



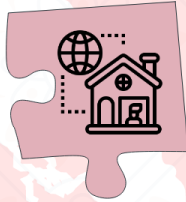
Asian Mayors Forum

AMF Quarterly

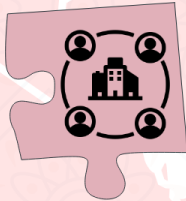
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● **Domestic Affairs**

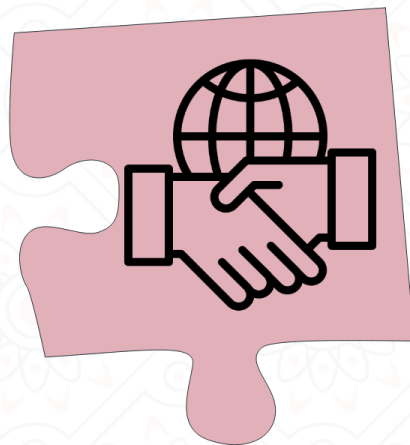


● **Member Cities**



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International Affairs



AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh has stressed the role of local governments and urban leaders in bringing change to the world. Addressing the United Cities and Local Governments' Eurasia event in Russia's Kazan, Mr. Gholamzadeh noted the fast pace of changes in the world and the inefficiency of political bodies to meet the challenges. However, he said, local governments are capable of confronting such challenges if they get connected and cooperate fully. Mr. The Secretary General also emphasized the role the related international organizations can play to engage citizens. Calling for further cooperation between urban organizations and leaders, he underlined that urban management is not all about infrastructures, but also making better lives for the citizens. UCLG Eurasia event, dubbed "Eurasia Cities and Global Trends" was held this morning in Kazan with attendance of region's urban officials and representatives of international organizations.

"Urban leaders, local governments capable of changing world "



AMF hosts its 9th EB Meeting in Kazan

The 9th Executive Board Meeting of AMF has been held in the Russian city of Kazan. The hybrid meeting was opened by speeches from the Deputy Mayor of Dushanbe Abdurahmonzoda Abdurahmon Safarali, Mayor of Kazan Ilur Metshin, and Secretary General of Metropolis Jordi Vaquer. The Executive Board discussed and held vote on different issues of the Forum and its members, including activities, financial reports, memberships, new sections and positions as well as future plans. The session was wrapped up after receiving proposals for upcoming events and gatherings.



AMF SG has held a talk with the Mayor of Kazan

AMF SG has held a talk with the Mayor of Kazan Ilur Metshin in the Russian city. Held on the sidelines of the AMF 9th Executive Board Meeting, Hamidreza Gholamzadeh discussed boosting urban tourism between Tehran and Kazan, including exchange of delegations and bilateral promoting activities. The meeting was also attended by Iran's Consul General to Kazan Davoud Mirzakhani. Kazan is a member of the city of AMF and has been the host city of the 9th EB meeting.





AMF discusses cooperation with Kazan, UCLG Eurasia

AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh has held talks with Vice Mayor of Russian city of Kazan, Lodvigova Evgeniya. The meeting discussed the cooperation fields between the Forum and Kazan, particularly the development of urban tourism between the two as well as among Kazan and the AMF member cities. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Rasikh Sagitov, Secretary General of the Eurasia section of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), who hailed the cooperation suggesting support from UCLG Eurasia in this regard. AMF Executive Board will meet in Kazan on Thursday, May 25, along with the UCLG Eurasia Retreat event.

AMF signs MoU with Kazan's youth diplomacy academy

Asian Mayors Forum has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kazan-based Academy of Youth Diplomacy. The MoU was signed by AMF Secretary General Hamidreza Gholamzadeh and Chairwoman of AYD Dilbar Sadykova, to facilitate cooperation between the two organizations to engage the youth in field of diplomacy and international cooperation. The agreement was reached after the AMF delegation visited the Academy, getting familiar with its activities. The Academy of Youth Diplomacy, based in Kazan, works to connect the youth of the Republic of Tatarstan to the international community and to form cooperation between them.



AMF SG: "Inter-city ties need to go beyond mere MoUs."



AMF Secretary General has addressed an interactive session of the UCLG Eurasia Retreat event, stressing the importance of improving inter-city ties beyond mere cooperation documents. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, speaking at "Eurasia Cities: Priorities and Plans" session, drew attention to the major common challenges the urban environments have faced in recent years, underlining that they require similar solutions. To this end, he said, exchanging urban knowledge may bridge the gaps and deliver practical regional and international cooperation. He then introduced the Golden Adobe Award and Festival of Sister and Twin Cities of Tehran as two platforms initiated by Municipality of Tehran to address the need, inviting all urban stakeholders to join the upcoming joint event of these two initiatives in Tehran in October. He underlined that exchanging knowledge and experiences is among the most important learning resources in urban management, and opportunities in this regard should not be missed.

AMF discusses cooperation with Kazan Tourism Committee

AMF delegation has held a meeting with the Director of Kazan's Tourism Committee Ms. Daria Sannikova. The meeting was attended by AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, representative of Iranian city of Mashhad as the President City of AMF Committee of Urban Tourism, and Iran's Consul General to Kazan Davoud Mirzakhani. The parties discussed cooperation to boost tourism between the Russian city and Iranian cities, particularly the AMF members. Ad and operator exchange, designing tourist routes, and sharing bilateral information on taste of the tourists was among the topics discussed in the session. The parties also discussed organizing virtual tours and taking part at cultural events in the target cities as practical methods to gain knowledge in this regard.



AMF SG is attending the Brussels Urban Summit 2023

AMF SG is attending the Brussels Urban Summit 2023, taking part at several meetings and interactive sessions. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, who also serves as the Deputy for International Affairs of Tehran Municipality, has so far met with the Secretary General of World Association of the Major Metropolises (Metropolis) Jordi Vaquer and UCLG Africa Secretary General Jean Pierre Mbassi. He has also held talks with several mayors from all across the world, particularly Asian and African cities, on furthering cooperation and urban issues. Mr. Gholamzadeh is accompanying a high-ranking delegation of Tehran Municipality led by Mayor Alireza Zakani. Brussels Urban Summit 2023 is underway in the Belgian capital city with participation of over 300 cities and 1000 politicians, experts, and representatives of civil societies.



AMF SG, Sri Lankan envoy discuss urban cooperation

Asian Mayors Forum Secretary General Hamidreza Gholamzadeh has held a meeting with Sri Lankan Ambassador to Tehran, Mr. Wishwanah Aponsu. AMF SG, while introducing the Forum and its activities, underlined the capacity of AMF to boost cooperation and address the urban issues in Asian cities through collaboration. Mr. Secretary General also called for restoring the membership of Sri Lankan city of Colombo, which was suspended during the Covid-19 pandemic, welcoming joining of the other cities from the island country to AMF. Sri Lankan envoy, for his part, welcomed the membership of cities from his country, hoping for the resolution of the challenges the Sri Lankan cities are facing through joining hands with other Asian urban areas. Mr. Ambassador also urged more active role for cities of his country at AMF Tourism Committee.



AMF SG, Vietnamese envoy discuss inter-city ties

AMF SG has met with the Vietnamese Ambassador to Tehran Mr. Luong Quoc Huy, discussing urban cooperation. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, while summarizing the activities of the Asian Mayors Forum and its members, urged extending ties in urban fields between the Forum and Vietnamese cities. For his part, Mr. Ambassador underlined the upcoming 50th anniversary of establishing diplomatic ties between Tehran and Hanoi as an opportunity to boost ties, calling for further cooperation with AMF and Tehran Municipality on the occasion.



AMF SG partakes at tourism event at Sri Lankan Embassy



AMF SG has attended a tourism event hosted by Sri Lankan Embassy in Tehran. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh addressed the "Emerging Trend of Destination Sri Lanka among Iran Tourists" session, stressing the role tourism plays in strengthening ties among different nations. The Secretary General also called for further cooperation in this regard, urging media to engage in tourism-related activities. Hosted by Ambassador Wishwanah Aponso, the event saw the inauguration of the Sri Lanka Tourism Data Center while honoring the active media and agencies in the industry.

AMF delegation attends cultural event at Romanian Embassy

AMF SG Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh and Romanian Ambassador Ms. Mirla Carmen Grecu has discussed joint cultural activities and events. The two met on the sidelines of an art event, dubbed "Romania, a Country with History, traditions and European Values", hosted by Romanian Embassy to Tehran on April 30. AMF SG and the Romanian envoy, while stressing the cultural and civilizational communalities of Tehran and Bucharest, called for further cooperation. The exhibition, dedicated to traditional jewelry design and metal processing in European country, had also AMF Director for City Diplomacy Ms. Roya Leilieiyan in attendance.



AMF SG attends Metropolis Executive Committee Meeting

AMF SG has participated at the Executive Committee Meeting of the World Association of Major Metropolises, known as Metropolis. Presided by Metropolis SG Jordi Vaquer, the online event discussed the projects and activities of the committee and consulted on future measures. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh also followed up the talks he had before with his counterpart at Metropolis on cooperation between the two organizations. Metropolis is a global network, bringing more than 140 major cities and metropolitan areas together with the aim of boosting cooperation and sharing between them and engaging the metropolises in global agenda.

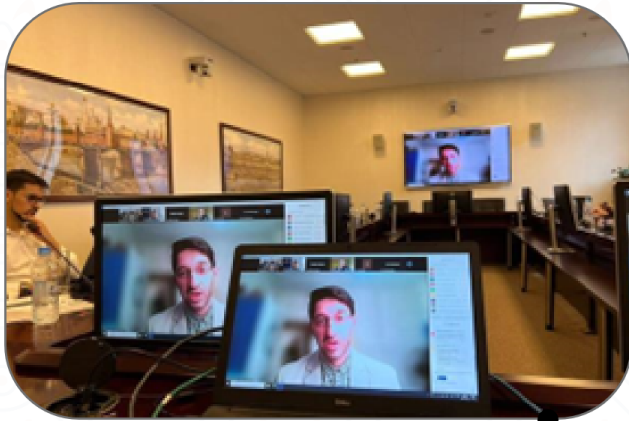


AMF Women Network hosts Tunisian top entrepreneur

AMF Network for Women's Cooperation has hosted Tunisian entrepreneur, manager and creative director Ms. Samia Dhiab. The meeting discussed the vital role of women in the societies, particularly the way they contribute to the progress and development of human civilization. Ms. Dhiab is visiting Iran to attend The Indian Ocean Rim Association's (IORA) 7th Working Group on Women's Economic Empowerment underway in Tehran.



Chaos management in need of new approaches



AMF SG has delivered an online speech at the Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA). Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh addressed the panel of “Leadership: The Diversity of Approaches in the Times of Chaos”, where he underlined the importance of new approaches in dealing with today world challenges, including post-truth politics. He said the concept plays a vital role in the regional and international administration and managing the public crises nowadays, regarding the way it can impact the public opinion. The session was held late July in RANEPA in Moscow.

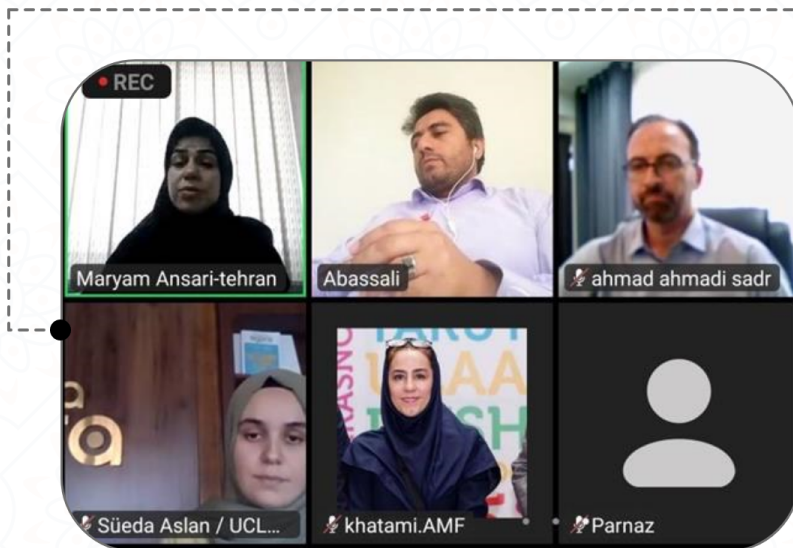
AMF, AILSG discuss cooperation

AMF Director of Urban Diplomacy has held talks with All India Institute of Local Self Government (AILSG). Ms. Roya Leilieiyon discussed cooperation between the two organizations with AILSG’s Deputy Director General Mr. Ravi Ranjan Guru, in an online meeting. Signing a memorandum of cooperation and mutual supervisory membership were among the issues taken into consideration in the session. Mr. Guru also invited the AMF and its member cities to take part in the Urban 20 India summit due in July in the country’s western city of Ahmedabad.

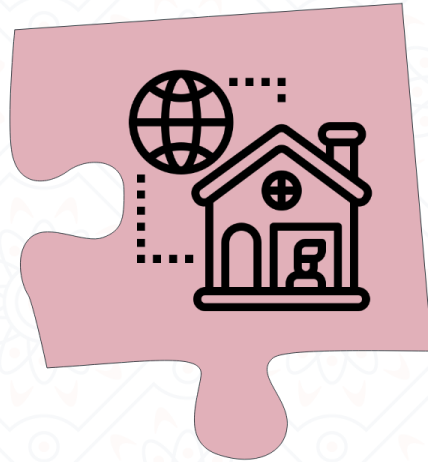


AMF holds webinar on World Refugee Day

On World Refugee Day, Tehran has addressed the issue of human mobility and its challenges for the local governments. Held by Tehran Municipality and in cooperation with Asian Mayors Forum and UCLG-MEWA, the online meeting had several municipal officials from Tehran and AMF member city of Mashhad in attendance. The session discussed the conflict driven rise of refugees in the region, the social and economic aspects of the phenomenon and the role local governments play in overcoming the potential challenges of it, including providing equal services to the marginalized group. The unequal distribution of refugees in the world and the social and economic advantages they may carry were also among the issues touched upon. That was highlighted that the issue of refugees has to be considered as a human fact in need of being addressed.



Domestic Affairs



AMF attends Tehran Municipality's PR event

AMF Public Relations Office has participated in Baareesh event aimed at promoting the PR sector of municipal districts and organizations of Tehran. AMF PR used the opportunity to introduce the Forum, its capacities and publications to its counterparts in different organizations and sectors of Tehran Municipality and to expand its ties. The event was attended by several municipal officials, including Tehran Municipality's Spokesman and Head of its Center for Communication and International Affairs Abdolmotahar Mohammadkhani, who hailed the efforts of AMF PR in reporting and publicizing its international activities.

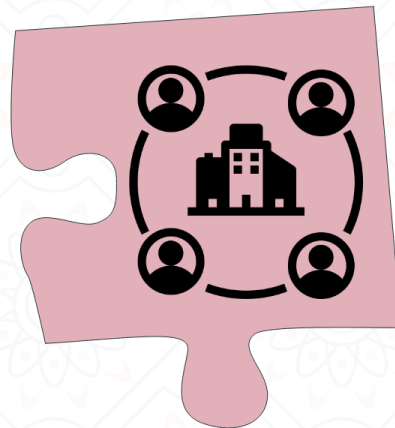


Naghsh-e Jaan art exhibit opens at AMF



The opening ceremony of a sketch exhibition from Isfahan historical sites, dubbed Naghsh-e Jaan, has been held at the AMF Secretariat. The event, featuring almost 40 works of young artist Mohammad Sajjad Haji Mohammadi, had AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, several ambassadors and municipal officials in attendance. Warmly applauded by the attendees, the young artist said his aim is to show the soul of the cities to the citizens with the idea that they are beyond mere places to habit. The exhibition will last for six days and is open to the public from 9 am to 17 pm.

Member Cities



AMF SG congratulates newly-elected TBB pres, mayor of Sari and Mashhad

AMF SG has congratulated the new President of the Union of Municipalities of Türkiye (TBB), the new-elected mayors of Sari and Mashhad. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, wished success for them in their new positions. He also praises God for their success and proudness in carrying out of these critical responsibilities.

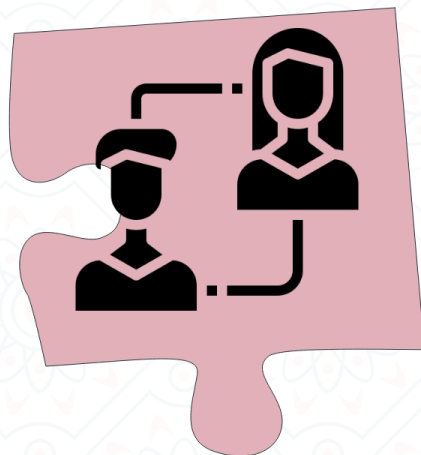


AMF extends condolences over Odisha train crash

AMF SG has offered condolences and support for the victims and the injured of train crash incident in India's Odisha. In a letter to AILSG, Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh expressed readiness for any cooperation to help bring relief to those affected by the tragic accident.



Interns



AMF starts 4th Internship Program

AMF has inaugurated its 4th Internship Program with the aim of identifying and empowering the talented students and graduates in urban management and its related fields. The opening ceremony was attended by AMF Secretary General Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, Tehran City Council Spokesman and Vice President of Council's Cultural and Social Commission Mr. Alireza Naadali, Head of Payam Nour University's International Center Mr. Peyman Aghaei and several other municipal officials. AMF SG, while wishing success for all trainees of the Forum, said the program is an opportunity to initiate ideation and creativity for the young generation of the field. The ceremony also wrapped up the 3rd Internship Program, awarding the trainees with certificates.



AMF interns play to learn IR, diplomacy



AMF interns have played a strategy board game to learn the environment and principles of international relations and diplomacy. A group of interns sat to play the Risk, after receiving instructions from AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh. Improving team work spirit, emotional intelligence, and synergy were also among the aims of the program. Risk is one of the games designed with the theme of international relations and is used in the universities to educate the theories and skills of the field.

• About us

Asian Mayors Forum (AMF) is an international non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to developing friendly relations and technical, economic, and cultural cooperation between mayors and city managers in Asia. The main goal of AMF is strengthening the integration of Asian cities to have a better life for their citizens through City Diplomacy, the exchange of knowledge and experiences, and specialized cooperation. The motto of the Forum is Asia for Citizens, Integration for a Better Life. Over a decade of its activity, AMF has been influential in managing local and urban affairs in Asia. While paving the way for the exchange of information and experiences between mayors and city managers, it has held successful meetings, including six rounds of the General Assembly plus specialized conferences and nine rounds of the Executive Board meeting in Tehran, Istanbul, Bangkok, Haiku, Gaziantep and Dushanbe. As an active urban network in Asia, in line with its defined mission and tasks, AMF launches various annual programs with the participation of world-renowned specialized organizations, such as UN-Habitat, at local and international levels dedicated to cities and urban startups.



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