

Report of the Panel of Experts on Collaborating with Communities of Japanese
Immigrants and Descendants (“Nikkei”) in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Introduction

The Central and South America region shares with Japan fundamental values such as freedom, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, the rule of law, consideration for the environment, etc., is an important partner contributing together with Japan to the peace and prosperity of the international community, and is extremely pro-Japan. The world's largest communities of Nikkei, which are estimated to exceed 2,100,000 people even today, are at the foundation of this affinity toward Japan.

Policies toward Japan's communities of Nikkei were carried out based on the report and recommendations of the Overseas Emigration Council established in 1955. The 1985 report proposed cooperation with Nikkei people for the first time on the grounds that support for the activities of Nikkei people is an important issue. The 1993 recommendation stated that at least three generations should be covered by the policies in order to support emigrants, and expressed the idea that further supporting Nikkei people and developing them as people who understand Japan in their countries of residence would contribute to encouraging good bilateral relations between Japan and said countries.

The final recommendations of the Overseas Emigration Council in 2000 expressed the following basic approaches. Namely, (i) the noted activities of Nikkei people are either a tangible or an intangible asset to Japan, Nikkei people are a "bridge" to Japan, (ii) responding to the hopes among Nikkei people to study the Japanese language and Japanese culture, to confirm their Japanese roots and to seek out positively their bonds with Japan will lead to even greater contributions to the countries of residence of the communities of Nikkei people, (iii) the relationship with Japan must be one of reciprocal cooperation, and an awareness of shifting from "support" to "cooperation" is vital, (iv) it is necessary to continue support that corresponds to the changing needs of communities of Nikkei people, and (v) it is necessary to deepen accurate understanding among the Japanese people of the history of overseas emigration and the current status of communities of Nikkei people. Furthermore, as specific measures based on these approaches, it recommended "invitation and training of Nikkei people," "cooperation with the dissemination of Japanese language and Japanese culture by communities of Nikkei," "utilization and employment of Nikkei human resources," "exchanges through prefectural associations, the Convention of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad," etc. These have become one of the foundations of the "form of Japan and overseas communities of Nikkei" today.

Seventeen years have passed since the recommendations of the Overseas Emigration Council in 2000, and during that time generational change has proceeded in the

communities of Nikkei in the Central and South America region, they have become more integrated with the local communities, and Nikkei people who have large influence in a variety of areas have become engaged in many noted activities, so changes in their awareness as Nikkei people are also emerging. There are even countries in which the presence of sixth generation Nikkei has been reported as the newest generation. Moreover, communities of Nikkei and non-Nikkei people who participate in their activities are increasing, and the spread of networks crossing national borders is also being seen. In this context, when Prime Minister Abe visited the Central and South America region he held exchanges with communities of Nikkei in each country and deepened ties.

In 2014 Prime Minister Abe gave praise to the Nikkei people in São Paulo for the trust they have built locally, and stated that Nikkei people are building a Japan we can be proud of and strengthening ties between Japan, communities of Nikkei, and young leaders. Furthermore, when he visited Argentina in November 2016 he once again stated that thanks to the communities of Nikkei that serve as a bridge Japan and Central and South America can be *juntos* (= together) (Note). Based on this background, it was decided that this panel launched by Minister for Foreign Affairs Fumio Kishida and comprised of experts representing each part of society would give a report aimed at strengthening collaboration with the communities of Nikkei in the Central and South America region. The panel of experts studied the current relationship between Japan and communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and held discussions about the form of collaboration going forward taking into account current changes.

Below we reveal the current situation of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and the status of exchanges with Japan, and then discuss a basic approach to collaborating with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and points of consideration and recommend specific policies toward the future for strengthening collaboration.

(Note) Prime Minister Abe's "three guiding principles" in Japan's Central and South America diplomacy: *Progreder juntos* (progress together), *Liderar juntos* (lead together) and *Inspirar juntos* (inspire together)

1 Current situation of communities of Nikkei in Latin America and the Caribbean

In order to use the discussions of this panel of experts as a reference, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducted a survey of the total of 33 diplomatic missions, including embassies of Japan, consulates general, and consular offices, in 23 countries in Central and South America regarding the current situation of communities of Nikkei in Central

and South America. It is difficult to accurately ascertain the scale of the communities of Nikkei but when we collated the reports from the diplomatic missions abroad it was just over 2,100,000 people.

In communities of Nikkei in Central and South America, the generations are moving from second-generation to the third, fourth and fifth generations, and the generations central to their activities are also changing to the new generations. As a result of the generational change, Nikkei organizations that are stopping and abolishing their activities are now appearing, and it can be seen that traditional media such as Japanese language newspapers, etc. are facing a variety of issues. On the other hand, the activities of cultural organizations and sports organizations are spreading, and there are a significant number of places where Japanese festivals in each region and other events are held with great success every year.

Furthermore, it was ascertained that if Nikkei people with little interest in Japan that are not participating in Nikkei organizations and young generations of Nikkei people are able to obtain information about Japan and opportunities to experience it, then their awareness of their own roots and interest in Japan increases. On the other hand, Nikkei people have a high level of interest in visiting Japan, and their objectives are diversifying, including study abroad, training, tourism, and finding work.

In light of this change of the generations in communities of Nikkei, the current time is an extremely important time for advancing initiatives for collaboration into the future between the communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and Japan. The Overseas Emigration Council understood the Nikkei people and communities of Nikkei to be the extension of emigration whereas the present panel of experts understands the Nikkei people and communities of Nikkei to be central and is shifting the focus from “cooperation” to “collaboration” which is one step further advanced.

Regarding private sector Japanese language schools, a quite wide range of schools established by Nikkei organizations exist but in recent years cases in which there are not many Nikkei pupils or teachers at the schools have been increasing.

The participation of non-Nikkei people is seen in the various Nikkei organizations (cultural organizations, welfare organizations, sports organizations, etc.) as well. There are cases in which not only non-Nikkei spouses and family but also non-Nikkei residents of the region participate, so the fringes of the communities of Nikkei are steadily expanding. Moreover, the formation and activities of Nikkei networks crossing the borders of their countries of residence, including the Pan American Nikkei Convention, Nikkei athletic meets, youth development programs and groups of young Nikkei entrepreneurs, etc. is being seen.

Furthermore, many communities of Nikkei have integrated further with local communities, and many Nikkei people with extremely large influence in a variety of areas exist, including many people engaged in noted activities who have absolutely no involvement with communities of Nikkei.

Of course, regarding relationships between Japanese companies doing business in the region and communities of Nikkei, although many Nikkei people are employed by the companies, this is still no more than partial, so we are not in a situation in which we can necessarily say the relationships are close. However, among expatriate employees and their children some people who have put down deep roots locally and are becoming a bridge as “new Nikkei people” are beginning to appear.

Due to the existence of communities of Nikkei diplomatic relations have been established between Japan and each country in Central and South America, and in addition anniversary commemoration projects at diverse levels including the emigration commencement year, the establishment year of prefectural associations and various other Nikkei organizations, etc. have afforded opportunities to strengthen relations between Japan and the countries in Central and South America.

There were more than 200 major events in communities of Nikkei in Central and South America in 2017 ascertained by each diplomatic mission, and it is estimated that the total number of participants reached more than 2,000,000 people. The categories of the events are also wide-ranging, mostly Japanese festivals but also sports and victim memorial events, etc. They also include exchanges among Nikkei people across national borders and frequent exchanges through social media, and the new networks of the young generations are showing steady expansion. These events and other activities and projects of the communities of Nikkei are thought to (i) provide opportunities for a variety of activity organizations and age groups in Japan to collaborate with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America to appeal to Central and South American communities, and (ii) are an important stimulus allowing Japan and communities of Nikkei to develop multifaceted and mutually caring relationships.

2 Basic approach to collaborating with communities of Nikkei in Latin America and the Caribbean

(1) Basic concepts

A. When Prime Minister Abe visited Central and South America in 2014 he clarified three basic points regarding collaboration with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America: (i) Communities of Nikkei in Central and South America are the foundation of the Central and South America region’s trust in Japan, so going forward

Japan will inherit and develop the trust built by the communities of Nikkei, (ii) Japan will strengthen ties with the young leaders in the communities of Nikkei who will be responsible for the future of Central and South America, and (iii) Japan will strengthen ties through initiatives to create a Japan in which Nikkei people can have pride. It is important to strengthen collaboration between communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and Japan with these thoughts as the benchmarks.

B. Going forward, even in the context of the arrival of successive generations of communities of Nikkei, Japan should cooperate to ensure that new generations of Nikkei people have interest in their own roots and Japan and that they take responsibility for the sense of trust communities of Nikkei have gained in Central and South America. Furthermore, through collaboration with the projects, events, and networks independently developed by communities of Nikkei in each country, Japan should meet the expectations they have of Japan and at the same time should aim to appeal to the communities in each Central and South American country and communicate about Japan. That will also contribute to the internationalization of each part of Japan. Moreover it will contribute to Japan and Central and South America developing together.

C. Keeping in mind the formation of multifaceted relationships by a variety of organizations including Japan's government and related institutions, local governments, business community, academic community, various related organizations, civic organizations, etc. with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America, Japan should push ahead with initiatives to build bases of a size tailored to the project content, creating a network to connect the bases, and carrying out matching so that diverse organizations can meet.

(2) Points of consideration

It is thought that the following points should be taken into consideration when Japan strengthens collaboration with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America.

A. Japan will implement initiatives that take into account the fact that the individual circumstances of communities of Nikkei, such as historical origins and scale, generational situation, etc., differ for each Central and South American country and within each individual country, and based on the Overseas Emigration Council recommendations in 2000 "Future Policy Regarding Cooperation with Overseas Communities of Nikkei," while advancing collaboration with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America.

B. Japan will advance collaboration including the people knowledgeable about Japan

and people with an affinity for Japan in the Central and South America region who have an interest in Japan and are constantly involved in activities in communities of Nikkei. Furthermore, Japan will communicate with and provide opportunities for collaboration to Nikkei people who do not belong to Nikkei organizations, in particular the young generations.

C. Through the diplomatic missions abroad, etc. the government will ascertain the situation of communities of Nikkei, and their events and projects, interests, and needs, and provide information both inside and outside Japan to contribute to the development of multifaceted relationships between communities of Nikkei and Japan.

D. Japan will focus its efforts on spreading the Japanese language widely in Central and South America, including inheritance of the Japanese language in communities of Nikkei, while also working to fundamentally strengthen communication using English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

E. Based on the perception that Nikkei people resident in Japan are one important bridge between Central and South American countries and Japan because they can improve understanding of today's Japan and carry out the communication, etc. for that purpose, Japan will continue to advance initiatives for them.

3 Specific policies toward the future

(1) Measures to contribute to development straddling generations of communities of Nikkei in Latin America and the Caribbean

In order to further develop communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and hand them down to the next generation, it is important to strengthen the reproduction of Nikkei organizations and collaboration with Japan through anniversary projects and visit-Japan programs. Furthermore, measures that awaken interest in Japan are required for young generations in communities of Nikkei and non-Nikkei people who have an interest in Japan. In order for communities of Nikkei to grow further across generations, Japan wants to provide support for the sense of trust and presence obtained by communities of Nikkei in each Central and South American country to be handed down to the next generation through prefectural associations and various other Nikkei organizations and activities, and for fostering interest in Japan and interest in local networks of Nikkei people through measures such as expanding opportunities for the new generations to visit Japan, etc. Furthermore, based on the actual circumstances of individual communities of Nikkei, consideration for small-scale communities of Nikkei, etc. is thought to be necessary, and in addition initiatives inside Japan for strengthening the understanding of Japan by communities of Nikkei in Central and South America are

important.

A. Measures to ensure the reputation and presence of communities of Nikkei in Latin America and the Caribbean are handed down to future generations

(A) It is important to continue to support the sustained development of Nikkei organizations in all regions of Central and South America.

For example, we can conclude that local governments in Japan aiming to revitalize and develop the prefectural associations and various other Nikkei organizations in Central and South America through support for projects to develop young leaders in Nikkei organizations and participation in anniversary projects, etc. will continue to be one of the core initiatives.

It is thought that study abroad and training systems funded by prefectures, support for the entry into the market of small and medium-size enterprises, projects that strengthen collaboration between communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and Japanese local governments, projects carried out by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with Nikkei organizations as the counterpart, and getting Nikkei people to serve as JICA volunteers, etc. are effective for the sustained development of Nikkei organizations. Work to compile reference cases from Nikkei organizations in each country in order to stabilize the fiscal foundation of the Nikkei organizations is also beneficial.

Furthermore, it is probably necessary to improve collaboration between overseas prefectural associations and local governments and review and strengthen the role of the Association of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad.

(B) We can conclude that the initiatives required today in order to avoid dissipating the legacy of the generations that made enormous efforts to win a good reputation in all regions of Central and South America, and to hand down that legacy to the next generation, are to strengthen support for the development and operation of the JICA Yokohama Japanese Overseas Migration Museum and other centers such as overseas migration museums, etc. in Japan and each country and each region and the creation of networks between them, and to support traveling exhibitions and lectures, etc. inside and outside Japan.

Furthermore, it is probably important to actively honor the great achievements of the pioneers through conferment of decorations and the range of commendation systems, etc.

B. Measures to foster the interest of new generations in Japan and Nikkei networks

(A) Through the expansion of opportunities to study abroad in Japan, the expansion of training and invitation projects, expansion of communication using native languages including social media, etc., Japan should actively expand opportunities for new generations of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America to experience Japan and stimulate their interest in and awareness of Japan, and should collaborate with the networks among the new generations through sports and education exchanges and public relations with a variety of content, etc. In conjunction with those kinds of initiatives, Japan should enhance opportunities for the new generations to study and inherit the Japanese language.

Regarding the details, development of study abroad agreements and frameworks with the government authorities of each Central and South American country, strengthening of collaboration at the local government level and the university level, implementation of JICA's Education Program for Next-Generation Nikkei and other programs for the next generation of Nikkei people, training by experts for the young generations of Nikkei farmers, etc. who emigrated as a state policy and exchanges in the areas of agriculture and food through invitations to Japan, and enhancement of support for study abroad in Japan at the high school, university, and technical school level in the Central and South America region are desirable. Holding exchanges between pupils and between teachers with educational facilities abroad and local schools is meaningful.

Moreover, it has been pointed out regarding the countries of Spain, Germany, and Italy that nationality systems that are more flexible compared to that of Japan, for example because they permit dual nationality, are contributing to frequent visits by young generations and stimulation of their awareness of their roots.

(B) Regarding the extension of networks between the young generations of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America, in addition to the activities of organizations and networks such as the various youth exchange programs and junior chambers of commerce, etc., supporting the encouragement of international exchanges of Nikkei farmers, etc. is meaningful.

(C) Furthermore, just as the emigrant generations contributed after obtaining the trust of the Central and South American countries for the work ethic and cultural values of Japan, there are expectations that the new generations of Nikkei people with interest in and points of contact with Japan will become a smooth bridge to the local communities carrying out international exchanges through the diverse appeal of today's Japan. It will probably be important to consider the possibility of collaboration with communication projects from Japan with content about today's Japan and Japanese culture and with the

Japan House project.

In addition, Nikkei people place importance not only on the fact that they are from Japan but also on their roots, in other words which prefecture and municipality they are from, so it is important to foster a sense of home and collaborate with their home regions in Japan.

(D) Previously local Japanese language newspapers played a large role in the sharing of information about communities of Nikkei and Japan. It is important to note that today that role is also borne by digital media such as social media, the Internet, etc. when advancing initiatives for communication from Japan to the communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and information distribution within the communities of Nikkei.

C. Measures for the revitalization of small-scale communities of Nikkei

In small-scale communities of Nikkei, attracting young generations and assisting the revitalization of activities through support for Nikkei organizations, utilizing a range of invitation projects, etc., promoting the participation of non-Nikkei human resources, and collaboration and the extension of networks with communities of Nikkei in other countries, etc. are thought to be valuable. Furthermore, the experts want all-Japan support at a variety of levels which mobilizes a variety of policies while taking note of initiatives that seek collaboration with other communities of Nikkei in Central and South America through the holding of events such as sports tournaments and cultural projects, etc.

D. Other

(A) Today when the emigration to Central and South America was a long time ago and no longer familiar to the people, it is important to increase interest and understanding within Japan regarding communities of Nikkei in Central and South America. For that reason, it is expected that the recognition at the national level and local government level of Japanese people regarding the history and local presence, successful cases and current situation, etc. of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America will spread through initiatives using a variety of methods. In particular from the perspective of education for the young generations of Japan, presenting this information in educational contexts, such as in textbooks, etc., is thought to be effective. Furthermore, it is important to create summaries about the history of overseas emigration by Japanese people and the communities of Nikkei in Central and South America in some format and incorporate the summaries in development education.

Furthermore, the participation, etc. of representatives of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America in national athletic meets in Japan is expected to have the strong positive effect of increasing the degree of recognition within Japan of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America and bringing them both closer together at the national level, and there is also a proposal that Japanese athletes participate in Nikkei sports tournaments in Central and South America.

Promoting opportunities for mutual visits and exchanges among the young generation linked to the network activities, etc. inside the Central and South America region of Nikkei people, such as prefectural associations and various other Nikkei organizations and the exchange projects of new generation leaders, etc., is likely to stimulate the interest of the communities of Nikkei in Central and South America in Japan and assist the communities of Nikkei in achieving sustained development straddling generations. Furthermore, learning about the communities in each Central and South American country through the same generations in the communities of Nikkei in Central and South America is likely to be extremely beneficial for the young generations in Japan.

In addition, attention should be paid to the new role of “new Nikkei people” connecting Japan to communities of Nikkei.

(B) The government and the Association of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad continuously studying and providing information about the actual situation of communities of Nikkei, information about a variety of events and projects by various organizations and networks, and interest in Japan, etc. is important for each related group in Japan to deepen relationships with Central and South America, and it can be concluded that this would send the important message that Japan will build ongoing relationships with the communities of Nikkei in Central and South America. Going forward, in conjunction with further progress in generational change, it is necessary to ascertain the situation of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America while updating the measures of Japan appropriately.

(C) The government should review its structures in order to strengthen its measures for communities of Nikkei.

(2) Measures for all-Japan collaboration with communities of Nikkei in Latin America and the Caribbean

All-Japan initiatives involving government, government-related institutions, local governments, the business community, the academic community, etc. are expected for collaboration with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America. In this case, initiatives also taking into account communities of Nikkei, non-Nikkei people

knowledgeable about Japan, and people with an affinity for Japan should be advanced. Furthermore, together with communication of the appeal of Japan further expansion of Japanese language education should be undertaken.

A. Overview

(A) It is important that all sectors of Japanese society provide the content and resources they possess and participate together with the communities of Nikkei in the Japanese language, Japanese food, Japanese culture, sports such as martial arts, etc., the dissemination of Japanese-style education and Japanese management techniques, projects in the areas of healthcare and welfare, Japanese festivals and anniversary projects and variety of other events that various organizations and networks of Nikkei communities develop in Central and South America. Through this, they will contribute to the success of projects and events and communicate effectively with the communities and people of each Central and South American country, appeal to them, and aim for further progress in friendly relationships.

(Note) These projects and events are expected to have great value and effects in regional Nikkei organizations; furthermore they are meaningful with respect to stimulating communication and interest with young generations of Nikkei people who do not necessarily participate in the various conventional Nikkei organizations.

(Note) In 2017 206 events related to communities of Nikkei are planned in the Central and South America region. “Japanese festivals” account for 42% of the events, and 9% are sports events. Furthermore, there are 46 events with over 10,000 participants annually.

(B) When aiming to enhance future collaboration with communities of Nikkei in Central and South America, the target of the collaboration should not be limited to Nikkei people who are the descendants of migrants overlapping generations; initiatives including new generations who have become permanent settlers in a variety of forms and their descendants, Nikkei people who have experienced living in Japan for a long time and then returned to their home country, and people knowledgeable about Japan and people with an affinity for Japan who participate in today’s activities and projects in communities of Nikkei are suitable.

It is possible to organize the provisions of opportunities for Japanese language learning and Japanese culture experiences for the people in Central and South American countries and events related to Cool Japan for enthusiasts, etc. together with the projects and events of the Nikkei networks that have the power to attract customers. At the Pan American Nikkei Convention second generation and third generation Nikkei participate

together with their non-Nikkei acquaintances and friends, becoming an access point for becoming familiar with Japanese culture. Among the projects implemented by these Nikkei organizations, the related people from Japan attending inspiring projects with communication ability in particular leads to the encouragement of understanding and increases the public relations effect of the projects. There are opportunities to form partnerships with noted Nikkei researchers in international joint research by the academic community as well.

(C) It is also important to strategically discover and develop high quality Nikkei human resources and opinion leaders in each area, people knowledgeable about Japan and people with an affinity for Japan in Central and South America. For example, Japan will utilize alumni societies, etc. to continue to support human resources studying abroad and training in Japan in each area through its diplomatic missions abroad. Furthermore, collaboration with local governments and the active utilization of Nikkei human resources by the business community, educational institutions, etc. should be advanced through the establishment of specialized subcommittees and pan-industry social events for discovery and development of opinion leaders and exchanges with the related organizations and companies, etc. in Japan. Moreover, expanding the acceptance of international students and trainees, offering endowed courses in Japanese language education and Japanese studies to prestigious universities, and collaboration with higher educational institutions, etc. in each Central and South American country, including student exchange programs, etc., are also meaningful for high quality human resources development. Conducting studies continuously about the number of Nikkei people in each country and the areas in which Nikkei human resources are engaged in noted activities, etc., and the discovery of Nikkei human resources who are not very involved in the local communities of Nikkei deepen collaboration with Nikkei people and contribute to the formulation of new measures.

(D) The Convention of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad, which is organized by the Association of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad and held every year, is an important opportunity to gather the views and requests of overseas communities of Nikkei, centered on Central and South America, and discuss the best approach to collaboration between Japan and overseas communities of Nikkei. It is important to incorporate the views of the new generations to deepen the discussions of the Convention of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad and create specific collaborations based on the discussions. For that reason it is more desirable to make the convention multilingual and enhance the participation of the new generations.

B. Measures for collaboration by local governments

(A) It is effective to advance collaboration with the networks of overseas prefectural associations and various other Nikkei organizations when promoting the issues in internationalization of local governments, including communicating the appeal of the regions, attracting tourists to visit Japan, etc., in the Central and South America region.

(B) As supplementary initiatives for making these initiatives to promote the region and attract tourists through collaboration more effective, for example, there are expectations for relaxation of the system for short-term stays from Central and South America to Japan, improvement of the customs procedures for goods, etc. in each Central and South American country, and encouragement of business exchanges between Nikkei farmers, etc. and people involved in the food industry in the regions of Japan.

(C) It is important to strengthen the collaboration of communities of Nikkei in Central and South America, including people who have connections to Japan, and local governments, so in order increase a sense of affinity with Japan through the tracing of roots, (i) measures should be promoted in collaboration with the government for initiatives to strengthen ties between overseas prefectural associations and local governments such as acceptance of international students funded by prefectures, etc., (ii) measures should be promoted in collaboration with the government to expand cultural exchange projects, etc. with Central and South America carried out by local governments, and (iii) the organizational structure linking overseas prefectural associations and local governments should be enhanced and strengthened.

C. Measures for collaboration by the business community

(A) In order to establish new points of contact between communities of Nikkei and the business community of Japan, advancement of initiatives such as exchanges between Japanese companies doing business in the region and new generations of Nikkei leaders mediated by Japan's diplomatic missions abroad and economic organizations abroad, business collaborations utilizing the networks of new generations of Nikkei people, the holding of business seminars, etc. and collaboration projects such as lectures, etc., establishment of matching opportunities for Nikkei entrepreneurs and Japan's small and medium-size enterprises, and exchanges between Nikkei farmers, etc. and people involved in the food industry of Japan is expected.

In particular, it is often the case that young generations of Nikkei people do not participate in existing Nikkei organizations, so one proposal is for government institutions such as diplomatic missions abroad, etc. to step in to bring together the communities of Nikkei and collaborate with the local Japan Chamber of Commerce and

Industry, etc.

Furthermore, it is important for Japanese companies doing business in the region to strengthen their collaboration with communities of Nikkei and more actively promote outstanding Nikkei human resources as executives in Japan and locally. It is thought that due to this the advantages of acquisition of Japanese language by Nikkei people and returning to communities of Nikkei will increase. Regarding this point, support should be considered for not only individual companies but also at the government and business community level.

(B) Utilization of the alumni associations of trainees and Nikkei engineers associations, etc. is expected as matching for the utilization of high quality Nikkei human resources.

(C) The business community is supporting people who have come from Central and South America to Japan, including Nikkei people. They make efforts as a part of their corporate activities such as funding scholarships for local elementary schools, supporting NPOs active in residential areas, offering support on the local side for children who returned from Japan to Central and South America to adapt, etc., and these kinds of initiatives are desirable going forward as well.

(D) Expatriate employees of Nikkei companies doing business in the region have not necessarily understood the history and customs of Nikkei people sufficiently well to date. Interesting developments can be expected if expatriate employees and their families become aware of that point and have business matching opportunities through seminars, etc.

(E) Examples of the creation of opportunities for mutual exchanges between young people utilizing frameworks in collaborative projects between Japan and Central and South American countries, as in the TOMODACHI initiative with the United States, also serve as a useful reference. Support for the scholarship system for local vocational training schools and provision of places for on-the-job training, support for the human resources development programs of the governments of two countries, etc., strengthening of relationships with NPOs through Japanese culture such as martial arts, etc., support for the activities of Nikkei members of parliament, etc. are meaningful for deepening collaboration with communities of Nikkei. Furthermore, initiatives involved in the study abroad programs led by local governments would probably be interesting too.

D. Measures for collaboration by JICA

(A) Expansion of JICA's projects for communities of Nikkei in Central and South America such as development of the next generation of human resources, study abroad

programs at the graduate school level, human resources development projects for Nikkei training, etc., volunteer projects for living in harmony with communities of Nikkei, and projects for the young generations of Japan to visit and hold exchanges with communities of Nikkei, etc. should be examined after reviewing the target and content of each program keeping in mind the progress of communities of Nikkei. Furthermore, taking into account the achievements of previous emigration support projects, it is thought that in conjunction with the transition of generations of communities of Nikkei, examination of the initiatives necessary for promoting collaboration between communities of people knowledgeable about Japan and people with an affinity for Japan in Central and South America with communities of Nikkei at their core and all sectors of the society of Japan should be conducted.

(B) Promotion of the economic and social development projects in the country of residence and third countries using collaboration with Nikkei organizations and Nikkei people and the human resources development projects of Nikkei organizations through culture and sports is expected. In particular, for example, a system which makes it easy for Nikkei people in Central and South America, etc. to participate and a system under which Nikkei people who do not have Japanese nationality but have qualified for long-term residency, such as Nikkei people who have experience of living in Japan, etc., can also participate should be introduced in JICA volunteer projects.

(C) It is important to encourage collaboration (including industry-academia collaboration) between communities of Nikkei and the local governments, business community, academic community, etc. of Japan through JICA projects. For example, cooperating with each organization in Japan to form training projects, etc. and dispatching investigation teams to encourage the understanding of Nikkei community volunteers are effective.

E. Measures for collaboration by the academic community

(A) Japan will promote collaboration with the JICA Yokohama Japanese Overseas Migration Museum and other overseas migration museums inside and outside Japan in order to encourage identity formation in communities of Nikkei and understanding in Japan and locally by storing and displaying the historical materials of Nikkei emigrants. Through this systemization, Japan will advance the facilitation of research and the return of the research to the communities.

(B) Share the actual situation of living together with the modern age and contribute to the development of each country by taking a wide range of opportunities in Japan and overseas to present academic research outcomes regarding communities of Nikkei at the

Convention of Nikkei & Japanese Abroad and the research conferences of academic societies, etc.

F. Measures for collaboration in projects for transmitting the Japanese language and Japanese culture

Regarding Japanese language education, in addition to heritage language education, growth in the demand for teaching of Japanese as a foreign language, including among non-Nikkei people, is being seen and interest in Japanese culture is growing not only in communities of Nikkei but also in Central and South American communities overall. Given this situation, and taking into account the previous views of the Overseas Emigration Council, Japan should take care to respond to the digital era while adopting an all-Japan approach including the Japan Foundation and JICA, etc. to collaborate with communities of Nikkei, Nikkei networks, and local Japanese language educational institutions to strengthen projects to disseminate the Japanese language and communicate the Japanese culture. For example, Japan should utilize local Nikkei institutions as centers for communication of the Japanese culture and brand and consider promotion of the following kinds of measures.

- (A) Support the introduction of Japanese language education curricula and teaching methods that take into account the changes in local Japanese language education needs and are tailored to the local education system
- (B) Support for converting local schools such as Nikkei schools, etc. into bilingual schools and for the teaching of Japanese as a foreign language
- (C) Encouragement of the establishment of Japanese language courses and Japanese studies courses in higher educational institutions
- (D) Dispatch to Japanese language educational institutions, etc. of high quality Japanese language experts, Japanese language teachers and volunteers who are Japanese people capable of teacher training, support for the purchase of Japanese language teaching materials, and encouragement of their publication in Spanish and Portuguese
- (E) Japanese language teacher training and communication of the circumstances and culture of Japan through touring seminars, etc.
- (F) Realization of on-line Japanese language classes through the Internet and development of digital teaching materials
- (G) Communication and exchange projects in the areas of Japanese culture and arts, including collaboration projects, and other human exchange projects
- (H) Projects to introduce the broadcasting content of Japan
- (I) Communication of the circumstances and culture of Japan through digital media

such as the Internet, etc., and utilization of digital influencers

(J) Stimulation of the interest in Japan of young generations in communities of Nikkei through sports and education, cultural exchanges, and support for corporate activities, etc.

(3) Measures related to communities of Nikkei in Japan

The communities of Nikkei exceed 2,100,000 in the Central and South America region and approximately 10% of them, approximately 210,000 people, live in Japan, contribute to the economic activities of Japan, and play an important role in human exchanges between Japan and Central and South American countries. It is necessary to build a structure to develop human resources from communities of Nikkei in Japan who will form ties between Japan and their home country, and to support them in their noted activities as a future bridge between Japan and Central and South America. In particular, it can be concluded that the children of Nikkei people in Japan and people who have returned to their home country are the people who will be a force connecting next-generation Japan and Central and South America. It is important to provide support to ensure these children are developed as high quality human resources, including access to higher education. Specifically, Japan should actively consider the following kinds of measures.

A. Education support and scholarship provision for Nikkei children in Japan (elementary school, junior high school, high school, and university students), etc.

B. Education support for children returning to their countries from Japan

C. Encouragement of internships, etc. for Nikkei people in Japanese companies

D. Utilization of the global cooperation volunteers system (activities by the JICA Nikkei community volunteers to support communities of Nikkei in Japan before they depart their home countries and after they return home)

E. Support such as support for further education, technical guidance, enterprise support, etc. for Nikkei people in Japan when they return to their home countries in Central and South America.

F. Promotion of the utilization of Nikkei human resources who possess a high level of expertise in the business community, etc. and as JICA experts, etc.

G. Information communication utilizing the communication ability of Nikkei media in Japan (including in foreign languages)

H. Japan should examine special measures regarding status of residence for generations from the fourth generation onwards too.