

Activities of the Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC) Japan Chapter (August 2010 to March 2011)

1. 6th General Assembly and Conference of the AFHC Japan Chapter (August 3-4, 2010)

(1) The General Assembly of the AFHC Japan Chapter

In the AFHC Japan Chapter's 6th general assembly, the new set of officers was elected. The mayor of Fukuroi City in Shizuoka Prefecture was elected as president, the mayors of Tajimi City in Gifu Prefecture and Abiko City in Chiba Prefecture as vice-presidents, and the mayor of Nagoya City in Aichi Prefecture as auditor.

Reports on accomplished activities were reported by the working committees as mandated by Article 30 in the rules and by-laws and Article 4 of the established guidelines of the AFHC Japan Chapter.



(2) The Conference of the AFHC Japan Chapter

Aiming at the realization of healthy cities, the 6th General Assembly and Conference of the AFHC Japan Chapter was participated by 400 people from twenty-five (25) cities and one cooperating organization. Communication and exchange of information among the participants was done through a lecture on health promotion and a panel discussion.

[The Opening Program]



[Anniversary Event]



The Fukuroi Flash Light Kids performed a junior aerobic dance to start the program. The joyful and vibrant performance gave life to the conference hall.

The Mayor of Fukuroi City in Shizuoka Prefecture, who is also the president of the AFHC Japan Chapter and the host mayor, delivered a speech followed by messages from guests. Professor Hiroaki Miyajima of the Hamamatsu University School of Medicine conducted a lecture on health promotion afterwards. Professor Miyajima's lecture was entitled "Healthy Lifestyle to Prevent Dementia". He first introduced the mechanism of dementia and later, presented prevention measures. He emphasized the importance of making conversations and exercising regularly along with having goals as a motivation and being appreciative of life would activate the brain. Doing these would prevent obesity, arteriosclerosis and dementia. The participants found the lecture very informative and helpful in maintaining good health and longevity.

Representatives from Ichikawa City in Chiba Prefecture, Owariasahi City in Aichi Prefecture and the host City reported on some health promoting activities undergone in their respective cities. Afterwards, a panel discussion with the theme "Activities of the Healthy Cities Aiming for Good Health and Longevity" was carried out. Professor Takehito Takano of the Graduate School of Tokyo Medical and Dental University acted as the coordinator while seven (7) mayors from member cities were designated as panelists who expressed their views and debated enthusiastically. The mayors strongly stressed the importance of collaborative partnership among the citizens, and national and local governments to realize Healthy Cities. Along with giving importance to health, the mayors proposed for a better means of information exchange and mutual support among the citizens, private sectors and national and local government. All the members assured their commitment to achieve – Japan: A nation of good health and longevity, through active participation in the Healthy City Network.

[Panel Discussion]



[Health Corner by Supporting Business Establishments]



2. Result

From the four (4) founding city members, the AFHC Japan Chapter has increased its membership to twenty-five (25) cities and one (1) cooperating organization and is still growing. In the 3rd General Assembly and Conference, the active participation of the citizens was given emphasis and reported on for the first time. This policy continued and thus, the 6th General Assembly and Conference was held by the collaboration planning efforts of the citizens, the national and local governments and the private sector. Participants increased constantly and the exchange among members became more active in every assembly.

From the 2009 fiscal year, three working committees (membership, public relations and citizen's activity support) were established and activities unique to the AFHC Japan chapter were initiated through the utilization of the Healthy City Network.

In the 2010 fiscal year, an interactive forum (WHO Kobe Center – Global Forum) was introduced to the member cities. Through participation in this forum, members had the common awareness of the policy for improvement of health problem solutions in the cities. Member cities that participated in the 4th Global Conference of the AFHC (held in Gangnum-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea) exchanged information on their efforts to improve health problem solutions and environmental issues.

3. The main efforts of the AFHC Japan Chapter

(1) Efforts of the membership promoting working committee

Head City of the working committee Obu City in Aichi Prefecture

In order to promote membership for the AFHC and the AFHC Japan Chapter, information on the activities of the Alliance was provided to the cities in Japan and membership was encouraged.

Time	Activity
October 2010 (sent to 199 cities nationwide)	The guidelines for joining the AFHC and the AFHC Japan Chapter were sent to cities that have indicated interest in Healthy Cities Program.
November 2010	Guidelines for joining the AFHC and AFHC Japan Chapter were sent to six (6) additional cities.

(2) Efforts of the public relations working committee

Head City of the working committee Nagareyama City in Chiba Prefecture

The maintenance and management of the AFHC Japan Chapter's website was carried out and activities of AFHC Japan chapter were posted.

Time	Activity
January 2010	A section in the homepage documenting the 6 th General Assembly and Conference was created.
Whole Year	A section in the homepage for the introduction of AFHC Japan Chapter was set up and later, a section for the activities of member cities was also created.

(3) Efforts of the citizen's activity support working committee

Head City of the working committee Ichikawa City in Chiba Prefecture

In the 3rd Global Conference and Steering Committee Business Meeting of the AFHC held in October 2008, a support system for citizen's activities was established. The Japan Chapter was chosen in order to enforce the support system and a trial support system was put to effect. The activities of the NPO/Volunteer groups, who were committed to environmental issues were supported by this trial system.

Time	Activities
May 2010	Activities of supported groups were posted in the homepage of the AFHC Japan Chapter. Acceptance of donations for fund raising also started.
July 2010	Reports of the results and photos of activities were submitted by support groups.
September 2010	The Council for supporting NPO/volunteer activities held audits. Reports on the results were verified.
October 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amounts of the support grant were decided and informed to the groups. - In the Working Committee Report of the 10th Steering Committee Business Meeting of the AFHC (held in October 27 in Gangnum-gu, Seoul. Republic of Korea), the trial support system for the activities of Healthy Cities' NPO/volunteer was reported on and a working plan was presented. There was also on information that the secretariat of the citizen's activity support system was to be transferred from AFHC Japan Chapter to the

	<p>“Organization of Activity Support for Healthy Cities.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the “Sectional Committee” of the 4th Global Conference of the AFHC (held in October 28 in Gangnum-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea), the trial support system for the activities of Healthy Cities’ NPO/volunteer was reported on and working plans were presented. The written support grants were handed to the beneficiary groups.
November 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support grants were sent to beneficiary groups. - The results for the trial systems were posted in the homepage of the Japan Chapter. -

[The conferment of the written grants in the 4th Global Conference]



[The presentation of the efforts in the 4th Global Conference]

