## **African Clean Cities Platform**

# Newsletter

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#### ACCP's first annual meeting held in Rabat



The first annual meeting of ACCP was held in Rabat, Morocco, from June 26 through 28, 2018, attended by about 220 participants including administrative officials in charge of waste management from 48 cities in 32 countries across Africa, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Yokohama City, JICA, international organizations, private companies, waste management experts and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers involved in environmental

education. The five main agendas of the meeting were: (1) the sharing of Morocco's waste management experience, (2) data collection and monitoring towards the achievement of the SDGs, (3) collaboration with private-sector (4) mobilization of funds for improved waste management and (5) action planning towards TICAD7. The participants exchanged opinions through presentations, panel discussions, etc.. On the first day, a study tour to the Oum Azza final landfill site, which deals with waste from the city of Rabat was conducted and many participants showed keen interest in refuse-derived fuel (RDF) facility, leachate treatment, and methane collection. On the final day, the annual meeting concluded with the Rabat Declaration, which was adopted unanimously to confirm the outcomes of the meeting and further promotion of ACCP activities toward TICAD7, with loud applause throughout the venue.









♦ ♦ ♦ "Resilient and Sustainable Management of Waste" ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

#### Dr. Mitsuo Yoshida, Technical Advisor on Waste Management, JICA

Goal 11 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is entitled "make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" and touches on improving the management of waste. In this context, the term "resilient" refers to a state with ability to carry out recovery and reconstruction in response to a disaster or harsh environment, supported by two requirements; namely, diversity and networks.

Resilience is required for waste management in Africa, which is faced with severe difficulties in terms of natural and social environments, even though it is not a disaster. Such difficulties include drastic changes in the quality and quantity of waste caused by economic and consumption changes, insufficient garbage collection services,

frequent accidents at landfill sites, immature public-private partnerships and a low level of public awareness. It seems that it is not easy to solve these difficulties. However, if the diverse experiences of African countries and cities in the management of waste are networked, it should make a start on solving them. In consideration of it, we will provide support to African countries. The African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP) was established with such a conviction.

In the first meeting of the ACCP held in Morocco, a various experiences and information from African countries and cities were shared through three panel discussions and reports by many parties and donors, including not only success stories but also negative experiences such as accidents involving landfill site collapses and fires. The meeting provided an opportunity to embody diversity and networking. As it marked the first anniversary of the ACCP's foundation, we believe that the meeting was the first step toward fulfilling the platform's role to support cities in Africa to realize resilient and sustainable waste management schemes.

#### **Participant's Comments**

Solid waste management in Democratic Republic of the Congo, my country, is facing a major issue, the needs of appropriate methodological and technical knowledge in order to improve the living environment for our population.

Since I registered to the ACCP—African Clean Cities Platform (plate-forme africaine des villes propres), I gained multiple knowledge concerning solid waste from the experiences of the other African actors intervening in the sanitation sector. Therefore, it's through the ACCP that we obtain the technical and legal suggestions in order to implement the National Sanitation Policy (Politique Nationale d'Assainissement).

For this, I want to tell once again my gratitude toward the Japanese Government, JICA and the States members of this platform for their commitment in order to improve the living environment of African populations, which will for sure contribute to decreasing morbidity and mortality and also poverty in our respective countries.



Ms. Pascaline MBANGU KIKUMBI
National Director of Sanitation
Ministry of Envirenment and sustainable
Devepment
RD Congo

From the onset, I must appreciate the organizational acumen displayed by the organizers prior and during the First Annual Meeting of ACCP.

The forum provided an excellent opportunity for peer review by solid waste management experts. Besides, the topics covered during entire forum give practical approaches towards enhancing solid waste management in African Cities.

It was evident that most African Cities are faced with similar solid waste management challenges. Inability to employ technological options in waste management stood out. Majority of the African Cities have no sanitary landfills due to budgetary limitations. Discussions on Public Private Partnerships and ACCP platform as a vehicle to promote investment in cities waste management therefore, came out as a good option in addressing the budgetary challenges.

Sharing waste management approaches by delegates was a clear proof that the ACCP will be a key vehicle towards revamping solid waste management in the African Cities.



**Mr. ISAAC MURAYA KIMANI**AG Chief Officer –Environment
Nairobi City County Government
Kenya



#### Dr. Graham Alabaster, Unit Leader, Waste Management Unit, Urban Basic Services Branch, UN Habitat

The first annual ACCP meeting organized by JICA and kindly hosted by the Government of Morocco, was a great success. I was particularly impressed by the fact that 32 countries from Africa participated in the meeting and shared their experience and ideas to achieve waste SDGs. In addition, many of the good practices and technologies from Japan and other developed countries, were discussed and how they could be adapted to address waste management issues in urban Africa. This for me was a clear indication that we are headed in the right direction to help improve waste management in Africa, a continent where the needs are the greatest.

To assist ACCP member states, UN-Habitat is developing a coherent monitoring methodology, to guide cities and countries on waste SDG monitoring. We stand ready to support partners to develop a balanced combination of monitoring, policy formulation and practical interventions to improve Solid Waste Management, and in particular, by encouraging resource recovery and reducing the environmental and health impacts. These actions will enable countries to improve the appropriate institutional arrangement for Solid Waste Management, and support the formulation of technical proposals for consideration by development partners. An important part of this process is setting up adequate monitoring frameworks and collecting data for design purposes. The further development of longer-term capacity building will be supported by UN-Habitat and the establishment of training centres can be considered to share experience and can advise on all aspects of this work. We are now in a new era where solid waste management is finally being given the attention it deserves, as an urban basic service, which is necessary for sustainable urban development.



### Mr. EL HABTI, Governor Director of Water and Sanitation, Head Office of Local Authorities, Ministry of the Interior, Morocco

Morocco had the honor to host the 1st annual meeting of the African Clean Cities Platform for June 26 to 28, 2018, in its capital of Rabat. A meeting that further confirms the active role played by the Kingdom of Morocco for promoting South-South cooperation and its commitment to the African continent development. Environment protection is now both a necessity and an obligation. It constitutes a present and constant data for all the economic and social development strategies of Morocco. Similarly, waste management represents a major challenge for which the government pays a special interest. Therefore, Morocco succeeded, through its

development policy of the waste sector, to record an 86% professional waste collection rate in urban areas and more than 51% landfill rate for these last years, which enabled a sensitive improvement of the citizens' living environment and the environment in general.

With its ambitious programs engaged in this domain, Morocco will spare no effort to put his know-how and experience at the disposal of the brothers African Countries and also benefits from their experience in order to achieve the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and to achieve clean and healthy cities by 2030.



#### ACCP Secretariat/ Mr. Sei KONDO, Director, Environment Management Team 2 Global Environment Dept., JICA

I believe the 1st Annual Meeting in Rabat was filled with thoughtful and insightful presentations and discussions. We would like to express our deepest and sincere appreciation to the Government of Morocco, who kindly accept to host the meeting, and delegations and resource persons gathered from many countries.

Having the series of presentation and discussions in Rabat, I now think following activities are important for making Platform more valuable, such as;

- Catalyzing spontaneous activities by countries/cities for more active sharing of knowledge, lessons and experience,
- Facilitating SDGs indicators monitoring activities by countries/cities,
- Feedback good practices and lessons of PPP on SWM sector, and
- Further to utilize platform to materialize/promote investment in SWM sector.

We are grad if you could give us your feedback, positive proposal and support for further development of ACCP.

Toward TICAD7, we are already starting many activities to make ACCP further valuable to partner countries, cities and relevant stakeholders. We had started preparing guidebook on awareness-raising and waste management profile in Africa. In addition, 2nd Training course in Yokohama had already conducted in August, and we are now planning to hold study tour on semi-aerobic landfill system in Ethiopia by collaboration with UN-Habitat. We look forward to share the progress with you soon.

#### Results of the questionnaire conducted on participants of the annual meeting

The ACCP Secretariat conducted a questionnaire survey for annual meeting participants and received responses from 58 people. While over 90% of the respondents are satisfied with the overall management of the meeting, some said that it was overloaded with too many programs or there was not sufficient time for discussions, Q&A sessions, and so on. With regard to the contents of the programs, many say that sharing of experiences with other countries (African countries, Morocco and Japan) and presentations and discussions on the mobilization of funds, collection of data and other themes, were productive, while many requests for specific technologies and examples of practices concerning waste management were raised for the next meeting. These responses will be considered for improvement of management of ACCP in the future.



How was the overall management of the meeting?

## "Environmental Education Guidebook for Waste Management in Africa (provisional title)" being developed!





At present, about 15 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) are working in Africa to provide environmental education and carry out awareness raising activities in relation to the issue of waste, through local governments, schools, etc. JOCVs are expected to help increase public awareness of the significance of the waste problem and encourage positive changes in people's behavior through communicating directly with local residents and children and influencing them. The

ACCP Secretariat is developing a guide book provisionally entitled "Environmental Education Guidebook for Waste Management in Africa" which these JOCVs, counterparts and environmental education practitioners can refer to when developing and implementing awareness raising programs. From June 29 to July 1, following the annual meeting in Morocco, a special workshop took place for the creation of the guidebook, and a total of nine JOCVs, assigned to Cameroon, Kenya, Sudan, Burkina Faso and Botswana, jointly, worked on the development of public awareness raising programs. The guidebook is planned to be published next August, at the time of the TICAD7, as one of the outcomes of ACCP. We hope you will enjoy it.

#### **Upcoming Events**

This year's annual meeting was finished and followed by the training in Yokohama in August, a study tour to learn about waste-related initiatives in the city of Addis Ababa and the Fukuoka method in December, and a training program in Yokohama for French-speaking participants in February, 2019. In Japan, a side event on TICAD Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo and the World Circular Economy Forum in Yokohama were held in October. Under such circumstances, we continue our outreach activities. Furthermore, the TICAD7 will take place in Yokohama in the final week of August 2019. We are making further efforts aiming to make excellent progress toward Yokohama next year.

#### Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers active in the African Waste Management





#### Ms. Masae YAMAMOTO from Botswana

#### Aiming to be a more environmentally friendly and sanitary landfill

I have been working at the Department of Public Health, Kweneng District Council in Molepolole, Botswana. Kweneng District Council manages the largest sanitary landfill in Botswana. Our landfill has some developed facilities such as weighbridges, incinerators and a leachate pond. On the other hand, Kweneng District Council faces many challenges such as inadequate maintenance and repair of facilities and equipment, no waste segregation at the source and no recycling plants in Botswana.

The main purpose of my activity is to develop the current waste management through new ideas and actions. So far, I have calculated the remaining years and volume of our landfill by surveying the landfill and collecting data of waste quantity. I am going to promote 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycling) by using tires as a fuel for cement. In cooperation with my counterpart, I am also planning to introduce a new method of landfilling to prolong the lifespan of the current landfill.





#### Ms. Haruno YOSHIDA from Sudan

Sudan has a mixture of Arabian culture and African culture in northeast Africa. The capital city of Khartoum is located at the confluence of the Blue Nile and the White Nile. I work at the University of Medical Sciences & Technology (UMST) in Khartoum. I have worked at creating a recycling system on campus and eco-awareness activities for students and staff members as the person responsible for waste management. Now, almost a year and a half has passed and the recycling system is working well and we could get some money from valuable waste with cooperation from workers. However, littering and incorrect separation of garbage by students continues. It is really difficult for me to promote behavioral change. I hope that students will think being environmentally conscious is cool and they will be proud of UMST, which is trying to make some efforts to reduce environmental impact, and will recognize their responsibility. Then now, I have started making the environmental policy of UMST with some professors. I want to take the first step to produce such a cycle in which UMST gives greater consideration to the environment, which in turn becomes more advantageous for them and then allows them to consider environmental issues even more.