

# The 1st Yao City Foreign Residents' Council Meeting in FY2023

## [Minutes Summary]

Date & Time: Monday, November 13, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Conference Room 603, 6th Floor, Main Building, Yao City Hall

Council Members in Attendance: NONAKA Monica, KUWANA Megumi, ZU Yan Ting, I Cyanjye,  
Jeremy CARLSON, KIYOHARA Sachiko, PAKU Yanghaeng, OU  
Suichin, YAMAUCHI Masayuki (titles omitted)

Secretariat Members (Human Rights Policy Division):

Mr. NAKANO, General Manager (left the meeting early); Mr.  
MIYAZAKI, Manager; Mr. SAKATA, Asst. Manager; Mr. TOMITA,  
Group Chief; Ms. KISHIMOTO

### 1. Opening

### 2. Presentation of the Letter of Appointment

### 3. Self-introduction of Council Members

### 4. Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Committee member Nonaka was elected as chairperson. Committee member Kuwana was elected as vice chairperson.

### 5. Disclosure of the council meetings

It was resolved that the Yao City Foreign Residents' Council meetings and materials and minutes related thereto would in principle be open to the public.

### 6. How to proceed with the council meetings

A member of the Secretariat explained [Document 3](#). The Council members will meet twice each fiscal year.

The meetings are designed to monitor progress of the Yao City Plan to Promote a Multicultural Society and to exchange opinions about the projects undertaken by the City.

### 7. Yao City's policies to promote a multicultural society

A member of the Secretariat explained [Document 4](#) and the Yao City Second-Term Plan to Promote a Multicultural Society.

### 8. Report on achievements in fiscal 2022 related to the Yao City Plan to Promote a Multicultural Society (Basic Goal 1)

A member of the Secretariat explained [Document 5](#).

<Questions, etc.>

- I think the divisions that gave a rating of B, C or D should describe the reasons for not giving an A rating in the "Reason for classification and evaluation" column.  
⇒ (Secretariat) We will ask each division to include such information from the next year onward.
- Nos. 25 and 29 are classified under "(2) The project was implemented targeting (on the theme of) citizens including foreigners," but actually they target only Japanese who were left behind in China after the war. So, they should be classified under "(1) The project was implemented targeting (on the theme of) foreigners," shouldn't they?  
⇒ (Secretariat) I suppose they are classified under (2), because they target all people with foreign roots. We will check with the division in charge next fiscal year.

### **9. Opinion exchange—Topic**

A member of the Secretariat explained Document 6.

<Opinion exchange>

- The content of the information distributed is very good, so I want more people to know about it.
- I think it is easy to understand because it is distributed with images.
- I have heard that foreign people can recognize hiragana characters most easily. You distribute information using easy Japanese, so I think you should distribute information in hiragana first.
- The mainstream messaging app is Wechat in China and Zalo in Vietnam, and few people use LINE there.
- Many Japanese people use LINE, so I think many foreign people started using LINE after coming to Japan.
- Some people do not want to register a LINE account because they do not want to receive notifications. I think there are many people who are just browsing.
- In China, Facebook is blocked, so few people use it. On the other hand, many people in Vietnam and Myanmar use Facebook.
- The younger generation uses Tiktok instead of Facebook, but I think people who want to receive information from Yao City will register a LINE or Facebook account.
- To increase the number of registrants, it would be a good idea to encourage key persons in the Vietnamese and Chinese communities to spread the word about Yao-Garu. Considering the characteristics of Facebook, we would like people with many friends to register.
- Just distributing or placing leaflets in racks is not very effective. In order to increase the number of registrants, support should be provided to help people complete the registration process on the spot.
- How about promoting Yao-Garu at events in which foreign citizens gather, such as those held at the Yao International Center and "Yayusai" Festival, and at places such as churches and schools? I think you should display the QR code at event venues, etc. to encourage registration.
- Like many companies do, you should offer a special benefit, such as LINE stamps, to people who have registered.
- I believe leaflets about consultation services for foreign residents are distributed at the Citizens

Division. Why not distribute flyers about "Yao-Garu" together with them?

- For foreign children who directly transfer to local schools and their guardians, we arrange an interpreter on their first visit to the City Hall to explain various matters. We can ask the interpreter to introduce "Yao-Garu" at that time.
- Perhaps it would be a good idea to publicize Yao-Garu in parents' meetings at schools which use the additional teacher allocation system.
- I don't think the leaflet has an impact on foreign citizens because it has too much Japanese in it.
- How about printing national flag illustrations on the leaflet? I think people would be interested in the leaflet if the flag of their home country is on it.
- In China, there have been many scams that trick users into scanning QR codes to steal personal information. It should be emphasized more that Yao-Garu is issued by Yao City to communicate that it is safe.
- If you can do surveys through LINE, I think you can obtain some hints from registrants on how to increase the number of registrants.

#### **10. Other**

The next council meeting will be held sometime between February and March 2024. A member of the Secretariat explained that an email would be sent in January 2024 to adjust the schedule.

#### **11. Closing**