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March 25, 2015
AEON 1% Club Foundation

Offering educational opportunities for children in Myanmar
School Opening Ceremonies Held in Myanmar on March 27th and 28th
Together with Participants from Japan

On March 27th and 28th, the Aeon 1% Club Foundation (hereinafter “the Foundation”) holds opening ceremonies of elementary schools built through the School Construction Support Project in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (hereinafter “Myanmar”).

In many regions in Myanmar, insufficient educational environment, such as lack of elementary schools, old school buildings, as well as shortage of school supplies and teachers for children has been a significant problem.

In response to such situation, the Foundation has been supporting the construction of 35 elementary schools and nurturing teachers of those schools over the three years since 2012, in partnership with the Government of Myanmar and the Japan Committee for UNICEF. At the 22 schools that have already been built, a total of 5,000 children are enjoying their learning opportunities.

On March 27th, the opening ceremony of the Aeon Padauk School will be held in the suburbs of Yangon. On March 28, the opening ceremony of the Aeon Kayea School will be held in Ayarwaddy Division, a region that suffered significant damage from the Cyclone Nargis in 2008.

At the ceremonies, the students and their parents interact with participants including the representatives from the Government of Myanmar and the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar as well as visitors from Japan sharing the joy for the school opening.

Additionally, long-term supporters of the Project join the ceremony of the both schools to celebrate the occasion; namely, singers Ms. Saori Yuki and Ms. Sachiko Yasuda, a gymnastics gold medalist at the Athens 2004 Olympics Mr. Hisashi Mizutori, and a rhythmic gymnast in the Japan national team at the London 2012 Olympics Ms. Koton Tanaka.

Since 2000, the Foundation has implemented the School Construction Support Project and helped build a total of 378 schools in Cambodia, Nepal, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar.

The Foundation has also carried out initiatives to nurture friendship between Japan and Myanmar, including the Teenage Ambassadors Program, which promotes mutual understanding between high school students from the two countries, and the Aeon Scholarship Program supporting studies of university students, who will be the leaders of next generation.

The Foundation will continue various activities in order to create a brighter future for the youth.



School building in Myanmar with a straw-thatched roof



New school building (Aeon Mahogany School)