

## Activities Report of “Friends of WHO JAPAN” in the fiscal year of 2020 (April 1, 2020-March 31, 2021)

### I Business Overview

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, overseas projects ,many seminars and symposia that Friends of WHO Japan had planned to conduct were postponed or forced to be conducted online. In addition, Friend of WHO Japan received a series of e-mails and phone calls protesting the delay in the initial response of WHO headquarters to the new coronavirus infection and criticism of its pro-China stance.In the meantime, the number of visitors to Friends of Japan website increased rapidly, and donations of goodwill from the general public began to arrive, making it a year in which WHO was in the news, despite various criticisms of the organization. The new coronavirus infection taught us the importance of healthy life (well-being), as well as the delay in digitalization of healthcare administration in Japan, and the importance of international cooperation as infectious disease control cannot be completed only in one country.

The following is a summary report in accordance with Article 4 (Activities) of the Articles of Incorporation.

#### 1. Enlightenment activities

(Enlightenment business such as holding seminars on health to spread the spirit of the WHO Charter, publishing bulletin, public relations, etc.)

##### ①Expansion and improvement of our Website and Distribution of Mail Magazine

The website was completely renewed on 1 June , 2020.

- 1) 298 news items were sent out (235 in the previous year).
- 2) Published 13 issues (195 to 207) of the e-mail magazine. The number of recipients increased by 1,711 from the previous year to 4,927.
- 3) 88 cases of the key facts section of the "Fact Sheet" was reviewed or added .
- 4) Web site views (number of PV) increased rapidly and remained at a high level of 100,000 PV per month on average.

##### ②Holding forums

- (1) "Social Design & Life Design in the Age of Living with Infectious Diseases," a seminar jointly organized with the Japan Association for International Health - Students section (jaih-s), was held on September 27, 2020 (Sunday).(zoom+google slide, number of

participants: 140)

### ③Publication of journals

The journal "Visual Journal of Friends of WHO Japan" was published four times and distributed to members, event participants and other related parties, as well as sent to the National Diet Library and other local government libraries, and made available on the website.

### ④Participation in the One World Festival (February 1-21, 2021)

We exhibited the following video.

- 1) The social role of Friends of WHO Japan: Together with citizens and companies
- 2) Discussions by Kansai Global Health (KGH) Steering Committee members and video of actual online seminars

### ⑤Other Enlightenment activities

The secretariat received inquiries about WHO-related information via e-mail and phone on a daily basis and responded to them while clarifying the Association's position.

The number of inquiries is as follows.

- New coronavirus infection-related; about 1,000 cases
- Other than new coronavirus infections: about 150 cases

In addition, a warning banner has been posted on the website to prevent fraudulent cases(32 cases in total) involving fake WHO staff.

## **2. Research business**

(Research business such as entrusted/entrusting of research on health and research projects such as proposals based on research results)

### ①Establishing the Postgraduate Training Program for Pediatric Surgeons in Lao PDR

The project was commissioned by National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM) as part of its FY2020 project to promote the international deployment of medical technology.

- Online seminars (14 credits)
- Case study meetings (4 times)
- The 1st International Symposium on Pediatric Surgery in Lao PDR

## **3. Collaboration**

(Collaborative business such as contact, coordination, and cooperation with companies, organizations, and individuals engaged in social contribution activities related to health at domestic and overseas)

① Postcard Project to Support Health care workers

To support health care workers and their families who are battling the new coronavirus, messages and illustrations expressing gratitude were solicited from elementary, junior high and high school students and presented to major designated medical institutions for infectious diseases in Osaka Prefecture.

② Let's support nurses, midwives, and public health nurses (3-part series published in the journal)

In line with the theme of World Health Day 2020, "Year of the Nurse and the Midwife 2020", We collaborated with the Osaka Prefecture Nurses Association to publish the "voices" of front-line workers in Japan and abroad, as well as students who aspire to become nurses, in the journal "Visual Journal of Friends of WHO Japan".

#### 4. Human resources development business

(Human Resource Development Programs for Human Resource Development and Assistance for Improving Health in Japan and Overseas)

① Kansai Global Health Meeting

It was held every other month with the aim of providing a venue for free and vigorous discussion of various issues related to global health from all angles. All sessions were held online (zoom+YouTube) to prevent infection.

◇ Theme; COVID-19 and SDGs

~Exploring the path of sustainability for tomorrow in a changing global landscape - (3-part series)

- The 8th session ; "Health and Welfare for All! (May 13, 2020, 743 participants)
- The 9th session ; "No One Left Behind! (June 3, 2020, 664 participants)
- The 10th session; "Towards Sustainable Coexistence! (July 1, 2020, 722 participants)

◇ Theme; Healthcare in the Post Corona Era

- The 11th session; "Medicine and Primary Health Care (PHC) in the Closest Place to Life and Work" (September 16, 2020, 320 participants)
- 12th session ; "Access to Health Care: The Importance and Need for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)" (October 14, 2020, 319 participants)
- The 13th session; "What is Health? Exploring the Origin of Health and Wellbeing" (November 11, 2020, 350 participants)

◇ Global Café –2020 winter(December 20, 2020, zoom, 21 participants)

## **II General meeting, board meeting of the Association, etc.**

1. held the annual general meeting of members on June 16, 2020, and approved the agenda for the business report and the income and expenditure settlement report for fiscal 2019, and approved the election of 14 directors (13 newly appointed, 1 newly appointed) and 2 auditors (2 newly appointed).

The amendments to the Articles of Incorporation (Article 38 to change the Executive Committee to the Standing Committee, etc.) were approved.

They also reported on the business plan and income and expenditure budget for FY2021.

2. An extraordinary general meeting of the members was held on August 8, 2020, and the election of Hideo Inui as a member of the Board of Directors was approved.

3. The Board of Directors met six times in FY2020 (including one electromagnetic Board of Directors meeting) to make resolutions necessary for the execution of the corporation's business.

4. The Standing Committee of the Board of Directors met nine times, and the contents of the discussions were reported to the Board of Directors each time.

5. The following regulations were newly established.

- Asset Management and Operation Regulations
- Overseas Business Trip Travel Expense Regulations
- Editing rules

6. Building a sustainable relationship with WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)

Relevant documents translated into English (list of officers, outline of activities, code of ethics, advertising guidelines, financial statements, business plan, and business report) were mailed to WPRO in April.

Also we expressed its support for the WPRO Regional Committee meeting to be held in Himeji City in October 2021.

7. 100 million yen was donated by Tokyo Saraya Co., Ltd. and the fund will be managed as the "Saraya Dare Hitori Fund" in accordance with the newly established asset management regulations.