

The 25th “Day of the African Child” in Kumamoto”
~ for our common future ~

The Kumamoto Association for UNICEF, since its foundation a quarter of a century ago, has commemorated the “Day of the African Child”, initiated by the Organization of African Unity in 1991, with the understanding that UNICEF’s work is most needed by African children. This year, we are honoured to have H.E, Mr. S.J.K. Parker-Allotey, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Ghana, the first sub-Saharan nation to gain independence from colonial rule.

We had thought Africa was a distant continent, however, as we commemorate the Day every year, we have come to feel that Africa and Japan have become closer. In addition, the Internet has made the world smaller and different, and interdependence has become greater. We will organize the “Day of the African Child” event, again this year, with the hope of providing an opportunity for the young people of Africa and Kumamoto, who will bear the next generation, to learn about each other’s cultures and histories, deepen their understanding, and build people-to-people networks. We are proud to mention here that over 1,000 African students have participated in the events held over the past 25 years.

We also hope that the event will give the participants a chance to think about sustainable development, health, education and other issues UNICEF has been promoting and contribute to the future shared by both African and Japanese young people.

Organizer: Executive Committee of the 25th “Day of the African Child” in Kumamoto

Dates: Friday, 7 July – Sunday, 9 July 2017

Tentative Programme:

Friday, 7 July:

- Trip to Minamata City to visit Minamata Disease Municipal Museum and related facilities
- Goodwill football match between African and Kumamoto student teams

Saturday, 8 July:

- Group sessions
- Opening ceremony
- Keynote speech by H.E. Ambassador S.J.K. Parker-Allotey of the Republic of Ghana
- Welcome get-together

Sunday, 9 July:

- Lecture and report from Group Sessions
- Symposium
- Plenary

Notes:

- ① The association wishes to offer this opportunity to African students from a wider range of universities and countries. However due to a restricted budget, please allow us to select applicants according to each individual situation.
- ② The association will generally arrange a homestay for participants.
- ③ The association will accept participation of children aged 5 and over, in principle.
- ④ The association will provide students with transportation expenses, accommodation and food during the event. Non-students will be required to cover half the cost of transportation expenses.
- ⑤ A cancellation fee will be incurred in the case of cancelling participation after booking air/train tickets.