

## **A discussion of environmental issues among Asian high school and university students First Aeon Asia Eco-Leaders forum to be held in Indonesia**

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The Aeon 1% Club, comprised of Aeon's major group companies, will hold the Aeon Asia Eco-Leaders forum, where high school and university students from all over Asia will discuss environmental issues. This year will be the forum's first gathering, and high school and university programs will be held in the Republic of Indonesia during August and November, respectively.

### **About Aeon Asia Eco-Leaders**

**- To discuss actual issues**

Students will learn about and discuss environmental issues under a specific theme that features the host country's social situation. Having the participants think about actual issues will hopefully help make the issues more real to them, and ultimately encourage them to take positive action.

**- To focus on common theme by both high school and university students**

Both high school and university level groups will conduct discussions under a common theme, each according to their level of discourse and communicative capabilities. The high school program will focus on figuring out how to provoke awareness about the chosen issue, while the university program will discuss explicit solutions for the issue.

**- To foster collaboration through the exchange between youths from countries facing environmental issues**

All of the participants are from countries with environmental issues stemming from economic growth, and the exchange between these youths will hopefully foster an understanding of difference in values and a relationship of mutual cooperation in solving their respective issues.

This year, students from six countries—China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam—will learn about and discuss garbage-related issues in Indonesia, and the ideas compiled in each program will be proposed to the government in Jakarta.

Aeon will continue to nurture environmentally conscious individuals through international exchange in order to create "A Future of Dreams."

### **[The Aeon Asia Eco-Leaders High School Program]**

1. Dates: Monday, August 19th – Tuesday, August 27th
2. Location: The Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta, Yogyakarta, and Bali)
3. Participants: 20 students each from Indonesia and Japan.  
10 students each from China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.  
Total of 80 students from 6 countries.
4. Schedule: Mon, Aug. 19th   Orientation, welcome reception  
Tue, Aug. 20th – Thu, Aug. 22nd  
Indonesia observation (garbage disposal factory, Borobudur, etc.), lecture  
Fri, Aug. 23rd   Discussion  
Sat, Aug. 24th   Discussion, concluding presentations, awards ceremony  
Sun, Aug. 25th   Tree-planting  
Mon, Aug. 26th   Farewell party  
Tue, Aug. 27th   Departure for home

## **About Aeon**

Aeon is a retailing group of over 250 companies united by a strong management base and globally advanced merchandizing and logistics processes. With retailing as its core, the Group operates lifestyle-enhancing retail and a variety of other services, from general merchandise stores and supermarkets, to fashion-conscious specialty stores, financial services and amusement facilities.

In our home market of Japan and in a growing network in China and Southeast Asia, Aeon stores, goods and services are characterized by customer partnerships at the community level, and our commitment to total customer satisfaction at all times.

<http://www.aeon.info/en/>

## **About AEON 1% Club**

Established in 1989, the Aeon 1% Club is composed of the Aeon Group's major companies. Each member company contributes 1% of their pre-tax profit towards a wide range of environmental conservation and social activities that focus on "environmental conservation," "international cultural and inter-personal exchange and development of human resources" and "promotion of regional culture and society" as the three main activity pillars.

<http://www.aeon.info/1p/en/>

## **About Aeon's CSR activities in Indonesia**

Aeon is implementing a wide range of CSR programs besides tree-planting

### **(1) Teenage Ambassadors Program**

The program, started in 1990, is an international exchange project aiming for an international mutual understanding between the youth. In 2002, 24 high school students in Jakarta visited Japan. As the latest program, 20 students of each country made a mutual visit to promote exchanges.

### **(2) Aeon Scholarship Program**

Since 2007, Aeon has supported Indonesian students studying in Japan through Aeon Scholarship Program. From last year, we also support local Indonesian students studying in Indonesia.

### **(3) Jakarta Tree-planting**

The Aeon Environmental Foundation launched a three-year project in 2011 to plant mangroves in the marshland in the northern part of Jakarta. Together with a total of 2,700 volunteers, the Foundation has planted 39,000 mangroves in the last two years. On Sunday, August 25, 2013, the third and final round of the project, a planned total of about 1,600 volunteers will plant about 24,000 mangroves. The team will include Japanese and local volunteers as well as high school students who will be attending this forum around the same time.