



Outcome - Conclusions - Recommendations

SB02 in Oslo Norway attracted more than 1000 delegates from over 60 countries. This was the second in a series of SB conferences. SB05, to be held in Tokyo, will be the third in the series.

Initiatives have been taken for a simultaneous series of regional developing country conferences on Sustainable Building. For Africa, an event is planned in Cape Town towards the end of 2004. CIB, iiSBE and UNEP are committed to strongly support this and other regional events.

A Fourth period for GBC work has been established for the period 2003-2005. The next technical meeting will take place in Spain in March 2003.

The Global Alliance for Building Sustainability (GABS initiative) was introduced as a result of the Johannesburg summit. Several organisations expressed interest in signing up.

Conclusions of SB02

On all levels agendas for Sustainable Building & Construction have been developed: This is the moment to make things happen, to proceed from agendas to action.

It was clearly brought forward that progress in sustainable building, especially in those countries with a large existing building stock, is only incremental. This will not be enough to meet Kyoto targets, to avoid severe problems in resource availability, in water supply, and social cohesion in urban settlements. New revolutionary concepts, radical change in the management of our resource cycles, and initiatives for providing shelter are needed.

It was concluded that in addition to preventing climate change, the building sector will have to anticipate the effects of climate change.

It was concluded that there is still a strong emphasis on design and construction of new buildings, but that the existing building stock and rehabilitation of neighbourhoods should be the main starting point for the sustainable building and housing strategies.

It was concluded that Sustainable building is related to many issues related to Sustainable Development. However it was emphasized that this series of events has its focus at the building and construction level.

The analysis of GBC projects indicates that the use of Renewable energy is growing in the housing sector, but it lags behind in office buildings.

There is a clear need for simpler methods and tools for small and medium sized companies in the building sector, both for technical aspects and business process aspects.

Reflections on Maastricht

Public procurement is a major factor in many economies and we therefore conclude that continuous and active government involvement in establishing a sustainable built environment is essential, and that public procurement should be seen as a basic and important instrument.

It was decided that the Maastricht conclusion that "There is need for an international initiative aimed at addressing sustainable construction on the level of materials and material cycles, including reuse and recycling" has not been fulfilled.

The Building and construction sector is the largest sector of the economy in terms of resource consumption and waste production. It is therefore imperative that sustainable building & construction is adopted as a major theme in the global sustainable development debate.

Participants, and the organisations they represent, are requested to actively implement the existing agendas for sustainable building and construction in their regions and countries.

There is need for a new initiative to monitor progress in the building and construction sector towards the factor 10 target.

All major stakeholder-organisations are requested to support the 2004 developing countries conference on Sustainable Building in South Africa, and possible other regional events during the 2003-2005 period.

CIB should seek alliances and undertake action with major global parties to start implementing the Agendas for Sustainable construction in both developed and developing countries.

iiSBE should support countries, especially developing countries that wish to use the GBC process as a means of introducing sustainable building concepts.

All organisations involved in SB, including local regional and national governments, should sign up to the principles of the GABS.

Every country should implement certification and labelling schemes for residential and commercial segments, to lead the market towards minimising environmental impact. iiSBE should intensify efforts to support this through the GBC process and other means.

Professional organisations such as UIA should collaboratively re-invigorate their agendas to bring SB to their members.

SB2005 should give extra attention to the following themes Developing countries, climate change, re-use, recycling and waste, existing building stock, non-industrialised approaches to Sustainable Building.

SB2005 should develop conference formats that encourage discussion and dialogue. The primary focus of Sb2005 should remain at the building and construction level, although linkages to sustainable development issues have to be addressed.

And by resolution of the Maastricht closing document Every delegate is asked to plant a tree and another one for every 1000 miles travelled, to compensate for the environmental load of attending the conference.

September 25, Oslo, Norway