

Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Outbound Program Dominican Republic Report

Theme: Youth Exchange on the 90th anniversary of Japanese-Dominican diplomatic relations (Friendship and Cooperation for a Free and Open International Order)

1. Program Overview

On the 90th anniversary of Japanese-Dominican diplomatic relations, we aim to conduct this program with excellent human resources who can contribute to promoting relations between Japan, Dominican Republic, and Latin America and to Japanese diplomacy in the future. From the standpoint of advancing their comprehension of broad topics like bilateral relations, development cooperation, culture, and Nikkei society, as well as the economy and business, which is experiencing tremendous growth and increasing new investment from Japanese companies, we do not concentrate on particular themes.

Participants: Total: 5 Japanese undergraduate students

Location: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

2. Program Schedule

Pre-study Program (online)

Friday, October 4	- Pre- departure Orientations
Thursday, October 17	

Inbound Program

Saturday, November 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Arrival at Las Americas International Airport- Lecture about Japanese culture to Japanese language learners at Nichi Do Japan-Dominican Cultural Center- Exchange with the Japanese Society Association (Youth Division)
Sunday, November 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sightseeing: AFS Host Family
Monday, November 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Orientation: Facilitated Dialogue Session by AFS Dominican Republic Office
Tuesday, November 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Welcome Meeting: Mr. Ambassador HAYAKAWA Osamu- Lecture with Deputy Director Mrs. Yarisol Lopez of National Free Zone Council (CNZFE)- Meeting with the Technical Deputy of PROINDUSTRIA- Lecture and exchange at the Ministry of Youth- Exchange with Dominican Kendo Federation Representatives

Wednesday, November 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ODA Site Guided tour visits: Luis E. Aybar Hospital, Gastroenterology Center, Maternal and Child Hospital and Dominican-Japanese Friendship Medical Education Center(CEMADOJA) - Lecture at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Lecture and Exchange at JICA with JOCV
Thursday, November 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tour at Hiroshima Toyo Carp Baseball Academy - Lecture and guided tour at Nissha Medical Technologies - Lecture and guided tour at Wacoal Management Team - Reception at Japan Ambassador Residency
Friday, November 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Departure from Las Americas International Airport

3. Program Photos



11/2 Nichi Do Japan-Dominican Cultural Center



11/2 Japanese Society Association



11/3 Sightseeing: AFS Host Family



11/3 Sightseeing: AFS Host Family



11/4 AFS Facilitated Dialogue Session



11/5 Japan Embassy



11/5 National Free Zone Council (CNZFE)



11/5 PROINDUSTRIA



11/5 Ministry of Youth



11/5 Dominican Kendo Federation



11/6 Luis E. Aybar Hospital,
Gastroenterology Center



11/6 Luis E. Aybar Hospital,
Maternal and Child Hospital



11/6 Luis E. Aybar Hospital, Dominican-Japanese
Friendship Medical Education Center (CEMADOJA)



11/6 Ministry of Foreign Affairs



11/6 JICA / JOCV Talk



11/7 Hiroshima Toyo Carp Baseball
Academy



11/7 Nissha Medical Technologies



11/7 Wacoal Dominican Republic



11/7 Wacoal Dominican Republic



11/7 Japan Ambassador Residency

4. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

"It was very insightful for me to see how teaching Japanese language to other people brings us together and gets them close to our culture, fostering not only our understanding but also a strong relation between us. "

"As this was my first time visiting a Latin American country, this program gave me a precious opportunity to get deep insights about society and life in Latin America. The schedule was perfectly designed and all participants could interact with people they wanted to talk to. Everyone involved in this program warmly welcomed us and supported us dedicatedly, which made our stay impressive."

"What impressed me most about this program was the cooperation between the Dominican Republic and Japan in terms of medical care. I felt that the fact that Japan is supporting Dominican healthcare and creating an environment to nurture healthcare professionals is above all proof that Japan and the Dominican Republic are connected on a deeper level."

5. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)





• Nichi Do Japan-Dominican Cultural Center

"This visit has been a very enriching experience for all the students. The students were able to ask many questions, and they learned many things about Japan, making our students feel more in love with Japan and the Japanese people. As it is also an exchange, we teach them to dance."

• Luis E. Aybar Hospital, Gastroenterology Center

"We are very proud of sharing with this group the results of the cooperation between Japan and our country. We are very grateful to all the Japanese professionals that has cooperated to improve the quality of our knowledge and medical services provided to the ones in need."

6. Disseminations by the participants, News reports, etc.

	
Participants' Instagram	Participants' Instagram
	
Ministry of Youth	National Free Zone Council (CNZFE)

 <p>centrodegastroenterologiard El centro de Gastroenterología de la Ciudad Sanitaria Dr. Luis E. Aybar, recibió este miércoles una comisión de</p>	 <p>afsdom AFS Intercultura Recibe el Program "Juntos!!" de Japón en República Dominicana</p>
Luis E. Aybar Hospital, Gastroenterology Center	Japan Ambassador Residency, posted by AFS Dominican Republic

7.Action Plans Presented at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

- *"Personally, I got into love with Latin American culture and wanted to learn more about the Dominican Republic and other Latin American countries. Now, I have connections with people in the Dominican Republic as well as Japanese people working there. I feel my attention and interest towards the Dominican Republic will last forever in the future. "*
- *"This program gave me new insights. That different countries and cultures have different ways of thinking and customs. On the other hand, I also realized that there are some things that are common throughout the world, such as courtesy and gratitude."*
- *"I thank the Dominican people for their gracious hospitality and for giving us a valuable experience that we could not have had in Japan. We were very happy that they wanted to get to know us, and we wanted to tell them more about Japan. I hope to return to the Dominican Republic someday and I hope to see you again in Japan."*
- *"Through this program, I was able to get a deep understanding of the long and strong relationship between Japan and the Dominican Republic both at a diplomatic level and a civil level. As a person who is going to be involved in international cooperation after graduation, I would like to continue and promote this strong relationship between Japan and the Dominican Republic."*

Implementation agency: AFS