

A quick view of Convention Day 1



○ Commemorative photo by all the participants from Taiwan Region on the stage
A nice uniform made a spectacular view. One hundred and thirteen (113) people from Taiwan have come all the way to participate in the Convention. We are most thankful for your cooperation.



Y's Men International Japan East Region & Japan West Region



July 19(Fri)-21(Sun) 2019 Sendai International Center, Sendai Japan
Opening Ceremony and Inauguration of IP



○Opening Music

Prior to the Opening Ceremony, the Choir of the Music Club of Sendai Minami High School performed and sang "Wasenedeya," which means "Don't forget us." The song was created based on the poem by a lady who was one of the victims of the Tsunami. Though the song was sad, the voices of the 30 girls filled the venue with a warm atmosphere.



○Inauguration of IP

IP and IPE with their spouse after the Inauguration Ceremony (from right to left) IPE's spouse, Birgit Jacobsen, IPE Paul-Henrik Hove Jacobsen, IP Jennifer Jones and her spouse, Russell Jones

Open Lecture Meeting



○Lecture by Mr. Yoshihiro Murai, Governor of Miyagi Prefecture
 Governor is trying to establish the disaster prevention centers 8 years after the East Japan Great Earthquake. Specifically, a fundamental restructuring effort was announced over six items, including the privatization of the fishery industry, securing of tourists by privatizing Sendai Airport, and the establishment of the medical department → eliminating the shortage of doctors. He also thanked the audience for their support after reading out all the countries that had provided support.



○Great East Japan Earthquake Miyagi Children's Education and Development Fund

“Great East Japan Earthquake Miyagi Children's Education and Development Fund”
 As a donation to the “Great East Japan Earthquake Miyagi Children's Education and Development Fund”, AP Tanaka presented a statement of donation to Governor Murai. The target amount is 1 million yen during the Convention.



◆Lecture by Ms. Nobue Kunizaki

The regional hazard map in Japan is not fully utilized although its accuracy has been improved from recent water damage cases such as the flood disaster of Toga River in Kobe City on July 28, 2008, and the heavy rainfall in West Japan last year. Our awareness of the importance of hazard maps must be improved. Even in the event of an earthquake, it is necessary to devise ways to prevent death and injury at each home. For example, when making furniture replacement, I keep in mind that I buy the ones made with soft materials. It is necessary to have the habit of accumulating knowledge and technology on a daily basis and preparing for disasters.



○Lecture by Mr. Nobuo Murai, General Secretary of Sendai YMCA

Immediately after the disaster, all YMCA staff were overwhelmed, but at such times, it was the support and assistance of the Y's Men from all over the country that gave us energy. From there, Sendai YMCA was able to stand up. I cannot forget that feeling even now.



◆Lecture by Mr. Hisao Mitsunaga, Liaison Officer to the Y's Men, National Council of YMCAs of Japan

As activities by Y's Men, in order to make it easier for evacuees to live in the gymnasium that has become a refuge, we made a partition with a curtain. This power was wonderful; you can only find it in Y's dom.
 Mr. Mitsunaga also conveyed sincere thanks of General Secretary of Hiroshima YMCA by reading his letter of appreciation on his behalf for the support to the relief assistance at the time of the heavy rainfall disaster in West Japan last year.

IPAP Night (Dinner hosted by Immediate Past Asia Pacific Area President)

◆Muneyuki Sato's mini-concert

As an opening act, Muneyuki Sato's mini-concert was held. He sang six songs including “Aoba Castle Love Song”, which is the most famous song by him, and the audience was intoxicated by the warm singing voice full of love for Sendai and Tohoku. While saying “I want you to understand the truth rather than seeing the reality when you go to the afflicted area”, he continued to sing “Flowers Will Bloom”, which is a Tohoku support song, and “Let's Put a Rainbow” in the encore. The upsurge has reached a high tide.



○The Bon festival dance

The Bon festival dance was unfolded on the stage to have overseas participants experience a Japanese tradition first hand. At the invitation of the Y's Menettes of the Hokuto District, the dance wheel spread immediately throughout the venue.

