



AMMAN WORLD LEADERSHIP AWARD & “CITY OF THE YEAR – ASIA PACIFIC” AWARD

The city of Amman was awarded the World Leadership Award in Town Planning, in recognition of the Greater Amman Municipality’s innovative Amman Master Plan — an urban development initiative designed to improve the quality of life in Amman. Also, during the same ceremony, Amman was awarded the prestigious new “City of the Year” award for Asia-Pacific region, in which Amman competed with the Phnom Penh, Tainan, Ahmedabad, Kolkata and Chennai.

This award recognises the most progressive city in Asia region and for excellence in leadership. The announcement was made at a presentation ceremony held on 6 December, 2007, in London and the awards were received on behalf of Amman by Mayor Omar Maani, who was accompanied by representatives of the Master Plan team. The ceremony followed two days of presentations by the shortlisted cities where Maani and the team presented Amman’s Master Plan success story to a panel of judges. The forum introduced the new “City of the Year” award given to a city in each continent.

Amman also won the 2nd award for most progressive in goal achievement and for excellence in leadership and commitment shown towards the city. Presented annually in London, the World Leadership Awards celebrate the very best in modern city leadership, whereby over 400 cities across the world are invited to submit projects in a wide range of

fields including: architecture, civil engineering, communication, culture, arts, economy, education, science and technology, town planning, sports, transport, urban development and many others.

In his acceptance speech, Maani said, “This prestigious distinction means a great deal to Amman, the municipality and the citizens who shared their vision and aspirations with us. We, at the Greater Amman Municipality, feel that this recognition is an outstanding example of the success that can be created when community engagement, true leadership and innovation work together. GAM is honoured to see the Amman Master Plan evolve to become a source of inspiration for global audiences. Although we are very proud of our achievements thus far, this recognition only encourages us to move forward.”

It is important to note that the World Leadership Awards are given to cities whose leaders have shown exceptional imagination, foresight or resilience in a number of key fields. Winning cities are usually those that have reversed trends, shaken off traditional images and acted as an example and inspiration to others. The panel of judges presiding over the Town Planning category included some of the world’s leading experts in the fields of engineering, academia, government, commerce, media and other professions.