

SWYAA OMAN

The Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Oman

December 30, 2012

Ms. Masako Mori,
Minister of State for Youth Affairs,
Cabinet Office

Re: The continuance of the Ship for World Youth program

Dear Ms. Masako,

Warm greetings from all members of SWYAA OMAN, the Ship for World Youth Alumni Association Oman.

On behalf of SWYAA OMAN ex-participants of the Ship for World Youth, we'd like to thank the previous effort of the Cabinet Office (ex. Prime Minister's office) of Japanese Government and his highness of the Crown Prince Naruhito, to initiate and support for the Ship for World Youth programs since 1989. We believe as Omani ex-participants of SWY (the Ship for World Youth) that this program has added a lot of positive points to all participants from different countries including Japan. Such as; Introducing sincere desire of Japanese nation and the government toward the international peace. Now to introduce Japan as land, people and culture to all non-Japanese SWY participants, also to create the better life standard of Japan and the quality of the life, definitely Japanese participants were openly exposed to many different cultures and people from the participating youths of different countries. Where they have exchanged their opinion all different aspects of life. This is value opinion and experience was positively reflected and strengthen the relation between the Japanese youths and the other international youths. Our dream and our objective are to have the name of Japan written not only in the board of the United Nations but in every international future leader's heart that Japan is the pioneer of peace and love. For all above, we seek the Japanese Government to reconsider their support and continuation of the Ship for World Youth program to stay always as a sample of peace and love.

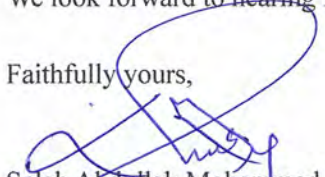
Ms. Masako, please convey our cordial desire for the continuation of the Ship for World Youth program and the support to the Cabinet office.

The value of the experience and the study for mutual understanding among the world youths, which will lead the better future of world relationship cannot evaluate by the amount of the money simply. This program provides very unique chance for growing up each participant's identity to have better personality to acquire fine and sophisticated method to negotiate with other nationalities youths, which is quite important for mutual understanding in the best way, not having "stereo type" but to acknowledge the reality. We think if the Ship for World Youth program is discontinued, the largest loss is to lose the precious chance of the youths who will lead the future of the world for multinational understanding, not the money.

Ms. Masako, we thank you very much for your taking time to read this letter.
And we thank you very much in advance for your kind understanding and cooperation.

We're always happy to keep our relationship with you and with your wonderful country, Japan.
We look forward to hearing from you the positive news.

Faithfully yours,


Saleh Abdullah Mohammed Al Zadjal
Chairman
SWYAA (the Ship for World Youth Alumni Association) Oman
30/12/2012

THE FAMILY WANTS TO REUNITE IN THEIR SECOND HOME

The ex-participants of the Ship for World Youth Program from all over the world had one of their most sorrowful moments in their lives upon learning that the Japanese Government concluded to abolish some of the international youth exchange programs conducted by the Cabinet Office including the Ship for World Youth Program. They felt so because it was almost impossible to believe that a life changing program which enlightened all of its participants to a whole new thinking had come to an end. They were shocked by the Japanese Government's decision to stop a program that had considerable benefits not only for Japan and Japanese young people but also other participating countries and the representatives of these countries in the program.

The SWY program has no doubt been a once in a lifetime experience for all of those who have been lucky enough to participate. It makes them re-evaluate their existence in this world and the role they have played. It is an incredible cross cultural understanding experience which helped the participants open their minds to different cultures and ideas while getting rid of the prejudices about different people, religions and habits. The program builds outstanding bridges between nations to give them the possibility to work together, share experiences and strategies to improve the skills that young people have and put these skills into practice. It also gives the opportunity to travel outside of the young people's countries, which they couldn't afford otherwise. The program is essential in ensuring that the future of mankind will be better than the present.

SWY improves the participants' perception of the people from other participating countries. It gives a chance to be in contact with people around the world that they would never have the opportunity to meet. The program contributes to create an environment in which people of different cultures, religions, and political views come together and work in a harmony which can barely happen in other circumstances.

The courses the participants take on board developed awareness concerning many common social and global problems. These courses also contribute to work on how to help the people in need and how to develop efficient projects for them. Through these courses and cultural and educational activities, the participants also gain a wider perspective about such world issues as well as building the friendship and corporation with the youth from all over the world.

The SWY program is very unique in the sense that it tries to achieve its objectives not only during the program but also after the program. The ex-participants continue to meet in a variety of activities such as official and unofficial reunions, conferences, and home-stays. Alumni Associations established in the countries which have participated in the program are engaged in many activities and they carry out various volunteer projects. Through these activities they try to spread the spirit of the program. Utilizing the global network the Alumni keep in touch with other ex-participants from other countries to continue multicultural cooperation to carry out international projects.

An abundant number of ex-participants are now successful people in many different areas, and they are proud to be a part of this program once. The program contributed fostering young leaders like them. These well-educated and high profile decision makers in their areas commit themselves to improve the relationships between the participating countries and Japan. Their appreciation and respect for Japan deepens immensely and they will always be grateful to the Government of Japan for opening up a whole new world to them.

The ex-participants of the program have not given up yet. Efforts to bring the program back still continue. We deeply hope that the Government of Japan will reconsider the decision regarding the continuation of the SWY Program, and we believe that the concern shown not only by SWYAA Turkey, but also by the other Alumni Associations worldwide will be an indication of how much the continuity of SWY means to us.

Gul EKSI
President
SWYAA Turkey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gul EKSI', with a large, stylized initial 'G' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.