

**Shanghai Convened the Joint Meeting on the Three UNDP Projects
in the Asia-Pacific Region**

The High-Level Forum on City Informatization in the Asia-Pacific Region (CIAPR), the Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP) and The Urban Governance Initiative (TUGI) are the three projects developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Asia-Pacific region.

The objectives of CIAPR is to provide a platform for policy-developers and decision-makers of the municipal governments in this region to exchange their views and strategic plans, and share their experiences in the development of the information industry and the applications of information technology.

APDIP aims at advancing the development of information technology so as to promote the economic and social development in the entire Asia-Pacific region.

TUGI serves as a regional hub that promotes city administration through networking and information sharing among cities in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Joint Meeting on the Three UNDP Projects in the Asia-Pacific Region was held in RCOCI Office, Shanghai, China, from December 18 to 19, 2000. Four senior officers, including Ms. Kaniya Wignaraja, Chief of Regional Programme Division, RBAP/UNDP, Mr. Zhou Hongren, Interregional Adviser of UN/DESA, Mr. Vijay Parmar, APDIP officer, and Ms. Sri Husnaini Sofjan, TUGI officer, attended the meeting. Representatives from Shanghai at the meeting included Mr. He Shouchang, Director-General of RCOCI, four directors from RCOCI and others.

The development of the three projects was presented at the meeting, with emphasis on the discussion about the cooperation among the three projects. It was agreed to establish a workgroup of the three projects (CIAPR-APDIP-TUGI, referred to as CAT Workgroup), which would serve as a contact center for rearranging the resources,

exchanging experiences and conducting regular activities. With a view to realize these functions, CIAPR, APDIP and TUGI will send one person in charge respectively to attend the CAT Workgroup as one of the core members, who will conduct extensive communication and hold a workgroup meeting during the second CIAPR. The duty of CAT Workgroup covers:

1. Exchange the information, technology, plans and publications of project development, and carry out training work.
2. Conduct surveys on special topics about city construction and administration with scientific attitude and informatized measures.
3. Jointly organize some annual awards with fair standard. The awards may include: Best City Website, Excellent Project Award, Best Practice Award, Outstanding Contribution Award, which can be bestowed on governments, enterprises or individuals, whose successful practices can be publicized as good examples. The awards will be issued at the second CIAPR so as to stimulate the development of all Asia-Pacific cities.

At the meeting, hope was expressed that the cooperation between Shanghai and UNDP could be enhanced, and that the two organizations could apply to the United Nations for the establishment of a training institution in Shanghai with a training declaration formed. Meanwhile, combining the long-term friendly cooperation relationship that UNDP has established with many districts with Shanghai's technical human resources and powerful support from the government would be more advantageous.

It was pointed out at the meeting that Shanghai was capable of acting as a leader in south-south cooperation, providing the experience of Shanghai's government-dominant informatization model, paying attention to the cooperation of city informatization with less developed countries, establishing gradually a unified city informatization index system in the Asia-Pacific region, expanding the influence of CIAPR, and promoting the advancement of city informatization in the region.