



BETTER CITIES FOR BETTER LIFE

INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
MAY 12th – 14th 2014

His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General
United Nations
New York

Your Excellency the Secretary General of the United Nations- Mr Ban Ki-Moon,

You have published your Big Idea 2014: The Year for Climate Action on LinkedIn.

You named the threat that the mankind, driven by the desire for progress and capital, has underestimated since the Industrial Revolution. Look at the catastrophe in London 61 years ago. You appeal to the world for the responsibility for the state of the climate, for better world, for sustainable growth of the city population. You will convene a Climate Summit in New York on 23 September next year that will gather Heads of State and Government, along with leaders from business and finance, local government and civil society.

It is a very good idea because we have not found any single recommendation anywhere in history to start working efficiently. The Warsaw Climate Change Conference held in Poland in November did not find any answers to this for sure.

Last year, European experts on noise and air pollution decided to convene a conference to Prague, the Czech Republic, and invited 350 mayors from the biggest cities from all over the world to support the idea of shared responsibility for sustainable future of the city population. Air pollution does not know any boundaries of cities, countries, and continents; therefore it is needed to face the greatest collective challenge together. And it can be done so simply without collecting new investment resources.

Each city – even from the least developed parts of the world – manages some financial means every year. Its mayor tries to improve the life conditions of his fellow citizens. As anywhere else, the experts attempt to find a solution, however they sometimes take a false step. But because they have a limited budget, after spending all the money on unsuccessful attempts they feel unmotivated and give up.

And the way is yet simple. We have asked the delegations of participating cities, mostly from the most technologically developed parts of the world, to send us examples of their successful local solutions. We will create **Blue-Green Book, Roadmap of examples for improving city life** from them for every mayor to copy these examples. How easy it will be to take these proven and successful solutions and implement them without worrying about their outcome.

We were surprised to find out that 80 city delegations from 48 countries confirmed their participation at the original date of the conference on November 28 – 29, 2013 but only 10 sent their contributions to our **Blue-Green Book** and only one of them was from the most technologically developed world.



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At that time, we realised that the problem is not where we look. The world technological development is huge; however the representation of the richest countries is not generous. They are proud of their progress but they are not willing to share their experience. European and American mayors were the first ones to excuse themselves from the conference.

That is why we decided to postpone the conference called **BETTER CITIES FOR BETTER LIFE, Prague 2014** for six months and to mobilise cities mostly from Asia, Africa and Latin America to come in a great number so that we could welcome 250 or perhaps 300 city delegations in Prague on May 12 – 14, 2014. Then, we can expect that the mayors from the technological powers will come as well and contribute to the sustainable future of the world with their shared responsibility. And we will fill our **Blue-Green Book** to the brim.

Your Excellency the Secretary General of the United Nations- Mr Ban Ki-moon, we would like to apply to attend your Climate Summit in New York on 23 September 2014 to report whether we have succeeded in our goals.

It seems that first of all, the mankind will have to start facing itself, possibly even today. Let us reduce our egos, let us get rid of our prejudices and let us open our hearts, because this is the only way to become one team.

Let us choose the restart of our thinking!

With hope for better climate of the planet Earth, on behalf of all organisers and of all that hold the fate of city population dear,

Yours faithfully,



Ivo Vaněk
President of the International Conference **BETTER CITIES FOR BETTER LIFE, Prague 2014**

Prague, 17th December 2013

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