

Children Delegates Appealed More Education Assistance to the Japanese Foreign Minister

Japan Coalition for GAW

On 26 April, ten children, who consisted of junior high school, high school and university students, met the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Taro Aso, to appeal the improvement and expansion of Japanese aid for basic education and to submit 1,071 human chain.

During the meeting, children read their message saying that every child needs access to education all over the world and effective financial support from Japan is crucial to achieve Education for All. They also submitted the human chain, which represents 1,071 citizen's messages on its human shaped paper pieces. M.P. Mr. Koichi Yamauchi, also attended and gave kind support to them.

After their appeal, Mr. Aso told his experience in Sierra Leone, that he felt it difficult for children to go to school in developing countries, and he concluded that he will make efforts to respond to the message of children.



Delegation and Mr. Taro Aso, Foreign Minister with the human chain representing 1,071 members

Submitted their appeal to Minister





Minister looked the human chain submitted to GEC website. Delegation picked all Japanese JOIN UP members and put them on the paper as one chain.

Delegation members, most of them are involved NGO activities in Japan, told that, although they had the limitation of time and felt nervous to represent 1,071 people for making the appeal to Minister, they satisfied the results.

This year the Japanese coalition of GAW, which consists of JNNE member organizations and Japan Teachers Union organized the exhibition at JICA exhibition hall to demonstrate that Japan need to improve both the volume and quality of its basic education and to promote “JOIN UP” campaign. **As of 26 April, 729 have joined web campaign and 342 have joined papered chain. Total number of JOIN UP was 1,071.**

Member organizations of GAW Japan Coalition are:

ACE

Free the Children Japan

Oxfam Japan

JNNE (Japan NGO Network for Education)

Japan Teachers Union