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Air & Waste Management Association

3rd Quarter Report Year One

Period Covered: November 1-December 31, 1995

Environmental Professional Association Development

**IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES-ASIA ENVIRONMENTAL
PARTNERSHIP UNDER USAID COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NUMBER
AEP-0015-A-00-5003-00**

March 12, 1996

**A&WMA Environmental Professional Association Development Activities
Malaysia, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan**

**United States-Asia Environmental Partnership
Environmental Professional Association Development Program**

3rd Quarter Report Year 1 (November 1 - December 31, 1995)

NB

The current period report is a truncated quarterly report. After discussions with US-AEP/IRG, it was decided that A&WMA should submit a two-month quarterly report for the period in question, with a full quarterly report to be submitted for the period January 1-March 31, 1996. This change will bring the A&WMA program reporting cycle in line with US-AEP reporting schedules and new reporting requirements.

Background

The cooperative agreement with USAID was signed on April 21, 1995. The first work plan was approved on July 25, 1995, and full program implementation began at that time.

Work Plan Implementation

The initial orientation trip in November allowed the Association to develop strategies for program implementation in the four program countries. Although the trip was delayed (the two trips that had been originally were combined to help compensate for delays) because of the Congressional budget debate, the delay was advantageous in that additional time was available to promote the program and program objectives with A&WMA members in the program countries. A copy of the trip report is attached to this document (copies of the report were distributed earlier to key US-AEP/IRG staffers and A&WMA members).

Members were identified in all the program countries (a membership unit exists already in Taiwan) who have volunteered to lead membership development and member unit formation. Draft country work plans were developed which reflected the recommended strategies and focus. (In quick succession, the original draft country work plans were revised to reflect changes in activity subsequent to the period in question, primarily joint association activity in Malaysia and the decision to proceed with Section formation in Hong Kong.) The revised/current country plans will be submitted with the 4th Quarter Report. The implementation of membership development programs in each country will proceed with the formation of member units (or joint associations) to avoid duplication of effort.

Membership and Section Development

As one outcome of the orientation visit, it was recommended that the Association proceed with membership and member unit development as it would under normal circumstances, rather than pursuing alliances or affiliations with existing local environmental associations. This recommendation was made primarily because it was felt that local environmental associations, while perhaps interested in cooperative ventures, did not consistently demonstrate an interest in building the international linkages that are a necessary component international cooperation and the exchange and transfer of environmental information and technology. This recommendation does not in any way reflect upon the validity of the nature and scope of the activities of the local environmental associations encountered during

the orientation visit. It reflects simply the realization that successful program implementation must be predicated on shared goals and objectives.

Preliminary discussions were also held with the US-AEP Secretariat, IRG and IIE concerning how the US-AEP alumni might be incorporated into the Association -building activity. Irrespective of any specific US-AEP objectives related to alumni activity (for example, tracking commercial opportunities), A&WMA considers the US-AEP alumni to be potential members in the Association. Accordingly, the Association plans to include the alumni in membership promotion, Section formation and in technology cooperation programs. The country work plans indicate mailings to the US-AEP alumni to encourage their participation in Association -building activities.

International Technology Cooperation

Efforts were begun to identify technology cooperation opportunities and to identify members who are interested in delivering training programs. As part of that activity, training needs assessment forms were sent to member contacts, along with an A&WMA course listing. At the same time, ads were run in Association publications for trainers and presenters. Over 50 members have responded to those ads expressing an interest in supporting US-AEP activities. Examples of topics under discussion include Environmental Management Systems (ISO14000), Air Quality Dispersion Modelling, Soil and Groundwater Remediation, and FTIR Remote Sensing. A program schedule is currently being developed. Again, the recommendation has been to tie initial technical exchange activities in with Section organizing meetings.

One of the strategies that has been identified will be the use of "informal" technical exchanges among A&WMA members. There are a good many A&WMA members traveling to the US-AEP countries on business and who have expressed an interest in supporting program goals. A program is being developed that will encourage those members to meet with members and member units to facilitate information exchange. While these "informal networking exchanges" may not be necessarily formal events supported or sponsored by US-AEP, they are consistent with the Association and US-AEP goals of technology exchange, and are integral part of Association programming and networking.

While not directly an outgrowth of US-AEP activities, the Association began the process of structuring an International Technology Cooperation Working Group which will assist in identifying appropriate program activities for the Association. One of the objectives of this working group will be to identify vehicles to maximize the Association's participation in international technology cooperation initiatives and to further strengthen the Association's position as an important provider of information on environmental technology.

Joint Association Building/Cooperation with the Water Environment Federation

[Because of the timeliness of this issue, this segment on joint association building activity is being included with this report, rather than waiting for the 4th Quarter report.] The primary activity in this area occurred during the month of January, and focused on developing a proposal for joint A&WMA/WEF association development that would be consistent with the aims of the US-AEP program and at the same time acknowledge the similarities and differences between A&WMA and WEF. A proposal (a copy is attached to this report) was finalized recommending a joint structure and a trial program to take place in Malaysia. The rationale for Malaysia is that neither organization (A&WMA or WEF) has a member unit in this country, and that there was support among local A&WMA members

for such an undertaking. The proposal was approved as submitted to the A&WMA Board of Directors at its January 1996 meeting. Pending approval of the proposed joint association by WEF, the pilot program will be launched in Malaysia in March/April 1996.

Travel

Other than the November 1995 orientation visit, there was no other travel to Asia by A&WMA staff or members for the US-AEP program.

A&WMA PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL NGO COMMUNITY

USAID Cooperative Agreement No. AEP-0015-A-00-5003-00

Air & Waste Management Association

Period to Date: April 21, 1995 - December 31, 1995

Current Period: November 1, 1995 - December 31, 1995*

DESCRIPTION	CONTRACT BUDGET	BEGINNING BALANCE	THIS PERIOD	TOTAL AMOUNT TO DATE	BUDGET BALANCE REMAINING	% OF BUDGET SPENT
1. SALARIES	74,705	8,485	3,242	11,727	62,978	15.70%
2. FRINGE BENEFITS	4,392	500	500	1,000	3,392	22.77%
3. INDIRECT COSTS	8,787	995	389	1,384	7,403	15.75%
4. TRAVEL & PER DIEM	159,650	3,385	4,605	7,990	151,660	5.00%
5. CONTRACTED SERVICES	114,998	0	0	0	114,998	
6. OTHER DIRECT COSTS	45,000	4,143	2,353	6,496	38,504	14.44%
TOTAL	407,532	17,508	11,089	28,597	378,935	7.02%
A&WMA COST SHARE						
1. CONTRIBUTIONS IN-KIND	160,543	0	4,668	16,548	143,995	10.31%

*Current period is a truncated quarter to bring AMA program reporting cycles in line with US-AEP reporting requirements.

MEMORANDUM

Asia/Pacific Joint Steering Committee
Air & Waste Management Association/Water Environment Federation

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Date Revised: January 23, 1996
To: A&WMA Board of Directors
From: Doug Fox
Re: **US-AEP (Cooperation with the Water Environment Federation)**
Malaysia Joint Association Pilot Program

[This proposal was developed and reviewed by the Joint Steering Committee for presentation to the member leadership of A&WMA and WEF.]

As directed by the Joint Steering Committee, this discussion paper has been developed to provide insight into the development of "joint" associations and memberships as A&WMA and WEF cooperate under the US-AEP program. The desirability of "joint" activity is based upon the premise (and perception, in many instances) that the environmental field is characterized by a move away from media-specific approaches to environmental issues, and by a move towards an integrated, multidisciplinary, multimedia environmental management perspective. Strategically, A&WMA and WEF "joint" associations in the program countries would anticipate this trend. Cost does not seem to be a factor favoring joint activity, and for this reason there is no discussion of membership subsidies or low-cost membership packages.

As proposed, "joint" association formation would be approached as a (two-year?) trial program in Malaysia. Malaysia has been suggested because of the relatively weaker presence of A&WMA and WEF in this country (no member units or associations). In essence, there are fewer vested interests with which to contend.

Joint Association

Objective

The objective of a "joint" (or shared) association is to provide local members with access to A&WMA and WEF programming and services, and to provide a local environmental management forum for environmental professionals. A second objective is to further the contributions of WEF and A&WMA to environmental programming in the US-AEP focus countries.

Proposed Structure

It is proposed that a new organization status be designated to describe the "joint" association and its relationship to WEF and A&WMA. Member unit, member association, corresponding member, and affiliate all have specific meanings for A&WMA and WEF, and perhaps should not be used. "Joint" association, while awkward, may be a possibility. (There are other possibilities, such as an "Associate," or "Cooperating Association.") The Malaysian "Joint Association" (JA) would be incorporated locally, and would have the characteristics listed below. The bylaws/charter of the local organization would be ratified by both A&WMA and WEF. Philosophically, the Malaysian "JA" would be part of A&WMA and WEF, and would not be considered at arm's length as an independent organization. Essentially, the Malaysian association would serve only as a structure to (i) facilitate the carrying out of A&WMA and WEF objectives by A&WMA and WEF members, and (ii) to facilitate the participation of local members in A&WMA and WEF networks. The intent is not to develop a local association with a local focus, but to structure a local association with an international orientation that draws upon the A&WMA and WEF global networks as members contribute to solving local environmental problems.

1. To be member of the local association, an individual (or organization) must be either a full member of A&WMA or WEF.
2. Members would make their dues payments to the association of their choice, and would be full members of those associations.
3. To minimize any initial financial burden on the new organization, dues payments would be remitted directly to either A&WMA or WEF. Local dues (to be determined) could be added to the membership fees, to be remitted back to the association by WEF and A&WMA.
4. Officers will be elected by the local members.
5. Members of the "JA" would be free to form committees and working groups as they deem necessary and appropriate.

Additional characteristics

6. Members of the JA may participate on committees of both WEF and A&WMA. The eligibility of JA members to serve in leadership roles in A&WMA and WEF would be determined by the individual organizations.
7. Members will benefit from member discounts of both organizations.

Association Formation

1. As a first step, the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) would develop draft objectives for the new association. This would help ensure that the objectives and activities of the organization are consistent with those of WEF and A&WMA.
2. The local association would petition the Joint Steering Committee for Joint Association status.
3. A minimum of 20 full members would be required to petition for Joint Association status. Any combination of WEF and A&WMA members would be acceptable.
4. The process of incorporating a local association and petitioning for Joint Association status is viewed as happening essentially simultaneously.

Joint Steering Committee

1. It would be the responsibility of the JSC to work with local members in drafting the bylaws of the new association. The bylaws may include such items as composition of the local board (to ensure participation by both A&WMA and WEF members), program objectives, and any reporting obligations.
2. The JSC would review the petition for Joint Association status, and would submit a recommendation to the WEF and A&WMA Boards for final ratification.
3. It would be the responsibility of the JSC to work with and support the JA.
4. Staff liaisons will prepare status reports to coincide with meetings of the JSC.

Subsidiary Issues

1. Identity

The Joint Association would have its own name (for example, the Malaysian Association of Environmental Professionals). The identity would include both the A&WMA and WEF names and logos, and an indication that the association is part of the A&WMA and WEF network.

2. Implementation

It is expected that the JA would be structured and functioning by the end of 1996. Once the JA is organized, the pilot program would run for two years, with a review at the end of that period to determine whether the JA should be continued.

3. Dissolution

If the Joint Association should prove not to be a successful undertaking, local members would have the option of voting to become either a WEF MA, or an A&WMA Section. Depending on the outcome, local members would always have the option of creating a complementary organization.

4. Measures of Success

- Accomplishment of objectives contained in bylaws.
- Membership growth.
- Levels of programming.
- Technical publication sales.
- Attendance and participation by local members in the WEFTEC and the A&WMA Annual Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors approve the Malaysia Joint Association Pilot Program as described. (A similar recommendation will be submitted to the WEF Executive Committee.)

FINAL

Air & Waste Management Association

TRIP REPORT
(Michael Roy)

US-AEP Environmental Professional Association Development Program
Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea
November 4-23, 1995

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Trip Objectives

The primary objectives of this trip were to gain a fuller understanding of the composition and interests of the environmental communities in the program countries, and to develop preliminary recommendations on program implementation for Association review. This was accomplished through meetings with current A&WMA (and WEF) members, local and U.S. government officials, members and executives of local environmental organizations, and interested parties from the private sector. Discussions included trends in the environmental communities, with a view to determining whether either consolidation or "joint" organizations or memberships were appropriate in those countries where there is an interest in a true multi-disciplinary, multi-media, environmental professional association. With the exception of Korea, discussions included specifically A&WMA and WEF cooperation, in keeping with the philosophy of the EPAD program.

Comments

Firstly, a thank you is in order for the entire US-AEP staff. Without exception, they were most knowledgeable and most helpful. A trip of this scope would have most difficult without their active participation. Although there are limitations associated with any generalizations, the following overview is submitted in an attempt to provide some context for A&WMA's participation in the EPAD program. In general, the environmental communities are well-established, with several environmental organizations and associations existing in each of the program countries. There is general agreement that there is a need for better/increased dissemination of environmental information, especially in the area of emerging technologies. Both Korea and Taiwan have targeted environmental technology as a strategic (export) industry, and are both very keen on participating as equal partners in technology development and dissemination. There is a strong interest in regional networking, as well as in broader international networking, with the feeling being that in many cases local environmental issues and experiences have more in common regionally than globally. With few exceptions, most of the organizations tend to focus on local contacts, and in many instances, local professionals do not have ready access to the international community. This is not to suggest that local environmental communities are uninformed. It means only that in certain cases local organizations are relatively isolated from the broader international environmental community.

In most cases, there is no true "professional environmental management association" that provides a multi-media, multi-disciplinary approach to environmental issues. This is true both locally and regionally. Those organizations that are closest to this model often have a strong engineering orientation, with non-engineers (environmental professionals) being added as environmental issues come to the forefront locally (see Hong Kong). The closest approximation in Malaysia (ENSEARCH) does not seem to function as a member association, as does A&WMA (and WEF), with a permanent staff carrying out research and projects, the results of which are disseminated to local members.

Without question, the strong emphasis on economic development in the program countries means that the major focus of environmental programming is industry. Industry is a major, growing source of pollution in many cases, with small and medium size firms being of particular concern. Practical approaches to pollution prevention and waste minimization, environmental management systems such as ISO14000 and market-driven (voluntary) solutions to environmental problems are the preferred solution to environmental problems. The strict enforcement of compliance is in most cases tempered by the need to "nurture" industrial investment and growth.

Recommendations

It would appear that the best approach at this time would be to focus on membership and member unit development, either independently as A&WMA, or in conjunction with WEF. (It may be possible to include additional parties in certain cases.) Without a local presence, it will be difficult for A&WMA to participate in or contribute to local programs on a sustainable basis. As well, in those countries where there has already been some discussion concerning forming one environmental association (existing organizations coming together), without a local presence A&WMA would more than likely be unable to participate. Most of the existing local organizations have ongoing programs, and may view formal international linkages either as "dangerous" (coopting local members) or as secondary to existing interests. The interest in developing sustainable linkages and participating in an international professional network is not shared equally by the local environmental organizations with which I met. Any A&WMA membership development would not necessarily be to the exclusion of linkages and partnerships with other organizations, and should be viewed as an attempt to position A&WMA strategically both as a potential local program partner and as a participant in any eventual "consolidations" within the respective environmental communities.

In addition to responding to individual requests for information and supporting local members who have expressed an interest in member unit development, it is suggested that the next step be to develop a range of options, or possible structures, for A&WMA and WEF cooperation. There seems to be interest sufficient to justify taking a closer look at the mechanics of cooperation. This will give local members something tangible to discuss. However, irrespective of any immediate "success" in joint memberships, it is suggested that efforts begin immediately to develop specific membership development plans for each of the program countries, to include technical exchange activities.

Malaysia

Because of the self-reliant stance of existing environmental associations in Malaysia, at this stage it would appear that the best approach is to focus on membership development through those existing A&WMA members who are interested in undertaking this challenge. Depending on WEF's status in Malaysia, there may be individual WEF members at-large who might be interested in combining forces with A&WMA members at-large in forming a "joint" member unit. Without an organized membership base in

Malaysia, it may be unrealistic to expect much program development or substantive linkages with existing organizations. Two local A&WMA members have been identified who are willing to support this effort.

Hong Kong

The leading environmental organization in Hong Kong is the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers (HKIE). Because of the relative independence and self-sufficiency of HKIE, its strong historical ties with U.K. institutions, as well as its primary function as a certifying body for engineers, it does not seem that HKIE would be an appropriate partner for EPAD, other than as a potential partner for programs such as QEP, workshops, etc. The most viable approach would seem to be a membership "coalition" of the non-aligned or minority professionals in the Hong Kong environmental community. If a structure could be developed with the existing A&WMA members (25), WEF at-large members (35) and (perhaps) with the Hong Kong Solid Wastes Association (HKWMA) (100), a strong nucleus could be formed for future growth and development. A potential fourth party would be local Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) members, although it is too early to tell at this point whether the existing ties with the UK parent organization would preclude any local realignment. Local A&WMA members have been identified who would like to explore these possibilities.

Taiwan

Because of the strong (120) existing membership base in Taiwan, the Association is in a good position to support increased programming and exchanges. Additionally, there are good relationships among the different organizations in Taiwan, and it may be possible to move in the direction of a joint organization or shared membership in Taiwan. The Taiwan Chair, Chung-Shin YUAN, will pursue discussions with potential partner (member) organizations, primarily the Chinese Environmental Protection Society (IUAPPA) and the WEF Member Association.

Korea

As in the above countries, it is suggested that A&WMA membership development be the initial approach. A&WMA members have been identified who will support this initiative. There are several strong local environmental associations, and the subject of creating one environmental organization has been raised in the past. The general impression in Korea was that existing organizations are receptive to increased international exchanges, and that there is a genuine interest in forming strong linkages with the international community.

QEP

The QEP program was discussed in all meetings, and QEP materials were distributed. The intent was both to introduce and promote the QEP certification, as well as to use the QEP as means of gauging interest in a broader "environmental management" approach to environmental issues. There was considerable interest expressed in the QEP program, and the QEP could be integrated into the EPAD program, if such an approach were deemed consistent with IPEP objectives. The Directors of IPEP, however, may wish to consider reviewing promotional/informational materials on the QEP to reinforce the message that the exam is intended to be an international exam, without any national regulatory scheme bias. Several individuals commented that they thought the exam was only for Americans, and for that reason did not follow up on any interest they may have had. Some concern was also expressed about being disadvantaged because of language difficulties (e.g., an oral exam in English).

COUNTRY REPORTS

Malaysia (November 6-8, 1995)

Introduction

The economy in Malaysia continues to grow at some 8% p.a. However, in spite of the government insistence on environmental quality (social, economic and environmental development are the three government themes) and the growing public awareness of environmental issues, environmental quality continues to deteriorate. Waste management, air quality (especially mobile sources) and marine issues (dumping, spills) are all Department of Environment (DOE) priorities. Although not a current priority, there is some concern over the continued deterioration of the rivers, with only 28% considered "clean." The government places a very high priority on "corporatization" (privatization), and most environmental initiatives and investments must take place with a private sector orientation. For this reason (plus the need to protect export markets), much emphasis is being placed on ISO14000, with almost every association planning or already engaged in some form of ISO14000 training. EIAs are a major policy tool, but significant enforcement seems to be lacking. It was suggested that enforcement is often the responsibility of the states, who in many instances lack the experience and manpower to effectively enforce environmental regulations. It is also generally understood that the government may be reluctant to enforce compliance in certain cases because it may affect the level of foreign investment.

Discussions suggested that there is already a general trend to a multi-media environmental management focus, primarily because the local market is too small to support media-specific environmental firms. There is concern about the small and medium industries (SMIs) being able to successfully incorporate good environmental management practices into their management scheme (lack of resources, information). The ongoing access to environmental information also seems to be an issue. For example, there is no local environmental magazine (with the exception of a tentative DOE publication, "Green Wave.") The approach seems to be to look for solutions to particular problems, but with the exception of local training programs, there does not seem to be a great deal of emphasis placed on international information exchange. There are several local professional and private sector environmental associations, such as ENSEARCH, CETEC, Association of Environmental Contractors and Consultants of Malaysia (AECCOM), Malaysia Water Association (MWA), and the Business Council for Sustainable Development Malaysia (BCSDM), as well as several environmental NGOs, such as WWF and the Malaysian Nature Society. Two meetings that we were not able to schedule, but should perhaps consider for a future trip, were with the Environmental Protection Society (IUAPPA member) and the Malaysian Water Association.

As a final comment, the government places a very strong emphasis on Malaysia's independence from inappropriate or undue foreign influence, and there is general agreement that solutions to environmental problems must take place within the Malaysian context and that they must reflect Malaysia's national priorities. (i.e., economic development as outlined in the 2020 plan, according to which Malaysia will be a fully developed country by the year 2020).

US-AEP (Grace WONG, Deputy Director)

Grace was very helpful in arranging meetings, and accompanied me to several appointments. The current US-AEP data base in Malaysia has about six hundred names, which Grace offered to share with A&WMA for any future membership development activities.

US Embassy, Kuala Lumpur (Deborah LINDE, Counselor for Economic Affairs, and Robert WINCHESTER, Second Secretary, Environmental, Scientific and Technological Affairs)

Discussions with Linde and Winchester were general in nature, focusing on the general environmental context in Malaysia. They commented that Japan and Germany were quite active in Malaysia in environmental technology cooperation activities, with the Japanese emphasizing smaller scale, "appropriate" solutions to local environmental problems. The environmental community is certainly aware and informed about environmental issues, but does not yet have the experience and access to information that communities in other countries may enjoy. They indicated that Malaysia is sensitive to pressure from the international community, and may be suspicious at times of big-country motives. In addition to the environmental issues discussed above, transboundary issues have recently come to the forefront (for example, recent forest fires in Indonesia have contributed to haze in Malaysia).

Bovar Asia Pacific (John DAVIES, General Manager)

John has been a member of A&WMA for about three years. He moved to Kuala Lumpur this past year to manage the concession that Bovar has with the Malaysian government for air and water monitoring. John would be willing to serve as the local coordinator for future membership development in Malaysia. He said that he was already considering membership for 2-3 of the local Bovar employees to provide them with access to current information on air issues. John and I also discussed the cooperation with WEF. He indicated his willingness and openness to attempting to structure a joint A&WMA/WEF member "organization," with the understanding that this will be new territory for both associations and that no prototype currently exists. John now has A&WMA Sections/Chapters/Bylaws materials, which he will review.

Department of Environment (Deputy Director, Tengku BAKRY)

The Association had worked closely with Tengku Bakry during the TDA-funded Malaysia Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Study, which was completed in 1994. Tengku Bakry would like to proceed with the orientation visit (OV) that was originally part of the this study. His suggested time frame is March/April of 1996. The OV was originally budgeted to cover the costs of three Malaysian officials to the U.S. for one week. One of his primary areas of interest is mobile source emissions, both from technical (I/M) and policy standpoints. Grace Wong will work with Bakry to further define OV objectives.

Discussions with Bakry were wide ranging, and covered many of the issues discussed in the introduction above. He is supportive of A&WMA interests in membership and member unit development in Malaysia. In closing, Tengku Bakry expressed an interest in A&WMA's ERG program, and asked that additional information and sample materials be sent. He would be receptive to receiving a proposal from A&WMA on how the ERG program might be implemented in Malaysia. He also reacted positively to the idea of a joint A&WMA/WEF Asia/Pacific Annual Meeting, and said that DOE would support such an initiative.

American Chamber of Commerce (John ALLEN, Chair of the Environmental Committee, Occidental Petroleum)

John has been in Malaysia for about four years, and has a good understanding of the environmental context. Compliance with environmental regulations is an issue, even with some of the larger international firms. While some firms have effective environmental policies in place, others continue to pollute with impunity. The members of the Environmental Committee may be a good source of support for A&WMA activities.

Prof. Ibrahim KOMOO (Associate Director, Urban Ecosystem Management/LESTARI, Institute for Environment and Development, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia)

LESTARI is a relatively new institute. Its primary focus is working with local governments in Malaysia to assist them in environmental policy implementation and compliance. The Institute has four major program areas, with four associate directors: Man & Environment, Biodiversity, Urban Ecosystem Management, and Land-margin Ecosystem Management. There was no immediate apparent fit with the Institute, other than cooperation on programs.

ENSEARCH/CETEC (K. KUMARASIVAM, President/ENSEARCH, GOH Kiam Seng Executive Director/CETEC, Jenny TAN, Council Member/ENSEARCH)

ENSEARCH is the leading environmental professional association in Malaysia, with some 500 members (about 80 of these are companies). Kumarasivam serves on WEF's Asia/Pacific Steering Committee. ENSEARCH is affiliated with CETEC, which is the entity that actually carries out studies and programs for ENSEARCH. In addition to studies, ENSEARCH/CETEC is also involved in training programs. They have also recently introduced the Environmental Professional Registry of Malaysia (EPRM), which is similar in intent to the QEP. However, there is no exam, and firms and individuals are registered on the basis of experience. Part of the impetus for the EPRM came from the number of firms carrying out EIAs without the appropriate qualifications. However, other than mentioning the possibility of reciprocity, there did not seem to be much interest in the QEP program.

When we discussed the issue of cooperation, Kumarasivam suggested that ENSEARCH could appoint a council member to serve as a liaison with A&WMA. The general reaction was that if ENSEARCH were working on a project and needed expert help on a specific issue, they might come to A&WMA, but there was not much interest demonstrated in networking and information exchange as understood by A&WMA. It is also not a member association in the same sense as A&WMA. Most of the work is carried out by staff, with seemingly limited opportunity for member participation. There is also not much emphasis placed on providing information on environmental issues to members, other than on those issues that are projects of ENSEARCH and CETEC. However, ENSEARCH is a respected member of the Malaysian environmental community, and has apparently good links with other organizations in that community.

Michael CHAN

Michael Chan is a long-time A&WMA member. He was the lead air quality specialist on the TDA-sponsored Malaysia Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Study referred to above. Subsequent to the study, he moved to Malaysia with Montgomery Watson. Because of a schedule conflict, I was unable to meet with Mike. We did, however, speak by phone. Mike is also interested in A&WMA member development in Malaysia, and will be willing to lend his hand to these efforts. He will be in touch with John Davies to discuss how this activity might proceed.

Business Council for Sustainable Development Malaysia (Sheila AIKANATHAN, Executive Officer)

The BCSDM is a non-profit initiative which focuses on raising environmental awareness in industry. Membership in the BCSDM is primarily corporate, with some 60 firms now members. Given the large number of small and medium size industries, and the very competitive nature of this segment, the Council is experiencing some difficulty expanding its membership in this sector. While the BCSDM may not be a natural partner for the EPAD activities, it certainly represents a potential partner for programs such as training, especially those which focus on corporate environmental issues.

Association for Environmental Consultants and Contractors of Malaysia (AECCOM)
(David YAP, Hon. Secretary)

David Yap is also the Director of his own company, Air Pollution Engineering SDN, BHD (APE). AECCOM is a trade association that represents the interests of its members with industry and government. This association was formed because DOE was apparently at one time "blacklisting" environmental consultants that were performing inadequately (in the government's view). To compensate for a perceived lack of process, AECCOM was formed to represent this constituency. He was not convinced that there is a need for an A&WMA entity, feeling that AECCOM (and ENSEARCH) might prove to be a suitable partner. However, he was not against A&WMA activity should it prove that there is indeed sufficient interest. In fact, he said that he would join a local member unit. AECCOM signed about a year ago an MOU with the Canadian Environmental Industry Association (CEIA). It appears, because of time constraints on both sides, that there has not been much activity arising through the MOU.

As the Director of APE, Yap expressed concern over how difficult it is for a small firm to have access to information on emerging technologies. As one of the few air-only firms in Malaysia, he is often solicited by foreign firms. But he feels that more often than not the technologies offered are of limited interest locally. His question to A&WMA is how can the Association facilitate the exchange of information on new technologies.

Hong Kong (November 9-14)

Introduction

The Hong Kong environmental professional community is very marked by its privileged relationship with the UK. The continued influence (either direct or indirect) of the UK "learned societies," many with a professional certifying role, is noteworthy. In the environmental field, the influence is perhaps most notable in the engineering fields.

The major environmental issue is air quality, primarily mobile source emissions, although industry is of some concern. Over a period of time, manufacturing has been moving to the PRC, out of Hong Kong. Waste water and solid waste management continue to be issues, although three state of the art landfills are being built in Hong Kong. The environmental community seems to be well-represented, with several organizations present: HK Waste Management Association, Hong Kong Institute of Engineers (HKIE) (Environmental Division), Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM), and the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA). Although the HK community is tightly networked, with the exception of HKIE, there does not seem to be a comprehensive, leading multi-media environmental association. Access to current, international information does seem to be common theme.

US-AEP (Gerald Sanders/Director, Chris Hazen/Deputy Director)

Discussions with Gerry and Chris were general in nature, concentrating on some of the nuances of the environmental community in Hong Kong. As in Malaysia, the US-AEP office was instrumental in arranging most of the meetings, and the staff was most generous with their time and information. The US-AEP office has some 800 names in its data base. While there was some concern about passing a duplicate list to A&WMA, Gerry expressed his willingness to support A&WMA programs, and to the discriminating use of the data base to that end.

Centre of Environmental Technology, Ltd (Craig Branting, General Manager)

The Centre is the creation of the Private Sector Committee on the Environment, a committee of 23 of the largest private sector firms in Hong Kong. The role of the Centre is to promote environmental awareness in industry. The Centre has non-profit status and has the support of the Committee, but is expected to be self-supporting financially. Program activity includes a semi-annual newsletter, an annual conference, auditing activities and some certification (U.K. certifications). Staff is currently eleven employees.

Craig is interested in cooperating with A&WMA on training activities. A building is being built for the Centre, with completion expected in September 1996. Craig was also interested in QEP activity, wishing to expand the range of certification activity. Strictly speaking, the Centre is not a member association, and through its auditing activities "competes" with private sector environmental firms.

Hong Kong Productivity Council (Thomas Chapman, Principal Consultant, Environmental Management Division)

The role of the Council is to maintain the competitive position of Hong Kong industry. The environmental division is the largest division, with 90 staffers. Although the Council was established by the Hong Kong government and receives 75% of its financial support from the government, it is expected to generate revenues. Most revenues come from contracts with small and medium size firms, which are the primary focus of the Council. The Environmental Division also delivers training courses in such areas as environmental management systems (EMAS and BS750), and more recently, ISO14000. Increasingly, the ED is concentrating on programs in the PRC. Chapman felt that there is a role for an international environmental association in Hong Kong. He felt as well that there may be some interest in the QEP in Hong Kong.

Timard Industries, Ltd. (Joseph LAU, Executive Director)

Lau is a member of the US-AEP Hong Kong Steering Committee. He is active in the textile industry, as the Director of his own firm. The primary message that he underscored is that given the very competitive nature of Hong Kong industry, any industry commitment to environmental investment must result in an improved competitive position (lower costs) and/or product quality.

The Conservancy Association (Dr. Cho Nam NG, Vice Chairman)

Dr. Ng is also an Associate Professor at the City University of Hong Kong. He met with me in his capacity as the Chairman of the Conservancy Association, which is an environmental NGO. His comments concerned primarily the activities of NGO community in Hong Kong (primarily the Conservancy, WWF, Green Power, and Friends of the

Earth). Since his organization does not focus on the professional community, the Conservancy would seem not represent a natural partner for A&WMA.

A&WMA Members (Fred TROMP/EPD, PANG Sik-Wing /EPD, Frank LEE/Hong Kong Polytechnic University, TSUI Wing-Sing /EPD, Frankie HO/Goodfellow Consultants

The A&WMA members at this meeting had expressed an earlier interest in the US-AEP program and in discussing the possibility of forming an A&WMA member unit. Several individuals have been members of A&WMA for some time. Fred Tromp, who is the Assistant Director of the Air & Noise Office at the Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department (EPD), has been a member for some 15 years. Reasons for having joined/remained members of the Association included access to current technical and scientific information, access to information on technologies (products and services), and maintaining linkages with the US, for those individuals who studied in the U.S. Discussions included an overview of current A&WMA activities, the EPAD program, the structure of the local environmental community and local professional interests. Sik-Wing PANG expressed an interest in current A&WMA courses. EPD carries out training on a regular basis, and there may be existing materials that will be of interest to the Department. Fred Tromp also asked to receive additional information on the ERG program, as the Department is actively involved in public education and information.

As this was the first meeting, no decision was made to proceed with Section formation. Materials on member unit formation were left, and Fred Tromp and interested members have already begun discussions concerning local potential interest. The potential membership base was estimated to be in the range of 800-1000. The initial reaction from the Hong Kong members seemed to be positive, and there is a possibility that they will elect to proceed with Section formation, with the appropriate support and programming.

Hong Kong Institute of Engineers (HKIE) (Steve Jones/Head of Environmental Division-Director of Environmental Consultancy with Mouchel Asia)

HKIE was referred to most often as the organization that most represents the multidisciplinary environmental community in Hong Kong. The Institute has approximately 13,000 members, with the Environmental Division having about 1,300 members. Only engineers are allowed to be full members. Non-engineers are awarded affiliate member status. HKIE was until recently the HK member of IUAPPA. HKIE has, however, recently withdrawn (or the process is being initiated) from IUAPPA, feeling that there was not sufficient value for cost. HKIE is very discriminating when affiliating with "international" organizations, preferring to focus on local issues. Steve mentioned that there is some internal discussion at HKIE about how to more fully integrate non-engineering environmental professionals into the Institute. The Institute is considering an "Environmental Discipline," which would accord full membership in the Institute to environmental professionals (including non-engineers). However, this is significant new territory for the Institute, given its history as a "learned society" which serves to accredit engineers in Hong Kong. It is expected that this process will take two years. According to Steve, there is also a need in HK for more technical information on environmental issues. He referred to HK as an "information desert" in this respect.

Program activities at HKIE include a monthly magazine, conferences, workshops and seminars, as well as the certification of engineers. The Environmental Division holds training sessions, meetings and technical visits. Increasingly, HKIE is developing ties with the PRC, especially with CAST, which is the China Association of Science and Technology. CAST is the most important organization of this sort in China, grouping together some 100,000 technical professionals.

American Chamber of Commerce- Environmental Committee (John Lowe, Director, Easy Ring Environment, Ltd)

Also present at this meeting was KOT See Chen, a professor at the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology. The three main emphases of the Environment Committee are to promote the environmental business interests of member companies, to help member companies deal with local environmental issues, and to provide a forum for those companies interested in promoting environmental responsibility. There are approximately 80 firms represented on the environmental committee, with some 3,000 members total in the Chamber (firms and individuals). As in Malaysia, the Chamber does not represent a potential partner organization for EPAD activities. However, the Environmental Committee will certainly be an excellent means of supporting and promoting program development.

Anthony L.F. KWAN (Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department)

Kwan has been responsible for developing Internet linkages within the Hong Kong environmental community, and between the HK community and Asia/Pacific. This effort is taking place under the auspices of the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Southeast Asia and the Pacific (FEISAP). The contact institution in Hong Kong is the HKIE. The Hong Kong "Econet" or the "Centres and Networks for Sustainable Development" is being developed primarily through the efforts of Kwan. There is no financial support for this activity at this time. An overview of the HK Econet and the linkages within Southeast Asia and Pacific community is available at Headquarters. Kwan will show A&WMA as one of the HK Econet linkages, with A&WMA to respond in kind (reciprocal registration).

Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management (Hong Kong Branch)
(CIWEM) (David HALL, Environmental Protection Department)

CIWEM has a formal relationship with WEF through the U.K. Secretariat. Because the Hong Kong CIWEM is a branch of the UK organization, it was unable to develop a formal MA relationship with WEF. Although the primary focus of CIWEM is water (primarily water treatment plants and rivers), it does have an interest in moving into the general environmental management field. CIWEM has about 12,000 members, with about 20% of those outside the UK (this information is about a year old). CIWEM is a certifying body for water professionals, including scientists and engineers. Programs and activities in Hong Kong (in addition to CIWEM publications) include monthly meetings, seminars, and a newsletter that appears five times per year. Among Hall's suggestions for A&WMA were that any efforts and membership development in China should be prefaced by the appropriate contacts with CAST, if only from a protocol standpoint. Hall also identified the appropriate person for IPEP to contact in the UK should there be any interest in broadening support for the QEP through organizations based outside the US. CIWEM is a potential program partner.

WEF Members (Peter CHAN, Managing Director, Montgomery Watson Hong Kong;
Albert KOENIG, Lecturer, The University of Hong Kong)

There are about 35 WEF members- at-large in Hong Kong. CHAN and KOENIG maintain their membership because they value the technical information (magazines). We discussed the possibility of cooperation among the at-large A&WMA and WEF members. Although understandably there was no commitment forthcoming, the interest they demonstrated in broadening the local network suggested that this may be an avenue worth exploring.

Hong Kong Waste Management Association (HKWMA) (Richard TIPPING, Development Manager, Swire BFI Waste Services Ltd.; Gordon NG, Consultant, ERM Hong Kong)

HKWMA is a new organization, formed about one year ago. It currently has about 100 members. One of the primary goals of HKWA is to have a formal relationship with the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) (Secretariat in Denmark). The interest in international linkages is a given. HKWMA also accepts firms and individuals as members, and does not distinguish between engineers and non-engineers. All those interested in waste management issues are welcome. After some discussion, it became apparent that there might be the possibility establishing some form of tie with HKWMA, possibly to include WEF members as well.

Taiwan (ROC) (November 14-17)

General Meeting

In attendance: Prof Chung-Shin YUAN, A&WMA Taiwan Section Chair; Laureen CHEN, FTIS; YANG Yi-Zong, Industrial Development Bureau, Ministry of Economic Affairs; Ning YU, Director, Industrial Technology Research Institute; Shih-Chong LU, Professor National Central University, President of Chinese Environmental Protection Association/IUAPPA member); Pen-Chi CHIANG, Professor, National Taiwan University and President of WEF MA; Echung WANG, Taiwan EPA; Y.F. LIANG, Taiwan EPA; and Robert BARNES, Director, US-AEP/Taiwan.

The meeting began with an introduction to A&WMA and a discussion of A&WMA's cooperation with US-AEP and the Water Environment Federation in developing linkages with the environmental communities in the program countries. Because the environmental community in Taiwan is well-established and because there are already a good number of international exchanges taking place, primarily, but not exclusively, with the U.S., much of the discussion focused on sharing of viewpoints on existing activities and on those areas where there might be the potential for cooperation. It was felt that there are so many different conferences, workshops, seminars, etc., that there might be some advantage to having fewer, but more comprehensive meetings. This comment was in response to the possibility of a joint A&WMA/WEF A/P Annual Meeting, as well as joint programs in general. There also seemed to be general agreement that environmental issues are becoming increasingly multi-media, and that they must be dealt with from an integrated, environmental management perspective. It was also apparent from the comments made, that there is a very strong interest in Taiwan in serving as a regional focal point for environmental management and technology. This echoed comments made in Malaysia and Hong Kong that the linkages must include some provision for linkages on a regional basis, primarily because many of the environmental problems are either unique to the region, or there are valuable experiences that may be shared. Of course, Taiwan environmental linkages to China must also be considered as an element of the regional equation. Several local environmental industry associations were also mentioned as potential partners in programming. Because of the continued strong economic development in Taiwan, many environmental issues are approached from an industrial perspective (industrial waste minimization, ISO 14000, etc.). There is also a very pronounced emphasis on industry sectors for waste minimization programs.

P.C. CHIANG of the Water Environment Federation Member Association discussed their rotation of an annual meeting, a biannual regional meeting, and a triannual international conference. The Waste Minimization conference scheduled for the end of November 1995 is part of the three-year cycle of international conferences. He suggested that, particularly, the 1998 international conference might make a good vehicle for A&WMA/WEF

cooperation. The three year cycle always takes place in Taiwan (as does the annual meeting). The regional meeting moves, with the 1997 regional meeting to take place in either Taiwan or China.

In general, the interest in cooperation and strengthening linkages seemed to be genuine. It remains to be determined whether or not the three member associations represented (A&WMA, WEF and IUAPPA) would be able to define an appropriate structure for cooperation. CHIANG underscored the difficulties that may present themselves when different organizations attempt to cooperate, although his comments were not intended to be discouraging.

A&WMA Taiwan Section (Prof. Chung-Shin YUAN, Chair)

Discussions with Chung-Shin covered both the possibility of cooperating with other organizations in Taiwan, as well as "strict" Section interests and activities. He will meet with Prof. P.C. Chiang and Quincelee Brown during the upcoming Taipei Waste Minimization Conference (November 1995) to pursue discussions concerning a more formal cooperation between the A&WMA and WEF member units.

Chung-Shin has asked to receive an A&WMA Course Catalogue and a Publications Catalogue. He will review the Course Catalogue to see which existing courses may be of interest in Taiwan. The Section is interested in translating some of the A&WMA publications into Chinese, and printing them locally for sale to Chinese-speaking professionals. He was also quite interested in the possibility of the local Section being involved in/supporting the sales of A&WMA publications in Taiwan, with a percentage of sales going to the Section to support Section activities. He will review the steps that need to be taken locally if A&WMA is going to support the Section in hiring part-time administrative help (through US-AEP funding). The Taiwan Section is not registered as a non-profit organization in Taiwan, and there may be some question about the how the Section can pay individuals for help. He will also identify those individuals that should receive free memberships in Taiwan (a budgeted expense), as well as requesting a supply of materials to support membership development.

Other comments:

- Chung-shin felt that topics such as ISO14000, pollution prevention and remote sensing technology might be good choices for initial programming in Taiwan.
- As discussed in San Antonio, he feels that the US\$20 international postage surcharge should be waived. This would encourage membership growth.
- He suggested that registrants for the Annual Meeting also receive 8-10 free reprints with their registration, or their choice of the proceedings from one Session.
- The Taiwan Section also expressed some interest in supporting membership development in the PRC. One idea that was discussed was promoting organization memberships through the regional EPAs in the PRC. Chung-Shin will also contact the BOVAR employee (an A&WMA member) who has begun efforts in the PRC on behalf of the Association.
- Taiwan members would like to see more articles in the Journal. There is also an interest in a "technology" column in EM and more Asia/Pacific content in EM. Yuan was very complimentary about the A&WMA newsletter.

- Chung-Shin also reiterated his interest in the QEP, and would like IPEP to recontact him on ways to introduce the QEP program in Taiwan. He expressed some concern about the prerequisites and any disadvantage that native Chinese-speakers might have when taking the test.

Foundation of Taiwan Industry Service (Prof. Yu-Lin MAO, President)

A&WMA cooperated with FTIS on the Comparative Risk Analysis Symposium that was held in Taipei in November 1994. FTIS currently does a good deal of environmental training in Taiwan, with financial support from both the Taiwan EPA (TEPA) and the Industrial Development Bureau (IDB) (Ministry of Economic Affairs). With a staff of 20, the Foundation is not a membership organization, but concentrates primarily on delivering training programs to industry. According to MAO, the most important environmental issues are air pollution, solid waste management and waste minimization. As noted elsewhere, environmental training programs that target the interests and needs of industry will stand a greater chance of receiving support from government. MAO suggested that A&WMA submit a proposal to FTIS for two workshops/courses to take place over the next 12 months in Taiwan (these programs could involve FTIS, the A&WMA Section and US-AEP). The recommended focus should be industry. MAO will take these proposals and undertake to find support from TEPA and IDB. FTIS and the Taiwan Section have already developed a good working relationship, which will facilitate cooperation on future programs.

Republic of Korea (South Korea) (November 18-23)

Introduction

The environmental community in Korea is increasingly well-organized, with environmental awareness growing rapidly in Korean society. The Korean government's Green Vision 21, calls for Korea to be an exporter of environmental technology by the year 2001 ("strategic exports of environmental technologies"). Several Korean firms are already involved in China in environmental infrastructure projects (including Peter KIM's firm, JINDO- see below). In general, access to information on new technologies seems to be problematic, and there is interest in developing mechanisms for exchanging information. Although many Korean environmental professionals, studied outside Korea, often in the U.S., language is a times an issue. As was the case in Malaysia, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, environmental programs have a strong industrial bias, with the government relying heavily on voluntary efforts such as ISO14000.

US-AEP (Chi-Sun LEE, Director; Sang-Back LEE, Deputy Director)

Discussions at the US-AEP offices covered several areas, including those environmental issues of most concern in Korea. Areas highlighted included waste water treatment (advanced tertiary treatment), air pollution (VOCs and air toxics), soil remediation, ground water remediation and solid waste management (the growth for incineration is expected to grow significantly from the current 3% level). Training programs (courses, workshops) should focus on current technologies. Two days is the maximum suggested time for any training programs. For the appropriate programs, financial support may be available from the Korean government and through US-AEP (NASDA).

U.S. Embassy (Camille SAILER, Commercial Attache, Foreign Commercial Service)

The meeting with SAILER was an introductory meeting, serving to give her an overview of the Association and its participation in the US-AEP program. She has been at the U.S.

Embassy in Seoul since August of this year. The reception was very cordial, and she offered the support and encouragement of her office and staff.

Korean Solid Wastes Engineering Society (KSWES) (P.T. (Peter) KIM, Vice Chairman)

KSWES is about 12 years old, with 1600 members. The Society has primarily an engineering focus, and is a certifying body for engineers. Increasingly, the Society is developing an integrated approach to environmental issues, rather than simply focusing on solid waste issues. The Society has a small staff in Seoul, and is opening two regional offices in Korea. KIM expects that membership could be in the neighborhood of 10,000 by the end of the decade. With the exception of a linkage with a Japanese solid waste association, the Society does not have any international linkages. KSWES has a monthly newsletter and a bi-monthly magazine. Program activity includes workshops and seminars, with the occasional conference (the next conference will be in April 1996). The technical information that is disseminated through the Society comes primarily from Korean government or quasi-government organizations that carry out environmental research. Although the primary emphasis of the Society is on technical exchange, some of the members develop business opportunities through the network. Membership includes individuals as well as firms, with membership representing a cross-section of environmental disciplines and interests. The office of Chairman alternates between industry and academia, to ensure a balance in interests and programming. It is safe to say that KSWES is among the leading environmental organizations for professionals in Korea.

Korean Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) (Kil-Choo (K.C.) MOON, Director/Environment Research Center)

KIST is a quasi government organization, sponsored in part by the Korean government. There are 70 researchers in the Environment Research Center. MOON has been a member of A&WMA since 1979. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Korean Air Pollution Research Association, the Korean IUAPPA member association. It has already been suggested within Korea that the different environmental organizations come together to create an environmental management association for professionals. There is the recognition that approaches to environmental issues are increasingly viewed from an integrated, management perspective, rather than from media-specific approaches. MOON acknowledged that while this is an attractive proposition, it will be difficult to accomplish. He suggested that A&WMA may be able to play a role in this strategic development. He is quite familiar with the Association, and was very encouraging and supportive of A&WMA efforts in membership and member unit development. He offered to serve as one of the local member contacts for the EPAD program. In general, access in Korea to information of environmental issues is not a problem. However, he suggested that A&WMA may wish to consider more active encouragement of international members to submit articles for A&WMA publications, to the extent of offering additional editing assistance for those members who are not native English speakers. They are looking for avenues to participate in the exchange of information and experience - simply getting information is only one aspect of information exchange. Also, many of the Korean environmental organizations have their annual meetings in the Spring (April). This would be a good opportunity for A&WMA to participate, possibly making introductory presentations to some of those organizations. The information that he finds in the Association magazines is of good quality, and is one of the reasons that he maintains his membership in A&WMA. He was also quite interested in the QEP program, and asked that IPEP initiate contacts with him concerning program development in Korea.

Korean Environmental Preservation Association (KEPA) (Kyu Shin CHANG, Section Chief; Chang Soo KIM)

KEPA is a non-profit, quasi government organization, established by the Korean government in 1978. There are currently 70 staffers working for the Association. Its range of programs covers most environmental issues, including ecological considerations and public education. They are also a member organization, with both firms and individuals as members. It is not known how members participate, if at all, in the governance of KEPA. The primary focus is education and training, with a range of workshops and seminars. There is often a trade element to KEPA programs, as they look to link Korean and foreign firms. They are also the organizers of INPOPO, the leading Korean environmental exhibition. They seemed to be quite genuine in cooperating with A&WMA on programs, and asked to be kept informed of A&WMA activities. CHANG commented that many firms and organizations pass through Korea, looking to create linkages and partnerships. However, very few of these visitors follow through and make the long-term commitment to establish a presence or to position themselves as credible partners.

Kwangju Institute of Science and Technology (KJIST) (In- Soo KIM, Seung-Hyeon MOON, Kyoo W. LEE, Tae-Ho YOON)

KJIST is a new institution of higher education, with construction ongoing. Over the next five years, KJIST is expected to become the leading research institution in Korea (with over 600 graduate students anticipated). Both Kim and Moon are current Association members, and they had responded positively to an earlier inquiry of Korean members asking whether they would have an interest in forming a member unit in Korea. During our conversations, they also expressed a specific interest in holding a symposium or regional conference at the KJIST campus in the future. Both members are very interested in this possibility, and requested additional information on how this process might proceed. In general, they appreciate the quality of A&WMA publications and the information disseminated. Echoing Kim's comments above, there is an interest on the part of environmental professionals in Korea to contribute to publications such as the Journal. Encouragement from the Association, and perhaps additional editorial assistance for those authors who are not working in their native language, would be appreciated, and would be one further indication of the Association's interest in promoting the exchange of information from an international perspective.
