



ACTIVITY REPORT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

FROM 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2015  
TO 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2016

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE JAPAN  
(ISSJ)

Activity Report  
For Fiscal Year 2015

International Social Service Japan

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## **I. History of International Social Service Japan (ISSJ)**

ISSJ started providing intercountry adoption services in 1952 as Japan-U.S. Joint Committee for the Assistance of Orphans in order to help children who could not be raised by birth parents place in a home of adoptive parents of different nationality. After receiving recognition for these activities, ISSJ was formally established with the authorization of the Ministry of Health and Labor in 1959. Since then, the scope of our services has expanded in response to the changing welfare needs, and our professional social workers have been involved in a variety of international welfare activities in addition to intercountry adoption assistance.

1952: Inaugurated as Japan-U.S. Joint Committee for the Assistance of Orphans, began providing intercountry adoption assistance services

1955: Became a Japanese branch of International Social Service (ISS)

1959: Authorized by the Ministry of Health and Labor as a social welfare corporation, International Social Service Japan (ISSJ) was established

1979: Commissioned by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, started offering support services for refugees

1994: Established a partnership agreement with the Department of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines

2014: Commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, started assistance services for Parent-Child Visitation or Contact

## **ISSJ's Philosophy**

\*Our highest priority is to protect and serve the best interests of the child.

\*We are committed to providing services to all people in need of welfare services without regard to their language or ethnic background.

## **International Network**

World War I displaced millions of people from their home countries, causing family separations over national boundaries and turning many civilians into refugees.

International Social Service (ISS) was founded in 1924 to protect the welfare of such families and children displaced by the war. It acts as an advisory agency for the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, it has branches in 15 countries and correspondents in 110 countries. Working closely with ISS headquarters, its branches and correspondents, ISSJ provides social welfare assistance with cases involving more than one country.

Activity Report  
For Fiscal Year 2015

International Social Service Japan (ISSJ)  
Yaeko Otsuki  
President

This report contains highlights of the activities undertaken by ISSJ during the fiscal year starting April 1, 2015 and ending March 31, 2016.

Today, seventy years since the end of World War II, the majority of people in Japan are ignorant of the war. However, conflicts continue to break out across national borders all over the world and the majority of the victims are women and children. Along with the rise in the number of people forced to migrate, the challenges faced by them and their families are becoming ever more multi-faceted and complex. Correspondingly, ISSJ has been asked to provide consultation on many different kinds of issues, such as stateless children placed in child care institutions, family separations due to failed international marriages, difficulties for families of migrants and refugees in adjusting to life in Japan, and many others. ISSJ social workers remain committed to continue providing assistance for each client in the hope that our society can become more tolerant and accepting of different types of individuals and family situations.

ISSJ's activities in 2015 were funded by grants from many entities including JKA, Nippon Foundation, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Masonic Foundation of Japan, Community Chest, Nippon Foundation Yurikago Grant, Mitsubishi Foundation, Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Osaka Community Foundation, and by donations from corporate members such as Toyo Wharf & Warehouse Co., Ltd., Jissen Rinri and Mitsubishi Materials Corporation as well as many of its individual members. In addition, ISSJ received ongoing cooperation and assistance from the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, embassies and consulates of various countries, the Family Court, child guidance centers, baby homes, child care institutions, and many others. We would all sincerely like to thank all of you for the generous support of ISSJ.

## I. Assistance and Consultation

### 1. Adoption

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#### **Adoption in the Best Interest of Child**

Given our belief at ISSJ that it is best for children to be raised in a home environment, we provide adoption assistance to make this a reality for as many of them as possible.

Prospects are not good for some of the children living in baby homes and child care institutions to be cared for in a home environment. Child guidance centers place these children with foster parents in the hopes of eventual adoption. When these placements do not lead to adoption in the area of their jurisdiction, intercountry adoption is considered as an alternative option for securing family-based care for the child.

During this past year, child guidance centers in Japan continued to refer many children to ISSJ for intercountry adoption. ISSJ performs these services in accordance with the philosophy of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child and the 1993 Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. This means that we prioritize “domestic adoption” where the child and the prospective adoptive parents are all living in Japan in order to minimize the burden on the child.

#### **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

The Convention sets forth basic human rights of a child for the purposes of ensuring its right to life, survival and development particularly given its need for special protection and assistance. It describes in detail the rights of a child to be registered immediately after birth, to acquire a nationality, not to be separated from its parents, and many others. Japan ratified the UN Convention in 1994.

#### **The 1993 Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption**

The Convention seeks to ensure that intercountry adoptions are made in the child’s best interest in offering the advantages of growing up in a family environment. The basic principles of the Convention are to protect the child and its birth parents, as well as adoptive parents. It therefore requires, among many other items, that due consideration be given to the possibility of adoption in the child’s own country and that birth mother’s

consent be given only after the birth of her child. The Hague Convention has been ratified by more than 80 countries to date, but Japan has not ratified it yet.

### **Intercountry Adoption**

Intercountry adoption currently undertaken by ISSJ is the type of adoption between an adoptee and an adopter whose nationalities are different from each other. In Japan, intercountry adoption can be divided into three categories: (A) intercountry placement, (B) domestic placement, and (C) relative adoption \*See ISSJ's Intercountry Adoption Categories

Intercountry adoption must meet all the requirements under respective adoption laws of both the adopter and the adoptee. It is therefore necessary to carry out adoption procedures in accordance with the laws of both countries to ensure the status of the adopted child.

### **ISSJ's Intercountry Adoption Categories**

A (Intercountry Adoption)	A child residing in Japan is sent to a foreign country where the adopter lives and a petition for adoption is filed with the court in that country.
B (Domestic Adoption)	A child residing in Japan is adopted by foreign nationals also residing in Japan and a petition for adoption is filed with family court in Japan.
C (Relative Adoption)	A child residing outside Japan is sent to Japan, with the foreign adoption agency's consent to adoption by its relatives in Japan, and a petition for adoption is filed with family court in Japan

### **Post Adoption Support: Tracing Roots of Adoptees**

Adoption process does not always end with the matching of an adoptee and an adopter. It is often a lifetime process for adoptees, adopters, and birth parents. One very important aspect of this process involves tracing the roots of adoptees, that is to say, many adoptees have a strong desire to be reunited with their birth families. ISSJ respects these wishes as the adoptees' right and provides support as part of our post-adoption service. For this reason, we not only keep the records of all adoptions ISSJ has handled since our establishment in 1952 to the present, but also provide support in tracing the roots of those who were adopted through other agencies. In providing these services, we take special care in listening to the adoptees and other concerned persons so that we can respond to

their needs.

### **Relative Adoption where Japanese Spouse Adopts His/Her Foreign Spouse's Birth Child or Relative**

In the Philippines and Thailand, when a child from either of those countries is adopted by a foreign national, an approval for intercountry adoption from that country's Central Authority needs to be obtained. For many years, ISSJ had assisted with the approval application procedures with both countries' Central Authorities. However, in February 2015, the Intercountry Adoption Board of the Philippines (ICAB) notified ISSJ that they would no longer accept intercountry adoption applications from agencies not accredited by ICAB in and outside of the Philippines. As a result, ISSJ can now only provide information and no longer assists with the intercountry adoption approval application for submission to the Philippines' Central Authority.

On the other hand, we continue to provide assistance with the applications to the Central Authority in Thailand (Child Adoption Center) for approval of relative adoption where a Japanese national adopts his/her Thai spouse's child or a relative.

## **2. Assistance with Parent-Child Visitation or Contact in International Divorces and Marital Separations**

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### **Ensuring the Child's Right to Have Contact with His/Her Parent**

Parent-child visitation or contact allows a child and his/her parent to spend time with each other when they no longer live together due to divorce or marital separation. It ensures the child's right to maintain contact with his/her parent. The schedule and the manner of visitation are determined by agreement between both parents, conciliation through the family court or a court decree. Along with the increase in the number of international marriages and divorces, the cases where one parent takes a child to another country without the other parent's consent have also increased (international child abduction). The 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which prescribes an international cooperative framework to protect children wrongfully taken across national borders after international divorces and marital separations, was ratified by Japan in 2014 and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs became the Central Authority under the Convention.

### **The 1980 Hague Convention**

(The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction)

\*It prescribes an international cooperative framework for the expeditious return of a child to the country of his/her habitual residence as well as parent-child visitation or contact across national borders.

\*As of January 2016, 93 countries have ratified the Convention.

### **ISSJ's Assistance with Parent-Child Visitation or Contact**

ISSJ provides assistance with parent-child visitation or contact in international divorce and separation cases. We work closely with both parents to ensure successful visitation, such as liaising between the parents to work out the details of contact, conducting interviews with them, providing or suggesting a suitable venue, and having one of our social workers attend and observe the actual visitation or contact.

Since 2014, commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we have been assisting with parent-child visitation or contact through the Central Authorities of Japan and other Hague contracting countries. In doing so, ISSJ social workers work closely with the parents and their attorneys to reach agreement on the date and the method of visitation and also attend the arranged visitations (e.g., at a park or ISSJ's interview room) in order to provide support during the visitation. With international divorce cases, the language barrier and cultural differences often pose additional difficulties for the parent and the child to communicate with each other. In such cases, the ISSJ social worker acts as an interpreter, providing supplementary explanation about something the child might have difficulty explaining in detail.

In 2015, we experienced an increased demand for our services due to a rising number of domestic cases referred to us. While there are other agencies providing parent-child visitation or contact support but their procedures and methods are often different from ISSJ. Moreover, they are sometimes subject to geographic or service capacity limitations. Since ISSJ can cover cases all over Japan, we received a large number of inquiries from agencies subject to these limitations. We also received inquiries on international divorce cases that fall outside the 1980 Hague Convention. In all these cases, we try our best to ensure that the child can feel at ease spending time with his/her parent during visitation while respecting the wishes of both parents.



### **3. Assistance in Acquiring Nationality and Repatriation for Stateless Children**

#### **“What is Statelessness?”**

When a foreign woman gives birth to a child in Japan, reporting such birth to a municipal office in Japan will not bestow nationality on the child. His/her birth must also be reported to the embassy of the country of either the mother or the father in order for the child to obtain the nationality thereof. A stateless person is not recognized by any country as its national, which means he/she cannot obtain any official identification such as a passport. This poses a great challenge to his/her ability to progress in life, such as obtaining higher education, finding employment, opening a bank account, getting married, etc.

#### **Assistance in Acquiring Nationality and Repatriation**

Throughout 2015, ISSJ continued to assist in acquiring nationality for stateless children of foreign nationals placed in baby homes and child care institutions. There are many cases where foreign parents fail to notify their child's birth to their country's embassy or where their whereabouts are unknown. In such cases, the child guidance center, baby home, or the child care institution take on the responsibility of reporting the child's birth.

If the whereabouts of the foreign parents are known, a notification of their child's birth is accepted by submitting an affidavit stating the reason for their delay in reporting. If the whereabouts of the foreign parents are not known, we need to investigate the appropriate process, confirm if the parents had ever made an inquiry at the embassy, or apply for the foreign parents' certificates of nationality. Our objective is to have the embassy accept the notification of the child's birth.

If, after a child acquires a nationality, the child guidance center and the Immigration Bureau mutually determine that the child should be raised by his/her relatives abroad, we request the child welfare authorities of the country where the relatives will be receiving the child to conduct a home study. Once the home study is completed, we assist with the repatriation procedure such as selecting an escort to take the child to his/her relatives.

## **4. Casework Service for Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

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### **Refugees and Asylum Seekers Living in Japan**

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the largest number of people since World War II were displaced in 2015 from their homelands, most of them from Syria, Afghanistan, and Somalia: that number was 65.3 million, and this situation is referred to as the “refugee crisis” and became the international problem. Even Japan saw an increase in the number of refugees coming into the country, which has led to a greater social awareness of the plight of such people fleeing persecution in their countries on the basis of their race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. In 2015, a record number of 7,586 persons sought asylum in Japan. Asylum seekers in Japan have limited access to public support, and have to rely on support from individuals, family or community. Many suffer from depression or PTSD due to stress and trauma associated with their experiences of persecution, obstacles in adapting to a different culture, their prolonged detention and financial difficulties.

### **Settlement Support**

ISSJ provides social welfare support for refugees and asylum seekers. Our social workers visit detention centers, provide individual and family counseling, introduce medical institutions to uninsured asylum seekers, and facilitate school registration and attendance for their children. Beyond helping individuals in need, it is important to understand our mission of promoting social welfare. Keeping this in mind, our social workers carefully evaluate each person’s situation and provide support so that they can manage independent living.

ISSJ also supports refugee communities in Japan formed by refugees and asylum seekers with shared origins who live close and support each other. Examples include the Myanmar community in Shinjuku area, the Kurdish community in Saitama, and the Rohingya community in Gunma. Our social workers often visit these communities to assess the difficulties they face. After that, we provide them with information they need and liaise with relevant persons or organizations who can support them. These communities serve as a sanctuary for their respective members where they can share their own language and culture. However, if they become isolated from the rest of the Japanese society, it cuts off their chances of becoming acclimated. Therefore, ISSJ’s objective is to

enable them to manage living in Japan on their own and become a productive member of the Japanese society.

### **Counseling at Detention Center**

Those seeking refugee status can be detained at an immigration detention center unless they receive a special permission to stay or a provisional stay permit from the Immigration Bureau. There is no clear guidance on the duration of such detention, which can sometimes last more than a year. After applying for refugee status, a few can get a provisional release to leave the detention center. However, they have to report to the Immigration Bureau every one to three months, and there is always a possibility for them to be detained again.

Many of the asylum seekers suffer from high levels of stress as a result of their experiences of fleeing persecution in their countries and develop further health issues, both mental and physical, as their detention is prolonged. These stresses often manifest in physical symptoms such as headaches, stomachaches, high blood pressure, insomnia, constipation, diarrhea, and vomiting.

ISSJ, commissioned by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), provides counseling to those applying for refugee status in Japan. On a monthly basis throughout 2015, we visited the Eastern Japan Immigration Center in Ushiku, Ibaraki prefecture and the Tokyo Immigration Center in Shinagawa, Tokyo. On average, we met with 6 to 7 persons per visit and provided counseling. During our sessions, we asked for their reasons for seeking asylum, the extent of their social resource in Japan, their family, and health condition. We pay careful attention to their many issues and consult professionals and medical specialists when necessary.

Even detainee's family and friends cannot often visit detention centers to see them for 30 minutes. Moreover, those detained upon arrival at the airport do not have any friends, and lack information about the legal system or life in Japan. These clients tell us that our visits provide them with necessary information and help reduce their stress. Living in detention is a harsh experience and we strive to support our clients in alleviating their stress and managing health.

## II. Cultivation of Human Resources · Research · Workshop through International Social Work

### 1. Cultivation of Human Resources through International Social Work (Program in Cambodia)

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9 years ago, ISSJ started offering an educational day-care center called “Phtea Nhor Nhim” in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. It is now operated out of “Hiroshima House” located at a Unarom temple north of Phnom Penh. We started this center in 2008 for children from underprivileged families or who live with monks at the temple.

Last year, five Cambodian staff members provided classes in literacy, health education, computer and English to approximately 60 children. After receiving the educational support at Hiroshima House, more than 60% of these children were able to attend public school. Children living on the street also come to our center. Only few children come to the center on a consistent basis, but we make daily preparations to receive anyone who wants to come back any time.

We have been working on registration procedure of this center as a local NGO under the name of “Pteah Nhor Nhim Organization”. However, this process has not been completed yet because of complications due to its activities being carried out in a temple. To obtain approval for NGO registration, the Cambodian staff at the center, with the help of student interns and Japanese residents in the area, have now completed a brochure and the website in English to promote awareness of its activities.

In fiscal year 2015, we received a grant from the Osaka Community Foundation and various forms of support from many individuals, companies, schools, and NGOs. To date, with the contributions from international donors, seven children from the center now live independently after graduating from vocational schools, two children have gone onto high school, and six children are now in junior high school. From fiscal year 2016, “NPO Hiroshima Cambodia Citizens Exchange Association”, the parent entity of “Hiroshima House”, will take over the center’s operation. “Hiroshima House” was originally built by people from Hiroshima as a place to learn through cultural interaction in pursuit of peace and reconstruction of Cambodia. We will continue to root for the success of this center for the sake of the children it serves and inspires. We are immensely grateful to all the people who have been involved in this program over the years.

## **2. Symposium on Promoting Family-Based Care**

In July 2015, with the support from the Mitsubishi Foundation, we hosted a symposium to discuss the results of research on recent legal developments in adoption. Prior to the symposium, we researched adoption literature and conducted interviews in order to ascertain legal frameworks in the Philippines, Korea, and China for adoption, both domestic and international. Thereafter on July 10, 2015, we held a symposium on “Promoting Family-Based Care: ensuring permanency of children in need of protection under the 1993 Hague Convention”.

This symposium took place at the House of Councilors’ Hall and was attended by approximately 70 people, including representatives from child care institutions, adoption agencies, and academia. The morning sessions featured a presentation by Ms. Michiko Hirata (Child Welfare Studies Professor at Izumi Junior College) on “Recent Trends in International Adoption and a joint presentation by Ms. Eunhwa Kang (Lecturer in the Healthcare and Welfare Department at Saitama Prefectural University for the Social Welfare of Children), Ms. Jin Jie (Professor at Taisho University in the Department of Human Studies and Social Welfare Studies), and Ocampos Stella (Social worker at ISSJ) on the results of the research entitled “The Ratification of the 1993 Hague Convention- How has adoption changed? Reports from Korea, China and the Philippines”.

In the afternoon, Ms. Laura Matinez-Mora, Chief Legal Officer of the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, gave a presentation on “Meaning of the 1993 Hague Convention Ratification and Risks for Non-Ratifying Countries”. The symposium concluded with a panel discussion with Mr. Akira Kawamatsu (Research Manager of the Children’s Rainbow Center) and Mr. Hirohito Suzuki (Professor at Chuo University, Faculty of Law) on “Promoting Family-Based Care”. Japan has not yet ratified the 1993 Hague Convention. At the symposium, presenters and participants exchanged views on how Japan can or should address the issue of adoption in order to promote family-based care of children in need of protection.

## **3. Field Research in Germany and Belgium on Refugee Protection**

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With a grant from the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, an ISSJ social worker went to Germany and Belgium to conduct research on refugee protection for 8 days in February. After the summer of 2015, a large number of refugees crossed the Mediterranean Sea in a desperate attempt to reach Europe in what is now referred as the “Refugee Crisis”. Most of them are Syrians escaping from prolonged civil war. Our research focused on

refugee protection policy in Europe, cooperation among EU member states, the function of refugee protection by local administration, and the role of civil society. We looked into the situation in Germany for the majority of our research except for the question on the level of cooperation within the EU, which was carried out in Belgium.

With more than one million refugees arriving in Germany in 2015, its government had to keep revising its own laws in order to cope with such influx and to expedite screening. Although the EU member states have been trying to address this situation collectively, their efforts continue to be hampered by opposing views and interests of each member state.

Refugees were welcomed at first in Germany, but as terrorist attacks in the neighboring countries as well as physical assault in Germany have continued, the public sentiment is gradually turning against them. Nevertheless, the government policy to promote swift integration of refugees into German society, such as providing support for language training and job training, are being implemented. Their goal is to prevent segregation and creation of a “parallel society” comprised of only the immigrants. What impressed us the most was the fact that the politicians and civilians discussed the problem concerning refugee seriously as it is their own social problem.

As an entity supporting the social adaptation of refugees and asylum seekers in Japan, our objective in undertaking this research was to learn from the experience of refugee acceptance policies and social integration support programs on the ground in Europe. We found that the social workers provide the refugee support especially in Germany and that the challenges they face in terms of public awareness and support methods were very similar to the difficulties we face.

#### List of places the social worker visited

- 21(Sun) Munich: temporary camp
- 22 (Mon) Nuremberg: BAMF, German Red Cross
- 23 (Tue) Berlin: FES Foundation
- 24 (Wed) Berlin: The Bundestag, German Red Cross Front Office, AWO refugee camp
- 25 (Thu) Brussels: UNHCR, EU committee
- 26 (Fri) Brussels: Symposium at Free University Brussels
- 27 (Sat) Brussels: Symposium at Free University Brussels
- 28 (Sun) Cologne: Interview to employer of refugees
- 29 (Mon) Paderborn: Caritas

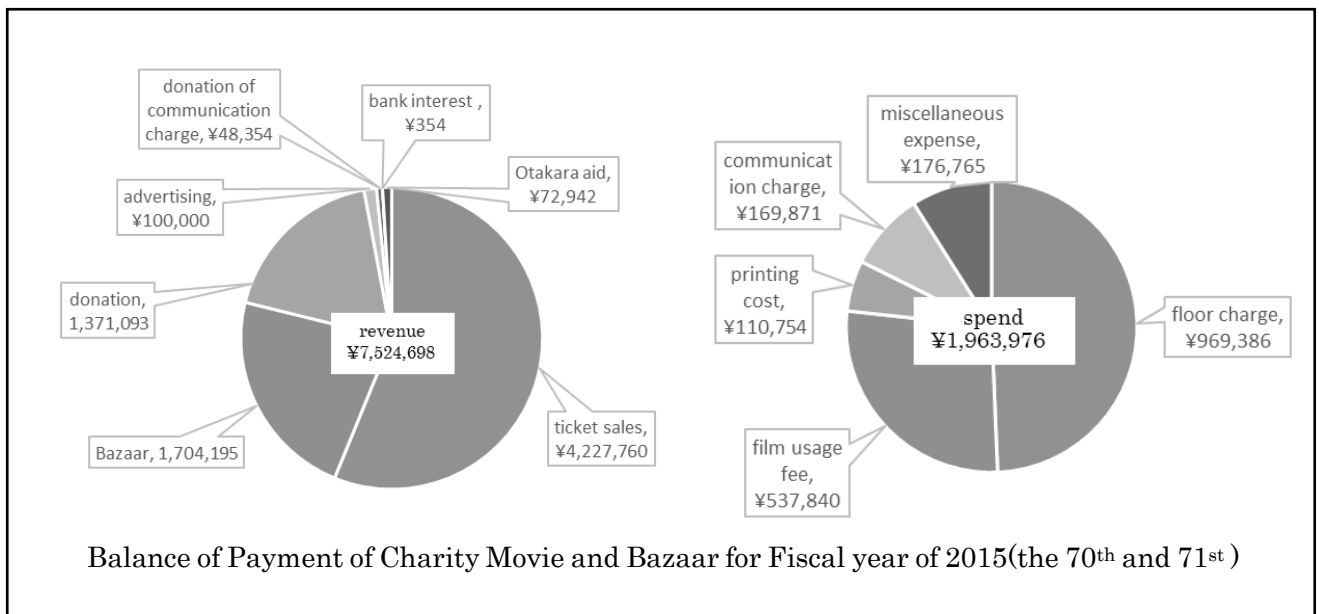
### III. Public Relations

#### 1. ISSJ Charity Movie and Bazaar

ISSJ held Charity Movie Festivals in June and October at Hitotsubashi Hall, Jinbocho for fundraising and to promote public awareness of ISSJ. ISSJ's event committee and volunteers worked hard to plan and organize these events. Volunteers came to ISSJ office every Friday for three months before the movie festival and made extensive preparations.

The featured films were "Philomena" about adoption at the June event and "Any Day Now" about a gay couple fighting a biased legal system to keep custody of the abandoned mentally handicapped child at the October event. Although attendance at these events continues to decline every year, the number of attendees were 1,244 in June and 905 in October. Both movies were well received by the participants who thought they were both thought-provoking.

For these events, many volunteers helped us both on the day before and the day of the event with the set-up, sales, and clean-up for the bazaar. In addition, many handcrafted items were donated. Gross earnings from ticket sales, bazaar, contributions and donation were ¥3,891,485 (June 2015) and ¥3,633,213 (October 2015), respectively, and they will be used for for the ISSJ's international welfare activities.



## **2. Charity Live**

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We held a live charity concert featuring Kotez & Yancy, a blues harp (harmonica) and piano duo, to raise money for refugee living in Japan. Children who attended danced freely to the music, and refugees who attended on our invitation seemed to enjoy the concert. The money raised from this event in the amount of ¥10,173 was utilized for refugees living in Japan. We appreciate your support.

## **3. A Redesigned Website**

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Our webpage, which was redesigned in Fiscal Year 2014, was translated into English and relaunched in Fiscal Year 2015.

## **4. Publication of Newsletter “Intercountry”**

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We published two issues of the newsletter “Intercountry” in 2015 to communicate updates on ISSJ social workers’ activities and information on upcoming events as well as educate the public on present status of child welfare in Japan. Our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue this past year we featured a special column containing a personal message from actress, Sahel Rose. We distributed 1500 copies of the “Intercountry” to organizations and individuals who help and support our activities.



## IV. DATA

### Casework Breakdown

Casework During Fiscal Year 2014	Number of Cases
Cases newly received during this year	455
Cases newly opened during this year	62
Cases re-opened during this year	9
Cases continued from previous year	452
Grand total of cases during this year	978

### Casework Breakdown by Main Categories

Subject	Number of Cases	Number of Counseling
Inter-country adoption/Foster care	384	1,989
Refugee support	353	1,624
Child abduction, Parent-child visitation or contact	31	428
Tracing and reunification	44	267
Counseling for international marriage/divorce	14	137
Birth registration, application for naturalization, acquirement of nationality	29	115
Status of residence	11	99
Medical/Mental health problems	20	39
Child abuse • neglect	7	42
Verification of paternity	4	13
Support for entering the work force	16	0
Institutionalization problem	5	3
Deportation	3	0
School attendance • education	1	0
Poverty • Livelihood subsidies	1	0
Providing of information, introducing of other organization	37	51

Subject	Number of Cases	Number of Counseling
Others	18	46
Total	978	4,853

### Organizations that Referred Clients to ISSJ

During this fiscal year there were 690 cases of newly accepted casework service.

The organizations that referred cases to our assistance are as follows:

Organizations which Referred Cases to ISSJ		Number of Cases
Foreign Government Offices/Embassies		76
Japanese Government Offices	Related Ministries-Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry, Ministry of Justice • Immigration Bureau	9
	Prefectures, Child Guidance Center, Health Center • the Metropolitan Police Department	19
	Municipals, Welfare Office, Health Center, Education Board	5
	Family Court, Municipal court	0
International organizations such as U.N, etc.		17
Educational institution • Civil group		14
Medical institutions		2
Bar Association, Japan Legal Support Center, Lawyers, judicial scrivener, administrative scrivener		8
ISS branches and correspondents		5
Friends/acquaintances/families/the person himself(or herself)		268
Others		32
Total		455

## Countries Involved in the Cases

The following 64 countries and area are involved in the cases during this fiscal year:

Afghanistan	Australia	Austria	Bangladesh
Benin	Belarus	Brazil	Cambodia
Cameroon	Canada	Chile	China
Colombia	Congo	Egypt	Ethiopia
France	Germany	Ghana	Guinea
Holland	India	Iran	Iraq
Italy	Japan	Kenia	Korea
Kosovo	Laos	Malaysia	Mari
Mongolia	Myanmar	Namibia	Nepal
Nigeria	Pakistan	Paraguay	Peru
Philippines	Republic of Côte d'Ivoire	Russia	Rwanda
Senegal	Singapore	Somalia	South Africa
Spain	Sri Lanka	Sudan	Sweden
Switzerland	Syria	Taiwan	Tanzania
Thailand	Tunisia	Turkey	U.K
U.S.A.	Uganda	Ukraine	Vietnam

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