

IV CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Events
Sept. 17 (Tue)	15:30	Opening ceremony Conference declared open by Governor Dougakinai
	15:33 - 15:45	Congratulatory messages by State Minister Kingo Machimura by Mitsuo Haneda, on behalf of the President of the National Association of Prefectural Governors
		Greetings by Kenichi Takahashi, Chairman of the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly by Takeshi Itagaki, Mayor of Sapporo
	15:45 - 16:00	Members of the delegations introduced
	16:00 - 16:15	Keynote speech by Naohiro Dougakinai, Governor of Hokkaido
	16:15 - 16:20	Chair members elected
	16:20 - 16:21	Greetings by the Governor of Hokkaido as Chairman of the Conference
	16:21 - 16:25	Agenda adopted Free time
	18:30 - 20:00	Reception given by the Governor of Hokkaido

Date	Time	Events
Sept. 18 (Wed)	9:00 - 9:10	Conference resumed; proposal to set up a drafting committee for a Hokkaido Declaration adopted.
	9:10 - 10:30	Reports by representatives of provinces, states and cities Province of Alberta Province of British Columbia City of Helsinki Recess
	10:50 - 11:35	Conference continued; reports by representatives State of Idaho Province of Manitoba
	11:35 - 12:10	Questions and answers (for the morning session) Luncheon given by the Chairman of the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly
	13:40 - 13:42	Conference continued; drafting committee elected.
	13:42 - 15:10	Reports by representatives State of Alaska State of Minnesota State of Montana Province of New Brunswick Recess
	16:35 - 17:15	Questions and answers (for the afternoon session)
	19:00 - 21:00	Reception given by the Mayor of Sapporo
Sept. 19 (Thur)	9:15 - 10:45	Conference resumed; reports by representatives City of Oslo State of Oregon

Date	Time	Events
		Province of Saskatchewan City of Stockholm Recess
	11:00 - 12:05	Conference continued; reports by representatives State of Washington State of Wisconsin Northwest Territories, Canada
	12:05 - 12:25	Questions and answers (for the morning session) Luncheon given by the Chairman of the Executive Committee for the Exhibition on the Human Environment in Northern Regions
	13:45 - 14:10	Conference continued; reports by representatives Hokkaido
	14:10 - 14:40	Questions and answers (for all the sessions) Recess
	(14:40 - 15:20)	Drafting Committee for Hokkaido Declaration meets
	15:30 - 15:45	Conference continued; Hokkaido Declaration and Resolution of Thanks to Hokkaido Governor adopted Recess
	15:50 - 16:15	Closing session, greetings by representatives of provinces, cities and states Province of Alberta City of Helsinki

Date	Time	Events
		State of Washington Closing speech by Governor of Hokkaido
	16:20 - 17:00	Joint press conference
	18:30 - 21:00	Farewell party given by the Governor of Hokkaido
Sept. 20 (Fri)	9:10 - 17:00	Administrative inspection tours (for places, refer to separate page)
Sept. 21 (Sat)		Delegations leave Sapporo for Tokyo

V. OUTLINE REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS

The International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions was held for three days from Sept. 17 to 19 in Sapporo City. The purpose of the conference, attended by the administrative authorities of local governments in countries with similar climatic conditions in the northern region was to exchange information and views on natural and living environment and to deepen mutual understanding and promote exchange among nations of this region.

The items placed on the agenda included: (1) Problems of environment for human habitation, (2) Problems of protection and conservation of nature; and (3) problems of harmony between environment and development. (4) Information Activities on Environmental Problems. At the conference, reports were made by the representatives of the participating provinces, states and cities.

Participating in the conference were 36 delegates of 20 local governments representing six countries. A number of observers also attended.

The conference opened, with Akira Kidosaki, Chief of the Development Coordination Department of the Government of Hokkaido, acting as master of ceremonies, and with Mr. Yasuaki Kashiara, Vice-Governor of Hokkaido, officiating as tentative Chairman.

The conference was declared open by Mr. Naohiro Dougakinai, Governor of Hokkaido, and following this, congratulatory messages were read and greetings were extended by the distinguished guests.

After the members of the delegation and the guests were introduced, Mr. Naohiro Dougakinai, Governor of Hokkaido, made a keynote speech.

The conference then proceeded to elect the Chair members. The following officers were elected:

Chairman	Mr. Naohiro Dougakinai, Governor of Hokkaido
Vice-Chairmen	Sidney Green, Minister of Mines, Resources and Environment, Province of Manitoba
	Mr. G. W. N. Cockburn, Minister of Fishery and Environment, Province of New Brunswick
	Hon. Brynjulf Bull, Mayor of Oslo, Norway
	Hon. Arthur A. Link, Governor of North Dakota
	Hon. Norman C. Anderson, Speaker of the State Assembly of Wisconsin

After the Chairman extended greetings to the representatives, the conference adopted its agenda and a proposal to set up a drafting committee for a Hokkaido Declaration. The representatives of the participating provinces, states and cities made reports according to alphabetical order for three days, and views and information were actively exchanged under the chairmanship of Governor Dougakinai. The conference closed, having achieved successful results.

VI CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES AND GREETINGS

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

from Kingo Machimura,
Minister of State and Director
General of the Hokkaido
Development Agency

I am Kingo Machimura, Minister of State and Director General of the Hokkaido Development Agency. It is a great pleasure for me to be able to extend greetings to you, on behalf of the Japanese Government, on the occasion of the International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions which is now in session at the instance of Governor Dougakinai.

I understand that this is the first international conference that has been held in Hokkaido. The Japanese Government, too, wholeheartedly welcomes the representatives of the various provinces of Canada, states of the United States, and the capital cities of the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Norway and the Kingdom of Sweden, who have kindly come to this country to attend this conference.

In the past two centuries since the Industrial Revolution, mankind has succeeded in remarkably expanding productive capacity mainly on the basis of the progress of science and technology and has built an affluent society in our era.

But we must frankly admit at the same time that the systems of mass production and mass consumption, which symbolize our present society, are threatening to cause serious disruptions in human environment and acute shortages of raw materials.

At present, mankind is faced with the task of solving the question of how to realize a rich life on our only planet under restrictive conditions, how to conserve environment and effectively utilize limited resources.

According to an ancient Oriental proverb "by exploring the old, one is able to understand the new." Living in the uninterrupted passage of time from the past to the present and the future, we are required to learn lessons from precious past experience and make efforts to anticipate the future with a new concept.

Viewed from this angle, this conference is meaningful and timely, as the representatives of various areas in the northern region with similar climatic conditions and with a rather short history of development assemble to discuss problems common to them, such as problems of human environment and conservation of nature, in order to make a contribution to the improvement of living environment. It is because of this that we attach great significance to this conference.

Since the beginning of this century, mankind has expanded his living space to the northern region, and I am deeply convinced that through our common wisdom and efforts, people living in the northern region will develop their countries in order that their countries contribute greatly to the building of a rich and better world.

Dear representatives, you are all experienced in administrative affairs and have a rich knowledge of the affairs you specialize in. In concluding my message, I express my conviction that this conference will surely make a contribution to the creation of a more pleasant life and a better human environment in the northern region through the active exchange of views, and I sincerely wish you success as you continue your work at home.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

By Mitsuo Haneda, on behalf of
the Chairman of the National
Association of Prefectural
Governors

Under unavoidable circumstances, Mr. Kuwabara, Chairman of the National Association of Prefectural Governors, is unable to attend this conference, and I have been asked by him to read his message in his place.

It is a great honor for me to be able to address a message of greetings to you on behalf of the National Association of Prefectural Governors, on the occasion of the International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions, which is now in session at the instance of Hokkaido Governor Dougakinai.

The problems of environment are not confined to Hokkaido alone but are common to all the 47 prefectures of this country. Each prefecture is taking special measures for environment conservation from its own standpoint, but there are many problems still to be solved. In view of this, I highly appreciate this conference, which I feel is most timely.

In Hokkaido, it snows heavily and is very cold, but Hokkaido enjoys the most excellent natural environment in Japan and great expectations are held for its future development. Governor Dougakinai has long been enthusiastic about creating an excellent living environment in this northern island, and it is a matter for congratulations that his efforts in the past have borne fruit in the form of this conference which has just been opened.

I sincerely hope that you will achieve great results in the discussion of problems common to countries with similar climatic conditions in the northern region that will provide us with useful information and suggestions.

In concluding this message I wish you success in this conference.

GREETINGS

By Kenichi Takahashi,
Chairman of the Hokkaido
Prefectural Assembly

I am pleased to be able to extend greetings to you on behalf of the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly on the occasion of this International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions.

I welcome you, delegates from the provinces and states of our closest neighboring countries, and mayors of the cities of the Scandinavian countries, to Hokkaido.

Further, I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the representative of our central government and other distinguished guests for their attendance.

Hokkaido, the northernmost island of this country, has a rather short history of development, and is the only area in Japan that is yet to be developed. Our ancestors laid the foundations for the development of Hokkaido, enduring the rigors of the winter of this northern island, and we keenly feel the responsibility for continuing their great work and handing it down to posterity. Through his wisdom and efforts, man has utilized untapped nature and has built his society and culture.

But more creative efforts and improvements are needed for mankind to create a better living environment. I am convinced that it is extremely significant that we can discuss common problems with you, who are from countries with climatic conditions similar to ours, on the basis of friendship.

In extending my greetings to you in the opening session, I sincerely wish that this conference will achieve successful results and contribute to the mutual development of our countries.

GREETINGS

By Takeshi Itagaki, Mayor of
Sapporo

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Takeshi Itagaki, Mayor of Sapporo. On behalf of the people of Sapporo, I thank you very much for coming here from afar to attend the International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions.

The city of Sapporo is a major city in the north of Japan, which celebrated its centennial only a few years ago. I believe we have learned lessons from advanced cities in foreign countries and incorporated bold and creative ideas in the building of this new city.

The Winter Olympic Games held here in 1972 has left a large number of new municipal facilities and establishments in its wake, teaching us how to enjoy winter and use snow and cold in order to make our life here more enjoyable.

I think it is extremely significant that you, representing countries with similar climatic conditions, have assembled here to pool your wisdom and creative initiative for a richer and happier life in the northern countries.

It is earnestly desired that we will be able to obtain from this conference many lessons and suggestions which will prove useful for the future of Sapporo and improvement of the welfare of its people.

In concluding my greetings to you, I sincerely hope that this conference will produce successful results as a tie of friendship and mutual understanding among countries of the northern region and that a second and a third conference of this kind will be held in the future as well.

VII KEYNOTE SPEECH

By Naohiro Dougakinai,
Governor of Hokkaido

Together with the 5.3 million people of Hokkaido, I heartily welcome to Hokkaido the representatives of the provincial governments of Canada, the state governments of the United States, and the capital cities of the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Norway and the Kingdom of Sweden, who have come here from afar to attend this conference.

Furthermore, I express my gratitude to the ambassadors and ministers of the countries represented here, Mr. Kingo Machimura, Minister of Home Affairs of the Japanese Government and concurrently Director General of the Hokkaido Development Agency, and other guests for their attendance at this conference.

I am appreciative from the bottom of my heart, as it is only due to your understanding that we are able to open this conference here today.

Through his wisdom and efforts, mankind has built a highly civilized society by harnessing nature. But regrettably, it is undeniable that our single-minded commitment to the development of human progress has done damage to the environment. I am afraid that this deterioration of environment will surely place a serious obstacle in the way of mankind's future prosperity, and I am convinced that we must make serious efforts for the conservation and protection of environment and that the people of the world should join in a concerted effort towards solving this problem in order to leave a rich and healthy environment to posterity.

The northern region in which we live is endowed with rich natural resources and is fraught with boundless possibilities, and as such, this region is expected by all people throughout the world to play an important role indispensable for the progress and development of mankind.

The northern region of the earth has a long winter and is characterized by rigorous climatic conditions. Further, many areas of this region still remain undeveloped, and there are not a few problems that must be urgently solved in order that the living environment of people in this region be improved.

I am convinced that it is very significant, for the creation of a better environment in northern countries, that people living in regions with geographical and climatic similarities meet to discuss the problems of their environment.

It was in this vein that I proposed to hold an International Conference on Human Environment in Northern Regions, in which the representatives of provinces, states and cities of countries in the northern region could frankly discuss the problems of human environment and other common problems.

Hokkaido, situated at the northern tip of the Japanese archipelago, running from north to south, lies between the 41st and the 45th parallel of the north latitude and is surrounded by sea. This island accounts for about one-fifth of the total territory of Japan and is blessed with beautiful natural scenery and rich natural resources typical of the northern region in general. In the inland part of Hokkaido, the temperature exceeds 86°F in summer and falls to 22°F in winter, and snowfall exceeds two meters in some areas. Thus, the people of Hokkaido live under extremely severe natural conditions. Therefore, it is no exaggeration to say that the history of development of Hokkaido has been one of constant struggle against snow and cold. The population of Hokkaido, which was only 100,000 in the early days of its colonization, now reaches 5.3 million, 105 years after the first settlers from the mainland set foot here.

All the people of Japan have great expectations for Hokkaido as an area having great potentialities and vast possibilities for development

I believe that in promoting the future development of Hokkaido, it is vitally necessary that we preserve its rich nature, prevent damage due to pollution and create a pleasant living environment, and the Government of Hokkaido is taking

positive steps toward this purpose.

Furthermore, our government is planning to aggressively promote various measures to utilize to the advantage of the people of Hokkaido the snow and cold which hitherto were considered but obstacles to be endured.

It is hoped that you will contribute appropriate advice and suggestions at this conference that will help us continue to develop Hokkaido in this positive light.

It is also earnestly desired that this three-day conference, which is to be held under the slogan "Light from the north", will produce fruitful results for the happiness of all peoples living in the northern region through the active exchange of views among all the participants and that it will contribute to the promotion of friendly relations and to the social development of the entire region.

REPORT

By Hon. W. J. Yurko,
Minister of the Environment,
Alberta, Canada

I must cite, as one of the problems of the Arctic Region, the paucity of population in sharp contrast to the abundance of natural resources. It is because of this abundance of natural resources that interest in this region is growing in proportion to the increased enthusiasm for the exploration of energy resources.

Living in the Arctic Region, we have a great responsibility to fulfill for the conservation of nature and the environment. It is our responsibility to create an environment in which harmony with nature, essential for the livelihood and well-being of human beings, is properly maintained.

As a consequence of the recent oil crisis, a strong interest has been aroused in the oil-sands produced in Alberta. Research and development work on the extraction and refining of this valuable energy source is being carried out in great earnest. In the deposits of crude bitumen there are estimated to be 900 billion barrels, or the equivalent of 630 billion barrels of synthetic crude.

It is believed that with a new and economically feasible extraction method and processing technology, it would be possible to extract 38 billion barrels of crude bitumen from the oil-sand found in Alberta. This amount of crude bitumen is equivalent to 26.5 billion barrels of synthetic crude.

The most important problems of environment facing us in Alberta may be said to concern the recovery of green areas, the conservation of natural surroundings, harmony between the conservation of nature and its development and city planning.