

Report on the Training Cooperation Program —Kuwait and Oman—

From May 30 to June 6, 2011, JCCP Lecturers Tetsuji Kubota and Tetsuo Arii visited Kuwait and Oman under the Training Cooperation Program for the following three main purposes:

- (1) To discuss the implementation of a new Customized Program-Overseas (CPO) in response to emerging needs in Kuwait and Oman for training in the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the oil industry;
- (2) To seek advice from relevant people in JCCP counterpart countries about the new training program that the JCCP Training Renewal Committee is currently formulating toward a renewal of training programs; and
- (3) To explain to the JCCP counterpart in each organization about the changes that have been made to this fiscal year's JCCP training program due to the Great East Japan Earthquake.

In Kuwait, visits were made to Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) and Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC). In Oman, visits were made to the Ministry of Oil and Gas, the Ministry of Environment and Climatic Affairs, and Oman Refineries and Petrochemicals Company (ORPC).

Oil companies in both Kuwait and Oman are striving to reduce GHG emissions, and expressed strong interest in a new training program on this theme, so JCCP agreed to commence working-level discussions toward its implementation. Relevant personnel in both countries also showed high interest in JCCP's renewal of training programs, and not only offered constructive advice, but also agreed to discuss this issue on a continuing basis.

Kuwait

1. KPC Head Office

At the KPC head office, the JCCP members met with Dr. Rasha Abbas Maarafi, Team Leader, International Relations Department; Dr. Fatima Al Shatti, Team Leader, Waste Management, Environment & Oil Spill Response Department; and other personnel.



At the KNPC Head Office:
Dr. Rasha Abbas Maarafi, Team Leader,
International Relations Department (left); and
Dr. Fatima Al Shatti, Team Leader,
Waste Management, Environment & Oil Spill Response
Department (fourth from left)

Subsidiaries of the KPC Group of companies are currently directing their efforts to reducing greenhouse gases in the upstream and downstream sectors. To further promote these efforts, KPC made it clear that it intends to actively cooperate in regard to JCCP's proposed seminar program on greenhouse gases (GHG). The JCCP members and the KPC side therefore discussed the content and preparation method of the program.

The KPC side made a specific request to include a technical session for project development (Japan's energy-saving technologies, GHG reduction technologies, underground storage technologies, etc.) and lectures on project development (carbon financing, financial planning, etc.). It also requested a sufficient amount of time to hold a practical workshop that would allow participants to develop practical skills. Moreover, the KPC side offered its active cooperation by proposing to take charge of part of the lecture.

The two sides agreed to implement the program during this fiscal year, and to hereafter engage in detailed discussions toward its implementation.

2. KNPC Head Office

At KNPC, the JCCP members met with Mr. Fadhel Mirza Abdulla, Team Leader, Employee Development,

Human Resource Department, and other relevant personnel to discuss the JCCP training program for this fiscal year. Expressing strong concern regarding the situation in Japan after the Great East Japan Earthquake, the KNPC side said that KNPC intends to consider sending its employees to JCCP courses based on JCCP's latest training plans, and would be waiting for active communication of information from JCCP.

Like KPC, KNPC also expressed strong interest in cooperating and participating in a training program on greenhouse gas reduction, but since the issue is relevant to the entire KPC Group, it was agreed that discussions toward implementation of the program would be held with KPC as the counterpart.

JCCP has established a dedicated committee that is currently making concentrated efforts to renew and improve JCCP training programs. In addition to a new program for GHG reduction, some other new programs under consideration (environmental management, the latest oil technologies, maintenance, instrumentation, etc.) were explained to the KNPC side. In response, the KNPC side, also with the attendance of experts in refining technologies, offered the following views and advice.

- KNPC provides training for its employees according to various position levels, and wishes JCCP to also implement level-based training (especially for senior and middle-level managers).
- JCCP training programs should give consideration not only to their technical content, but also to the occupations of the participants (process, maintenance, instrumentation, electrical engineering, etc.).
- It would be preferable to allocate more time to

workshops, case studies, hands-on training, other such practical training. It would be especially effective to associate the training with projects that are being undertaken by the participants.

- A more practical approach would be to provide customized programs (CPO, CPJ) that focus on a topic relevant to the needs of each department at KNPC, instead of general programs geared to all departments.
- KNPC seeks training programs that spotlight uniquely Japanese practices such as Kaizen, in each training field.

JCCP will take the above views and advice into consideration and gradually implement renewed programs in the form of customized programs as the first step. Continuous discussions will also be held with national oil companies in oil-producing countries in the region, to achieve an even more effective renewal of training programs.

Oman

1. Ministry of Environment and Climatic Affairs (MECA)

The JCCP members visited the Ministry of Environment and Climatic Affairs for the first time based on the understanding that the ministry is promoting environmental conservation, and particularly the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. They met with Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed Al Ajmi, Director General of Climate Affairs, and discussed the implementation of a Customized Program-Overseas (CPO) on that theme.

Mr. Al Ajmi explained that Oman has steadily established a framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the country, and expressed his expectations that JCCP activities would contribute to greenhouse gas reduction in the oil industry, where large reductions are anticipated. He added that the timing is perfect to implement a training program particularly on relevant Japanese technologies. Although the CPO would address the oil industry and would therefore fall under the control of the Ministry of Oil and Gas, Mr. Al Ajmi nevertheless offered his ministry's cooperation such as by providing a lecturer for the program. It was agreed that the ministry and JCCP would continue to exchange information toward preparation of the program.

2. Ministry of Oil and Gas (MOG)

This was JCCP's first visit to the Ministry of Oil



At the KNPC Head Office:
Mr. Fadhel Mirza Abdulla, Team Leader,
Employee Development, Human Resource Department
(second from left)



Omani Ministry of Oil and Gas:
Mr. Sultan Mohammed Al Hilali,
Director of Regulating Oil Production (third from left)

and Gas, which governs the upstream and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industries in Oman and their operations. Mr. Sultan Mohammed Al Hilali, Director of Regulating Oil Production, welcomed the JCCP members and expressed keen interest in the new CPO program on greenhouse gas reduction in the oil industry, as it would also help improve operational efficiency in the oil and gas industries in Oman. The MOG side and the JCCP members agreed to exchange a letter of intent soon thereafter.

In regard to the content of the training program, the MOG side requested the program to include lectures on the effective utilization of gas, energy conservation, renewable energy sources and other related technologies, and project development and financing. The JCCP members agreed to thereafter discuss specific details for implementation of the program with the ministry.

3. ORPC

The JCCP members visited ORPC and met with Mr. Said Suleiman Al Aufi, Head, Professional Development, Human Resource, which is JCCP's counterpart in ORPC. At the end of June soon after JCCP's visit, ORPC became a new joint venture company established by the integration of ORPC's Oman Refinery and Sohar Refinery with Aromatics Oman LLC (AOL) and Oman Polypropylene (OPP).

In the meeting with the JCCP members, the ORPC side articulated its intention to encourage as many ORPC staff members as possible to participate in the proposed

CPO on greenhouse gas reduction. As its input to JCCP renewal of training programs, the ORPC side requested practical workshop-style training, senior-level training, and special programs that feature a specific theme. The ORPC side would also provide feedback from experts in various fields at ORPC.

Summary

The visits to Kuwait and Oman allowed JCCP to confirm strong expectations for the recommencement of JCCP training programs in the two countries despite the lingering impacts of the recent earthquake in Japan, and to also confirm the foundation of the relationships of trust and cooperation that JCCP has established with oil companies in oil-producing countries through the steady accumulation of achievements over the years.

In regard to the CPO on environmental issues and particularly the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the organizations that JCCP visited in the two countries showed strong interest in its implementation, particularly because GHG reduction is being addressed as an important issue in the GCC countries, and commenced discussions with JCCP toward its preparation.

Key figures in the two countries also articulated their expectations for the renewal of JCCP training programs and proposals for new programs that would be of interest to oil-producing countries. In recent years, the diversification of needs in oil-producing countries has illuminated the importance of identifying training needs through personal meetings with human resource departments and other operational departments in oil-producing countries.

Moreover, the human resource training departments in oil companies in oil-producing countries have developed in-house training programs to the point where their expectations of JCCP have begun to change. There are greater needs now for new programs intended for prospective senior management of oil companies and other such level-based training.

It is becoming increasingly important to grasp the changing needs in oil-producing countries and to promptly respond to these changes in order to deepen cooperative relationships in the future.

<by Tetsuo Arij, Training Dept.>