

Ship for World Youth Program

Tokyo Conference for the Ex-Participating Youth Tokyo, Japan

March 18 - 24, 2012



Outline

I. Purpose

The Ship for World Youth Alumni Associations (hereinafter, SWYAA) established by the ex-participating youths in each country are working together to promote understanding and practical initiatives as global citizens, with a sense of solidarity and the shared desire to build world peace and prosperity cultivated through the Ship for World Youth (SWY) program. In addition, they are actively building a global network of all the ex-participating youth from over the years to promote post-program activities, in conjunction with the Japanese alumni association. (IYEO) In order to assist their activities and to develop the alumni network further, the Tokyo Conference for Ex-Participating Youth (Ex-PY Conference) is organized.

II. Outline of the Program

1. Participating countries
11 participating countries:
Kingdom of Bahrain, Arab Republic of Egypt, Hellenic Republic, Republic of India, Republic of Kenya, Democratic Social Republic of Sri Lanka, Kingdom of Sweden, Republic of Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Republic of Yemen, Japan
2. Date and Duration
From March 18 (Sunday) to March 24 (Saturday), 7days, 2012
3. Place
Tokyo
4. Discussion Agenda
 - a) Promoting social contribution activities and strengthening network
 - Promoting social contribution activities
 - Cooperation with Japanese agencies/ organizations in each country (e.g. Embassy etc.)
 - Strengthening the internal/global network
 - Developing post-program activities utilizing global network
 - b) Promotion of the publicity for the SWY and SWY Alumni Associations
 - c) Future improvement of the Ship for World Youth Program
 - d) Others

III. Participants

1. One representative from ten alumni associations that have positively developed or are expected to develop.

The Director-General for the General Promotion of Policy on Youth Affairs and Childrearing of the Cabinet Office shall designate the overseas representatives based on the nomination made by the respective SWYAA

Essential qualifications of the overseas participants are;

- (a) Capable of representing and leading SWYAA in respective countries.
- (b) Have active participation in post-program activities.
- (c) Fluent in English.
- (d) Sound in body and mind.

2. One representative from the International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO).

The Director-General for the General Promotion of Policy on Youth Affairs and Childrearing of the Cabinet Office shall designate the Japanese representative based on the nomination made by IYEO.

Essential qualifications of the Japanese participant are equivalent to those of overseas participants.

3. Committee members who organize and support the Ex-PY Conference. It is preferable that some of committee members are those who will be dispatched to the 24th SWY program as the representatives of the ex-participating youth to conduct the SWY Post-Program Activities Promotion Programs on board.

IV. Expenses for the participants from overseas

1. Expenses Borne by the Cabinet Office
 - a) Economy class round trip airfare from the nearest international airport for the invitee (to be designated by the Cabinet Office) to Japan (Narita International Airport or Kansai International Airport), and airport tax
 - b) Living expenses in Japan including accommodation and transportation, etc., based on the itinerary
 - c) Other expenses which the Cabinet Office shall acknowledge

2. Expenses to be covered by the representatives
 - a) Expenses for passport, visa (visa fee to Japan will be waived), vaccination, travel insurance and charges for excess baggage
 - b) Expenses for any medical or surgical treatment while in Japan
 - c) Other personal expenditures

V. Others

1. The Cabinet Office shall designate the flights for representatives, and shall provide prior information regarding the receipt of the ticket among others. The invitees may not change the schedule of the flights designated by the Cabinet Office.
2. The participating youths must try to obtain a travel insurance to cover the expenses in case of sickness or accidents while participating in the programs.

Representatives

Country	Name	Batch	Position, SWYAA
Bahrain	Ms. Nadia Almeraisi	16,20	Member, SWYAA Bahrain
Egypt	Mr. Mohamed Elsayed Elkattan	21	President Egyptian Association for Ship for World Youth
Greece	Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis	22	Board member, SWY-Greece Alumni Association
India	Mr. Ravi Chopra	6	General Secretary, SWYAA India
Japan	Ms. Tamae Saito	10	International Division Chief, IYEO
Kenya	Mr. David Jonathan Okwiri	22	Member, SWYAA Kenya
Sri Lanka	Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne	22	Member, SWYAA of Sri Lanka
Sweden	Ms. Gigi Lonn Strale	4	Member, SWYAA Sweden
Turkey	Ms. Duygu Didem Tari	22	Member, SWYAA Turkey
UAE	Mr. Rashed Mohd Abdulla Ali Mohd Hassan	22	Member, UAE SWYAA
Yemen	Mr. Taha Abdulhalim Hamidaddin	21	Secretary General, Yemen Alumni Association

Itinerary and Agenda

Date	Time	Schedule	Notes
Sun., March 18		Delegates arrive in Japan	Accommodation: Hotel in Tokyo
Mon., March 19	9:30 10:00 - 12:30 12:30 - 14:00 14:00 - 16:30 17:45 18:30 - 20:30	Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Conference 1 Orientation, self-introduction Lunch Conference 2 Agenda 1 Explanation about SWY25 Agenda 2 SWYAA General Outline Agenda 3 Preparation for the Meeting at the Cabinet Office Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Welcome Reception hosted by the Cabinet Office	IYEO Office Accommodation: Hotel in Tokyo

Date	Time	Schedule	Notes
Tue., March 20	9:30 10:00 - 12:30 12:30 - 14:00 14:00 - 17:30 18:45 19:00 - 21:00	Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Conference 3 Agenda 4 SWYAA Social Contribution Activities (Review of past Ex-PY conference results) Lunch Conference 4 Agenda 5 SWYAA Social Contribution Activities (continued) (Methods to realize the projects) Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Ex-PY Fundraising Dinner	IYEO Office Accommodation: Hotel in Tokyo
Wed., March 21	9:30 10:00 - 11:45 11:45 - 12:45 12:45 - 13:15 13:30 - 16:00	Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Conference 5 Agenda 5 SWYAA Social Contribution Activities (continued) (Methods to realize the projects) Lunch Transfer to the Cabinet Office Conference 6 Meeting at the Cabinet Office Country report – highlight on the social contribution activities (3 min./country) Questions and answers session	IYEO Office Cabinet Office Accommodation: Hotel in Tokyo
Thur., March 22	9:30 10:00 - 12:30 12:30 - 14:00 14:00 - 18:00	Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Conference 7 Agenda 6 Cooperation of SWYAA to the SWY Program Lunch with the IYEO president Conference 8 Agenda 5 SWYAA Social Contribution Activities (continued) (Methods to realize the projects) Agenda 7 Miscellaneous Topics (Other topics to be discussed)	IYEO office Accommodation: Hotel in Tokyo
Fri., March 23	9:30 10:00 - 12:30 12:30 - 14:00 14:00 - 15:00 p.m.	Meet at the hotel lobby, transfer to the venue Conference 9 Agenda 7 Miscellanies Topics (Other topics to be discussed) Lunch Conference 10 Authorization of the Minutes Free time	IYEO office Accommodation: Hotel in Tokyo
Sat., March 24		Delegates depart from Japan	

MINUTES OF THE TOKYO CONFERENCE FOR THE EX-PARTICIPATING YOUTH OF THE SHIP FOR WORLD YOUTH PROGRAM 2012 (FY2011)

Tokyo, Japan
March 19 – 23, 2012

ATTENDEES

SWYAA Representatives

Ms. Nadia Almeraisi (SWYAA Bahrain)
Mr. Mohammed Elsayed Elkattan (SWYAA Egypt - EASWY)
Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (SWYAA Greece)
Mr. Ravi Chopra (SWYAA India)
Ms. Tamae Saito (IYEO/Japan)
Mr. David Jonathan Okwiri (SWYAA Kenya)
Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne (SWYAA Sri Lanka)
Ms. Gigi Lonn Strale (SWYAA Sweden)
Ms. Duygu Didem Tari (SWYAA Turkey)
Mr. Rashed Mohd Abdulla Ali Mohd Hassan (SWYAA UAE)
Mr. Taha Abdulhalim Hamidaddin (SWYAA Yemen)

Committee Members

Mr. Masaharu Koge
Ms. Naoko Nakamura
Ms. Maiko Tsutsui
Mr. Satoshi Kamoi
Ms. Naoko Yokotsuka
Ms. Yu Shinagawa
Ms. Chinami Horiuchi

CENTERYE Staff

Ms. Sayoko Tanaka
Mr. Takayuki Ikeda

Secretariat

Mr. Jaime Collado, Jr.
Ms. Nozomi Hashimoto

As for the facilitation of the agenda items, Ms. Tamae Saito shall chair Agenda 1, 2 and 3; Ms. Nadia Almeraisi (SWYAA Bahrain) shall chair Agenda 4 and 5; Ms. Bhagya Senaratne (SWYAA Sri Lanka) shall chair Agenda 6; and, Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (SWYAA Greece) shall chair Agenda 7.

2. SWYAA General Outline

Ms. Tamae Saito explained the structure of the SWYAA as an organization and the steps in establishing SWYAA (Page 20 and 21 of the meeting document – same document can be downloaded from <http://www.swyaa.org/faq.html>). The SWYAA serves as a platform on which the former SWY participants may continue their SWY network and pursue active participation in post-program activities. To date, there are 46 countries who have established their SWYAA. On the steps in establishing SWYAA, the following points were highlighted:

The First Step

- Each SWYAA should have one President and one Vice-President, and two E-mail Recipients from each country who are included in the SWYAA-council mailing list. They are the recipients of pertinent email information from the IYEO or Cabinet Office.
- For privacy reasons, the data of ex-PYs can only be shared to their respective AA Presidents.
- Since the SWY 7th program, the election of Batch Representative has been a practice in many SWYAAAs as a way to strengthen the contact and networking with ex-PYs in each batch. In some SWYAAAs like EASWY, the Batch Representatives are involved in the election of the alumni President. In Japan, the Batch Representatives provide the IYEO with updates on ex-PY information. In certain countries, the Batch Representatives are elected by ex-PYs in their batch, but in the case of India, the NLS usually become the Batch Representatives. Nevertheless, having Batch Representatives is not a requisite in the SWYAA.
- For SWYAA Yemen, the position of Press Coordinator has been created so that the SWY program and the SWYAA can become more

PROCEEDINGS

Day 1

1. Introduction of Participants, Orientation and House Rules

The participants were requested to make self-introductions. Thereafter, Ms. Tamae Saito explained the schedule of the conference. As agreed by all the representatives, all the attendees may join the discussions, however, should there be items or issues that will be resolved by voting, each country can only have one (1) vote. In this meeting, Ms. Saito shall be voting on behalf of the IYEO (Japan).

popular to Yemenis. Also, the publication of SWY-related programs, events and volunteer activities in newspapers can be a good way to encourage more members to be active.

- The SWYAA shall seek active participation from all the ex-PYs who are citizens or residents of their respective countries. The SWYAA may define its membership structure as it deemed wise and just. For example, SWY Australia established a categorization of its membership depending on the member's level of involvement in the alumni. For SWYAA India, it affords associate membership to non-ex-PYs to strengthen its organizational capabilities. The members may be afforded with certain rights, privileges and obligations (membership fee) depending on their membership status.
- SWYAA Sri Lanka and SWYAA Turkey are in the process of transforming the organization into a legal entity (NGO/NPO). Relevant information or advice from the other SWYAAAs would be appreciated.
- SWYAA UAE needs to transform into a solid organization so that it can take advantage of its strong membership and the support from many sectors including the government. Currently, the organization has a President and a Vice President, but the organizational structure is not strong. In this regard, it was suggested that programs and project initiatives may also come from the members, not only from the President or the Vice President.
- SWYAA Bahrain has created a draft manual on communication protocols within the AA and with international SWYAA body.
- The election of SWYAA President and Vice Presidents happen every two years in most countries.

The Second Step

- The SWYAAAs shall contribute to the annual SWY News and provide annual activity report. These reports are very important to the Cabinet Office. The reports and articles for last year shall be submitted to IYEO by January 2012.
- SWYAAAs shall publish and distribute national newsletter to its members. While uploading activities on the AA websites may be more useful and practical, it's also good to have printed summary so these can be compiled over the years. The IYEO shall be furnished a copy of the annual newsletters.
- The SWYAA shall maintain an alumni database,

which shall be turned over to every succeeding leadership.

- Among the SWYAAAs present in the meeting, SWYAA Bahrain, SWYAA Turkey and SWYAA Sri Lanka have direct participation in the PY selections in their respective countries.
- All SWYAAAs in the meeting play active roles in the pre-departure training of the SWY participants in their respective countries. The SWYAAAs, however, were reminded to be mindful of certain changes in each new program to avoid information gaps. As a suggestion, SWYAAAs conducting the pre-departure training may inform the PYs to also include current social conditions and issues in the National Presentations onboard the ship.
- It is important and practical for the SWYAAAs to establish good and long-term working relationship with the Japanese Embassies because the latter is the conduit of all information from the Cabinet Office to the respective governments. In many cases, the Japanese Embassies also form the PY selection committees and if the SWYAA in the country is active and visible, a representative may be invited in the selection committee. Should there be no particular ex-PYs who have strong connections with the embassies, the AA as a group may take initiative to contact and collaborate with the respective embassies. In fact, the embassies are looking for such connections with local organizations or people in their areas of jurisdiction (ex. Bahrain, Turkey, India, etc.).
- The minutes of the NL Meetings shall be shared to the AA Presidents so they can be guided in the conduct of pre-departure training.
- Rebuilding up a homestay network, SWYAA Sweden suggested that the SWYAAAs may offer homestay arrangements for Japanese nationals in their countries. A contact person in each SWYAA (e.g. President, Vice President, etc.) can be identified for this activity, and their names and contact information may be communicated with the embassies or be posted in the newsletters or websites. For smoother communication, a common AA email account may be established, one which can be accessed by authorized members and doesn't have to be changed every time.

The Third Step

- The AAs are encouraged to hold regional ex-

PY reunions or gatherings to further expand and strengthen the international network. This does not only include the official reunions or assemblies but also non-official ones like the Nordic Reunion being organized by SWYAA Finland, Sweden and Norway, the ex-PY gathering in Oman after the port of call activities in UAE during the SWY22 program, etc. Optional tours to neighboring SWY countries after the holding of SWY Global Assemblies (GA) may be possible.

- Providing manpower support in the planning and implementation of port of call activities has a lot of good, including inspiring the PYs on board to be active in post-program activities after the SWY program. The presence of ex-PYs during the port of call activities can be the most tangible example of life after the ship program. To date, almost all SWYAAs are heavily involved in the port of call activities.
- SWYAAs are encouraged to build a network with former participants of Japanese Government programs like the JICA, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, etc. as a way to expand social contribution activities.
- On holding events to introduce the SWY program of Japanese culture to local people, many SWYAAs have activities in line with this (ex. UAE, Bahrain, etc.)

The Fourth Step

- SWYAAs are encouraged to forge partnerships, conduct joint activities and reunions, and exchange useful information with one another in order for every AA to develop as a alumni association.
- The conduct of social activities that will contribute to the building and welfare of global society was purposely put as the last item because it's supposed to be the culmination of all the steps in the establishment of SWYAA.
- Regarding the issue on disqualification of members or lost of membership in the SWYAA, the body unanimously agreed to make a draft amendment to the SWYAA Charter to include such provision and a list of probable grounds. This shall be submitted to the SWYAA Council, which also includes the representatives from the SWYAA Eastern Route group. The representatives from SWYAA Greece, SWYAA Sri Lanka and SWYAA Turkey shall work together during the meeting to draft the proposed

provision.

3. Preparation for the Meeting at the Cabinet Office

Ms. Tamae Saito gave a run through of the questions raised to the Cabinet Office by the previous ex-PY Conference. She also explained the rationale for the need to prepare the questions to be asked to the Cabinet Office in advance. The officials at the Cabinet Office constantly change so the incumbent officials may need more time to prepare their responses, especially for those questions that may require some data or has historical explanations.

Based on the suggestions and discussions, the representatives agreed to convey the following questions and suggestion to the Cabinet Office during the meeting at the Cabinet Office on March 21, 2012:

Questions:

- How can the SWYAAs cooperate with the Cabinet Office for the future SWY programs? What are requested of the SWYAAs and the countries to support future programs? (Egypt)
- What articles does the Cabinet Office would like to see in the official country report? What are the expectations? (Greece and Turkey)
- Does the Cabinet Office expect the SWYAAs to be legal entities or stay as voluntary organizations? In order to establish the association legally, some countries need an support document from the Japanese government. In that case, will the Cabinet Office be able to provide such official document i.e. issue a certification recognizing the SWYAA as the official alumni association of the SWY program? (Sri Lanka and Yemen)
- How can the participating countries contribute to the SWY program? Is there a possibility for the Cabinet Office to open a bank account to receive donations from various countries and SWYAAs for the future SWY program? (Turkey)
- Is it allowed to use "SWY" in naming post-program activities/projects? (Kenya)

Proposal:

- In its official communications to the Japanese embassies, instead of using the word "recommended" when pertaining to the involvement of SWYAA in the selection process of PYs, we would like to request the Cabinet Office to reword it to "involve

the SWYAAs in the selection process.”

4. Explanation of the Changes in SWY25 Program

Mr. Masateru Yoshida, Principal Deputy Director for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office, explained the draft outline and tentative schedule of the SWY25 program. While certain format and activities may be reformed, which would significantly affect only the schedules of the Japanese participants, the general concept, objectives, and dynamics of the SWY program of many years shall be maintained. The changes are deemed necessary in view of some governmental budgetary adjustments in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake last year. The salient changes are as follows:

- The days for onboard activities will be shortened to 19 days, and the port of call activities will be confined within Japan Archipelago. The route will be Tokyo – Okinawa –Hyogo– Iwate – Tokyo. It is envisioned that through these port of call activities, the participants including JPY will learn more about the variety of cultures in Japan. The new program will also afford the participants with opportunities to see what happened after the Tsunami and the reconstruction efforts being done in the devastated areas. There might also be some opportunities for the PYs to get involved in volunteer activities. In the Kobe port of call, the PYs can learn how the city rose from the rubbles after it was struck by the Hanshin-Awaji earthquake in 1995.
- After the pre-departure training in Tokyo, the ports of call activities, and the onboard activities, the overseas participating youths (OPYs) shall depart for their respective countries. Meanwhile, the JPYs will be divided into five (5) groups and each group will embark on visiting mission to different countries from February 22 – March 3. Turkey, Bahrain, Sri Lanka, Mexico and New Zealand have been selected to receive the visiting JPYs. Each group shall comprise of 1 leader and 22 PYs and staff. Activities in the visited countries may include courtesy calls, institutional visits related to course discussion themes, homestay program, exchange programs with local youth.
- The participating countries in the SWY25 program shall be Bahrain, Chile, Costa Rica, Fiji, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Turkey, UAE and Japan.
- The onboard activities shall include Course Discussions (5 courses), Leadership Seminar (to promote leadership and to provide insights on what leaders should be and should do to become a change maker), PY Seminars (where PYs teach one another useful or interesting skills and activities), National Presentations (to learn the cultures of the other countries), Club Activities and voluntary activities.

Referring to some questions from the representatives, Mr. Yoshida informed/clarified that:

- The activities in the countries to be visited including homestays or home visit programs would still depend on the hosting government. In which case, it would be appreciated to have active SWYAA participation in the activities. Particularly, it would be preferable to have home visit or homestay with the families of SWY25 PYs or ex-PYs in those countries.
- The five (5) countries chosen to be visited were picked because of their proximity to Japan and the existence of active SWYAAs as possible partners. Since this is a new endeavor, having active alumni members as partners is very critical.
- In the future, SWYAAs, in cooperation with the respective Japanese Embassies and government, may express their intent to host a visiting mission to the Cabinet Office.
- The change in the program format may be temporary in nature, depending on future developments and policies of government.
- The costs of the visiting missions such as those incurred for welcome receptions, transportation, accommodation of JPYs shall be borne by the Japanese Government, unless the hosting government offers to shoulder some of the expenses. Hopefully, the homestay or home visits could be implemented purely on voluntary basis.
- Even with the budgetary constraints, the Japanese Government would want to maintain a quality, well-balanced program. Thus, the post-program activities by the SWYAA are very critical because these are the tangible proof of the results of the program, which can be understood and appreciated by the Ministry of Finance in the absence of any measurable data.
- The official notification regarding the changes in the SWY format shall be sent to all the SWYAAs once finalized by around end of April. The changes are still tentative, although some information like the tentative schedule and port of call activities in

Japan may already be disclosed to the AA members. However, it was suggested that such information should be disclosed through the website and mailing list first, before other media like Facebook.

- The grouping of the JPYs for the visiting missions shall be based on the discussion groups.

Day 2

5. Past Ex-PY Conference Results

Ms. Gigi Lon Strale (SWYAA Sweden) suggested that social activities may also be included in future Ex-PY Conferences to take advantage of this kind of gathering. As agreed in the previous day, Ms. Nadia Almeraisi chaired Conference 3.

Ms. Tamae Saito gave a brief review of the six (6) common projects identified in the previous Ex-PY Conference, which can be seen in Page 69 of the SWAA Activity Report 2010. The six projects and the status of implementation of each are as follows:

- **SWY Silver Jubilee**

The activity is to commemorate the 25th year of the SWY program. Some commemorative activities that were proposed include events on International SWY Day (January 18th), celebrations at SWY25 ports of call, and celebration at the Global Assembly (Bahrain). In view of the changes in the SWY25 program, the activities may have to be revised.

- **Educational Material for Cross-Cultural Understanding**

Ms. Sayoko Tanaka (CENTERYE staff) informed that this project has been done and the material has been uploaded in the SWYAA website. This education material caters to elementary school children. It includes general information about the countries and some photos and short explanations. One (1) page was allotted for each country. There were 16 SWYAA who submitted the information about their countries. Future revisions or addendum may include the information of the other countries, language variation (not only English), etc., however, a new team in charge may have to be formed if this will be continued. In addition, SWYAA should also think about how to utilize of such material in the different countries.

- **Fundraising Tips**

This is mainly in information sharing activity on how to raise funds so SWYAAAs can implement and sustain their projects and activities. Status is ongoing.

- **Profile of Highly Successful ex-PYs (refer to page 79 of the SWYAA Activity Report 2010)**

The SWY program is always facing financial difficulties and in this light, there is a need to show some proof that it's a worthwhile project. Database featuring highly successful ex-PYs can be one way to prove the worth of the program. There are guidelines that were set, and the IYEO continues to collect data from the SWYAA. Some SWYAA have contributed, but some haven't submitted yet. Perhaps new successful ex-PYs have recently surmised so they can also be included. The participants were asked to review the guidelines and may decide on necessary revisions.

- **Ex-PY Testimonials (refer to page 81 of the SWYAA Activity Report 2010)**

This project calls for a compilation of ex-PY testimonials, focusing on the impact/s of SWY on them. Some examples can be seen in page 83, of the SWYAA Activity Report 2010. This was also given to the Japanese Government as an evidence of the value of SWY. This is a continuing project. It used to be headed by an ex-PY from Australia, but due to personal circumstances, this conference may consider its continuation.

- **Homestay + 1**

In addition to providing homestay to SWY members travelling to other SWY countries, the program aims to make the homestay experience more meaningful and enjoyable by including opportunities to experience social activities (e.g. school visit, institutional visit, volunteer work, etc.) in the places visited. This project is already ongoing and necessary improvements can be discussed in the Conference.

- **Guideline for Selection Process (refer to page 85 of the SWYAA Activity Report 2010)**

This involves the creation of guidelines for PY selection, which shall be proposed to the counterpart governments and respective Japanese Embassies

for their reference or perusal, whenever necessary. The project has already been done and doesn't have to be included in the discussions this Conference. However, SWYAA shall find ways so this guideline can be utilized.

Day 3

6. Meeting at the Cabinet Office

Welcome Address

Mr. Masaaki Sato, Director for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office, conveyed his warm welcome to the SWYAA representatives. He shared his conviction that the post-program activities conducted by the former participants are where the intrinsic value of international youth exchanges lies. The experiences gained in the ship should be extended, and the participants should continue to do exchanges, to expand and deepen their experiences even after they have disembarked from the program. They should hold on to their newly developed passion for outreach programs, and they should challenge their spirits to make difference in the society. Mr. Sato mentioned that the critical role of the alumni association (SWYAA) is to serve as linchpin by establishing the alumni as a working organization, and to continue down-to-earth activities in the society. Against a backdrop of tightening financial conditions, the future of the SWY program continues to be tested by various perspectives. In this light, the Cabinet Office plans to demonstrate the effects of the activities such as the kind of global human network that is being built by the SWY program. In documenting and explaining the social contribution activities after the program, the assistance of the alumni is necessary. Finally, Mr. Sato said he has been looking forward to hearing the actual successes in the different countries so that the Cabinet Office can show these to the people who are examining SWY program.

Country Report

Following alphabetical order based on the countries' names, each SWYAA representative presented to the Cabinet Office a summary of their respective alumni's projects and activities in 2011. The projects presented included those that have been completed, are ongoing and will be implemented in the future.

SWYAA Bahrain

- Worked closely with the General Organization for Youth and Sports (GOYS) for the selection

- of Bahraini participants in the SWY23 program.
- Planned and conducted the pre-departure training of the Bahraini participants to the SWY23 program.
- Organized a gathering to bring together the families and friends of the delegates to the SWY 23 program, with the purpose of introducing the SWY program to them.
- Conducted meetings and dialogs with the officials of the GOYS and the Japanese Embassy in Bahrain to build and develop strong collaborative ties with them.
- The Bahraini delegates to the SWY 23 program collaborated with the other SWY delegations in organizing the SWYIDOL, an event featuring the singing and musical talents of the PYs. Ticket proceeds were donated to the Sight Camp, a program helping 10 Africans regain their vision.
- Conducted humanitarian aid to Somalia by having Bahraini ex-PYs distribute food (rice and wheat), milk, clothes and tents to refugees.
- Participated in the SWYAA 5th Global Assembly in Mexico.
- Hosted/received ex-PYs from other countries visiting Bahrain.

The Egyptian Alumni Association for the Ship for World Youth (EASWY)

- Collaborated and participated in various activities and events organized by the Japanese Embassy in Egypt, such as introduction of the Japanese culture (Japanese Child Fun Day), pre-departure orientation for the delegates to the SWY24 program, the reception held at the residence of the Japanese Ambassador, and the series of Japan-Egypt Network (JEN) events.

SWYAA Greece

- Under the Homestay + 1 Project, Greek ex-PYs hosted and organized social contribution activities for ex-PYs from Bahrain, Kenya and Japan who visited Greece last year.
- Greek ex-PYs conducted intercultural understanding training in Ankara, Turkey under the aegis of the Youth Can Program of the European Union. During the event, the Greek lecturers invited the Turkish ex-PYs to interact and introduced the SWY program to the

different participants.

- Greek ex-PYs participated in one of the Sushi Making Workshops, a fundraising event for the benefit of the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan.
- Participated in the SWYAA general meeting held in Ankara, Turkey.
- Greek ex-PYs participated in cultural exchange program with Japanese junior high school and high school students while visiting Japan.
- Conducted information drive to keep the SWY global society updated of the situations in Japan in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011. Conducted charity event for the benefit of the victims of the earthquake and tsunami. The proceeds were forwarded to the IYEO.
- Greek ex-PYs volunteered in the Athens 2011 Special Olympics Summer Games.
- Participated in the Civil Athens, a social action program for the homeless people of Greece, during the Medicins Du Monde.
- Participated/supported various youth and social activities such as Origami Workshop organized by the Japanese Embassy in Greece, the Mongol Mutiny, the Emperor's Birthday celebration.
- Greek ex-PYs also conducted many social contribution activities in their personal or professional capacities.
- Greek ex-PYs organized and participated in many SWYAA gathering and assemblies all over the world.

SWYAA India

- Formed the Indo-Japan friendship group to help promote people-to-people contact, social interactions and cultural exchange between the people from the two countries.
- Through its Indo-japan friendship group, organized prayer events in a show of support and solidarity with the Japanese people in the aftermath of the March 11 earthquake. The prayer meeting was attended Indian ex-PYs and 21 Japanese students and their professor.
- Organized a Japanese language class for children, in collaboration with a Japanese retiree living in India.
- Organized exhibition of SWYAA-Indian Children's Paintings in Nagoya, Japan.

- Set up 12 Canon Open Schools for the disadvantaged children in the slums of New Delhi, in collaboration with Canon India Private Limited.
- Participated in the pre-departure training of Indian delegation to the SWY24 program as well as the organization of the SWY24 port of call in Chennai, India.
- Indian ex-PYs conducted youth development and peace education in Japan.
- Conducted lectures on youth volunteerism and social service to high schools and colleges in India.
- Hosted visiting ex-PYs from Nepal and Japan.
- Conducted environment conservation program.

SWYAA Kenya

- Running the Eve's Day Junior School with the support of the Tupendane International, catering to the children in the slum of Nairobi Kenya. To date, the school has around 200 beneficiaries. The school is being considered to be renamed SWYAA Academy if and when SWYAA would decide to adopt as one of its joint projects.
- Launched the SWYAA Kenya website to increase networking with alumni members in Kenya and with the SWYAA international community. The website also serves as promotional platform for the SWY program and the SWYAA activities and projects.
- Hosted visiting ex-PYs from different countries and making their visits meaningful through participation in social activities.
- Participated in the activities sponsored by the Japanese Embassy in Kenya like the Japan Culture Festival.
- Actively participated in the community service programs of the Kenya-Japan alumni association.
- Participated in SWYAA GA in Egypt.

SWYAA Sri Lanka

- Collaborated with the National Youth Services Council of Sri Lanka in the successful planning and organization of the SWY24 port of call program in Colombo. Alumni members conducted orientation programs, serves as guides during the institutional visits, etc.
- Continued to run the One More Child Goes to

School Program, in cooperation with SWYAA and non-SWY organizations. SWYAA Sri Lanka arranged foster parents from Japan, and conducted fundraising activities to sustain the project. The program is now benefitting 100 children in Sri Lanka. The IYEO is currently a partner in this project.

SWYAA Sweden

- Held its Annual General Assembly in Gothenburg.
- Gave donations to the victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan through the IYEO.
- SWYAA Sweden members performed Soran dance in different locations in Gothenburg to create awareness to local people of the situation in Japan.
- Organized the SWYAA Nordic Reunion in partnership with SWYAA Finland. A regional reunion in Madrid in May 2012 is being planned.
- Hosted homestay for ex-PYs visiting Sweden.
- Participated in official events at the Japanese Embassy in Sweden.

SWYAA Turkey

- Implemented the Homestay + 1 project in Turkey, which they named Japanese Café. Also the ex-PYs hosted many ex-PY visitors from many countries.
- Conducted 6 different sushi making workshops in Ankara Istanbul and Konya, which are charity events for the benefit of the tsunami victims in Japan.
- Participated and worked as staff in the Charity Bazaar held for the benefit of the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan by the Turkish-Japanese Women's Friendship and Culture Association.
- Launched the official SWY24 Turkey website (www.swyrturkey.org/24) and linked the same to the official SWYAA Turkey website (<http://www.swyrturkey.org/>).
- Conducted networking efforts and collaborative undertakings with government agencies, Japanese Embassy, NPO/NGOs and international organizations.
- Participated in the selection and orientation program of Turkish delegates to SWY24 program.

- Held annual meeting and general assembly to strengthen members' participation and awareness of local and international activities.
- Participated in unofficial international reunions like the Nordic Reunion.
- Participated in social events like Mongol Mutiny,
- Conducted relief operation and information drive about the situations in earthquake-devastated city of Van. The Turkish ex-PYs also sent letter of condolence to the family of a Japanese victim of the Van earthquake.
- Vying to host the 8th Global Assembly in 2014.

SWYAA UAE

- Participated in the GCC Summit for Global Understanding held in Bahrain.
- Conducted summer camps for children to teach leadership and teamwork.
- Conducted tree planting activity to foster environmental awareness among youth.
- Coordinating with SWYAA Bahrain for possible hosting of optional tour/reunion after the GA in Bahrain.

SWYAA Yemen

- Supported and participated in the peaceful social revolution in Yemen (Arab Spring)
- Promotion of SWY program through testimonial from an ex-PY recipient of a prestigious national award
- Participated in blood donation campaign.

IYEO Japan

- Collected donations from IYEO members and various alumni associations amounting to over 13 million yen, which was donated to the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake in Tohoku, Japan.
- IYEO members did volunteer work to support some staff undertaking actual relief operations in the tsunami-hit areas.
- In Iwate Prefecture, IYEO Iwate launched the IYEO Café, which provided free coffee and tea to the victims so they can feel more relax and talk about their experiences and feelings. Similar activities and support operations were conducted in Fukushima Prefecture.
- Supported international activities like the "One

More Child Goes to School” by SWYAA Sri Lanka.

- Ex-JPYs from SWY22 and SWY23 also supported the “Tupendane” through financial donations and volunteer work.

Questions and Proposals to the Cabinet Office

Following were the responses given by the Cabinet Office to the questions raised by the SWYAA representatives:

- How can the SWYAAs cooperate with the Cabinet Office for the future SWY programs? What are requested of the SWYAAs and the countries to support future programs? (Egypt)

Mr. Masateru Yoshida: The Cabinet Office expects the SWYAA to actively participate in the selection of participants from your countries and in the conduct of pre-departure training/orientations. Since we will have shorter time for onboard activities, the pre-departure training/orientation is very essential in creating clearer understanding of the program. As you know, the PYs don't have much time to understand the whole program by themselves. Having effective PDTs conducted by the alumni association will enhance the quality of the program. When it comes to direct support like funding, the Cabinet Office is not prepared for that because of existing governmental budget regulations. Monetary donations to the Japanese government shall go to the common government coffers as part of the general fund. It cannot be earmarked for specific projects like the SWY without proper legislation. Nevertheless, we can accept support in kind, so you may consider any assistance from this perspective.

Mr. Masaaki Sato: Kindly understand that while we appreciate your eagerness to help our program, we have systematic constraints to receive direct support. Nevertheless, we will keep our mind open and deliberate on how we can possibly receive contributions in a legal manner. Meanwhile, there is another thing you can do, that is go back to your people and inform them how great the program is. If this news can reach the head of your state, and if somehow they can mention to the Japanese Prime Minister that they know and like the SWY program,

it would be very helpful. Of course, we note that this might be too much of a challenge to you to do.

Mr. Masateru Yoshida: Ramping up the post program activities is also an indirect support. It would help a long way in securing budget for the program if we can show the people in charge of budget allocation that this program has a lot of upside. There are successes and results that are visible and not visible. We should do utmost efforts to make these successes tangible, like the Powerpoint presentations that you made. Please gather these visible examples and put it into something that we can show them.

- What articles does the Cabinet Office would like to see in the official country report? What are the expectations, which activities are more important to you? (Greece and Turkey)

Mr. Masaaki Sato: There are three things, in general. First, introduce all the social contribution activities, volunteer works, and social involvements that you and your organizations undertake. Second, introduce all efforts to reach out and have direct affiliation with Japan-related groups like the Japanese embassies, the former participants of Japan-sponsored programs like JICA, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, etc. Third, share to the Cabinet Office a list of names of your members who are actively involved in civil service. If the ex-PYs are involved in important corporate social events, or they are contributing significantly to social programs, it would be good. What I mentioned may already have been included in your country reports.

Mr. Masateru Yoshida: In addition, numbers or figures in your reports are very important because these are measurable. For example, in the SWYAA Sweden presentation, there were numbers of total members, how many are active and non-active, how often they organized events, etc. These are tangible results, they are quantifiable.

- Does the Cabinet Office expect the SWYAAs to be legal entities or stay as voluntary organizations? In order to establish the association legally, some countries may need support documents from the

Japanese government. In that case, will the Cabinet Office be able to provide such official document i.e. issue a certification recognizing the SWYAA as the official alumni association of the SWY program? (Sri Lanka and Yemen)

Mr. Masaaki Sato: The Japanese government can't demand SWYAA to have legal status in your countries, however, if this makes it easier for you to conduct activities and as long as it's not too much of a burden, please do so. I guess this depends on the situation in each country. Please let us know exactly what kind of document do you need from us so we can deliberate on it. It would help us if you can draft a template so we can see the specifics and deliberate on it.

Mr. Masateru Yoshida: I think inviting you to Tokyo to have this Conference clearly shows that we regard the post-program activities with utmost importance. If the document that you need is only a statement saying that we recognize your organization as part of the Cabinet Office activities, similar to the case of the IYEO, that's quite possible.

- How can the participating countries contribute to the SWY program? Is there a possibility for the Cabinet Office to open a bank account to receive donations from various countries and SWYAAs for the future SWY program? (Turkey)

Mr. Masateru Yoshida: The answer is the same as in the first question.

- Is it possible to use "SWY" in naming of our projects? For example, the "Support Kenya Project" is doing well by virtue of the help from former participants. However, if we could get the support of the whole SWYAA community, the project could achieve its long-term goals faster. As a tribute to that, we want to rename the school into "SWY Academy."

Mr. Masaaki Sato: First, I would like to commend your contributions to the world in the name of SWY. We pay tribute to your contributions. My proposal is that we define and clearly articulate who are the active parties in the activities. If you name it "SWYAA Academy," this would show that SWYAA

is the responsible entity. I believe this would be the more desirable name for your project. In which case, you don't have to ask for our approval. This also applies to all your alumni projects.

- Instead of using the word "recommended" when mentioning the involvement of SWYAA in the selection process of PYs, we would like to request the Cabinet Office to reword it to "strongly recommend to involve the SWYAAs in the selection process.s"

Mr. Masaaki Sato: We recognize that the conditions vary from country to country. This is a government-to-government undertaking where the countries involved are co-equals, thus it is difficult for the Japanese Government to instruct or direct the other countries to involve the alumni associations for this purpose. If only such condition is allowed, we could be stronger in requesting for your involvement.

Mr. Masateru Yoshida: We cannot force the other governments to follow what we ask them, however, we can change the wording into "strongly recommend," and also tell the person in charge at the embassy to exert some efforts to accommodate SWYAA members in the selection process. For the upcoming SWY program, we will request and strongly recommend to your government your involvement in the selection and orientation process

Exchange of Opinions/Comments

The representatives were requested to raise further questions they have or offer any advice, comments or opinions related to post-programs activities.

Ms. Tamae Saito provided the Cabinet Office an update of the issues and topics that the representatives have been working on since the Tokyo Conference started. She also gave a brief description and status of each of the alumni projects that are now being planned and deliberated such as the celebration of SWY's Silver Jubilee next year, the holding of International SWY Day on January 18th, 2013, and several social contribution and support SWY activities. Relative thereto, Mr. Masaaki Sato expressed his excitement for the successes of the projects.

Meanwhile, Mr. Masateru Yoshida asked the representatives what motivated or drove them to remain passionate about SWY and committed to post-program activities. The representatives expressed their individual answers, as follows:

Ms. Gigi Lonn Strale (Sweden): I like to travel and see different cultures. As a teacher, I have so much to share to my student. The things that I share to them are those that I have seen by my own eyes, a picture of the world, of people around the world as I have seen them. In so doing, I put dreams in them, which they may also want to achieve one day. Also, by meeting lots of Japanese people, Japanese women in particular, and having lots of discussions with them about gender equality, women empowerment and the like, I believe I could encourage them to begin thinking seriously about these important social issues.

Mr. Mohamed Elsayed Elkattan (Egypt): People back home always talk about the SWY program as lifetime experience. After having experienced SWY myself, I began to desire for its sustainability so that there would be more people to benefit from it, and more opportunity for me to share the same experience. I believe it is our duty is to make a lot of people have the same life-changing experience, to learn about other peoples in the world through cultural exchanges.

Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece): SWY has changed my life since the day that I was selected as a participant. It dawned on me that would be representing my country, so I began to ask who I am and what my country and culture are. I had to search deeply. I have had youth interaction and volunteering experiences in the past, but those were with people from the same culture so there was no significant impact on me as a person. But in the case of SWY, after the program I realized that there is more than just being a citizen of my country, that I can go global and help build a better world.

Mr. Taha Abdulhalim Hamidaddin (Yemen): We all agree that SWY is like the turning point in our lives. SWY has opened a new world, a new culture beyond those tribes and neighboring countries. We can learn about other cultures through the TV and

other information media, but SWY let us know more about other culture, have a taste of other cultures, deal with real people from around the world. SWY also gave us the opportunity to discuss and create a clearer image of our country, culture and Islam in the minds of other people. These are things that we couldn't simply do.

Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne (Sri Lanka): As you have seen in my report, we select the youth participants from local universities. Many Sri Lankan youth are well involved in volunteer activities. After their SWY participation they either go back to their volunteer activities or start their own activities. In SWY they get new ideas and new inspiration from their global exposure. Through SWY they gain global perspectives for their volunteering activities.

Ms. Nadia Almeraisi (Bahrain): I consider myself lucky from having participated in the SWY program. After completing the program, I and my co-delegates shared the same belief that we could and should influence our society by learning something good from each other. To make it short, in SWY I learned about the change I want to see.

Mr. Ravi Chopra (India): Through SWY we became goodwill ambassadors.

Mr. David Jonathan Okwiri (Kenya): My little knowledge about goals tells me that there are three types of goals which human beings pursue. These are personal goals, professional goals and social goals. Each of these three types of goals can only be acquired through three pillars that support the society. These are social, economic and political pillars. In pursuit of the three mentioned goals of life, sometimes we lose the zeal because we lack motivation from people around us. This is simply because the people around us may be pursuing a different goal from the one we are looking for hence we cannot force them to support our ideas. Fortunately, people who share our dreams and goals may be in the furthest part of the world. It may be difficult to reach them. SWY offers us this golden opportunity to pair up such people with same dreams and enables them to achieve their goals together. That is what SWY is to me.

SWY provided me with friends whom I share the same goal and passion. We may have different projects but we could still work together to achieve them.

To end the meeting, Mr. Masaaki Sato expressed his delight in listening to what the representatives have expressed. The achievements of the alumni associations will be shared with various parties on different occasions. He also expressed his commitment in helping the SWY family to continue to flourish.

Day 4

7. Cooperation of SWYAA to the SWY Program

At the start of the session, SWYAA handed its donations to the One More Child Goes to School Project of SWYAA Sri Lanka (¥25,412), and the Support Kenya Project (¥26,000). The funds came from the proceeds of the Ex-PY Fundraising Dinner on March 20th, 2012.

Ms. Tamae Saito then discussed some ideas how SWYAA can contribute for the SWY program, followed by an open discussion of experiences, challenges and ideas. The summary of the discussions are as follows:

NL and PY Selection Process

- For better appreciation of the situation, Ms. Tamae Saito explained the procedure and timetable for the selection of PYs and NLs. She earnestly requested the alumni associations to exercise care and prudence in disclosing information about the SWY program, especially when official communication has not yet been received by the respective governments.
- The level of SWYAA involvement in the selection of NLs and PYs vary from country to country. Some SWYAAAs (i.e. SWYAA Bahrain and SWYAA Sri Lanka) are directly involved in the selection of NLs and PYs.
- In some countries the NL become part of selection process for PYs, based on the principle that he/she is the delegation leader, thus he/she has to have a say in choosing the people he/she is leading.
- In other countries, the selection of participants is by inviting new candidates to a training camp. The selection of suitable nominees is done by a group of observers.
- It is preferable that the NLs to be selected are ex-PYs due to their familiarity with the program,

hence, they can react better in the event of certain circumstances. However, there are also risks or downside, and the SWYAA should take responsibility of the NL that it is nominating.

- The key to having direct participation in NL and PY selections is building a solid long-term relationship with the government and the Japanese Embassy.
- As discussed at the Cabinet Office in the previous, a draft template or text for the desired certification shall be prepared to recognize the existence of the official SWYAA in respective countries.

Selection of Course Discussion Advisors

- Ms. Tamae Saito explained that the SWYAA may also nominate experts who they know to become a Course Discussion advisor, and she describes how the selection can be made. She mentioned that ex-PYs who are experts in their fields are more preferable than non-ex-PYs, as it is a rare chance for the ex-PYs to join the SWY and contribute to the program. The AAs should conduct proper screening procedures before making nominations because that person will be under the AA's responsibility.
- It is preferable for the SWYAAAs to nominate ex-PYs, however, should there be deserving non-ex-PYs, it may also do so, coupled with proper orientation and guidance about the program.
- The foreign Course Discussion advisors are selected by the Cabinet Office, through the endorsement of the different AAs. On the other hand, the Japanese advisors are selected by the Cabinet Office upon receiving applications or recommendations from former SWY advisors.

Regarding the question whether it is necessary to have a guideline for the selection of SWYAA representatives to the Ex-PY Conference, the body deemed that it is the responsibility of the concerned alumni association to properly orient its own representative of the activities and topics/issues to discuss in the conference, as well as their roles and the expectations from them. Relative thereto, Ms. Tamae Saito informed that she will check for additional copies of the meeting documents for the representatives to bring back to their homes. The SWYAAAs may use the pertinent materials in selecting representatives to this conference. Prior to the conference, links to pertinent documents and information in the SWYAA website would

also be provided to help the representatives in their preparation.

Day 2/3/4/5

8. Existing Projects and Future Projects

The representatives deliberated on the ongoing and newly proposed projects to be adopted and implemented as common SWYAA projects. The summary of the discussions and agreements are as follows:

Roles of Batch Representatives

- Mr. Mohamed Elsayed Elkattan (Egypt) suggested the adoption of the Batch Representative system in each SWYAA to strengthen communication and networking within the alumni and within the batches in SWYAA community. It will also give the new ex-PYs empowerment and more opportunities to be active and play important roles in the AA.
- In the experience of SWYAA Egypt, the Batch Representative system has strengthened its organizational structure and improved the flow of information within the organization. If the practice is expanded to the other AAs, it will have a similar impact in the SWYAA community. In the case of Egypt, the Batch Representatives participate in the selection of the President.

Agreement: The body agreed to adopt the Batch Representative system as may be necessary in the individual AAs. The guideline for the establishment of Batch Representatives (refer to the following sentences) shall be sent to all SWYAAs for their reference/perusal.

Guideline for the responsibilities of Batch Representatives

1. The Batch Representative shall be elected only by its own batch.
2. Every Batch Representative has one vote in the election of the SWYAA Alumni Association President.
3. The AA President shall relay pertinent information to the AA members through the Batch Representatives.
4. The Batch Representative shall gather relevant information, news, announcements or materials from the AA and distribute the same to the AA members from his/her batch.
5. The Batch Representative may be asked to vote in any request for nomination of AA representative from internal or external parties.

Draft Letter/Certification to be Issued by the Cabinet Office for SWYAA

- In the meeting with the Cabinet Office officials, the SWYAA representatives were requested to draft a letter or certification, which the Cabinet Office shall issue as a kind of recognition of the SWYAAs as a product of the SWY program. The document may be necessary for some alumni associations in the effective pursuit of their goals and in the conduct of social contribution activities in their countries.
- The essence of the draft letter/certification that was approved by the body shall be submitted to the Cabinet Office for its consideration. Some items or information may be altered or amended by the Cabinet Office as it deems necessary.

Amendment to the SWYAA Charter (Disqualification)

- As proposed by Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece) and Ms. Duygu Didem Tari (Turkey), the body agreed draft a provision governing the disqualification of ex-PYs as members of the alumni association. This is to provide a regulation on the matter in case a need for such situation may arise.
- In principle, anyone automatically becomes a member of the alumni association after their graduation from the SWY program. Onboard the ship, the administrator can disqualify a PY from further participation in the SWY program based on certain grounds. Once a PY is disqualified, he/she can't become a member of the SWYAA.
- If a measure needs to be taken to disqualify a member from its AA, it has to be done by the SWYAA board and not only by the President and/or Vice President.
- The grounds should not merely be simple biases or personal differences with the person involved. Normally, disqualification is the last step to be taken, before that there are lighter punitive measures for inappropriate actions.
- Actions that warrant disqualification have to be defined and highlighted.
- Any proposed amendment to the SWY Charter requires the agreement of the SWYAA members from the other group before it can take effect.
- The body agreed to propose a draft amendment to the SWYAA Charter, which shall provide for the rules on disqualification of ex-PYs from being members of their respective alumni associations. A draft provision shall be prepared for approval by the

representatives.

Agreement: After the discussions and enhancements of the draft amendment, the body agreed to propose such provision (Annex 1) to become part of the SWYAA Charter to the SWYAA Presidents worldwide. Thereafter, this shall be sent to all SWYAA Presidents for their consideration and voting. The body further agreed that a majority vote of all the 46 SWYAA Presidents would warrant the adoption of this amendment.

SWY Silver Jubilee (25th Anniversary Celebration)

- The commemoration of the 25 years of the SWY shall be a year-long event starting from April 2012 to March 2013. Specific commemorative events and activities were identified and approved by the body, together with guidelines for implementation and concept papers, as follows:

a. International SWY Day Celebration (January 18)

- The SWYAA in every country will have to do something on the January 18, which is the day to commemorate International SWY Day, to “put the light on SWY,” based on the guideline approved by the body (Annex 2).
- All commemorative SWYAA activities shall be documented and be submitted to the IYEO for compilation. Likewise, these activities shall be included in the country reports.
- To promote the event, Mr. Ravi Chopra (India) will send the information and guideline to the SWYAA Presidents and Vice Presidents.
- Another way to promote the event is to reactivate the website for International SWY Day. In this regard, the IYEO shall provide the server, while data collection and uploading will be done jointly by Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne (Sri Lanka) and Mr. Konstantinos Tsigkaras of SWYAA Greece. Such event will also be announced during the GA Bahrain.

b. Video Project

- The video shall be a compilation of things from different countries like sports, message about the events, etc. Each SWYAA shall be given 20-second for their messages.

The message could be anything for the global society, but not about the SWYAA countries. One idea is to have an opening of “hello” in local language, then the message in English. There will be a uniform ending for each SWYAA clip. The compilation of video clips shall be done by the group to be headed by Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece).

- The concept paper and guideline (Annex 2) for the vide project shall be sent to the SWYAA Presidents. Videos to be submitted by the AA shall conform to said guidelines.
- The video compilation, once edited, may be uploaded to SWYAA website, and will be shown during the GA Bahrain.

c. 25th Anniversary Celebration Logo Competition

- The competition is not there anymore.

d. Slogan for the 25th Anniversary

- Selecting from the submissions for all over the SWYAA community, the body agreed that the official slogan for the Silver Jubilee shall be:

Share
Hopes
Imagine
Peace ... together we stand

Agreement: Upon review and discussion of the draft guideline of the SWY Silver Jubilee (25th Anniversary Celebration), the body approved the guideline (Annex 2) including the refinements done during the discussion. The guideline shall be sent to the SWYAA Presidents for their dissemination to their respective members. It will also be uploaded in the SWYAA website. Mr. Ravi Chopra (India) shall be the project leader, while the members of the project team shall be Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne (Sri Lanka), Mr. David Jonathan Okwiri (Kenya), Mr. Taha Abdulhalim Esmail Hamidaddin (Yemen), Ms. Yu Shinagawa (Committee), and Ms. Naoko Yokotsuka (Committee).

SWY Interview Book

- Introduced by SWYAA Turkey, the project aims to collect stories about ex-PYs through live

interviews. The materials shall then be compiled into a book, which can be published and sold to the SWYAA members and the general public. In the event that the book cannot be published, there will be a digital version which will be posted in the SWYAA website. The proponent from SWYAA Turkey shall prepare the questions to be asked in the interviews, and shall be the one in charge of collecting and editing the write-ups for publication. The proponent shall also prepare the guidelines for international participation once adopted as SWYAA joint activity. The project could be launched during the GA Bahrain. The book can be used to promote SWY and as a fundraising activity. If adopted by SWY, a project team shall be formed which will also identify the guideline for the submissions, interviews, alumni participation, etc.

- SWYAA Turkey will look for the sponsorship opportunities for the publication of the articles into a book. In the event that no sponsorship could be found the compiled articles will be published in the website and/or distributed in a PDF file.
- Due to the cost of publication into a book, the compiled articles will be published in the website and/or distributed in a PDF file.
- A project team shall be formed for the purpose of conducting the interviews and writing the articles. For this purpose, an official communication to the SWYAA Presidents will be done to invite or to suggest possible members to the project team.
- The selection of ex-PYs to be interviewed has to be carefully considered. It might be more practical and prudent to prepare a list of ex-PYs people to be interviewed instead of just having interviews randomly.
- Having the SWAA members who are professional journalists to conduct the interviews can be considered as it would put more credence and professionalism in the output.
- All interview articles will be carefully edited to avoid controversies.

Agreement reached: The body agreed to adopt the project as SWYAA joint project, putting into consideration the comments, advice and suggestions raised in the Conference. For its promotion and information to the SWYAA international community, SWYAA Turkey shall prepare the concept paper thereto, then submit the same to the IYEO for uploading at the SWYAA website. The project shall be spearheaded by

Ms. Gulece Şenel (Turkey), with Ms. Duygu Didem Tari (Turkey), with Ms. Yu Shinagawa (Committee)

SWYAA Radio

- Proposed by SWYAA Greece, this is a 24-hour web-based radio program which aims to promote communication, intercultural understanding and participation of ex-PYs in social activities. It can also be used for information dissemination and recreational purposes, among others. Through the SWY Radio, any SWYAA member can broadcast useful information, SWYAA news, discuss thematic topics/issues, or have live chat with his/her peers after joining the SWY radio server. SWYAA members from around the globe can be a DJ so the program can run 24 hours. If there is no DJ online, a playlist can be used, though it may have some cost and legal implications (i.e. copyright law). Future plans include getting funding from EU through the Youth in Action Program, advertisements, live broadcasting onboard and during official and unofficial reunions, as well as expanding the project to include the SSEAYP network.
- SWYAA Turkey offered to check if possible funding from EU can be channeled through them.

Agreement reached: The body agreed to adopt the project as a joint SWYAA undertaking, with SWYAA Greece as the lead implementing association. An updated concept paper will be prepared for distribution to all AAs. The SWYAA may decide how they can contribute and collaborate on the project. Once the guideline has been made, it shall be sent to the SWYAA Presidents. The project shall be led by Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece), with Mr. Mohamed El Sayed Mahmoud El Kattan (Egypt) and Mr. Takayuki Ikeda (CENERYE Staff) as support members.

Homestay + 1

- Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (SWYAA Greece) shared the draft Manual for Homestay + 1 project to ensure smooth implementation of the activity in the different countries.
- The body agreed to continue the project and promote it to the SWYAA members.
- A similar kind of project was recently done in Kenya by the David Jonathan Okwiri (SWYAA Kenya). The Japanese guests could enjoy local culture and meaningful activities, while the local youth learned about Japanese people more. Before

the activities, the local youth used to think that all chink-eyed, fair-skinned, small structured people are all Chinese.

- A list of festivals and/or database of organizations or institutions that can be visited may trigger the interest of SWYAA members. This can be added in the AA website under this program.
- The body agreed to explore the possibility of a tie-up with SSEAYP International so that there will be more countries to be involved and more people who can benefit from this program. IYEO will initiate a discussion with SSEAYP International on the matter.
- As requested, Ms. Tamae Saito has updated the guideline for Homestay + 1 (Annex 3) and will send to all the AA Presidents, Vice Presidents and Conference representatives after the Conference.
- Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis finalize the Manual, which shall be uploaded to the website. The different AAs may add pertinent information that are specific for each country.

High Profile Ex-PYs

- It was clarified that the purpose of this project is not to honor or give recognition to certain ex-PYs, but for the Cabinet Office to have something to help them justify the continuation of the SWY program during budget deliberations. It only aims to provide a record of SWY result, a proof that it's beneficial to the global society. Those chosen, based on the criteria in Page 79 of the SWYAA Report 2010, don't have to have strong connection to or are active in SWYAA.
- The IYEO will remind the SWYAA Presidents and Vice Presidents about the project, clarifying therein the sole purpose of this project. Submissions emanating from the Conference representatives shall have the consent of the respective AA President.
- In addition to the above, the SWYAA has an ongoing project aiming to have complete database of all members. It should be utilized, updated and can be made interactive. This project allows the members to get updated of the developments in the lives of their SWY friends.
- In the template, there will be an added item to allow the people to choose whether they allow their data to be published online.
- Ms. Tamae Saito will be in charge of this. (Annex 4)

Agreements: Submissions of new profiles to the IYEO (swyaa@iyeo.or.jp) shall be by the end of August 2012, so these can be utilized by the Cabinet Office for the budget deliberation. Nevertheless, late submissions will always be accepted for future budget deliberations. At the bottom of the template will be a line asking whether the person would allow his/her profile to be published online. The letter to the alumni associations shall explain the purpose of this project very clearly.

Ex-PY Testimonials

- The body agreed that this project should be continued and strengthened.
- Some amendments to the existing guideline were considered in order to make the testimonials more interesting and expressive. (Annex 5)
- Group testimonials will be allowed.
- Photos, videos, poems, etc. can be added to the testimonials as long as they conform to the following rules: 1 Photo for every testimonial; Poems shall be 100 words max.; video clip attachments shall be 3 minutes at most.
- Presentation of testimonials in the website can also be made more dynamic (i.c. random flash, etc.)

Agreements: New sets of testimonials are to be submitted by the end of August 2012, as this will also be used by the Cabinet Office in the budget deliberation. The letter to the alumni associations shall explain the purpose of this project very clearly. Ms. Tamae Saito shall be the point person for this project.

Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne (Sri Lanka) shall be the project leader while Mr. Mohamed El Kattan (Egypt), Ms. Naoko Yokotsuka (Committee), and Mr. Masaharu Koge (Committee) will comprise of the team. Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne was also tasked with editing the testimonials.

Updating of the Handbook for Cross-Cultural Understanding

- This entails an updating of the existing Handbook, which is provided to the National Delegation Leaders every year. In some occasions the NLs also provide updates thereto whenever they deem necessary. This project is not a total revision of the existing handbook.

Agreement reached: The SWYAA representatives will update the information of their respective countries during the course of the Conference, keeping in mind the limitations in space. All updates shall be submitted

to Ms. Sayoko Tanaka before the representatives' departure from Japan.

Educational Material for Cross Cultural Understanding

- The body recognized the value and impact of this project and, thus, agreed to continue and expand this project.
- The SWAAs that haven't submitted the write ups about their countries shall be reminded of this project, through their respective Presidents and the Vice Presidents.
- As an expansion of this project, a selection of traditional games in each country shall be added. The games must include clear easy-to-understand instructions on how to play them. Traditional games that do not require special articles are preferable.
- For the AAs who have already submitted their country information, they can just add the games with pertinent instructions. For the new submissions, they should include both country information and games.
- The games information and instruction will be added in the booklet under a new chapter.
- Submissions can be done by email to the IYEO (swyaa@iyeo.or.jp)
- Suggestions on how to utilize or promote the use of this material include giving copies to friends who are elementary teachers, providing copies to community libraries and elementary school libraries, be carried when utilizing Homestay + 1 program, teaching the children of SWY ex-PYs, etc.
- For future expansion, video instructions of the games can be created so that it will be easy for anyone to play them.

Agreement: Mr. Mohamed El Sayed Al Kattan (Egypt) shall be the project leader, to be assisted by Ms. Sayoko Tanaka (CENERYE Staff).

SWYAA Academy

- The project is for the SWYAA to become the administrator of the Tupendane school, an existing school for slum children in Nairobi, Kenya which is being run by David Jonathan Okwiri, a member of SWYAA Kenya and supported by Tupendane, a group of JPYs. It is currently being supported financially and logistically by ex-PYs from SWY22 and SWY23. The long-term goals of the project (e.g. to become a boarding school for slum children,

providing loan windows for the children's parents, etc.) could be realized faster if the project will be put under the direct management of the SWYAA, given its network of volunteers and fundraising capabilities.

- To this effect, the school may be renamed SWYAA Academy to give tribute to the SWYAA contributions. However, retaining the name "Tupendane School" is also being considered for promotional reasons. (We have consulted with other stake holders of the project and decided that the name Tupendane school should be retained based on the issues that were discussed in the meeting to be considered.)
- SWYAA Kenya will be the lead implementer. Ex-PYs who would like to experience volunteer work may go to the school and stay there for a period of time.
- For the school's immediate logistical needs, SWYAA Kenya was asked to document its actual requirements (i.e. kinds and amount) and communicate this to the SWYAA.
- In the actual construction of school buildings and living facilities for the children beneficiaries, SWYAA Kenya may ask volunteer builders and donations in kind (e.g. construction materials, equipment, etc.) from the SWYAA community.

Agreements reached: The body agreed to adopt the project as a SWYAA project. SWYAA Kenya will prepare the pertinent concept paper and guidelines, incorporating therein the comments and advice of the representatives, for dissemination to the SWYAA community.

Gentle Reminders for Manners Related to Homestay

- To make the implementation of the Homestay + 1 Project and all other ex-PY homestay hosting activities run smoothly, the body deemed that there is a need for the visiting ex-PYs to be reminded of certain manners and conducts to be exercised so as not to inconvenience the hosting family.
- Upon discussion and further enhancement of the draft, the body approved the list of reminders, which shall be communicated to all SWYAA for dissemination to all members.
- Ms. Tamae Saito to email this.

Guideline for Annual Country Report

- Ms. Asa Danielsson, SWYAA Sweden President,

though Ms. Gigi Lonn Strale, made the proposal to adopt a guideline for the submission of SWYAA Annual Report. This is to guide the SWYAA members in writing their annual reports, as well as to set some uniformity in the information that should be submitted. A draft guideline was presented for discussion and consideration of the body.

- The suggestion was deemed timely in view of the discussion with the Cabinet Office officials on the matter in an earlier date.
- During the discussion, it was suggested that social contribution projects be the priority items. The reports should also include activities related to networking and collaboration with the Japanese community.

Agreement: Upon deliberation and the incorporation of comments and suggestions made by the representatives, the guideline for Annual Country Report (Annex6) was adopted. Being a guideline, the alumni association may wish to add or exclude some items as they deem necessary. The guideline shall be uploaded to the SWYAA website. The deadline of submission of annual reports shall be end of January of the following year.

SWY Video Archive

- The project is a compilation of SWY activities (i.e. National Presentation, Course Discussions, seminars by advisors, etc.), which can be accessed or viewed by the ex-PYs. It would be a good material to refresh the good memories of the program, as well as remind them of their commitments and goals as participants. Such material can also be a very useful promotional material for SWY program.
- The project would indeed be very useful, however, the collection of videos, especially the Course Discussions and lectures may be a tall order as the PYs are supposed to be actively participating in those activities. The videos on National Presentations can be easier to get hold of if the PYs in charge of press can be contacted. The only thing is when the video contains mostly of parties and social events, it may create a different image of the SWY program.
- The inclusion of songs in the video might have some copyright implications that this should be considered properly.
- Video editors who are well versed technically would be needed for this project.

Agreement: The body agreed to adopt the proposal

as SWYAA project, and the information shall be disseminated to the SWYAA (Annex 7). Being the project proponent, Mr. Satoshi Kamoi (Committee) shall take the lead for this project, to be assisted by Mr. Takayuki Ikeda (CENTERYE staff)

SWY Promotion Through Social Media

- Proposed for establishing official SWYAA respective countries accounts on social media by SWYAA Greece.
- The project aims to use existing social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter to promote the SWY program and the SWYAA activities. Through the creation of SWY Facebook Page or SWY Twitter account, we can provide information or updates about SWYAA activities and/or redirect the readers to relevant materials where they can get information about SWYAA. Updates on SWY application procedures, news in different countries can be uploaded, and it can allow us to interact with “fans,” tag people’s photos.
- Another way is through SWYWorld.net, which is already running. This is a joint project by the former SWY advisors Mr. Vasilis Tikos and Ms. Xenia Koutentaki from Greece, Ms. Haruko Ishii from Japan and the former National Delegation Leader Mr. Kostantinos Tsigkaras from Greece, aiming to connect all the ex-PYs with various kinds of activities.
- In comparison with SWYAA.org, this website accommodates all the informal and unofficial information from the alumni.
- Under the current condition, ex-PYs who want to upload some information or files to share may contact any of the web administrators – the President of SWYAA Greece, Ms. Haruko Ishii, or Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis.
- The logo appears like the website is being under construction.
- There may be some risks in uploading information even if these are informal. An example is the SWY program schedule especially when this has not yet reached the partner governments through official channels. These things have to be considered.
- To have a control on the materials uploaded in the site, SWYAA can nominate a moderator per country, and they we decide which materials can be uploaded.
- Management of the websites/accounts has to be

carefully considered.

Agreement: The body recognized the value and positive impact of the proposal. In view of the many comments, inputs and opinions, however, this project will still have to be refined, taking into consideration the inputs and comments of the representatives. The person in charge of the project shall be Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece), working closely with Ms. Wedikkara Bhagya Senaratne (Sri Lanka), Ms. Tamae Saito (Japan), Mr. Satoshi Kamoi (Committee) and Mr. Mohamed El Sayed Elkattan (Egypt)

SWYAA Outreach Program to the Japanese Communities

- In light of the comments and suggestions from the Cabinet Office in the meeting with the representatives, the idea of adopting a project to reach out to Japanese communities or citizens in each country would be worth looking at.
- Suggestions include bringing Japanese citizens to the countryside through homestay programs, cooperating with the alumni associations of different Japanese Government programs, and conducting or supporting activities that promote Japanese culture in the different countries. The other AAs may wish to take a look at the project made by SWYAA Bahrain, which was very successful.
- Many of the alumni associations are already doing activities of this nature. In addition, the activities vary depending on the needs for each country.

Agreement: The representatives deem that since this project is already being done, it wouldn't be necessary to adopt it as a common activity. Nevertheless, activities of this nature should be documented and be included in the reports that are submitted to the Cabinet Office.

Silver Jubilee Commemorative T-Shirt

- It was proposed that as part of the celebration of SWY Silver Jubilee, a commemorative t-shirt be created, which may include the SWYAA logo be used, the new slogan and the words "25th anniversary. The t-shirt can be sold, and the proceeds of which may be used for SWYAA activities or projects.
- While the idea of having a commemorative t-shirt is very attractive, the feasibility is not really as easy because of many considerations like logistical requirement etc. Funding requirement for

producing the t-shirt also poses a big challenge. It would also be a big challenge to sell the t-shirts, based on previous experiences.

- Instead of a new t-shirt, it may be more practical to just reprint the existing SWY t-shirt. IYEO can order for new batch of t-shirts, and all AAs can participate in making the sale. It was requested, however, that for each t-shirt sold a \$1 be donated to the IYEO for its international projects and involvements. The rest of the proceeds (profit) would go to SWYAA common fund or be used for SWY forest, etc.

Agreement: The body agreed with the proposal to just use the existing t-shirt. The IYEO shall order new batches of t-shirts for future distribution in ex-PY events like the GA in Bahrain, SWY25, etc. The body also agreed to donate \$1 to IYEO for every t-shirt sold. Meanwhile, SWYAA UAE shall source possible donations that can be used for this purpose so that more money can go to the SWY fund.

SWY Profile in Wikipedia

- It was noted that SWY has not been in Wikipedia recently, and it would be advantageous to the SWY program and the SWYAA to maintain an information in Wikipedia. Thus, it was proposed that a write up of SWY and SWYAA should be created and uploaded as a part of online promotion and for other purposes.
- The information to be included, however, has to have prior approval and confirmation from certain parties like the IYEO and the Cabinet Office.

Agreement: The body recognized the value of having SWY information uploaded in Wikipedia as proposed. The person in charge of making the write up shall be Ms. Nadia Almeraisi (Bahrain), with the collaboration of Ms. Tamae Saito (Japan)

SWYAA Official Logo

- The discussion took place whether or not all the SWYAA should have a uniform logo, using the existing official SWYAA logo, to show its international network.
- The adoption of the SWYAA logo may have some legal implications on certain AAs, especially those who are registered as NPOs or have legal personalities. In the case of IYEO, this may have some difficulty since the IYEO is comprised not only of SWY ex-PYs but also of the former

participants of the other Cabinet Office-sponsored international exchange programs.

- In view of certain difficulties in the adoption of a common logo by all AAs, it was agreed that adoption of the logo would have some flexibility. In this case, alumni letterheads may be printed with the original logo and the SWYAA logo.

March 23, 2012

9. Other Matters

Evaluation for ex-PY Conference

- Suggested by Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece), he deemed that an evaluation of the conference is necessary to help ensure the success of future conferences. The representatives may evaluate themselves and their contribution to the conference, including the team they worked with. It may include the things that they like and dislike, and suggestions for future conferences.
- The proposal, however, may be discussed more deeply and extensively in another conference, considering the time limitation.

Personal Comments/Messages of the Representatives

- Mr. David Jonathan Okwiri (Kenya) expressed his commendation to SWYAA Greece for all its projects and activities and to the government of Japan for availing the great opportunity to network with youths globally.
- Ms. Tamae Saito expressed her appreciation to the representative of Greece for having prepared the concept papers of their proposals, and to SWYAA Sweden for preparing the guideline for SWYAA annual report.
- Mr. Panagiotis Mamouzakis (Greece) mentioned that he gave his best in contributing to the conference, and he expressed apologies for being straightforward with his opinions at times. While he has read a lot of information prior to arrival to Tokyo, he might have done better if he had known the conference structure ahead of time. Nonetheless, he enjoyed sharing successful programs from around the world, which can be replicated locally. He said he would have hoped more active participation from the Japanese attendees.
- Reacting to Mr. Panagiotis' statements, Ms. Yu Shinagawa (Committee) said she shared the same feeling that she should have been more active,

but was not sure about her role in the meeting. Nevertheless, she said she learned a lot. As a suggestion for future conferences, the discussions should not only focus on current and future project but also on the organizational issues and problems faced by the alumni associations.

- Mr. Mohamed Elsayed Elkattan (Egypt) said when he read the documents he already got some idea on what the discussions would be like. From the conference, he has realized some vision and mission particularly in how he can improve his alumni association organizationally and projects-wise.
- Ms. Duygu Didem Tari (Turkey) mentioned that she learned a lot from the meeting. However, having no prior knowledge of the conference structure, she didn't know how and when she would present that documents that she brought. In this regard, she suggested that the conference structure be also explained more clearly next time.
- Mr. Rashed Mohd Abdulla Ali Mohd (UAE) shared that he didn't have much information from his alumni association. After the conference, he would endeavor to apply the lessons he has learned in the conference in bettering his own alumni association.
- Mr. Taha Abdulhalim Hamidaddin (Yemen) thanked everyone for the information shared in the conference as well as the fruitful discussions. He mentioned that he didn't have much information on what projects to report. Nonetheless, he learned a lot and he will spread what he learned in the meeting to the other members in his alumni association so they could give their best in making post-program activities.

Application for Global Assembly Hosting

- Ms. Tamae Saito reminded that those countries which are interested in hosting the 8th GA should reconsider their plan because for next year, it should be held in a country belonging to the other SWY route. The procedure for application can be seen page 66 of SWYAA Annual Report 2010, including the timelines. The alumni associations should prepare the requirements. Also, since the IYEO always discusses the proposals with the Cabinet Office, the proposals should be written in brief, including only the essential things. Also, three (3) optional dates should be identified, preferably in October or August.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other matter to discuss, the Tokyo Conference for the Ex-Participating Youth of the

Ship for World Youth program 2012 (FY2011) was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. on March 23, 2012.

Ship for World Youth Alumni Association

Tokyo Conference for the Ex-Participating Youth of SWY Program 2012 (FY2011)

The conference held from March 18 to 24, 2012. During these discussions, delegates have come to conclusions and agreements. All delegates agreed to the minutes of the meetings as per the pages attached.

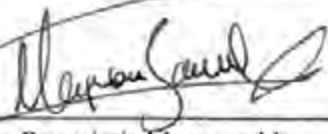
Signed date: March 23, 2012



Bahrain, Nadia Saeed Almeraisi

Mohamed Elkattan

Egypt, Mohamed Elsayed Elkattan



Greece, Panagiotis Mamouzakis



India, Ravi Chopra

齋藤 珠恵

Japan, Tamae Saito



Kenya, David Jonathan Okwiri

Senarath

Sri Lanka, Bhagya Senarathne

Gigi L Stråle

Sweden, Gigi Barbro Gudrun Maria Lönn Stråle

Didem Tari

Turkey, Duygu Didem Tari



U.A.E., Rashed Mohd Hassan



Yemen, Taha Abdulhalim Esmail Hamidaddin