Message from the Chairperson

It is my great pleasure to present to you once again the annual report of Peace Winds Japan (PWJ), summing up our activities during the last fiscal year, 2004. Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to you for the support and cooperation you have so kindly given to us.

2004 turned out to be a year in which we found ourselves forced to recognize the horror of large-scale earthquakes. Many people lost, in an instant, their lives, or the foundations of their lives, not only in Japan but also elsewhere in the world. I cannot forget the sight of victims of the Sumatra Earthquake, standing forlornly, at a complete loss, their families and homes washed away by the tidal waves at the end of last year.

While being acutely aware of human helplessness in the face of the forces of nature, PWJ exerted its maximum efforts to help the earthquake victims regain hope for the future as quickly as possible. PWJ also launched relief activities within Japan for the first time following the Niigata Chuuetsu Earthquake in October, 2004. We supplied and managed shelters for the victims, taking advantage of our abundant overseas experience. Although our contribution is tiny when compared with the colossal size of the disaster, it is our belief that many small efforts will combine together to create one great response.

During 2004, PWJ also expanded its relief activities in such areas as the Middle East, Africa and Asia, in addition to our work in the earthquake-stricken regions. At the same time, we stepped up our public relations activities to raise the interest of the general public in the need for relief efforts. Terrorism and attacks remain rampant in Iraq and Afghanistan. Safety has not been secured even for civilian aid organizations. While exercising the utmost care to ensure the safety of our staff members, PWJ is determined to continue its effort to deliver your support to these areas.

PWJ, which used to be described as a young organization, will, thanks to your assistance, celebrate its 10th anniversary in February 2006. It is my intention to carefully look back over our relief activities, carried out in areas of conflict in various parts of the world, since PWJ’s first operation began in Iraq. Based on this reflection, we will move forwards toward the realization of our aims with renewed determination. I am most grateful to you for your continued support.

Masaru Ishibashi
Chairperson, Peace Winds Japan

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Vision
A world where people can live with hope and respect, free from the threat of armed conflict and poverty.

Mission
To promptly provide emergency humanitarian relief to people whose lives are threatened by armed conflicts or natural disasters;
To implement reconstruction and development programs for the self-sustainability of people who have become destitute due to the collapse of social structures;
To pursue the prevention and resolution of conflict through field operations;
To provide information on the necessity of assistance to mobilize public interest;
To make recommendations for a more effective aid system and to pursue the realization of those.
The support activities of Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) in 2004 began and ended with earthquake relief. In addition to the relief effort in the aftermath of the earthquake in southeastern Iran, which we continued from the previous year, we had the Niigata Chubetsu Earthquake in October, followed by the earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean off Sumatra Island, Indonesia at the end of the year. Each was a test of our ability to respond with prompt action, and the quality of our expertise particularly in engineering and logistics. PWJ had refined these capabilities in its previous activities in conflict areas and we were able to utilize them fully in 2004 in our aid to quake-stricken areas. Currently, studies are underway, based on the experience gained in Niigata, on ways and means of tackling other anticipated domestic disasters such as an earthquake in the Tokai region. At the same time, PWJ has remained active in areas of conflict, beginning to work on the rebuilding of countries like Iraq, as well as West Africa and Afghanistan, while continuing to give full attention to the changing security situation in the area.

PWJ’s Initiative Among the Quickest in the World
It was during the afternoon of December 26, 2004 that PWJ received first word of the earthquake and tsunami off Sumatra Island. PWJ called an emergency meeting of managers that night and, although information was scarce due to breakdowns in communication, concluded that Nanungroe Aceh Darussalam Province (Aceh Province), near the earthquake epicenter, would most likely suffer catastrophic damage. PWJ decided to carry out emergency relief in this area, while many other Japanese NGOs focused their assistance on Sri Lanka, where tsunami damage had already been reported. As we learned more of the actual conditions, the number of deaths in Indonesia soared to over 100,000, proving that PWJ’s decision had been right. Two members of the international staff at our Tokyo office departed for Indonesia the next day. They entered Meulaboh on the west coast of Aceh Province and began to deliver medicines and foodstuffs to victims on January 1st. This was the quickest provision of assistance by any international organization to this region, which had been cut off by the tsunami. By mid-January, PWJ, utilizing chartered helicopters, small planes and many trucks, managed to deliver a massive quantity of relief aid weighing over 70 tons to the earthquake victims in Meulaboh. The establishment of this steady supply line was highly praised by other relief workers in the area.

Workshop on earthquake-safer design (Bam City, Iran)

Distribution of emergency relief items to the tsunami victims (environs of Meulaboh, Aceh Province)

After an earthquake hit the Niigata Chubetsu region, PWJ staff and volunteers left Tokyo very early the next morning and managed to reach the site of the disaster before noon that day despite severe conditions including closed and sunken roads. In collaboration with a leading supermarket company, PWJ was able to set up large emergency-shelter tents called “balloon shelters”, in the parking area of a supermarket in Oiya city, within 24 hours of the quake hitting the region. Over 150 victims, whose houses had collapsed or who were afraid of staying in their homes, utilized the balloon shelters from the first night they were set up.

Contribution by Engineers and Logistic Teams
Forty thousand people reportedly died in the earthquake that hit the southeastern part of Iran at the end of 2003. The fragile structure of the brick houses in the area aggravated the damage. To contribute to the reconstruction of the region, PWJ introduced a new method of building construction, which combined quake-resistant techniques with the traditional local form of building, in order to minimize future earthquake damage. PWJ’s team of engineers played the central role in this endeavor. The team held a “workshop to disseminate earthquake-safer design” in quake-stricken Bam, mainly for those who were engaged in construction work. It proved to be a great success and stirred much interest, having a big impact on the reconstruction work in the region. This can be seen in the fact that the model house selected by the Iran Housing Corporation adopted the PWJ-proposed quake-resistant construction method that strengthens the building structure by using concrete and iron reinforcing rods.

The engineer team also found a role for its expertise in Niigata. The balloon shelters, which the team had developed in collaboration with a leading textile manufacturer in 1999, were put to actual use in the past in such places as India and Afghanistan. However, this was the first time in which a balloon shelter was made available for people to “live in” for a period of many days. The engineer team adjusted the ventilation system to maintain the long-term shape of balloon, reinforced the tent to enable it to endure severe rains and strong winds, repaired it when needed, and did everything else necessary to deal with other problems that came up. Many quake victims expressed gratitude to the team members for their sincere, unrelenting efforts to help them.

Preparing for Large-scale Earthquakes
Learning from our experience at the time the Niigata Chubetsu Earthquake, PWJ is currently working on plans to formally launch a domestic disaster relief team in FY2005. Our attention is being focused in particular on a possible earthquake in the Tokai region (an area of Japan on the Pacific coast between Tokyo and
Osaka). It is reported that there is a high probability of an earthquake in this region in the near future and a forecasting system for it is working. Negotiations to finalize a relief agreement are underway between PWJ and Fukuroi City in Shizuoka Prefecture, where damage from a future Tokai Earthquake is expected to be severe and include the collapse of housing.

As a result of our worthwhile experience in Niigata, a number of needs have come to light that are different from our overseas activities. These include the organization of stand-by teams, training for staff, advance consultation with a variety of people concerned with earthquake relief, and the storage of relief supplies. Training on how to set up balloon shelters was conducted repeatedly and attended by almost all the members of our Tokyo office in December. We considered it necessary for as many staff members as possible to learn the structure of a balloon shelter and to master the basic technique of its installation, maintenance and withdrawal.

PWJ Continued Playing an Important Role in Conflict Areas

While making every effort to aid earthquake victims, PWJ expanded its activities in the other relief areas. In Liberia, PWJ began supporting the returning refugees who came back from nearby countries following the end of the civil war. Although the security situation was still unstable, two PWJ staff who used to work with Liberian refugees in Sierra Leone opened an office in Liberia and distributed construction tools, such as shovels and hatches, and roof materials. Since last fall, PWJ has developed its activities in response to the expansion of the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) program to encourage the return of Liberian refugees to their home country. The role of PWJ is expanding and it aims to advance the stabilization of the refugees’ lives in places where government functions have not completely recovered.

In Iraq, the insurgency continues. Three Japanese were taken hostage in April and a total of three Japanese were killed in May and October. Public opinion on whether to provide assistance for Iraq wavered considerably. In Iraq, rivalries intensified with an eye on the National Assembly elections at the end of January 2005 and the launch of the new Government. The situation remained tense. As top priority was placed on the safety of relief workers, the dispatch of PWJ’s international staff to the region had to be suspended for quite some time. Nonetheless, PWJ started new programs such as the support of Kurdish IDPs (internally displaced persons), who had been forced to leave their homeland by the Hussein regime. Delays in the restoration of government functions and an unstable society may lead to further worsening of the security situation. In Iraq too, given PWJ’s political neutrality, more and more will be expected of its contribution to reconstruction activities.

Republic of Indonesia

Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) has conducted relief operations in Indonesia since 1997 and has long been concerned with the situation in the troubled area of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Province (Aceh Province), located in the north of Sumatra Island. PWJ has attempted by various means to alleviate the tension over Aceh. Since April 2003, PWJ has been providing resettlement support in the Municipality of Boyolali in Central Java Province to refugees who previously transmigrated from Java Province to Aceh Province, but returned to Java because of the ongoing independence conflict in Aceh. Also, in FY2004, PWJ continued to provide support through local NGOs for increases in wages and the stabilization of life.

Entry of foreigners into Aceh was restricted before the Sumatra Earthquake and the Indian Ocean Tsunami in December 2004. Therefore, it was anticipated that, even if the damage caused by the earthquake proved to be enormous, it would be difficult for initial support from abroad to reach the disaster zone. However, PWJ had eight years of experience working in Indonesia, including approaches to problems surrounding Aceh, and it was in a position to acquire local information relatively easily. This allowed PWJ to provide immediate relief to Aceh when it was struck by the Sumatra Earthquake and the Indian Ocean Tsunami.

The first part of Aceh where PWJ provided support was Mualaboah and the surrounding area, located on the west coast. This area suffered catastrophic damage and was isolated from other areas in Aceh. PWJ established a supplies procurement base in Medan, the capital of North Sumatra Province, and in January alone delivered and distributed over 70 tons of emergency relief supplies including water, food and medicine.

From mid-January, PWJ started support operations after establishing a base in Banda Aceh, the capital of Aceh Province. In Lombok, the site of the city, located 2.5km inland from the coast, partially or completely collapsed houses, together with rubble and mud carried inland by the tsunami, prevented evacuees returning home. PWJ began providing resettlement support so that residents who had evacuated to refuges and relatives’ homes could return to their homes as soon as possible. PWJ provided the tools for residents to carry out rubble removal work in their own communities. Because most residents had lost their jobs as a result of the tsunami, wages for the clearing work became a valuable source of income and helped them purchase everyday living essentials. Moreover, the physical activity alleviated post-trauma trauma and helped people focus on the future. PWJ’s support in Aceh has continued through and since February, shifting from emergency relief to assistance for recovery and restoration.

Beyond that, PWJ has maintained community empowerment (capacity building) operations in Sorong (Papua Province) in the east of Indonesia, which started in 1997. In addition to providing farm tools to local farmers and instruction in organic farming, this program offered support to a local NGO.
The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

East Timor gained its independence in 2002. However, its road to economic independence is still uncertain. Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) has continued its assistance in East Timor since the plebiscite in 1999. In particular, since 2003, PWJ has focused on improving the quality of coffee cultivated in Letefoho County, Ermera District, in order to support the economic self-sustainability of coffee producers. In FY2004, PWJ implemented a community support program, emphasizing the increase of yields, diversification of crops and the establishment of a producers’ association.

Currently, coffee is East Timor’s primary export product with the highlands of Letefoho being suitable for growing coffee. However, technical assistance by PWJ was important because, due to a lack of contact with international markets, the producers were not versed in the refining techniques that meet the preferences of consumers in countries such as Japan. In FY2004, the number of participating farmers increased from 35 to 135, and the production volume reached 20 tons, which was eight times greater than the 2.5 tons of the first year. Coffee beans are purchased by PWJ as a fair trade product at a fair price, so the income of participating farmers is increasing. In Japan, the coffee quality has received high ratings from experts.

In addition to the technical assistance for coffee refining techniques, PWJ has initiated support for farm management. In March 2004, a coffee expert was invited from Japan to conduct workshops. After the October harvest, full-scale technical assistance for farm management during the coffee off-season was provided. This included trimming of coffee plant branches, collar pruning that involves the cutting of old trunks to encourage the growth of new branches, weeding, and raising of coffee seedlings. PWJ’s support currently covers all processes ranging from coffee cultivation to harvesting, refining, exporting and marketing.

Farming support aims to improve the current situation whereby most of the income gained by coffee production is used to purchase food. A “model farm” was established for the purpose of conducting experimental vegetable cultivation. Despite the severe soil and environmental conditions, good results are gradually being achieved with an improvement in the soil, as well as the production of organic compost from coffee fruit shells and the preparation of an annual cultivation plan. In October 2004, a farming workshop was held to discuss the activities carried out on the model farm over the past year. This provided a learning opportunity for a number of farmers.

Having supported the formation of a coffee producers’ association, “Café Tatalalozi”, in 2003, PWJ plans to work to further consolidate the organization and train its personnel, so that the association can become independent and the coffee producers can develop the skills to improve their lives through their own efforts.

“Tatalalozi” means the highest mountain peak. PWJ and the producers chose this name for the association to encourage production of the highest quality coffee in East Timor.

In Mongolia, the issue of street children in Mongolia emerged amidst the social confusion that followed the collapse of the socialist economy. The situation is said to have improved somewhat, due to support from international NGOs, however, in the urban areas, there is an unrelenting influx of people from rural areas, unemployment rates remain high, and poverty is growing. There are families living on the streets and children wandering from one support facility to the next. The collapse of the economy has meant the Mongolian Government is unable to support these socially vulnerable children and families.

In response to this situation, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) has operated refuges in Ulaanbaatar for street children and the children of poor families, under the name “Khot Ail” since 1997. In FY2004, a total of 72 children lived in two Khot Ails while attending schools and vocational training facilities. In addition, social workers are investigating the situations of the children’s families and supporting them so that they can return to their families.

In Mongolia, poverty and poor family environments are preventing many children from attending schools. Furthermore, in order for child drop-outs to return to school, they must take supplementary classes and pass an examination for admission as a transfer student. PWJ has conducted non-formal primary education classes in four localities, including the so-called “garbage hill”, an impoverished district in the city of Erdenet. In Ulaanbaatar, PWJ conducted non-formal education classes for children who were hospitalized for long periods in the tuberculosis ward of the National Research Center for Infectious Disease.

In FY2004, in addition to support in the urban areas, PWJ also endeavored to alleviate regional disparities by providing support to rural areas. It distributed 50 mimeographs to a total of 16 schools with little or no electricity in Omnogovi Province and Dundgovi Province in southern Mongolia, and trained teachers to use them. Until now, in schools without copying machines or with copying machines but no electricity, teachers could not create distributable teaching materials such as homework or test papers, which hindered children’s ability to learn. Use of mimeographs means that teaching materials can easily be created for such subjects as Mongolian language, arithmetic, art, and traditional Mongolian characters (written vertically), with further unlimited applications possible.

At the same time, the psychological counseling activity that had been conducted by PWJ in a juvenile reformatory center in Ulaanbaatar was transferred to the Ministry of Justice of Mongolia at the end of 2004. From now on, the counseling activities, which have been highly praised for their great effectiveness in the social rehabilitation of juveniles, will be conducted by the government.

Khot Ail children enjoying summer camp
Teachers being trained to use mimeographs
A young carpentry job trainee working hard to become independent in the future

Total number of staff: 31
International staff: 1
Local staff: 30

Older people living in Ulaanbaatar

Total number of staff: 21
International staff: 2
Local staff: 19

Preprocessing coffee fruit just after harvesting
PWJ staff researching the growth of crops on the model farm
Shipment of coffee after refining (parchment)
Republic of Sierra Leone

The activities of Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) in FY 2004 can be summarized in terms of two major projects. Management of the two Liberian refugee camps, which have been in existence since 2001, and assistance for the rehabilitation of Sierra Leonean returnees resettled in the Kono District.

The population of Liberians living in the two camps, Bandajuma and Jimmi-Bagbo, totaled 10,513 (as of December 2004). PWJ has built facilities including homes, schools, roads, and recreation centers in the camps to provide as much comfort as possible to the residents. Various other forms of support were also given, including water supply, better hygiene and education, and the distribution of everyday supplies. Following Liberia's stabilization, the influx of new refugees has ceased, while those already in camps have started returning to their homeland. PWJ has assisted with the registration and repatriation of the returnees. Although the speed of the repatriation was slower than initially expected, there is an air of cheerfulness in the camps. "There is no place like home" has become the favorite phrase for these people.

In the Kono District, on the other hand, PWJ continues its activities to facilitate the permanent settlement of the returned villagers. Among those activities, PWJ put most effort into the drilling of wells and the construction of a gravity-driven water supply system.

A total of 22 wells in nine districts, mainly in the northern part of the country, have been drilled. The success of the drilling in Kamondo Village, where the construction of the well was most arduous, became a particular focus of attention, and helped to strengthen people's trust in PWJ. As Kamondo is located far from a water source, the villagers needed to walk nearly an hour to draw water in the dry season. For that reason it was said that no one from other villages would come to marry anyone in Kamondo. The villagers celebrated with dances of joy when the well was completed.

The gravity water supply system can supply water to eight villages in the southern area of Kono, by utilizing the undulation of the land and the setting of a sluice gate at a water source located in higher land. This project had originally been undertaken by another organization, but was interrupted by the worsening of the civil war. PWJ relaunched the project in November 2004, aiming for completion in the latter half of 2005.

In areas without schools, PWJ provided non-formal education. PWJ also furnished villagers with construction materials for building schools, as well as teaching materials, furniture and stationery to enable them to hold their own non-formal classes. About 1,000 students were able to receive an education.

Signs of rehabilitation can be seen in Koidu, the center of Kono, but more time is still required for other villages, far away from the center, to recover from the devastation caused by the long war. In 2005, PWJ will continue to manage the refugee camps that are expected to be closed in 2006, and to provide assistance to the returnees in the Kono District, by responding to their changing needs, as Sierra Leone shifts from a state of emergency to the reconstruction phase.

Liberia

In Liberia, civil strife had long continued, and people had fled their homeland and sought refuge in the neighboring countries. Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) has provided emergency relief to these people since 2001 by managing two refugee camps in neighboring Sierra Leone. However, in response to the repatriation of the refugees, it also began relief activities in Liberia itself.

In August 2003, a peace treaty was concluded between the Liberian Government and the anti-government forces, and the civil war was finally brought to an end. With the activities of the United Nations Peace Keeping Organizations (PKO), following the peace treaty, opportunities for the Liberian refugees and internally displaced Liberians to return to their homes improved. As PWJ already had a connection with Liberia through the assistance PWJ has provided to the Liberian refugees in Sierra Leone, it embarked in March 2004 on a support project in Liberia itself. This is the second location in Africa of PWJ activity.

In Lofa County, in the northwestern region of Liberia where 90% of the population had no choice but to evacuate, catastrophic destruction had occurred in most of the villages during the 14-year-long war. PWJ decided to establish its project in this region after carrying out three local investigations. The project aimed to facilitate the return of the refugees and the people internally displaced from Lofa, and to reconstruct the region as quickly as possible.

In early April 2004, construction of PWJ's office in Voinjama, the capital of Lofa County, began. PWJ set out to give assistance for the construction of houses, toilets and wells, and for the rebuilding of schools. In order to rebuild the community destroyed by the war, PWJ established a home re-building committee consisting of the village chief, female leaders, and leaders from younger generations. Prior to the starting of aid work, these residents initiated research into issues such as repatriation conditions, the structure of each family, and the landownership situation. For the construction of the houses, the residents themselves procured timbers for the frames, whilst building tools such as axes, shovels, and wheelbarrows, as well as zinc sheets for roofs were supplied by PWJ. Similarly, in the construction of wells and toilets, the villagers obtained the necessary materials, such as sand and gravel, on their own, and cooperated in the digging of holes, whilst PWJ provided cement, which is difficult to obtain. Holding responsibility for this work and helping one another in the construction activities strengthened the residents' awareness of themselves as members of the community.

In 2005, while continuing its project in Lofa County, PWJ plans to establish an additional office in Foya, a city situated close to the Sierra Leonean border. This office will start a house reconstruction program in the region, as well as building and managing a transit center (temporary accommodation center) for the Liberian returnees.
Republic of Iraq

Even after the end of the Iraq War in 2003, explosions, kidnappings and the seizing of foreigners have remained frequent in various areas of Iraq, and turmoil has continued. Since 1996, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) has supported the people of Iraq in the northern region of the country, mainly in the Kurdish Autonomous Region (KAR) and it continued to do so without interruption even during the war. In FY2004, local Iraqi staff took a leading role in emergency relief and assistance for rehabilitation.

In FY2004, PWJ conducted renovation or offered equipment to a total of 41 clinics, schools, waterworks, and other facilities. Restoration of hospitals in areas including Mosul and Kirkuk, where attacks have been widespread, was very effective in enabling medical care to local residents. Medicine and medical equipment were also supplied to meet the needs of hospitals in other areas. PWJ, with its experience of the "Socio-Medic" project that it has been carrying out since before the start of the Iraq War, gave comprehensive aid to internally displaced persons and to returnees. This aid combined supplying water and giving assistance to help people survive the winter, with medical care. In rural farming districts, the mobile clinic project was also continued.

PWJ's fundamental policy in providing medical assistance is to rebuild the local system of medical care to create an environment in which many people can share in the benefits of the system. However, in FY 2004, PWJ also provided special medical support for two individual Iraqi patients.

They were a seven-year-old boy and an 11 year-old girl, both of whom were found to have a serious congenital heart disease. At the end of August, they visited Japan to receive surgery and treatment, accompanied by their guardians and Iraqi physicians. Fortunately, in both cases, the surgery was successful, thanks to the support of the many people involved. The two children went back to their homes in a healthy condition, after enjoying a short stay in Japan. Upon returning to Iraq they appeared in a local television broadcast and built a bridge between Japan and the people of Iraq by speaking about how their surgery went and introducing the PWJ activities that center on medical care, as well as describing Japanese society as they saw it.

Additionally, in FY2004 PWJ also began maternal and child health care projects for mothers, pregnant women and midwives in seven villages in Barwarli Bala, Armediy District, Dohuk. A maternity health record book system was introduced, guidance on hygiene was given, and kits for delivering babies were supplied. This program was highly appraised by the local health department and contributed to raising people's awareness about the health of the whole community. The capacity building of health personnel and the dissemination of new knowledge about health in the local community, suggested to PWJ a new orientation in its relief activities.

PWJ continues to undertake its rehabilitation assistance work, with the objective of creating better living conditions for the Iraqi people.

Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, after the adoption of the new constitution in January 2004, the first democratic Presidential election in the country's history took place in October. Steady steps are being made towards reconstruction of the country. Nevertheless, rebuilding a country devastated by prolonged conflict and massive drought is by no means an easy job. Although incidents against international relief organization staff still occur, assistance from the international community remains imperative for the rebuilding of Afghanistan.

Under the above conditions, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) continued to work; in FY2004, on comprehensive development in the local community of Sarepubl Province, northern Afghanistan. It is striving to revitalize the local community by combining the provision of social infrastructure, assistance for farming, assistance for women, and aid for education.

In an infrastructure provision project, which forms the foundation of both daily life and industry, PWJ promoted the building of wells, water tanks and reservoirs, irrigation canals, and bridges. Assistance for securing the water supply will lead to a recovery in farming, the main occupation in Sarepubl. To support farming, PWJ continued to distribute wheat grains and fertilizers and, in addition, sent an agricultural expert from Japan to improve the agricultural skills of the local PWJ staff. Furthermore, a nursery project is under way, with the aim of supplying seedlings for fruit trees and other crops to farmers.

Many women lead difficult lives in a harsh environment as they have almost no chance to receive an education or take an active part in Afghan society. The situation is much worse in households where the husband has died or was injured in the long years of conflict, since the society rarely accepts women working outside their homes to support their families. In assisting such women, PWJ decided to choose poultry farming and sericulture, two ways that women can increase their income while staying at home. The women were given training at a poultry farm constructed by PWJ. Similarly, PWJ also built sericulture farms for the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Sericulture, for women to learn the techniques of silkworm culture.

In its educational support, PWJ began manufacturing desks and chairs for schools where the construction of the school buildings has been completed but which do not have adequate equipment.

In the summer of 2004, Afghanistan suffered a record drought. Many areas faced difficulty in accessing drinking water. In some areas, the population became internally displaced, and farm crops were seriously damaged. PWJ was engaged in an emergency water distribution program for a period of four months.

Moreover, to implement fundamental measures to prevent water shortages, a study of appropriate water resource usage has been carried out by PWJ staff since 2003. Its aim is to create optimal water resource use in Sarepubl Province. In FY2004, we made progress on the establishment of an investigation network and the collection of water resource data across nearly the whole region of Sarepubl.
Niigata

Niigata Chubetsu Earthquake — Emergency Relief

In providing emergency relief for the victims of the Niigata Chubetsu Earthquake, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) made full use of the expertise that it has developed in overseas operations that faced problems with security and the movement of supplies. This was the PWJ’s first emergency relief operation in Japan.

The PWJ relief team, which is used to operating in areas of conflict and disaster without secure telecommunications and electricity infrastructure, headed for the devastated area, with satellite telephones and power generators, on the evening of the earthquake. The staff remaining in Tokyo collected information concerning sinking and closed roads from the Internet and television reports, and communicated with the staff in transit via satellite telephones, to guide them to the disaster site.

From October 24, the day after the earthquake, PWJ established four sets of “balloon shelters” — large inflatable tents for emergency relief — in supermarket parking lots in Oiya City. The balloon shelters were set up using compressed air, so evacuees could lie down and sleep without fear of the shelter collapsing. They were well received among disaster victims who expressed anxieties such as, “I’m scared to stay indoors”, and, “I am worried about developing economy-class syndrome if I sleep in the car.” A maximum of 450 people took advantage of these shelters.

PWJ cooperated with a major distribution company that runs supermarkets to operate these evacuation areas and prepared hot meals using foodstuffs donated by the company. PWJ carried out registration of those using the shelters, making use of its experience in refugee camp operations, and endeavored to clarify victims’ family structures and the problems they faced. Also, representatives were elected from among the evacuees and meetings of the representatives were held to exchange information.

PWJ established an “information bulletin board”, and conducted medical consultations by medical staff. It also sent an engineer with first-class architectural qualifications to participate in temporary risk evaluation work for houses in the disaster area, in response to a call by the Niigata Society of Architects and Building Engineers.

The number of evacuees declined, following the lessening of aftershocks and the restoration of vital services such as water, electricity and gas, and PWJ withdrew all the shelters, and wrapped up its local support operations by November 10.

Domestic Disaster Relief Team on Alert when Earthquake News Breaks

PWJ’s creation of a framework for domestic disaster relief started with the establishment of the Domestic Disaster Task Force in 2003. Through relief operations carried out for the Niigata Chubetsu Earthquake in October 2004, PWJ finalized the idea of forming a team for domestic disaster relief. While preparing for a potential earthquake in the Tokai region, it has reaffirmed the principle of collecting and analyzing information immediately when an earthquake with the degree of upper five or higher on the Japanese earthquake scale occurs in Japan. PWJ will then launch a relief operation if necessary.

Islamic Republic of Iran

A massive earthquake struck Bam, a city located in southeastern Iran, on December 26 2003. On the day of the quake, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) decided to provide assistance and immediately sent its support team to Iran. In FY2004, emergency relief continued for the first part of the year, but after that PWJ’s activities were focused on the reconstruction of buildings and the diffusion of earthquake-resistant construction techniques.

In order to create an environment for children’s education, seven temporary school buildings were built using 38 containers. For each of the school buildings, these containers were arranged to create a courtyard with one end open, taking into account the local climate. The yard is covered by a roof, so that it can be used as a multi-purpose space. This space, which is shielded from strong direct sunlight, serves not only as a children’s playground but also as a test room and a school staff room.

Approximately 40,000 people are said to have lost their lives due to the quake, and 90% of the region’s residents have lost their homes. One of the causes of this damage was the fragile structure of the buildings. PWJ, in collaboration with the Housing Foundation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, held a workshop, aimed at local engineers, to disseminate earthquake-safer design. A technique presented at this workshop combined the existing “masonry structure” with the earthquake-safer method. This method was developed on the basis of PWJ’s experience in earthquake-safer design in India and Afghanistan, as well as by taking account of the local climate, culture, and the need for easy maintenance. This was the first attempt after the disaster to disseminate earthquake-safer design, and it attracted over 200 participants, including engineers, government officials, and members of business enterprises and NGOs. A model house for demonstrating the earthquake-safer technique was built during the workshop in cooperation with an NGO from India.

Following this event, PWJ constructed the model house at the exhibition site of the Housing Foundation upon their request. Approximately 20 model houses selected by the Foundation are exhibited at the site, and residents can receive loans to build their own homes if they choose one of these models. Many residents have shown a strong interest in PWJ’s model house which incorporates local traditions and customs. In November, a shaking table test was performed at this site with the cooperation of an NGO from Kobe, using a one-tenth scale model. Additionally, PWJ initiated the reconstruction of school buildings with a strengthened earthquake-safer structure using “compressed earth blocks”, based on a request from the Ministry of Education. The blocks are produced by a machine imported from India, using local earth, sand and cement. PWJ will continue its efforts to help earthquake-safer design take root in the region, so the city of Bam can protect itself against future earthquakes.
Strengthening Ourselves and Our Civil Society

The role of the Tokyo Office of Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is to support its domestic and overseas field staff. It is also responsible for attracting supporters and raising the funds necessary to maintain our relief activities. PWJ aims to develop itself as a responsible Non-Governmental Organization. At the same time, it works for the healthy growth of civil society, including PWJ itself, in which citizens share responsibility for the public good. PWJ carried out various activities during FY2004 towards the achievement of these aims.

Pursuing Accountability for Building Trust
PWJ believes that trust is the most important factor for an NGO that provides emergency relief. It is not possible to carry out our activities without the trust of beneficiaries. And without trust, it is not possible for our supporters to entrust PWJ with their donations. In order to build trust, PWJ places the utmost importance on accountability and the provision of accurate information.

Effective use of the Internet
PWJ has long given attention to the Internet because it enables us to reach a wide spectrum of people. PWJ now provides updated information on its activities and various programs promptly, through its homepage and email magazine. In the cases of the Niigata Chuetsu Earthquake and the Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami, PWJ supplied up-to-date information in both Japanese and English immediately following the events. Many people accessed this information.

Interactive feed-back sessions
The Tokyo Office of PWJ holds feed-back sessions, called "Afternoon Coffee" and "Evening Coffee", for the public every month. PWJ staff members who have recently returned from relief assignments abroad attend as speakers, while the audience listens over a cup of PWJ's fair trade coffee. A total of 260 people participated in these sessions in FY2004. These sessions, designed to inform the participants about PWJ's activities, have become a forum for communication among PWJ staff and supporters. In collaboration with the business sector, institutions and schools, PWJ also sponsored 53 lectures and presentations to report on PWJ activities.

School Projects in Japan
The future of Japan, as well as the world, depends on our children. PWJ wants children, who are open to new ideas, to learn about what is happening in the world and know that there are children who live in conflict and poverty but who still cling to hope. To achieve this aim, PWJ focuses on school children through its 'School Project'. Lecturers attend schools to present PWJ's international relief activities. Students on school field trips also visit the PWJ headquarters in Tokyo. PWJ was able to reach 2100 students from 44 schools during FY2004. PWJ staff explaining activities to children at the Tokyo office

Fund Raising for Continuous Support
What PWJ emphasizes most is the need for continuous support of those who have overcome an initial emergency but who are still struggling to become self-sustaining. To be able to help these people stand on their own feet, we require ongoing financial assistance through regular donations and membership fees.

Systems that facilitate donations
Emergency situations occur out of the blue. The Sumatra Earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami shocked Japanese people who were in vacation mode at the year's end. This was also the case with the earthquake in Iran that happened on the same day in 2003. By providing various ways of donating, including internet donations, which were introduced in 2004, PWJ was able to meet the wishes of those citizens who wanted to give their support for relief work in affected areas, even when financial institutions were closed. The funds donated enabled PWJ to carry out prompt and effective emergency relief activities.

Expansion of sales of fair-trade goods
Fair trade is a business practice in which products made in developing countries are purchased at fair prices to increase the income received by the producers. PWJ wants as many people as possible to enjoy participating in international relief activities by purchasing fair trade goods. For this purpose, in October 2004, PWJ upgraded its on-line 'Peace Winds Shop' where fair trade products including "Peace Coffee" (produced in East Timor and Guatemala), original T-shirts, and calendars, among other items, are sold. New products added to the website include goods made in areas where PWJ provides relief. A credit card payment system has also been introduced. The network of those who are interested in our international relief and fair trade activities has expanded considerably.

Widening the Network of Co-operation
The Tokyo Office of PWJ carried out a variety of co-operative activities in 2004 in collaboration with the business sector and various other organizations, and involving many supporters.

Earthquake-triggered co-operation
Co-operative projects expanded significantly after the Sumatra Earthquake and the Indian Ocean Tsunami. A restaurant chain covering the whole of Japan gave donations collected at its 1350 stores to PWJ. The number of companies and stores who collected donations has increased drastically. Internet search engines provided lists of links to emergency relief organizations such as PWJ. Major airline companies offered free tickets to those who left Japan in order to carry out emergency relief activities. A variety of companies and organizations co-operated with us in our international operation, each taking advantage of their respective strengths.

Joint effort to send stationery to Sierra Leone
In Sierra Leone, there is a severe shortage of stationery. Children use one or two pieces of paper repeatedly, keeping them in a plastic bag and erasing many times what they have written. Although PWJ normally procures goods for relief work in the affected

PWJ's fair trade coffee
A mug designed with a picture drawn by a refugee child from a PWJ activity site

Homepage providing up-to-date information promptly
Newsletters providing detailed information on PWJ activities
Article introducing PWJ staff (figaro Japan, 2/5, 2005)
area, in March 2004 it shipped 750 kg of stationery from Japan to Sierra Leone. This was made possible because various associations and businesses supplied a great quantity of pencils, notebooks and erasers, while an international express air company offered free transportation. Spurred on by a newspaper article reporting this activity, a local magazine publisher in Tokushima Prefecture has started to regularly donate part of their sales to support our work in Sierra Leone.

Medical treatment in Japan for Iraqi children
In cooperation with a medical organization, which has an interest in extending medical support to Iraq, PWJ invited two children from northern Iraq with serious heart disease to visit Japan. The purpose of this project was not only to provide the children with treatment for their heart disease, but also to increase enthusiasm among people in both Japan and Iraq for the reconstruction of medical services in Iraq. One of the children was a seven-year-old boy named Howker and the other was an 11-year-old girl named Madena. Both underwent surgery and received treatment at a hospital in Tokyo. Many PWJ’s volunteer workers looked after the children affectionately and played with them while they were in hospital and during their rehabilitation so that the children and their families would feel at ease. Both Howker and Madena made full recoveries and returned home to Iraq.

Citizen Advocacy and Participation
Japanese volunteers were taken hostage in Iraq in April 2004. At that time there was criticism of volunteers, with comments such as “Why did they dare go when the Japanese Government had issued a recommendation to Japanese citizens to leave Iraq?” At this time, we felt that the old Japanese idea, “whatever is important will be decided by those higher up than us” (i.e. by the government), still survives today. We believe that it is important for citizens to take part in decision-making and share responsibility for the public good. While PWJ’s first priority is the safety of its staff, we believe there are ways in which international relief work can be more effectively carried out by NGOs. This is the reason that PWJ continues to conduct its relief activities in places of conflict.

However, at the same time, there remains many problems in the environment that surrounds NGOs. In many cases, donations made to NGOs and NPOs by citizens and businesses to support their activities are not tax deductible.” Thus donations are not encouraged, limiting the growth of NGOs and NPOs.

*Out of Japan’s total of 20,350 NGOs and NPOs, only 29 can receive tax deduction benefit, as of January 2005.

The objective of PWJ is to play a unique role in the provision of relief to people in need, as well as to create a society that is led by its citizens. Based on that vision, PWJ continued to strive in 2004 to provide information through lectures and the mass media, to co-operate with local NGOs, and to help manage “Japan Platform”, an international aid system jointly organized by NGOs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, representatives of the business world, and others.
**Major Activities in FY2004** [Total number of beneficiaries: Approx. 1.55 million + 10,500 families]

**Iraq**
- Activities: Distribution of medicine, medical equipment and non-food items, Construction and renovation of public facilities including hospitals, and provision of equipment
- Location of Activity: Sukurmasin, Duhok, Erbil
- Beneficiaries: 12.2 million
- Assistance for EPIs and reimbus: Erbil
- Socio-Medic projects: Distribution of medicine, medical equipment and non-food items
- Mobile clinic: Sukurmasin, Duhok, Erbil
- Total: 12.2 million
- Development assistance: Distribution of medicine, medical equipment and non-food items
- Beneficiaries: 2,192
- Assistance for women: Provision of medical equipment and non-food items
- Aid: 4,319
- Assistance for mentally handicapped people: Erbil
- Total: 4,319

**Iran**
- Activities: Distribution of food, Distribution of non-food items, Management of camps for displaced people, Construction of temporary school buildings, Reconstruction of a school with earthquake-suffered design, Construction of model houses with earthquake-suffered design
- Location of Activity: Tehran City
- Beneficiaries: 2,458 families
- Assistance for earthquake victims in Bamiyan
- Total: 2,458 families

**Afghanistan**
- Activities: Emergency assistance, Reconstruction and development, Educational assistance, Study for appropriate water and design of new nursery project
- Water distribution: Kandahar Province
- Beneficiaries: Approx. 4,300
- Infrastructure improvement: Kabul Province
- Maintenance of irrigation canal: Kabul Province
- Embankment of women: Herat Province
- Protection of library: Herat Province
- Agricultural assistance: Kabul Province
- Establishment of nursery farm: Herat Province
- Provision of teaching materials: Kabul Province
- Assistance for children of poor families
- Support for children to return to school
- Total: 1,200 families

**Mongolia**
- Activities: Assistance for children of poor families, Empowerment of local NGOs, Social welfare, Community development
- Educational assistance for schools in rural areas
- America: Management of schools in Turkmenistan
- Community: Provision of schoolbooks
- Total: 500

**Indonesia**
- Activities: Emergency relief for earthquake victims, Distribution of emergency relief items, Assistance for women, Reestablishment of local NGOs and self-help groups
- Water distribution: Aceh Province
- Beneficiaries: Approx. 7,375
- Assistance for earthquake victims: Aceh Province
- Emergency relief for victims of tsunami in Aceh
- Total: 12 families

**Liberia**
- Activities: Shelter project, Hygiene promotion, Hygiene education, School renovation
- Location of Activity: Liberia
- Beneficiaries: 500
- Assistance for reintegration of returns
- Management of educational hub
- Total: 500

**Sierra Leone**
- Activities: Support for women
- Location of Activity: Sierra Leone
- Beneficiaries: 77
- Assistance for Liberian refugees
- Management of schools in Turkmenistan
- Total: 125 families

**Organizational Timeline**

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Income ($)
- Membership Fees: 288,789,800
- General Donations: 29,825,544
- Designated Donations: 79,468,965
- In-Kind Donations: 7,883,808
- Subsidies from Japanese Government: 31,385,735
- Grants from UN Agencies: 223,730,965
- Grants from Foundations: 587,020,701
- Partnership Program Income: 23,585,700
- Other Income: 3,224,056
- Miscellaneous Income: 2,257,411
- For-Profit Program Income: 55,628,733

Total Income in FY 2004: 1,649,031,747

Brought forward from FY 2003: 316,251,677

Total: 1,649,031,747

Expenditure ($)
- Iraq Program: 465,048,862
- Mongolia Program: 21,309,634
- Indonesia Program: 30,038,491
- East Timor Program: 24,210,930
- Sierra Leone Program: 138,624,317
- Afghanistan Program: 109,698,767
- China Program: 1,493,863
- Iran Program: 61,880,806
- Liberia Program: 205,621,683
- Program Unit Expenditure: 47,369,098
- Research: 9,733,444
- Advocacy & Fundraising: 42,780,415
- Disaster Response Program Japan: 3,130,091
- Tokyo HQ Running Costs: 109,894,298
- Others: 24,579,400
- For-Profit Program Expenditure: 55,834,631
- Total Expenditure in FY 2004: 1,343,351,874

Carried forward to FY 2005: 305,679,873

Total: 1,649,031,747

Breakdown of Designated Donations
- Iraq Program: 36,169,880
- Mongolia Program: 1,273,799
- Indonesia Program: 15,320,151
- East Timor Program: 21,648
- Sierra Leone Program: 2,181,622
- Afghanistan Program: 16,944,645
- Iran Program: 3,514,830
- Disaster Response Program Japan: 10,023,500

Major agencies from which PWJ received subsidies, grants, and partnership program income in FY 2004:
- Department for International Development (UK)
- Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- International Organization for Migration
- Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Japan Association for International Collaboration for Agriculture and Forestry
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Japan Platform
- Corporation of All Japan Ceremonial Occasion Mutual Aid Society
- The Japan International Cooperation Foundation
- Iwate Prefecture

Income brought forward from FY 2003 and Expenditure carried forward to FY 2005 include the unused portion of subsidies, grants, partnership program income.

Trends in Expenditure

Expenditure (Total: ¥1,649,031,747)
- For-Profit Program Expenditure: 19.3%
- Other Income: 6.7%
- Others: 6.1%
- Program Unit Expenditure: 5.5%
- Research: 5.3%
- Advocacy & Fundraising: 5.2%
- Disaster Response Program Japan: 5.2%
- Sierra Leone Program: 4.4%
- Japan Program: 3.8%
- Indonesia Program: 1.9%
- East Timor Program: 1.9%
- Afghanistan Program: 1.4%
- China Program: 0.1%
- Grants from UN Agencies: 1.3%
- Subsidies from Japanese Government: 1.4%
- In-Kind Donations: 0.5%
- Designated Donations: 4.8%
- General Donations: 1.8%
- Membership Fees: 17.5%

Expenditure (Total: ¥1,649,031,747)
- Carried forward to FY 2005: 18.5%
- Tokyo HQ Running Costs: 6.7%
- Japan Program: 27.7%
- Mongolia Program: 1.3%
- Program Unit Expenditure: 6.1%
- Research: 0.6%
- Advocacy & Fundraising: 0.6%
- Disaster Response Program Japan: 0.5%
- Sierra Leone Program: 1.9%
- East Timor Program: 1.9%
- Afghanistan Program: 6.4%
- Japan Program: 12.5%
- Iran Program: 3.8%
- China Program: 0.1%