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PERTUBUHAN ALUMNI ABAD KE 21
NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

REPORT
OF
**THE EVALUATION STUDY
OF THE YOUTH INVITATION
PROGRAMME**



Member of Asean Japan Friendship Association For The 21st Century (AJAFA 21)



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BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
15 FEBRUARY 1998

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the result of an *Evaluation Study of the Youth Invitation Programme* which has been initiated by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan. News of this study came to the attention of PERTAB - 21, Brunei Darussalam's ALUMNI Association on 2 December 1997 when the managing Director of The Office of Evaluation and Post Project Monitoring of JICA wrote to the President of PERTAB - 21 regarding their intention to conduct an overall evaluation of the Friendship Programme. PERTAB - 21 promptly responded and accepted the task.

The overall objective of the Evaluation Study as mentioned in its Terms of Reference is to "*Evaluate the Youth Invitation Programme with a view to evaluating the achievement and impacts of the project*". The more detailed aims as, stipulated in the Terms of Reference are:

- *To evaluate achievements and impacts of the Youth Invitation Programme in six (ASEAN countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand;*
- *To make suggestions for the program content*
- *To make suggestions for the alumni activities and JICA's support system*
- *To guide the general direction of the program in the future.*

The execution of Evaluation Study task commenced with the formation of a *Working Committee* on the part of PERTAB - 21 where various responsibilities had to be allocated to various members so that the overall tasks could be shouldered equally among the group. Several tasks were simultaneously launched or mobilised, in the hope that data compilation could be gathered quickly so as to meet prime target dates. The distribution of survey questionnaires were mobilised on 23 December 1997 and as the questionnaires were slowly returned by respondents, other tasks of compiling other information were undertaken by other committee members. Consultation with several agencies were undertaken to gather other relevant information such as international policy on friendship exchange programmes, the Department of Youth and Sports,

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, officers from the Ministry of Development and also ex-participants of the Youth Friendship Programme for the 21st Century. These tasks were pertinent insofar as compiling other information outside the scope of the questionnaire were required to fill in the gaps.

The approach of the study was to begin with an overview of the Youth Exchange Programme and the ALUMNI Association in Brunei Darussalam and slowly work its way to getting to know general information to more specific and more detailed elements of the Programme.

In *PART I*, an overview of the International Youth Exchange Programme in Brunei Darussalam is highlighted. In some way, the historical development of the Youth Exchange Programme as experienced by Brunei Darussalam is portrayed in this section, from its humble beginnings to its present status. The two types of Friendship Programme - ASEAN - Japan - is tabulated giving its readers some knowledge of its differences in its nature, purpose and country visited. The focus of this section is on the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century, explaining in some detail, its *modus operandi* - from who coordinates it to how the pre-departure orientation training is organised in Brunei Darussalam. An overview of PERTAB - 21, Brunei Darussalam's ALUMNI Association is also given, describing the history of its development, structure of its organisation and the activities that have so far been organised by the Association.

Part II of this report signifies the approach or methodology of the evaluation project. This section is also important for it gives its readers an insight into how the whole evaluation study is being undertaken and the methods and techniques that have been employed in making the assessment. The process of the evaluation project is detailed by using a flow diagram for easier comprehension. The formation of the Working Committee in undertaking the various tasks is detailed, complete with the Evaluation Committee Members' Records of Meetings. A simple Gantt Chart is used as a planning

guidance so that members do not lose track of what is required in this study. A weekly activity of the Committee is provided for reference.

The Outcome of the Survey is outlined in *Part III* of the report. Together with the Impact Evaluation, this is probably the crux of the study, from where all assessment and evaluation are based. Out of 623 ex-participants so far involved in the YFP for the 21st Century, only 360 questionnaires reached ex-participants due to reasons such as: ex-participants who work abroad, on study leave, having wrong addresses and lost contact / out of touch. Nevertheless some 101 participants have responded, which is good enough for evaluation (over 10% sample survey). The outcome of the survey may be summarised thus:

- A majority of respondents were sent / recommended by the government departments they work in;
- 62% of the respondents thought that the selection process is fair. Only 9% said it was not fair;
- Over half of the participants mentioned that they totally agreed that the reason for their participation in this programme is to visit Japan, make Japanese friends, are interested in international exchange programme and would like to improve their professional knowledge;
- Over half of the respondents thought that the programme was very beneficial to them
- The 3 most beneficial activities to respondents were observation tours, in-house seminars and the homestay;
- 93% of respondents thought that their impression of Japan have changed for the better or much better after joining in this programme
- About half of the respondents are still in touch with each other, either Japanese friends or Bruneian friends;
- About 60% thought that the promotion of international exchange is more important than to learn about professional knowledge

- Close to 70% thought that programs in local areas and regional cities should be increased;
- Over 60% of the respondents were still in touch with "Dear Friends"
- Only 16% of the respondents were still active in ALUMNI activities; 58% said that they were not participating at all; The two top reasons were that they had no information about the ALUMNI Association and were too busy;
- The top three activities recommended for ALUMNI Association were :international exchange activity with Japan, activities establishing network among members and an international exchange activity with ALUMNI Association of ASEAN

Part IV provides an analytical assessment of the impacts of the programme and assessed components on international understanding and promotion of friendship among ASEAN countries and between ASEAN countries and Japan and looked at how the international arena has been positive about youth exchanges of this nature. Impacts on individuals - their professional improvement and personal growth - are also looked at and finds remarkable positivity and developments in these aspects. Results of the questionnaires are also cross-referenced to support and strengthen the justification of these argument. Developments in PERTAB - 21 as a result of the YFP are also highlighted.

The final section, which is *Part V* provides a situational analysis, evaluation and final recommendations to some of the aspects that are looked at in previous parts of the report, namely Part III and Part IV. This section deals with specific analyses of the components of the analysis and assesses and evaluates these specific issues in greater detail. Again, cross references are made with other information in the other sections as to fortify the argument. The specific cases which are looked at are:

- *Procedure for nomination* of participants, which recommended for a better filtering system so as to produce better output of candidate participants in the YFP for the 21st century.

- ***Preparation for Participation in the Programme***, which highlights the possibility of centralising participants so as to obtain better commitment to attend the pre-departure activities and the need to be prepared to undertake the various activities in Japan.
- ***Sub-Program in Japan - Duration & Content***, which suggested for a review of the time duration and a review of the contents of the programme in Japan.
- ***The Continuity and Sustainability of YFP for the 21st Century for Brunei Darussalam***, which recommended for the continuity of such programme, for the sake of unity, brotherhood and friendship and recommended for the development of new areas such as Children Exchange Programme and Exchange of Women and Seniors.
- ***JICA's After-Care team Visit to Brunei Darussalam***, which praises their efforts
- ***ALUMNI activities in Brunei Darussalam***, which calls for pro-active involvement of many other ex-participants and planned for more ASEAN exchange and goodwill visits and more workshops / seminars in future.

AKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Working Committee for the Evaluation Study of the Youth Invitation Programme wish to express their thanks to all agencies and individuals who have helped and contributed, in one way or the other towards the study and ultimately the production of this report, namely

- The Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture of Youth and Sports
- The Ministry of Development
- Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Other Government Departments and Ministries
- Any other individuals involved.

Thank you

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AJAFA - 21	ASEAN - Japan Friendship Association for the 21st Century
ASEAN	Association Of South East Asian Nations
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
PAJAFA	Philippines ASEAN - Japan Friendship Association
PERTAB - 21	Pertubuhan Abad Ke-Dua Puloh Satu Brunei (Brunei 21st Century Friendship Association)
YFP	Youth Friendship Programme
YIP	Youth Invitation Programme

INTRODUCTION

This report is an Evaluation Study of the Youth Invitation Programme (YIP), specifically, the 21st Century Programme and is conducted as part of Japan International Cooperation Agency's (JICA) initiative to evaluate the Youth Invitation Programme so that activities of the programme may be improved in the future. To undertake this task, PERTAB 21 - the Brunei Alumni Association was approached by JICA. Subsequently, PERTAB 21's services were engaged to fully implement the evaluation study.

The overall objectives of the study , as stipulated under the Terms of Reference in *Appendix A* are as follows:

- To evaluate achievements and impacts of the YIP in six ASEAN countries, namely Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- To make suggestions for the program content
- To make suggestions for the alumni activities and JICA's support system;
- to guide the general direction of the program in the future.

The outcome of the evaluation study will be a report, that will be presented to the Executive Annual Council Meeting of AJAFA - 21 which has been scheduled to be held in Thailand in March 1998.

Structure of the Report

In the process of undertaking this study, the major focus has been made towards the analytical and evaluative components with a view to achieving the objectives. In doing so, a hierarchical structure has been adopted, so that the report may begin with a broad overview of the Youth Exchange Program and the ALUMNI Association of Brunei Darussalam and subsequently covers the analysis and evaluation aspects in much greater detail towards the end of the report. Therefore, this report has been formatted to cover various parts, hence:

- Part I: Youth Exchange Program and the ALUMNI Association - PERTAB21 - in Brunei Darussalam**
- PART II: Methodology of the Evaluation project**
- PART III: Outcome of Survey**
- PART IV: Analytical Assessment of the Impacts of the Program**
- PART V: Situational Analysis, Evaluation and Recommendations**
Conclusions

PART I

PART I:

Youth Exchange Program and the ALUMNI Association of Brunei Darussalam

1.1 Background

This section of the report aims to provide country-specific information on the Youth Exchange Program (YEP) as implemented in Brunei Darussalam, including the processes that have been practised in organising the whole program. This includes such activities as nomination of participants, pre-departure orientation training and its contents. An overview of the history, organisation and activities of PERTAB - 21, the Brunei Darussalam's ALUMNI Association shall also be highlighted to give readers an insight into their organisation and activities.

1.2 The International Youth Exchange Program In Brunei Darussalam - An Overview

In 1983, the Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone proposed for the formulation of *"The Friendship Programme for the 21st Century"*, which aims to deepen mutual understanding and foster the friendly relations towards the coming age of harmonious and cooperative relations between Japan and ASEAN countries, specifically among

both Japanese and ASEAN youth who shoulder the task of nation-building. The programme was inaugurated in 1984 and has since been in operation, reaching many countries of the Asia - Pacific.

Meanwhile, in Brunei Darussalam, 1984 was a great and significant year for it marked the birth of a new nation, an Independent Brunei Darussalam that was ready and prepared to face, not just the challenges of the closing years of the Twentieth Century but also the trying years of the Twenty - First century. Brunei Darussalam was in search of every opportunity that can contribute positively towards its nation-building efforts. The implementation of the *"The Friendship Programme for the 21st Century"* was seen as a positive move towards building formal ties between existing and established nations of the region and a new and independent nation such as ours. Brunei Darussalam was quick to respond to the invitation by the Japanese government to join this programme and acted promptly by sending 5 government officials as observers to this programme in 1984. They were to become the pioneers to this programme and upon their return reported on its positive outcome. Since then, a new era has been established whereby formal friendship ties in the form of youth exchange between Brunei Darussalam and Japan has operationalised.

Throughout the three phases of the programme: 1984 - 1988 (first phase), 1989 - 1993 (second phase) and 1994 - 1998 (phase three), Brunei Darussalam fully participated in this programme by sending youths to Japan, and also to other ASEAN countries in attendance of the Follow-up programmes such as the AJAFA-21 Meetings and / or the youth camp / youth forum activities. To date, a total 623 participants from Brunei Darussalam have participated in this programme. That does not include prospective participants for 1998. This is shown under Table 1 and graphically depicted under Figure 1, below.

Table 1: Number of Participants from Brunei Darussalam in Friendship Programme for the 21st Century. 1984 - 1997

Year	Number of Participants
1984	5
1985	30
1986	50
1987	49
1988	50
1989	49
1990	50
1991	43
1992	50
1993	48
1994	49
1995	50
1996	50
1997	50
Total	623

Number of Participants From Brunei Darussalam
Participating in the Friendship Programme for the 21st
Century
1984 - 1997

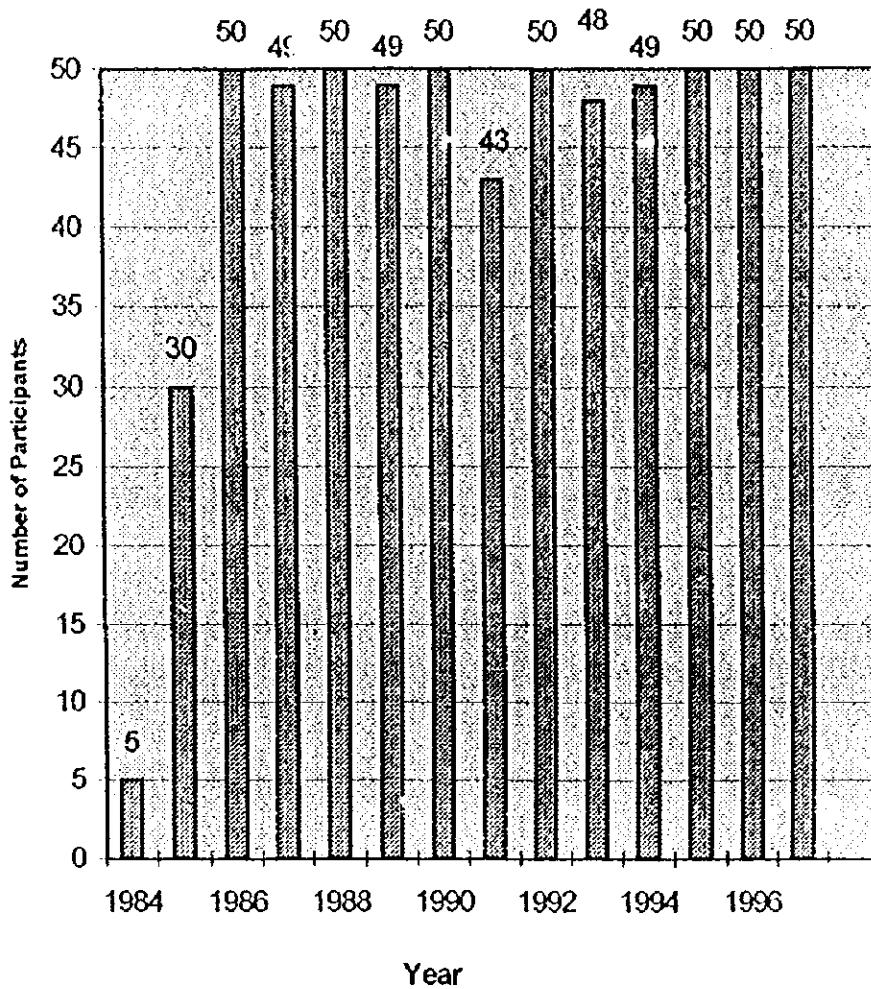


Figure 1: Number of Participants from Brunei Darussalam in Friendship Programme for the 21st Century. 1984 - 1997

Friendship Programmes between Brunei Darussalam and Japan has since evolved and are currently covered under two categories, namely :

Table 2: Types of Friendship Programme Brunei - Japan

Types of Programmes	Description	Nature	Country Visited
Friendship Programme for the 21 st Century (JICA as main coordinator)	Youth Exchange programme to deepen mutual understanding and foster friendly relations towards the coming age of harmonious and cooperative relations between Japan and ASEAN countries.	Social, cultural, professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan
Ship for the South East Asian Youth Programme (organised by Youth Affairs Administration, Management & Coordination Agency of Japan)	Similar as above, using the Nippon Maru Ship as the official carrier	Social, cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan • all ASEAN countries of the time

Another programme being organised by JICA is the international professional courses / seminar being attended by participants from many countries all over the world, including Brunei Darussalam. This is more of a professional programme aimed at developing and strengthening skills of professionals in various fields from Planning to agriculture and such like.

1.3 Friendship Programme For the 21st Century - *Modus Operandi*

Like in all the other ASEAN countries, Brunei Darussalam has followed a certain *mode of operation* in undertaking and implementing the Friendship programme for the 21st century. The general practise of implementation is probably similar, though differences do also exist in such areas as selection process, nomination and pre-departure orientation training. This report does not intend to list out these differences but shall highlight the main mode of operation as undertaken by Brunei Darussalam.

1.3.1 Main Coordination

The Friendship Programme for the 21st Century for Brunei Youths is implemented under the joint auspices of the Government of Japan under the Technical Cooperation and the Government of Brunei Darussalam. The Main Coordinating Arm of the Japanese Government for this programme has been *JICA*, who has played an important and significant role in addressing and achieving their goals to fruition. Brunei Darussalam on the other hand, has mandated the Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports to coordinate this task.

1.3.2 Quota Limits

Apart from the pioneer year of 1984 and 1985, a maximum quota of 50 participants have been set by *JICA*. As with the given quota in the other ASEAN countries, this quota is considered as proportional to the population of Brunei Darussalam.

1.3.3 Theme Categories

Participants have also been categorised to fall under several themes. The purpose is to segregate participants and ultimately group them into specialised professional areas, so that it will become easier for them to interact and exchange experiences among colleagues of similar professionalism. Since 1985, theme groupings have evolved into several categories, such as those stated under *Appendix 2*.

Brunei Darussalam has tried its best to comply with this requirement by sending participants having the appropriate professional background to attend the right theme category. This is pertinent in so far as building human capacity is concerned.

1.3.4 Procedure For Nomination Of Participants

As shown by the flow-chart in Fig 2, the process and procedure for nomination of participants is a very straight-forward affair. Perhaps due to the small population of Brunei Darussalam, the selection process has been quite flexible and does not follow a stringent set of rules, as is followed in the other ASEAN countries, apart from those requirements that have been pre-set by *JICA*.

As the main coordinating arm of the Brunei Government, any invitation to participate in the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century is channeled through the Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, via the *JICA* office in Brunei Darussalam. A meeting among the potential departments / private organisations, especially those who employees have participated in previous programmes, would be organised to seek their views with regards to their willingness to submit a candidate and opinions concerning the appropriateness and relevancy of including other departments and agencies to participate in such programme.

Upon receipt of such invitation and subject to the theme categories that are proposed by the Government of Japan, letters of invitation and application forms are sent to all the relevant government ministries, departments and private organisations, asking them to nominate appropriate candidates to participate in the programme.

Equipped with the main requirements as pre-set by JICA, the selection process is left to the whims and discretion of the Heads of the Government agencies/ private organisations to nominate prospective candidates. Some departments / private organisations apply their own criteria to this selection and undertake their own interviews in order to select the most appropriate candidate.

Having selected a candidate, the specific department / private organisations would then forward the filled-in application forms of potential candidates to the Department of Youth and Sports, for final clearance. Once confirmed, subsequent meetings among selected participants would also be conducted to iron out any confusion pertaining to the programme content, and make necessary preparations prior to their departure to Japan.

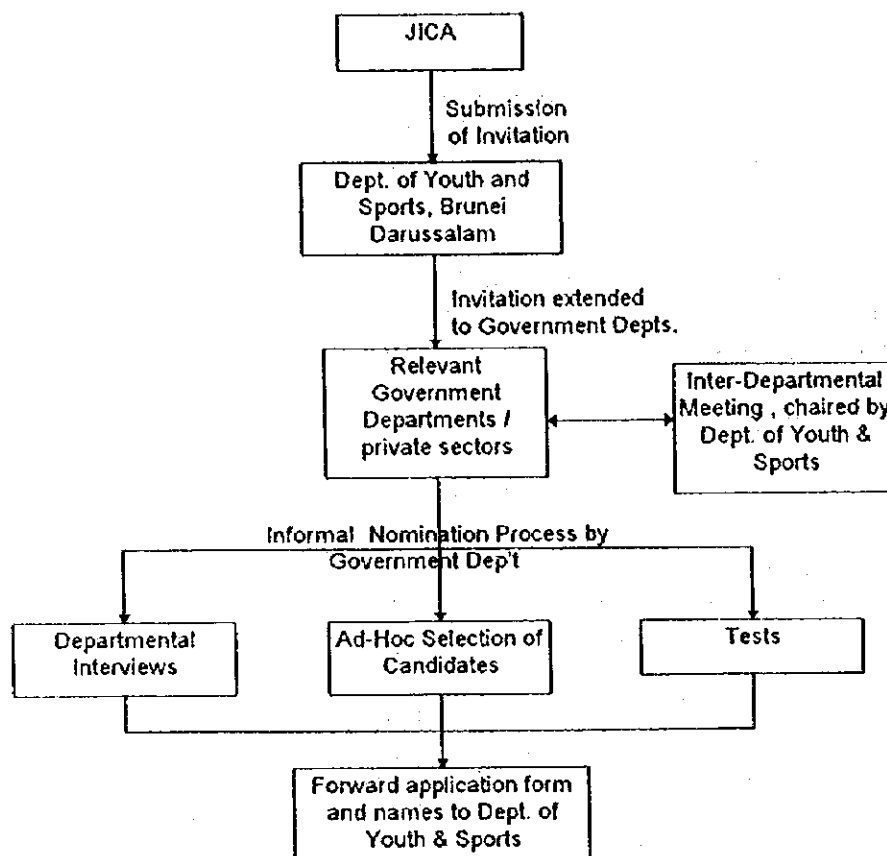


Figure 2: The Selection Process (as normally practised by the Dept. of Youth and Sports)

1.3.5 Organization Of The Pre - Departure Training

Prior to 1991, the pre-departure orientation training has been implemented and organised by the Department of Youth and Sports and JICA. However since 1990 both agencies - the Department of Youth and Sports and JICA - have utilised the coordinative services of Brunei Darussalam's ALUMNI Association - *PERTAB - 21* to arrange, liaise and coordinate the training programme. Detail of the Association's make is given under Para 1.4 below.

Prior to the actual training, an official *Preparatory Meeting* would be organised by the Department of Youth and Sports, where an *Orientation Committee* would be set up to take charge of the various tasks of the training. The Pre-Departure Orientation training has been treated officially by the Department of Youth and Sports, and usually commence with an Opening Ceremony, to officiate the launch of the program. A High Ranking Government Official is usually invited as The Guest of Honour. Other special invited guests include the Director of Youth and Sports, His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan and the JICA resident representative in Brunei Darussalam.

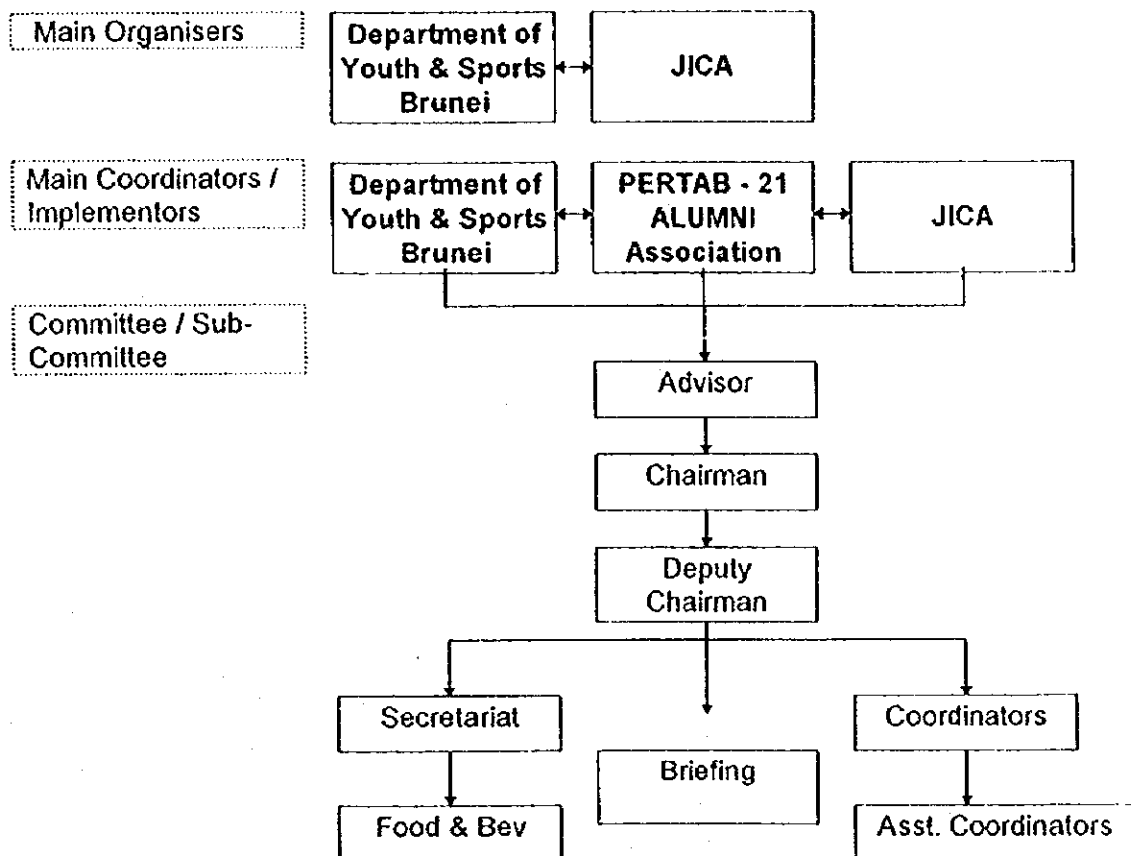


Figure 3: Chart showing the organisation of the coordinative agencies and committee during Pre-Departure Orientation Training in Brunei Darussalam

The typical schedule of the training programme usually includes lectures from various representatives from Brunei Government Departments, given as a refresher course to fortify participants' local knowledge on various themes, the Japanese Language lessons, meetings and briefing by ex-participants to enlighten potential participants of the do's and don't's of their new adventure to Japan. Briefing from Government Ministries would vary from one year to another, depending on the specific theme groupings as introduced by JICA in that given year.

Towards the end of the orientation programme, candidate participants would be grouped into their theme categories to give them the opportunity to know one another, elect their Head Group and discuss any subsequent arrangements and meetings that they would need to carry out, as part of their preparation. Members of the Coordination Committee would also be available during their discussion to clarify or iron out any matters or doubts that they may have.

The presence of the JICA coordinator during this orientation training is significant, not only in teaching the Japanese Language and highlighting detailed programme that each participant may have to go through in Japan, but also in clarifying and dispelling any uncertainties, worries, fears and wrong presumptions that participants may have prior to their visit to Japan.

The typical schedule of the Pre-Departure Orientation Training Programme is detailed under *Appendix 3*.

1.4 PERTAB - 21 - An Overview of Its History, Organisation and Activities

1.4.1 History of its Formation

Although the Youth Friendship Programme for the 21st Century started as early as 1984, its ALUMNI Society - PERTAB-21 - was only established 4 years later - on 23 August 1988.

However, the plan to form the ALUMNI for the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century had probably started earlier and was probably already the dreams of the early pioneers of the programme who participated during the early beginnings of the Friendship Programme in Brunei Darussalam. As the programme continued to progress during its first phase of 1984 - 1988, the need to reunite ex-participants and exchange stories and experiences was strongly felt among themselves. This, coupled with the fact that other neighbouring ASEAN member countries - Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore - had already established ALUMNI Associations of their own, further strengthened the spirit of local ex-participants to establish a Brunei ALUMNI Society.

This spirit was even stronger when two ex-participants were invited to attend the *First ASEAN ALUMNI Meeting* in Jakarta on 22 to 24 March 1988. At that time, Brunei Darussalam delegation comprised of Mr. Haji Mohd Taib bin Hj Othman (Ex-Participant from 1986 ASEAN Group I and Mr. Haji Isa bin Haji Shahminan (Ex-Participant from 1985 Youth group), who were invited as observers. Immediately after their return, a Meeting with all ex-participants was held and a protem Executive Committee was formed with ten Temporary Committee members as follows:

Table 3: Composition of the First Protem Executive Committee Members for the Friendship for the 21st century Programme, 1988

Designation	Personnel
Advisor	Mr. Haji Mohd Taib bin Hj Othman (then, the Chief Coordinator of the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century)
Chairman	Mr. Pg Sabri bin Pg Hj Muhammad
Deputy Chairman	Mr. Mohd Noor bin Abdullah
Secretary	Mr. Sallehuddin bin Hj Ibrahim
Members	Mr. Haji Isa bin Hj Shahminan Mr. Pg Haji Yusuf bin Pg Hj Bunut Mr. Haji Hamid bin Hj Abdullah Mr. Haji Yassin bin Md Said Mr. Pg Haji Daud bin Pg Hj Mahmud

After numerous meetings to formulate a Constitution and a name for the Association, the Committee ultimately decided on *PERTAB - 21 (Pertubuhan Alumni Abad ke-21 Brunei Darussalam)*, with the English translation as *ALUMNI Society 21st Century, Brunei Darussalam*. PERTAB - 21 was officially registered to the government Registration of Associations Office in Brunei Darussalam on 23rd August 1983.

On 9 December 1988, PERTAB - 21 was officially inaugurated by the Guest of Honour, Mr. Pengiran Badaruddin bin Pg Ghani, the President of Brunei Youth Council (*Majlis Belia Brunei*), a council in charge with overseeing and guiding the development of local associations in Brunei Darussalam. During that ceremony, the pro-tem Chairman of the Alumni, Mr. Pg Sabri bin Pg Muhammad gave a rousing speech outlining the main objectives and policies of the association.

The objectives of the Association up until now remain as:

- To respond to His Majesty The Sultan and yang Dipertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam's call for Brunei Darussalam to play an active role in ASEAN's Youth Programmes
- To gather and unite all youths and individuals who have participated in the Friendship Program for the 21st Century ASEAN - Japan;
- To fulfill the objectives of the Friendship program towards harmonising and uniting youths of ASEAN and Japan, nationally and internationally;
- To represent Brunei Darussalam in meetings and assemblies that involve the above-mentioned programme and require the participation of the Association, both nationally and internationally;
- To cooperate with any Government Agencies or Youth and Welfare Associations that bear similar objectives and policies;
- To participate in Youth and Welfare programmes, both nationally and internationally.

1.4.2 Organisation Structure of PERTAB - 21

The First Annual General Meeting was held after the Inauguration Ceremony, where an election was held to elect the First PERTAB - 21 Executive Committee Members for the session 1989 - 1990.

The structure of the initial organisation was as follows:

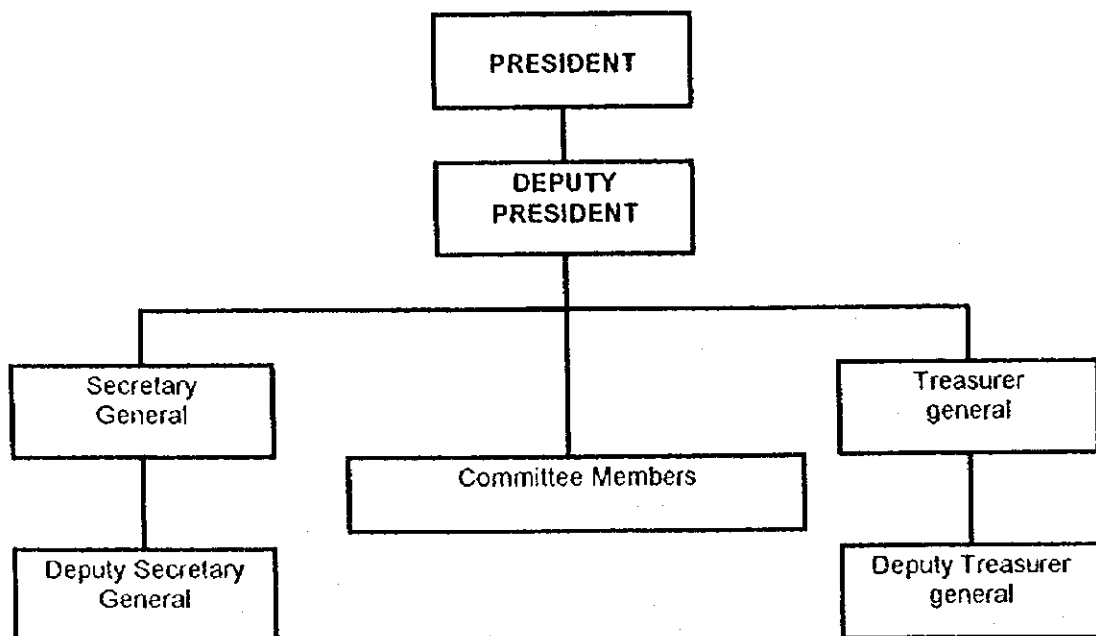


Figure 4: Structure of the Initial PERTAB - 21 Organisation

The structure of PERTAB's Association during its infancy period was quite simple and straight forward by virtue of its small membership population and the related small number of tasks and activities that was to be undertaken. However, since 19 February 1993, an amendment to the Association's Constitution was tabled giving specific regard to Chapter (15a) - Administration of the Association. Due to the increasing and diverse scope of work being shouldered by each committee members, as will be highlighted later on in this report, a rational move was made by the Association President of that time, Mr. Haji Mohd Taib bin Hj Osman, to further sub-divide the tasks by creating new posts so that such burden and responsibilities could be eased in future. The amendments involved the addition of new posts to the previous Executive Committee Structure, as follows:

	New Posts	Remarks
1	2 Vice President s	Two posts were created, Vice President I and Vice President II. They are involved primarily in assisting the President with regards to matters on international affairs and domestic affairs, respectively.
2	2 Deputy Secretary General	The scope of work is mainly to assist the work of the Secretary general.
3	Head and Assistant of the Welfare , Religious and Education Committee	A newly created Committee to take charge of the said affairs
4	Head and Assistant of the Culture, Sports and recreation Committee	A newly created Committee to take charge of the said affairs

Table 4: Addition of posts to the Organisation Committee of PERTAB - 21 since February 1993

Since the amendment, PERTAB - 21 had managed to undertake, organise and coordinate many more activities effectively and efficiently, thanks to the addition of the new posts. There is now greater division of labour and with the continuing support of the Government of Brunei Darussalam, particularly the ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, the Embassy of Japan and the then JICA, PERTAB - 21 has become one of the youngest Youth Association, and one of the top 10 most active in Brunei Darussalam.

The present structure of the organisation stands as follows:

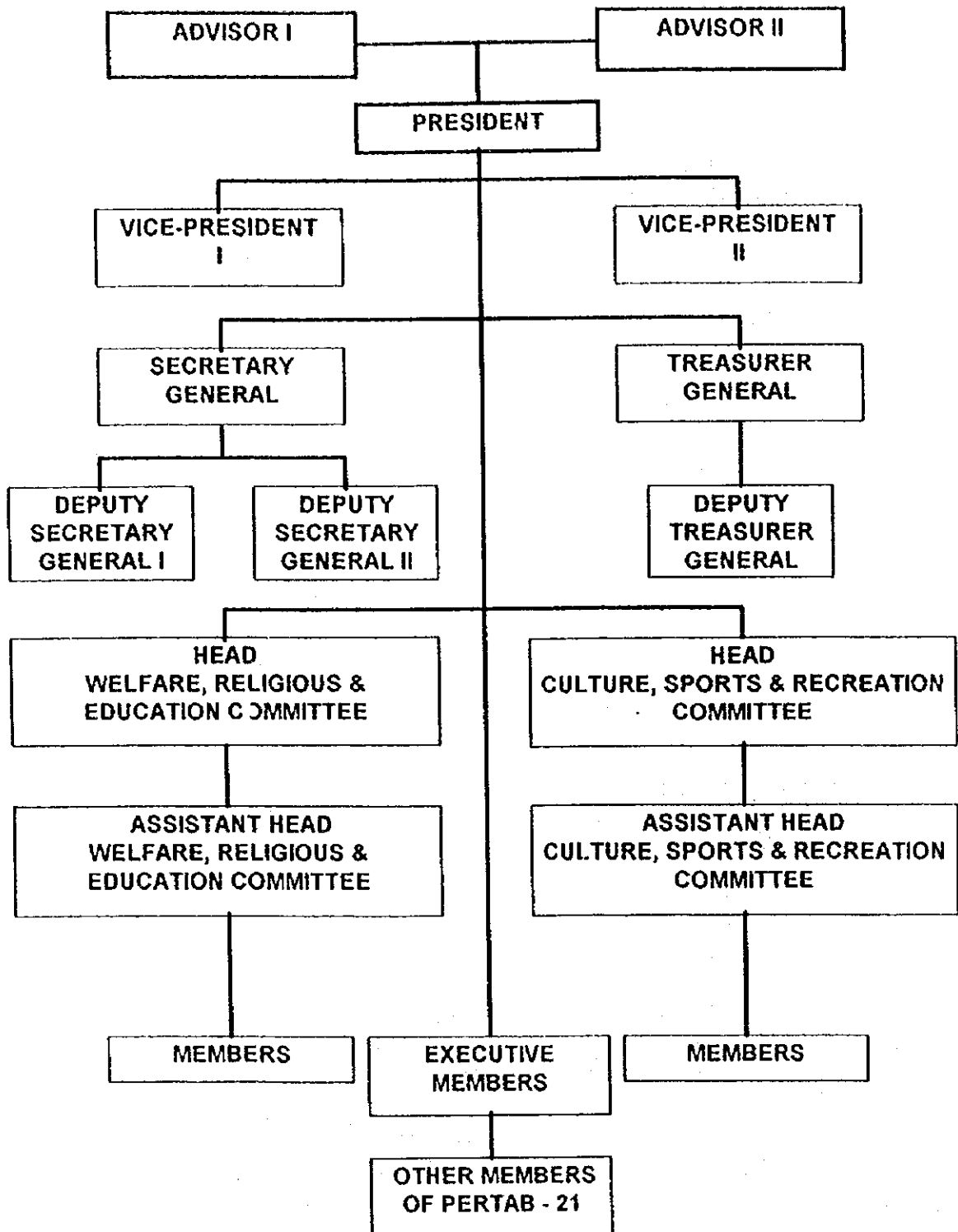


Figure 5: Structure of PERTAB-21 Association from 1993 to date.

1.4.3 Invitation to Join Membership of PERTAB - 21

Since the involvement of PERTAB - 21 in coordinating Pre-Departure Orientation Training Programme in 1991, an invitation to join membership of PERTAB - 21 Association is publicised right at the outset; even before they begin the trip to Japan, i.e during the Pre-Departure Orientation Training Programme. Briefing of the training also include a slot by representatives of PERTAB - 21, giving candidate participants the opportunity to willingly join the Association. All the privileges of joining the Association is highlighted, including the chance to exchange experiences and stories with other ex-participants, and the chance to meet their old friends in the ASEAN countries during the Youth Camp or other friendship activities.

Similar call to join the Association is again made during a post - mortem meeting organised by the Department, immediately after their return from Japan, whereby application forms would be distributed to ex-participants.

New members of PERTAB - 21 pay an annual registration fee of B\$ 20.00 and an annual membership fee of B\$ 12.00, giving a total B\$ 32.00. To date, PERTAB - 21 has a total membership of 111 members from diverse background and profession.

1.4.4 Meetings

An annual General Meeting is held once a year, usually in December. The agenda of the meeting include:

- to elect new Executive Committee members, who remain in their post for a 2-year session.
- to report the Working Committee's activities and handling of the association administration made during that year.
- Amendments to the constitution, if required, will be made during this meeting.
- Reports of the Secretary General and the Treasury General are also heard and agreed upon.

A Management Committee Meeting is usually held at least 3 times a year. The main agenda include:

- planning of activities and other important flagship projects of the Association.
- Matters pertaining to policies and those related to the welfare of the association are also tabled in this meeting.
- Acceptance of new association members

An Extra-Ordinary Meeting is usually held whenever required by the either the President, The vice-president or the Secretary General or the management Committee or when a ballot of one-third of the members require it.

1.4.5 Activities of PERTAB - 21

Since its inception in 1988, PERTAB - 21 has been one of the most active youth Association of Brunei Darussalam. In 1995, PERTAB - 21 participated in a Youth Activities Exhibition, in conjunction with His Majesty The Sultan's 49th Birthday. This participation was indeed an honour for PERTAB - 21 for its recognition of the association's hard work and efforts in uniting youths and organising activities for the improvement of socio-cultural wellbeing of the nation.

Earlier in 1994, PERTAB - 21 was also chosen by JICA for their hardwork and dedication in their work. 13th November 1994 was a notable year, for it was on this day, when the JICA Resident Representative to Brunei Darussalam, Mr. Kazuo Nakagawa presented an *International Cooperation Award 1994* to Mr. Haji Mohd Taib bin Hj Osman, the then President of PERTAB - 21 during a reunion gathering for the ALUMNI Society 21st Century (PERTAB - 21). In his words, Mr. Kazuo Nakagawa expressed:

"PERTAB - 21 deserved the award because of their willingness, cooperation and dedication in implementing all JICA activities related to the 21st Century Friendship Programme"

This was a momentous time for PERTAB - 21 and has since worked its best in undertaking, organising and coordinating many activities related to the programme, JICA and other welfare cause. Indeed, some of the activities of PERTAB - 21 held in Brunei Darussalam and abroad included:

Table 5: The activities of PERTAB - 21 from 1988 to date.

	Nature / Purpose of Activities		Activities	Coverage	Time / Date
1	Assisting, cooperating and coordinating with the Department of Youth and Sports	a	Coordinated the Pre-Departure Orientation Training for the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century	National level	Since 1988 to date
		b	Organised an Environment Seminar and Exhibition on Youth Activities for the youths of ASEAN to commemorate ASEAN Youth Day	ASEAN Japan	6 - 14 August 1993

Nature / Purpose of Activities	Activities	Coverage	Time / Date
	d Assisted in coordinating / arranging formal / informal visits by Japanese and ASEAN youths that are related to the Friendship for the 21st Century Programme, such as visits by ICSC Coordinator Ms R. Kajima, who arrived in Brunei on 18 - 20 December 1990, visit by Shizuoka Prefecture Youth visit on 30 Dec 1990 to 2 January 1991, and visits by many former Japanese host families and friends and such like	ASEAN Japan	Since 1998 to date
	e Jointly organised and cooperated in presenting the " <i>Fuji Musika Ensemble</i> " from Yamanashi Prefecture to play flutes in Schools and youth centre.	National	26 - 29 July 1993
2 Assisting and cooperating with other Government Ministries and Departments / Agencies	a Jointly organised a mini walkathon for the Ministry of Health, in conjunction with World Health Day. 1200 people participated in the walkathon	National	5 July 1992
	b Jointly organised an ASEAN - Japan Level Environment Seminar with the Ministry of Development, in conjunction with World Environment Day.	ASEAN Japan	1994
	c Participated in the Mass Assembly in celebration of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Dipertuan's 49th Birthday	National	23 July 1995
	d Assisted in coordinating the committee for homestay and foster parents in the Youth Ship Friendship Programme	National	Annually

	Nature / Purpose of Activities		Activities	Coverage	Time / Date
3	Competitions	a	Organised a Children's Art Competition in conjunction with His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Dipertuan's Birthday Celebration	National	Annual event 1990 to date
		b	Organised the First ASEAN - Japan Association Art & Photographic Competition	ASEAN Japan	1990
4	Fund - Raising / Donations	a	Donation to the Orphans Fund	National	1990 to date
		b	Cooperated in the fund-raising activities & giving donations to House Fire Victims or other natural disasters, eg in 1994, PERTAB - 21 participated in helping to raise funds for fire victims in Kampong Ayer, Kampong Mulaut and Kampong Labi and organised a Cheap Sale Fair at the Youth Centre	National	27 January 1994
		c	Organised a Bicyclethon and Kayakthon to raise funds to similar victims as (b) above. PERTAB - 21 collected B\$ 18,000	National	6 March 1994
		d	Selling hari raya cards during Ramadhan (fasting month) to raise funds for earthquake victims of Egypt. PERTAB - 21 collected B\$ 7,021.00	National	5 February 1993
5	Annual Celebrations & Festivities	a	Hari Raya Celebration - PERTAB - 21	National	Annually
		b	Thanks Giving Prayer to usher in the New Islamic Year of Hijrah	National	Annually
		c	Birthday Celebration of Prophet	National	Annually

	Nature / Purpose of Activities	Activities	Coverage	Time / Date
		Muhammad		
6	Annual National / International Meetings / Assemblies	a Attended all Executive AJAFA 21 Meeting held in all ASEAN countries	ASEAN	Annually since 1988
		b Attended and sent representatives to all Youth Forum / Camp AJAFA - 21	ASEAN	Annually since 1990
		c Organised, arranged and coordinated all After-Care Team Programme visits	Nationally	Annually since 1988

The above are just some of the activities which have been organised or coordinated by PERTAB - 21 and are just the tip of the iceberg. many more activities have been arranged and undertaken, and many more are being planned for. Since the beginning of 1988, PERTAB - 21 has been very busy in its efforts to congregate and unite the youths of Brunei Darussalam and also among ASEAN friends to the level of peace and harmony that many have dreamed of. In the words of Pg Dato Paduka Asmalee bin Pg Hj Ahmad, the then Director of Youth and Sports Department, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam, in is message during the 10th Anniversary of the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century 1984 - 1993, thus:

".....PERTAB - 21 has been very active in her role to generate the implementation of JICA activities, and most notably, in organising her own local youth programmes, to mention a few, from fund raising activities such as through various exhibitions for local and regional participation, sports, community works, youth camp, etc. to hosting international conference and gatherings. Such involvement is a great contribution to the country....."

PART II

PART II:

Methodology of the

Evaluation project

2.1 Background

The process of evaluating the Youth Invitation Programme, together with its impacts and achievements may be considered a formidable and time-consuming task, more so in judging if the whole programme has been a great success story or otherwise. It is formidable because its impacts are difficult to assess over short time duration, and may even require human observation and social surveys to indicate tell-tale signs of positivity.

Within the given time frame, PERTAB - 21 has acted promptly in organising the evaluation study into a rational and orderly manner. The formation of a working committee to implement the necessary surveys and questionnaires was seen as the natural and most practical process to effect and move the study into its proper and appropriate direction.

With proper hindsight and foresight into the study, PERTAB - 21 was lucky to have members of diverse background and professionalism that could provide the direction and guidance in undertaking the project. The Methodology used was quite simple and straight forward. Results of the questionnaire was the main baseline data for analysis. But this alone was not adequate to undertake in-depth analyses into the study. It also required experience and some gut-feeling into each one of the questions asked and answers given. With some members of PERTAB - 21 also part of the staff of the Department of Youth and Sports, it was much easier to pin-point and justify for any divergent trends in the results of the survey.

2.2 Process of Evaluation Project

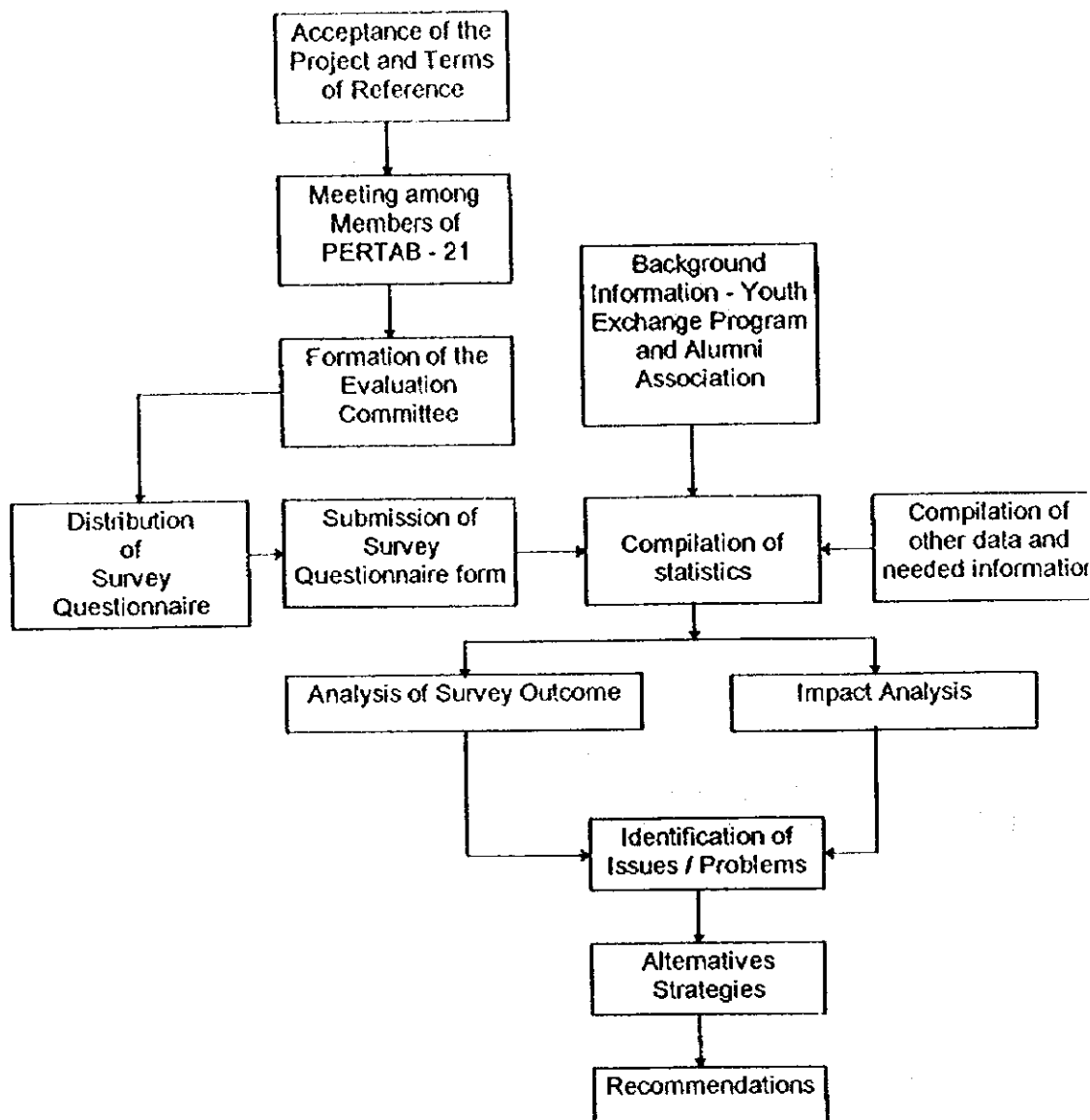


Figure 6: Chart showing the process of the evaluation Study

Figure 6 above shows the processes that PERTAB - 21 has followed through in undertaking the evaluation study. The chart is self-explanatory, and straight-forward and needs no further elaboration.

The presence of the guideline from JICA with regards to the questionnaire was of particular significance for it provided the direction and guidance in evaluating the program. There was also a need to collect other existing secondary data to further strengthen argument in the report. The task of compiling other data was equally shared

among the Committee members to allow the work to run smoothly and efficiently. A weekly meeting among the members of the Evaluation Committee was regularly organised in order to keep track of the work.

2.3 Evaluation Committee Members' Records Of Meetings

The various discussions made during the process of the evaluation work was useful in generating ideas and creative thinking into the compilation of the report. Every meetings was scheduled and planned to achieve a target date of completion over certain tasks of the project. Overall, PERTAB - 21 had managed to achieve target dates on almost every count of the tasks required. This was considered necessary in order to attain the goals of the Association in completing the report on time. The structure of the Evaluation Committee and their list of the Evaluation Committee Members' Records of Meetings is displayed under *Appendix 4*.

2.4 Collected Data and Information

By far, information from the questionnaire survey was the most relevant raw data that the Association collected. It represented a sample of information that was necessary for the analytical components of this evaluation. The questionnaire was able to capture data for the following information:

	INFORMATION REQUIRED	Type of answer
1	How ex-participants learnt of the program	multiple
2	What ex-participants think about the selection process of the participants	single
3	Why ex-participants participated in the program	multiple series
4	How ex-participants have benefited from the program	multiple series
5	Kinds of activities ex-participants find most beneficial in the program	3 choice
6	How ex-participants' impression of Japan changed after participating in this program	single
7	Number of ex-participants still in-touch with the people they met in the program / kind of people they still keep contacts with	multiple
8	Aspects ex-participants think more important or better for the program	single choice
9	If they receive "Dear Friends" yearly	single
10	Level of participation of ex-participants in the Alumni Association of the program	single
11	Reasons why ex-participants have not participated in Alumni activities	multiple
12	Kinds of activities ex-participants think the Alumni Assoc. should have in the future	multiple

Table 6: Information which could be derived from the questionnaire

In addition, other information was also required to patch up some of the missing areas of the report. Members of the Consultation Committee had to go round and interview some of the persons in charge of these processes. The primary source of such information were derived from:

SOURCE	Information Needed
PERTAB - 21's End of Year Annual Report	Information recording all activities in that given year, including announcements pertaining to any amendments to the constitution
PERTAB - 21's Membership File	Information on records of all members, year they join and other particulars.
"Friendship News" - PERTAB's official newsletter	List of activities, including dates of activities and other important events. "Friendship News" is issued quarterly and contains just about all records of PERTAB's activities and other news.
ASEAN - An Overview	Information on position of ASEAN with regards to Friendship and Youth Exchange Programme
Reports of AJAFA Meetings	Information on any salient agenda being discussed

Table 7: Sources of Other Information and Data Required

2.5 Daily Activity Report Of The Committee

Throughout the work, PERTAB - 21 also kept a weekly activity (not daily, as this is considered too taxing) report of the Committee. This was useful in keeping track of the work, so that any deviation from the agreed track would be rectified immediately.

The weekly activity report appears under *Appendix 5*.

PART III

PART III: Outcome of Survey

3.1 Background

The principal means of this evaluation study is a survey of opinions in the form of questionnaires. Although the main questions and contents of the questionnaire was prepared by JICA, PERTAB - 21 also played a role in putting the questions in the right order, mass photocopying and distribution to all ex-participants of the Friendship Programme for the 21st Century. The distribution of the questionnaires were mobilised through the postal service on 23 Dec 1997 and expected their immediate return to PERTAB's President cum Joint Chairman I of the Working Committee, Mr. Haji Mohd Noor bin Hj Salleh, no later than 24 January 1998.

This section of the report highlights the outcome of the survey and shall elucidate the results both in tabular and in statistical formats. An analytical approach to these statistics will be applied towards the end of this section.

3.2 Contents of the Questionnaire

The Evaluation Questionnaire contains in total 13 main questions and the types of answers required range from single answers and multiple to open answers. A sample of the questionnaire appears under *Appendix 6*. Technically, 11 questions were posed as multiple choice questions and 2 were open questions, whereby respondents may deliver their comments, opinions and even constructive criticisms of the programme in their own words and at their own free will. Only the 11 multiple choice questions could be depicted graphically, while the open questions could only be summarised to represent the overall or majority trend in opinions.

The types of questions asked in the questionnaires were to respond to the types of information needed to evaluate the programme, as listed under Table 6 of Paragraph 2.4 of the previous section (Part II of the report).

3.3 Number of Questionnaires sent and returned

PERTAB - 21 has put in every effort to reach every ex-participants by sending out the questionnaires to the last postal address that was kept by the Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. However, this task was hampered due to the absence of proper address or that their address are outdated and it would become pointless to send out the questionnaires anyway, or some of them have moved to a new address. The assistance of The Department of Youth and Sports was sought for this purpose but the apparent problem of their addresses was a set back for the distribution work. However, out of the total number of 623 ex-participants of the Youth Friendship Programme for the 21st Century, it is estimated that only less than 50% of the questionnaires did reach ex-participants. This fact is derived from the number of letters being returned to The Joint - Chairman I of The Working Committee. Since there is probably no programme on behalf of the Department of Youth and Sports to monitor the whereabouts or development of the ex-participants, the need for ex-participants to inform of their change in address was probably considered redundant and unnecessary. Hence, letters were returned for the apparent inexistence of such addresses.

It is confirmed that the number of questionnaires that did reach their address only amounted to 360. This means that this was the number of questionnaires being sent out to ex-participants. However, the number of respondents only came to 101. Taking the standard requirement to undertaking a sample survey as being 10%¹, a figure of 101 is already 16.2% out of the total number of ex-participants in this programme, which is more than adequate to make a proper assessment and evaluation of the questionnaires.

¹ The Economic Planning and Development sample for a mid-censal population survey is usually taken at 10%, adequate to give a good representation of its population data.

3.4 Statistical Results of the Questionnaire

The following results are based upon 101 respondents (ex-participants) of the questionnaire. Results of the questionnaire are as follows:

QUESTION 1	<i>How did you learn of the program? (Multiple answer)</i>
-------------------	---

Result: (Sorted according to most popular source to least popular source)

Sources	Total Response	% of Sum Total
From gov't Office	62	345.4
From work Place	42	24
From Ex-Participants or Alumni Association	38	21.7
From other sources (Open answer)	14	8
From JICA Representative office	13	7.4
Through the Press	6	3.5
Sum Total	175	100%

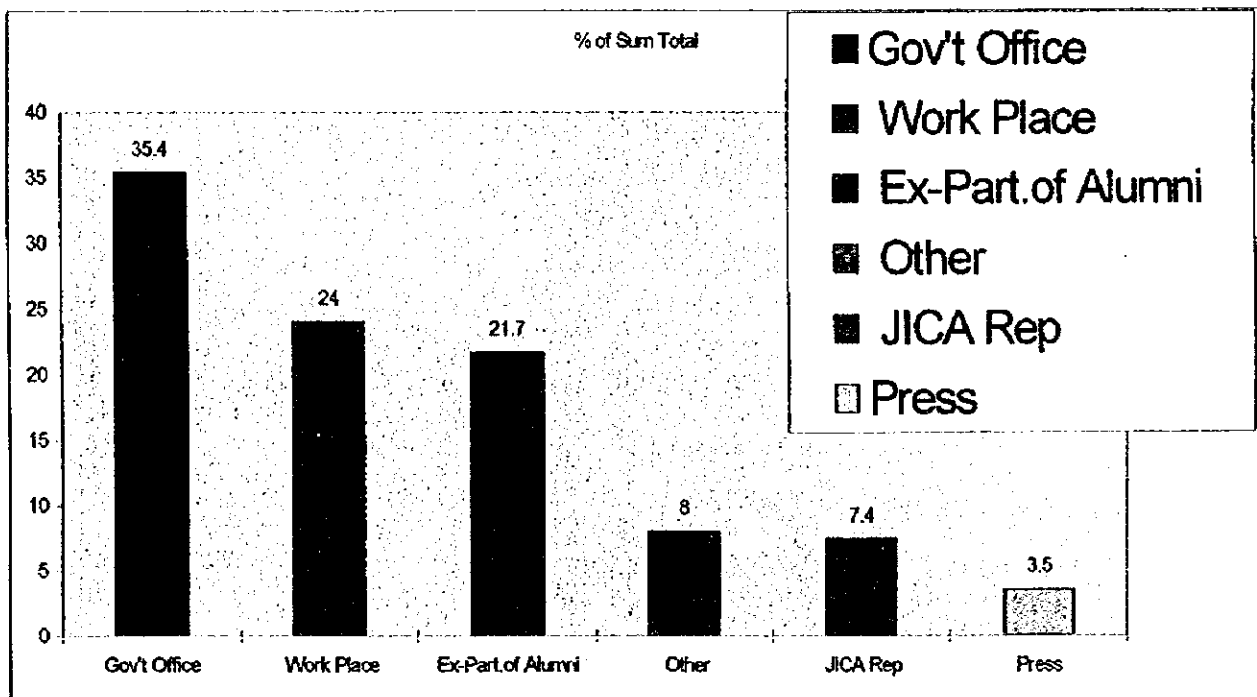


Figure 7: Percentage of Sum Total and The Sources Where They Learnt of the Program

With regards to the open answer, some respondents learnt of the programme from :

- The Scouts Association
- Places of Study, such as The Institute of Education and Institut Teknologi Brunei, being nominated by their lecturers or teachers. In some instances they were nominated for being active in their school's or institute's Extra-curricular activities (ECA).

QUESTION 2: *What do you think about the selection process of the participants? (Single answer)*

Result:

Answers	Response	% of sum total
Fair	63	62%
Not Fair	9	9%
Do Not Know	29	29%
Total Response	101	100%

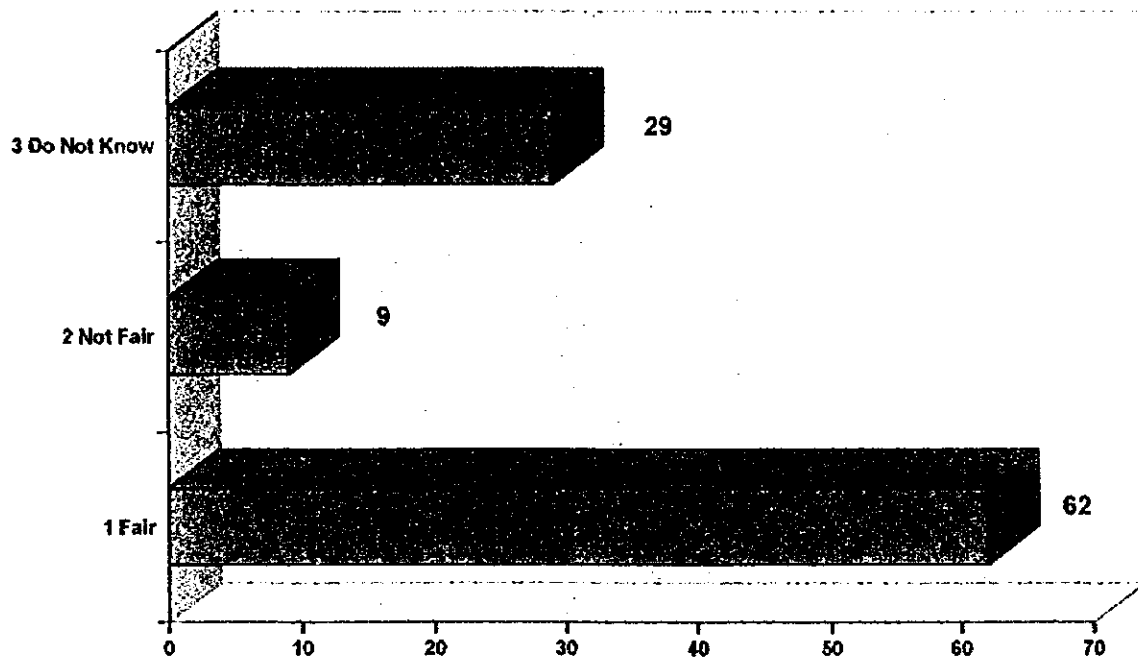


Figure 8: Percentage of Respondents and Their Opinion About The Selection Process of The Participants

With regards to the open question on respondent's suggestions for the selection process, some of their answers were as follows:

- The selection should be processed by a special committee, comprising of ex-participants and a JICA representative
- Candidates must belong to a particular society or association and should be experienced enough to join the programme
- A majority of respondents mentioned of the need to have a fairer selection process, for example by having written, mental and physical tests and interviews
- Candidates must possess good academic qualifications, possessing good attitudes and should be vocal and creative in their thinking
- It should be opened to the public, should be published in papers
- Candidates should be representing the four Brunei Districts

QUESTION 3: *Why did you participate in the program?*
 (Please choose and circle A, B, C or N for each item.
 A=Agree B= Partly Agree C= Disagree N= No Answer)

Result:

Reasons	% of Total Response								Total %
	Agree		Partly Agree		Disagree		No Answer		
1 To visit Japan	A	75%	B	21%	C	4%	N	0%	100
2 To make Japanese friends	A	71%	B	27%	C	1%	N	1%	100
3 To make Bruneian friends	A	43%	B	43%	C	10%	N	4%	100
4 Interested in Int'l Exchange Program	A	97%	B	3%	C	0%	N	0%	100
5 To improve professional knowledge	A	79%	B	21%	C	0%	N	0%	100
6 Advised by organisation	A	27%	B	35%	C	20%	N	18%	100
7 To win honour	A	6%	B	19%	C	45%	N	30%	100

Graph - See next page

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 (Please choose and circle A, B, C or N for each item.
 A=Agree B= Partly Agree C= Disagree N= No Answer)

Result:

Reasons	% of Total Response								Total %
	Agree		Partly Agree		Disagree		No Answer		
1 To visit Japan	A	75%	B	21%	C	4%	N	0%	100
2 To make Japanese friends	A	71%	B	27%	C	1%	N	1%	100
3 To make Bruneian friends	A	43%	B	43%	C	10%	N	4%	100
4 Interested in Int'l Exchange Program	A	97%	B	3%	C	0%	N	0%	100
5 To improve professional knowledge	A	79%	B	21%	C	0%	N	0%	100
6 Advised by organisation	A	27%	B	35%	C	20%	N	18%	100
7 To win honour	A	6%	B	19%	C	45%	N	30%	100

Graph - See next page

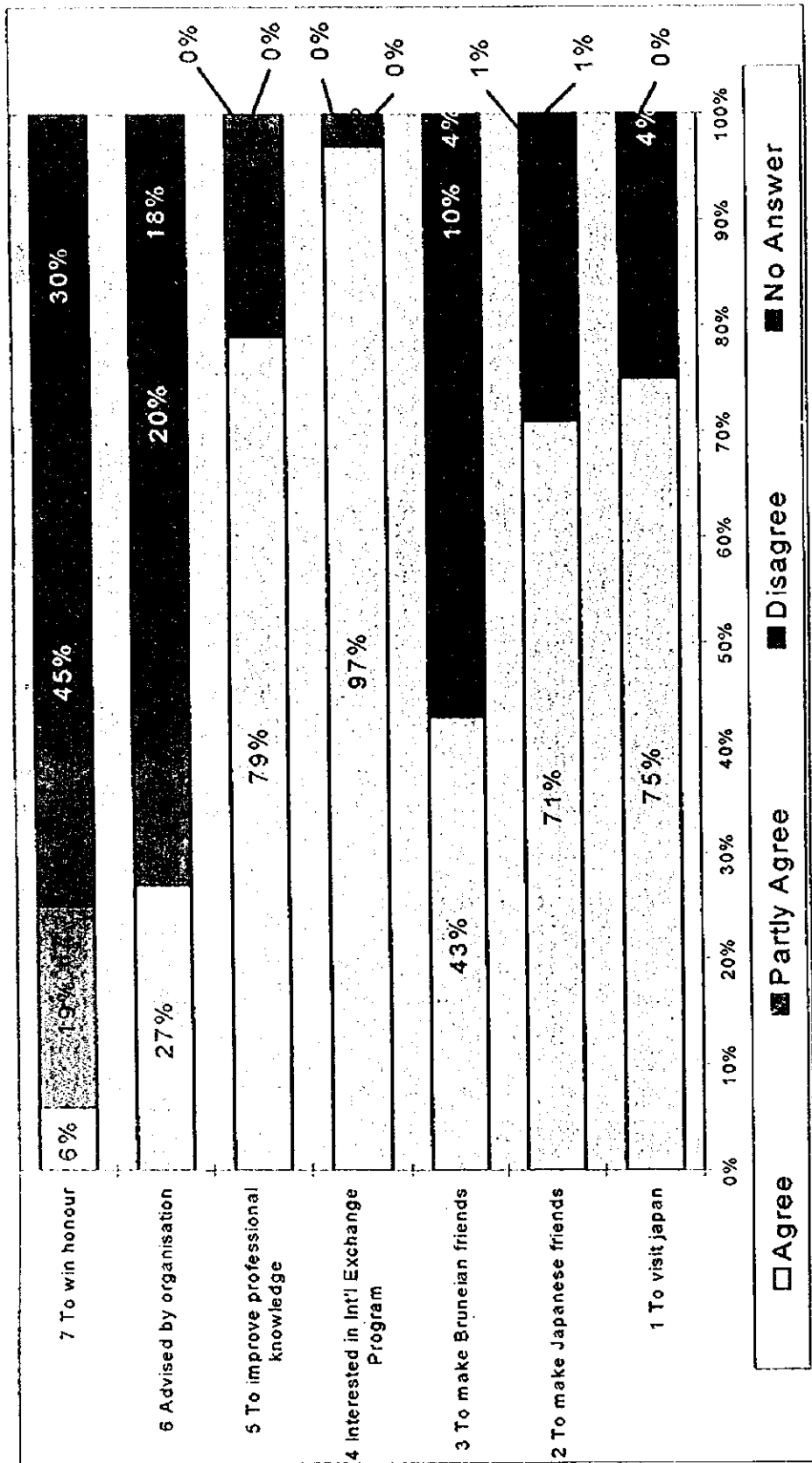


Figure 9: Percentage of Respondents and The Reasons for Their Participation in This Program

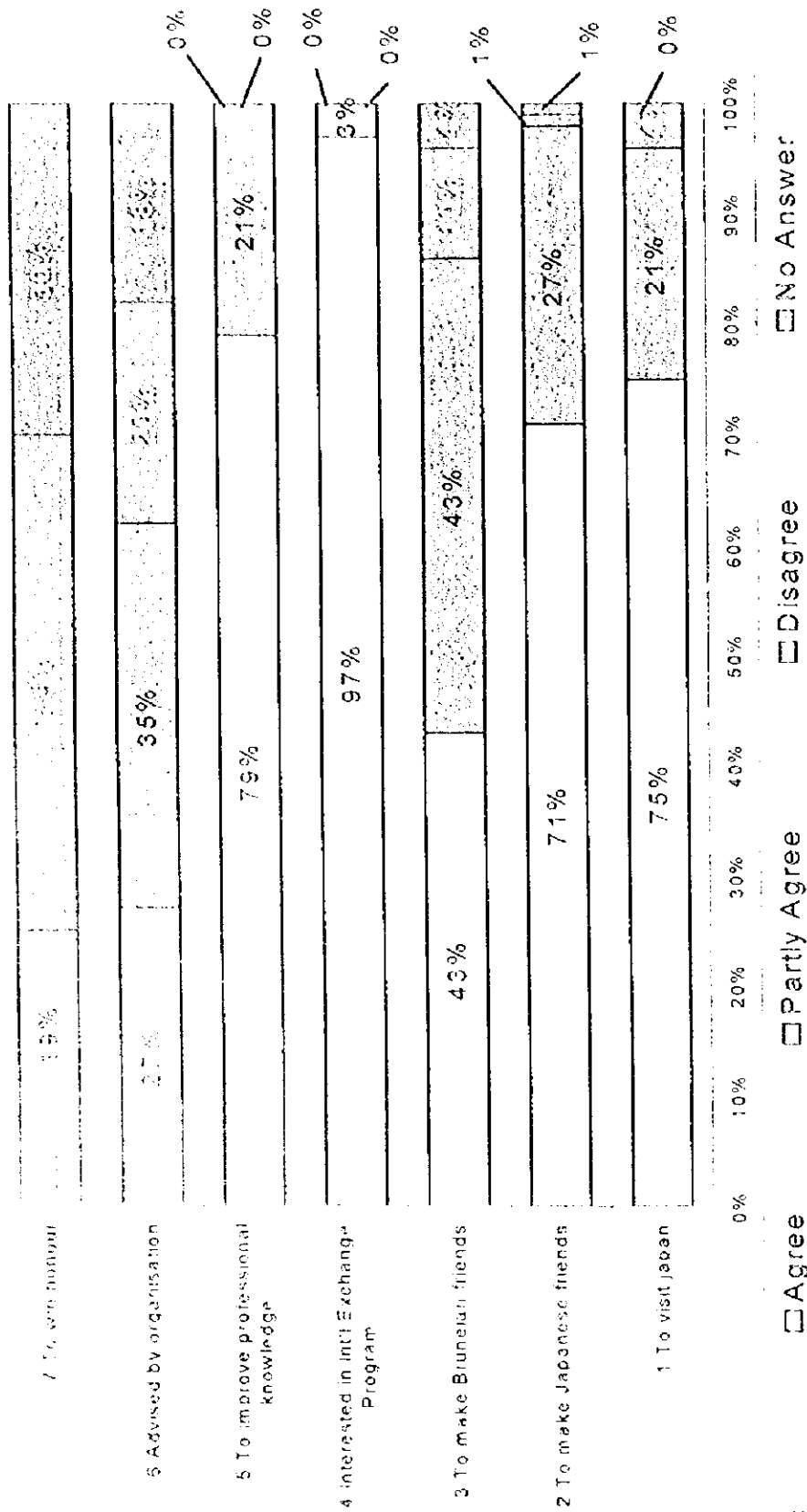


Figure 9: Percentage of Respondents and The Reasons for Their Participation in This Program

In response to the open answer under this question, other reasons were also spelled out by respondents such as:

- Their interest in exchanging knowledges on language and culture
- Their interest in knowing how the Japanese work and study
- Their interest in experiencing the life the Japanese especially in connection to the living standard of the medium-sized family, in this highly developed industrialised nation
- The need to encourage future socio-economic exchanges for the benefit of both parties
- The need to widen their network of friends and counterparts in both ASEAN and Japan
- Their interest to promote Brunei Darussalam to the outside world.

QUESTION 4: *How have you benefited from the programme?*
 (Please choose and circle A, B, C or N for each item.
 A=Agree B= Partly Agree C= Disagree N= No Answer)

Result:

	% of Total Response								Total %
	Agree		Partly Agree		Disagree		No Answer		
1 learn about society of Japan	A	92%	B	8%	C	0%	N	0%	100%
2 learn professional knowledge	A	57%	B	40%	C	1%	N	2%	100%
3 promote mutual understanding	A	81%	B	19%	C	0%	N	0%	100%
4 deepen interest in int'l issues	A	66%	B	30%	C	0%	N	4%	100%
5 Proud of own country	A	61%	B	29%	C	5%	N	5%	100%
6 Understand importance of international exchange	A	80%	B	18%	C	0%	N	2%	100%
7 Change way of thinking	A	61%	B	32%	C	4%	N	3%	100%
8 Communicate with people from different culture	A	82%	B	18%	C	0%	N	0%	100%
9 Act in good order as group member	A	75%	B	22%	C	1%	N	2%	100%
10 Advance career	A	42%	B	38%	C	14%	N	6%	100%

Graph - see next page

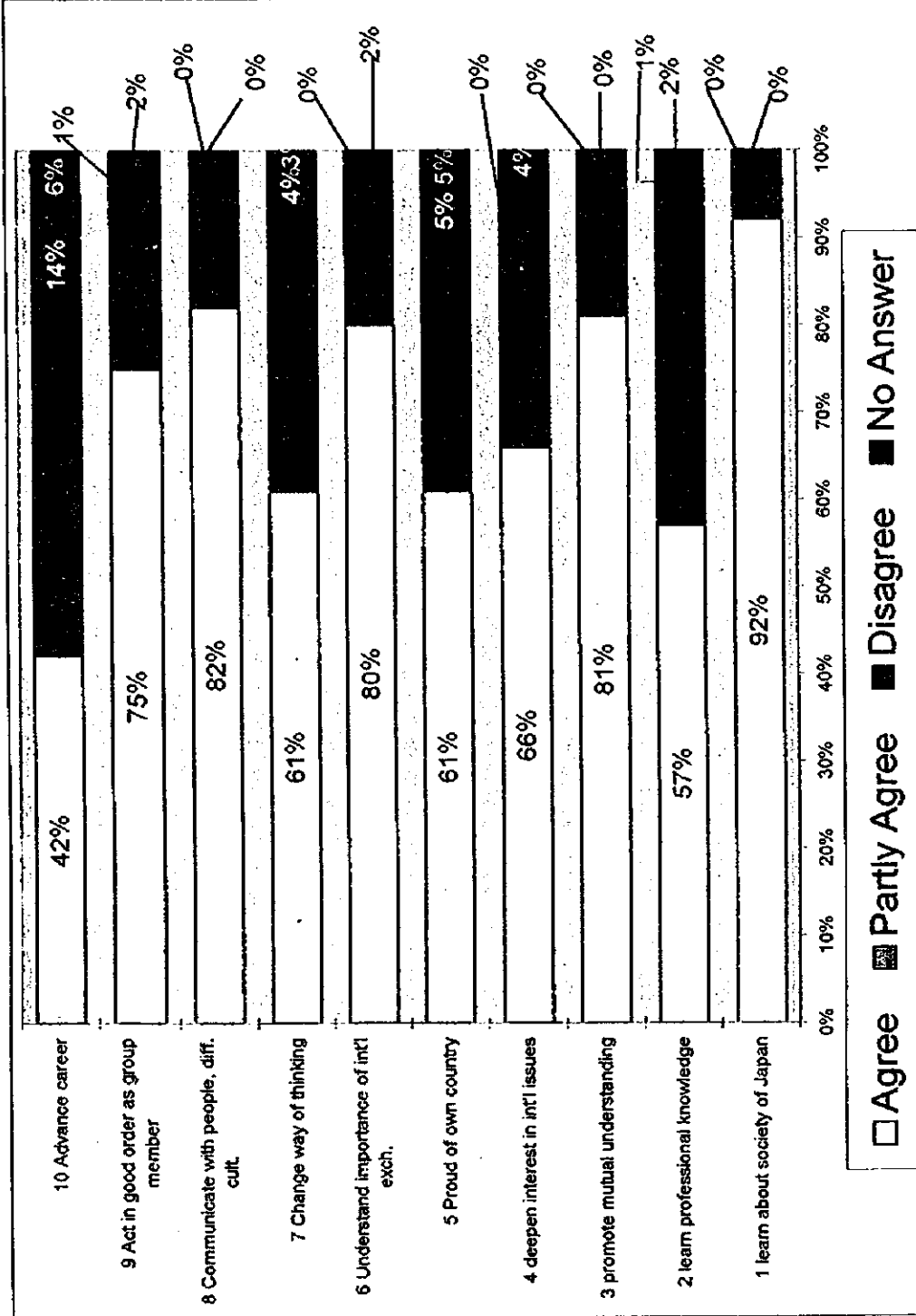


Figure 10: Percentage of Respondents and Their Opinions on How They Have Benefited from the Program

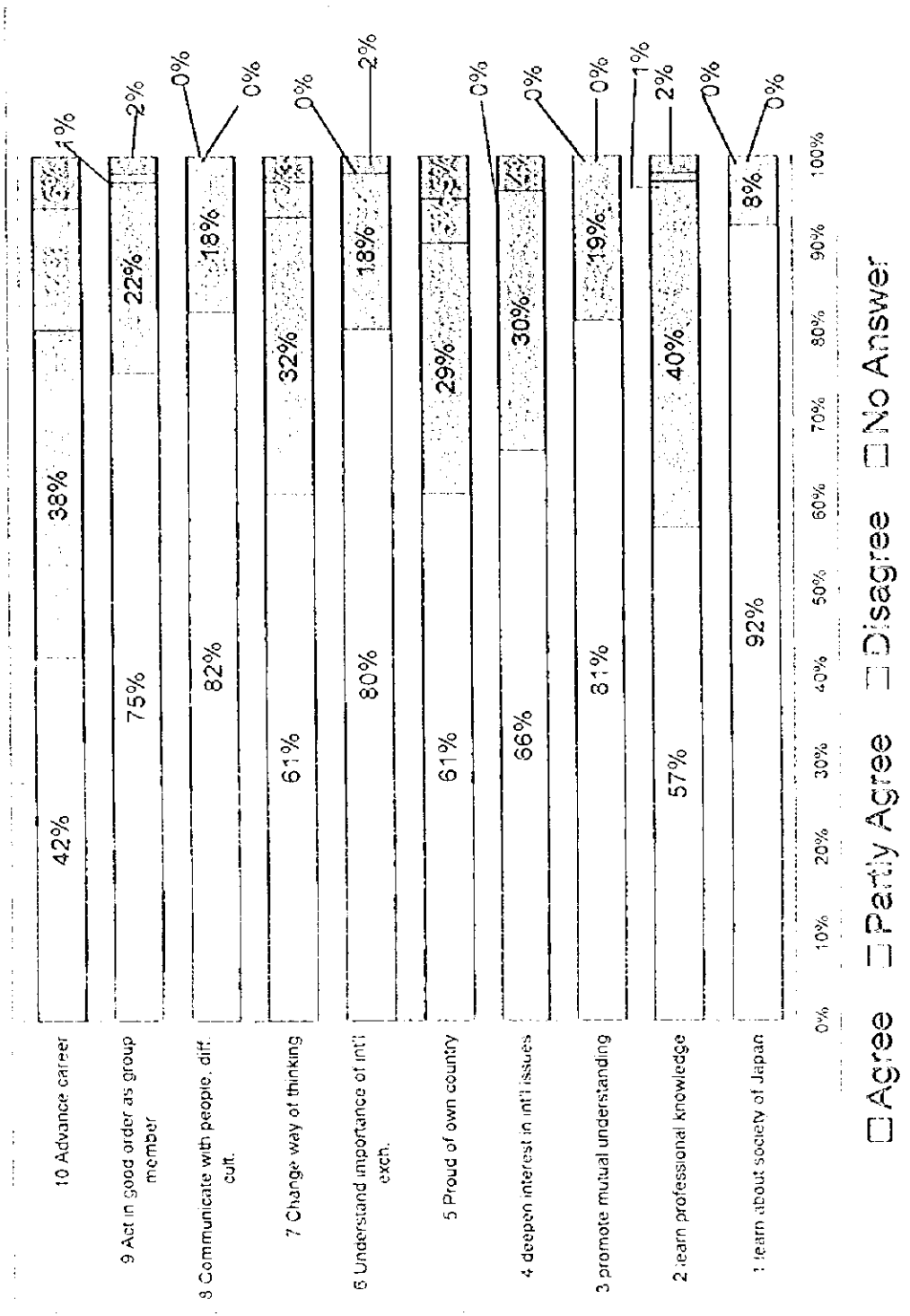


Figure 10: Percentage of Respondents and Their Opinions on How They Have Benefited from the Program

QUESTION 5: *What kind of activities in the program did you find most beneficial?*
 (Please choose a maximum of three items)

Result: (Sorted according to most beneficial activity to least beneficial activity)

Activities	Response
Observation tours	64
In-house seminars	63
Homestay	61
Visits on professional field	50
Japanese language lessons	26
Lectures on professional field	22
Lectures on Japan	15

Graph - see next page

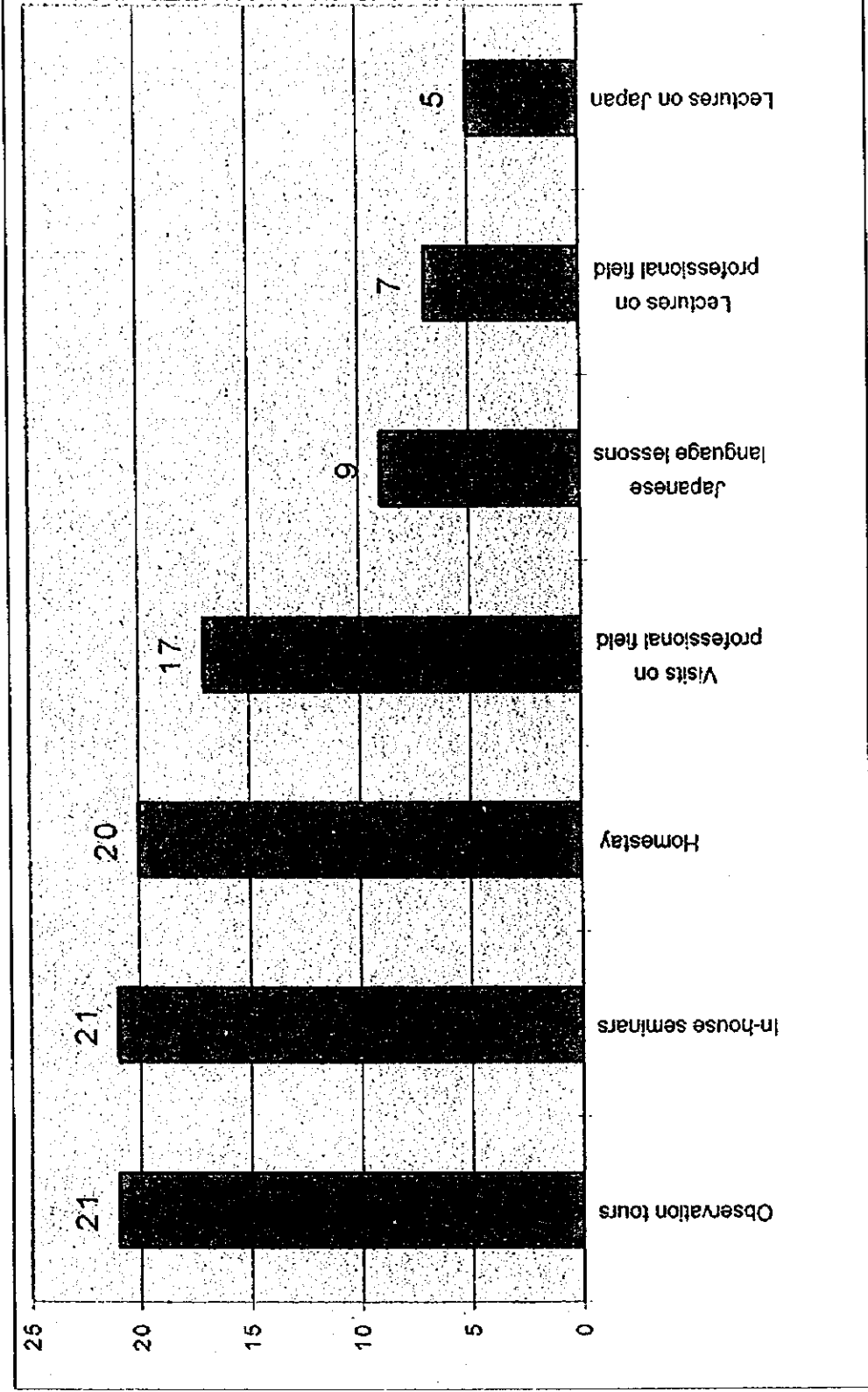


Figure 11: Percentage of Sum Total and Kinds of Activities Respondents Find Most Beneficial in the Program (Sorted From Most Beneficial to Least Beneficial)

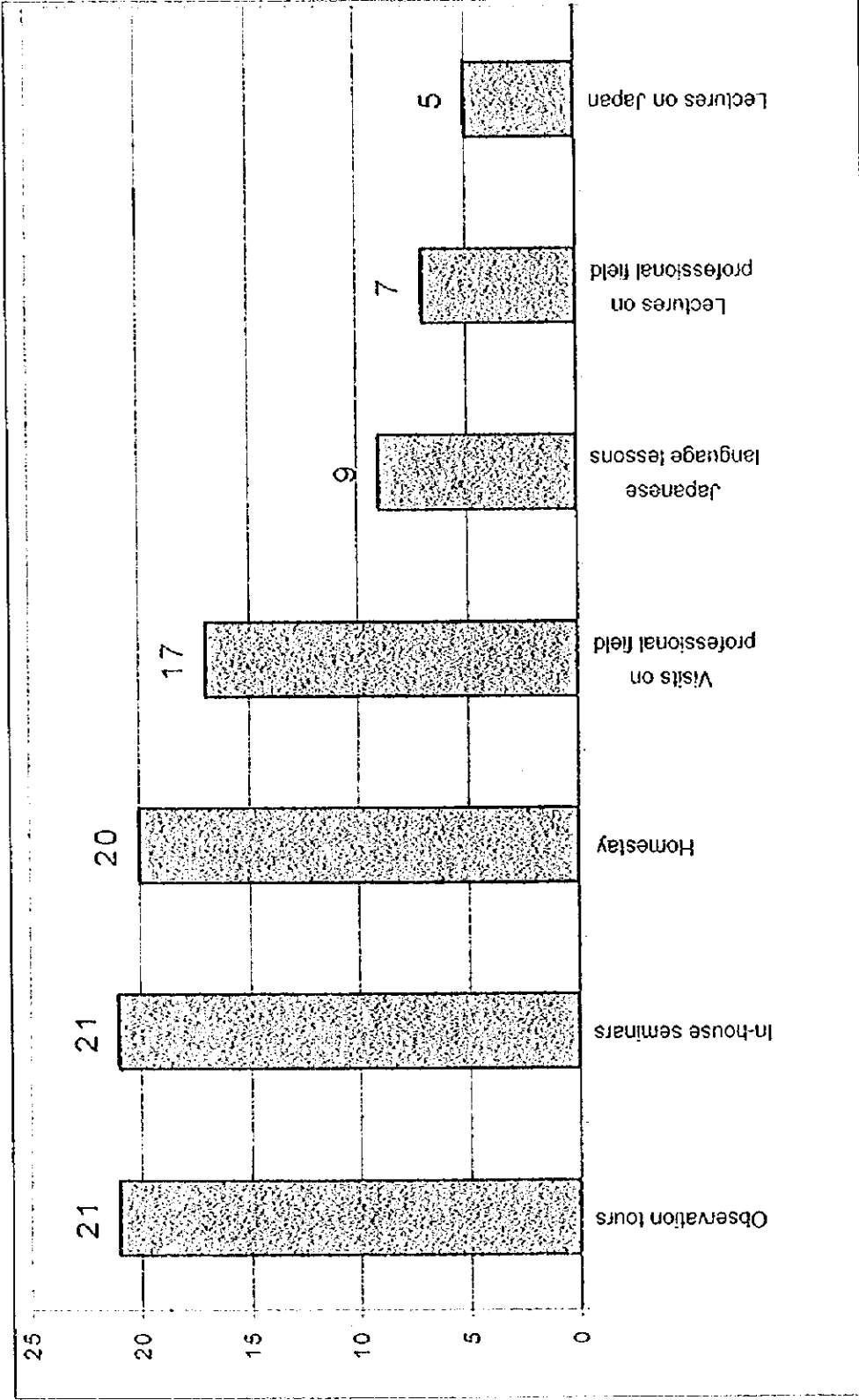


Figure 11: Percentage of Sum Total and Kinds of Activities Respondents Find Most Beneficial in the Program (Sorted From Most Beneficial to Least Beneficial)

QUESTION 6: *How did your impression of Japan change after participating in this program?*

Result:

Change in Impression	Response	% from Total
Much Better	58	57%
Better	36	36%
Worse	0	0%
No Change	4	4%
Don't Know	3	3%
Total	101	100%

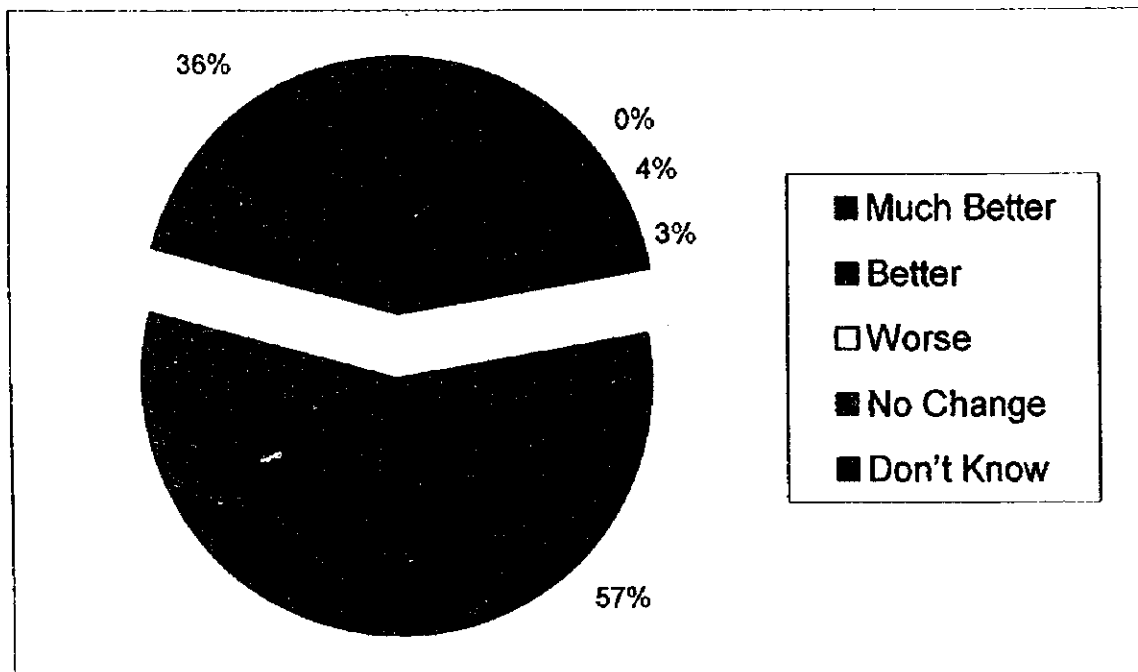


Figure 12: Percentage of Respondents and The Change in Their Impression After Participating in The Friendship Program

QUESTION 6: *How did your impression of Japan change after participating in this program?*

Result:

Change in Impression	Response	% from Total
Much Better	58	57%
Better	36	36%
Worse	0	0%
No Change	4	4%
Don't Know	3	3%
Total	101	100%

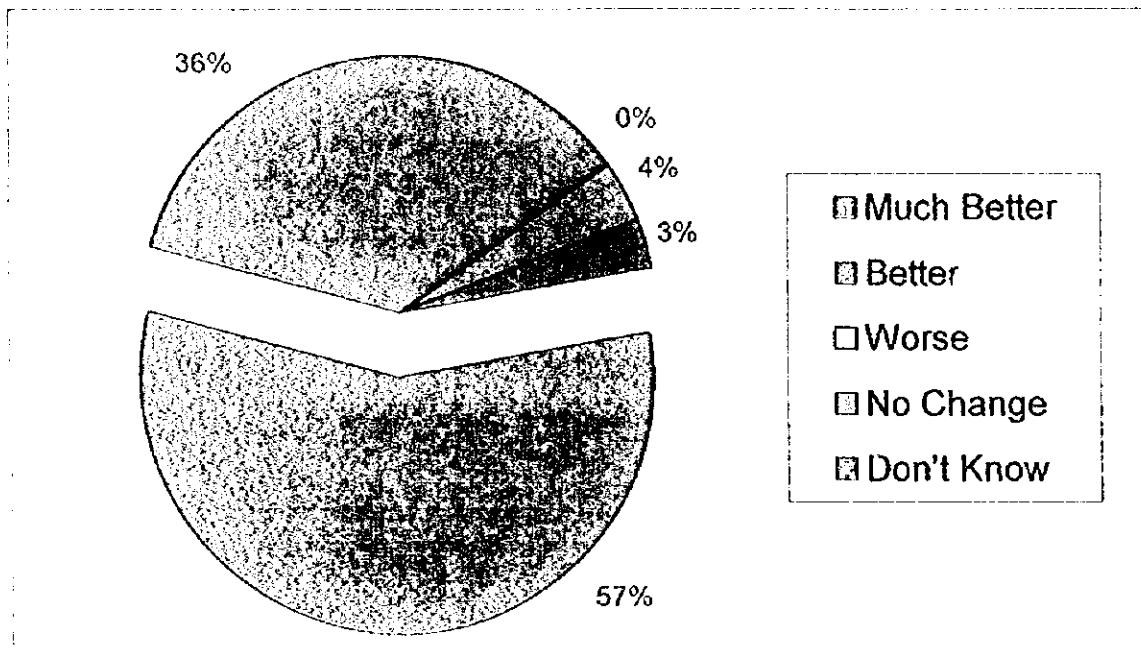


Figure 12: Percentage of Respondents and The Change in Their Impression After Participating in The Friendship Program

The open question as set by question (6) drew a lot of interest among respondents. The question asked was:

***For those who chose 1, 2 or 3, In what way did you change your impression?
(Open answer)***

Some of their answers are as follows:

- Japan's high state of technological advancement should not be ignored
- The Japanese have a very good time management; punctuality
- Impressed with the way they eat (respectfully), the way they live, the way they work and motivate themselves, their family life and willingness to accept apologies. One says that the Japanese are a very dynamic people.
- Japan is now seen as having changed its views towards ASEAN and are now showing great interest in doing business with ASEAN country. this is seen as a positive sign
- The Japanese have very high self-respect and respect for others, like to work together and are cooperative. A lot of respondents admired the hard work of the Japanese and the human qualities that they possess. Some even mentioned the work "social behaviour" to address these qualities. Others loved and were impressed by their culture, discipline, friendliness politeness, honesty, trustworthiness and willingness to help others. One respondent mentioned:

"I was impressed to see how much the Japanese people have changed over the years from an aggressive society to a very friendly one"

The following quotations from respondents were very touching to the heart, signifying how their impressions over Japan have changed greatly:

"They are more friendlier and courteous than I thought. It seems that the development of the country doesn't neglect the culture and society of Japan. It seems to be in parallel"

"I used to view Japan as a high-tech country; The people almost robotic, indifferent and too occupied to achieve technology; very detached. I was wrong"

"I always know that the Japanese are very friendly and courteous people, but experiencing their hospitality at first hand was the most wonderful experience"

"Japan is a country with a special sentiment. They love peace after the end of World War II"

QUESTION 7: *Are you still in touch with the people you met in the program? If so, with what kind of people do you still keep in touch? (Multiple answer)*

Result: (Sorted according to kind of people most kept in touch to least kept in touch)

Kind of People	Response	% of Sum Total
Participants from Brunei	68	28
Host family	47	19
Participants of other countries	38	16
Japanese Participants from Seminar	35	14
Program staff in-charge	30	12
Other Japanese met (not in seminar or homestay)	18	7
No, no longer in touch	10	4
Sum Total	246	100%

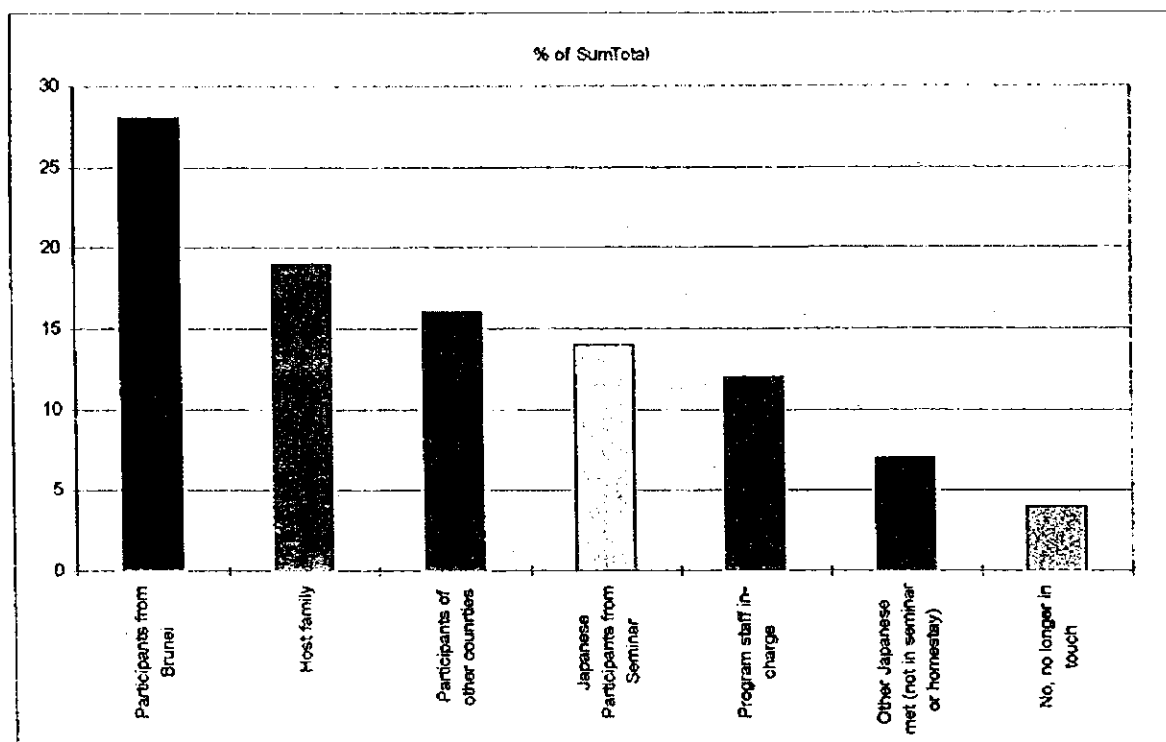


Figure 13: Percentage of Sum Total Still in Touch with the People They Met in the Program and the Kinds of People They Still Keep in Contacts With - Sorted according to Most Kept in Touch to Least Kept in Touch

QUESTION 8: Which do you think more important or better for the Program?
(Please choose a or b)

Result: Aspect 1

	Choice of Aspects	Reponse	% from Total
1a	Providing Professional Knowledge in Participants' Field	41	41%
1b	Promoting International Exchange	60	59%
Total response		101	100

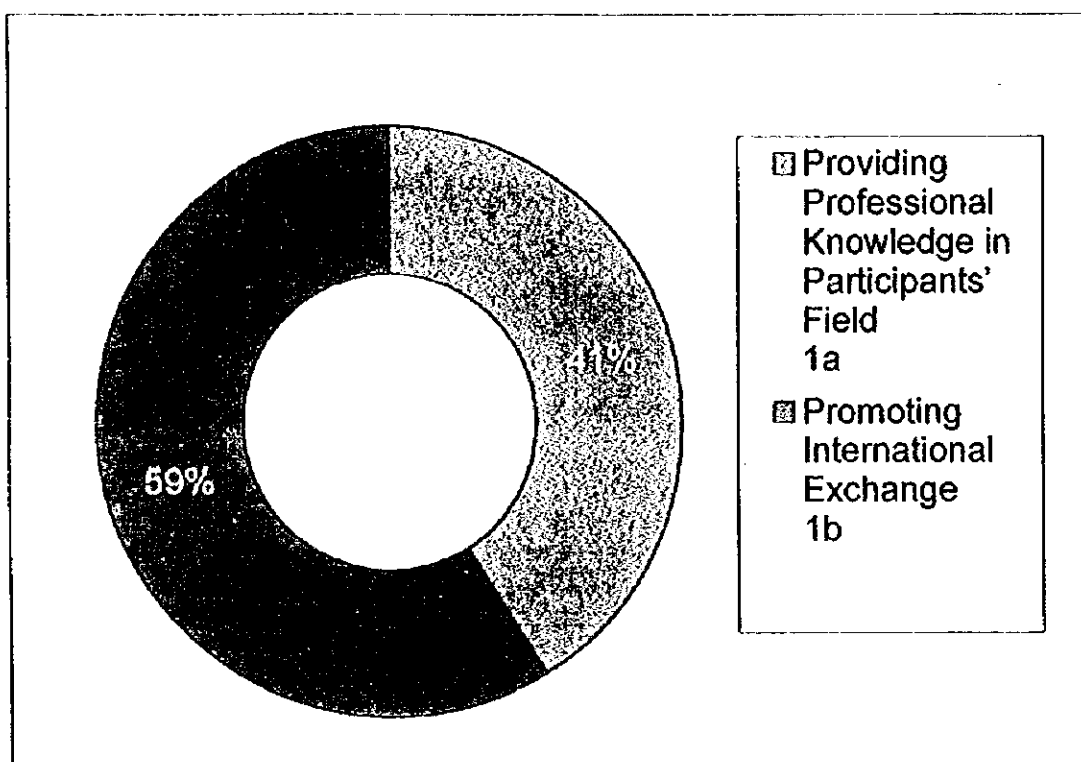


Figure 14: Percentage of Respondents and Their Opinions on Which Aspects They Think More Important or Better for the Program (Aspect 1)

Question 8 Aspect 2

Result: Aspect 2

	Choice of Aspects	Reponse	% from Total
2a	Maintain current balance of programs in Tokyo and local areas in Japan	34	34%
2b	Increase programs in local areas and regional cities in Japan	67	66%
Total		101	100

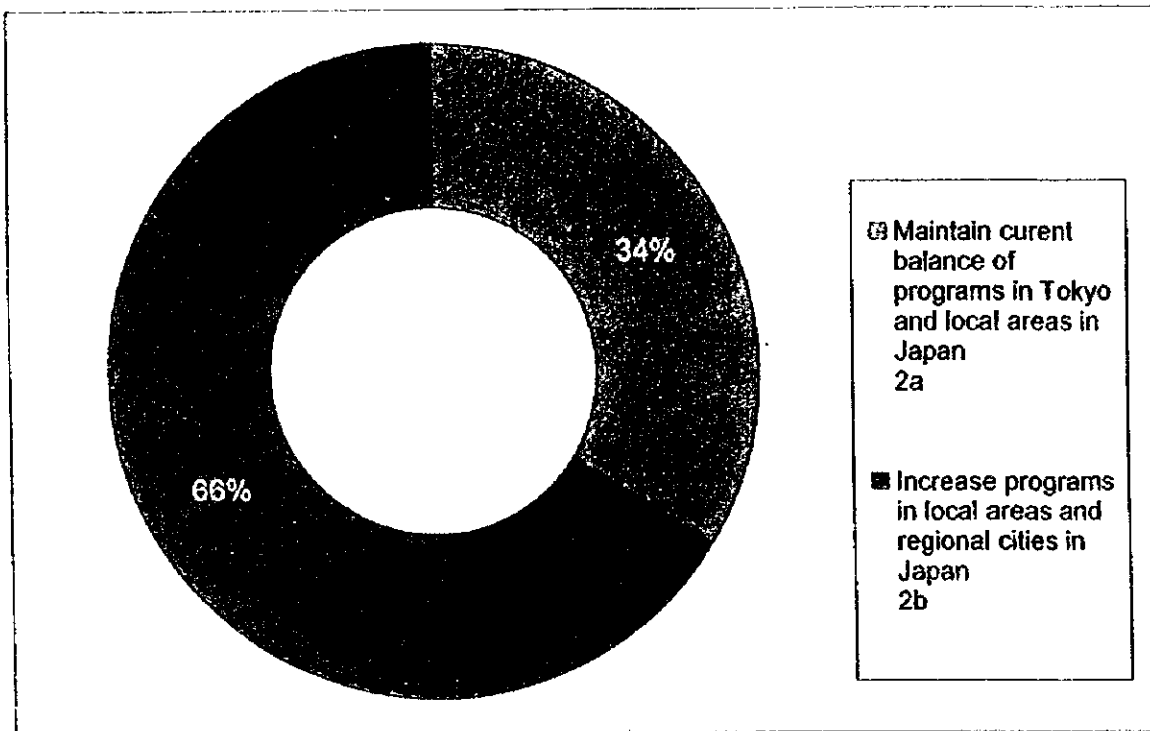


Figure 15: Percentage of Respondents and Their Opinions on Which Aspects They Think More Important or Better for the Program (Aspect 2)

Question 9 | *Do you receive "Dear Friends" twice a year"*

Result:

Answer	Response	% from Total
Yes	65	64%
No	36	36%
Total response	101	100%

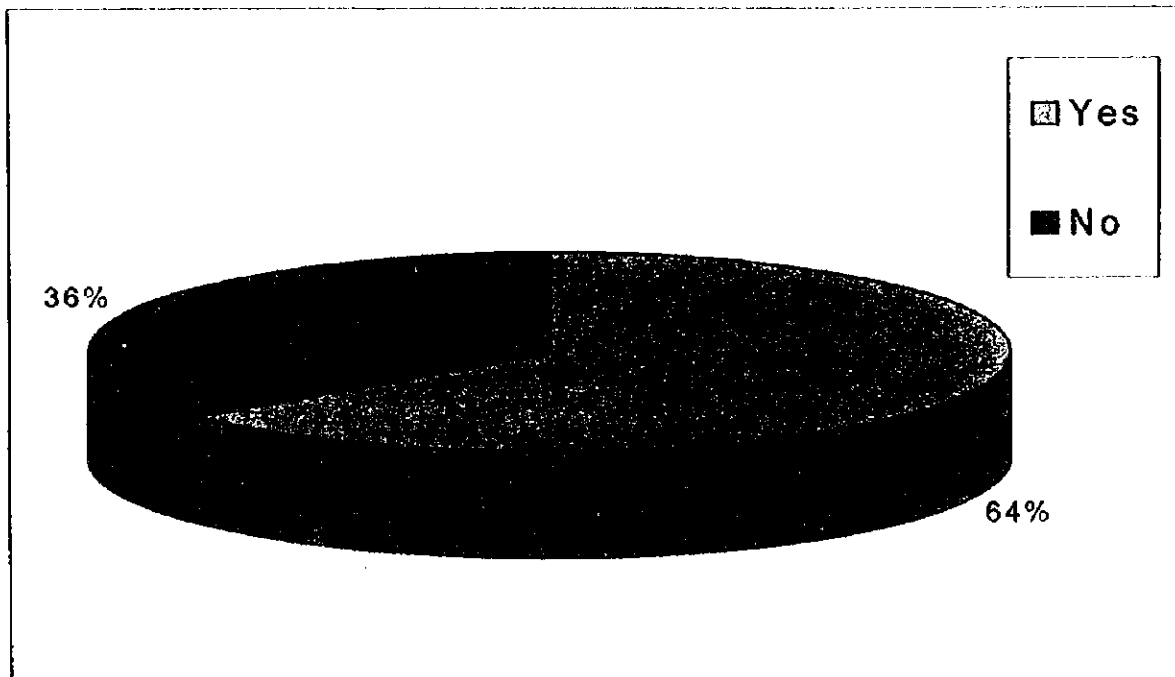


Figure 16: Percentage of Respondents who Receive / Do Not Receive "Dear Friends" Twice a Year

Concerning the open question of Question (9), with the question:

***If yes, what kind of articles do you think "Dear Friends" should include?
(Open answer)***

some of their responses / suggestions were as follows:

1. Updates on newly created programs where Bruneians / other ASEAN counterparts could participate
2. Slots on progress and development of participants in specific groups (ex-participants)
3. Activities made by youths in Japan
4. New year greetings
5. Articles on Brunei's or other countries' culture or interesting places (with pictures)
6. Latest technology in Japan
7. Column on finding lost friends
8. Change of addresses
9. Short briefs on developments in Japan, including beautiful places of interest
10. Feedback comments from host families and Japanese participants
11. News and activities from other ALUMNI Association
12. E-mail address of all participants having such addresses with picture i/d
13. Studying colleges in Japan
14. History of famous persons,

Questions 10 *Are you participating in the ALUMNI activities of the program in your country?*

Result:

Level of Participation	Response	% from Total
Yes, actively	16	16%
Yes, sometimes	26	26%
No	59	58%
Total	101	100%

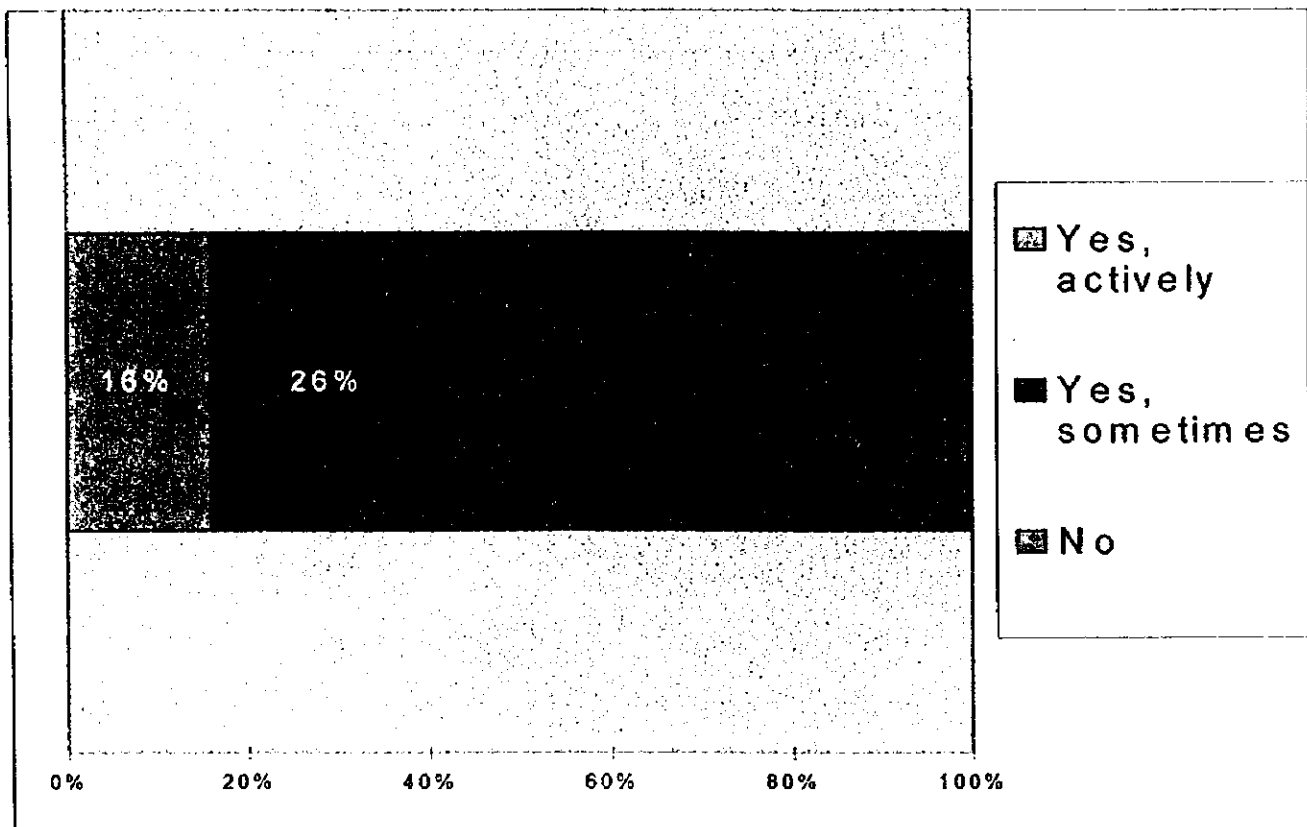


Figure 17: Percentage of Respondents and The Level of Their Participation in the ALUMNI Association Activities of the Program in Brunei Darussalam

Questions 10

Are you participating in the ALUMNI activities of the program in your country?

Result.

Level of Participation	Response	% from Total
Yes, actively	16	16%
Yes, sometimes	26	26%
No	59	58%
Total	101	100%

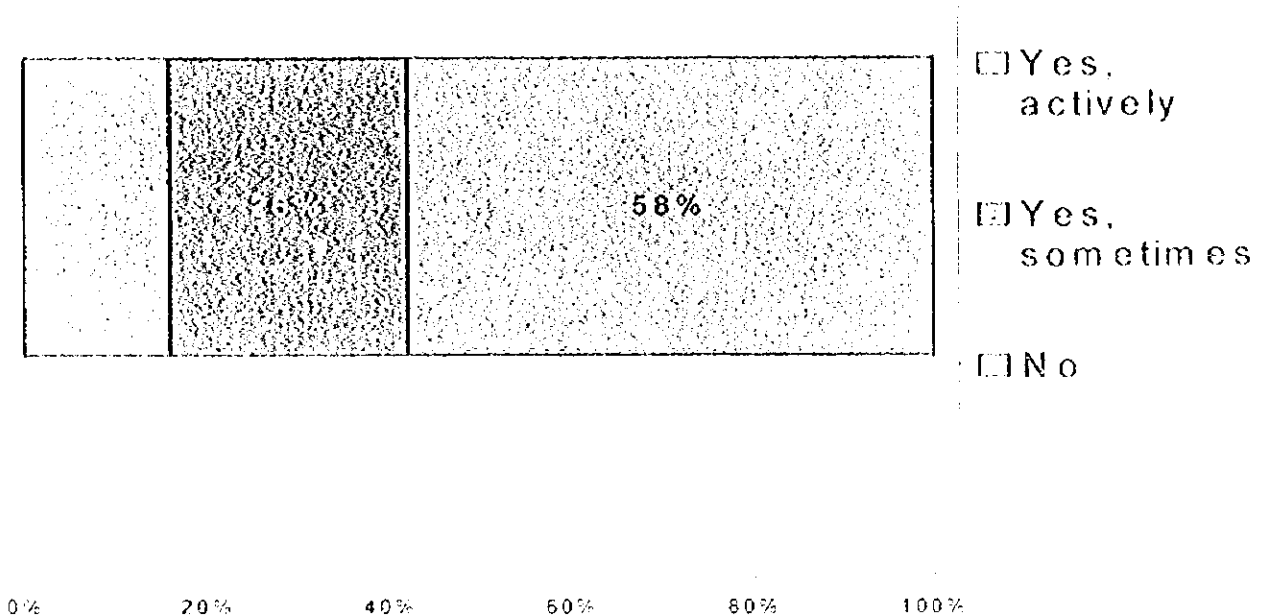


Figure 17: Percentage of Respondents and The Level of Their Participation in the ALUMNI Association Activities of the Program in Brunei Darussalam

Continuation of Question 10	If No, why? (Multiple Answer)
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Result: (Sorted to reasons - From Major reason to Minor reason)

Reasons	Response	% of Sum Total
No information about Alumni Association	32	35
Busy	20	22
Others	17	19
Do not live in capital city	13	14
Alumni Association is closed to new participants	7	8
Activities of Alumni Association uninteresting	2	2
Sum Total		100%

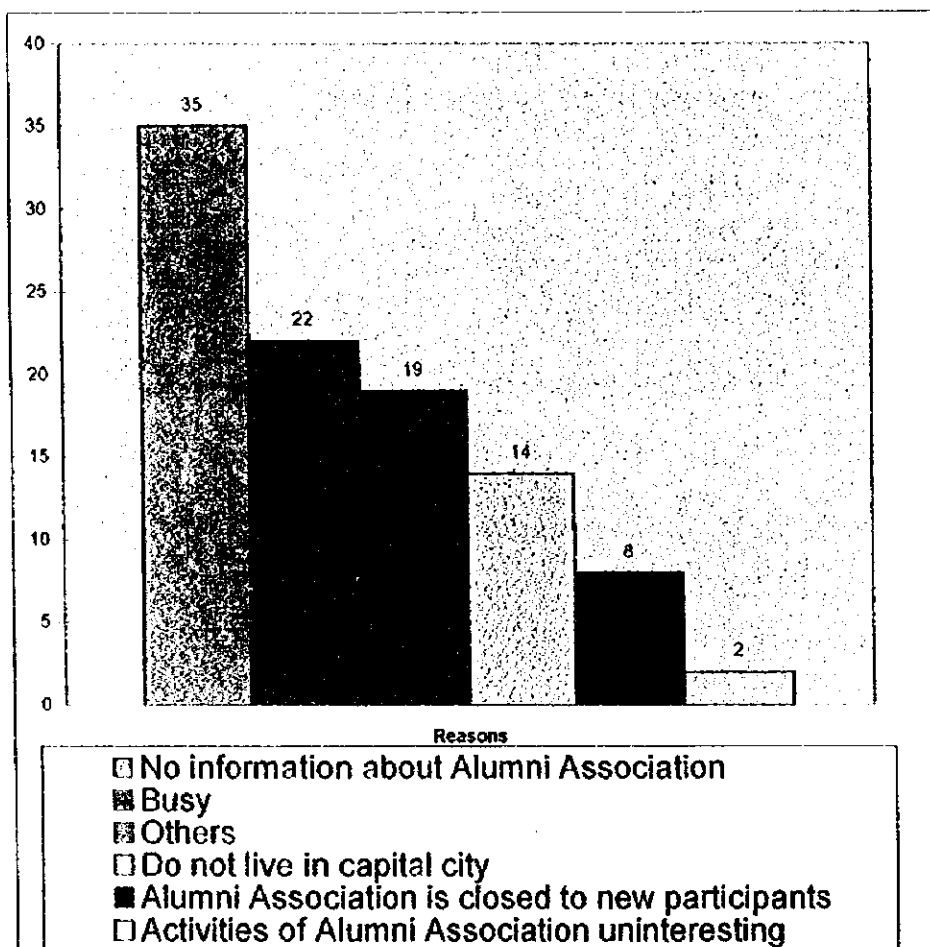


Figure 18: Percentage of Sum Total and Their Reasons For Not Participating in The ALUMNI Association Activities (Sorted According to Reasons - from Major Reasons to Minor Reasons)

Question 11	<i>What kind of activities do you think the Alumni Association should have in the future?</i> (Multiple Answer)
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Result: Sorted according to kinds of activities - from most needed activity to least needed activity

Activities	Response
International Exchange activity with Japan	73
Activities establishing network among members	70
International exchange activity with Alumni Assoc. of ASEAN	70
Activities to support people needing help	59
Activities for environmental issues	50
Activities for development of Brunei	40
Orientations for new participants of program	34
Activities for world peace	30

Graph - see next page

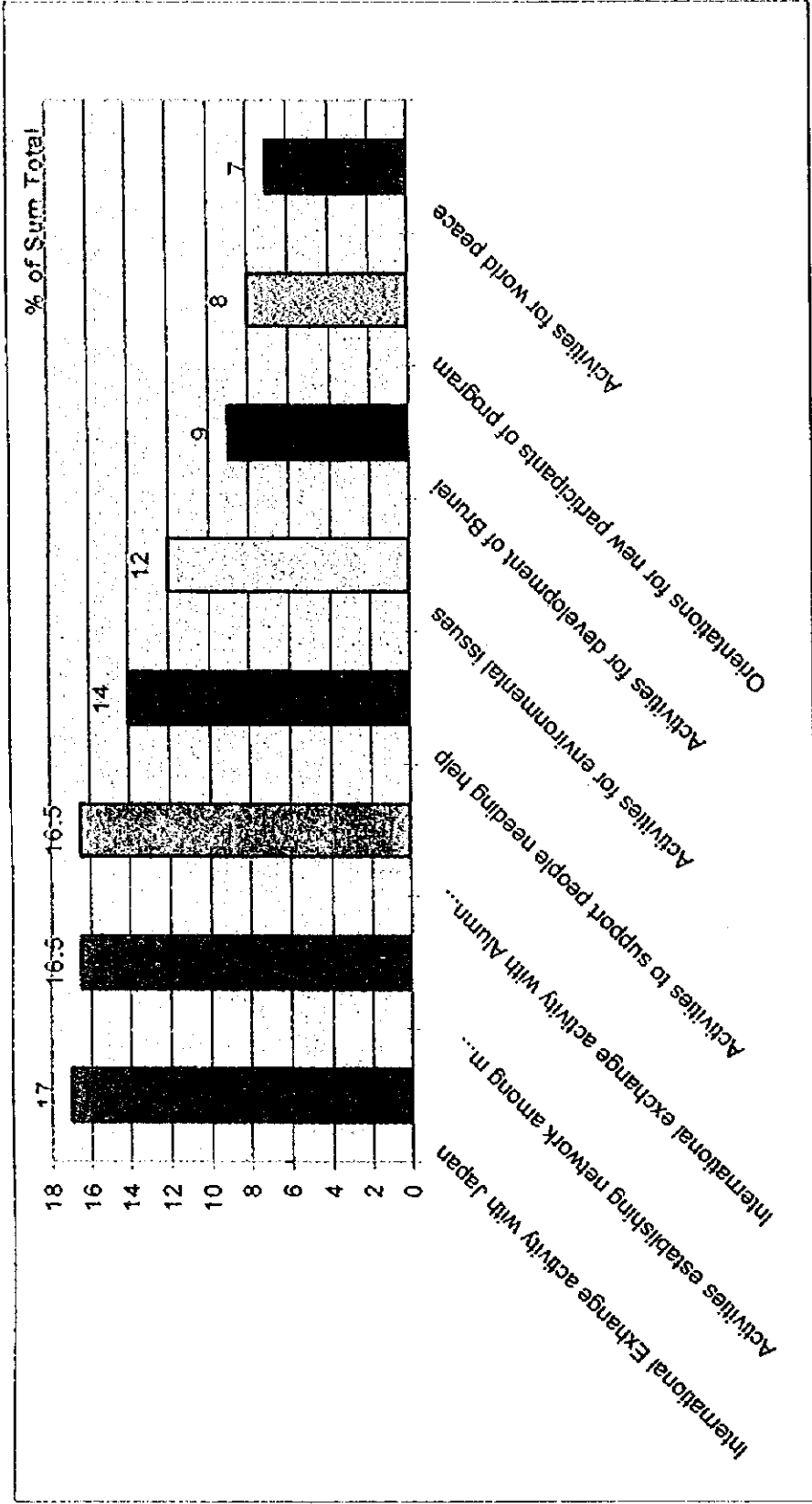


Figure 19: Percentage of Sum Total and the Kinds of Activities They Think The ALUMNI Association Should Have in the Future.

The open question under this paragraph asked:

Any other Ideas (Open answer)

Some of respondents' ideas are as follows:

- Organising a sports meet for ASEAN Alumni
- Focus activities in the other districts of Brunei also, to give equal chance of participation and for much closer proximity to their places
- Visit to JICA / Japan and to ASEAN countries
- Reunion with members of ex-participants of the Friendship programme for the 21st century every 5 years.

Question 12

**What do you expect from JICA in supporting the ALUMNI Association
(Open answer)**

This question is an open question and also drew a lot of response from respondents. A summary of their response is as follows:

Supports

- Material (funds / financial) and kind support, moral and professional support for the development of Brunei's Alumni Association
- JICA to assist in making funds available for example by influencing big multi-national companies eg Toyota, Tobishima etc to provide funds for the Alumni Association

Activities

- Catalyse reunions between Japanese and Brunei members
- Coordinate annual gathering in each ASEAN member country by turn as well as meeting in Tokyo once a year
- JICA to organise seminars bi-annually
- JICA to arrange some activities for Alumni Association
- JICA to impart management skills

Network Exchange

- JICA to support future finance in establishing network
- JICA to update contact addresses of ex-participants and to facilitate correspondence and network
- JICA to frequently supply "Dear Friends" to all ex-participants
- JICA to give up-to-date information on Friendship developments in Japan
- JICA to continuously be in contact with Brunei and the Alumni Association so that they will not lose interest over Japan

Despite all these "demanding", Brunei Darussalam is very thankful to JICA for having supported PERTAB-21 since its humble beginnings in 1988, as coined by a respondent:

"We, PERTAB - 21 from Brunei Darussalam wish to express our thanks and gratitude to all JICA staff and JICA's contribution regardless how big or small, which in one way or the other has contributed towards the good success of ALUMNI Association. We hope that in future, JICA will continue on supporting us to make the the ALUMNI Association more successful"

This open question is a general question. Some of respondent's suggestions may be summarised as follows:

Reunions

- Because of the beneficial traits of the visit, there should be another opportunity to visit Japan for the second time. The duration ranged among respondents, some mentioned from 3 - 8 years after their first visit
- JICA should embark on a small project involving all ASEAN participants
- Joining ALUMNI Association should be made compulsory

The Programme

- Future participants should have a better understanding of English to actively converse with other participants
- The 21st Century Programme should also be hosted by other countries of ASEAN, but organised by JICA
- JICA should organise a follow-up program by conducting activities, for example exchange of environmental staff or participants to increase knowledge in globalisation of the use of high-technology
- The programme in Japan should have sports activities on a certain day of each week to reduce tension.
- JICA programme should be maintained to keep ASEAN countries and Japan intact in terms of human relations and human resource development
- The YFP should organise more in-house seminars with youths
- The visit to Japan should have more visits to industrial complex, technological research centre

Others

- One person writes that because he is a fan of the Nagano Winter Olympics Games, then "JICA should invite the ASEAN Component group for the Nagano Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony.
- Even though it is realised that Brunei Darussalam will no longer be invited to participate in the next phase of the Friendship Youth Programme, it is hoped that JICA would:
 - a. encourage Japanese / youths / foster families to visit Brunei Darussalam
 - b. organise a seminar / forum on specific topics of world problems for specific groups
- Working attachments in Japan

3.5 Statistical Analysis

In analysing the statistics, it is pertinent to bear in mind that any analysis to any particular situation is an attempt to achieve an improvement in a particular system, and therefore is an endeavour to attain what has been set as the prime objectives of this evaluation project, namely: The improvement of the activities of the Youth Friendship Programme, specifically, the 21st Century ASEAN - Japan Programme.

From the questionnaire and the statistics that have been derived from the results, it can be summarised that the survey attempts to improve the programme and therefore projects for the improvement of the undertakings of the following principal organisations:

1. The Government of Brunei Darussalam, specifically, the Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture Youth and Sports
2. The Government of Japan, and therefore Japan International Cooperation Agency
3. PERTAB - 21, Brunei Darussalam's ALUMNI Association
4. Ex-participants of the Program from Japan, including those involved , eg host families

These are organisations that have dealt heavily and closely with the YFP for the 21st Century. Hence, the outcome of the results of each of the question targets either one or more of the above agencies.

3.5.1 Overall Outcome

Generally speaking, respondents have been positive about the overall running and operationalisation of the Youth Friendship Programme for the 21st Century:

- A majority (62% of all respondents) thought that the selection process was fair
- A majority of them felt that they have benefited a great deal from such program
- None of the respondents said that their impression of Japan changed for the worse. In fact over 80% thought that their vision or impression of Japan got better or much better
- Over half of the respondents thought that the promotion of international exchange was more important than providing professional knowledge in the participants' fields
- Also over half of them thought that programs in local areas and regional cities of Japan should be increased as opposed to maintaining a current balance of programmes between Tokyo and local areas in Japan
- A majority of the respondents was of the opinion that JICA should continuously be in contact with Brunei and the Alumni Association so that friendship ties will remain and that the region remains united.

3.5.2 Analysis on Specific Issues

a) Initiation of the Program

Program initiation has always been the task of the Embassy of Japan through the extended arm of JICA to disseminate information with regards to invitation to join the programme. This has been properly channelled to all government departments and ministries and other agencies concerned via the Department of Youths and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

From the statistics (Question 1), the government offices has been the primary source of information in publicising the invitation to the programme. Since most departments indicate a continuous commitment to participate in the programme, it is no wonder that 42 respondents mentioned their own working place as their main source of information for the program.

As the YFP is primarily a government-to-government affair, it is only fair to say that the Department of Youth and Sports has played a leading role in disseminating information regarding the invitation to the programme.

b). The Selection Process

Although the selection process has been favoured to be *fair* by 62% of the respondents, its fairness is still debated by about 9% of the respondents. 29% had no idea as to the fairness or otherwise of the process.

Due to the small population of Brunei Darussalam, a formalised selection of participants involving stringent rules and regulation may be considered a troublesome affair. However, some ex-participants are of the view that since participants will become "*ambassadors*" to Japan, it is vital that such representation should be an able minded set of group, possessing good academic qualifications, good attitudes, are vocal and creative in their thinking. As such, written tests and interviews should be conducted to ensure the effective filtering of applicants and to produce the best representation of the people of Brunei Darussalam. It is pertinent that participants should become involved and really "*participate*" in the programme as opposed to treating the programme as "*a holiday outing*". We believe that these are points worth noting, particularly by the Department of youth and Sports.

c) Participation in the Programme

Reasons for the participation of candidates to Japan are obvious: to visit Japan, to make Japanese friends, to improve their professional knowledge and to be part of an international exchange program. All of these point to the need to have an exposure to

the outside world and be in contact with new foreign friends and exchange culture, experiences, ideas and thinking about many aspects of life and their professionalism. It seems that most ex-participants are driven by a self-desire to want to learn about Japan, rather than being pushed and be advised by their organisation. Given the opportunity, it is believed that perhaps close to 98% of youths in any government department would never want to lose from the chance of visiting Japan.

The fact that Brunei is already an independent nation and is fully aware of the beauty and wonders of Japan, the opulence of its natural world, social culture and heritage has further strengthened and reinforced the aspiration of young and old Bruneians to explore Japan and know its people.

A surprising 25% of respondents agreed and partly agreed that their participation in the programme was to win honour. However, by virtue of the success of Japan in its economic performance and in promoting world peace, it is perhaps less surprising to learn of the status that one can get after visiting Japan.

d). Benefits from the Visit

This question has a co-relation with question (6) regarding respondents' impression of Japan after participating in the programme.

It is no wonder that due to the popularity of YFP among local Bruneians, a colossal number of people thought of it as being beneficial. Different to the benefits that one can get out of reading a book or encyclopedia about Japan and its culture, technology, people and growth, more spiritual benefits would be gained from joining the YFP and experiencing everything at first hand. It is also no wonder that every ex-participants will never escape from gaining a strong spiritual and personal attachments to that "nation of the rising sun". Almost all will never turn down any second offers to visit Japan again.

92% of respondents have learnt about the society of Japan and over 50% have changed their way of thinking over Japan and understood the importance of international exchange. A great deal of emphasis is placed upon the socio-cultural benefits of the YFP, rather than them seeing the programme as their means to advance their career. Furthermore over 80% of respondents had improved their impression of Japan to better or much better and none thought that it had made their vision of Japan worse. This is a positive sign and since this YFP has the power to change ex-participants thinking to the better, then more exchange programme should be encouraged in future, so that many more citizens of Brunei Darussalam and surely of the other ASEAN's population can participate in this programme in the future.

This shows that the promotion of mutual understanding through such programmes have played a significant part in boosting a citizen's morale to a greater height, for upon their return, it brought along with them the experience of being in a model country - their time management, economic growth and good human qualities - so that they become

traits that any citizens should follow to produce a society that is equally in harmony with their standing of economic growth as with their sustainable culture, heritage and tradition.

Hence, this statistic is probably indicative such that the programme should be continued in future for the sake of the region's socio-economic and capacity building efforts, mutual understanding, peace and harmony.

e). Activities in the Programme

This question may contribute to efforts being made to further concentrate or highlight more activities in specific areas of the program.

Over 50 respondents thought that activities during observation tours, in-house seminars, homestay and site visits to professional field area (in order of priority) are very beneficial in attaining their objectives of visiting Japan. As mentioned earlier, although basic lectures on Japan are also given at the beginning of the programme, more benefits are still gained during observation tours, in-house seminars and site visits, for they would gain first hand experiences in these areas.

The importance of the homestay programme in inculcating ex-participants' knowledge with regards to the practical Japanese way of life would also be emphasised. This is a vital component of the programme in that real experiences in talking and sharing stories and experiences are truly at heart.

Related to this is the need to concentrate activities in the local areas and regional cities of Japan. 66% of respondents thought that there is need to do this than to maintain the current balance of programs between Tokyo and local areas in Japan. The reason for this may be:

- Japanese culture and way of life is more authentically portrayed in the local areas especially through the homestay programme.
- The activities in the local areas and regional cities offer less hectic timetable than the activities in Tokyo.
- Ex-participants felt that there are more "settled-in" in the local and regional cities, as opposed to the many transitions of hotels in Tokyo.
- The peace and serenity of the local areas offer greater "spiritual food" than the hectic and busy programmes of Tokyo

Hence, future organisers and coordinators of the activities in Japan, could concentrate more on these activities and even increase the time duration so that future participants will reap more benefits out of their visit.

Other suggestion to improve future programs of YFP can be found under Question 13.

f). Creating Bonds of Friendship and Contacts

One of the great impacts of the programme is the creation of bonds of friendship among those who were involved in the programme, and that includes homestay families, in-house seminar participants, Japanese and ASEAN friends that they found in Japan and such like. This has been the true picture given by many ex-participants upon their return to Brunei. The same is true with regards to writing correspondences to Japanese friends and other ASEAN friends whom they had met face to face in Japan.

Unfortunately, such experiences are, more often than not, only short-lived, for it was only in the beginning part of their return that contacts are kept continuous and constant. However, as time passed by, and as more and more of our office work require our ever stronger commitment and as more and more ex-participants engage in their new married and family life, such contacts would tend to slowly dissolve into mere "end of year greetings cards" and postcards, or even totally vanish into mere history! However, with the upsurge in the latest computer technology, some still engage in e-mail talks.

Keeping contacts with friends is considered as part and parcel of the YFP objectives so that friendship ties could be established and continue to sustain forever. What is clear is that Bruneian participants are still keeping in touch with each other for the obvious reasons of being in the same country and frequent meetings with each other. However, some participants do still keep in touch with their foster families and paid visits to each other. This should be encouraged. But due to the high expense that this can incur, other means of keeping contacts should be established, such as being suggested by one participant for JICA to have an "*International Relay Chat*" within the internet, so that computer users can still access their friends and maintain contacts. Addresses of e-mail users among ex-participants and those involved in the programme, eg homestay families, should also be publicised.

Although the number of respondents receive "*Dear Friends*" regularly, there is still a significant number of people who are still out of touch with this newsletter. Keeping addresses up-to-date should become the responsibility of the each Government department that organises the YFP in each country. A frequent and regular update of ex-participants' address should be conducted to ensure contacts and communication among themselves. Regularly, this should also be relayed to JICA in Japan, through the local JICA office in each country. Such information as e-mail address, column on finding friends, slots on progress and development of participants and such like should also be reflected in this newsletter.

Another means of maintaining contacts and goodwill among ex-participants of the same country and even internationally is to join the ALUMNI society - PERTAB - 21. From the statistics, a frustrating 58% responded that they do not participate in the ALUMNI activities of PERTAB - 21, because of being too busy or worse, they had no information about ALUMNI Association. Again, contrary to PERTAB's thinking, PERTAB - 21 never

fails to invite candidate participants to join membership to PERTAB - 21, on two occasions:

- During the Pre-Departure Orientation Training Programme, when members of PERTAB - 21 gave their briefing about the Society and invited their involvement in the Association
- During the post-mortem meeting organised by the Department of Youth and Sports held upon their return from Japan, when forms to join PERTAB - 21 were distributed to new ex-participants.

The benefits of joining the Association is regularly highlighted during briefing to candidate participants to YFP. From the questionnaire, only a small % may be said to be actively involved in the programme (16%). It is therefore urged that leaflets or pamphlets on PERTAB - 21 being formulated and distributed to all government departments, particularly those whose employees are ex-participants of YFP for the 21st Century.

The activities of PERTAB - 21 are not just confined to nationally, but also internationally, where youth camps and AJAFA - 21 activities are often organised., giving participants the opportunity to meet their old friends and even create new ones among themselves.

g). Local Programmes and Activities (in Brunei Darussalam)

Over 50 respondents thought that the following activities should be organised by PERTAB - 21 in future - arranged in order of priority:

- International exchange activity with Japan
- Activities establishing network among members
- International exchange activity with Alumni Association of ASEAN
- Activities to support people needing help
- Activities for environmental issues.

These should be considered as the 5 most important activities that could be contemplated for further detail in the future. Already, the above activities have been organised in one way or the other, except that such ideas should be further strengthened and be intensified to achieve our goals.

Exchange activities have always been part of PERTAB - 21's commitment to create not just intra-network (among local ex-participants) but also inter-network (among ASEAN friends and Japan). This is primarily undertaken through the AJAFA - 21 activities, Youth Camp, visit to ALUMNI Association, eg to PAJAF (Philippines) and visits by friends and colleagues on a privately organised mission.

PERTAB - 21 has also been very active in promoting and implementing humanitarian activities, such as fund-raising to help victims of house fire and other catastrophes and throwing festivity celebrations and mingling with the handicapped children of Brunei. This shall continue to become part of the Association's event, perhaps annually.

Other global issues have also been part of PERTAB's activity. World Environmental issues have been taken at heart by PERTAB - 21, having successfully jointly-organised and coordinated 2 ASEAN - Japan level seminars and workshop on environmental issues in Brunei Darussalam. PERTAB - 21 is blessed by having members who are endowed with diverse capabilities and professionalisms. PERTAB - 21 has managed to fully utilise these diversity of knowledge in implementing their activities.

The Association will try its best in congregating ex-participants to gather and exchange ideas. One plan is to organise a sports meet among members of ASEAN Alumni.

h). JICA's Support and Other Suggestions

The support of JICA in the ALUMNI activities of PERTAB - 21 has been tremendous and PERTAB - 21 felt that PERTAB - 21's appreciation will never be adequate, considering what JICA has done to contribute the growth and success of PERTAB - 21 into what it is today. Again sincere thanks to JICA for this assistance, support and contribution all this while.

Nonetheless, in order to keep JICA in contact with PERTAB - 21, some suggestions from respondents can be found under Question 12.