



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 June 2019

Original: English

2019 session

26 July 2018–25 July 2019

Agenda item 5

High-level segment

Statement submitted by International Mayor Communication Centre Limited, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

In September 2016, International Mayor Communication Centre Limited (IMCC, also known as the International Mayors Communication Centre) established Green City (Shenzhen) Public Service Co., Ltd. (GCPS) in a cooperation zone of Hong Kong, (SAR of China) and Shenzhen. In November 2017, GCPS founded the Open Green City Laboratory (OGCLab). The OGCLab advocates and practices the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on Goals 4, 8, 13 and 17 of the SDGs.

On January 15, 2019, the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government hosted the "Forum on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Shenzhen, China)". IMCC invited some international speakers to the forum, including Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Vice-Chair Dr. Youba Sokona, Prof. David Gilbert Christian of Macquarie University, and Paul Doherty, president of The Digit Group, Inc.

On January 16, 2019, IMCC hosted "Change the City – the Forum on the Construction of Shenzhen National Innovation Demonstration Zone for Sustainable Development", and commissioned GCPS to organize the forum, which utilized the OGCLab's state-of-the-art high-tech mobile conferencing capabilities to innovate the world's most efficient conference model with the lowest carbon emission, featuring the interaction between global leaders and local citizens.

The mobile video device collaborated with the conference software system that had served the G20 Hangzhou Summit, and it took only 11 hours to be technically ready for the forum. We chose to hold this international seminar in a 69-sqm conference room renovated from an old factory in OCT LOFT, one of China's best pilot zones in cultural industries. Aiming to reduce the flight carbon footprint, conference space and human resources for a large-scale meeting, the seminar invited Nobel Peace Prize recipient and former IPCC Chair Dr. Rajendra Kumar Pachauri to deliver an 18-minute speech from thousands of miles away through video connection. He encouraged Shenzhen to participate in improving climate change as an important action to implement the UN's sustainable development agenda. His speech was well received by 29 attendees, including a managing director of HSBC, a partner of Sustainable Development Capital, L.L.P., Chinese entrepreneurs, a Shenzhen hospital president, and an urban public safety expert.

IPCC Vice-Chair Dr. Sokona attended the seminar and interacted with 15,600 citizens online, sharing the details of the UNFCCC COP24 in Katowice, Poland. Sustainability experts, green finance investors and Shenzhen citizens spent five hours discussing low-carbon travel, green industries, green finance investments, employment and technological innovation.

This innovative form of meeting was applauded by various Chinese media. A total of 31 mainstream media institutions, including Xinhuanet and People's Daily Online, had a lot of coverage to a potential audience of 680 million on how the OGCLab used technological innovation to implement the 17 SDGs, revitalize global partnership and prove to the world China's implementation of President Xi Jinping's commitment to realize the vision of sustainable development, which he made at the UN Development Summit in 2015.

We keep reaching out to stakeholders, promoting policy dialogue, and sharing best practices using our low carbon and efficient networks.