

The Kawasaki City Representative Assembly for Foreign Residents, Newsletter No. 83

Report to the Mayor and City Council for FY2024



On April 18 (Friday), the 15th Representative Assembly Chair, SENE Aissatou Thimbo, Deputy Chair, SRINIVASAN Sucheta, ADIDAYA Yoza, chair of the Multicultural Society Subcommittee, and SHAN Wangshu, chair of the Safe & Secure Living Subcommittee, presented the Mayor's Report for fiscal year 2024 to Mayor Norihiko Fukuda. Deliberation was reported by the Multicultural Society Subcommittee on the topics of "Information

Dissemination and Awareness," "Child Rearing and Education," and "Family Certification of Separate Surnames," while the Safe & Secure Living Subcommittee discussed "Disaster Prevention/Disaster," "Formation of Symbiotic Communities," and "Medical Care." Mayor Fukuda commented, "Thank you for your enthusiasm for the Assembly. The Representative Assembly for Foreign Residents, which has a long history, is attracting more and more attention as the number of foreign residents increases. A city that is comfortable to live in for foreign residents, will be comfortable to live in for Japanese residents as well. We will continue to use the deliberation results of the Representative Assembly in city governance in the future."

In addition, on May 22nd (Thursday), Chair Sene and Deputy Chair Suchetta were invited as witnesses to the City Council's Education Committee, where they reported on their activities for FY2024. The annual report is available at the information corner of the Representative Assembly meeting, and can also be read on the city website, at civic centers, libraries, and other places.

Deliberations Toward a Draft Proposal (April-June)

I am Yoza, chairperson of the Multicultural Society Subcommittee. After a lively discussion with the assembly members on possible proposals, it appears we will come to a consensus on a proposal to "create a career chart after elementary school" to support the career choices of children in the city with foreign roots. The committee also agreed that "standardization of the welcome set" is important and will consider whether or not to add it as a proposal. We will continue to make every effort in meaningful deliberation.

ADIDAYA Yoza

This is a Shan, chairperson of the Safe & Secure Living Subcommittee. We had vigorous discussion on the topics of disaster prevention/disaster, formation of symbiotic communities, and medical care. Considering interest, demand, and feasibility, we narrowed down deliberation going forward to disaster prevention/disaster and the formation of symbiotic communities. "Multilingualization" was an important keyword in the discussion, with proposals including the multilingualization of disaster prevention information and the multilingualization of neighborhood and community association guides. With the limited time remaining for deliberation, we will continue to work together as a subcommittee to contribute to the creation of a safe environment for foreign residents of Kawasaki City.

SHAN Wangshu

Why not attend a meeting?

Anyone can observe (listen to) the meetings. Please come to an Assembly meeting! At the Special Session (Open Meeting) on November 16th (Sunday), you can not only observe (listen) but also express your opinions.

— Schedule of future meetings of the Representative Assembly —

2nd Session	2nd Day	September 7, 2025 (Sunday)	Organization of content of the proposals
3rd Session	1st Day	October 12, 2025 (Sunday)	Confirmation of proposal ideas
	Special Session	November 16, 2025 (Sunday)	Hearing opinions from participants about the proposal ideas
3rd Session	2nd Day	December 14, 2025 (Sunday)	Confirmation of draft proposal

Location: Kawasaki International Center (10min walk from Motsumiyoshi Station, Tokyu Toyoko/Meguro Line)

Time: From 2pm to 5pm

Come to our Special Session (Open Meeting)!

On November 16th (Sunday), a Special Session (Open Meeting) will be held at the Kawasaki International Center, and citizens will have an opportunity to comment widely on proposals being considered by the 15th Kawasaki City Representative Assembly for Foreign Residents. In order to make the proposals more accurate and meaningful, we would like to hear your opinions. After the Open Meeting, we are planning to hold a social gathering. We are looking forward to your participation.

Call for Representatives for the 16th Term

The Kawasaki City Representative Assembly for Foreign Residents meets eight or nine times a year on Sunday afternoons to discuss issues that foreign residents of the city are facing, and decide on a theme by themselves for deliberation. The results of discussions are reported to the mayor, and opinions (proposals) are submitted.

Applicants must meet the following criteria: (1) They do not have Japanese nationality, (2) They are at least 18 years old as of April 1, 2026, and (3) They have been listed on the Kawasaki register of residents for at least one continuous year as of April 1, 2026.

Term of office: April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2028 (2 years) **Number of applicants:** Up to 26

Application deadline: November 18, 2025 (Tuesday) **Application form available here** ↓

16th Term Representative Recruitment Information Meeting

Date & Time: October 12, 2025 (Sunday) 5:15-5:45 p.m.

Location: International Center, Reception Room



The Kawasaki City Representative Assembly for Foreign Residents will exhibit in the Kawasaki Citizens' Festival (Saturday, November 1 to Monday, November 3 at Fujimi Park)* and the International Festival in Kawasaki (Sunday, November 9 at the Kawasaki International Center).

* The Assembly will exhibit one of the days (to be decided) between November 1st (Sat) and 3rd (Mon).

~15th Term Representatives Home Culture Intro~

United States of America “Labor Day”



In the United States, the first Monday in September is “Labor Day,” which means a “Day for Laborers,” and is one of the federal government holidays. For many Americans, this day traditionally symbolizes the end of summer. On “Labor Day” weekend, picnics and barbecues can be seen all over town. Let me introduce a classic barbecue recipe.

Making American Classic Baked BBQ Chicken (4 servings)

Sauce Ingredients

1 cup ketchup
1/2 cup apple cider vinegar
1/2 cup yellow mustard
70g brown sugar
2 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon hot sauce
2 teaspoon black pepper
1 tablespoon garlic powder

- ① Mix together all the ingredients for the sauce. Divide into two halves: one for the marinade sauce and one for the dipping sauce.
- ② Marinate 650 g chicken thighs with bones and skin, sprinkle with 1 tablespoon salt and marinate in sauce.
- ③ Cut 600 g onion into 1.5 cm slices. Sprinkle with 1 teaspoon salt and oil and spread on a baking sheet.
- ④ Arrange the marinated chicken thighs on top of the sliced onions.
- ⑤ Bake at 180°F for about 20 minutes, until the thickest part of the chicken reaches 74°F.
- ⑥ Warm the remaining sauce, spread it on the chicken thighs, and bake until skin is golden brown!

ITO Yurika Karen

Vietnam “Hoi An Lantern Festival”

Located in central Vietnam, Hoi An is a beautiful old city with 16th century buildings. In 1999, it was registered as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site.

During the Lantern Festival, held every month on the 15th day of the lunar calendar, the entire town is enveloped in magical lights that mesmerize visitors.



VU Hong An

Bulgaria “Name Day”

In Bulgaria, individuals are often named after saints of the Catholic and Orthodox churches. For example, the name Mary, which is most common among women, is associated with the Virgin Mary, whose “name day” is August 15, the day of her Assumption. Name Day is an important event, considered more important than a person’s birthday. On “Name Day,” friends and acquaintances gather at a person’s home to celebrate with gifts and flowers, even if they are not invited. It is customary for the person being celebrated to provide food, sweets and beverages. The time is always lively and warm, filled with shouts of “Честит имен ден! (che-stit ee-men den!) (meaning: Happy Name Day!)”

HRISTOVA Gabriela

Fieldwork Report of the Safe & Secure Living Subcommittee

My name is Pustovskikh of the Safe & Secure Living Subcommittee. I participated in the Nakahara Disaster Prevention Training on May 11. It was a good experience for us as we are deliberating on “disaster prevention and disaster management” in the 15th Representative Assembly’s “Safe & Secure Living” subcommittee. Until I participated in the training, I thought that if a disaster occurred, I would ask someone to help me, but during the training, I was glad to learn the spirit of “self-help,” which means “protect one’s own home by oneself.” I also participated in the wind and flood disaster response training and the smoke experience, and I realized once again how frightening disasters can be.

What impressed me the most was that I realized that evacuation at home is sometimes preferable in times of disaster, and that the necessary preparations for such evacuation are surprisingly not done. If you are told, it would be easy to realize that hygiene and physical condition management are the most important things. However, it may be surprising to discover that necessary preparation for these things has not yet been made. So please be sure to check the disaster prevention goods in your home.

PUSTOVSKIKH Anastasia

Examples of items necessary for long-term evacuation, including evacuation at home

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| • Water (10 liters per person per day) | • LED lantern (flashlight) | • Food supplies | • Batteries |
| • Water supply bags / poly bags | • Rechargeable (hand crank) radios | • Wet tissues (wipes) | • Easy (portable) toilet (5 times per person per day) |

NOTICE FROM KAWASAKI CITY

Request for Cooperation in the National Census

A national census will be conducted to determine the number of people as of October 1 that are living in Japan (including foreigners), their ages, jobs, and so forth. Starting on Saturday, September 20, a researcher will distribute questionnaires and other materials to your homes. For those who are able to respond by internet (seven languages are supported: Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese), please submit your response online from Saturday, September 20 to Saturday, October 8. Foreign language support pages (available in 28 languages) are available for your convenience. If you are unable to answer the questions online or if you have any questions, please get in touch with the Contact Center.



National Census Contact Center

(from September 16 to November 7, 9am to 9pm)

• Phone: 0570-02-5901 • IP Phone, Prepaid cell phone: 03-6628-2258

• Website (Foreign Language Support)

* <https://www.kokusei2025.go.jp/language/>



*Please access this site after you receive the survey form

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We welcome your comments and opinions about the Representative Assembly or this newsletter.

<http://www.city.kawasaki.jp/shisei/category/60-7-2-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0.html>

