

The 18th Joint GCC-Japan Environment Symposium

(Preliminary Report)

JCCP and the Bahrain Centre for Studies and Research (BCSR) jointly hosted the 18th Joint GCC-Japan Environment Symposium from February 8 to 10, 2010. The theme of this year's symposium was "Environment and Water Resources for Our Future."

The opening ceremony was held on the 8th, with the attendance of 230 participants from the GCC countries and Japan, including such prominent figures as H.E. Dr. Mohammed J. K. Alghatam, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of BCSR; Dr. Abdulla M. Alsadiq, Secretary-General of BCSR; Dr. Eion Turnbull, Deputy Chief Executive (Refining & Marketing) of the Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO), which provided special assistance in implementing the symposium; H.E. Mr. Hideo Sato, Ambassador of Japan to Bahrain; and Dr. Junzo Kasahara, Professor Emeritus at the University of Tokyo (leader of the Japanese Delegation). Dr. Alsadiq, Dr. Turnbull, Ambassador Sato, and Mr. Morihiro Yoshida, Managing Director of JCCP, each delivered an opening address.

The opening ceremony was followed by three Keynote Speeches. From Japanese side, Dr.

Kasahara gave a speech titled, "An innovative method for the 4D monitor of storage in CCS (Carbon dioxide Capture and Storage) and oil and gas reservoirs and aquifers."

The main part of the symposium was divided into four discussion sessions, which featured 19 presentations over a period of two days. Experts from the GCC countries and Japan discussed "Energy and Gas Industry and Sustainability" in Session 1 and "Water Resources and Environmental Protection" in Session 2 held on the 8th. On the next day, they discussed "Climate Change and Global Warming" in Session 3 and "Future Perspective for Energy, Water and Environment" in Session 4. Active discussions were held in each session, with the GCC experts expressing particular interest in the presentations on Japan's advanced environmental technologies.

A closing ceremony was held on the 9th, following the last discussion session. Dr. Mohammed S. Al Ansari, Director of the Publication and Data Warehouse of BCSR (and Chairman of the Environmental Symposium Organization), and Makoto Nakamura, Manager of the Technical



Commemorative photo at the opening ceremony



Key participants at the opening ceremony

Cooperation Dept. of JCCP, thanked all symposium participants, BCSR and BAPCO for their cooperation in the successful implementation of the symposium.

On the 10th, the Japanese Delegation, JCCP-invited GCC experts and many Bahraini people

visited a BAPCO refinery as a field trip. There they understood BAPCO's strong commitment to environmental conservation. JCCP hopes that this Environment Symposium will continue to help deepen relationships between oil-related companies and organizations in Bahrain and JCCP.

The day before the opening of the Symposium, a press conference was given at BCSR. Dr. Alghatam, Dr. Alsadiq, Dr. Al Ansari, Mr. Yukio Ishibiki, Second Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Bahrain and six Japanese lecturers attended the Conference, while the JCCP Secretariat gave a brief overview of JCCP activities and the Environment Symposium. The Press Conference and Symposium were both widely covered by local media, and helped increase public recognition of JCCP in the GCC countries.

We would like to extend our sincerest appreciation to everyone who has cooperated in making the Symposium possible.

<by Makoto Nakamura, Technical Cooperation Dept.>

(* The names of panelists, an overview of their presentations and other details of the Symposium program will be provided in the next issue of *JCCP News*.)

