MINUTES OF THE
TOKYO CONFERENCE FOR THE EX-PARTICIPATING YOUTH OF
THE SHIP FOR WORLD YOUTH PROGRAM 2013 (FY2012)
Tokyo, Japan
March 18 – 22, 2013

Attendees
SWYAA Representatives
Mr. Zhen Dan Bao (Australia)
Mr. Mohamed Ali Ahmadi (Bahrain)
Mr. Leonardo Kajoika Nardon (Brazil)
Mr. Louis Pierre Beauregard (Canada)
Ms. Karla Marion Cortes Jopia (Chile)
Mr. Alonso Andres Villalobos Laurent (Costa Rica)
Ms. Vitta Abdel Rehim Ibrahim Ahmed (Egypt)
Ms. Margarita Chattin (Ecuador)
Ms. Prem Lata (Fiji)
Mr. Konstantinos Tsigkaras Konstantinidis (Greece)
Mr. Ravi Chopra (India)
Ms. Tamae Saito (IYEO-Japan)
Mr. David Warobi Mbatia (Kenya)
Mr. Jose de Jesus Ruiz (Mexico)
Ms. Dana Jane MacDiarmid (New Zealand)
Mr. Ahmed Alhooti (Oman)
Ms. Gina Pamela Pancorbo (Peru)
Mr. Patrick Paul Amao (Solomon Islands)
Ms. Almudena Ramos Martin (Spain)
Mr. Nipuna Tharuka Wachchi Hannadige (Sri Lanka)
Mr. Karl-Gunnar Ingvar Eriksson (Sweden)
Dr. Kissui Steven Kissui (Tanzania)
Mr. Lokuvalu Leha (Tonga)
Ms. Gul Eksi (Turkey)
Mr. Nasser Mohammed Al Zaabi (UAE)
Mr. Dylan George Butler (UK)
Mr. Edwin Enrique Solorzano Castillo (Venezuela)
Mr. Yousef Abdulkarem Abo Taleb (Yemen)

International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan
Ms. Reiko Ohashi

Committee Members
Mr. Masato Nakamura
Ms. Yu Shinagawa
Ms. Kozue Ota
Ms. Mihato Shoda
Mr. Takayuki Ikeda
Mr. Takaaki Oshiro

Secretariat
Mr. Jaime Collado, Jr.
Ms. Miho Fukuda
Proceedings

Day 1: March 18, 2013

1. Introduction of Participants, Orientation and House Rules

Ms. Reiko Ohashi, Vice President of International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO) welcomed the guest and gave a brief explanation of the future of the Ship for World Youth (SWY) program, some background information and actions taken by IYEO. The pieces of information, however, are still tentative and should only be disclosed to the Ship for World Youth Alumni Association (SWYAA) community once an official pronouncement has been made by the Cabinet Office, Government of Japan. In the week-long conference, Ms. Ohashi requested the SWYAA representatives to discuss and decide on some proposals aimed at further strengthening the international Alumni Association and the SWY program as a whole.

The participants were then requested to make self-introductions. Thereafter, Ms. Tamae Saito explained some pertinent agenda of the conference, about the reestablishment of SWYAA, that need to be decided upon by the attendees as one body. As agreed, all the attendees may join the discussions, however, should there be items or issues that will be resolved through voting, each country can only have one (1) vote. The committee members with “observer” status may not cast their votes. In this meeting, Ms. Saito shall be voting on behalf of the IYEO (Japan).

2. Review of the Conference Agenda and Itinerary for the Conference

Ms. Tamae Saito explained the conference agenda and itinerary for the Conference, highlighting the following:

The pertinent Agenda to be discussed and decided upon shall be:
- Agenda 1 – Current situation and future of the SWY program
- Agenda 2 – Reestablishment of SWYAA as an international body – through the re-structuring of the SWYAA as an organization and adoption of SWYAA Charter
- Agenda 3 – SWYAA social contribution activities
- Agenda 4 – Topics proposed by the conference delegates

As for the itinerary of the conference, Ms. Saito reminded the conference delegates of the following:
- Each SWYAA shall make a 3-minute verbal presentation of their country reports at the meeting with the Cabinet Office officials on the second day (March 19). Printed copies shall be provided to the Cabinet Office, while presentations may also include visual aids (PowerPoint slides/posters/movies).
- The country presentations shall be followed by Q and A with the Cabinet Office officials. To allow smooth operation of the Q and A session, the conference representatives were requested to consolidate and agree on the questions to be asked, which shall be sent to the Cabinet Office in advance for their preparation of their responses.
- The representative of SWYAA Mexico has been requested to deliver a speech on behalf of all the attendees during the courtesy call on the Minister of State.
- After the courtesy call, there shall be a Welcome Reception to be hosted by the Cabinet Office, which will include a response speech and photo session. The representatives were requested to bring all their necessities for the day when they leave the hotel in the morning.
- On the third day (March 20), each representative shall make 2-minute presentation of a specific SWYAA activity in their respective countries in front of Japanese ex-PYs and the general public at the National Olympics Memorial Youth Center (NYC). The purpose of the presentation is to provide the audience with better understanding of what the AAs are doing in the respective countries. The presentation may only include one (1) prominent project of each AA but should be in-depth and detailed. The presentations may be clustered into themes (e.g. education, youth development, etc.) for the discussion session to follow.
- Conference representatives suggested a silent auction of the items brought by the representatives may be done during the Lunch Party at the NYC. Proceeds shall be donated to the Tsunami victims in Tohoku through the IYEO.
- Donations for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake may be accepted any time during
the conference, with a corresponding photo-taking of the handover.

- There shall be no official presentation of gifts to the Cabinet Office. Gifts that were brought may be presented unofficially.
- Representatives from six Arab countries may pay a courtesy visit to the Minister of Environment Yuriko Koike who studied at Cairo University on March 22 (Bahrain, Egypt, Oman, Turkey, UAE, and Yemen).

3. Agenda 1 – Current Situation and Future of the SWY Program
Mr. Masateru Yoshida, Principal Deputy Director for International Youth Exchange of the Cabinet Office, welcomed the SWYAA representatives and explained the background and hopes of the Cabinet Office from this conference, and the reason for inviting more countries to the conference than in the past. He also explained the current situation of the SWY program and new developments the Cabinet Office will be taking. Mr. Yoshida also mentioned that the SWY program is highly evaluated by the current ruling party including that of the Prime Minister Abe. Once decisions by the Japanese Government have been finalized, they shall be officially announced, perhaps through the IYEO. He mentioned, however, that the new ruling party in the Japanese Government, including the Prime Minister, is supportive of the continuation of the SWY program.

Meanwhile, for year 2014 (FY 2013), the Cabinet Office is planning to organize a program called the Global Leaders Development Program. This program will be patterned after the SWY program; however, due to budgetary limitations, it will be organized under a different name with some modifications and introducing different concepts. The framework of the program has been decided but the details will be further discussed and confirmed. The SWYAA are requested to cooperate with the Cabinet Office in the implementation of such program.

Mr. Yoshida asked the SWYAA to continue and further enhance their social contribution activities. The SWY program has been highly evaluated due to the social contribution activities that the SWYAA have been implemented over the years.

Ms. Ohashi, on the other hand, made a follow-up explanation on why the program next year wouldn’t be called SWY program, providing therein some background information leading to the organization of Global Leaders Development program. She mentioned that the focus of this program will be leadership and it will be difficult to organize a program that is as diverse as what the SWY program can offer. Ms. Ohashi explained that the Cabinet Office and the IYEO are doing their best to lobby for the revival of the SWY program, and the SWYAA could support by showing tangible results of the SWY program all over the world. This is also the reason why the SWYAA is being proposed to be reorganized and become an international organization. Ms. Reiko Ohashi, however, explained that the participants of the Global Leaders Development program will be included in the SWYAA of the respective countries.

In response, the SWYAA representatives expressed their appreciation and pledged whatever support they could give including those that are budgetary in nature.

Regarding the AAs’ participation in PY selection process, SWYAA Mexico was asked to share its 3-stage PY selection process for the Mexican delegation in SWY 25. The process was to ensure that the selected members were the ones who are dedicated and committed to doing social contribution activities after the program. The other AAs may emulate such process depending on their own circumstances in their countries. To improve relationships with their respective governments so they would be given due recognition and more active role in program preparations, the AAs were requested to continue their efforts, especially in making their presence in the society felt and recognized by the government.

4. Explanation of the IYEO Experience
In order for the SWYAA representatives to fully understand their counterpart in Japan, Ms. Reiko Ohashi explained the history, experiences, basic structure and current endeavors of the IYEO. Currently, the IYEO is running both local and international programs. Ms. Ohashi mentioned some of
the significant local projects being or recently implemented by the IYEO such as the Great East Japan Earthquake Relief Efforts, the IYEO Challenge Fund, hosting of the SSEAYP International General Assembly in Tokyo, etc. The international programs such as the “One More Child Goes To School Project” are in cooperation with SWYAA Sri Lanka. The IYEO has a set of mission statements and have specific goals every year. It is important to have clear goals so the members would know for what reason or purpose they are doing activities. The IYEO’s aim for 2013 is to develop people who can exercise leadership in the society. Established in 1961, the IYEO has 47 local chapters in 8 regions in Japan. More than 50 years have passed since its establishment, and the face that IYEO have an up to date database of over 11,000 members has resulted to its high evaluation as an organization.

Ms. Ohashi also explained that the uniqueness of the international youth exchange programs sponsored by the Cabinet Office is that it values networking of the participants after the completion of the programs. The requirements for participation in the programs run by the Cabinet Office has been clear since their first program in 1959, that is the participants should be those committed to social activities and that they would do social contribution activities after the program.

5. Preparation for the Meeting with the Cabinet Office
Through the facilitation by Mr. Leonardo Kajioka Nardon (Brazil), the Conference representatives agreed on the following questions and proposals to be formally communicated to the Cabinet Office officials during the Q and A session on March 19:

- Regarding the hosting of port of call activities, would it be possible for the participating countries to make proposal to the Cabinet Office of Japan in advance so the AA can endeavor to push and be involved in getting commitment and support from their respective governments? Would it be possible to notify the candidate countries in advance? (Canada)
- May we propose that participating countries in close geographical locations (e.g. Persian Gulf countries) take turns in hosting the port of call activities, after due consideration of other factors? (Oman)
- Who in the Cabinet Office shall be approached and how would it be addressed when a country wants to host the port of call activities? (Greece)
- What kind of “result” does the Cabinet Office put high value to in relation to the SWY program? (Peru)
- How can the SWYAA contribute in the enhancement of diplomatic relations between our countries and Japan? (Peru)
- Can the SWYAA receive official recognition from the Cabinet Office? (Yemen)
- Can the Cabinet Office use a more pressing word, other than “preferable” or “recommended,” when communicating to the concerned governments regarding the inclusion of the SWYAA in the selection process for PYs and/or having ex-PYs as NLs? (Egypt)
- Can the Cabinet Office set a specific guideline for the selection process? (Sri Lanka)
- Can we request the Cabinet Office to mention the Global Leader Development Program as a program closely associated with the SWY program? Can the Cabinet Office also reiterate the active participation of SWYAA in the selection process? (Egypt)

The Representatives also agreed to include the following matters in the Conference agenda:
- Set standards of activities/indicator for accomplishments
- Criteria/System for selecting GA
- How to motivate the ex-PYs

6. Agenda 2 – Reestablishment of SWYAA as an International Body
Ms. Tamae Saito explained the reason behind the inclusion of the issue in the agenda. Currently, there are 46 member countries, which are different levels of organizational development and size of membership. In the course of discussion on the continuation of the SWY program, there was a difficulty to clearly state that the SWYAA is an international organization and who were the member countries. In a voluntarily organized reunion in Turkey last year, there was a discussion on the reorganization of the SWYAA as an international body so that whenever the need arises, the SWYAA can present itself as an established entity. These led to the re-drafting of the SWYAA Charter, which the representatives shall have to review and approve in this Tokyo Conference. The proposed Charter
was drafted by Ms. Tamae Saito, with the UN Charter and SSEAYP International Charter as references and upon consultation with the Cabinet Office and Ms. Reiko Ohashi. It was deemed that by nature and structure, the SWYAA International be an organization of the SWYAAAs instead of as a governing or overseeing body for the SWYAAAs all over the world.

Through facilitation by Mr. Karl-Gunnar Ingvar Eriksson (Sweden), the representatives agreed on the following, in additional to the proposed amendments as reflected in the attached amended draft:

- The conference representatives shall review the draft Charter and make necessary amendments.
- The conference representatives agreed that the SWYAA International shall be an organization comprised of the member SWYAAAs where all have equal standing. It will not be an oversight or governing body for all SWYAAAs.
- There shall be Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for items in the Charter that would need further clarification and details.

Day 2: March 19, 2013

7. Country Presentation

Mr. Masateru Yoshida, Principal Deputy Director for International Youth Exchange, welcomed the Conference Representatives to the Cabinet Office. The meeting with the Cabinet Office officials is on official part of the Tokyo Conference.

First, Mr. Toshio Kuzuma, Director for International Youth Exchange, delivered his message to the representatives. He expressed his respect to the Representatives for their contributions to society using their experiences, knowledge and inspiration gained from the SWY program. The Director mentioned that he heard the strong intention from the SWY 25 ex-PYs to do post-program activities, as well as the overwhelming support of the ex-PYs all over the world and the IYEO on the continuation of the SWY program. As the Cabinet Office strives to not only continue but also to further develop the SWY program, he asked the representatives to keep working for society and leading the youth in their countries so the effects of the SWY program would reverberate in the society. Director Kuzuma also expressed his hopes for the success of the conference and the success of every individual.

The officials of the Cabinet Office and the SWYAA representatives were introduced, which was followed by a country presentation by each representation. The presentations included a brief profile and history of the AAs as well as past and present social contribution activities. The highlights of the presentations are as follows:

**Australia**
- Raised AU$1,240, which was donated to the flood victims in Brisbane
- Hosted the 3rd Global Assembly and Fundraising Dinner
- Conducted fundraising and donated AU $10,000 for victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami
- Established the SWY Micro-finance project, an online loan facility (KIVA) involving Australian ex-PYs and benefitting people from all over the world

**Bahrain**
- Successfully hosted the 6th SWYAA Global Assembly
- Participated in the promotion, selection process and pre-departure preparation of SWY25 delegates

**Brazil**
- SWYAA Brasil blood donation campaign, including collaboration with SWYAA Mexico
- Cooperated with SWYAA Mexico in organizing the SWY25 visit to Mexico
- Collaboration project with Ms. Kristine Edith Morton (SWY 21) for the visit of a youth group to Brazil (Sao Paulo)
- Collaboration with SWYAA Peru for the GA this year
Canada
- Hosted various formal and informal alumni reunions
- SWY Canada Tsunami Relief donation to IYEO totaling to US$16,500, for the tsunami victims in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture
- Collaborated with SWYAA Mexico member in “Sports-in-a-Box” project

Chile
- “Learning to See Arts” project
- “Dancing for Fun” project – promote dance culture to people and keep the SWY spirit alive

Costa Rica
- Promotion of SWY25 program, selection of NL and PYs, in cooperation with the Japanese embassy and government
- Conducted fundraising activities for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake
- Development of a new SWYAACR website
- Collaboration projects with Japanese Embassy in culture promotion and with other organizations

Ecuador
- Cooperated with Embassy and Consulate General of Japan in the promotion of activities organized for the Japanese Cultural Week held in Guayaquil, February 2013
- Created a volunteer group “Nuca Shungu” that means “Our Hearts for Japan” in Quechua, to help the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Orphans (JETO)
- SWYAA Ecuador coordinated the invitation of a Japanese ex-PYs, Dr. Yoshihiko Kadoya, as guest speaker in the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science US Alumni Association 3rd Multidisciplinary Scientific Forum held at Chapman University in Orange, California in February 2013

Egypt
- Current Status: EASWY Managing Board has 6 members
- Successfully organized and hosted the 4th SWYAA Global Assembly in 2010
- Organized informal international alumni reunion in Egypt
- Implemented Homestay + 1 Project
- Implemented the 9th Japan – Egypt Network (JEN) Open Salon at the Japanese Embassy
- Culture promotion activities of the Japanese Embassy
- Organized Global Photo Context Exhibition at the American University in Cairo
- Prepared and implemented Pre-Departure Orientation Sessions Kit

Fiji
- Tree Planting project, environment conservation and establishment of mini-SWY forest
- Kindergarten Project, a local version of the “One More Child Goes to School” project
- Organized sport events and music competitions to promote healthy life and showcase homegrown talents
- Cyclone Relief project

Greece
- Homestay + 1 project
- Hosted international alumni reunions
- Relief efforts for the Great East Japan Earthquake victims
- Supported the Medicins Du Monde
- SWYAA Web Radio
- Organized Youth Volunteering camp in Tinos island
- Participated in making the biggest origami – a Guinness World Record

India
- Collaborated for the study tour of students of Toyo Eiwa University
- Promoting cultural exchange between India and Japan
- Operating Open School to support children in needs
- Organized Japanese language class to children with the help of Japanese university student
- Established Canon Open Schools
- Established the Indo-Japan Friendship Group

Kenya
- Participated in orientation of SWY25 participants
- Established the Support Kenya Project and Tupendane Project
- Strengthened relationship with Embassy of Japan in Nairobi
- Participated in Africa-Japanese Cultural Festival

Mexico
- Revised and implemented selection process for SWY participation – focusing on selecting PYs dedicated to social contribution
- Established institutional image of SWYAA – website, networking with members to encourage them work in AA
- Worked with Japanese Embassy in finding ways to better collaborate about culture and generate interests in Mexico
- Collaborated with other AAs for various joint projects

New Zealand
- Conservation of environment – Tree Planting Project
- Selection and training of PYs for SWY25
- Strengthened relationship with Ministry of Youth Development and the IYEO
- Connecting with ex-PYs through email database, Facebook page and website
- Organized and run port of call activities and alumni reunions

Oman
- Provided support and donation for the Great East Japan Earthquake victims
- Worked with the Embassy and the Japan-Oman friendship Organization
- Supported efforts towards understanding of Japan and the Japanese people
- Participated in the celebration of Japan-Oman friendship of 40 Years, together with the Japanese Embassy and Omani Government
- Blood donation day during the Ramadan

Peru
- Had meeting with embassy – 3 meetings
- Learn Live Love, a joint European-Latin American Volunteer project
- Organized fundraising concert and donated the proceeds to organization taking care of kids with HIV
- 2 Japanese have participated in Homestay +1 project
- Organization and preparation of SWYAA Global Assembly 2013

Solomon Islands
- Conducted the selection of candidates in SWY, including pre-departure training
- Organized national reunions
- Arranged home stay for Japanese visitors and foreigners
- Honiara City Clean Up Project
- Individual initiatives of the AA members such as teaching traditional music to people.

Spain
- Organized international reunion in 2012, and gathered 40 people
- Help SWY information event
- Commemorated the first anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake 2011 and helped fundraising in Barcelona, proceeds amounting to 1,700€ was donated to Japanese Red Cross
- Haiku reading and Japanese workshops
- Penpal program between Arizona in the US and Spain
- Organized Japanese culture workshops such as Japanese cooking courses, manga drawing workshops, and Japanese tea demonstration
- Book and handicraft projects for the victims of the tsunami – to sell handicrafts to be sent by IYEO, proceeds will benefit the Tsunami victims.

**Sri Lanka**
- Expanded the “One More Child Goes To School” in collaboration with IYEO; currently supporting 60 students
- Port of call activities – national coordinator with government
- PYs contributed to society during port of call

**Sweden**
- Nordic Reunion, with Norway and Finland; participated in the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Memorial Evening, organized origami workshop as fundraising to benefit the tsunami victims
- Organized small reunion in Stockholm – from 5 different countries
- Arranged homestays for ex-PYs coming to Sweden (Homestay + 1)
- Supported ex-PY who are exchange students in Sweden
- Process reorganizing the AA to run it more smoothly for more programs.

**Tanzania**
- Works hand in hand with government and Japanese Embassy
- Conducted volunteer activities for the needy
- Promoted youth empowerment through development of livelihood skills
- Conducts youth camp every December
- Assisted in the internship for volunteers from Japan
- Held reunions and arranged homestay for ex-PYs.

**Tonga**
- Organized and managed the port of call activities (SWY 21 – all by AA, including funding)
- New Japanese Embassy in Tonga – to meet the ambassador
- Welcome ex-PYs to Tonga

**Turkey**
- Organized mini-international reunions
- Organized activities in the country and abroad (What is Happiness Project)
- Participated in activities of NGOs
- Strengthened ties with Japanese societies
- Planning and implementing of the SWY25 visit to Turkey

**UAE**
- Annual reunion in Abu Dhabi
- Visiting neighboring countries and supporting their activities
- Homestay + 1 Project
- Conducted SWY25 pre-departure training and NL selection

**United Kingdom**
- Organization formation, redrafting of charter
- Organization of mini-SWY reunion
- Land Rover Ambulance for the Mongolia Rally 2011, proceeds from the fundraising was donated to Amnesty International
- Setting up working relationship with the Tupendane International Project (Kenya)

**Venezuela**
- Celebrating Cultural Diversity in the areas and support local children
- Supporting school needs with donations – medicines and education resources
- Helped Japanese Embassy activities
Blood Donation activity
Contributing to rural areas in needs through donations

Yemen
Blood donation
Works with Japanese Embassy for the Japanese culture week
Participated in the Clean Up Campaign in Yemen - organized by Mayor of the City, and two SWYAA ex-PYs were members of the preparation committee; over 200,000 volunteers participated.

The representatives of SWYAA Turkey, SWYAA Sri Lanka, SWYAA New Zealand, SWYAA Mexico and SWYAA Bahrain also shared their efforts and the detailed activities for the JPYs who visited their countries as part of the SWY25 program. In response, Mr. Masateru Yoshida thanked the SWYAA for their great arrangement, wonderful preparation, and hospitality.

8. Q and A with the Cabinet Office

Regarding the hosting of Port of Call activities, would it be possible for the participating countries to make proposal to the Cabinet Office of Japan in advance so the AA can endeavor to push and be involved in getting commitment and support from their respective governments? Would it be possible to notify the candidate countries in advance? (Canada)

*Mr. Masateru Yoshida:* It can be difficult to implement for two reasons. The selection of port of call countries always depends on the budget, which is prepared on an annual basis, so we cannot decide well in advance. The other reason is the SWY program is a program initiated by the Japanese Government, but even so, it is a government-to-government program. Thus, the selection of port-of-call country also depends on the result of negotiation between the Cabinet Office and the government of the candidate country, and we do not know whether the government of your countries would accept our proposal. However, we would also need your support for the negotiation of the port of call activities or the program visited by the Japanese participating youth. Until now, the Japanese Government shoulders all the costs of the program, but there might be a possibility of collaboration with your governments in the future.

Who in the Cabinet Office shall be approached and how would it be addressed when a country wants to host the port of call activities for next year program e.g. Global Leadership Development Program? (Greece)

*Mr. Masateru Yoshida:* We will be having government-to-government negotiation, as mentioned before, but if you wish to host, you may signify your intentions through the IYEO or the Japanese Embassy. Please do note, however, that in making decisions we will also consider other factors like safety, availability of port, willingness of the Japanese Embassy to collaborate, etc.

May we propose that participating countries in close geographical locations (e.g. Persian Gulf countries) take turns in hosting the port of call activities, after due consideration of other factors? (Oman)

*Mr. Masateru Yoshida:* First, we will have to decide on what scale we can organize the SWY program, and then depending on the budget we have, we will decide on where we can visit for the ports of call. We will decide on how to select the ports of call countries considering the proposals we have received.

What kind of “result” does the Cabinet Office put high value to in relation to the SWY program? (Peru)

*Director Toshio Kuzuma:* There are 3 categories, namely, diplomatic efficiency, human development, and human network. The SWY program exists not only for the youth of Japan but
also the youth from other countries. We wish to see the development of a strong human network between the youth in Japan and youth from other countries in order to continue contributing to the society.

- How can SWYAA contribute in the enhancement of diplomatic relations between our countries and Japan? (Peru)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** There are various ways like introduction of Japanese culture, participating, or promoting organizing various culture exchange programs. You can coordinate with the Japanese Embassies and share information with them. You can also capitalize on your SWY network; enhance the communication and network of ex-PYs. That's part of diplomacy.

- Can the SWYAA receive official recognition from the Cabinet Office? (Yemen)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** If there are any necessities where you need recognition, the Cabinet Office can do on a case to case basis.

**Mr. Masateru Yoshida:** As an additional information, if you become part of SWYAA International, and your organization becomes a member, it would be easier for us to issue such kind of letter to acknowledge your SWYAA.

- Can the Cabinet Office use a more pressing word, other than “preferable” or “recommended” when communicating to the concerned governments regarding the inclusion of the SWYAA in the selection process for PYs and/or having ex-PYs as NLs? (Egypt)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** We do believe that it's preferable to have ex-PYs as part of the selection process. But then again, each country have their own ideas and policies so it's difficult for the Japanese Government to impose what we want on them. Nevertheless, we will consider using stronger wording in our communication with them.

- Can the Cabinet Office set a specific guideline for the selection process? (Sri Lanka)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** There are certain criteria that have been established for the selection process, but these are generally stated. If we wish to make it more detailed, we would have to agree with each participating country.

- Can we request the Cabinet Office to mention the Global Leadership Development Program as a program closely associated with the SWY program? Can the Cabinet Office also reiterate the active participation of SWYAA in the selection process? (Egypt)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** Yes, we do have a plan to make clear that the new program is closely associated with SWY, but we haven’t had a detailed plan on how to do that.

- Regarding the “List of Prominent ex-PYs” which the Cabinet Office asked us to prepare, you said that preferably the main list would include company CEOs, Parliamentarians, professors, royal family, etc. To me it’s difficult to make that list. Most of our members were students when they joined the SWY program. In the meantime, a lot of them explore international studies like in Japan, EU and Europe. And in the selection process in government, the representatives are usually selected from prestigious programs. The PYs are considered more prominent and study at good universities. (Brazil)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** We asked each country to submit the prominent person’s list as we needed to produce some result of SWY program. I understand that there might have been difficulties, and we do appreciate your efforts.

**Mr. Leonardo Kajioka Nardon (Brazil):** I am not questioning the objective of the project, in fact I understand very well. It’s just a bit hard for me to draw the line between who are
“prominent” and “not so prominent.”

- May I suggest an additional part of the program? Many of the PYs were asking how to start business outside of Japan, and this question was also asked not only by the Japanese. There seems to be a strong interest in knowing how to start business abroad. What about including “youth entrepreneurship” in the future program? (Oman)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** Thank you, we do need to consider the needs of the time, so we will take your suggestion into consideration. We will soon start the planning for the 2014 program and we will start inviting people who will plan and decide the details. We will take your proposals into consideration.

- This is related to the suggestion made by our colleague from Oman. We had themes that have been repeated year after year. Are these set by the Cabinet Office? What is the driving force behind the selection? (Australia)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** We review and decide the theme for discussion every year.

**Ms. Reiko Ohashi:** Let me provide you background information. The theme-based Course Discussion program started in SWY17. Back then, we chose themes that were not only relevant to Japan but topics that had universal importance. We started with seven (7) courses. You may notice that some have remained through the years like environment, education and cross-cultural understanding. We also have to consider topics that are easy to discuss for the participating youth. In addition, the availability of adequate personnel like ex-PYs as advisors and facilitators, who would be planning and facilitating the discussions, has to be put into consideration. Meanwhile, we have set the overall comprehensive theme, “youth participation in society,” to allow PYs some flexibility so they can still participate in the discussion even if they have no experience. The purpose is that the participants are able to talk about their future plans according to each topic. However, as alumni we encourage you to raise your voices and share your opinions to the Cabinet Office, through the IYEO.

- I have spoken to the SSEAYP ex-PYs and we talked about their impressions and possible solutions or suggestions. One suggestion that came from an ex-PY in Thailand is to maintain the same budget, lessen the number of participating countries but increase the number of delegation members. (Canada)

**Director Toshio Kuzuma:** That’s a useful suggestion and we will take that into consideration for the next program.

**9. Courtesy Call on Minister of State of Japan**

In a speech, Ms. Masako Mori, Minister of State for Youth Affairs, Cabinet Office, stated that she felt the strong “bond among people” had been cultivated through 25-year-history of this program and the SWY spirit was flourishing with SWYAAs’ active post-program activities, such as support for children and assistance for disaster victims. Also she extended her appreciation for assistance and support of SWYAAs to the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake. She encouraged SWYAAs to continue the discussion towards the activation of their international network and post-program activities during this conference, and also mentioned that when such achievements were visualized, the value of this program would be widely recognized. Lastly, she expressed her intention to make effort to prolong this kind of significant program.

Thereafter, Mr. Jose De Jesus Ruiz of SWYAA Mexico delivered his response speech on behalf of all the Representatives.

**10. Continuation of the Discussion of Agenda 2 – SWYAA International Draft Charter**

Ms. Reiko Ohashi gave some background on the drafting of the SWYAA International Charter. She said that after 25 years of the SWY program, it’s about time to clearly show the presence of the SWYAA to society and this can only be done if it would be recognized as an international organization.
She mentioned the SSEAYP International experience, which was established earlier, and the advantages of it being a recognized international organization. Ms. Ohashi also suggested that should the representatives agree, the IYEO may provide the secretariat requirement of the SWYAA International for easier coordination with the Cabinet Office.

The following agreements and highlights were noted:

- The process of formal recognition shall be decided by two-third vote of full membership (VSIR=Voting Session for SWYAA International Representative). Non-acceptance of application shall be accompanied with due explanation of the denial.
- Voting in the VSIR shall be added as one of the responsibilities of the member AAs.
- The body agreed to have a Secretariat body, which will be in charge of secretariat and administrative requirements of the SWYAA International.
- The voting for removal and demotion shall be two-third of all members.
- The SWYAA International shall have two regular voting sessions a year, to be determined by the Secretariat (basically May and November, unless otherwise informed by the Secretariat). Emergency voting session can also be sought by any member whenever the need arises.
- Procedure for Charter amendment shall be two-third votes.
- Each member AA should designate 2 people to be registered to the SWYAA International Representatives Network.
- Full members have the responsibility to submit the annual activity report as requested by the Secretariat.
- The conference agreed that Members to the SWYAA International shall pay annual membership fee. The annual membership fee shall be used to cover administrative costs such as website hosting, etc.
- The body agreed to have specific amount (number) of membership fee in the Charter, which will be decided later in the Conference.

**Day 4: March 21, 2013**

11. **Continuation of the Discussion of Agenda 2 – SWYAA International Draft Charter**

Mr. Karl-Gunnar Ingvar Eriksson (Sweden) continued the facilitation of the discussion on the matter. He requested the adoption of certain house rules to facilitate the proceedings. Following are the highlights of the discussions:

- The representative agreed that SWYAA International Representatives Network be maintained as information dissemination network within the SWYAA society.
- The body agreed that associate members will have voices and are allowed active participation in the discussion of pertinent matters, however, they are not vested with voting rights. In addition, they shall receive information about the SWY program and SWYAA International, except those deemed confidential by the Secretariat.
- The body agreed that the associate members will be required to submit annual reports of activities and/or future activity plans.
- The highest decision-making body in the SWYAA International shall be the Voting Session of SWYAA International Representatives (VSIR). (Article 14, Item 1)
- The body agreed to delete Article 14, Item 2 of the draft Charter.
- The body agreed to increase the term of office of the Secretary General from the proposed two (2) years to three (3) years. (Article 17, Item 3)
- The body agreed to create an implementing rules and regulations (IRR) for provisions in the Charter that need to be further defined and clarified in detail.
- Salient discussions and agreements are reflected on the draft IRR (attached), which includes the following:
  1. **Definition of Terms**
     - Alumni member shall be defined as “an ex-Participating Youth of the SWY program who are recognized by the SWYAA according to their internal rules on membership.”
     - The body agreed that the Country Report and Future Activity Plan shall be submitted as separate documents.
2. Criteria for Membership
   - There should be a provision requiring residency of the President or the Vice President in their home country to make sure that the SWYAA is properly managed and coordination/cooperation with Japanese Embassies would run smoothly.
   - The phrase “consider addressing membership of foreign ex-PYs in their home country” shall be added in the IRR. Further, such provision shall be added as a preferable qualification for membership instead of as a requirement.

3. Sanctions/Penalties for Non-Compliance of Duties and Responsibilities as a Member
   - Non-compliance by members of their duties and obligations such as submission of annual country reports, payment of membership fees and casting of votes during VSSIR shall warrant penalties or sanctions specified in the IRR.
   - Further, such provision shall be added as a preferable qualification for membership instead of as a requirement.

4. Voting Procedures for the Amendment of Charter
   - As earlier agreed, all important decisions of the SWYAA International such as but not limited to matters related to membership acceptance, demotion to associate member, removal from the SWYAA International, and amendments of the Charter or the IRR require two-third vote of all full members to take effect.
   - Before an amendment proposal is accepted for discussion and voting in the next session, it should be supported by at least one-third of the full members.
   - Proposals for Charter amendment emanating from the Secretary General shall not require one-third vote of full members before being tabled for discussion and voting.

Day 5: March 22, 2013

12. Continuation of Agenda 2 – SWYAA International Charter
   - The body agreed to use the word “general equality and rights” in Article 4, Item 2 of the Charter.
   - The words “democratic, inclusive and transparent” shall be added in the Implementing Rules and Regulations, Article 2, Item c.
   - The body agreed that each SWYAA shall have the right to determine the membership and voting eligibility status of members. This shall be included in the SWYAA Guideline, Article 4, Item b.
   - The representatives agreed to submit small corrections to the adopted version of the Charter, if any, by end of March 2013. Final review of the Charter shall be until April 15, 2013. Represented SWYAs (e.g. 28 countries) in this Conference may register as full members until August 15 for the first deadline, or until December 15, 2013 for the second deadline.
   - The SWYAA Charter shall take effect in January 1, 2014.
   - The representatives agreed to have a fixed amount for membership fee, as against structured amount.
   - The representatives agreed that the membership fee shall be US$100.00 or JPY10,000.
   - Payment of membership fees shall be between December 15 to 31 of the preceding year. Advance payment, however, is preferable.
   - The Guidelines for SWYAA or certain provisions therein was revised accordingly to conform to the provision of the Charter.

13. Proposed SWYAA Projects
The representatives pitched their proposed projects, which the other SWYAs may participate in or undertake through collaboration, replication or localization. The highlights of the discussions on the Agenda are as follows:

Existing SWYAA Common Projects That Should be Emphasized
   - The status of implementation of the common running projects that should be emphasized were reviewed and the SWYAs were requested to initiate or expand their implementation in their respective countries.
     - SWY Day on January 18 (10 countries have implemented)
     - Homestay + 1:
- SWY World.net: (10 countries have submitted activities to Greece)
  - Individuals or SWYAA can submit their activities for posting in the website.
  - Whenever individual ex-PY of SWYAA write about projects on Facebook, Twitter, etc, use hash tags (#HSplus1 and #SWYppa)

- SWYAA Web Radio
- One More Child Goes to School (Sri Lanka)
- Give Blood, Give Life (Venezuela)

- Activity reports on the common projects shall be included in the annual country report.
- The newly proposed projects may become common projects, or be replicated or localized as the individual SWYAA wishes.

**SWAA International Joint Project Proposals**

- **Branding SWYAA International (Yemen)**
  The body agreed to adopt one unified SWYAA International logo. Each SWYAA may continue to use their own logos, provided that the SWYAA International logo shall be used at all times for every project, activity, events, and in promotional products by the SWYAA. The selection of SWYAA logo shall be through an open logo competition. SWYAA Yemen shall be in charge of preparing the competition guideline, announcing and collecting entries for logo completion. Voting shall be done online by all SWYAA members. Entries that receive the 3 most number of votes shall be proposed to the Cabinet Office for their confirmation. A proposal shall be made to adopt the same logo for the SWY program.

- **Twin Alumni Association Project (Mexico)**
  The aim of the project is to establish an agreement between two Alumni Associations that brings to life joint projects where both AAs can participate/collaborate, so as to strengthen its ties and encourage them to keep performing social contribution activities.

- **SWY Weekend (Mexico)**
  The idea is to pick young leaders from local communities, schools and universities, and during one weekend share with them the values and principles learned in the SWY Program. This project is intended to bring the SWY Spirit to the youth that hasn’t had the chance to get on board.

**Activities that can be lead by a country and other countries can contribute**

- **KIVA Network (Australia)**
  KIVA is a micro finance organization which allows participants to provide loans to individuals who are in need of financial assistance. The individual repays the loan over time, and the loan provider can track the progress of the loan and see their success. To be involved in KIVA, SWYAA can start their own “KIVA SWYAA” Group or join the existing “KIVA SWYAA” Group or join the existing “KIVA SWY” Group. Once the group is established, members can be added and also promoted via social media such as Facebook and twitter. Participants of groups have the unique opportunity to select which individuals receive the loan, and as a general guideline the preference has been to provide loans to individuals from participating SWY countries, thereby continuing with the SWY spirit and the SWY community.

- **Crowd Funding Campaign (UK)**
  **Aims:**
  To raise funds to support a social development project (Tupendane UK) through a national crowd-funding campaign
  **How:**
  Using a crowd-funding platform such as kickstarter.com, indiegogo.com etc, we will set up a campaign running over 30-45 days, to raise a set amount of funds with clear aims and objectives to support the aims and objectives of Tupendane UK. We will create a fundraising package including:
The fundraising package will be sent out through the UK SWYAA network to volunteers who have agreed to present it in their school, pub, university, community hall and any other relevant places; creating awareness of the campaign and how they can donate on the crowd-funding platform. This model could easily be replicated in other countries and possibly used on one big international fundraising campaign for a major package.

**Treasure Box Project (Spain)**
This project helps to promote and sell the products made by women living in temporary housing in Minami-Sanriku (Miyagi prefecture, Japan) worldwide. The project supports people affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake as they not only come to terms with the devastation but also work to recover and rebuild mourn the loss of both family and friends. Any profit goes directly to these families.

**SWY Anniversary Video (Spain)**
The idea is to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the SWY program by making a video where each participant expresses his/her wish for SWY (as if you were wishing “happy birthday” to a friend). The video will be posted on the SWY website and all SWYAA websites in order to motivate people to continue contributing to the society under SWY values.

**Course Discussion related project after SWY (Egypt)**
**Aim:**
1. Development of SWY program and enhance post-program activities
2. Encourage engaging PYs in post-program activities upon returning from the SWY program based on experience gained from Course Discussions on board
3. Involve SWYAA to join projects

**Idea:**
1. Provide after the completion of action plan as a mini-diploma in “International Youth Development” related to certain curriculum
2. Have discussion groups linked to a project to be finished after SWY program or to submit a small thesis according to an action plan

**Timeline:**
1. Agree on action-plan during Course Discussions while on board
2. 4-5 weeks upon return from the ship
3. Submit a small thesis from each country involved/related to topic

**What is Happiness Project (Turkey)**
This is a project to make children living in poor areas or survived a bad event like an earthquake feel that they are not alone. At school with such children can be visited by the alumni members. Before the visit some stationary and school materials can be collected for the donation to the school. Alumni members can spend some time with the kids with playing games and singing songs. A part of the visit must be drawing pictures with the theme on “What is Happiness?” The children draw what makes them happy. The pictures will be collected by the SWYAA Turkey to be exhibited on the website.

**Donate jogging shoes to underprivileged children (Brazil)**
**Main Idea:**
Collect used shoes that are still in good condition to underprivileged children who are part of a social project that aims to encourage young people to engage in sporting activities.

**How:**
Each person can donate ONE (1) pair of used shoes that are no longer suitable for training or competition usage, but are still in decent condition to be worn for a short period of time. SWYAA Brazil is thinking about collecting shoes from participants (local and international) and distribute to a social worker in Brasilia. International SWYAAAs could gather shoes from its participants and hand them to SWYAA Brazil or try to establish
similar initiatives in each of their countries.

- **Donate old computers to institutions (Brazil)**
  
  **Main Idea:**
  Collect old computers, service them back into fully functional status and donate them to institutions that can use them. SWYAA Brazil intends to collect the computers, format their hard drives and install open source software, service all non functional parts and replace them with functional ones, and donate them to institutions in need. On the international level, SWYAAAs can cooperate and find computers or institutions that can donate or receive the computers.

**Activities that can be Implemented Internally**

- **Reviving the countries that only participated once or twice (Sweden)**
  
  **Purpose:**
  To retrieve ex-PYs from countries that do not have SWYAA and would like to be part of the SWY community again.

  **Steps:**
  First step: Identify countries in your area that have been invited to SWY but don’t have any SWYAA.
  Second step: Contact IYEO to get the information on the ex-PYs from the identified countries.
  Third step: Contact every member by Facebook, post, phone call or any other way possible.
  Forth step: Present your SWYAA and the recent work that has been done with the SWYAA International and offer them the possibility to become reactivated and integrated in the SWY community by joining your SWYAA. If they decline the invitation, offer them the possibility to just receive information from your SWYAA and to join your activities.
  Fifth step: If enough ex-PYs have been reactivated from the same country, suggest and support them to create their own national SWYAA.

  **Oman:** Some of Arab countries participated one or two times in SWY program like Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan and Morocco etc.. They have not been involved in SWYAA activities due to small number of PYs, so we will try to contact and encourage those PYs to participate in common projects or activities since they have the spirit and experience of SWY knowledge.

- **Ramadan Campaign (Oman)**
  In Ramadan (Holy Month for Muslims), PYs could gather with other Muslims with different AAs, make donations for people locally and internationally and do blood donation.

- **Gathering with orphans (Oman)**
  Some SWYAA members visit orphanage children houses and share some activities with them, such as programs with children and games. Some gifts might also be given from AA members.

**Projects Proposed by Individuals or Invitation by AA**

- **Bus for World Youth (Peru)**
  The Bus for World Youth Program (BWY) was a voluntary post-program activity proposed by the Peruvian delegation on board SWY21 (2009) with the objective of traveling through Peru with the same spirit of the Ship, but on a Bus. The purpose of the Bus for World Youth Program was to reassure participant’s commitment with society and leadership, through volunteer work and donations for Peruvian communities in need. Throughout 14 days, from December 28, 2009 to January 10, 2010, the participants traveled by bus from Lima to Ica (Pisco, El Carmen and Huachachina), Arequipa (city, and a poor community near Colca Canyon called Chalhuanca), Puno (city, and the islands of Uros, Amantaní, Taquile and Sillustani),and finally, Cusco (city, Korikancha, Sacsayhuaman, Quenqo, PucaPucara, Tambomachay, Maras, Moray, Ollantaytambo, and Inca Trail… with Machu Picchu at the end!). In each place we tried to create an environment of partnership, solidarity and cultural
exchange. During our journey we were able to assist four Peruvian communities with music instruments and the tuition for workshops in order to reinforce their identity through music, clothing for the cold weather and educational materials for the local libraries. We also had the opportunity to share valuable time with the people of these communities. More information available in the blog: www.bwyperu.blogspot.com.

- Data storing, web hosting – data storage space (Sweden)

- Kilimanjaro Expedition and Safari National Parks (Tanzania)
  In this project, members of SWYAA Tanzania will mobilize people who will not leave a legacy for their life by climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa. The participants to the project will also have a chance to visit Serengeti and NgoroNgoro, the most natural National Park in the world. People who want to participate will have to donate something, which will go to help the needy. SWYAA from other cities may mobilize the youth and other alumni members so they may participate in this program. This event can take place twice to thrice a year depending on the availability of participants.

- Reunion in Ionian Island (Greece)
  Spending 7 days onboard a sailing boat in individual groups of 8 people and sail together in 4 Greek islands of the Ionian Sea. Social contribution activities will be organized to help local communities in those areas with limited population.

- Mexican PY selection process (Mexico)

Projects to be done in this Conference
- Video Shooting (Japanese Committee members)

14. Adjournment
There being no other matter to discuss, the Tokyo Conference for the Ex-Participating Youth of the Ship for World Youth program 2013 (FY2012) was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. on March 22, 2013.