

NEWS RELEASE

April 22, 2022

AEON 1% Club Foundation

Providing People with Disabilities in Asian Countries with  
Opportunities to Learn and Work:  
Presentation of Funds for Support for People with Disabilities in Asia

The AEON 1% Club Foundation hosted the “Fundraising for Support for People with Disabilities in Asia” project, which aims to help people with disabilities in Southeast Asian nations to participate in education and work, during the period from January 11 (Tuesday) to February 10 (Thursday), 2022.



Through the cooperation of the respective AEON Group companies, a total of 25,071,480 yen was donated at AEON stores and offices nationwide. We are sincerely grateful for your generous support. The donated funds were combined with the Foundation’s contribution, and a total amount of 50,142,960 yen was presented to the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan)\*<sup>1</sup> on April 18 (Monday), attended by Mrs. Dalylack KEOBANHDITH, Minister Counselor of the Embassy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in Japan, and Mr. SAO Khoradin, Counselor of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Japan.

The presented funds will be used in Cambodia to provide support specifically adapted to individual disabilities, such the promotion of inclusive education\*<sup>2</sup> and wheelchair provision. In addition, in Myanmar and Laos, the funds will contribute to projects aiming for the economic and psychological independence, as well as more positive participation in society, of people with disabilities, such as implementing vocational training that supports the acquisition of skills required for working and living in society.

At the Presentation Ceremony, a talk by Mr. Sar Sophano, the director of a wheelchair workshop in Cambodia which is one of the recipients of the donations, was streamed online to attendees, giving an introduction to the activities carried out locally by the initiative. At the wheelchair workshop, people with disabilities engage in manufacturing their own wheelchairs, which provides them with employment opportunities. Furthermore, the workshop distributes wheelchairs free of charge to children and young people with disabilities. Children who have received such wheelchairs are now enabled to attend school, and to participate in learning without discrimination, regardless of the existence of disability.

The AEON 1% Club Foundation will continue to conduct various supporting activities in future with

the aim of helping children with disabilities in Asian countries to attend school and receive educational opportunities.

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| <p>Left to right:<br/>         Yoshiki Mori, Chairman, AEON 1% Club Foundation<br/>         Mr. SAO Khoradin, Counselor, Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Japan<br/>         Mrs. Dalylack KEOBANHDITH, Minister Counselor, Embassy of Lao People's Democratic Republic in Japan<br/>         Yoshiteru Horie, President, AAR Japan</p> | <p>Speech by Mr. Sar Sophano, director of a wheelchair workshop in Cambodia, streamed online to attendees</p> |

\*1: AAR Japan (Association for Aid and Relief, Japan)

AAR Japan was established in 1979 in Japan as a civic organization to aid Indochinese refugees. The Association's initiatives include aid for victims of natural disasters and refugees of conflict, as well as support for people with disabilities and countermeasures against landmines, in more than 65 countries and regions thus far.

\*2: Inclusive Education

A form of education which respects the diversity of each child, and aims for all children to learn regardless of the presence or absence of disability.

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| <p><b>AEON Style Staff</b></p>  | <p><b>AEON Credit Service Indonesia Staff</b></p>                                    | <p><b>Welcia Pharmacy Staff</b></p>   |

**AEON 1% Club Foundation Projects**

The AEON 1% Club Foundation is a Public Interest Incorporation that was established in 1990 in order to embody AEON's basic principles of pursuing peace, respecting humanity, and contributing to local communities. The major AEON Group companies donate 1% of their pre-tax profits, and the Foundation engages in social contribution activities such as projects that help to foster the sound development of the next generation of young people.



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| <p>The Foundation cultivates children's abilities to think about environmental issues while learning about societal rules, via activities such as environment-related study and team presentations of environmental initiative case studies. Furthermore, we support the building of new schools in countries that lack sufficient educational facilities, through coordination with national governments and NPOs.</p> | <p>The Foundation provides students with opportunities for international cultural and interpersonal exchange, and strengthen the bonds of friendship between Japan and various countries by deepening mutual understanding. In addition, we support the development of internationally-minded citizens through actions such as awarding scholarships to foreign students in Japan.</p> | <p>The Foundation supports the transmission of traditional events and culture firmly rooted in local regions, which needs to be passed down to the next generations, as well as providing support for the revival and reconstruction of regions damaged by large-scale natural disasters. We also work to foster new talent who will shoulder the responsibilities of such activities.</p> |
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