

Chapter 1

Outline of the Program

(1) Background of the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP)

The Program was established in 1974 based on joint statements between Japan and Southeast Asian countries. It is conducted as a joint project between the Government of Japan and the governments of ASEAN member states.

(2) Overview of the Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP)

By providing opportunities for the youth of Japan and

Southeast Asian countries to live together onboard and participate in activities at ports of call, the Program aims to:

- Cultivate Japanese youth who possess an international perspective and the leadership skills necessary to address challenges in global and local communities through discussions and research on common social issues.
- Promote mutual friendship and understanding among the Participating Youths (PYs) to foster international goodwill.

(1) Participating Countries

Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (10 countries).

*Republic of the Union of Myanmar did not participate.

(2) Participants

- National Leaders (NL): 1 per country
- Japanese Participating Youths (JPY): 19 participants (aged 18–30)
- Foreign Participating Youths (FPY): 16 per country (aged 18–30) (*)

*6 participants from the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

(3) Discussion Themes

- 1) Quality Education
- 2) Economic Growth and Sustainable & Responsible Tourism
- 3) Global Environment and Climate Change
- 4) Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery
- 5) Social Welfare and Inclusion
- 6) Digital Society and AI

(4) Vessel

"Nippon Maru" (MOL Cruises, Ltd.)

(5) Schedule and Main Activities

- Dates: Friday, January 16 – Monday, February 16, 2026 (32 days)
- Target: Japanese and Foreign Participating Youths
- Route: Japan (Tokyo) – Singapore – Thailand (Bangkok)
- Main Activities:
 - (a) Country Program in Japan (Friday, January 16 – Saturday, January 24, 2026 (9 days))
 - i. Tokyo Program (5 days, excluding the period in ii. below)
 - Venue: National Olympics Memorial Youth Center (NYC), etc.
 - Main Activities: Inauguration Ceremony, Courtesy call on Prime Minister, Audience with H.I.H. Princess Kako of Akishino, Field studies by theme, etc.
 - ii. Local Program (Saturday, January 17 – Tuesday, January 20, 2026 (4 days))
 - Location: Iwate, Chiba, Toyama, Tokushima, or Nagasaki Prefecture (one of these).
 - Main Activities: Courtesy call, homestay, interaction with local youths, etc.
 - (b) Onboard Program (Sunday, January 25 – Monday, February 16, 2026 (23 days))
 - i. Onboard Program (12 days, excluding the period in ii. below)
 - Location: Onboard the ship
 - Main Activities: Discussions, cultural

exchange, etc.

- ii. Activities in Ports of Call (Singapore: February 4 – 8 (5 days) and Thailand: February 11 – 16 (6 days))
 - Location: Singapore and Thailand (Bangkok)
 - Main Activities: Courtesy call, homestay, Field studies by theme, interaction with local youth, presentation of Discussion Results etc.

(6) Cost Allocation

- 1) The Government of Japan shall, in principle, bear the following expenses:
 - Expenses for ship operation (charter fees, etc.).
 - Round-trip airfare between the home country and the designated assembly/disassembly points for Japanese Participating Youths and Foreign Participating Youths (including National Leaders), facilitators, Alumni Associations representatives, and government representatives.
- 2) The Host Country Governments shall, in principle, bear the following expenses:
 - Expenses incurred during activities in the ports of call (accommodation, meals, transportation, etc.).

Chapter 2

Planning and Preparation

The government representatives of each country were invited to Tokyo on 5th December 2024, at the end of the 48th Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program and the participants discussed the policy of the 49th Program.

(1) Agenda for the Conference

The 49th Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP) in 2026

- a. Tentative Program
- b. Participating Countries and the Number of Participants
- c. Schedule of the Preparation
- d. Others

(2) Proceedings

First, the Government of Japan explained the preliminary plan of the 49th Program, followed by a Q&A session and exchange of opinions.

The highlights and important agreements reached at the Conference were as follows:

- ① The 49th SSEAYP in 2026 would be held in January and February 2026, with the Onboard Program, Country

Programs in Japan, Singapore, and Thailand.

- ② Participating countries would not include Myanmar. It is proposed that Timor-Leste participate in the Program as an observer. On these two issues of participating countries, there is a possibility of changing the decision in response to future changes in the situation.
- ③ The number of PYs would be 16 each for the Southeast Asian countries, 20 for Japan, and 6 for Timor-Leste.

(3) Participants of the Conference

The representatives listed in the table below attended the Conference. The representatives of the Alumni Associations of the participating countries also attended the Conference as observers.



Brunei Darussalam	Ms. Noor Maslina binti Haji Sulaiman (Youth and Sports Chief Officer, Youth and Sport Department)
Cambodia	Ms. Socheath Sroy (Directorate General of Youth, Ministry of Education Youth and Sport)
Indonesia	Ms. Annisa Heru Putranti (Junior Policy Analyst, Ministry of Youth and Sports)
Lao P.D.R.	Mr. Phouvong MANIVONG (Deputy-Chief of Cabinet Office, Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union)
Malaysia	Mrs. Wan Azira binti Abd Aziz (Head of Unit International Youth Affair, Ministry of Youth and Sports)
Philippines	Ms. Cristabeth Jacinta Asor Madrigal (Presidential Staff Officer VI, National Youth Commission)
Singapore	Ms. Hasliza Binte Ahmad (Director, Youth Engagement, National Youth Council)
Thailand	Mrs. Apinya Chompumas (Director-General, Department of Children and Youth) Ms. Suphawida Kritidech (Director of Public Sector Development Division, Department of Children and Youth)
Viet Nam	Ms. Le Hông Nhung (Deputy Head, International Department, National Committee on Youth)

Timor-Leste (observer)	Mr. Joao Maria Simao Barreto (Chief of Department for Youth, Ministry of Youth, Sport, Art and Culture)
	Mr. Cunha Dos Santos Carlos (Staff, Ministry of Youth, Sport, Art and Culture)
Japan	Mr. FUJIMORI Shunsuke (Director for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office)
	Mr. AKASHI Toshikazu (Deputy Director for SSEAYP, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office)
	Ms. TAKEDA Yukako (Chief for SSEAYP, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office)
	Ms. HATANO Megumi (Assistant to Chief for SSEAYP, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office)

2 Pre-Program Consultation Visits by the Government of Japan (Singapore and Thailand)

The Government of Japan conducted pre-program consultation visits with the concerned governments to discuss and finalize the preparation procedures for each country program; 25th to 28th March in Thailand and 13th to 16th May in Singapore.



Pre-Program Consultation Visits by the Government of Japan (Singapore)

The Government of Japan discussed with the concerned government officials in the consultation meetings and the details of the country programs were adjusted, as necessary, and finalized.



Pre-Program Consultation Visits by the Government of Japan (Thailand)

3 Conference of the Representatives of the Southeast Asian Countries and Japan ② (Online)

In order to exchange information on the implementation status of the Country Program in Japan, Singapore and Thailand, which are the ports of call for the 49th Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program, the Conference of the Representatives of the Southeast Asian Countries and Japan was held online on 30th July 2025.

(1) Agenda for the Conference

a. Selection of youth in each country

- b. Progress in preparation for the 49th SSEAYP
 - Country Program in Japan
 - Life Onboard the Ship
 - Country Program in Singapore & Thailand
 - Embarkation of OBSC representatives
 - Events and Ceremonies conducted by Japan in Bangkok
- c. Key elements of the 50th SSEAYP

(2) Proceedings

First, the Cabinet Office explained the implementation details, followed by a Q&A session. The followings are the key agreements reached during this meeting:

1. The program will be conducted by combining the Tokyo/Local Program and the Onboard/Country Program.
2. The Tokyo Program will take place from 16th January to 24th, and the Onboard/Country Program will be held from 25th January to 16th February.
3. The number of PYs from each country will be 16, except for Timor-Leste which will have 6, and Japan which will have 20.
4. Regarding safety measures, particularly against infectious diseases, each government will instruct its PYs to receive vaccinations before participating in the program and will follow the policies of the Government

of Japan as necessary.

5. To enable the Cabinet Office to prepare various materials for project implementation, each Southeast Asian government will strictly adhere to the deadlines for submitting participant lists and other required documents.
6. The Facilitators Meetings will be held online for two days on 25th August and 8th October. The National Leaders Meetings will also be held online for two days on 22nd October and 10th December.

(3) Participants of the Conference

The representatives of each country's governments who attended this conference are as follows. In addition, representatives from participating countries' Alumni Associations were present as observers.

Brunei Darussalam	Ms. Hajah Noor Maslina binti Haji Sulaiman (Youth and Sports Chief Officer, Youth and Sport Department)
Cambodia	Mr. Mel Phanseya (Director of the Department of Youth and Child Education, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport)
Indonesia	Mr. Esa Sukmawijaya (Assistant Deputy for Youth Partnership, Ministry of Youth and Sports)
Lao P.D.R.	Mr. Yangpao PAYAVEU (Deputy Director General of Youth Training Department /SOMY Leader, Lao Youth Union)
Malaysia	Ms. Umaimah Husni Akramova (Senior Asst Director, Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia)
Philippines	Ms. Michelle Mae B. Gonzales (Commissioner-at-Large, National Youth Commission)
Singapore	Ms. Michelle Ling (Deputy Director, Global Office, National Youth Council Singapore)
Thailand	Ms. Sirilak Meemak (Deputy Director-General, Department of Children and Youth)
Viet Nam	Ms. Le Hông Nhung (Deputy Head, International Department, National Committee on Youth)
Timor-Leste	Mr. Firminio Dias Quintas (National Director for Youth Development, Ministry of Youth, Sports, Art and Culture)
Japan	Mr. MAKINO Masahiro (Director for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office) Mr. AKASHI Toshikazu (Deputy Director for SSEAYP, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office) Ms. TAKEDA Yukako (Chief for SSEAYP, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office) Ms. SENO Haruka (Assistant to Chief for SSEAYP, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office) Ms. NOGI Kasumi (Deputy Director, Office for International Youth Exchange, Cabinet Office)

4 Facilitators Meeting (Online)

The Government of Japan held the Facilitators Meeting of the 49th SSEAYP online on 25th August and 8th October with the attendance of six Facilitators. The aim of the Meeting was to ensure the smooth and effective implementation of the Discussion Program by sharing the common understanding on basic matters including purposes and by exchanging views and opinions about the program operation.

The agendas of the Meeting were as follows:

Meeting 1 (25th August)

- ① Guideline and Schedule of the 49th SSEAYP in 2026
 - Purpose and contents
 - Program time schedule
 - Roles of facilitator
 - Post-program session
 - Presentation of Discussion Results
- ② Presentation of Group Theme Information by each facilitator

- ③ Announcement from the Administration
 - List of documents to be submitted
 - Field Study
 - Information of PYs in DG
 - Communication among facilitators
 - Guideline for traveling and Visa requirements
- ④ QA Session

Meeting 2 (8th October)

- ① Safety Management (Including Harassment Prevention)
- ② Presentation of Group Theme Information by each facilitator
- ③ Announcement from the Administration
 - Field Study
 - Discussion Steering Committee
 - Activity Schedule (Plenary Session I, Project Management and Presentation of discussion results)
 - Planning Paper
 - Information about Nippon Maru
- ④ QA Session
- ⑤ Discussion among Facilitators

5 National Leaders Meeting (Online)

The NLs of the nine ASEAN member countries, Japan and Timor-Leste participated in the National Leaders Meeting (NL Meeting) and the COC meeting for the 49th SSEAYP held online on 22nd October and 10th December.

The aims of the NL Meeting were to deepen their understanding of the purpose and contents of the Program and to discuss the operation of the COC and main onboard activities, in order to ensure effective and smooth implementation of the Program.

The agendas of the Meeting were as follows:

Meeting 1 (22nd October)

- ① Overview of the 49th Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program
- ② Guidance on life during the program
- ③ Guideline for traveling and Visa requirements
- ④ Documents to submit prior to the program
- ⑤ Q&A

1st COC Meeting (22nd October)

- ① Discussion among NLs
- ② Q&A

Meeting 2 (10th December)

- ① Updates from the last Meeting
- ② Country Program in Japan
- ③ Safety Management including harassment policy
- ④ Announcement from the Postmaster
- ⑤ Feedback

2nd COC Meeting (10th December)

- ① Discussion among NLs

6 Planning of the Country Program in Japan

The country program in Japan consisted of the programs in and around Tokyo and the local programs that included homestay in 5 prefectures outside of Tokyo.

(1) Program in and around Tokyo

A. Field Study (Discussion Program)

Six courses were set up in accordance with the Discussion Themes; 1. Quality Education, 2. Economic Growth and Sustainable & Responsible Tourism, 3. Global Environment and Climate Change, 4. Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery, 5. Social Welfare and Inclusion, 6. Digital Society and AI, were set in motion to make these visits an opportunity to learn the current situation in Japan with regard to the respective discussion themes.

B. Ceremonies

The Government of Japan arranged the Inauguration Ceremony, Courtesy Calls, Farewell Ceremony, Farewell Party, etc.

(2) Local Program

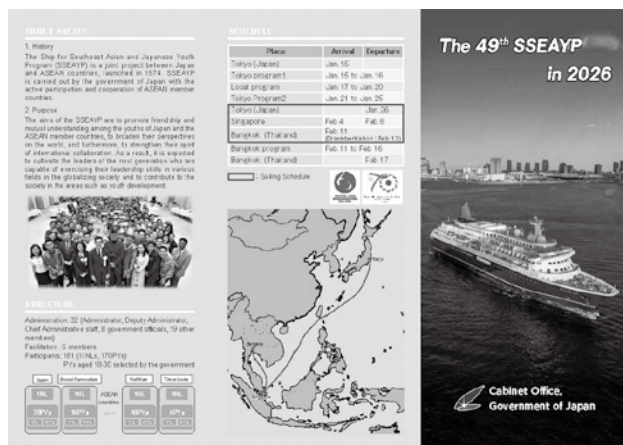
On 28th May, 16th July and 3rd December, the Government of Japan held conferences with officials from 5 prefectures, namely, Prefectures of Iwate, Chiba, Toyama, Tokushima and Nagasaki, which were selected to host the Local Programs of the 49th SSEAYP in 2026, to a preparatory conference. These prefectures were asked to make plans for interaction with local youths and visits to appropriate places including schools, courtesy calls and other activities, during the local programs and to arrange host families.

Accordingly, each prefecture drew and submitted the plan to the Government of Japan. Based on the proposals, the Government of Japan decided the final itinerary and made necessary adjustments. Meanwhile, the prefectures also prepared homestay matching lists and other documents.

7 Preparation of Program Related Materials

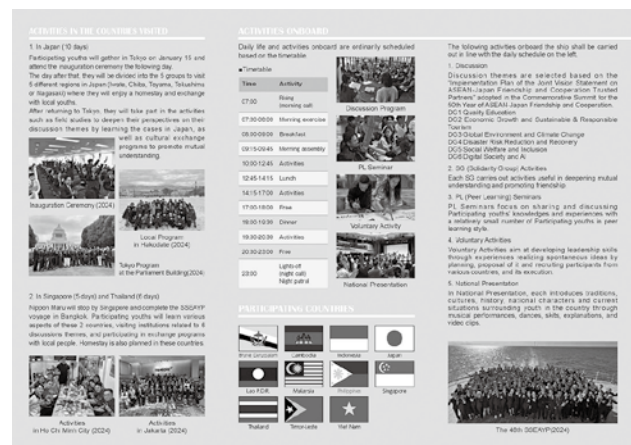
The Government of Japan prepared the following materials to ensure the smooth operation of the Program and distributed them in advance to those who were involved in the Program:

- (1) Handbook of the 49th SSEAYP in 2026, including the schedule and the outline of the onboard activities



Leaflet

- (2) Profiles of Participants, compiling the names and photographs of the participants
- (3) List of Participants, grouped by discussion groups and solidarity groups
- (4) Promotional leaflet summarizing this year's program



Chapter 3

Country Program in Japan

1 Activities in Japan

Date	Time	Program
15th January Tuesday		<National Leaders (NLs), Participating Youths (PYs) from ASEAN member countries> Arrival at Narita Airport and Haneda Airport
	7:00 7:00 7:00 7:15 7:30 7:30 7:40 8:50 8:50 14:10 15:00 20:30	Cambodia (VN-310) at Narita Lao P.D.R. (VN-310) at Narita Viet Nam (VN-310) at Narita Malaysia (MH-088) at Narita Brunei Darussalam (SQ-638) at Narita Singapore (SQ-638) at Narita Thailand (TG-642) at Narita Timor-Leste (GA-880) at Narita Indonesia (GA-874) at Haneda Philippines (PR-422) at Haneda Transfer to National Olympics Memorial Youth Center (NYC) for arrival orientation Check-in Orientation NL Meeting Stay at NYC
		<Japanese PYs> Pre-Departure Training Stay at NYC
16th January Friday	9:30-10:30	Orientation by Administration • Remarks by Mr. MAKINO Masahiro, Administrator • Introduction of NLs and PYs • Introduction of Administrative staff members • Explanation of the country program in Japan • Explanation of the Field Study by DG
	11:00	Inauguration Ceremony • Speech by Ms. MINAMI Junko, Director General for International Youth Exchange Cabinet Office • Speech by YL of Brunei Darussalam
	14:00-15:30 15:45-16:45	SG Meeting Orientation of the Local Program
	17:05	<NLs/YLs/AYLs> Courtesy Call on Prime Minister of Japan (at Office of Prime Minister) • Speech by YL of Singapore • Speech by H.E Ms. TAKAICHI Sanae, Prime Minister of Japan • Photo Session
	19:30-20:30	Packing for the Local Program Stay at NYC
17th January Saturday } 19th January Monday		Local Program (4 days and 3 nights; for details, see (3) Local Program Schedule) • Iwate Prefecture: SG-A, SG-C • Chiba Prefecture: SG-B, SG-E • Toyama Prefecture: SG-F, SG-I • Tokushima Prefecture: SG-D, SG-H • Nagasaki Prefecture: SG-G, SG-J
19th January Monday	5:25 14:10 17:00 16:55	<Facilitators> Arrival at Haneda Airport DG5: Australia (QF-025) at Haneda DG1, DG2, DG3: Philippines (PR-422) at Haneda DG4: Japan arrive at NYC DG6: Thailand (NH-848) at Haneda

Date	Time	Program
20th January Tuesday	15:00 19:30-20:30	<NLs/PYs> Return to Tokyo from Local Program Arrival at NYC Check-in Orientation and Contingent Meeting Stay at NYC
21st January Wednesday	9:15-10:30 10:45-12:00 14:00-16:45	Reflection of Local Program by SG DG Meeting GL Meeting / Discussion Steering Committee / Sub-Committee Meeting / Press Liaison Meeting
	19:30-20:30	<NLs> NL Meeting
	19:30-20:30	<PYs> Voluntary Activity
	19:30-20:30	<JPYs> Rehearsal for National Presentation Stay at NYC
22nd January Thursday	9:15-12:00 14:00-16:45	Discussion Program (Introductory Program) GL Meeting / Discussion Steering Committee / Sub-Committee Meeting / Press Liaison Meeting
		<NLs/YLs/AYLs> Audience with H.I.H. Princess Kako of Akishino (at Akasaka Imperial Residence) • Speech by YL of Indonesia
	19:30-20:30	National Presentation (Japan) Stay at NYC
23rd January Friday	7:40-17:30 19:00-20:30	Field Study by Discussion Group DG1: Senior High School at Sakado, University of Tsukuba DG2: Tourism Division, Kamakura City / public and co DG3: Tokyo Metropolitan Environmental Public Corporation DG4: Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel DG5: Social Welfare Corporation 'Kotoen' / Welfare Promotion Division, Edogawa City DG6: SAP Japan Cultural Exchange Program Stay at NYC
24th January Saturday	9:15-12:00 14:00-15:30 15:45-16:45	Discussion Program (Group Discussion I) Check-out Orientation Contingent Meeting Stay at NYC
25th January Sunday	9:30-14:30 16:00 19:45-20:45	Check-out Self Study (City Tour) Transfer to Tokyo International Cruise Terminal and board the Nippon Maru Orientation Onboard (Life Onboard) by the ship (in Dolphin Hall) Stay onboard Nippon Maru
26th January Monday	9:15-9:30 10:00-10:30 10:30-12:00 13:15-14:30 15:00-15:35 16:00	Morning Assembly Lifeboat Drill Embarkation Procedure Ship Tour Departure Ceremony (in Dolphin Hall) • Speech by Mr. KIKAWADA Hitoshi, Minister of State for Youth Affairs of the Cabinet Office (Read by Mr. MIZUNO Atsushi, Director General for Policy Coordination, Cabinet Office) • Speech by YL of Malaysia Set Sail for Singapore

2 Inauguration Ceremony

The Inauguration Ceremony of the 49th SSEAYP was held from 11:00 on 16th January at the National Olympics Memorial Youth Center.

The Inauguration Ceremony started with the speech by Ms. MINAMI Junko, Director General for International

Youth Exchange of the Cabinet Office. Subsequently, YL of Brunei Darussalam delivered a speech on behalf of PYs.

NLs and PYs from each country enjoyed conversation with new friends in a friendly atmosphere at the beginning of the 49th SSEAYP.

3 Schedule for Local Program

①Iwate (SG-A, SG-C)

Date	Time	Program
17th January Saturday	11:20-13:32	Transfer from Tokyo Station to Morioka Station (Hayabusa No. 19)
	14:00-14:30	Transfer from Morioka Station to Iwate Prefectural Youth Center
	14:30-15:10	Orientation
	15:10-15:50	Welcome Ceremony • Speech by AYL of Philippines • Speech by AYL of Cambodia • Performance by local youths (Morioka Sansa Odori dance)
	15:50-16:30	Homestay Matching
18th January Sunday		~Homestay~
19th January Monday	8:40	PYs return from Homestay (at Malios)
	13:00-14:00	Arrive at Iwate Tsunami Memorial Museum
	14:00-14:30	Within the museum grounds: to the memorial/prayer area
	14:30	Transfer from Iwate Tsunami Memorial Museum (Roadside Station Takata Matsubara) to Rikuzentakata City Community Hall
	14:40-15:30	Session with Rikuzentakata International Association Stay at Hotel Metropolitan Morioka NEW WING
20th January Tuesday	9:30-10:30	Debriefing Session (at Iwate Prefectural Government Office)
	11:00-11:30	Courtesy Call on Iwate Prefectural Government • Speech by NL of Japan • Speech by NL of Thailand • Speech by Ms. NAKASATO Hiromi, Director General of the Department of Environment and Residential Life • Gift Exchange • Photo Session
	12:00	Transfer from Iwate Prefectural Government Office to Morioka Station
	12:50-15:04	Transfer from Morioka Station to Tokyo Station (Hayabusa No. 18)
	15:30	Arrive at NYC

②Chiba (SG-B, SG-E)

Date	Time	Program
17th January Saturday	8:00-9:30 10:00-12:05 14:30-15:30	Transfer from NYC to Narita International Airport Corporation Visit to Narita International Airport Corporation Welcome Reception and Homestay Matching (at HOTEL MYSTAYS PREMIER Narita) • Speech by Mr. TAKAOKA Koji, Director General, Citizens' Life Affairs Division, Environmental and Community Affairs Department, Chiba Prefectural Government • Speech by Chairperson of Chiba IYEO Reception Committee • Speech by Representative of Host Families • Speech by NL of Cambodia • Speech by YL of Malaysia • Performance by Participating Youths • Photo Session • Introduction of Host Families and Matching Ceremony
18th January Sunday		~Homestay~
19th January Monday	8:00-8:30 10:30-11:00 12:46-13:54 14:00-15:00 15:07-16:02 18:59-19:19	PYs return from Homestay (at Narita City Hall) Transfer from Narita City Hall to Chiba Prefectural Government Office Courtesy Call on Vice Governor of Chiba Prefecture • Speech by Ms. TAKANASHI Michie, Vice Governor of Chiba Prefecture • Speech by NL of Singapore • Speech by YL of Philippines • Introduction of Participating Youths • Presentation of Gifts • Photo Session Transfer from Chiba Prefectural Government Office to Hiroguchi Strawberry Farm Strawberry Picking Experience Transfer from Hiroguchi Strawberry Farm to AEON Mall Narita Transfer from AEON Mall Narita to HOTEL MYSTAYS PREMIER Narita Stay at HOTEL MYSTAYS PREMIER Narita
20th January Tuesday	7:57-8:19 8:20-12:00 12:10-12:49 13:00-15:20 15:30-16:27 16:27	Transfer from HOTEL MYSTAYS PREMIER Narita to International University of Health and Welfare Visit to International University of Health and Welfare • Campus Tour • Exchange with Students Transfer from International University of Health and Welfare to Weathernews Inc. Visit Weathernews Inc. Transfer from Weathernews Inc. to NYC Arrive at NYC

③Toyama (SG-I, SG-F)

Date	Time	Program
17th January Saturday	11:24-13:54 13:54-14:20 14:30-15:20 15:20-15:35 16:00-16:30 16:30	Transfer from Tokyo Station to Toyama Station (Hakutaka 561) Transfer from Toyama Station to Toyama Glass Art Museum Visit to Toyama Glass Art Museum Transfer from Toyama Glass Art Museum to Toyama City International Center Orientation Homestay Matching • Speech by Chairperson, Toyama IYEO Reception Committee • Speech by NL of Philippines • Performance by PYs • Homestay Matching • Photo Session
18th January Sunday		～Homestay～
19th January Monday	9:00 9:30-10:20 10:30-11:00 11:00-12:15 12:15-12:45 13:00-14:00 14:30-15:00 15:00-17:00 17:00-17:30 18:15-20:30	PYs return from Homestay (at Toyama Prefectural Government Office) Courtesy Call on Toyama Prefectural Government • Speech by Mr. KAWANISHI Naoji, Director General, Child and Family Office, Welfare Department, Toyama Prefectural Government • Speech by NL of Indonesia • Gift Exchange • Photo Session Transfer from Toyama Prefectural Government to Masu-no-Sushi (Trout pressed Sushi) Museum Visit to Masu-no-Sushi (Trout pressed Sushi) Museum Transfer from Masu-no-Sushi Museum to Toyama Municipal Central Elementary School Visit to Toyama Municipal Central Elementary School Transfer from Toyama Municipal Central Elementary School to Toyama Glass Studio Visit to Toyama Glass Studio & Glass Craft (Making Photo Frame) Transfer from Toyama Glass Studio to University of Toyama Exchange Party with local youths (Students at University of Toyama) • Speech by President of Toyama IYEO • Speech by Ms. SOUKAWA Saori, Senior Director of Child Development Promotion Section, Toyama Prefectural Government • Speech by Vice President, Director for International Affairs, University of Toyama • Performance by Students, University of Toyama • Performance by PYs • Speech by NL of Timor-Leste Stay at Toyama Excel Hotel TOKYU
20th January Tuesday	9:00-9:15 9:15-11:00 11:00-11:30 12:22-14:52 16:00	Transfer from Toyama Excel Hotel TOKYU to TANIHATA Co., Ltd. Visit to TANIHATA Co., Ltd. • Company Tour • Factory Tour • Kumiko Wood Workshop Transfer from TANIHATA Co., Ltd. to Toyama Station Transfer from Toyama Station to Tokyo Station (Hakutaka 562) Arrival at NYC

④Tokushima (SG-D, SG-H)

Date	Time	Program
17th January Saturday	10:15-11:35 12:00-12:20 12:30-12:50	Transfer from Haneda Airport to Tokushima Awaodori Airport (JAL455) Orientation (at Airport conference room) • Speech by President of Tokushima IYEO Homestay Matching
18th January Sunday		~Homestay~
19th January Monday	8:00-9:00 9:15-9:30 9:30-10:50 11:00-11:30 12:00-12:30 12:40-13:40 14:00-16:30 17:00-17:30 18:30-21:30	PYs return from Homestay (at The Grand Palace Tokushima) Transfer from The Grand Palace Tokushima to Tokushima Prefectural Government Office Introduction and Tour of the Tokushima Prefectural Government Office Courtesy Call on Governor of Tokushima Prefecture • Speech by Mr. GOTODA Masazumi, Governor of Tokushima Prefecture • Speech by NL of Brunei Darussalam • Speech by NL of Malaysia • Gift Exchange • Photo Session Transfer from Tokushima Prefectural Government Office to Tokushima College of Technology Lunch Interaction (at the College Cafeteria) • Speech by President of Tokushima College of Technology Exchange Program • E-sports Experience, Hands-on Maintenance and Repair Experience, and Test Drive Experience of Toyota's Hydrogen Vehicle "MIRAI" • Photo Session • Speech by PY of Viet Nam • Performance by PYs Transfer from Tokushima College of Technology to The Grand Palace Tokushima Farewell Ceremony • Speech by Mr. MURAKAMI Koji, Vice Governor of Tokushima Prefecture • Speech by YL of Cambodia • Performance by PYs • Fashion show and sing songs • Awa-odori dance (Kikusui ren) Stay at The Grand Palace Tokushima
20th January Tuesday	10:30-11:00 12:20-13:30 14:00	Transfer from The Grand Palace Tokushima to Tokushima Awaodori Airport Transfer from Tokushima Awaodori Airport to Haneda Airport (JAL456) Arrive at NYC

⑤Nagasaki (SG-G, SG-J)

Day	Time	Program
17th January Saturday	10:50-12:55 13:30-14:10 14:30-15:00	Transfer from Haneda Airport for Nagasaki Airport (ANA663) Transfer from Nagasaki Airport to Isahaya City Center Homestay Matching
18th January Sunday		～Homestay～
19th January Monday	8:45 9:50 10:00-11:40 13:40-14:55 15:10 15:25 16:10-16:30 17:45-18:00	PYs return from Homestay (at Isahaya City Center) Arrive at Nagasaki Stadium City Japan-ASEAN Youth Exchange, Nagasaki Program: "Peace Study Session" • Lecture by Family Successor of Atomic Bomb Survivors' Experiences • Sharing session, Q&A session, Interaction with the lecturer • Exchange of ideas about Peace in groups • Photo Session Visit to Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum Moment of Silence in front of the Atomic Bomb Hypocenter Monument Photo Session in front of the Peace Statue Walking around Peace Park Transfer from Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum to Dejima Messe Nagasaki Transfer from Dejima Messe Nagasaki to ANA Crowne Plaza Nagasaki Gloverhill Stay at ANA Crowne Plaza Nagasaki Gloverhill
20th January Tuesday	8:45-9:00 9:30-10:00 10:10-11:00 11:40 12:20-13:55 14:25	Transfer from ANA Crowne Plaza Nagasaki Gloverhill to Nagasaki Prefectural Government Office Courtesy Call on Vice Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture • Speech by Mr. URA Masaki, Vice Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture • Speech by NL of Viet Nam • Speech by NL of Lao P.D.R. • Gift Exchange • Conversation with the Vice Governor • Photo Session Transfer from Nagasaki Prefectural Government Office to Nagasaki Airport Farewell Ceremony (in front of the Security Checkpoint) Transfer from Nagasaki Airport to Haneda Airport (JAL610) Arrive at NYC

4

Courtesy Call on H.E. Ms. TAKAICHI Sanae, Prime Minister of Japan

On 16th January, a Courtesy Call on H.E. Ms. TAKAICHI Sanae, Prime Minister of Japan was held from 17:05 at the great hall of the Prime Minister's Office. At the beginning, the Prime Minister, guided by Mr. MAKINO Masahiro, Administrator, proceeded to the front of the representative and shook hands with the National Leaders

of each country.

Subsequently, YL of Singapore delivered a speech on behalf of the PYs, followed by remarks from Prime Minister TAKAICHI. Finally, a commemorative photo was taken with the Prime Minister, NLs and PY representatives.

5 Audience with H.I.H. Princess Kako of Akishino

On 22nd January, Audience with H.I.H. Princess Kako of Akishino was held from 16:00 at Akasaka Imperial Residence. At the beginning, YL of Indonesia delivered her speech. After the speech, NLs, YLs and AYLs were divided into three groups, each representing three or four countries, and had casual conversation with H.I.H. Princess

Kako of Akishino.

The Audience concluded with a commemorative photo session, followed by a greeting of thanks from Ms. MINAMI Junko, Director General for International Youth Exchange of the Cabinet Office.

6 Field Study

	Institution (AM)	Institution (PM)
DG1	Senior High School at Sakado, University of Tsukuba	
DG2	Tourism Division, Kamakura City	public and co
DG3	Tokyo Metropolitan Environmental Public Corporation	Alfo Co., Ltd., Re-Tem Corporation
DG4	Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel	
DG5	Social Welfare Corporation 'Kotoen'	Welfare Promotion Division, Edogawa City
DG6	SAP Japan	



DG1 Quality Education



DG2 Economic Growth and Sustainable & Responsible Tourism



DG3 Global Environment and Climate Change



DG4 Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery



DG5 Social Welfare and Inclusion



DG6 Digital Society and AI

7 Cultural Exchange Program

The Cultural Exchange Program was held on 23rd January from 19:00 at the Reception Hall in the International Exchange Building of NYC.

Each of the 11 participating countries was assigned a booth, which the PYs prepared with the support of their respective embassies in Japan to introduce their cultures. Each booth featured traditional games, dances, and other cultural activities. The program was designed to encourage PYs to visit various booths, fostering closer personal interaction and deeper mutual understanding among the participants.



The Brunei booth

8 Ship Tour and Departure Ceremony

On 26th January, starting at 13:15, families and friends of the Japanese PYs and concerned people got onboard Nippon Maru for the ship tour before departure from Tokyo Port.

Thereafter, Departure Ceremony started at 15:00 in the Dolphin Hall onboard Nippon Maru with the presence of the representatives of the respective embassies of the ASEAN member countries in Japan and concerned organizations.

The participants received words of encouragement from Mr. KIKAWADA Hitoshi, Minister of State for Youth Affairs of the Cabinet Office, which were read on his behalf by Mr. MIZUNO Atsushi, Director General for Policy Coordination, Cabinet Office. YL of Malaysia expressed her determination on behalf of all PYs.

After the Departure Ceremony, Nippon Maru set sail from Tokyo Port to Singapore at 16:00.



Speech by Youth Leader of Malaysia

Chapter 4

Cruise (Onboard Activities)

1 Sailing Schedule and Route

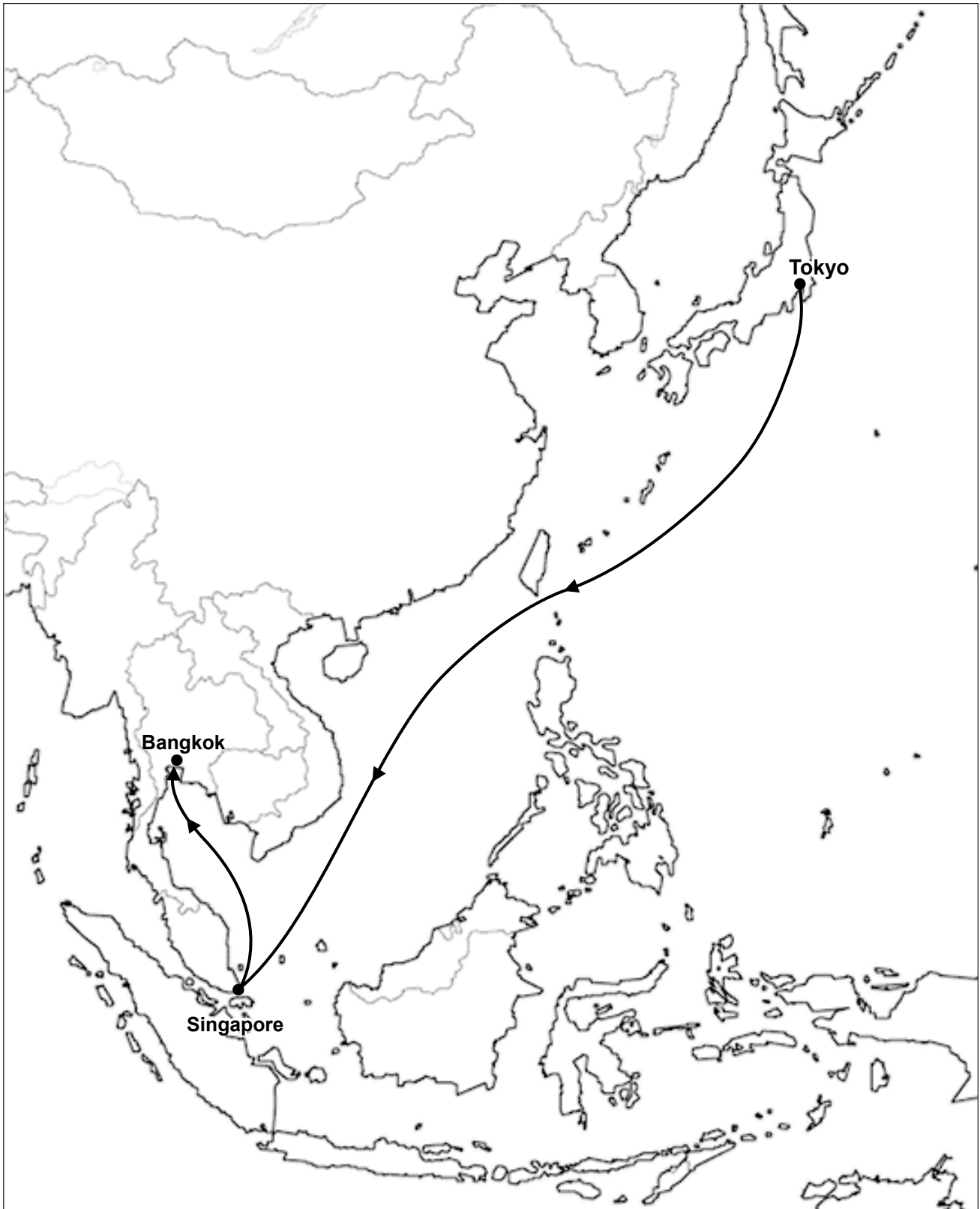
(1) Sailing Schedule:

	Arrival	Departure
Tokyo (Japan)	—	26th January
Singapore	4th February	8th February
Bangkok (Thailand)	11th February	—

Note:

- National Leaders (NLs) and Participating Youths (PYs) from ASEAN member countries arrived in Japan on 15th January and embarked the ship on 25th January.
- Facilitators arrived in Japan on 19th January and joined the NL and PYs on the following day, 20th January. After participating in activities in Japan, they embarked the ship on 25th January.
- Representatives of Alumni Associations boarded the ship from Singapore on 7th February.
- ASEAN government representatives assembled in Bangkok, Thailand on 14th February.
- In Thailand, the PYs disembarked on 13th February (NLs disembarked on 14th February). Following the country program, the Farewell Ceremony, and the Farewell Party, they returned to their respective countries by air on 17th February.

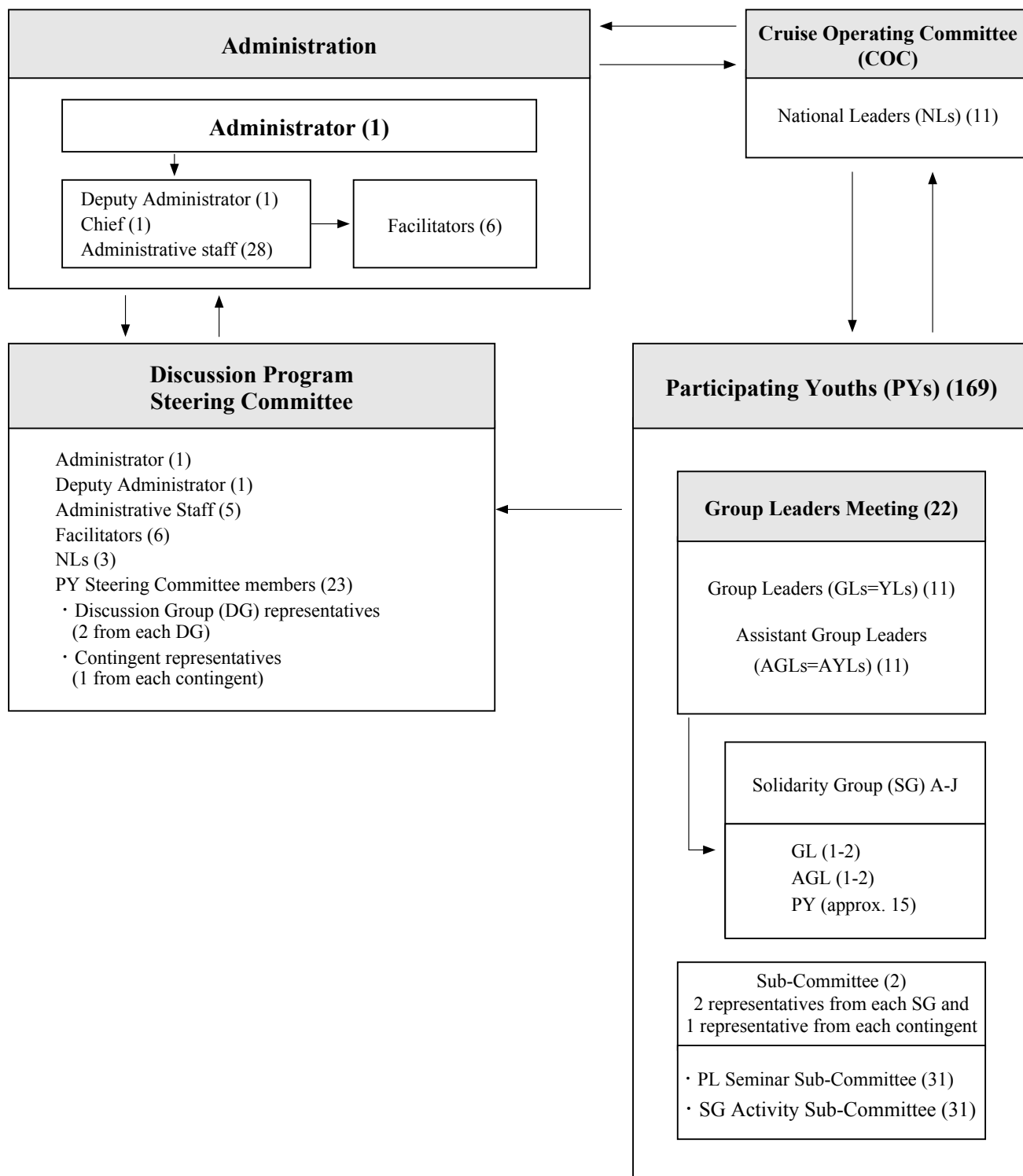
(2) Sailing Route



2 Organization Onboard

(1) Organizational Chart

The Organizational Chart of the 49th SSEAYP is as follows:



(2) Cruise Operating Committee (COC)

The COC consisted of 11 NLs, who discussed and decided on the fundamental matters concerning the discipline and onboard activities. It also gave guidance

and advice to GL Meeting, Discussion Program Steering Committee, Sub-Committees and PYs.

The Administrator was authorized to give guidance and advice to the COC when necessary.

[List of NLs]

Country	Name	Meeting / Committee in Charge
Japan		Discussion Program Steering Committee
Singapore		PL Seminars Sub-Committee
Thailand		PL Seminars Sub-Committee
Brunei Darussalam		Discussion Program Steering Committee
Cambodia		GL Meeting
Indonesia		Discussion Program Steering Committee
Lao P.D.R.		PL Seminars Sub-Committee
Malaysia		SG Activity Sub-Committee
Philippines		GL Meeting
Timor-Leste		GL Meeting
Viet Nam		SG Activity Sub-Committee

(3) Solidarity Group (SG)

PYs were divided into 10 groups called “Solidarity Groups” (SGs) with letter names from A to J. The SGs, consisting of approximately 17 PYs with nearly the same number of males and females from each contingent, functioned as the basic unit for activities both onboard and in the countries visited.

Each SG was led by a Group Leader (GL) and an Assistant Group Leader (AGL), who were also the Youth Leader (YL) and Assistant Youth Leader (AYL) of their respective contingents. In this regard, the assignment of YLs and AYLs to the SGs was arranged in such a way that no YL and AYL from the same contingent would go to the same SG.

For Smooth operation of activities and the dissemination of information, PYs from the same SGs were assigned to the same cabins onboard to the extent possible.

(4) Group Leaders Meeting (GL Meeting)

The GL Meeting was composed of 11 GLs (YLs) and 11 AGLs (AYLs), with three NLs of Cambodia, the Philippines and Timor-Leste acting as advisors. The body mainly discussed onboard activities and could forward its collective views to the COC when necessary. It also functioned as an information intermediary between the COC, the Administration and PYs as well as conduit of information among SGs.

Various voluntary activities proposed by PYs were discussed and coordinated through the GL Meeting to implement when necessary.

【List of YLs and AYLs】

Counry	Name of YLs	Name of AYLs
Japan		
Singapore		
Thailand		
Brunei Darussalam		
Cambodia		
Indonesia		
Lao P.D.R.		
Malaysia		
Philippines		
Timor-Leste		
Viet Nam		

(5) Discussion Program Steering Committee

The Discussion Program Steering Committee was formed for the planning and smooth implementation of the Discussion Program. It comprised of the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, five Administrative staff members,

six Facilitators, three NLs of Japan, Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia and 23 PY Steering Committee members.

The Facilitators carried out the group discussions and related activities of the Discussion Program under the Administrator's instruction.

【List of Discussion Program Steering Committee members】

*Contingent with underline shows contingent representatives.

	Discussion Group	Name	Nationality/Contingent
Administrator	—		—
Deputy Administrator	—		—
Administrative staff	—		—
Facilitator	Quality Education		Philippines
	Economic Growth and Sustainable & Responsible Tourism		Philippines
	Global Environment and Climate Change		Philippines
	Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery		Japan
	Social Welfare and Inclusion		Singapore
	Digital Society and AI		Nepal

	Discussion Group	Name	Nationality/Contingent
NL			Japan
			Brunei Darussalam
			Indonesia
PY Steering Committee members	Quality Education		<u>Japan</u>
			Singapore
			Philippines
			<u>Timor-Leste</u>
	Economic Growth and Sustainable & Responsible Tourism		Singapore
			<u>Brunei Darussalam</u>
			Malaysia
			<u>Malaysia</u>
	Global Environment and Climate Change		Thailand
			Philippines
	Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery		Japan
			<u>Thailand</u>
			Cambodia
			<u>Lao P.D.R.</u>
			<u>Viet Nam</u>
	Social Welfare and Inclusion		<u>Singapore</u>
			<u>Cambodia</u>
			Indonesia
			Malaysia
			<u>Philippines</u>
	Digital Society and AI		Singapore
			<u>Indonesia</u>
			Viet Nam

(6) Sub-Committees

Sub-Committees were formed by PYs with NLs as advisors. They discussed and decided on the details of the respective onboard activities.

PL Seminars Sub-Committee and SG Activity Sub-Committee were composed of 31 members respectively,

represented by two PYs from each SG and one PY from each contingent. The NLs of Singapore, Thailand and Lao P.D.R. were in charge of the PL Seminars Sub-Committee, while the NLs of Malaysia and Viet Nam were in charge of the SG Activity Sub-Committee.

[List of PL Seminars Sub-Committee members]

*Contingent with underline shows contingent representatives.

SG	Name	Contingent
A		Japan
		<u>Thailand</u>
		Thailand
		<u>Philippines</u>
B		Japan
		Thailand
C		Japan
		Thailand
		<u>Viet Nam</u>
D		<u>Cambodia</u>
		Lao P.D.R.
		Viet Nam
E		Japan
		<u>Singapore</u>
		Cambodia
F		Thailand
		Philippines
		<u>Timor-Leste</u>
G		Japan
		Japan
		<u>Lao P.D.R.</u>
H		<u>Brunei Darussalam</u>
		Lao P.D.R.
		<u>Malaysia</u>
		Philippines
I		Cambodia
		<u>Indonesia</u>
		Philippines
J		<u>Japan</u>
		Japan
		Lao P.D.R.

【List of SG Activity Sub-Committee members】

*Contingent with underline shows contingent representatives.

SG	Name	Contingent
A		Brunei Darussalam
		Cambodia
		<u>Timor-Leste</u>
B		Japan
		<u>Brunei Darussalam</u>
		Viet Nam
C		<u>Lao P.D.R.</u>
		Lao P.D.R.
		Malaysia
D		Indonesia
		Malaysia
		<u>Philippines</u>
E		<u>Thailand</u>
		Singapore
		Lao P.D.R.
		<u>Viet Nam</u>
F		Singapore
		<u>Cambodia</u>
		Cambodia
G		<u>Singapore</u>
		Lao P.D.R.
		<u>Malaysia</u>
		Viet Nam
H		Japan
		Indonesia
I		Singapore
		Thailand
		<u>Indonesia</u>
J		<u>Japan</u>
		Cambodia
		Lao P.D.R.

3 Cruise Operating Committee (COC)

The discussions in the COC covered a wide range of topics including discipline, onboard activities country programs, etc. The first and second COC meetings were held during the online NL Meeting. Thereafter, the meetings were basically held on the last day of each country program after the ship's departure.

The decisions made at the first and second COC meetings were compiled and disseminated to each PY through the "Handbook."

Other day-to-day information was relayed through the daily Morning Assembly, the contingent meeting and/or the ship's bulletin board.

[Agenda of the COC Meetings]

Meeting 1 (22nd October, Online)

Refer to Chapter 2, 6. National Leaders Meeting.

Meeting 2 (10th December, Online)

Refer to Chapter 2, 6. National Leaders Meeting.

Meeting 3 (26th January, COC Room onboard)

Review of country program in Japan

Meeting 4 (8th February, COC Room onboard)

Review of country program in Singapore

Meeting 5 (15th February, Meeting room in the hotel)

Review of country program in Thailand

4 Onboard Activities

(1) Life Onboard

a. Time

The daily life and activities during the cruise, except for the country programs, were conducted based on the following timetable:

Time	Activity
7:00	Rising (Morning Call)
7:30-8:00	Morning Exercise
8:00-9:00	Breakfast
9:15-9:45	Morning Assembly
10:00-12:45	Activities
12:45-14:15	Lunch
14:15-17:00	Activities
17:00-18:00	Free
18:00-19:30	Dinner
19:30-20:30	Activities
20:30-23:00	Free
23:00	Lights-off (Night Call) / Night Patrol

b. Details of Each Activity

• Morning Call and Night Call

Morning calls were made every morning at 7:00 via the onboard public address system by PYs on a rotational basis (by Solidarity Group). The calls were creatively designed, incorporating wake-up messages, music, and other elements. Similarly, night calls were conducted every

night at 23:00 by PYs on a rotational basis.

• Morning Exercise

Morning exercises were held from 7:30 to 8:00 in the Dolphin Hall or on the Sports Deck. These sessions, organized by PYs on a rotational basis, featured a variety of activities such as aerobics with music and dance. Participation was optional.

• Morning Assembly

Morning Assemblies were held every day from 9:15 to 9:45 in the Dolphin Hall. After the roll call and health check by SG or by contingent, the NL in charge delivered the schedule of the day and would make important announcements.

• Activities

Activities were divided into three time slots: morning, afternoon, and evening (details are provided later in this report). Morning and afternoon sessions consisted of Discussion Programs, PL Seminars, and SG Activities. Evening sessions were dedicated to National Presentations and Voluntary Activities.

• Night Patrol

After the night calls, NLs conducted patrols on a rotational basis. They inspected various areas of the ship to ensure there were no irregularities and to maintain onboard safety and security.

(2) Schedule of Onboard Activities of the 49th SSEAYP in 2026

Date		10:00~11:15	11:30~12:45	14:15 ~15:30	15:45~17:00	19:30~20:30
Jan.	25 Sun					Embarkation Orientation by the Ship
	26 Mon	Lifeboat Drill (10:00-10:30)	Embarkation Procedure (10:30-12:00)	Open Ship (13:15-14:30)	Departure Ceremony (15:00-15:35)	Contingent Meeting (17:00-18:00)
	27 Tue	Orientation by ADM	GL Meeting / Discussion Program Steering Committee / Sub-committee Meeting / Press Liaison Meeting		Introduction to PL Seminars	
	28 Wed	Lecture by Administrator	Lecture by Captain		Photo Session (by SG)	
	29 Thu	Discussion Program (Group Discussion II)		GL Meeting / Discussion Program Steering Committee / Sub-committee Meeting / Press Liaison Meeting		National Presentation (Indonesia)
	30 Fri	Discussion Program (Group Discussion III)		PL Seminar I	PL Seminar II	National Presentation (Lao P.D.R.)
	31 Sat	Free Day (Half day)		SG Activity I		National Presentation (Malaysia)
Feb.	1 Sun	Discussion Program (Group Discussion IV)		PL Seminar III	PL Seminar IV	National Presentation (Philippines)
	2 Mon	Discussion Program (Group Discussion V)		SG Activity II		National Presentation (Timor-Leste)
	3 Tue	Discussion Program (Wrap-up, Self-evaluation)		PL Seminar V	PL Seminar VI	National Presentation (Singapore)
	4 Wed	Country Program in Singapore				
	5 Thu					
	6 Fri					
	7 Sat					
	8 Sun					Contingent Meeting
						COC Meeting Voluntary Activity
	9 Mon	Free Day (Half day)		Post-Program Session I (Plenary Session)		National Presentation (Viet Nam)
	10 Tue	Post-Program Session II (Introduction of AA Activities and Discussion on Project Design by Contingent)		Explanation of Disembarkation	Contingent Meeting	National Presentation (Thailand)
	11 Wed	Country Program in Thailand				
	12 Thu					
	13 Fri					
	14 Sat					
	15 Sun				Conference of government representatives	
					PYs	
					Contingent Meeting	Preparation for Presentation of Discussion Results/ Summary Forum
	16 Mon	Presentation of Discussion Results		Summary Forum	Farewell Ceremony	Explanation of Departure
	17 Tue	JPYs : Reflection on the program, Departure				
		ASEAN NLs, PYs, Facilitators, OBSC representatives, and Government representatives : Departure				

(3) Discussion Program / Post-Program Sessions

The Discussion Program is intended to encourage PYs from different backgrounds to promote mutual understanding, to improve the skills in exchanging views with other participants, and to enhance their abilities in presenting their own ideas in public, through a free-flowing and active exchange of opinions. The details of the Discussion Program are contained in Chapter 7 of this report.

Post-Program Sessions intend to utilize the results of the Discussion Program, to encourage the PYs' active participation in social activities after participation in SSEAYP and to strengthen networks of Alumni Associations. The details of the Post-Program Sessions are contained in Chapter 8 of this report.

(4) Peer Learning Seminars

The PL Seminars focused on sharing and discussing PYs' knowledge and experiences with a relatively small number of peers and were designed for the following purposes:

[Participating PYs]

- To deepen the understanding of each other's backgrounds through sharing knowledge and experiences.
- To learn effective methodologies for conducting workshops, lectures and discussions from how the fellow PYs manage and organize their seminar.
- To acquire the ability to evaluate objectively and provide meaningful feedback.

[Organizing PYs]

- To enhance presentation skills by communicating one's own ideas and experiences to others.
- To improve project execution skills through experiencing the entire process from planning to implementation.

In addition, organizing a seminar required fulfillment of the following four criteria.

- 1) Content with social value
- 2) Content with international significance
- 3) Content that deepens cultural understanding and fosters a broad perspective
- 4) Content that promotes international exchange and cooperation with other nations

Under the guidance of the three Advisory NLs (Singapore, Thailand, and Lao P.D.R.), the PL Seminar Sub-Committee managed the activities in accordance with the following principles:

- The fundamental theme shall be "Action Taken for the Betterment of Society," ensuring the content provides intellectual learning.
- The contents are not limited to PYs' own experiences and knowledge built through their previous / current study and activities, but may be a report of the activities in their countries that are worth spreading to other countries. Sharing own cultures may also be options.
- Organizing PYs do not need to be experts in the chosen theme. The content may relate to daily life rather than being strictly academic. However, organizers must conduct research to deepen the seminar's substance.
- Instead, the PYs should make researches in the field of seminar theme to deepen the seminar contents.
- Each PL Seminar is organized by organizing PYs, and participating PYs also need to provide some assistance in order to achieve smooth organization of its seminar.
- PYs should choose effective methodology that suits the theme: this may include but not limited to workshops, lectures and discussions.
- PYs should consider to make a seminar to be interactive and creative in order to enhance participating PYs' curiosity and make the seminar experience valuable.
- As a general rule, one PL Seminar should be completed in one session (75 minutes) or two consecutive sessions (75 minutes x 2).
- One session or two consecutive sessions must include, 1) Introduction, 2) Main Activities, 3) Feedback Session, and 4) Clean-up.
- The above-mentioned "3) Feedback Session" is a space for organizing PYs to receive feedback by participating PYs of seminar management, contents and others. Feedback should focus primarily on what the organizers should continue or what requires improvement. Organizers must allocate at least 15 minutes for this session.

Prior to the sessions, the organizing PYs introduced their seminar contents to all participants on January 27th. Each PY participated in all six sessions, either as an organizer or a participant.

The PL Seminars conducted were as follows:

List of Peer Learning Seminars

* B: Brunei Darussalam, C: Cambodia, I: Indonesia, J: Japan, L: Lao P.D.R., Ma: Malaysia, P: Philippines, S: Singapore, T: Thailand, Tim: Timor-Leste, V: Viet Nam

<Brunei Darussalam>

1) Title: Priceless Connection: An Embrace

Organizers: B06, B08

Goal

- To strengthen our bonds with our family
- To tell that we are just human, we make a lot of mistakes and we are not perfect
- Expressing our feelings matters at least it can ease a little of our burden
- To not let them forget about those who are always there for us which is our family

Organizer's gains from this experience

- To be more organized structuring the flow
- Learning more about people's attitudes
- Eye opening for trying something new
- It helped me to be more empathetic

2) Title: TALK TO MY HAND

Organizers: B05, B01

Goal

- Create awareness of the deaf community in respective countries
- Educate the youth on sign language
- Instill the eagerness to learn sign language to the youth

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers we learned that many people are interested in learning sign language. In Brunei most of the people who are eager to learn sign language are women, however through SSEAYP program, it breaks the stigma that only women are interested in the humanistic side of things. To add, we also learn time-management and creating more interactive games so that people can learn sign language easier.

3) Title: From Peers to Peacebuilders: Harnessing Youth Power for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE)

Organizers: B11

Goal

- Introduce the concept of Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE) to the participants.
- Providing practical opportunity for participants to explore the direct and indirect causes of radicalization and violent extremism using the Causal Loop Diagram of systematic thinking.
- Connecting diverse minds to explore possible youth-led initiatives to prevent and counter violent extremism across the Southeast Asia and Japan

regions.

Organizer's gains from this experience

I have identified that social media is the common factor or an instrument being exploited and leveraged by extremist groups to amplify propaganda and gain sympathy particularly from the youths who have strong sense of justice and compassion. Furthermore, some of the highlighted possible solutions to counter narratives include better AI recognition of bias on social media and greater education as well as awareness. On the facilitating side, conducting this seminar alone was quite challenging. Therefore, I would suggest for the future PLS to have at least two organizers, especially to ensure that all logistical needs can be prepared swiftly.

4) Title: Breathwork With Brunei

Organizers: B04, B10

Goal

To maximize breathing capacity and relax.

Organizer's gains from this experience

We learnt about the customer service and engagement skills with the participants.

<Cambodia>

1) Title: Bristles Beyond Borders

Organizers: C16, C11, C14, C12, C07, C03

Goal

The goal of "Bristles Beyond Borders" is to promote intercultural understanding, sustainable and responsible tourism, and lasting friendship among Participating Youths (PYs) through a meaningful art-based exchange. This aligns with our group discussion theme on sustainable and responsible tourism. By creating and exchanging hand-painted postcards paired with Polaroid photos, PYs are encouraged to express their national identity, especially through tourism sites, while reflecting on sustainability, responsibility and cultural preservation.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we learned to value art as a universal language that transcends differences and fosters intercultural dialogue; to understand sustainable and responsible tourism of ASEAN and Japan as a personal responsibility, not only a national agenda; to appreciate the diversity of ASEAN and Japan, recognizing how creativity enriches mutual understanding, and to build deeper interpersonal connections through meaningful, tangible exchanges, rather than surface-level interactions.

2) Title: Why Therapy Might Not Be The Solution for Gen Z

Organizers: C04, C01, C02, C05, C09

Goal

- Discussing the solution to decrease stress without having to rely too much on therapy.
- Understanding the cause of an increase in mental health disorders despite Gen Z being the most mental health-aware among all generations.
- Determining youth models that would be best fit to help guide parents in raising their children.

Organizer's gains from this experience

- PYs from every country face different experiences
- Uncovered new ideas about the rise of mental health disorders
- Everyone has different approaches to mental health

3) Title: Brain Food 101

Organizers: C15, C08, C10, C06, C13

Goal

The main goal of the seminar is to help PYs understand how their daily eating habits affect their health and to guide them toward simple, realistic changes that can improve their overall well-being. We focused on a session regarding sugar intake and tips for better nutritional food choices.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we learned how to give an engaging presentation on basic nutrition while also making it fun for all the participants. Your daily choices shape your well-being. We also got a lot of good input from the participating PYs on their meal plans. All the organizing PYs also learned to work together to organize a good Peer Learning Seminar with planning beforehand and cleaning afterwards.

<Indonesia>

1) Title: Spice That Shaped Connections: United by Spices

Organizers: I11, I03, I05, I07, I10, I12, I16

Goal

Spice that Shape Connection aims to bring ASEAN youth together through the shared history and cultural significance of spices, showing how it has connected people across borders through trade, diplomacy, and gastronomy. The seminar also raises international awareness of Indonesia and ASEAN's central role in the global Spice Route, highlighting its impact on world history, migration, and cultural

exchange. Beyond cultural appreciation, this seminar encourages participants to explore spices as living heritage that is shaping identity, rituals, cuisine, and social connection. Through interactive activities and collaborative sessions, participants will also strengthen essential leadership skills, including teamwork, communication, coordination, and respectful dialogue. Ultimately Spice that Shape Connection invites youth to see spices not only as ingredients, but as symbols of unity, learning, and collaborative leadership for a more connected and sustainable future.

Organizer's gains from this experience

We gained a lot from the discussions about the usage of spices in several country in ASEAN and Japan, how the use spice in their daily life, and how the society view the spice, not only as a food but also shaping their connection and relation. We were also very happy because in this occasion we can share about Indonesian gastronomy and wellness product for PYs to try and experience. We received a lot of positive feedback regarding to this session and gastronomy booth became the most favorite booth.

2) Title: Let Go The Pressure and Find Your Flow

Organizers: I04, I06, I05, I01, I15

Goal

- To strengthen mental health awareness
- Starting to love yourself
- Explaining to participants meditation is easy to do
- Giving the knowledge about the starter pack / short escape practical to release stress in a program
- Appreciation of local genius

Organizer's gains from this experience

- To be more organized structuring the flow
- Showing empathy to other people
- Leadership through event organizer
- Connected with many souls especially the participants
- Conducting oneself professionally.

3) Title: Unity in Strategy: Team-Based Leadership Games for Collaborative Problem-Solving

Organizers: I09, I01, I07, I14, I11, I13, I08, I15

Goal

- To strengthen our bonds with team
- To cooperate with team
- Building mutual trust
- Enhancing leadership skills within PYs

Organizer's gains from this experience

- To be more organized structuring the flow
- Improving the introduction of the event (bridging)
- More interactive with PY
- Respect each other and cooperation

4) Title: Scripts of Identity

Organizers: I08, I01, I02, I03, I04, I05, I06, I09, I10, I14

Goal

The goal of this Peer Learning Seminar was to introduce the richness of Indonesia's traditional scripts—Aksara Jawa, Aksara Bali, and Aksara Lontara—as entry points to a broader Japan–ASEAN dialogue on cultural identity, resilience, and shared heritage. Rather than being centered solely on Indonesia, the seminar positioned Indonesian scripts within a wider Southeast Asian and Japanese context, highlighting historical linkages, shared challenges of cultural erosion, and parallel preservation efforts across the region. Through contextual presentations, open discussions, hands-on writing practices, and cultural art expression, participants were encouraged to reflect on how writing systems across Japan and ASEAN function not only as linguistic tools, but as carriers of memory, values, and identity. The seminar aimed to foster inclusive peer learning, deepen intercultural understanding, and emphasize cultural preservation as a collective Japan–ASEAN responsibility. Ultimately, the session supported the development of culturally grounded and value-based leadership by inspiring participants to reconnect with their own heritage while strengthening a shared vision of regional unity.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we gained a deeper understanding of how cultural heritage can become a powerful medium for connection and dialogue within the Japan–ASEAN context. Facilitating this Peer Learning Seminar strengthened our ability to translate academic knowledge into inclusive, interactive learning experiences that resonated with participants from diverse cultural backgrounds. We learned the importance of designing activities that balance structure with creativity, allowing space for peer exchange, reflection, and personal expression. The enthusiastic engagement and positive feedback from participants reinforced our belief that cultural preservation, when approached collaboratively, can foster empathy, mutual respect, and shared ownership of heritage. This experience also enhanced our leadership, coordination, and facilitation skills, and affirmed our role as cultural

bridges who can initiate meaningful conversations that connect local traditions with regional and global perspectives.

<Japan>

1) Title: How Index Conceals Gender Inequalities

Organizers: J12, J03, J05

Goal

To make an opportunity to think about things below and learn about different societies from the PYs.

- A single number cannot explain every aspect of an issue.
- Do not follow “global” standard blindly and consider your own culture and history.

Organizer's gains from this experience

We organized a seminar for the first time, and it was difficult to briefly explain the agenda and basic knowledge to PYs from various backgrounds.

In the seminar, one PY mentioned that if you respect your own culture or tradition, it is not necessarily necessary to achieve the gender equality targets set by the World Economic Forum. Even though I try to be neutral and be aware of my bias as possible when I study, I still see the world through my values and bias. Some PYs mentioned the regional gap in a country, and it was also insightful.

2) Title: A Workshop for Passing Down Memories

Organizers: J06, J17, J09, J11, J13, J08, J07

Goal

Our PL Seminar aims to explore how important memories and cultural traditions can be preserved and passed on to future generations. This workshop is not just a craft session. It provides a tangible way to engage with stories of resilience, recovery, and tradition. We hope that when participants look at the key chain and Mizuhiki later, they will remember the story we shared and feel encouraged to pass on the story to their family and friends.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we gained a deeper understanding of the power of sharing stories across borders.

I also realized that learning with joy is so important. The topic of “the crisis of cultural heritage preservation” can easily become a heavy topic, but by combining it with a workshop, we were able to help participants gain knowledge in an enjoyable and engaging way.

Through this experience, I also felt that we

developed the ability to plan and run an event by ourselves.

3) Title: The Development of Japanese and World Cultures as Seen Through Traditional Games

Organizers: J14, J04, J20

Goal

- Participants experience Japanese culture
- By reflecting on the origins of one's own culture and the transmission of culture to other countries, and considering perspectives from various nations, participants reexamine their understanding of "culture"

Organizer's gains from this experience

- In Southeast Asia, culture is not always perceived as something belonging solely to one's own country; rather, there is a shared sense of culture that exists across national boundaries.
- I sensed a strong sense of pride in one's own culture, alongside deep respect for the cultures of others among the participants
- Rehearsals are essential for proper time management.

4) Title: Stopping Illegal Drugs: Customs and world Peace

Organizers: J02, J15, J16, J18

Goal

- To exchange the knowledge about narcotics situation
- Deepen the understandings for Customs operations

Organizer's gains from this experience

Through the experience as an organizer, I learned the value of preparation when dealing with highly specialized topics such as Customs clearance.

<Lao P.D.R.>

1) Title: Waste to Worth

Organizers: L12, L04, L05, L08, L10, L15

Goal

This PL Seminar aims at discussing and sharing the harm of fast fashion to the environment nowadays. At the same time aim to inspire creativity, and encourage everyone to see waste as opportunity to make the positive impact on the community. Additionally, we aimed for PYs to be able to upcycle materials and to encourage them to share their perspectives.

Organizer's gains from this experience

Firstly, we gained deeper research skills, either critical thinking or deep analysis. Secondly, we learnt

how to organize the workshop, and team management. Thirdly, we received more inspiration about upcycle from the discussion and sharing of our peers.

2) Title: Unity in Thought, Victory in Result

Organizers: L02, L14, L06, L03, L11, L01

Goal

The goal of the PL Seminar was to enhance participants' ability to negotiate effectively and confidently through interactive and practical learning. The activity was designed to encourage discussion and the exchange of perspectives on negotiation by analyzing real-life case studies and applying theoretical concepts in practice.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we gained valuable experience in planning, coordinating, and facilitating an activity. We improved our communication, teamwork, and time management skills while engaging with participants. This experience also helped us develop confidence in leading discussions, managing group activities, and responding to different perspectives during the session.

3) Title: Move, Connect, Thrive

Organizers: L16, L01, L13, L07, L09

Goal

The goal of the PL Seminar was to represent our culture and guide participants on how to perform Lao traditional dance, especially social dances, which carry meaningful benefits beyond cultural preservation. It is not only about passing heritage to future generations. It also provides immediate benefits for our mental health, social relationships, and sense of belonging.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we gained valuable experience in planning, coordinating, and facilitating an activity. We improved our communication, teamwork, and time management skills while engaging with participants. This experience also helped us develop confidence in managing group activities, and building social connections.

<Malaysia>

1) Title: What if it happens right next to you? Learn to act not freeze

Organizers: Ma04, Ma08, Ma10, Ma11, Ma15

Goal

- Understand the importance of emergency awareness
- Recognize common emergency situations

- Identify the role of youth as first responders
- Learn basic emergency response principles
- Understand CPR and AED fundamentals
- Identify essential items in a basic first-aid kit

Organizer's gains from this experience

- Delivering simple practical skills that can help save lives to the youths around the ASEAN countries
- Learned that there is still a gap between youths and the life saving techniques that is needed for an emergency response.
- Being able to help is a shared responsibility that has to be done by everyone especially the youths.

- 2) Title: You know the CPR for the heart, but what about CPR for the mind?

Organizers: Ma04, Ma08, Ma10, Ma11, Ma15

Goal

- Reducing stigma by speaking openly about these topics to normalize mental health as a standard part of daily life
- Helping youth handle the pressure of education, career building, and the unique environmental stressors of the 21st century
- Building self-regulation skills for the youths when they're going through a burn out
- Nonverbal expressions by painting and letting out what is in their mind

Organizer's gains from this experience

- Being able to deliver simple abilities that can help the youth's mental health across the ASEAN countries
- Understanding that while some youth are aware of diverse ways to care for their mental health, others are not.
- Learning that art is one of the best and most exciting ways to engage people and relieve stress.

<Philippines>

- 1) Title: Beyond the Screen: Youth Mental Wellness in a Hyperon line World

Organizers: P04, P02

Goal

- Introduce the theme: life beyond the phones and screens
- Emphasize balance, not rejection of technology
- Gather various coping mechanisms usually practiced by the youth from ASEAN and Japan

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we are grateful that we get to share

our advocacy with other youth on the ship. We learned that youth across ASEAN and Japan share similar coping styles. We also learned that mental health is a topic in our respective countries that has been given importance although it is still needed to be advocated for. Participants were engaged when they spoke about their coping mechanism which clearly manifested that they got to enjoy the session.

- 2) Title: Project incluSAVE and the Stories of ASEAN-Japan in Inclusive Governance

Organizers: P03

Goal

The PLS aims to provide Philippine context on the disability inclusion particularly zooming in on local context initiatives. Specifically, this hopes to achieve the following objectives, to wit:

- Understand the lived realities of PWD youth in the Philippines through storytelling.
- Recognize national and regional frameworks promoting disability inclusion.
- Identify barriers faced by PWD youth in ASEAN countries; and
- Create at least one inclusion commitment for disability inclusion.

Organizer's gains from this experience

During the PLS, I have learned that the challenges of PWD in ASEAN and Japan are similar. Challenges in accessibility in education, employment and infrastructure are visible in each country. There are also laws that enable the mainstreaming of the PWD such as for representation, recognition and accessibility.

One notable line I have gathered during the one inclusion commitment is about "no one is left behind". Though a cliché adage but it is still powerful most especially when the synergies of young people are utilized.

- 3) Title: Bahay Kubo: A Journey Through Filipino Homes

Organizers: P16, P09

Goal

The main goal of the seminar was to promote appreciation of architecture and culture through a fun and creative activity. By making models, participants were able to understand how traditional houses are designed based on climate, environment, and community needs.

Another goal was to strengthen cultural connection among ASEAN youths. Through the activity,

participants discovered that many traditional houses in the region are similar, which helped build a sense of unity and shared identity.

The seminar also aimed to provide a relaxed and enjoyable learning space where participants could interact, express creativity, and learn from one another.

Organizer's gains from this experience

We gained a deeper appreciation for traditional architecture and culture. Seeing participants relate the bahay kubo to their own homes made us realize the importance of preserving local heritage.

Most importantly, we experienced strong bonding with fellow participants. The session created opportunities for friendship, teamwork, and meaningful interaction in a fun and positive environment.

Overall, this activity helped us grow as youth leaders while promoting cultural understanding, creativity, and regional unity.

4) Title: FIRST STEPS: A guide to Autism Support Across Cultures

Organizers: P05, P08

Goal

The session included the following objectives:

- Understand autism as a spectrum shaped by cultural and family contexts
- Recognize the role of families and communities as first responders in autism support
- Engage with the First Steps guide as a practical, culturally sensitive resource
- Identify one meaningful "first step" they can take to support families in their own communities

Aside from these, the PL Seminar also aimed to encourage collaboration among the participants, sparking curiosity and conversations about Autism and enabling them to collaborate across countries

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, one key insight gained was recognizing how much time and space participants needed (and valued) to share their own stories. Despite the limited duration of the session, participants were deeply engaged in both discussion and reading, demonstrating that when learning materials are relatable and accessible, they naturally invite reflection and dialogue.

The experience also reinforced important facilitation lessons. Approaching the session from a place of curiosity, rather than a lecture-based format, made the learning process more effective.

Allowing adult learning to emerge through participant experiences (instead of feeding information) created a more inclusive and meaningful discussion, especially for a sensitive topic like autism.

This seminar further strengthened our belief in parent-led and community-based support systems. It clarified that the impact of First Steps lies not only in developing the tool itself, but in making it more accessible and usable within communities. The experience highlighted opportunities to improve the project by linking the guide with enabling policies, organizing parent groups, learning centers, and community organizations to work together toward a more inclusive and autism-friendly ("Awe-some") community.

Moving forward, the organizers are motivated to share this seminar model with other groups, advocate for wider use of the First Steps guide, and continue learning from best practices across different cultural contexts.

<Singapore>

Title: Making STEAM Education Globally Accessible

Organizers: S15, S02, S08

Goal

The goal was mainly to allow the PYs to enjoy a robotics workshop, and also to encourage them to think outside of the box to conceptualize creatively on how they can potentially teach children their own Discussion Group Themes. Through this short program, I wanted to enable them to think about how easy it could be for them to conduct such workshops and think about how they can better bring these lessons back to their own respective countries.

Organizer's gains from this experience

I think the biggest takeaway for me was the smiles on the PYs' faces when they were able to enjoy thoroughly, and bringing out the child in their hearts to fully enjoy the PLS. Thereafter, they stepped into the shoes of teachers and thought about how to conceptualize easy lessons for students. This experience was definitely unforgettable, and I was able to thoroughly enjoy the enthusiasm of the PYs. In terms of my delivery, I can now better identify the gaps and the confusion PYs may have through my PLS, thereafter, allowing me to fine-tune my presentation style and content.

<Thailand>

1) Title: Home to my heart

Organizers: T01, T02, T03, T04, T05, T06, T07, T08, T09, T10, T11, T12, T13, T14, T15, T16

Goal

To foster mental well-being by guiding participants through moments of reflection, helping them recognize their personal strengths, and encouraging self-gratitude.

Organizer's gains from this experience

- Gained different perspectives among PYs on how they handle or manage their own feelings and emotions
- Feeling empowered by kind words and gratitude among participants which they shared throughout the session
- Learning ways to communicate with people in different backgrounds and be a safe space for them
- Ways to professionally prepare and conduct the session

2) Title: Once upon a crisis, someone was left behind

Organizers: T01, T02, T03, T04, T05, T06, T07, T08, T09, T10, T11, T12, T13, T14, T15, T16

Goal

To raise awareness about disability and disaster and especially the difficulties faced during disasters as well as practical ways to support them during crisis.

Organizer's gains from this experience

- Different perspectives among PYs on disability and disaster
- Sharing experiences about how they would feel if they were disabled
- Seeing new motivations on disability inclusion from participants
- Organizers and management experience in conducting the session

3) Title: Once upon a Thai Massage

Organizers: T01, T02, T03, T04, T05, T06, T07, T08, T09, T10, T11, T12, T13, T14, T15, T16

Goal

The aim of this PLS is to share the local wisdom of Thai massage which has been developed through long journey of integrated culture in Asian region. Moreover, Thailand contingent would like to create a space to give PYs relaxation massage while learning about our culture.

Organizer's gains from this experience

TPYs had been preparing for this PLS for almost 3 months but during the session there were some urgent changes that required us to be resilient and adaptable. These are the practical skills that we have equipped as a contingent. On the other hand, TPYs gained a valuable hard skill like "Thai Massage", to be learning more about our culture and wisdom.

<Timor-Leste>

Title: Intersectionality of Race, Ethnicity, Caste, Religion, Gender, Economics, and Political (Dis) Empowerment.

Organizers: Tim03

Goal

The main goal of the Peer-Learning Seminar was to provide participants with both a conceptual framework and practical activities to help them understand, recognize, and articulate the complexity of identity through the lens of intersectionality.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As an organizer, I gained valuable insights from this experience. I learned how intersectionality is understood and experienced differently across ASEAN member countries, and how its meaning can vary depending on social, cultural, and historical contexts.

Through this experience, I learned to view intersectionality from different perspectives and to better understand how individual identities overlap and interact with one another.

<Viet Nam>

1) Title: Sip Smart, Live Well: The Art of Healthy Drinking

Organizers: V07, V11, V13, V14, V05, V04, V06, V12

Goal

The goal of this Peer-Learning Seminar is to promote healthier daily lifestyles among youth by raising awareness of mindful drinking habits related to tea and coffee. As two of the most commonly consumed beverages worldwide, tea and coffee strongly influence young people's physical well-being, mental state, and daily routines.

Through peer sharing, practical tips, and cultural comparison, this seminar aims to help participants understand when, how, and why to consume tea and coffee in a balanced way. Rather than promoting one drink over another, the seminar emphasizes moderation, self-awareness, and respect for individual differences, encouraging participants to make informed and healthier choices in their everyday lives.

Organizer's gains from this experience

Through this PLS, we understood the importance of planning, rehearsing and the importance of teamwork. It is key to conducting appropriate rehearsals and practices to ensure smooth operation and execution of the PLS. I also gained insights and knowledge regarding similar consumption habits among different countries.

2) Title: Agarwood: The Scent of Resilience

Organizers: V06, V03, V08

Goal

The goal was to:

- Raise awareness about the environmental and cultural importance of agarwood.
- Highlight the risks of unsustainable extraction and global trade pressures.
- Introduce a sustainable business model through the case study of Thiên Mộc Hương.
- Encourage participants to think critically about how heritage products can be preserved while still supporting economic development.
- Promote the idea that sustainability requires cooperation between businesses, governments, and young people.

Organizer's gains from this experience

As organizers, we gained:

- Stronger facilitation and public speaking skills.
- Experience in designing interactive discussions and educational games.
- Deeper understanding of sustainability in relation to culture and business.
- The ability to connect environmental issues with youth engagement and global responsibility.
- Practical experience in leading dialogue on balancing economic growth with conservation.

(5) Solidarity Group (SG) Activity

SG Activity was designed to deepen friendship and mutual understanding among PYs, primarily through inter-SG competitions and all-participant recreational activities. These activities were managed by the SG Activity Sub-Committee under the guidance of the NLs in charge (Malaysia and Viet Nam).

The SG Activity Sub-Committee planned diverse programs aimed at fostering solidarity and a sense of unity among PYs, while also refreshing their minds and bodies. These activities strengthened not only the bonds within each SG but also the overall cohesion among all PYs.

<Details of SG Activity>

[SG Activity I (31st January)]

1) Team Building

- Flag Making
- Cheer Practice

2) Inter-SG Competition

- Daruma-san ga Koronda (Red Light, Green Light)
- Unity in Action (Team Bonding Game)
- Message Relay Game
- Pass the Bottle Game

[SG Activity II (2nd February)]

- Cross-Team Building (All Participants)
- Team Building (by Group)
- Dance Battle

(6) National Presentation (NP)

National Presentation (NP) is an activity where the PYs introduce indigenous traditions, cultures, history, national character, current situations surrounding youth in the country, current situation of the youth, etc. of their countries through musical performances, dances, skits, explanations, video clips, etc. in order to further deepen the understanding of each country.

The time for preparation was also set in such a manner that does not interfere with other onboard activities. The PYs prepared all the performances including sound effects, lighting, stage decorations, etc. Through NPs, the PYs had an opportunity to see the diversity and similarities among the cultures in ASEAN member countries and Japan while enjoying the good presentation.

In addition, in order to promote understanding on food culture of the respective countries, two typical dishes of each country were served during lunch on the day of the NP.

<Japan>

[Theme: Bond]

The main theme of the national presentation was “Bonds” (Tsunagari). This theme was selected to reflect the unique opportunity provided by SSEAYP to foster meaningful connections not only among participating youths but also with national leaders and the administration staff. The program aimed to emphasize the importance of cherishing each of these encounters.

The plot blended the Japanese folktale of “Urashima Taro” with the concept of pavilions at a World Expo. The protagonist, Urashima Taro, is invited to the Ryugu Palace (Dragon Palace), where he visits various pavilions dedicated to “Omotenashi (hospitality),” “food,” “nature,”

“festivals,” and “peace.” Through these experiences, the story illustrates Japanese culture, the journey of reconstruction following the Great East Japan Earthquake, and the profound importance of human connections.

After visiting the pavilions, Urashima Taro reluctantly bids farewell but resolves to embrace new challenges, carrying the bonds forged in the Ryugu Palace in his heart. The performance concluded with Urashima Taro setting his sights on SSEAYP 2026.

<Singapore>

[Theme: First Love]

“First Love” was an original staged play incorporating archival footage of Singapore from the 1920s to the 1940s alongside modern-day visuals. The production celebrated the cultural ties that Singapore shares with its Southeast Asian neighbors.

The story revolved around a pair of childhood sweethearts who reconnect after many years. They reminisce about the past and discuss how their futures can collide despite their differences.

The play featured a variety of performances, including Hip-Hop, the dance of the Samsui Women, and Malay and Indian traditional dances. The music comprised works by Singaporean and pre-independence artists. The finale concluded with a contemporary dance accompanied by live performances of “Someone Like U” by lullaboy and “Better with You” by Gentle Bones.

The Singapore contingent shared responsibilities for choreography, story, visuals, and performance. In the preparation process, the team managed demanding schedules and coordinated complex stage sequences to successfully share Singapore's heritage. The presentation aimed to convey the core message that “we are better together.”

<Thailand>

[Theme: Once Upon a time ‘The Siam Game Begins’]

“Once Upon a Time: The Siam Game Begins” was a performance about tourism, following the journey of foreign performers traveling across Thailand’s four regions: the North, Central, South, and Northeast (Isan). The story was designed as a game in which the characters must complete different missions in each region. These missions reflected local life, such as competing to make som tam, learning regional dialects, and experiencing traditional customs, culture, and seasonal festivals.

Each region presented its own identity. The North showed gentle traditions and heritage, the Central region

represented history and the heart of Thai society, the South highlighted nature and coastal life, and Isan expressed warmth through food, music, and community. Through these challenges, the performers learned not just about places, but about the people and their way of life.

The final scene delivered the main message: all ASEAN countries share rice as a common food, symbolizing unity, respect, and cooperation. It demonstrated that even with different cultures and languages, nations are connected through daily traditions and the value of harmony.

The Thailand contingent divided responsibilities into scriptwriting, stage design, sound, and rehearsals. As some members lived in different provinces, the team practiced online and coordinated carefully. Despite these logistical challenges, the process strengthened the team’s cooperation and commitment to the program.

<Brunei Darussalam>

[Theme: EXPLORING THE GEMS OF DARUSSALAM]

The Brunei Darussalam National Presentation showcased the richness of the nation’s culture, history, heritage, identity, and lifestyle through various performing arts, including skits, traditional dances, martial arts, and singing.

Performances included “The Story of Barunah” skit, Jipin Laila Sembah dance, Silat martial arts, Alai Asyik dance, a Kampong Ayer skit, Dang Mengalai dance, Kain Jong Sarat dance, Bunga Simpung dance, and the “Anak Berunai” (Children of Brunei) performance. In addition to these acts, the presentation included poem declamations titled “We are Brunei Darussalam” and “Shared Prosperity in Diversity.”

Furthermore, several videos were shown including about Brunei Darussalam, Bruneian traditional games nostalgia, Kampong Ayer nostalgia, and a happy retirement video for Nippon Maru by the alumni of Brunei SSEAYP and foster families in Brunei.

Overall, this National Presentation aimed to invoke strong Bruneian identity, spirit, and pride for the Bruneian delegates (participating youths) regardless of wherever they go while also entertaining the audience.

<Cambodia>

[Theme: Khmer Love Comedy & Khmer Culture]

Title: Finding Romdoul

This story portrays Cambodian village, highlighting the simplicity and warmth of local Khmer communities through Sambath’s journey of finding his soulmate. On his journey to finding the romdoul which mean to find the

love of his life. Sambath went through many obstacles. For “Romdoul”(a yellow flower) is a representation of his discovery of his love life.

His journey towards connecting from dreaming about goodness dancing “Blessing dance” and then dreaming about giant “Bart Yeak” then he’s interacting with the local villagers who are practicing “Labokator” During the journey He’s also pass through Bon Phum (Cambodia Celebration) and villager were dancing “Robam Krama”. However, Sambath were on the journey to find the girl wearing golden Romdoul, so he’s continuing to walking forward, there he’s join “Fishing Dance” (Robam Nesat) and end by narrative to conclude the story. Then we end everything by our batch song “Sayonara Nippon maru”.

At its heart, the story reflects traditional family values where parents lovingly care for their children, guide them in matters such as marriage, and constantly look out for their well-being.

The story also celebrates the friendliness and the strong sense of community among Cambodians, who gather to share joy, bonds, and preserve their culture through dance that fosters connection and love.

<Indonesia>

[Theme: Toya Primaning Bhuwana (Water as the foundation of civilization)]

The Indonesian National Presentation highlighted the importance of water as the primary source for various aspects of daily life. As a country frequently facing natural disasters, the performance emphasized the role of nature, specifically water, in supporting human life, and how this source of life can become a threat if not protected by humans.

The presentation consisted of three parts: the opening, conflict, and resolution.

1) Opening

The performance commenced with the Kidung Turun Tirta chant, followed by the Kecak dance from Bali and the Pabat Pibuy dance from West Kalimantan, reflecting the harmony between humans, nature, and the divine spirits that protect the land. This was followed by the Jampi dance from Yogyakarta, portraying the daily lives of herbal drink sellers and their close social connection with water as their source of income. The Biteya dance from Gorontalo reflected agricultural life, showing the relationship between the people and the land that sustains them. Finally, the Soya-soya dance from North Maluku highlighted the historical importance of water as a spice trade route that brought global attention to the region.

2) Conflict

The conflict was portrayed through Langgam Melayu poetry, which served as a warning that human greed can turn nature’s blessings into disaster and regret. This was followed by a monologue and the song Ibu Pertiwi, conveying deep sorrow and pain over the wounds inflicted by human negligence. The Likok Pulo dance from Aceh reminded the audience that coastal environments are vulnerable to damage caused by human activity. Furthermore, the Humbelo dance from Southwest Papua and Pacu Jalur from Riau emphasized the importance of protecting the wildlife that sustains community life.

3) Resolution

The final part presented a resolution showing hope for environmental protection. The song Merakit by Yura Yunita was performed, telling a story of healing, resilience, and rebuilding after brokenness. This reflected the belief that what has been damaged can be restored through care and dedication.

The presentation concluded with a flashmob featuring dances such as Tabola-bale, Minang Timur, Nyong Timur, and Pica-pica, representing the joy found in successfully protecting the nature.

<Lao P.D.R.>

[Theme: Land of Culture]

The performance commenced with a story told by a man named Khammanh. He recounted his experiences prior to his participation in the 49th SSEAYP, which showcased various festivals in Laos.

The dance performances included Boun Pi Mai (Lao New Year Festival), Sound of Khaen Lao (Sound of World Heritage), Boun Awk Phansa (End of Buddhist Lent), and Phoum Chai Nai Ban Kerd (Proud to be Lao). The performance concluded with the Batch Song specifically written for the retirement of the Nippon Maru and the remarkable memories of SSEAYP, titled “The Reason Why.”

The aim of the performance was to showcase the lifestyle and beliefs of Lao culture through the lens of festival celebrations, incorporating various elements, ethnic attires, and traditional practices under the theme of “Land of Culture.”

<Malaysia>

[Theme: Malaysia Truly Asia]

The presentation commenced with an "AI video" filmed on the Nippon Maru and a music video, followed by the emcee’s opening speech.

The stage featured a series of traditional dances, beginning with Tarian Zapin from Johor, Tarian Piring of Minangkabau heritage, and Tarian Samrah, which uses hand tambourines in joyous ceremonies. These were followed by Tarian Kipas, a fan dance typically performed during the Chinese New Year.

Furthermore, the performance included a recital of the traditional instrument Tabla, and an Indian dance (Tarian India) where dancers utilized sticks to create intricate rhythms. The Silat Tari showcased the philosophy of Malay warriors, being strong on the outside yet soft on the inside. This was followed by the Tarian Orang Ulu, depicting the grace of a hornbill, and the Tarian Sumazau, which mimics the flight of an eagle.

The finale consisted of Dikir Fusion, a blend of traditional Dikir Barat and modern elements, and the "Visit Malaysia 2026" dance, which served as a welcome to all participants. The National Presentation concluded with Joget Lambak, where the audience was invited to join the performers on stage.

<Philippines>

[Theme: MAHAL : A Love Story of the Filipinos]

"MAHAL: A Love Story of the Filipinos" was a theatrical and dance-driven narrative that portrayed the Filipino identity through the various meanings of the word mahal, love, value, and importance. The performance unfolded in five interconnected acts that highlighted the Filipino people's warmth, traditions, resilience, and deep sense of nationhood.

Beginning with expressions of courtship and joy, the presentation transitioned into vibrant celebrations of culture and community, reflecting the country's rich heritage and strong communal spirit. It then moved into a more reflective segment that depicted the reality of migration and brain drain, emphasizing the sacrifices Filipinos make out of love for their families.

The performance ultimately concluded with a message of hope, empowerment, and patriotism, demonstrating that despite challenges, Filipinos remain deeply connected to their homeland and are driven to return, serve, and contribute to nation-building. Through the integration of traditional and folk dances, Filipino music, theatrical storytelling, and symbolic staging, the production communicated a message of the Filipino spirit, one rooted in love, resilience, and unity, in a way that was emotionally resonant for an international audience.

<Timor-Leste>

[Theme: History and culture of Timor-Leste]

The National Presentation of Timor-Leste commenced with the national anthem, followed by an introduction to the history of the island of Timor.

The narrative recounted the legend of a young boy who discovered a weak and helpless crocodile on the beach. Moved by compassion, the boy helped the crocodile back into the sea so it could survive and find food. From that moment, a strong friendship formed between them. In gratitude, the crocodile offered to carry the boy on its back to travel across the sea.

After spending years apart, they reunited to find the crocodile strong and healthy. Together, they continued their journey across oceans and islands, witnessing many sunrises along the way. Eventually, as the crocodile grew old, it transformed its body into the island now known as Timor-Leste. For this reason, the Timorese people respectfully call the crocodile Avo Lafaek, which means "Grandfather" in the Tetum language.

The presentation also provided informative content regarding the history, culture, economy, and general information about the country.

The remainder of the performance featured traditional dances and Timorese music, reflecting the nation's rich heritage. To conclude the National Presentation, the Timor-Leste contingent performed the Japanese song "Kokoro no Tomo."

<Viet Nam>

[Theme: The Ascending Viet Nam]

As Viet Nam enters a new developmental phase known as "The Ascending Era of Viet Nam," the Viet Nam contingent aimed to demonstrate the readiness of the nation and its people for the next step. The performance consisted of four main parts: Ascending History, Ascending Culture, Ascending People, and Into the Cosmos.

Each segment showcased the values of the country through its diverse regions and backgrounds, all sharing a common pride in being Vietnamese, from the culturally rich North and the resilient Central region, where people never lose hope despite frequent natural disasters, to the generous and modern South.

The presentation featured various performances, including dance, song, and multi-language vocals. The Viet Nam contingent divided responsibilities into scriptwriting, MV production, dance training, logistics, design, sound, and rehearsals. For the final performance, the contingent invited one participating youth from each country to wear

Vietnamese traditional costumes, symbolizing Viet Nam's welcome to international friends and its desire to share common values.

(7) Voluntary Activity (VA)

Voluntary Activity (VA) was an activity where individual PYs or groups could freely organize, call for participation, and implement activities based on their own interests. Through these activities, PYs developed the ability to articulate their thoughts, as well as to plan and execute projects. Furthermore, it facilitated active exchange among participants beyond the boundaries of contingents, SGs, or DGs.

<Examples of Voluntary Activities>

- Mizuhiki Workshop
- Coffee & Chocolate (Indonesia, Viet Nam, Timor-Leste)
- Movie Night
- Karaoke Night
- SSEAYP Talent Show
- Cultural Attire Collaboration (Brunei, Malaysia)
- Crocheting Workshop
- Sketching Session
- Henna, Calligraphy, Batik Painting, and Fashion Show
- Board Games

(8) Free Day

Two half-day Free Days, during which no official activities were scheduled, were provided to allow PYs to manage their health and well-being amidst the intensive program. These Free Days also offered opportunities for PYs to spontaneously deepen their interactions with other participants. On these days, no morning calls or morning exercises were conducted, and the morning assembly was

rescheduled to a later time, from 12:00 to 12:30.

(9) Others

1) Lifeboat Drill (26th January)

After a briefing by the ship's crew in the Dolphin Hall, PYs returned to their cabins. At the signal of the onboard paging system and emergency bell, all participants put on life jackets and quickly gathered at their designated assembly stations, where they received further instructions from the crew on emergency procedures.

2) Lecture by Administrator (28th January)

Mr. MAKINO Masahiro, the Administrator, shared his personal upbringing and professional career as a Japanese government official. He also provided an overview of Okinawa, including its historical ties with ASEAN member countries, and encouraged the PYs to deepen their understanding of the internal diversity within each of their respective nations.

3) Lecture by Captain (28th January)

Captain SEKIYA Tadashi of the Nippon Maru spoke about his upbringing and what inspired his dream of becoming a seafarer, as well as explained the ship's facilities and the specialized knowledge required for navigation, thereby enhancing the PYs' understanding of the vessel and the voyage.

4) Ship Tour (28th January)

Organized by SG, the PYs visited the bridge of the ship. The crew in charge provided explanations regarding the various instruments, equipment, and their operational procedures.

5 Disembarkation

On 13th February, following the conclusion of the Homestay Matching and Open Ship events, participants retrieved their luggage on the second floor and disembarked with their respective host families.



Chapter 5

Country Program in Singapore

Country programs, or the activities in the countries visited, were organized and conducted by the respective governments and the Reception Committees (RCs). RCs included members of the Alumni Associations in the respective countries. Ex-PYs played an active role in the implementation of the country programs, accompanying the PYs to various venues and providing support.

The country programs were scheduled according to

the duration of each visit and included homestay, courtesy calls on high-ranking government officials, and interaction with local youth. During the country program in Singapore, Field Studies were arranged according to the themes of the six discussion groups.

The detailed schedule of each country program is shown below.

1 Activities in Singapore

Date	Time	Activities
4th February Wednesday	7:30-8:00	Flag Hoisting Ceremony by Singapore (at Dolphin Hall)
	8:00	Berth at Singapore Cruise Center
	9:30-11:30	Briefing on Country Program in Singapore by RC in COC
	14:00-14:30	Orientation for PYs by RC (at Dolphin Hall)
	17:15-17:45	Briefing for Pre-Dinner Engagement with Acting Minister (at Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre)
	18:00-18:30	Courtesy Call on H.E. Mr. David Neo, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth
	18:30-20:30	Welcome Dinner (at Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre) Welcome performance Welcome remarks by Mr. David Neo, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth Speech by Ship Administrator, Mr. MAKINO Masahiro Gift Exchange Speech by YL of Thailand Photo Session
5th February Thursday	10:00-12:00	Field Study 1 (by DG) DG1: Impart Singapore DG2: Sentosa Development Corporation DG3: Sembcorp Floating Solar Farm DG4: SCDF Civil Defence Academy DG5: Enabling Village DG6: AI Singapore
	14:00-16:00	Field Study 2 (by DG) DG1: National Library Board@Punggol Regional Library DG2: Mandai Wildlife Group, Bird Paradise DG3: ALBA E-Waste DG4: Red Cross Singapore DG5: Skillseed Resilience Trails DG6: Science Centre Singapore
6th February Friday	9:30-12:00	Field Study 3 (at Changi Experience Studio)
	12:00-14:00	Friday Prayer (Muslim PYs)
	14:30-16:30	Homestay Matching Ceremony (at Suntec Convention & Exhibition Centre) • Opening Performance • Opening Remarks by Mr. Ong Kah Kuang, Assistant Chief Executive, National Youth Council • Speech by President of SSEAYP International Singapore • Briefing on Homestay by Secretary General and Director (Homestay), SSEAYP International Singapore • Group Photo

Date	Time	Activities
7th February Saturday	18:00-21:00	<Administrator, NLs, Facilitators and OBSC Members> Reunion Onboard (at Dolphin Hall and Dining Room)
8th February Sunday	11:30-12:30 13:00-14:00 14:30-16:00 17:00	PYs return from Homestay Ship tour Departure Ceremony (at Singapore Cruise Centre) • Flag cheers • Send-off remarks by Ms. Goh Hanyan, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment • Speech by YL of Cambodia • Presentation of Farewell Tokens Set sail

2 Courtesy Call

On 4th February, starting at 18:00, a courtesy call was paid to H.E. Mr. David Neo, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, at the Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre prior to the Welcome Dinner.

The Administrator, the Deputy Administrator, and the NLs, YLs, and AYLs from each country were in attendance. Participants introduced themselves and engaged in a friendly exchange in a relaxed atmosphere.



3 Welcome Dinner

On 4th February, starting at 18:30, the Welcome Dinner was held at the Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre.

The evening commenced with a welcome performance, setting a celebratory tone for the occasion. This was followed by welcome remarks delivered by H.E. Mr. David Neo, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth. An address was then given by Mr. MAKINO Masahiro, the Administrator, followed by a gift exchange ceremony to symbolize friendship and goodwill among the participants.

Subsequently, YL of Thailand delivered a speech, and the evening concluded with a commemorative photo session.



Speech by YL of Thailand

4 Field Study

	Field Study 1	Field Study 2
DG1	Impart Singapore	National Library Board@Punggol Regional Library
DG2	Sentosa Development Corporation	Mandai Wildlife Group, Bird Paradise
DG3	Sembcorp Floating Solar Farm	ALBA E-Waste
DG4	SCDF Civil Defence Academy	Red Cross Singapore
DG5	Enabling Village	Skillseed Resilience Trails
DG6	AI Singapore	Science Centre Singapore

Field Study 1



DG1: Impart Singapore



DG2: Sentosa Development Corporation



DG3: Sembcorp Floating Solar Farm



DG4: SCDF Civil Defence Academy



DG5: Enabling Village



DG6: AI Singapore

Field Study 2



DG1: National Library Board@Punggol Regional Library



DG2: Mandai Wildlife Group, Bird Paradise



DG3: ALBA E-Waste



DG4: Red Cross Singapore



DG5: Skillseed Resilience Trails



DG6: Science Centre Singapore

Field Study 3: Changi Experience Studio



5 Homestay Matching Ceremony

On 6th February, starting at 14:30, a Homestay Matching Ceremony was held at the Suntec Convention & Exhibition Centre. The event commenced with a musical performance, followed by opening remarks from Mr. Ong Kah Kuang, Assistant Chief Executive of the National Youth Council. Subsequently, President of SSEAYP



Speech by Mr. Ong Kah Kuang, Assistant Chief Executive of the National Youth Council

International Singapore delivered a speech. This was followed by a briefing on the homestay program provided by Secretary General and Director (Homestay) of SSEAYP International Singapore. The ceremony concluded with a commemorative group photo session featuring all participants.



Homestay Matching

6 Ship Tour and Departure Ceremony

On 8th February, starting at 13:00, prior to the departure from Singapore, a ship tour was conducted on the Nippon Maru for invited homestay host families. Subsequently, at 14:30, the Departure Ceremony took place at the Singapore Cruise Centre pier. The participating youths performed enthusiastic flag cheers as a final farewell. Send-off remarks were delivered by Ms. Goh Hanyan, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Culture,



Speech by Ms. Goh Hanyan, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment.

Community and Youth and the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment. This was followed by a speech from YL of Cambodia on behalf of all PYs.

At 17:00, the ship set sail for Bangkok.

The Cambodian contingent withdrew from the program in Singapore, in accordance with the policy of the Cambodian government.



Farewells with Departure Streamers