



Japan Asia Africa Latin America Solidarity Committee (Japan AALA—JAALA)  
Dai33 Kyutei Bldg., 2-11-7 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN 160-0022  
Tel: (3) 5363-3470 Fax: (3) 3357-6255 E-Mail: [info@japan-aala.org](mailto:info@japan-aala.org) Homepage  
<http://www.japan-aala.org>

## **Chronology**

Japan AALA is a member organization of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO), which is an observer organization of the Summit Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement. The following is its brief history:

### **1. Movement launched for solidarity in Asia:**

Followed by the massive protest against the U.S. hydrogen bomb test explosion (March 1, 1954), the World Peace Conference was held in Stockholm (June, 1954). Participants in the conference from Asian countries decided to hold the Meeting of Asian Nations.

### **2. Establishment of Japan Asia Solidarity Committee (October 31, 1955):**

The Meeting of Asian Nations (April, 1955, New Delhi) called for the participation to the 1st World Conference against A & H Bombs (August 1955, Hiroshima) and decided to build an Asia Solidarity Committee in Asian countries in order to create solidarity among the peoples in the region based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence (mutual sovereignty and integrity respected, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference, equality and mutual benefits, and peaceful co-existence).

### **3. From Asia to Africa:**

The first Afro-Asian People's Conference held in Cairo (January 1958) decided to found a permanent organization, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) and designate Japan Asia Solidarity Committee as a member organization of the Secretariat. The Japan Asia Solidarity Committee changed its name to Japan Asia Africa Solidarity Committee (Japan AA).

### **4. The 1st Summit Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (March 1961)**

The Summit designated the AAPSO as its observer organization. Japan AA, as a

member organization of the AAPSO, also is qualified to be an observer organization of the Meeting.

#### 5. Pioneer role in Okinawan's struggles:

Okinawa AA was founded (March 1962). Japan AA and Okinawa AA jointly submitted to the 3rd congress of AAPSO (February 1963, Moshi, Tanzania) a proposal for a joint international action for Okinawa's return to Japan, which was unanimously adopted. After that, various events in solidarity with Okinawa took place, including nationwide marches both in Okinawa and mainland Japan, the on-sea rally (April 28) at 27 degrees north latitude joined by ships from Okinawa and the rest of Japan, as well as rallies in Hanoi, Beijing, and Pyongyang. In response to the nationwide struggle calling for Okinawa's return to Japan, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Johnson warned U.S. Ambassador to Japan Reischauer that within the next 20 years Okinawa would be the major colonial issue like Angola and Mozambique.

#### 6. From Asia and Africa to Asia, Africa, and Latin America:

Japan AA changed its name to Japan Asia Africa Latin America Solidarity Committee (Japan AALA) (April 1984) in order to place the struggle in Nicaragua as the frontline of the world peoples' struggles to defend the right to self-determination and to develop solidarity with Nicaraguan people

#### 7. Maintain independence:

For 55 years since its foundation, Japan AALA has opposed to interference of any big powers, such as the Soviet Union's aggression on Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan, as well as China's interference to peoples' struggle in other countries during its "Great Cultural Revolution" attack.

#### 8. Continued activities in solidarity with peoples in AALA and NAM:

Japan AALA has carried out many campaigns for solidarity with Algeria's liberation movement, the Vietnamese struggle against the U.S. war of aggression, the Chilean peoples struggle against Pinochet dictatorship, the Nicaraguan struggles against the US aggression, the South African struggle to abolish the apartheid. In particular it it strengthened fellowship with the Non-Aligned Movement to establish an international

peace of order based on the U.N. Charter and a new international economic order, as well as the Japanese people's struggles to create a nuclear-free, alliance-free nation.

#### 9. Participation to NAM Summit Meeting:

As a member organization of the AAPSO, Japan AALA has participated as an observer in the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th 16<sup>th</sup> and 17th NAM Summit, sending a delegation. In the 13th Summit and 16th ministerial conference, it was designated as its guest organization.

#### 10. The first international symposium on NAM in Japan:

In order to increase awareness of the Non-Aligned Movement among Japanese people, Japan AALA held an international symposium to discuss the NAM and its development (September 2001, Tokyo) on the occasion of the NAM's 40th anniversary. The event was participated in by panelists (Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Puerto Rico), guests from 18 ambassadors and diplomats from 15 embassies of non-aligned countries, as well as 500 Japanese people. Japanese participants said that they realized for the first time the importance of the non-aligned movement. Some foreign ambassadors expressed that they were encouraged to see such event took place in Japan.

#### 11. Fight against US military bases in Japan:

At the 12th NAM Summit, the Japan AALA distributed participants the movie titled, "Voice from Okinawa – Remove U.S. bases in Japan!" (in English, French, and Spanish). The resolution adopted on the last day of the Summit included the removal of foreign military bases.

#### 12. Commemoration of Bandung Conference:

Japan AALA was successful in holding the Commemorative Meeting for the 55th Anniversary of Asia Africa Conference in Bandung and its Founding (October 2010, Tokyo) The Commemorative Meeting of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, sponsored by Japan AALA had a great success with a main speech made by Mr. Tetsuzo Fuwa, Head of the Institute of Social Science (October 30th ,2010 in Tokyo).

#### 13. Participation in 16<sup>th</sup> NAM Summit:

Japan AALA's delegation (4 members) attended the 16<sup>th</sup> Summit Meeting of Non-Aligned Countries in August 2013 (Tehran, Iran). Our two documents, "The

Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and Reality of the U.S. Military Bases in Japan”, and “What Prospects will open by Abolishing the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty?” (Mr. Shii, Chairman of JCP) were distributed thereand received voices of surprise and Photo: the NAM delegation encouragement during our contacts with delegates.



#### 14. Campaign against Apartheid:

Japan AALA had continuously developed its vigorous activity toward abolition of Apartheid in South Africa. For the efforts Mr. Toshio Akiniwa, Council Representative of Japan AALA, was awarded the Oliver Tambo Prize by Mr. Zuma, President of the

Republic of South Africa(Oct. 2012)

Photo: Prize giving ceremony of Oliver Tambo Prize

#### 15. For a creation of Community of Peace in East Asia

On the occasion of 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bandung Conference and its foundation, Japan AALA sponsored an international symposium to discuss a creation of Community of Peace ,prosperity and Cooperation in Tokyo (May 2015) inviting panelists from China, South Korea, Indonesia and Vietnam with a great success. Following the agreement of the symposium, Japan AALA launched a national campaign for a petition to the leaders of East Asia Summit (EAS) to make an effort to create a Community of Peace in East Asia. More than 50 thousand signature had been collected and delivered to the government of chair countries in ASEAN which sponsored the EAS.

16. Japan AALA currently has 3,600 individual associates, 19 member organizations (covering 2.79 million members), and 41 prefectural chapters. It is funded by membership, donations, and its financial activities.

Council Representative: Setsuko Ariyoshi, Yasuhiro Tanaka, Manzo Yoshida

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