Day in Thailand on 24 October 2002.

Press/Media: Thairath	Date: 28 October 2002
Page(s): 21	

Summary



International Run

Over 10,000 runners jointed the 20th annual UN Day 10 Km International Run to celebrate the United Nations Day, in front of the United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok, on 27 October 2002.

Siam Rath
28 October 2002

Thousands of Runners joins UN Run

นิคฺคณฺเห นิคฺคหารหํ ปคฺคณฺเห ปคฺคหารหํ

สยามรัฐ

สถาปนา ๒๕ มิถุนายน ๒๔๙๓

วันจันทร์ที่ ๒๘ ตุลาคม พุทธศักราช ๒๕๔๕



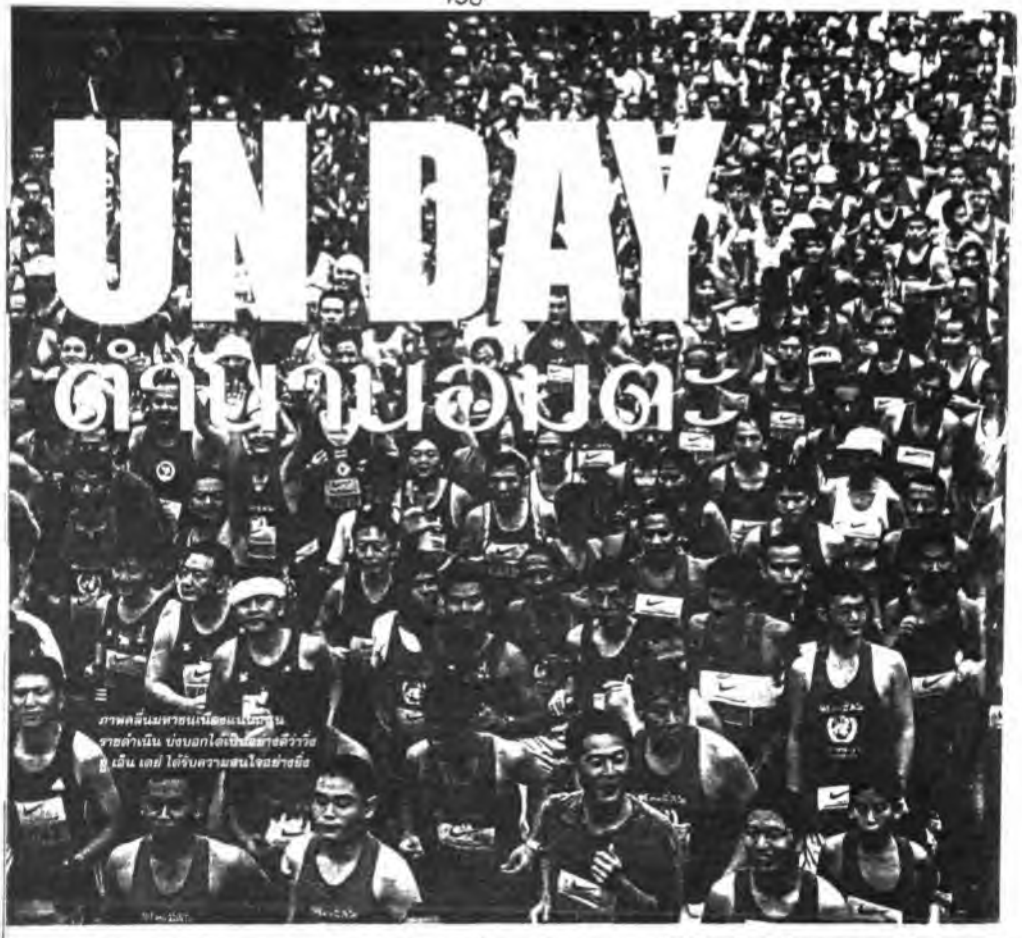
"Wing" (run) Magazine
Vol. 14, December 2002

UN Day Run – the legend
(The wrap-up of the UN Day Run)



UN DAY

ตำนานอยู่ตะ



ภาพคลื่นมหาชนเนืองแน่นสนาม
รายตำนิน บ่งบอกได้เป็นอย่างดีว่าวิ่ง
ยู เอ็น เดย์ ได้รับความสนใจอย่างยิ่ง

วิ่งมาราธอนชิงแชมป์ประชาชาติหรือที่รู้จักกันในชื่อว่าวิ่ง ยู.เอ็น.เดย์ การแข่งขันในปีนี้ยังเป็นสนามที่ดึงดูดใจจากนักวิ่งทั้งชาวไทยและต่างประเทศเข้ารวมการแข่งขันกันอย่างคับคั่งไม่เพียงครั้งที่ผ่านๆ มา

การแข่งขันวิ่งรายการนี้ได้จัดต่อเนื่องมานานกว่า 20 ปีแล้ว และครั้งนี้ก็เป็นครั้งที่ 20 ที่วิ่งมาราธอนชิงแชมป์ประชาชาติจัดให้นักวิ่งไทยและต่างชาติได้ร่วมประลองฝีเท้าออกกำลังกาย และเพื่อสร้างกุศโลบายก่อสังคมตามรัฐธรรมนูญประชาชาติซึ่งรายการนี้แม้ว่าไม่มีเงินรางวัลเป็นสิ่งล่อใจเลยแต่ก็มีนักวิ่งเข้าแข่งขันมากมาย และปีปัจจุบันจะมากหรือคุณขึ้นเรื่อยๆ ทั้งที่แรกเริ่มเดิมทีนั้นมีประมาณ 200 คนเท่านั้น

ทว่าปีนี้ วิ่ง ยู.เอ็น.เดย์ มีประชาชนเข้าแข่งขันมากมายเป็นประวัติการณ์กว่า 10,000 คน เนื่องแน่นเต็มถนนราชดำเนินท่ามกลางสภาพอากาศที่มีฝนตกลงมาตลอดเวลาแต่ก็ไม่ทำให้นักวิ่งท้อถอยหรือหมดหวังเลย

"บุญชู จันทร์เดชะ" แชมป์เก่า 2 สมัยต่อกันปีนี้คงมาร่วมการแข่งขันเช่นเดิม ซึ่งปลดเหล็กหลายเสน 1 ของไทย กล่าวก่อนการแข่งขันจะเริ่มว่า เขาตั้งใจจะมาร่วมแข่งขันรายการนี้เพื่อปีครองแชมป์เอาไว้พร้อมกับเป็นแชมป์สมัยที่ 3 ติดต่อกันให้ได้และสร้างสถิติเอาไว้ในการแข่งขันรายการนี้

แน่นอนว่า "บุญชู" ยังเป็นเต็ง 1 ที่จะคว้าแชมป์รายการนี้ไปครองนอกจากนี้ยังมีนักวิ่งชั้นนำของไทยร่วมลีกมากมายไม่ว่าจะเป็น พิทักษ์ พลจันทร์, สุทัศน์ กิจสานกิตติ, พงศักดิ์ ดาน้อย, กัญ กุสุวรรณ เป็นการรีให้เห็นว่าวิ่ง ยู.เอ็น.เดย์ มีความสำคัญเช่นกัน

เช้าวันที่ 27 ต.ค. 2545 สถานทำเนียบรัฐบาลยังไม่เป็นใจนักวิ่งหงไปรปรายลงมาในช่วงสายและในขณะที่ทำ

















บุญชู จันทร์เสระ แชมป์ 3 สมัยซ้อน ถูเอ็น เคย์

16 52

ราชมงคลต่อยาว ๆ ถนนเส้นการแข่งขันเริ่มขึ้นตามเวลาที่กำหนดไว้คือในเวลา 08.30 น. โดยมี นิสากร ไอโน้ได้ เลขาธิการคณะกรรมการจัดการแข่งขันกีฬาและสังคมแห่งชาติพื้นฐานเชียงและแม่พิมพ์ของสหประชาชาติ พร้อมด้วย นวโนเอ็น ดันเกิลบู ซัค เจ้าหน้าที่ระดับบริหารของสำนักงาน ยูเอ็น ประเทศไทยร่วมเป็นผู้ให้สัญญาณปล่อยตัวนักวิ่งกว่าหนึ่งหมื่นคนออกจากจุดสตาร์ต

ทันทีที่สัญญาณปล่อยตัวดังขึ้นกลุ่มผู้นำประกอบด้วย พิทักษ์, บุญชู, สุทัศน์, พงศักดิ์ ถานันตะ, สมชาย นิพัทธ์ และประสิทธิ์ ประจงออกสตาร์ตขับเคี่ยวกันอย่างสนุกเต็มเต็ม โดยมี พิทักษ์ วิ่งนำอยู่หัวแถวตลอดทางโดยมีกลุ่มนี้ตามตลอดมาจากลุ่มกันไปจนกระทั่งเมื่อเข้าสู่ถนนราชวิถีส่วนจิตรลดาปลดหลักจอมก้า พิทักษ์ พัดจุ่น ที่ถือว่านักวิ่งระยะนี้ เกิดวูบสปีดหนีห่าง ออกไปเป็นผู้นำแต่เพียงคนเดียวทิ้งระยะห่างจากอันดับ 2 ที่ คือ บุญชู จันทร์เสระ อยู่ประมาณ 15 ม. ส่วนกลุ่มที่ 3 ยังเป็น สุทัศน์, พงศักดิ์ และ สมชาย ที่ตามหลังมาติดๆ และพยายามแซงขึ้นมาแต่ระยะกลุ่มนี้ครั้งแล้วครั้งเล่าก็ไม่ขึ้น จนกระทั่งผ่านสถานีตำรวจดุสิตเมื่อถึงเขตพระราชฐานชั้นในแล้วนักวิ่งทั้งหมดก็ต้องลดความเร็วลงเพราะทำให้พื้นถนนลื่น

ผ่านจุดให้น้ำแรกมาได้ 2 นาที จอมเก๋า พิทักษ์ ก็วิ่งเป็นผู้นำเดี่ยวและมี บุญชู ตามหลังมาห่างประมาณ 5 เมตร ส่วนกลุ่มที่ 3 ยังคงตามติดมาอย่างไม่ลดละ

พยายามรักษาระยะห่างเอาไว้ แต่ว่าเขาจังหวะนี้เอง พิทักษ์ เหลือบมอง บุญชู มิตหนึ่งกลับที่จะเร่งสปีดถอดไปอีกจนทิ้งห่าง บุญชู อยู่ประมาณ 50 ม. แต่ปลดเหลือกบอร์ 1 ของไทยยังคงวิ่งตามปลดี

เมื่อผ่านไปถึงเขาดินเข้าสู่ถนนพิชัยและการแข่งขันผ่านไปได้ 10 นาที บุญชู เริ่มที่จะขี้ลิตเข้าใกล้ว่าเดิมขึ้นช่วงนี้ พิทักษ์ ดูจะแผ่วลงไปเสียบ้าง ขณะ บุญชู เริ่มขี้ลิตเข้ามาเรื่อย ๆ จนระยะห่างกระชั้นเข้ามาใกล้ว่าเดิมเหลือไม่ถึง 30 ม. และเมื่อเลี้ยวซ้ายเข้าสู่ถนนสุโขทัยยิ่งขยับเข้าใกล้กว่าเดิมจนสร้างความกังวลให้กับพิทักษ์ ต้องทดลองเร่งสปีดขึ้นแต่ความเร็วจะพยายามเร่งหนีแต่ดูจะแข่งไม่ขึ้นแล้วตอนนี้ บุญชู เริ่มขยับเข้ามาใกล้ทีละนิด ๆ ผ่านหน้าสถานีรถไฟสวนสุนันทาระยะห่างเหลือแค่ประมาณ 10 ม. เท่านั้น

และเมื่อผ่านถึงสะพานเตาหงษ์ บุญชู ก็สับเท้าเข้ามาหาพิทักษ์ทันที พิทักษ์ ได้สำเร็จพอจากที่การแข่งขันผ่านไปได้ 21 นาที ช่วงนี้เอง พิทักษ์ พยายามสปีดหนีสุดฤทธิ์แต่ก็หนี บุญชู ไม่ลดและปลดเหลือกบอร์หนึ่งของพิทักษ์ก็สามารถแซงขึ้นไปเสียคู่กับ พิทักษ์ ได้สำเร็จไปสู่กันขณะที่ถึงสะพานพระรามหก

ช่วงไต่ลอดใต้สะพานพระรามหก บุญชู ก็ควบขึ้นหน้านักวิ่งคู่นี้ขึ้นเป็นผู้นำพร้อมกับวางฝีเท้าหนีออกไป พิทักษ์พยายามไล่แต่ก็ไม่สำเร็จ ทำได้เพียงรักษาระยะห่างเอาไว้ แล้วช่วงจังหวะนี้เอง พิทักษ์ เหลือบมอง บุญชู มิตหนึ่งกลับที่จะเร่งสปีดถอดไปอีกจนทิ้งห่าง บุญชู อยู่ประมาณ 50 ม. แต่ปลดเหลือกบอร์ 1 ของไทยยังคงวิ่งตามปลดี

และเมื่อเลี้ยวเข้าสู่สะพานผ่านฟ้า บุญชู ก็ทิ้งห่างกว่า 40 ม. และเมื่อเลี้ยวเข้าถนนราชดำเนินนอกก็ทิ้งห่างกว่า 50 ม.

ยิ่งตอนนี้ บุญชู จอมถึดจากแสงอรุณ นิสากรฯ และผองความเร็วลงไปเพราะรู้แน่ว่า พิทักษ์ เหนื่อยใจไม่พ้นแน่นอน และก็วิ่งเข้าเส้นชัยเป็นคนแรกด้วยเวลาที่สบาย ๆ ทำเวลาได้ 1.10 น. คว้าแชมป์วิ่งมาราธอนชายชาติสหประชาชาติ ครั้งที่ 3 ติดต่อกันได้สำเร็จ



สวน พิทักษ์ เข้าเป็นที่ 2 ทำเวลาได้ 31.18 น., ที่ 3 สุทัศน์ กัลยานกิตติ เวลา 32.32 น., ที่ 4 พงศกัด ดาน้อย (ศิษย์หลวงพ่อคูณ) เวลา 33.09 น., ที่ 5 สมชาย มีทรัพย์ (เขาวังเมืองเพชร) เวลา 34.22 น. และที่ 6 ประสิทธิ ประจง (ศิษย์หลวงพ่อคูณ) เวลา 34.35 น.





หลังการแข่งขัน บุญชู แซมป์ 3 สมัยติดต่อกัน เปิดเผยว่า วันนี้วิ่งได้ไม่ค่อยดีนักสาเหตุเนื่องมาจากว่ามีฝนตกลงมาตลอดทำให้เส้นทางการวิ่งและสิ่นเท่าให้วิ่งลำบาก อีกทั้งวันนี้ตนเองก็วิ่งได้ไม่ค่อยดีเท่าไดด้วยรู้สึกว่าจะวิ่งไม่ค่อยออกซึ่งอาจจะเป็นเพราะว่าวอร์มไม่ดีจึงเป็นได้ ซึ่งตอนแรกที่ถูกนำนั้นจะพยายามวิ่งตามพี่พิทักษ์ให้ทันแต่ว่าพิ่งตามก็ดูช่างจังหวะเปลี่ยนความคิดมาวิ่งชะตับการวิ่งให้เท่าเดิมเอาไว้ไม่เช่นเหมือนช่วงแรกซึ่งแซงได้ก็คงเพราะว่าพี่พิทักษ์แผ่วลงไป และก็ว่าจะแซงได้ก็เหลือประมาณ 4 กม. สุดท้ายแล้ว

สรุปการแข่งขันรุ่นอื่นๆ มีดังนี้

ชาย รุ่นอายุ 19 ปีขึ้นไป ที่ 1 พิวัฒน์ ออยพิพย์ (เอสีส เขาวังเมืองเพชร) 34.23 น., ที่ 2 องศา ชวนเฉ็ก (สมาคมแต๋ว) 34.36 น., ที่ 3 ธเนศ รัตนคำ (สนามศุภชลาศัย) 34.38 น., ที่ 5 สวอง ยุทัด (สนามไชย) 35.20 น., ที่ 5 พ.ต.ท.พีสิฐ ธรรมสุวิชะ (สนามศุภชลาศัย) 35.21 น., ที่ 6 พ.ต.ท.ระยอง ยังอยู่ 35.30 น.

หญิง รุ่นอายุ 35 ปีขึ้นไป ที่ 1 เอลเลน เคฟลิน (สหรัฐฯ) 38.48 น., ที่ 2 มณเฑียร แก้วแก้ว 39.14 น., ที่ 3 ควิงดี้ ออลลิแกน (สหรัฐฯ) 39.20 น., ที่ 4 นิยา เมทะนาวิน (สวนหลวง39.9) 42.13 น.ที่ 5 ดาวัลย์ ขาคี 43.00 น., ที่ 6 ณัฐพร ลันเตาฟินร์ (รมพันนา) 43.15 น., **หนุ่ม รุ่นอายุไม่เกิน 34 ปี** ที่ 1 รัตนพันธ์ ยุทธ์เผด (สนามไชย) 38.36 น., ที่ 2 คัญ ดูสวรรณ 39.00 น., ที่ 3 คิสมัย ควาจันทร์ (รมพันนา) 42.10 น.,ที่ 4 คุนปู แซ่อึ้ง (พหาไทย) 42.51 น.,ที่ 5 ศุชาติ ผูกมิตร (ทองเนาวา) 43.20 น., ที่ 6 ด.ญ.ศลยา เคราะห์ดี (แสงอรุณ) 43.59 น.







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