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**SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT**  
**Covering Period of: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2014 Till 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014**

**I Introduction**

This report covers the activities of EAROPH International Secretariat in its continuous effort to promote the objectives of EAROPH. It must be noted that the International Secretariat has very little manpower as well as financial capacity to expand further its programmes. However it currently leverage upon its networks in Malaysia as well as globally to get involved in programmes and events that allows the International Secretariat to promote the works and expertise of EAROPH.

**II 24<sup>th</sup> EAROPH World Congress 2014, Jakarta, Indonesia**  
10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014

EAROPH International actively participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> EAROPH World Congress by assisting in all matters required of the International Secretariat. This include meetings with the City of Jakarta and Ministry of Public Works, Indonesia to facilitate the preparatory works for EAROPH Indonesia as well involved in moderating sessions and delivering papers during the Congress.

The 24<sup>th</sup> EAROPH Congress reactivated the Mayor's Caucus, which was a huge success as we observed the dynamic Mayors of Indonesia sharing their experiences as well as voiced their concerns on matters related to human settlements. The Ministry of Public Works also organized and hosted an exhibition which showcase the Ministry's works in construction and development that is focus on nation building as well provision for basic needs of communities i.e. infrastructure and homes in villages and towns of Indonesia.

Credit and acknowledgement is to be given to EAROPH Indonesia, City of Jakarta and Ministry of Public Works for an excellent World Congress. Special thanks also to the young planners and individuals whom had volunteered for the event.

**III Climate Sensitive Masters Class**  
12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Langkawi, Malaysia

EAROPH International organizes a Masters Class on Creating Climate Sensitive Cities and Towns. The 3 days accelerated learning session was conducted by Donnel Davis, our Honorary Secretary of EAROPH Australia and it is to provide participants with knowledge on :-



- Understanding Climate Sensitive Cities
- Knowing About Urban Climate Governance
- Climate Policy in Practice Reviews
- Risk Profiling and Audit Programs
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Self-Assessment Toolkit
- In-house disciplinary training
- Climate Policy and Strategy Development

Though the numbers attending was small, the response was positive from participating members, which were all from Local Planning Authorities in Malaysia. The International Secretariat wishes to organize similar Masters Class again and if possible in other EAROPH member's city and it is hoped that Members can also promote the programme.

#### **IV ICLEI World Congress, Seoul, South Korea** 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April 2015

The Secretary General attended the ICLEI World Congress held in Seoul, South Korea. The congress theme was 'Sustainable Solutions for an Urban Future' and it was a remarkable event that had many excellent paper presentations. The new line-up of ICLEI Management Team was introduced to participants and in particular for EAROPH's interest are the following portfolios:

- ICLEI President and Global Executive Member – Park, Won-soon, Mayor of Seoul, South Korea.
- Regional Executive Committee of East Asia, Yeom, Tae-Young, Mayor of Suwon City, Korea.
- Regional Executive Committee of South Asia, Thimphu, Mayor of Bhutan
- Regional Executive Committee of South-East Asia, Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Municipal President of Seberang Perai Municipality
- Regional Executive Committee of Ocenia, Cathy Oke, Councilor, Melbourne City Council, Australia

Upon return, the Secretary General has sent a letter to South-East Asia Regional Head and has once again invite ICLEI-Local Government for Sustainability, to be our partner-designated organization. We have obtained a response from Madam Maimunah and she asked for further elaboration and suggestions on mutual areas for collaboration that we are suggesting to ICLEI. The International Secretariat shall respond accordingly.

#### **V PrepCommII and 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya** 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015

The Secretary General attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and also attended part of the PrepCommII meetings held prior to the Governing Council session. The key agenda of PrepCommII is the preparation works for Habitat III to be held in Quito, Ecuador, 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Habitat III shall be the first United Nation global summit after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and it



shall be a platform to discuss further the challenges that the cities, towns and villages has, to implement and achieve the new global development and climate change goals. Habitat III can also help systematise the alignment between cities and towns and national planning objectives in their role as drivers of national economic and social development. Rising inequality, sharing prosperity, urban poverty and spontaneous (i.e. unplanned) urbanization are high on the agenda of Habitat III.

Parallel to this too, a brief discussion was made with the Chairman of HPF, Mr Ismael Fernandez Meja on matters related to HPF Constitution changes (which has been deferred) and the role of EAROPH being the key organization that represent HPF in Asia and Asia Pacific areas.

## V Expert Talks

The Secretary General actively present conference papers on matters related to Human Settlement and the talks given are as follows:

- a. 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - “Urbanism and Sustainability” in the 24<sup>th</sup> EAROPH World Congress, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- b. 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014 - “Urban Regeneration – The Rebirth of Our Cities” in the Construction Industry Convention, Malaysia.
- c. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 – “Transport Networks and City’s Urban Planning” in Marcus Evans Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- d. 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 – “Climate Change and Low Carbon Cities” to the Ministry of Women and Family Development, Malaysia.
- e. 7<sup>th</sup> April 2015 – “Climate Resilient Cities” in the conference on Best Practices in Planning for Sustainable Development, organized by the Construction Industry Development Board, Malaysia.
- f. 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – “ Strategic Development Blueprint – Malaysia’s experience” to the Ministry of Public Works, Indonesia.

## V Urban October 2015

World Habitat Day (5<sup>th</sup> October) and World Cities Day (31<sup>st</sup> October)

EAROPH International Secretariat is proposing an ‘Urban October’ programme as October is the month when we celebrate World Habitat Day and World Cities Day and hence it is a great opportunity for us to make October a month to raise awareness, promote active participation, generate knowledge and engage our local communities towards the New Urban Agenda (Sustainable Development Goals).

‘Urban October’ shall involved parties concerned with human settlements (especially EAROPH partners) to converge and undertake a joint programme that outreaches to our local communities.

EAROPH proposes 2 programmes to be undertaken for Urban October 2015 and they are :-

- a. National Urban Forum
- b. National Scroll of Honour Awards

The **National Urban Forum** (NUF) shall encourage dialogues and consensus among key stakeholders, including national and local governments, NGO’s, professionals, private sectors



and the academia; in supporting sustainable urban development practices and processes in the country. In doing so, the NUF shall be addressing specific themes and targets specific audiences to create awareness and encourage advocacy for sustainability.

The **National Scroll of Honour Award** is proposed to recognize public and private organizations as well as individuals who have made great contributions to the sustainable development of human settlements. The award is parallel to the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Award that was launched by UN-Habitat in 1989 and is currently the most prestigious human settlements award in the world. Its aim is to acknowledge initiatives which have made outstanding contributions in various fields, such as shelter provision, highlighting the plight of the homeless, leadership in post conflict reconstruction, and improving human settlements and the quality of urban life. The award, a plaque engraved with the name of the winner and their achievement, is presented to the winners during the National Urban Forum and winners will then be nominated for the prestigious UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Award.

## **VI World Urban Forum (WUF 9) 2018** April 2018

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia shall be hosting WUF9 in 2018. EAROPH has written to the Secretariat to WUF9 i.e. Federal Department of Town and Regional Planning Malaysia, to congratulate the Malaysian Government for its success in winning the bid to organize WUF9 and to offer support for the preparatory works of WUF9.

A kick-off meeting was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 by the Ministry of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government, Malaysia and EAROPH once again reaffirm its commitment to assist the WUF9 organising committee in matters related to technical papers and experts needed to support the event which targets to receive more than 20,000 participants.