

AQUAPOLIS

No. 3
International
Conference
of Aquapolises

Publisher: Takashi Takano
Editor: Hiroko Michishita
With the cooperation of: Inter Group Corp.



The 3rd International Conference of Aquapolises to Be Held in Piraeus, Greece, from March 20 to 22, 1997

The 3rd International Conference of Aquapolises (ICAP) will be held in Piraeus, Greece, from March 20 to 22 next year. Piraeus City is inviting participants from various cities throughout the world, including directorial cities, with the aim of discussing the creation of an ideal aquapolis.

Since the host city serves as a base for sightseeing cruising in the Aegean Sea, the coming conference will be held on board the 14,000-ton ship "the Triton." Participants will exchange opinions and discuss how a future aquapolis should be, while experiencing the view of the deep-blue Aegean and Piraeus City, where development as a city on the sea is being implemented.



MESSAGE OF THE MAYOR OF PIRAEUS STELIOS LOGOTHETIS FOR THE AQUAPOLISES CONFERENCE

The Aquapolises conference is an International initiative which aims to find ways and methods for effective management of water-resources.

The water in our days, in all forms of its existence is becoming a sort in insufficiency.

The first element of life is in danger. The thoughtless use, the pollution of sea and the rivers, the human activity in urban areas, and the intensive cultivations, are all poisoning the water horizons, so they put a total problem of management.

Unfortunately, the coordination of the state organizations and the local administration, on an international scale is still far away from taking effective measures, that we can talk for safe planet.

The Aquapolises Conference offers the opportunity of searching, exchanging experiences, techniques or methods, scientific studies and reports, and keeps alive the concern for the future of the planet.

The 3rd Conference of this international network, in which more than 35 cities will participate from all over the world and will take place in Piraeus on March 20-22, 1997, is ambitious to give answers in many sides if this problem.

We are looking forward to welcome, at the first Greek port, the invited colleagues for this great event.



**Personal Profile of
Mayor Stelios Logothetis of Piraeus City**

Mr. Stelios Logothetis was born in Nikea, Piraeus (Greece) on 13th April, 1951. In 1969, after examinations, he entered the Metallurgist Engineering School at National Metsovio Polytechnic. In January 1975, he was awarded a degree in chemical engineering. Through numerous postgraduate seminars in Greece, as well as abroad, he became a specialist in liquid sewage treatment for cities and industries.

From 1975, he has been a chemical engineer and has continued to serve the democratic institutions of his country and the stabilization of the newly achieved democracy. In 1978, 1982 and 1986, he was elected Mayor of Nikea (Prefecture of Piraeus) by great majorities. In 1990 and 1994 he was elected Mayor of Piraeus. He is the first mayor to be elected for two consequent terms. Thus, he has also been active and an important participant in local government and has served as a mayor for more than 19 years.

The Statute of the International Conference of Aquapolises

1. Purpose

The purpose of statute is to decide on matters necessary for the management and development, and for smooth operation of the International Conference of Aquapolises (hereinafter referred to as ICAP).

2. Mission

ICAP shall meet approximately every three years on a mission to have 'aquapolises' of the world mutually know their respective past, present and future conditions and debate on "the basic policies and role of 'aquapolises' in urban planning" to form a consensus of the world opinion for preservation and improvement of the global environment.

3. Directorial City Conference

(1) The Directorial City Conference (hereinafter referred to as DCC) shall be established in order to smoothly perform and achieve the purpose and mission as set forth in the preceding two Sections respectively.

(2) DCC shall be comprised of the heads of directorial and host cities participating in ICAP and shall deliberate on the appointment of directorial cities and next host city and the operation and management of ICAP and other necessary matters.

(3) A chairman and a vice-chairman shall be appointed by DCC: the former from the city of the Secretariat, and the latter from the host city.

(4) The resolutions of DCC shall be adopted by majority vote, and, in the case of a tie vote, the Chairman shall cast the final decision. DCC shall be entitled to pass a resolution also in writing.

4. Directorial City

(1) Each directorial city shall endeavor, in cooperation with the host city, to facilitate the operation of ICAP.

(2) The cities listed hereinbelow shall be the directorial cities:

Birmingham, Bleggrade, Chicago, Hamburg, Melbourne, Montreal, Osaka, Sendai, Shanghai, Venice, and Vienna.

(3) A city participating in ICAP may become a directorial city after due deliberation by DCC.

(4) Should a directorial city fail to participate in two successive conferences, the statute there of shall be invalidated after due deliberation by DCC.

5. Secretariat

The Secretariat shall be established in Osaka for the purpose of executing the decisions made by DCC and making contact and coordinating activities with respective cities.

6. Revision

This statute may be revised by DCC as required.

Date of enforcement: November 18, 1993

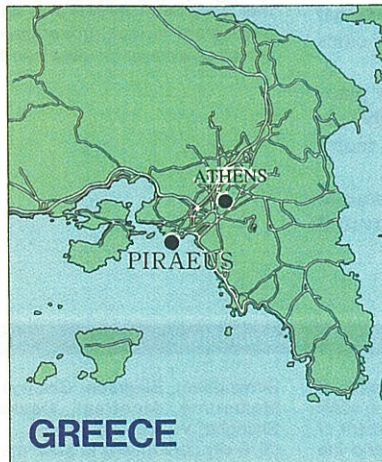
The first ICAP was held in Osaka City, and the 2nd in Shanghai.

Report
Piraeus City

Base for Cruising the Aegean Sea Overcoming Floods and Drought



Port No. 1 used as a base for large cruising ships



Location of Piraeus, Greece

Piraeus is a port city located 6 km southwest of Athens, the capital of Greece. With a city area of approximately 27,000,000 m² and population of 1,000,000, Piraeus is the 3rd largest city in Greece. Its major industry is tourism. As a base for cruising the Aegean, the city attracts 11,000 thousand tourists a year in 1995. With port facilities in 4 locations, quays for large passenger ships and those for small- and medium-sized ships are clearly distinguished.

The City of Piraeus has a history of many centuries and has, in fact, been inhabited since about 2600 B.C. Piraeus became the entrepot of Athens at about the beginning of 5th century B.C. due to its safe naval port and well-planned lay-out. With beautifully constructed walls, public buildings, worship places, and theaters have well-preserved traces that still can be seen. In brief, it became a city teeming with life and was, indeed, the "Commercial Heart of the Hellenes" where, in the words of Thucydides, "From all the lands, everything enters."

However, from 1318 A.D., the port lost its ancient name. It became "Porto Leone," the "Porto Draco" of the Franks, and from 1456, the "Aslan Port" of the Turks (the Lion's Port), getting its name from the marble lion, standing at the point where, later, the old Town Hall (ROLOI--the Clock) was built. The marble lion was removed and stolen in 1688, during Fr. Morozini's well-known expedition against Athens, and carried to the naval base of Venice where it still stands.

Throughout the whole period of Turkish occupation, the Piraeus region remained deserted. Visitors from 1830 to 1834, the number of "settles," the first residents, gradually grew. In 1834, Cleanthes and Schaubert drew up the excellent--for that time--town plan of Piraeus which was approved, with a minimum of amendments, by the Architect Klenze and the Regent. In 1835, following an application by the most prosperous of the new inhabitants, the Municipality was established.

By the end of the 19th century, all the necessary educational institutions had also been built (the High School, the Rallios Girl's College, the Lyceum--which began operating in 1862--the elementary school, many large churches, the Stock Exchange Building, the Town Hall, the well known ROLOI or Clock-Tower (1869-1873), the Municipal Theatre (1884-1895), and the old Post-office Building (1899-1901). Also, the city had gained its Central Market (1861-1863), and with the help of donations from the region's benefactors, its communal institutions which continue to operate today (the "Tzannion" Hospital, the "Zannion" Orphanage for Boys, the Old People's Home, and the "Hadjikyriakion" Orphanage for Girls). With the establishment of the Port of Piraeus Authority in 1930, a second decisive step was taken in the attempt to find a final solution to the problem of efficient management and exploitation of the port.

THE NATION'S war-time adventures (1940-1944) left their corresponding marks on both the city and port. Especially, the latter suffered unparalleled set-backs to its, till then, steady progress. Wartime events such as the bombing resulted in the almost total destruction of the port with damage which, according to relative estimates of that time, amounted to about 325 million Drachmas at their pre-war value.

In their POST-WAR course, from 1945 to today, the development of the city and port have been parallel. Today, Piraeus, has developed into a large city without substantial fluctuations in population over recent years, and despite its proximity to Athens and the aesthetic changes it has undergone through certain extremes of architectural irresponsibility, the city maintains, to a certain degree, its own individuality.

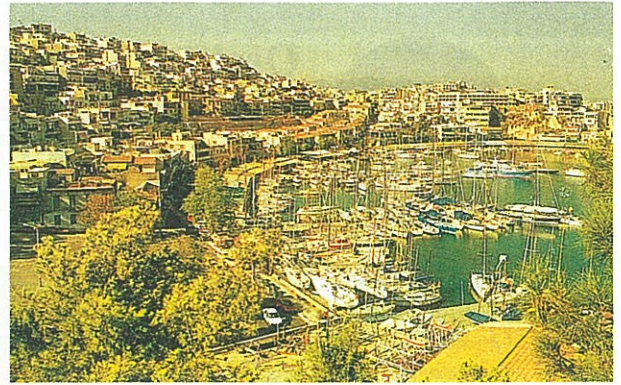
In the early 1950's, Athens and Piraeus developed remarkably, and the population of the two cities combined reached one million. At the same time, these cities began to suffer the serious problems of flooding. This is attributable to the administration at that time placing a greater importance on expanded residential areas than flood-control measures in urban development, by filling up and damming the rivers. The floods that occurred in November 1977 caused the most significant damage, with 47 people drowned.

Floods continued to occur frequently after that. Since the 1980's, projects to control flooding have been promoted mainly by the Greek government. For example, for stormwater drainage and flood protection works in the low land along the Phaliron Bay, in Athens, open channels were built to discharge surface runoff directly into the sea.

Meanwhile, a shortage of water due to low rainfall also constituted a serious urban problem. Between 1989 and 1993, a long drought caused severe problems. In order to ensure a

continuous water supply, reinforcement works of the potable water supply system in the greater area of Athens have been implemented, through the construction of the dam/reservoir of Evinos and of the corresponding aqueduct. At present, the aqueduct is completed up to 400 km, and is expected to be extended further. In addition, a new treatment plant is under construction in Mandra to serve as the supplementary water supply to the greater area of Athens.

Since the area is situated on a peninsula, in order to prevent waste water from being discharged directly into the sea, waste water treatment is an important task for environmental preservation. In this context, a treatment plant (capacity of 700 thousand m³ day) for waste water and industrial wastes in the greater area of



Port No. 2 used for small- and medium-sized ships and yachts

Athens was constructed on Psyttalia Island, 2 km offshore from Piraeus City. A plan to increase capacity to 1,500 thousand m³ day is under consideration.

Naturally the city still suffers serious problems, particularly traffic circulation and environmental pollution, unfortunate problems encountered by all the large Greek towns and cities of the post-war period.



Around the Opera Theater (before, and the present urbanized area)



City Crest: The crest was created to commemorate the establishment of Piraeus City in 1835. In the previous year, new city planning was undertaken to cope with the increase in the number of residents.



From the
Secretariat

Osaka City Promoting "New Aquapolis of Osaka" Project Creation of a Pleasant and Comfortable City, through the Use of Water

The City of Osaka is striving for the creation of "a new aquapolis of Osaka," in order to become an international city of strong individuality endowed with substance and charm of which Osaka could boast to the world. Many parts of present-day Osaka used to be the sea, and was created by the sedimentation of soil and sand over a long period of time, and also by development through reclamation and excavation. Reclamation and excavation have been of major importance to the city development of Osaka. Even today, the construction of a new artificial island is under way in the bay area.

"A new aquapolis of Osaka" aims at coexistence with nature, improvement of amenities, and reinforcement of cultural exchanges. Coexistence with nature does not just mean to conduct riparian works, but to live in harmony with nature in urban life through the use of water. For improvement of amenities, waterfront areas have been developed to enable citizens and visitors to enjoy and relax in comfort. For the reinforcement of cultural exchanges, the waterfront areas have been improved so that people can experience exchanges through sports, leisure, and cultural activities. Through promoting these measures, Osaka is bidding to host the 2008 Olympics Games in the "aquapolis." Examples of major projects under these policies are as follows:



Coexistence with Nature

■ Construction of "Seseragi (brook)" Parks: Small-scale rivers which used to be heavily polluted are remodeled greatly and treatment water is discharged there. In addition, parks are being developed as natural environments for animals and plants. "Seseragi Parks" have come to serve as the playgrounds of children who live in neighboring residential districts, in the same way as rivers once used to.

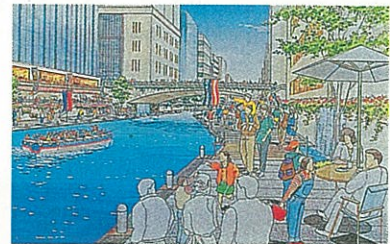
■ Supplying water after advanced water purification: Offensive odors and trihalomethane are removed. The safe and odorless water supply ensures security and convenience to citizens.

Improvement of Amenities

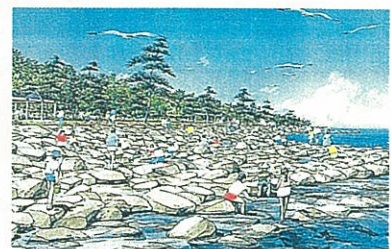
■ Waterfront regional redevelopment: Focusing on facilities that can attract many people, such as the aquarium which has the world's largest tank and Universal Studios Japan, the waterfront areas have been redeveloped with the aim of providing superb amenities and opportunities to be dependent on water. In addition, creation of a beautiful landscape is achieved through landscape guidelines for private architectural development on the waterfront.



■ Development of a river running through busy streets in the center of Osaka (the Dotonbori River) and surrounding areas: Improvement of the quality of the river water. A promenade will be constructed on the bank that now faces the rear of buildings. The promenade will provide people with a free access from the buildings to the river.



■ Development of waterfront areas on an artificial island (Maishima Island): A large-scale waterfront park and artificial seashore will be created to provide a location for recreational resorts.



Reinforcement of Exchanges

■ Hosting events: The International Yacht Race between Melbourne and Osaka, Citizens' Regatta and other events are held. As a result, the image of the aquapolis of Osaka has been promoted internationally, and citizens have gained more opportunities to enjoy water sports.

All articles and enquiries should be addressed to:
ICAP Secretariat
c/o Osaka City Foundation for Urban Technology
3-5-22, Kitahama, Chuo-ku, Osaka
541, Japan
Phone: +81-6-209-1910
Fax: +81-6-209-1920