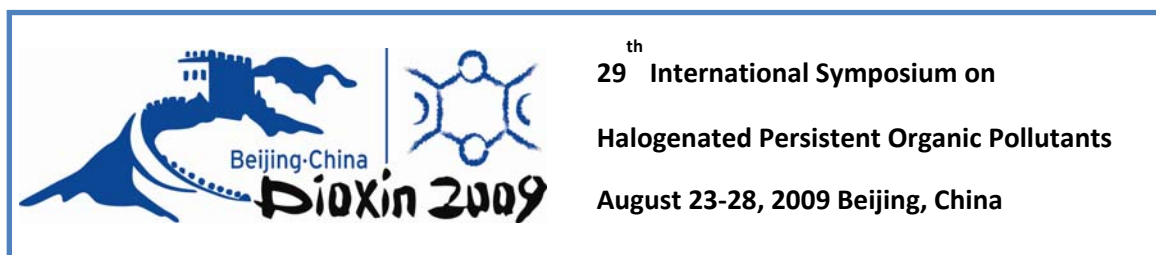


# DIOXIN 2009



## Introduction

The 29<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Halogenated Persistent Organic Pollutants – Dioxin 2009 was held August 23-28, 2009 at the Beijing International Convention Center (BICC) in Beijing, China. For the first time in its history, the symposium was held in a developing country. The conference venue, Beijing International Convention Center (BICC), is located near the center of the Beijing Olympic Park, just a few hundred meters away from the spectacular National Stadium (Bird's Nest/Olympic Stadium) and the luminous National Aquatics Center (The Water Cube).

Nearly 1,100 registered delegates and over 30 sponsors and exhibitors from 43 countries attended this meeting. Altogether 665 short papers were accepted for presentation at the conference and published in *Organohalogen Compounds*. In addition, ten students from developing countries and transition economies were offered free registration to attend this meeting.



**Beijing International Convention Center (BICC) and the “Bird Nest” nearby –Y. Kunimi**

During the 25<sup>th</sup> Symposium-Dioxin 2005 in Toronto, the 29<sup>th</sup> Symposium-Dioxin was awarded to Beijing. A local organizing committee was founded one year later. The symposium was hosted by the Research center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese

Academy of Sciences, and supported by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the National Natural Science Foundation of China. At the end of the 28<sup>th</sup> Symposium-Dioxin 2008, Prof. Guibin Jiang, the Symposium Chair, announced the opening of the Web site ***dioxin2009.org*** and invited everyone to Beijing for the 29<sup>th</sup> Symposium. Invitations to submit papers for the symposium were sent out at the beginning of 2009 and the Web site became available for paper submission, registration and hotel reservations. Heartfelt thanks are given to the local organizing committee, scientific committee, symposium secretariat (CICCST), sponsors and all the volunteers. Without your efficient hard work, the symposium would not have been a success.



**Members of International Advisory Board – by Zhang Sanfeng**

## **Scientific Program**

Delegates were entertained at the opening ceremony on Monday August 24 with a series of performances titled “The Call of the Earth”. Four acts were presented which included songs, Tai Chi dance and Chinese classical dance, emphasizing the theme of “Harmony of Man with Nature” and expressing best wishes for a successful symposium. The performances were presented by the Beijing Rainbow Art Performance Troupe of the Beijing TV Station, a Tai Chi championship winner and a famous Chinese pop song group. The State Councilor, Ms. Liu Yandong sent a letter of congratulation to the symposium. The delegates were warmly welcome by the Chair of the Organizing Committee, followed by officers from the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the National Natural Science Foundation of China. The special support for the symposium from the Chinese government is indicative of the increased attention and effort being paid to

environmental protection in China.

The opening plenary lectures were “Listing of Emerging Organic Contaminants into the Stockholm Convention: Research Progress, Challenges and Future Perspectives in China” by Prof. Jiang Guibin, and “Cold Trapping of Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Himalayas and on the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau” by Prof. Frank Wania.



**From opening ceremony -- Y. Kunimi**



**Registration counters -- Zhang Sanfeng**



**Tai Chi Dance -- Zhang Sanfeng**



**Chinese Dolls -- Zhang Sanfeng**

During the five day meeting, a total of six plenary talks, 256 oral presentations and 432 posters were presented. Each day began with a plenary lecture followed by oral presentations held in 5 concurrent sessions covering 48 different topics. The poster presentation was arranged in two sessions held on Monday and Tuesday. This meeting also provided a great opportunity for participants from not only the developed but also developing countries to share their experiences, problems encountered and outcomes in the implementation of Stockholm Convention, making environmental policy and management a topic of special emphasis in this symposium.

As a summary of the achievements realized by the symposium, six scientists were invited to give briefly describe the progress in several areas, including 1) Analysis; 2) BFRs, PFCs and other emerging contaminants; 3) Temporal and spatial trends of POPs; 4) Exposure (human and environmental exposure); 5) Environment levels and fate; 6)

Sources, formation and control measures. From their summaries, it was apparent that this symposium made significant contributions to the promotion of international communication and collaboration in the field, especially for the scientists from developing countries.

Six students were rewarded with “Otto Hutzinger Student Awards” for excellent oral or poster presentations. Finally, an exciting presentation was given by Prof. Laurie Haws, chair of the organizing committee, to invite all delegates to Dioxin 2010 in San Antonio, Texas.



**Student Awards – by Zhang Sanfeng**

## **Social Program**

The social program was also carefully planned because it is a good opportunity to make friends, to understand and enjoy the local history, culture and custom. A series of special activities were thoughtful arranged and well organized during the meeting.

An informal Get-together was held on August 23, Sunday, with foods and drinks to provide a chance to say hello to old friends and make new friends. A formal Welcome Reception was followed in the evening of Monday, to warmly welcome all the participants.

The half day tour in the afternoon of Wednesday led participants to two most famous attractions in Beijing, Great Wall and Forbidden City. The Great Wall is one of the greatest wonders of the world and famous for its architectural grandeur and

historical significance. The Forbidden City, lying at the center of Beijing, was the imperial palace for twenty-four emperors during the Ming and Qing dynasties. There were 471 delegates went to the Great Wall and 125 delegates went to the Forbidden City. The inclusion of a social program provided a good opportunity to make friends and for meeting attendees to understand and enjoy the local history, culture and custom. A series of special activities were thoughtfully arranged and well organized during the meeting.



**Great Wall - T. Nakano**



**Forbidden City - Y. Kunimi**

After the impressive tour to these attractions, the organizers provided another good opportunity for participants to enjoy the uniqueness of Chinese culture and art. During the Banquet Thursday evening, traditional Chinese opera and Chinese Classic Music performances were presented. It was then time to cheer for the success of this meeting, say good-bye to all participants and wish them a safe trip home.



**Beijing opera, from banquet - T. Nakano**

## Acknowledgements

During the 4 years planning and preparation, our team members contributed a lot for this symposium, without their hard work and invaluable contributions, our meeting would not have been a complete success.

Firstly, I acknowledge and thank so much from my heart for my colleagues, students, conference service as well as countless experts and friends for their outstanding suggestions, service and patient.

Secondly, on behalf of the local organizing committee, I do like to give special thanks to 3 people in recognition their remarkable contributions, professor Zheng Minghui, the Secretary-General of our LOC; Dr. Liu Jiyan, the editor of the program; and Mr. Yan Danny, from our conference service company.

Thirdly, the most important, I do like to take this occasion to mention our 60 volunteers. They provide good service for all aspects of this meeting.



All volunteers and volunteers help delegates to prepare presentation – *Zhang Sanfeng*

Guibin Jiang

Chair of Dioxin 2009