

## Activities Report of “Friends of WHO JAPAN” in the fiscal year of 2021 (April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022)

### I Business Overview

Friends of WHO Japan supports the philosophy of the World Health Organization (WHO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, and conducts health promotion activities in Japan and overseas in close cooperation with the WHO. We have been working in collaboration with many WHO stakeholders, including the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) and the WHO Kobe Center for Health Development (WKC). Since 2020, Friends of WHO Japan has been directly affected by the pandemic new coronavirus infection (COVID-19).

Due to the declaration of a state of emergency and restrictions on overseas travel, overseas projects and many seminars and symposiums planned by Friends of WHO Japan had planned to conduct were postponed or forced to be conducted online. 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 two-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 the digitalization of healthcare administration in Japan, and the importance of international cooperation as infectious disease control cannot be completed only in one country. In particular, 2021 was a year of a new life for Friends of WHO Japan. Enrichment of the bulletin “Visual Journal of friends of WHO Japan” in which young people participated, development of “Kansai Global Health Gathering (KGH)”, the establishment of Saraya Dare Hitori Fund, the progress of Laos Pediatric Surgery Project Based on this, the activities of friends of WHO Japan expanded at once. These achievements are considered to be the time to prepare for the next big change.

The following is a summary report by 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

- 1) 457news items were sent out (298 in the previous year).
- 2) Published 13 issues (207 to 219) of the e-mail magazine. The number of recipients increased by 439 from the previous year to 5,366.
- 3) Based on the translation rights granted by WHO Headquarters in March 2014, the Japanese version of the key facts of the "fact sheet" published on the WHO website as basic information for the general public on diseases and health issues has been published.

It was translated and reviewed each time it was revised and published on the web. 88 cases of the key facts section of the "Fact Sheet" was reviewed or added.

- 4) Website views (the number of PV) increased rapidly and remained at a high level of 110,000 PV per month on average.

## ②Publication 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.

- An editorial committee was held to formulate an annual plan and assign a person in charge of each division. We also created a work manual and manuscript checklist.
- The article was generally structured as follows.

Director's greeting, opening feature, seminar/event report, NGO/organization report, WHO Collaborating Center, WHO staff diary, WHO news for the last 3 months, Kansai Global Health meeting report

In March 2022, DOI (Digital Object Identifier, an international identifier given to electronic academic content) was assigned to the electronic data of articles published on the website by the Osaka University Academic Information Repository OUKA.

## ③Holding forums

Due to the influence of the new coronavirus infection, the oral health seminar was canceled and other events were held online.

### (1) Preparation for WHO World Health Day awareness event "World Health Day 2022"

Preparing for the awareness event "World Health Day 2022" (April 7) in conjunction with the theme of World Health Day 2022 "Our Planet, Our Health" The program (planned) is as follows.

- Greetings from Advisory Group members (15 people)
- Video work "With Corona Together with the World" Online Award Ceremony
- Panel discussion "Our Planet, Our Health"

Chairs: Chairman Yasuhide Nakamura, Vice Chairman Kyoko Ikoma

Panelist: "Planetary Health from the Perspective of Wildlife"

Juichi Yamagiwa (Director, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Former President of Kyoto University)

"Efforts toward Realization of Planetary Health"

Mr. Chiho Watanabe (Special Advisor to the President of Nagasaki University, Former

President of the National Institute for Environmental Studies)

(2) Kansai Global Health Gathering

It was held with the aim of providing a forum for free and open discussion on various issues related to global health from all angles. A committee was organized and operated from planning to implementation.

In order to prevent infection, it was held online (zoom + YouTube), and a week's missed delivery was also performed.

◇ Theme: 3rd "Learn from COVID-19 across borders" (3-part series)

- The 1st "Health Volunteer Why is there no place for active participation in Japan?"  
(May 12, 2021, 514 participants)

Provided topic; health volunteer Why is there no place in Japan to play an active role?  
Mr. Yasuhide Nakamura (Chairman of the Association)

Commentator: Working with health volunteers in Tanzania  
(Noriko Komatsu, Soka University)

Learned from medical student volunteer work against COVID-19 in London  
(Masako Shimato, University College London)

Self-restraint as a medical student due to the corona crisis in Osaka  
(Dr. Soichiro Saeki, Osaka University)

- The 2nd "What can and cannot be done in online international cooperation?"  
(June 2, 2021, 312 participants)

Topic: What can and cannot be done in online international cooperation?  
(Mr. Naofumi Yasuda, Director of the Association)

commentator: Current situation in Bangladesh during the corona crisis  
(Mr. Kentaro Adachi, miup Co., Ltd.)

Remote consultation support using SNS  
(Yumi Katsui, Japan WHO Association)

Online international cooperation in the case of Bolivian Plurinational State  
(Mr. Takako Yamamoto, Graduate School of Konan Women's University)

Online International Cooperation Maternal and Child Health Handbook/Medical Care  
for Foreigners (Mr. Yasuhide Nakamura, President of the Association)

- The 3rd "Social distance: Who is left behind?"  
(July 7, 2021, 362 participants)

Facilitator; social distancing Who was left behind?

(Mr. Harae Ogasa, Director of the Association)

Topic: From the perspective of medical sociology

(Koji Yamanaka, Graduate School of Human Sciences, Osaka University)

Trial of Minna no foreigner network MINNA

(Dr. Masami Fujita, National Center for Global Health and Medicine)

Commentator: Social Distance

(Mr. Yasuhide Nakamura, Chairman of the Association)

◇ Group discussion from Global Café 2021 summer "Learning from COVID-19 across borders" (September 5, 2021, 22 participants)

Topic; Café ① health volunteer (Ms. Noriko Komatsu, Soka University)

Café ② Online International Cooperation (Mr. Naofumi Yasuda, Director of our association)

◇ Theme: 4th "COVID-19 At that time, the scene moved" (3-part series)

• 1st "Hospital Edition" (October 7, 2021, 256 participants)

Topic provided: From the real site of the collapse of the medical system in Osaka

(Michinori Shirano, Osaka City General Medical Center)

Under the influence of the new corona, the vulnerability of medical care for foreigners was once again understood

(Mr. Yoneyuki Kobayashi, Director of Kobayashi International Clinic)

• 2nd "Government / Health Center Edition" (November 10, 2021, 284 participants)

Topic: Case of Hachioji City Public Health Center

(Ms. Yoko Watanabe, Director of Hachioji City Public Health Center)

Aiming for a community that is resistant to infectious diseases

(Mr. Yoshihiro Takayama, Okinawa Prefectural Chubu Hospital)

• 3rd "Education/School Edition" (December 1, 2021, 168 participants)

Topic: Reports from school sites

(Mr. Risuke Horikawa, Osaka Kyoiku University High School Hirano Campus)

Health problems of children not attending school/foreign school

(Yoshimi Kojima, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

(3) Participation in the One World Festival (February 1-28, 2022)

We exhibited the following video about introducing the activities of the Kansai Global Health Gathering (KGH)

1) Activity report-1 (23 minutes)

Part 1: COVID-19 and SDGs, Part 2: Health care in the post-corona era, Part 3: Learning from COVID-19 transcends borders, Part 4: COVID-19 At that time, the scene moved

2) Activity Report-2 (26 minutes): Online International Cooperation

What can we do? what can't you do? , In the case of Bolivian multi-ethnic country, remote consultation support using SNS in Laos, maternal and child health handbook, and medical care for foreigners.

These videos were posted on the association's website after the "One World Festival" ended.

#### ④Other Enlightenment activities

1) Recruitment of videos for "With Corona, Together with the World"

Under the theme of "With Corona, Together with the World", we solicited presentations by citizens in the form of videos in various expressions, and from a total of 25 submissions, the selection committee selected 5 works for the Excellence Award and 10 works for the Encouragement Award. The award ceremony will be held at the World Health Day awareness event (April 7, 2022), and the winning works will be published on the website.

2) Response to inquiries from outside

The secretariat received inquiries about WHO-related information by email and telephone daily, and we responded while clarifying the position of the association.

In addition, we responded to fraud cases impersonating WHO staff (total of 26 inquiries), worked to prevent them, and reported the situation to the Osaka Prefectural Police Headquarters.

## 2. Research business

(Commissioning, mediation, consignment and subsidies for health-related research and research, and research projects such as proposals based on research results)

This fiscal year, we did not carry out projects such as consignment and consignment.

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

Continuing from last year, we carried out activities to improve the pediatric surgical care capabilities of Laotian surgeons, with the aim of reducing the mortality rate of neonatal and infant surgical diseases in Laos.

This fiscal year, as the public offering by the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), was unsuccessful, the project was funded by the association.

Project leader: Akio Kubota

(regular member, honorary director of Gassan Child Care Clinic)

Participating institutions on the Japanese side: Osaka University School of Medicine, Hyogo College of Medicine, Kinki University Nara Hospital, Fukuyama Medical Center  
Osaka Maternal and Child Medical Center, Gassan Child Clinic

Participating institutions in Laos: University of Health Sciences, National Children's Hospital

Implementation items:

- Creation of digital teaching materials
- Online seminar (2 hours x 15 days)
- Case review meeting (4 times)
- Online surgery video instruction (4 times)
- 2nd Pediatric Surgery International Symposium in Lao PDR

In addition, remote consultation support was provided using WhatsApp for cases that were difficult for Laotian doctors to deal with.

#### ② Kansai Infectious Disease Forum (Web version)

The following lecture was given online.

(YouTube distribution, number of participants: 4148)

- General moderator: Mr. Junzo Shimizu

(Department of Surgery, Toyonaka Municipal Hospital)

- "Nosocomial infection of COVID-19 and subsequent systemization"

Lecturer: Keisuke Tomii

(Kobe Municipal Medical Center Chuo Municipal Hospital, Deputy Director and Department of Respiratory Medicine)

- "New Corona Vaccine Update"

Lecturer: Kenji Kutsuna

(Medical Director, International Infectious Disease Control Office, National Center for Global Health and Medicine)

- "SARS-CoV-2 variants and their responses"

Lecturer: Tomoya Saito

(Director, Center for Infectious Disease Risk Management, National Institute of Infectious Diseases)

③ Distribution of “Original Calendar for Supporting Medical Workers”

In collaboration with the Association for the Advancement of Industrial Technology, in the “Medical Workers Support Postcard Project” implemented in 2020, three types of calendars were created using works submitted by elementary, junior high, and high school students. 97 paid copies and 66 free copies were distributed.

④ Preparation for application as a funding organization for the Japan Network for Public Interest Activities (JANPIA)

For the 2022 public offering, we prepared application materials such as changes to the Articles of Incorporation and the development of regulations.

Promoted coordination with related organizations and organizations as a target project for improving the medical system for foreigners.

⑤ Registered as a co-creation challenger and co-creation partner for the 2025 Osaka/Kansai Expo

Within the framework of "TEAM EXPO 2025", we applied for and were registered as co-creation challenges and co-creation partners. In the co-creation challenge, we registered the Lao Pediatric Surgery Project.

⑥ Joined the Planetary Health Alliance and the WHO Maternal, Newborn and Newborn Health Group

We applied for membership in the Planetary Health Alliance (PHA) and was registered. We also applied to join the WHO Maternal, Newborn and Neonatal Health Group (PMNCH).

⑦ Coordination with related organizations regarding foreign medical care system development projects in Osaka Prefecture

Regarding the above, we exchanged opinions with Osaka City University Hospital,

Osaka University Hospital, and Rinku General Medical Center.

- ⑧ Cooperated with the business by permitting the use of the name of sponsorship for the following
- International Volunteer Association · Kyowa Seminar · World Diabetes Day 2021 (Osaka Diabetes Promotion Council)
  - Free Assembly of Society of Public Health · Tokyo Nutrition Summit · United Nations Eiken · 16th Annual Meeting of Japan Society for Tobacco Control

- ⑨ Joint operation of the Maternal and Child Health Handbook app with NPO Himawari no Kai
- Himawari no Kai has agreed to jointly operate the app, whose assets have been transferred from NTT Docomo, Inc., with the association.

- ⑩ Responding to requests from the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)
- In response to requests for the free distribution of disinfectants and support for measures against coronavirus in Laos, we proceeded with specific considerations, but due to factors such as the situation of infection calming down, consideration work was suspended.

- ⑪ Participated as a domestic collaborative institution of the Osaka Kyoiku University WWL (World Wide Learning) project, and President Nakamura participated as a steering committee member.

- ⑫ Osaka Yakugyo Club Subsidy Project
- A grant application for a co-sponsored forum with jaih-s scheduled to be held in the fall of 2022 was adopted, and 500,000 yen was granted.

#### **4. Support business**

(Fund-raising activities to contribute to the achievement of WHO's business objectives, contributions of donation proceeds, and support projects such as activity cooperation)

For the purpose of promoting the eradication of AIDS, we continued to conduct fundraising activities using opportunities such as our forums, and donated the collected ¥24,124 to the AIDS Prevention Foundation.

#### **5. Human resources development business**



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

1) September 25, 2021 (Saturday) Seminar jointly planned with Japan Association for International Health, Students Section (jaih-s)

“COVID-19 and Health Policy”

(zoom + google slide, number of participants: 72,) (Osaka pharmaceutical club subsidized project)

Lectures and lecturers are as follows.

- "COVID-19 and Japan's medical system"

Lecturer: Haruka Sakamoto

(Specially Appointed Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Keio University)

- "International comparison of the corona disaster and medical innovation"

Lecturer: Mr. Yukihiro Matsuyama

(General Incorporated Foundation Canon Research Institute for Global Studies)

After that, we reported on the living conditions of overseas students (US, UK, and Australia) and held a panel discussion with the lecturers.

2) Recruitment for the WHO internship was suspended due to the impact of the new coronavirus infection, and there were no eligible applicants.

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

1. held the annual general meeting of members on June 16, 2021, and approved the agenda for the business report and the income and expenditure settlement report for fiscal 2020, and the appointment of 3 directors (2 reappointed, 1 newly appointed) was approved.

In addition, we reported on the business plan and income and expenditure budget for FY2021.

2. On August 19, 2021, an extraordinary general meeting of employees was held and the election of Mr. Hirotsuka Fukada as a director was approved.

3. Six board meetings were held in FY2021 (including two electromagnetic board meetings), and decisions were made necessary for the execution of the company's business.

The business report and settlement of accounts were approved at the board of directors meeting held on May 26, 2021 after being audited by the auditor in accordance with Article 46 of the Articles of Incorporation.

The business plan and income and expenditure budget for FY2022 were approved at the board meeting held on February 9, 2022 and submitted to the Cabinet Office.

4. The Executive Board of Directors was held eight times, and the content of the discussions

was reported to the Board of Directors each time.

5. The Board of Directors approved the amendment of the Articles of Incorporation to the effect that the provisions related to Article 5, Article 11 of the Accreditation Law (provisions for one-third of officers) should be added. It is scheduled to be voted at the regular general meeting of employees in June 2022.

6. Acquired a tax exemption certificate (March 7, 2022 to March 6, 2027) as a specified public interest promotion corporation.

7. We applied for the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize by recommending Mr. Yasuhide Nakamura.

8. Current status of members

The number of members as of the end of this fiscal year and changes from the previous fiscal year are as follows.

| Membership type     | Regular member (individual) | Regular member (corporation) | Supporting member (individual) | Supporting member (student) | Supporting member (corporation) |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| End of 2020         | 40                          | 18                           | 221                            | 9                           | 45                              |
| (withdrawal)        | 5                           | 3                            | 22                             | 3                           | 5                               |
| (Admission)         | 5                           | 1                            | 46                             | 3                           | 5                               |
| [Increase/decrease] | ±0                          | △2                           | 24                             | ±0                          | ±0                              |
| End of 2021         | 40                          | 16                           | 245                            | 9                           | 45                              |