



A Step towards Resolving Educational Inequality

Greetings to all of the Ministers here today. Welcome to Aichi-Nagoya. Before we begin, I would like to tell you a little bit about the meaning of the name “Aichi”. The word “Ai” in Japanese, means love, and the word “Chi” means wisdom.

We are truly grateful for this opportunity to speak in front of you today. As “global citizens”, we sincerely hope for the realization of a global society where everyone can attain human happiness. When the twelve of us discussed what is preventing society from fully achieving this goal, we realized that the predominant reason was the various types of inequalities that exist in our modern society. Furthermore, we believe that educational inequality is at the centre of this issue, and therefore reducing it will help us to resolve other problems alike. As high school students, we want to make sure that everyone can receive the education they deserve.

There is a large educational inequality between developed and underdeveloped countries. Lack of education can lead people to many disadvantages. For example, without an education, acquiring a job that requires reading, writing or computing skills, is impossible. This would make it difficult to earn sufficient income to live. In addition, lack of reading and writing skills would make everyday life a constant struggle. Even worse, parents who didn't receive sufficient education in their youth, cannot teach their children the importance of education. This will create an endless negative cycle.

There have been many attempts to aid countries that are struggling with education problems until now, but we think it is not enough to resolve them. The main reason for this is the lack of staff. According to UNESCO, for all primary aged children to be able to go to school, an estimated 18 million more teachers are needed. Regardless of how many schools you construct, without teachers, providing education is impossible. Therefore, the shortage of teachers is one of the most crucial problems for schools trying to provide quality education.

Here we would like to introduce two proposals that we have prepared for you today.

The first proposal is the implementation of “E-Classes”. In classes that are pre recorded, people would be able to access these classes no matter where they were. Once communication network and appliances are installed, students would be able to take classes without any restrictions on place and time. Even where the number of

teaching staff is insufficient, students can learn from one video-class repeatedly to their hearts' content. You can also create specific videos for specific levels of education, therefore allowing people to choose what they would like to learn. These online classes could also be used as a way to allow people to study for job qualifications such as nurses or care-takers.

Our second proposal is to create a new international organization based on “feedback and information sharing”. Currently, many countries are working very hard on aiding countries in need. However, we believe that there is insufficient international cooperation. We thought that it could be possible to provide more effective aid by sharing the experiences of success and even failure on the support each country has made. The more countries that take part in this organization, the more effective it would be.

We are confident that by the realization of our two proposals, the international society can eliminate the educational inequality and resolve multiple problems such as poverty, gender disparities and economic gaps. And it will contribute greatly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Education expands the perspectives and possibilities of children and adults around the world, leading to the creation of a society where each and every person can move forward toward a brighter future. Let's share AICHI, “Ai” and “Chi”, “love” and “wisdom” and realize a world where everyone can find a place and an opportunity.

Please enjoy your stay in Aichi-Nagoya. Thank you for your attention.

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