

Professional scientific sessions for art, architecture and urban planning Thursday evenings

Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers

Date: 12.09.2013

Title: Town planning and facing earthquakes in Iran and Japan

Speakers and panel members: Mrs: M.Odashima, Mr. M. M. Mahmoudi, Mr. A. Tavafoghi, Mrs. S. Hanachi, Mr. A. Mansouri, Mr. Y. Takeochi, Mr. A. S. Samiee, Mr. A. Ghahari

The meeting about earthquakes facing in Iran and Japan, was managed by Mr. A. Gahari. After the vision of a documentary film about the earthquake happened in Kobe - Japan, and how it was managed, during the second part of the meeting three speakers presented their reports, followed by a question time.

The first speaker was Mrs. M. Odashima. She is the responsible editor of Japan's International cooperation agency projects in Iran (JICA). She spoke about the activities of the agency, presenting summarily the studies accomplished about the earthquake probabilities in Tehran. JICA is an independent international cooperation Japanese organization; the principal rule of the agency is to encourage and assist the popular participations in different countries. JICA was established in 1962, the head office is in Tokyo, with many branches in different cities around the world. The main activities of JICA in Iran are as follows. Technical cooperation to reduce the risk of natural disasters, environment and hydric sources protection, activities to reduce the differences between cities and villages, and to improve the local industrial situation. An interesting example is a project in Anzali port-city which aimed the environment protection and the reduction of the differences between villages and towns.

About the studies inherent the earthquakes risks in Tehran had three phases of realization.

- 1- Studies about Tehran in general 1999-2002, prevention and management of natural disasters 2001-2004.
- 2- Rapid reactions especially during the immediately post-earthquake moments. 2002-2010
- 3- Possible reduction of damages caused by big buildings.

The second speaker was Mr. M. M. Mahmoudi, who spoke about the earthquake happened in Kobe, and the Tsunami in the east of Japan. He compared the statistics between the earthquakes in Iran and Japan, during the last two decades. He presented the architectural and town planning approaches in damaged cities of Kobe and Tohoku, how the population was aided, how the designers and planners paid attention to keep the identity and the characteristics of the cities.

Mr. Mahmoudi stressed how in Japan they distinguished the instruction between earthquakes and tsunami. He ended his presentation stressing the necessity to review the process of disasters management, to review the former information, and to document the available information, to better face the future disasters.

The third speaker was Mr. Tavafoghi who presented data, and comprehensive explications about the earthquakes and its risks, how to design safer structures. He presented Mr. Bakhman's book about the earthquakes, and how to achieve better results for safer buildings.

Mrs. S. Hanachi spoke of the studies about the earthquakes maps in Iran. The last studies are titled “The edition of rules in town planning to improve the safety against the earthquakes risk in Tehran, and the edition of a general policy to prepare the master plan of Tehran”. She presented also projects and plans that are prepared to have nationwide characteristics.

Mrs. A. Mansuri stressed the importance of new technologies and building lightening systems introduction in Iranian building industry.

Mr. Y. Takeochi, the managing director of JICA spoke about the Japanese- Iranian cooperation that go back to more than 50 years, how they acted to improve the environmental protection, services during the natural disasters, and the extension of the studies, to avoid future disasters damages. He stressed the necessity of the instruction in the schools and throw the mass- medias.

He also appreciated the Iranians' aide during the last earthquake that bit Japan.

Mr. A. S. Samie

He spoke about the instructions and disaster management and the necessity to coordinate the activities of architects and civil engineers.