

## 2012 Opinion Exchange Meeting for Foreign Residents in Aichi Held Theme: How can foreign residents help promote multiculturalism?

Aichi recently held its 11<sup>th</sup> OEM for Foreign Residents. The OEM is a conference for foreign residents, selected by application, to discuss the issues they face and propose measures to solve them. Last year, 11 delegates participated in three meetings from July to October. The proposals made during these meetings are collected and published in this newsletter. In order to realize these goals, the delegates will collaborate amongst each other and promote their efforts.

### Delegates for the 2012 OEM for Foreign Residents in Aichi

Nationality	Name
China	Zhao Yufang, Yang Ya Ping, Tou Setsu Kou, Hong Deng Ming, Kinoshita Takao
Brazil	Virginia Yumi Oshima, Julia Ikuko Mori
South Korea	Gwichul Song
Peru	Rodriguez Saori
Ukraine	Berezhny Vitaliy
Slovakia	Zalibera Jozef



For more details, please check the Multicultural Society Section's webpage for the OEM for Foreign Residents in Aichi at: <http://www.pref.aichi.jp/0000008604.html>

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[www.pref.aichi.jp/global/en/other/news.html](http://www.pref.aichi.jp/global/en/other/news.html)

This newsletter is available in English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and Japanese as well as on the Internet.

# What we can do to realize a multicultural society

~ Proposals from the 2012 OEM for Foreign Residents in Aichi ~

The OEM for Foreign Residents in Aichi is a conference that, by listening directly to the opinions of foreign residents, seeks to promote the development of a multicultural society.

As delegates for the 2012 OEM for Residents in Aichi, we met on three occasions to discuss the theme of "How can foreign residents help promote multiculturalism?" With that we put together some ideas for responsibilities we should assume, and had detailed discussions on what exactly we can do.

As foreign residents, we want to coordinate and cooperate with the public at large and work together to create a better society for everybody.

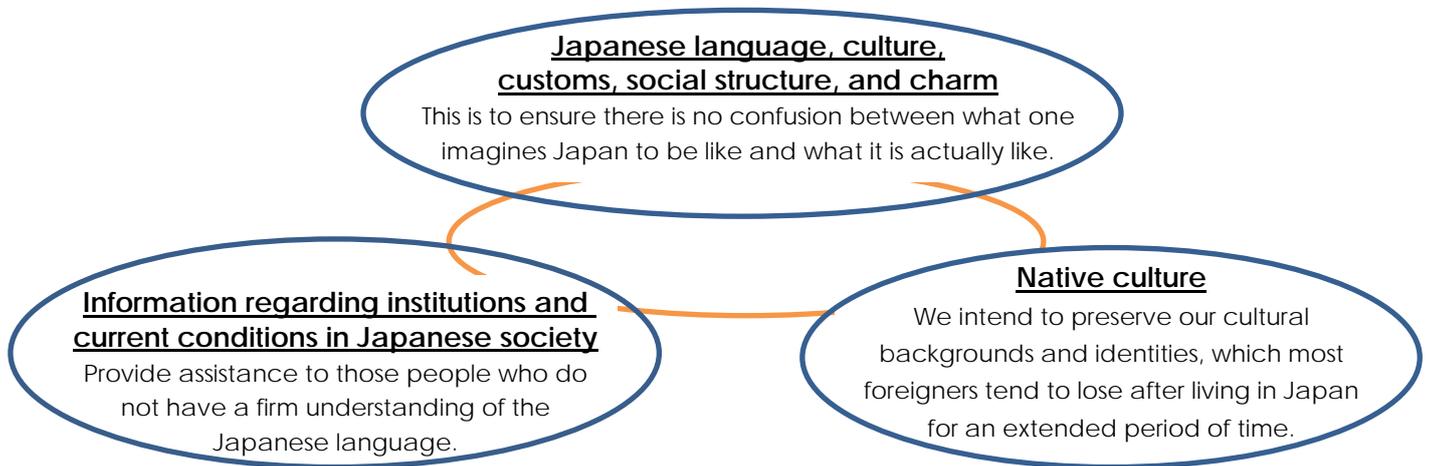
We hope that Japanese and foreigners alike help each other, and make this region into a leading example of multiculturalism in Japan.

October 2012

From the delegates of the 2012 OEM for Foreign Residents in Aichi

## Informing foreign residents

### ☆ Things we want to transmit:

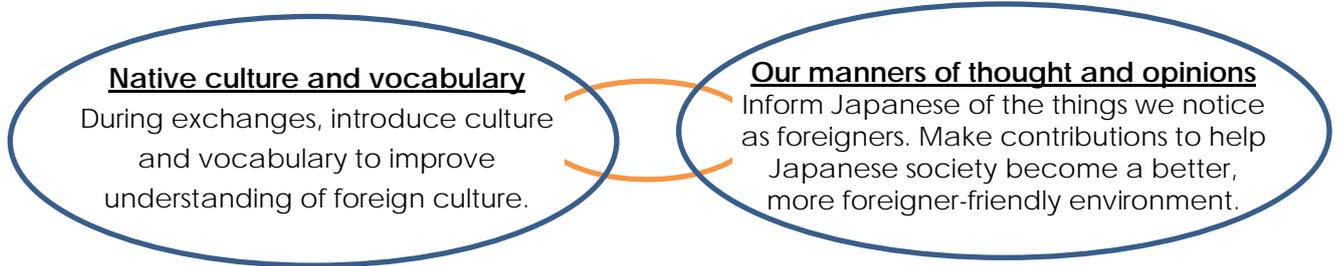


### ☆ Specific things we can do:

1. As senior foreign residents, we can tell newcomers about our experiences in Japan
2. Explain the Japanese way of thinking and Japanese culture to prevent friction
3. Create foreign resident groups that give assistance to newcomers in Japan
4. Hold meetings where people can talk about their identity, and help them gain confidence

## Informing Japanese

### ☆ Things we want to transmit:

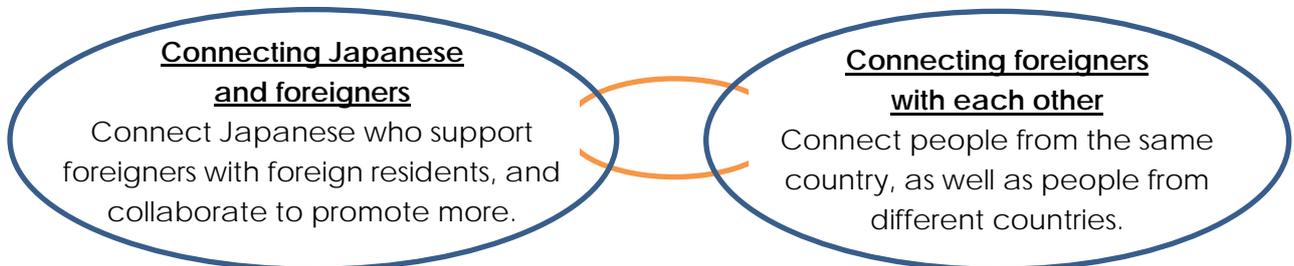


### ☆ Specific things we can do:

1. Transmit the culture of foreign residents living in the region
2. Hold courses for education in foreign cultures and languages
3. Draft a collection of problems due to cultural differences and inform Japanese
4. Proactively participate in venues where foreign residents can voice their opinions

## Connecting foreign residents with Japanese and with each other

### ☆ Targets:



### ☆ Specific things we can do:

1. Provide advice as a foreigner to Japanese that assist foreign residents  
(Connect Japanese and foreigners)
2. Connect foreigners who require assistance with Japanese supporters  
(Connect Japanese and foreigners)
3. Participate in exchange meetings and mailing lists, and expand the social circle  
(Connect foreigners with each other)

### ◎ A request for Japanese

We believe that we can fulfill these roles we have described. However, we need help from the government, communities, and people like you. Please work with us to make these goals possible.

## <Announcements from the Multicultural Society Section>

### Would you like to become a delegate for the OEM for Foreign Residents?

The OEM for Foreign Residents in Aichi is taking applications from people who are interested in talking about and finding solutions to the problems foreign residents face while living in Japan. We look forward to receiving your applications.

- ◆ Opinions and suggestions from the meeting will be reflected in prefectural policy.
- ◆ A meeting is scheduled again for 2013. Application period will begin in May/June.

### “New Aichi Multiculturalism Promotion Plan” (tentative) to be drafted

In March 2008, the “Aichi Multiculturalism Promotion Plan” was drafted, with a variety of programs initiated utilizing its outline. At the end of 2012, the effective period of the plan expired. Moving forward, the Multicultural Society Section intends to draft a new plan in March 2013. For more details, please visit the section’s webpage.

### Medical interpretation services available from the Aichi Medical Interpretation System

~ English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Filipino ~

Starting April 1, 2012, the Aichi Medical Interpretation System Promotion Association (formed by medical expert groups, universities, Aichi Prefectural Government, and all prefectural municipalities) began operating the Aichi Medical Interpretation System. Created to improve medical services for foreign residents, the system is a service offered at medical institutions located within the prefecture.

After reading the points listed below, please use the system.

#### [Words of Caution]

- ◆ There are medical institutions that do not offer this service.  
~ Please confirm this using the website or phone number listed below ~
- ◆ An interpreter may only be dispatched at the request of the medical institution.  
~ Patients cannot make requests ~
- ◆ As a general rule, the medical institution and the patient split the fee 50/50.  
~ When an interpreter is dispatched, cost to a patient can range from 1500 to 2500 yen for 2 hours ~



#### [Contact Information]

- ◆ Telephone: Aichi Medical Interpretation System Head Office 050-5814-7263 (Weekdays 9 - 5:30)
- ◆ Web: [www.aichi-iryuu-tsu-yaku-system.com](http://www.aichi-iryuu-tsu-yaku-system.com)