

Asian Breeze

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KITAKYUSHU FORUM ON ASIAN WOMEN (KFAW) October 2014 Triannual Publication

Gender Mainstreaming Policies for Government Officers 2014



Government officers from various countries
(From left, two from Cambodia, Ghana, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria and Solomon Islands)



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Women Today

A Message to Japanese Women in Today's World

I was fortunate to grow up in a family where people taught by example, and took the time to pass important values on to the next generation—service, patriotism, respect for diversity and the opinions of others—and believed that each of us could do anything we've set our hopes on.

Although the Kennedy men are more famous, my life was dominated by strong and inspirational women, so I believe that every day gives women a chance to make a difference. I try to continue that tradition, and I have two daughters in their 20s who are now entering the professional world, so I understand the importance of mentors and role models.

My grandmother grew up in a time when women couldn't vote, yet there is no doubt that she was the political genius in our family. My mother grew up in a time when married women didn't work, but as soon as my brother and I went to college, she got a job. My aunt started Special Olympics to prove that people with intellectual disabilities can participate in society, and built it into a worldwide organization with 1 million athletes and 3 million volunteers.

My own generation believed that our mothers and grandmothers had been short-changed, and we owed it to them to do it all. We entered the workforce in record numbers, broke glass ceilings in politics and on the playing fields, fought for reproductive rights and pay equity.

In the United States, we've made tremendous progress, but certainly have not solved all of our problems. This is an exciting time to be a woman in both of our nations. Americans are lucky to have a President who understands from his own life experience the challenges women face. Like President Obama, Prime Minister Abe has put women's empowerment front and center in the national debate. He has recognized that women are the key to Japanese economic recovery, and to a more dynamic and creative society.

Your generation has the power and the responsibility to show that women can succeed in the workplace despite the obstacles. It is important for your country, your families, and especially the millions of little girls who are looking to you for inspiration.

It is an awesome responsibility, but having already met so many dynamic and talented women here in Japan in my few short months here, I know that you will achieve great things.

For me personally, speaking about these issues is not only important, but it's personal. As the first woman to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Japan, I know



United States Ambassador to Japan
Caroline Bouvier KENNEDY

that people are watching me too. I am following in the footsteps of incredibly distinguished and experienced ambassadors, all of whom were men.

So like you, I know that my performance will be important, not just for me but for those who come after me. But I am not worried. I know that we can all succeed, especially if we work together.

I would like to share with you one of my favorite quotations from Mary Church Terrell. She was the daughter of slaves, and one of the first African-American women to receive a college degree. She was born in the year that President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves, and died a few months after the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation in the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. The obstacles she faced as a black woman are hard to even imagine. She spent her whole life fighting for the rights of women, and was a true pioneer who broke every barrier in her time. But she realized that none of us can do it alone; we need each other.

In her most famous essay, she wrote: "And so, lifting as we climb, onward and upward we go, struggling and striving, and hoping that the buds and blossoms of our desires will burst into glorious fruition ere long. With courage, born of success achieved in the past, with a keen sense of the responsibility which we shall continue to assume, we look forward to a future large with promise and hope. Seeking no favors because of our color, nor patronage because of our needs, we knock at the bar of justice, asking an equal chance."

Profile of Caroline Bouvier KENNEDY

Ambassador Caroline Bouvier KENNEDY is the first female U.S. Ambassador to Japan. Prior to her nomination, Ambassador Kennedy worked as a lawyer, author, and editor. She has committed her life to public service, including in education, for example serving as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors and Honorary Director of The Fund for Public Schools, and as Chief Executive of the Office of Strategic Partnerships of the New York City Department of Education. Ambassador Kennedy holds a B.A. degree in Fine Arts from Harvard University and a J.D. degree from Columbia University. She is the daughter of John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States of America.

*This is an excerpt from the opening remarks delivered by U.S. Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy at TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program held in Tokyo on April 12, 2014.

Natural Disasters, Gender Equality, and Women's Empowerment

(first half)



Professor, Faculty of Law, the University of Kitakyushu
Masato NINOMIYA

Professor at Faculty of Law, the University of Kitakyushu. Doctor of Laws. Technical Advisor of Specialist Committee on Monitoring, Council for Gender Equality, Cabinet Office. Member of the Disaster Reduction/Reconstruction WG of the said Committee. In 1994, began to work for the Faculty of Law, Kitakyushu University (as termed at that time), and then served as a visiting scholar at Center on International Organization at Columbia SIPA (School of International and Public Affairs) from 2005 to 2006. In 2006, assumed his current position. In April 2014, became Dean of Faculty of Law. Specializes in international law and international organizations law.

Gender equality and empowerment of women in natural disasters are now attracting attention of international society. Did you know that Japan has been actively engaged in generating this international trend?

From March 14 to 18, 2015, the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction will be held in Sendai, in order to discuss the post-Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), which was adopted in 2005.

Since this is a UN World Conference, representatives from most of the countries in the world will gather in Sendai next spring. As the host nation, and a country that has been making active efforts to reduce disaster risks, Japan is required to demonstrate how to provide international cooperation, including technical assistance, for less-developed countries in terms of such efforts. In addition to playing that role as a support provider, Japan is also required to play a role as a country affected by natural disasters; Japan needs to disseminate its lessons learned from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, the Great East Japan Earthquake, and other disasters.

However, what lessons has Japan learned from such experiences?

The response to the Great East Japan Earthquake has revealed many problems regarding gender equality. It is reported that 1) women could not fully participate in decision-making processes on various levels, such as not only decision-making processes for disaster reduction and reconstruction policies on national and regional levels, but also those for the response to disasters and the operation of evacuation sites, with the result that few perspectives of women were reflected; 2) appropriate consideration was not made for differences in needs between men and women; 3) capabilities of women as valuable individuals who respond to disasters were not fully utilized; and 4) with accumulation of frustration in people's daily lives, the tendency to follow fixed gender roles was further strengthened.

After 2005, Japan continued promoting efforts to incorporate the perspective of gender equality into national disaster reduction policies, by, for example, revising the Basic Disaster Management Plan. Nevertheless, since these policies were not viable enough, and since the policies did not sufficiently permeate regional and local levels, the experiences and lessons that Japan had obtained were not utilized at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake. As a result, there arose the same difficulties that could have

been avoided.

It is impossible to prevent the occurrence of natural disasters. With sufficient preparation, however, it is possible to reduce effects of such disasters. We will never repeat the same mistakes – it is essential to share this view and to take action.

In May 2013, Gender Equality Bureau of Cabinet Office established guidelines on efforts to promote disaster reduction and reconstruction from the perspective of gender equality. Designed for officials of local governments, the guidelines are aimed to be used for activities to reduce disaster on regional and local levels, in order to ensure that the national principle and policies of gender equality will not simply end up as “pie in the sky.” The guidelines are mainly based on the following points: 1) women should be positioned as independent individuals who respond to disasters; 2) sufficient consideration should be made for differences between men and women in terms of effects generated by disasters; 3) safety and security should be ensured with respect for human rights of men and women; 4) gender equality should be promoted in cooperation between private sectors and the government; 5) roles of gender equality centers/departments should be clarified in both normal times and an emergency; and 6) due attention should be paid to those who need support at the time of disasters and how to respond to them. A checklist regarding necessary efforts has also been prepared. Do you know what types of efforts are being promoted in your city?

What lies beneath this is the recognition that the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women in all phases of a natural disaster, namely prevention, emergency response, and restoration/reconstruction, are integral to establishing a disaster-resistant society, which reduces disaster and possesses resilience (ability to recover from a disaster). Moreover, since what cannot be done during normal times can never be done in an emergency, the guidelines insist that the promotion of gender equality on a daily basis serves as a foundation for and a key to disaster reduction and reconstruction.

These perspectives are also incorporated into the two resolutions submitted by the Japanese government and adopted at the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2012 and 2014 (CSW56 and 58) titled, “Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Natural Disasters.”

Under a commission from Kyushu International Center of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW) holds an annual seminar for central and local government officials in developing countries who are in charge of gender mainstreaming policies.

The purpose of the seminar is to foster government officials in developing countries so as to comprehensively and effectively promote gender mainstreaming policies toward a gender-equal society.

This year, the seminar was held for four weeks from May 26 to June 20, receiving eight participants from seven countries.

This seminar provides a well-balanced mix of lectures, workshops, site visits and presentations. Participants can learn about administrative measures promoted by local governments and various efforts made by non-profit organizations (NPOs) and private companies. The seminar curricula are designed to help participants comprehensively understand the concepts and methods of gender mainstreaming policies from perspectives of both theory and practice.

The seminar began with a presentation session on gender problems in the participants' home countries in order to share, discuss and analyze the problems. This helped participants mutually learn about situations in different countries. Moreover, referring to their experiences, they discussed factors involved and solutions for such gender problems.

Basic lectures and workshops were subsequently held for participants to obtain the necessary knowledge and



Workshop

methodology to develop effective gender mainstreaming policies. Various examples of gender mainstreaming policies promoted at national and local levels were presented by Japanese government officials and experts, including "CEDAW and Efforts Promoted in Japan" and "Women and Violence." This program helped them understand the methods for making, implementing, and evaluating plans from the perspective of gender equality.

This seminar also included international interaction with citizens of Kitakyushu, which was a good opportunity to directly communicate and discuss gender issues. Participants also visited a nursery school and an elementary school in Kitakyushu, and interacted with the children there.

The seminar concluded with a presentation of action plans prepared by the participants with Project Cycle Management (PCM) method, which they had learned in this seminar.



Interaction event with citizens

Participants' Messages and Impressions

The lecture on "Women and Violence" has helped me expand my perspective. I believe that gender-based violence is a serious issue in many countries.

In the lecture "CEDAW and Efforts Promoted in Japan," I learned a lot about Japan's systematic efforts. Also, the textbook was useful for its specific explanations.

MOVE and KFAW provide excellent programs; they are important resources for increasing opportunities for women to demonstrate their capabilities to the fullest extent possible.

During the visit to an elementary school, I was impressed by the teacher's instruction method. I would like to introduce this method into my home country as one for gender education. Also, the visit enabled me to observe the good teamwork of the children and their impressive way of expressing their own opinions on gender issues.

At the interaction event with citizens, I was happy to be able to exchange opinions on gender issues with them. The exchange with high school students also impressed me a lot.

PCM method enabled me to make an action plan and put it into a specific and practical form.

I feel that Japanese people's mind to respect others lies beneath their kindness, hospitality and willingness to help others, and this attitude has been passed on from generation to generation.

Research on Support for Female Victims of Violence in Taiwan, Province of China and Malaysia

Visiting Researcher

Associate Professor, Harassment Consultation Office, Hiroshima University

Chisato KITANAKA

Co-Researchers

Professor, Faculty of Law, Kanagawa University

Masako INOUE

Associate Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, Muroran Institute of Technology

Aisa KIYOSUE

Senior Researcher, Center for Forensic Clinical Psychology, Ritsumeikan University

KIM Sung-Eun

Lecturer, Faculty of Health and Science, Kansai University of Welfare Sciences

Utako MATSUMURA

Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Law, Hokkaido University

LEE Yeonsuk



In recent years, different forms of violence against women, such as domestic violence, stalking, and sexual abuse, have become a major social concern. It is more important than ever to implement appropriate victim support and violence prevention measures from diverse perspectives. However, Japan lags behind some other Asian countries and regions, including Korea, Taiwan, Province of China, and Hong Kong.

This research will contain surveys through organizations that support women victims of violence in Malaysia and Taiwan, Province of China. It will also contain comparisons and analyses of actual situations regarding victims support. It will strive to reveal problems regarding efforts to support victims in these countries (regions), as well as goals and future challenges of the support movements. Thus, it will aim to offer the support providers specific information useful for improving existing support and legislation in Asian countries, including Japan.

Social Inclusion of Nepali Women Migrants in Japan : Studies on Gaps between their Needs and Present Social Safety Nets for Foreign Residents

Visiting Researcher

Associate Professor, Faculty of Integrated Human Studies and Social Sciences, Fukuoka Prefectural University

Mayuko SANO

Co-Researchers

Associate Professor, Faculty of Global Studies, Sophia University

Masako TANAKA

Chief Representative, Pourakhi Nepal

Manju GURUNG



Previous studies have revealed that foreign residents in Japan tend to be excluded from Japanese society, mainly due to legal, economic, and social barriers. As for Nepali migrants, increasing rapidly in recent years, not even a survey on the actual situation has been undertaken. According to a report from a support organization for foreign residents in Japan, despite the increased number of consultation cases by Nepali women, the responsiveness has been insufficient.

Through interviews with Nepali in Tokyo Metropolis and Fukuoka Prefecture, which rank first and second, respectively, in terms of the number of Nepali residents, this research will aim to reveal the actual living conditions of Nepali women, from legal, economic and social aspects. Thus, the research will make proposals regarding further support for foreign women that are insufficient so far.

It is suggested that migrants from Nepal, a multi-linguistic and multi-ethnic country, cannot easily establish mutual-support organizations in Japan due to differences in ethnicity and caste status among themselves, and that Nepali women are not accustomed to using a safety net outside their own families. By identifying gaps between their needs and the actual situation, the research will contribute to improving support for all foreign women.

FY 2014 KFAW Asian Researchers Network Seminars

1st Session: Debriefing on Participation in the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58)

Date: April 11, Friday, 2014, 18:30 - 20:00

Lecturers: Yukiko ODA, Researcher, Kitakyushu Institute on Sustainability
Masato NINOMIYA, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Kitakyushu

The U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) takes place annually in New York. At the debriefing held the other day on participation in CSW58, Ms. ODA, who had attended the commission under the KFAW's status as a participating NGO, spoke about the priority theme, "Challenges and Achievements in Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Women and Girls." She also talked about "Beijing+20," which is to be the theme for CSW59. In addition, Dr. NINOMIYA talked about the resolution submitted at CSW58 by the Japanese Government, "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Natural Disasters."



2nd Session: "Missing Women" in Nepal

Date: July 25, Friday, 2014, 18:30 - 20:00

Lecturers: Mayuko SANO, Associate Professor, Faculty of Integrated Human Studies and Social Sciences, Fukuoka Prefectural University

When looking at the sex ratio of the Asian population from the perspective of demography, the number of females is abnormally lower than that of males, which suggests preferential selection of boys. Girls who could not come into this world or continue living after birth due to preferential selection of boys are called "missing women." In Nepal, since married daughters are regarded as members of the families into which they have married, sons inherit their parents' property. In addition, since wedding ceremony costs must be borne by the bride's family, sons are preferred to daughters.

Based on her field work performed in Nepal, she spoke about the actual situation in Nepal, referring to the results of her research.



The 24th KFAW Foreign Correspondents Start-up Activities!

In 1991, the Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW) established a foreign correspondents system to broadly network with people overseas, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. Past and present foreign correspondents are in total 279 people in 41 countries. This year, persons from 8 countries work as KFAW foreign correspondents. Through this network, KFAW will continue providing up-to-date information from various parts of the world. The profiles of the correspondents and other reports are available at the KFAW website.



Bangladesh

Ms. Doulot MALA
Special Correspondents,
The Financial Express



Cambodia

Mr. Phorn HOUN
Scholarship Student,
The Pannasastra University of Cambodia



Hong Kong

Ms. Amelia LO
Graduate Student,
The University of Hong Kong



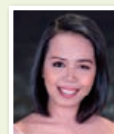
Indonesia

Ms. Marisna YULIANTI
Lecturer,
Mercu Buana University



Netherlands

Ms. Junka BEKKERS
Housewife



Philippines

Ms. Arisa JUNIO
Project Associate,
Ateneo de Manila University



Sri Lanka

Ms. Vindhya WEERATUNGA
Chief Executive Officer,
LAHES-The Corporate Campus



Uzbekistan

Ms. Chisako WAKAMATSU
Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers,
Japan International Cooperation Agency

Foreign Correspondents' Report

Gender Issues from the Perspective of Dutch Labor System

Ms. Junka BEKKERS (The Netherlands)

Profile

After I graduated from Seinan Gakuin University, I worked for Fukuoka Prefecture Municipalities Officials Mutual Aid Association. I got married and moved to the Netherlands. I have two children. I find that the Netherlands is an advanced country where people have flexible perception toward gender issue. As an foreign correspondent I will deliver real-time information of the Netherlands.



When discussing gender issues, I should mention a work-sharing system in the Netherlands. This system was introduced at the time of severe economic recession in the early 1980s during which the unemployment rate was as high as 12%. To overcome the problem, in 1982 the Wassenaar Agreement was concluded between the government, labor unions and employers' organizations. Following revision of the labor law in 1996 and establishment of the working hours adjustment law in 2000, the work-sharing system was fully launched in the country. The system's mainstay lies in 1) reduction of working hours and 2) introduction of part-time work.

Reduction of working hours is implemented in order to stabilize employment in economic recession. In a typical case, eight hours per worker is reduced to six. A government's permission is required to introduce this system, because workers actually have no choice between shorter working hours or unemployment.

The part-time working system in the Netherlands is well-prepared unlike in Japan. In the Netherlands, it is very common to work just four weekdays, or 32 hours. Most people spend the rest weekday enjoying their hobbies or interacting with their families. In addition, flex-time is common, enabling workers to decide on their own when to work. Moreover, both full-time and part-time workers are treated as permanent staff, which means that they are equally paid per hour, and obtain the same level of benefits,

such as days-off and bonuses, depending on their working hours. The idea is that the same working conditions are given for the same work. However, if a temporary employment agency is involved, the hourly payment that the worker gains is lower by a few percentage points.

As for the two points mentioned above, both men and women enjoy equal rights. The reality is, however, in a typical case of a family with a child, the mother works part time two or three days a week, while the father works four days a week. As a result, the amount of household chores performed by women is slightly higher than that by men. This type of working style is seen at both private companies and government institutions, which is new to me.

The system is effective not only in stabilizing domestic employment, but also in increasing the time a family can spend together and in ensuring that household chores are shared equally between men and women.

My brother-in-law and his wife had a baby girl last year. Until then, they both had worked five days a week, but they now work only four days a week. They set each of their days off on different weekdays, and use a child care center on the other three days. On the days the baby stays at the center, my sister-in-law takes the baby to the center in the morning, when my brother-in-law has already begun to work, using flex-time. In the evening, he picks her up. This way of working enables both fathers and mothers to be fully engaged in household chores and child-raising. Additionally,

if both parents work and leave their children at a child care center, they may be eligible to receive a government child care allowance as part of the social security system according to their income.

When I take my son to and from school every day, I often see fathers do the same. In Japan, it is often assumed that mothers should handle the school-related needs. But in the Netherlands fathers share that responsibility equally with mothers. Moreover, for children whose parents cannot pick them up after school due to work, schools cooperate with child care centers. Specifically, a child care center picks up registered children at the school, and their parents pick them up at the center as soon as they finish work. In this way, well-established social security measures exist for the sake of children. Furthermore, almost all towns have large facilities or natural parks that people can use for a few euros

a day, or sometimes free of charge. Children enjoy themselves surrounded by nature.

Thanks to this type of interaction between children and parents, and due to social support, the Netherlands boasts first place in the ranking of countries where children feel happy.



It's 16:00. Using flex-time, my brother-in-law finishes work early four days a week. He's picking up his daughter at the child care center. Many fathers like him are actively engaged in child-raising, and the social environment supports such fathers.

Young Female Leaders for the Future

Ms. Vindhya WEERATUNGA (Sri Lanka)

Role of females has evolved over the years. Not so long ago, the primary role of females was raising children and household chores. However, with globalization and change in lifestyles, females started gaining a higher level of education, entering the job market and were exposed to the outside world. This was the same in Sri Lanka.

Today, in Sri Lanka, females have a 91% literacy rate and more females than males go for university education. However, in the labor force, only 34% is female.



Sri Lanka Government Ministry Secretaries

Only a few females have climbed to the top in their careers. Although more females than males work in the public sector, only 9 are female out of the 59 Ministry Secretaries (the highest rank in the public sector). Also in the private sector, there are only a few female Chief Executive Officers/Chairpersons. This is certainly a paradox as the World's first female Prime Minister was from Sri Lanka and the country also had a female executive President.

There are a number of reasons for this situation.

Even though females excel in studies, as they enter the labor force, they are faced with societal pressures to get married. For young couples, looking after children and attending to their needs has become a challenge. As a result, more and more educated professional females are leaving their careers. Sri Lanka is yet to embrace flexi-time system

Profile

I am the Director/Chief Executive Officer of 'LAHES - The Corporate Campus', the education subsidiary of the diversified business conglomerate, LAUGFS Holdings, Sri Lanka. LAHES - The Corporate Campus offers academic, vocational and executive education programs. I hold an Associate of Science Degree in Management (Summa Cum Laude Honors) and a Bachelor of Science in International Business Management (Magna Cum Laude Honors) from the United States, where I also started my career in Human Resources. I have a Master in Business Administration (Merit) from the University of Sri Jaywardenepura, Sri Lanka and am an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development, U.K.



and full-fledged day care centers.

Another reason may be that historically, leadership has carried the notion of masculinity and the belief that men make better leaders than women is still common today. Certain jobs are perceived as 'male jobs', mainly due to the work hours, type of skill required (e.g. managing a large male work force) and location. Therefore, some industries 'prefer' males to females.

However, females are looking at different options where they can maintain a work-life balance and be successful career women. This is evident from the rising number of female business owners including those engaging in family business. They gain flexibility to play multiple roles.

There are some female leaders as role models in Sri Lanka in diverse industries such as financial services, apparel, telecommunication, IT, advertising, etc. They have common characteristics. Having a personal brand as a female leader in the country, they are strong-minded, conscientious and maintain ethical standards. The foundation to groom females to assume leadership roles needs to be laid at a young age. Traditionally, girls are guided towards careers such as teaching which would enable them to balance work and life. However, the girls raised in cities are more exposed to the corporate world and find their way into the business arena.

It is, therefore, important to raise both boys and girls with the same ideologies to take on leadership roles in whatever field they choose. Young girls need to be coached, mentored and equipped with skills that will enable them to face challenges in a leadership position and a complex business environment. Good governance, corporate social responsibilities and ethics will be vital game changers for tomorrow's world. More female leaders will certainly bring a brighter future to Sri Lanka.

25th Kitakyushu Conference on Asian Women "Entrepreneurship: An Emerging Source of Employment for Women"

The 25th Kitakyushu Conference on Asian Women will explore "entrepreneurship" as a main theme. At the conference, Ms. Keiko OSAKI from the UN will speak about international statistical approaches about women entrepreneurs, based on results of the UN expert group meeting on gender statistics to be held from December 3 to 5 in Kitakyushu. Subsequently, Ms. Eriko YAMAGUCHI, the founder of Motherhouse Co., Ltd., which sells bags produced at a factory in Bangladesh in Japanese and Taiwanese markets, will share her experience as a female entrepreneur.

The subsequent panel discussion will introduce examples of businesses set up by women in the Philippines and Indonesia, as well as entrepreneurs support measures promoted in Kitakyushu and other parts of Japan.

Date: December 6, 2014, Saturday, 13:30 – 16:00

Venue: Kitakyushu Municipal Gender Equality Center "MOVE,"
Main Seminar Room, 5th Floor

Capacity: 100 persons (first come, first served)

Child care service available. 500 yen per child
(Reservation required.)

Keynote Lectures



Ms. Keiko OSAKI

Chief, Demographic and Social
Statistics Branch, United Nations
Statistics Division



Ms. Eriko YAMAGUCHI

Chief Designer, CEO,
Motherhouse Co., Ltd.

Panelists

Ms. Eriko YAMAGUCHI (Chief Designer, CEO, Motherhouse Co., Ltd.)

Ms. Lina CASTRO (Interim Deputy National Statistician, Philippine Statistics Authority)

Ms. Gloria ARLINI (Assistant Director, Nusantara Development Initiatives, NPO in Singapore)

Mr. Hidetoshi YOSHIMURA

(Professor, Institute for Urban and Regional Policy Studies, the University of Kitakyushu)

Coordinator

Ms. Mitsuko HORIUCHI (President, Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women)

Inviting Participants for KFAW Study Tour: "Learn International Cooperation in the Philippines 2014"

During this tour, you can learn about poverty in the Philippines and international cooperation, by visiting facilities for women and children and experiencing interaction at such facilities, having a homestay with a family of the Aeta, an indigenous people in the Philippines, and visiting fair trade producers and slums.

By offering many opportunities for you to meet and interact with new people, the tour will enable you to learn a lot about the problems faced by people living in the Philippines and help you to think about what you can do to help. We look forward to your participation.



Period: February 23, Monday, 2015 to March 4, Wednesday

Capacity: 15 persons (first come, first served) <Minimum number of participants: 5>

Travel price: 121,000 yen <including round-trip airfare (economy class), fuel surcharge, airport use fee, etc.>

Application deadline: December 10, Wednesday, 2014

■ For details of the study tour, please see the KFAW website.

<http://www.kfaw.or.jp/event/kfaw20142622332.html>

Opinion Exchange Meeting Held in Kitakyushu Regarding the Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (May 31)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan is currently establishing an action plan in cooperation with related government offices and other groups in order to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (the first UN Security Council resolution clearly connecting women with issues of peace and security) and other relevant instruments.

The event that took place the other day was one of the opinion exchange meetings in order to reflect the opinions of as many people as possible into the action plan. Following the one held in Okinawa on February 28, this was the second in the series.

■ For the contents of the opinion exchange meeting, please see the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/gaiko/women/index.html>

Seminar on DV Prevention, Follow-up Seminar for Facilitators of Dating DV Preventive Education (August 10)

The Seminar on DV Prevention titled "Practices of DV Victim Assistance – Situations of DV Victimized Mother and Child –" was given by Ms. Masayo TAKENOSHITA, from Women's Counseling Kyoto.

Ms. TAKENOSHITA, who offers psychological assistance to DV victimized mothers/children and other victims, spoke about victimized children's cruel reality that they are narrowly living in DV environment with their mothers, considering that eyewitnessing DV is child abuse. She stressed that it was important for victims to have someone who shared their hardships.

In the afternoon, Ms. Keiko NAKATA, the representative of DV Prevention Nagasaki, held Follow-up Seminar for Facilitators of Dating DV Preventive Education. First, the activity report was presented by DV Prevention Kitakyushu Maple Leaf which organized dating DV preventive education at high schools and universities in Kitakyushu City. Then Ms. NAKATA gave a lecture on "Challenges in Promoting Dating DV Prevention." In the second half of the session, the participants discussed challenges in dating DV preventive education through a group discussion.

Location of Kitakyushu



Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women

KITAKYUSHU OTEMACHI BUILDING 3F
OTEMACHI 11-4, KOKURAKITA, KITAKYUSHU, 803-0814 JAPAN
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E-mail: kfaw@kfaw.or.jp URL: <http://www.kfaw.or.jp/index.html>

KFAW

The Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW) was established in October of 1990 with a special government fund for revitalization projects. Subsequently, in 1993, the KFAW was recognized as a foundation by the Ministry of Labour (the present Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare). The purpose of the KFAW is to promote the improvement of women's status through various projects as well as their mutual understanding and cooperation in Asia.