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Report on the 39th Annual General Meeting of Persatuan Alumni AOTS Malaysia (PAAM)

– by the Hon Secretary, Mr. Tan Teng Ek



Group photo of most of the PAAM members who were present at the 39th AGM.



Members listening attentively during the 39th AGM proceedings.



L to R: Mr. S.S. Yeong, Dr. Stephen Wong, Ms. Valerie Cheong, Ms. Sharon Lim, Ms. Stephanie Yap.

PAAM held its 39th Annual General Meeting at Crystal Crown Hotel, Petaling Jaya on 28th April 2024 at 2.00pm. A total of 30 members attended this AGM. Before the commencement of the AGM, the general assembly observed a minute of silence for the late Ms. Lee Sin Peng, a life member and member of the Central Committee 2022-2024.

It was reported that for the year 2023, activities organized were

1. "Self 5S" talk held on 18th February 2023
2. The 38th AGM held on 30th April 2023
3. "Benefits of Costing" held on 17th June 2023
4. A visit to the Secret Garden @ 1Utama on 11th October 2023.

Denso Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. continued to engage PAAM to conduct basic and intermediate levels of Japanese Language Training Classes for their employees, held on 1st August 2023 to 13th October 2023 and 16th October 2023 to 29th November 2023 respectively

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39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (CONT'D FROM COVER STORY)

An election of office bearers for years 2024 – 2026 session was held.

Members elected to the Central Committee are as follows:-

President:	MS. CHEONG LYE FOON
Vice President:	DR STEPHEN WONG KAM SUN
Hon General Secretary:	MR. TAN TENG EK
Hon Treasurer:	MR. KOM YEW HOO
Ordinary Committee Members:	MR. GAN SIONG HENG
	MR. KHOR KAI TONG
	MR. SIAO KENT WAH
	MR. HOW CHEE SENG
	MR. KHOR KAI TONG
	MR. YANG CHOR LEONG
	MR. SUBRAMANIAM NARAYANAN
	EN. ZAKARIA MOHD RAHIM
Honorary Auditors:	Ir. N. Jayaseelan and Ms. Sharon Lim Boon Hong

The AGM was also informed that PAAM State Representatives are:

Perak: Ms. AuYong Hui Nee

Johore: Mr. Richard Eng Soi Tee

Penang: Ms. Yee Wai Yan, Delia

ANNOUNCEMENT

40th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PERSATUAN ALUMNI AOTS MALAYSIA

*Sunday, 20th April 2025, 2 pm
@ Crystal Crown Hotel Petaling Jaya*

2025 PAAM'S AGM

What is AOTS?

The Association for Overseas Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Partnerships (AOTS) is an organization for human resources development in developing countries to promote technical cooperation through training, expert dispatch and other programs.

All AOTS ex-trainees are entitled to apply to be a member of the Persatuan Alumni AOTS Malaysia (PAAM) which is the alumni association for all who have participated in AOTS Japan training programs or training events conducted locally by PAAM.

To be a member all you need to do is to fill up a membership application form and submit it to the Secretariat office. There are 3 categories of membership ie life member, ordinary member and affiliate membership.

PAAM OFFICE

No. 52A Jalan SS 22/25, 47400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
Tel: 03-77262863 Fax: 03-77282348 Email: paam@aots.org

Announcements



JAPANESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS WANTED

PAAM is looking for freelance Japanese Language teachers who can teach small groups during daytime or evenings in clients' office premises. The person must have teaching experience and must be able to speak the language fluently if he/she is not a native speaker. Must have own transport. Interested – please write in to paam@aots.org for further details etc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Members,

The planet Earth revolves but we humans and times evolve.

Another year of connection among members of PAAM had passed. Our alumni stand as a testament to shared experiences and learning; and the bonds of friendship to one another.

As all aspects of human existence are constantly evolving, you would have witnessed how PAAM is definitely not the same as when each one of us joined from years ago. Most of our senior members are now enjoying their golden age. The economics of doing business has not been spared. PAAM now must adjust to embrace all the changes and challenges.

Among the events of 2024, PAAM had participated in the regional FOSAAS Convention held in July 2024, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. My good-self represented PAAM in this convention. This year's theme was **"Empowering Sustainable Development through International Collaboration and Cultural Exchange"**.

PAAM was honoured with a visit from Ms. Saito, AOTS Japan representative who is stationed in Jakarta. She was briefed on our current status with aging members and proliferation of many language schools charging cheaper fees. PAAM is deeply grateful to our administrative staff who had been constantly promoting AOTS Japanese Language training classes and maintaining contact with our loyal Japanese Language Senseis.

We also witnessed in 2024, the change from the usual four-yearly Convention held in Japan to an online Convention. PAAM participated in the AOTS Regional Federations of AASs, held over Zoom in October, 2024 for about three hours.

Most local private companies are allegedly reconsidering more economical ways to train their staff. This can be seen in the low application rate for trainings in Japan. PAAM, nevertheless is grateful to those companies who submitted applications for their employees.

Looking ahead, the Central Committee will be more committed to creating opportunities for members to connect and collaborate, through professional development programs and social gatherings, there are countless ways for you to stay involved and help shape the future of PAAM. However, how good the ideas, programs and plans are, they would not be successful if there is not enough support from members.

For the past year, I am deeply grateful to those of you for the ongoing involvement to keep our association active. Together, we continue to demonstrate the power of what can be accomplished when we come together as a united and engaged alumni.

Thank you for your continued and unwavering support, and I look forward to more participation we will share in the years to come.

Warmest regards and wishing all members a great 2025.

Valerie Cheong

Cheong Lye Foon, Valerie
President, PAAM

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CCM



Mr. Kom Yew Hoo

Mr. Kom Yew Hoo's 40-year career was in the FMCG (Fast-Moving Consumer Goods) sector. He attended an entrepreneur's course in Japan in 1990. A life member of PAAM, his professional qualifications include the ACCA from the Chartered Institute of Marketing UK, and the British Institute of Management. He had worked in Malaysia and in China, in companies like Malayan Tobacco, Pepsi Cola, Cadbury, and Coca-Cola.

In China, he innovated solutions especially in packaging and revolutionizing the logistics process. He pioneered a new plastic film packaging method for Coca-Cola, replacing corrugated boxes. After retiring in 2008, he founded Glenwell Management Consulting to share his expertise and experience.



Mr. Gan Siong Heng

Mr. Gan Siong Heng, a life member of PAAM graduated with a Diploma of Agriculture from the University of Agriculture, Serdang. He attended two technical courses in Japan; Operation & Maintenance of Yanmar Agricultural Machinery in AOTS Japan in 1988 and Agricultural Machinery Management under JICA (OSIC) in 1994. His working experience from 1975 until 2011 was mainly in the Agricultural Machinery sector. Having attended Tourism Studies and later Tourist Guide Training, he is now a Freelance Tourist Guide since 2011.



Mr. R. Chinniah

In April, 1990, Mr. R. Chinniah was selected for a six-months on the job training in Japan. Sumitomo Electric Sintered Components (M) Sdn. Bhd. sent him to learn Japanese language at PAAM.

A lifetime member of PAAM since May, 1990, he had participated in some of the PAAM activities and will continue to participate in more in future.

He is still working in the same company since 1990.



Mr. Subramaniam Narayanan

Mr. Subramaniam Narayanan, holds a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and a PhD in Operations Management. He is also certified in IATF 16949 and ISO 9000. He attended an Occupational safety and health (OSHA) in 1996 and an Operations Management training in AOTS Japan, Tokyo in 2006.

Mr. Subramaniam worked as an Engineer in UMW Toyota for 12 years and as a QA/QC Manager for 8 years. He then worked in United Sanoh Sdn. Bhd. as QA Manager, ISO Coordinator and OHSa Secretary for 10 years. He joined Samsung as QA Manager, ISO9001 & ISO14001 Coordinator for 4 years. Currently he works as the QA/QC Manager at Vasco Automotive Sdn. Bhd.



En Zakaria bin Mohd Rahim

En Zakaria bin Mohd Rahim is a life member of PAAM. He had attended training in Japan arranged by National Panasonic, intermittently from 1979 to 2004, in Quality Engineering and by UMW Toyota, intermittently from 2005 to 2018 in Quality Management. He had been working with Matsushita Electric Co (M) Bhd. (National Panasonic) for 25 years and Assembly Services Sdn. Bhd. He also worked in UMW Toyota for 15 years mainly in Quality System, Quality Engineering & Training. He had retired since 2022.

e-INVOICING TALK AT PAAM OFFICE

E-invoicing in Malaysia is becoming increasingly important as the government pushes for digitalization and greater efficiency in the tax system. CCM of PAAM successfully organized a talk on e-invoicing which was conducted in PAAM office on 10th August, 2024. The talk was well attended by members and friends. The speaker, Mr. Timothy Yeo, from Adrian Yeo PLT., gave a comprehensive briefing on various relevant areas of e-invoicing. Here are a few:



Group photo of members and friends who attended the talk.

Mandatory for Large Businesses with RM 100 million+ turnover must adopt e-invoicing; SMEs to follow by 2025.

Real-Time Submission: Invoices are submitted electronically.

Invoices must follow a specific digital format compatible with government systems.

During the Q & A, many attendees actively participated. By understanding some of these key points, —especially those in business— one can better navigate the transition to e-invoicing and ensure compliance with the new requirements.

“Breaking Myths: Raising Awareness about Breast Cancer in Men and How to Maintain Good Health” -Written by: L.F. Cheong, S.R.N.

Breast cancer is often seen as a disease that only affects women, but the reality is that men can get it too. While breast cancer in men is rare, understanding the risks, dispelling myths, and recognizing the importance of early detection can make all the difference. In this post, we'll break down some common misconceptions, provide wellness tips, and emphasize why early detection is crucial in treating breast cancer.

Myth #1: “Men Can’t Get Breast Cancer”

While breast cancer is more common in women, men do have breast tissue, and it's possible for them to develop breast cancer as well.

- **Fact:** Men can develop breast cancer and it's important to be aware of this possibility.

Myth #2: “Breast Cancer in Men Is Always Fatal”

Another misconception is that if men do get breast cancer, it's a death sentence. This is not true.

- **Fact:** When detected early, breast cancer in men is treatable, and the survival rate improves significantly with early intervention.

Recognizing the Signs: Early Detection Matters

Just like women, men can experience changes in their breast tissue. If caught early, breast cancer in men can often be treated successfully.

- **Signs to look out for:**
 - # A lump or thickening in the breast area
 - # Changes in the skin, such as redness or dimpling
 - # Unexplained pain or tenderness in the breast
 - # Discharge from the nipple.

Health Tip: If any of these symptoms appear, it is essential to see a doctor asap.

Health Tips for Men: Maintaining Good Well-being.

- **Healthy Eating:** A balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.
- **Exercise Regularly:** Staying active can lower the risk of various types of cancer.
- **Avoid Alcohol and Tobacco:** Reduce excessive alcohol consumption and tobacco use.
- **Check for Lumps:** Early detection can lead to better outcomes.

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16TH FOSAAS IN SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA



Group Photo of Participants from Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia at 16th FOSAAS Convention hosted by AOTS Alumni Society of Cambodia.

The 16th FEDERATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN AOTS ALUMNI SOCIETIES (FOSAAS) CONVENTION was held on 19th – 20th July 2024 in Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia.

Mr. Son Seng Hout, Chairman of FOSAAS and President of AOTS Alumni Society of Cambodia (AASC), opened the 16th FOSAAS Convention. In his opening remarks, he elaborated on the importance of regular meetings and the theme of the convention – Empowering Sustainable Development through International Collaboration and Cultural Exchange. Mr. Nishimaki Yoshito, Senior Deputy Representative of AOTS Bangkok Office, conveyed his address on two essential aspects: Self-development experiences and improving professional competency.

Each AOTS Alumni Society (AAS) Member of FOSAAS presented their respective reports including the progress, activities conducted, challenges and ways forward towards sustaining AOTS activities. For the Resolution, various ideas were brainstormed and the final resolution for the 16th FOSAAS Convention was adopted and duly signed by the attending President of each Alumni in FOSAAS. This year's Convention Resolution placed emphasis on Training and Education, Business and Trade, collaboration, knowledge sharing, networking and raising awareness on environmental sustainability. Finally, AVAS (Vietnam) was chosen as the forthcoming Chair of FOSAAS for the 17th FOSAAS Convention.

ONLINE CONVENTION BY REGIONAL FEDERATIONS OF AASs IN 2024 (FOSAAS) HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER, 2024, VIA ZOOM

Due to budgetary issues, AOTS Japan had decided to no longer hold physical meet in Japan and instead meet up online regionally. This online convention was attended by some personnel from AOTS Japan and Members from FOSAAS.

Mr. Yoshida Yasuhiko gave his opening speech after which the attendees from the various AAS introduced themselves. The organizational outline of AOTS for FY 2024, current status, promoting independence and revitalization of AAS, and possible cooperation between AOTS Japan and AAS were presented. Attendees were also briefed on new collaboration and partnership projects between AOTS and AASs. Each AAS's representative gave an outline on the status of their respective AAS, its activities and some of the issues each AAS was facing.

The online Convention ended with a round of thanks from all participants.

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Treatment and Support.

If diagnosed with breast cancer, men have treatment options available, ranging from surgery and radiation to chemotherapy and hormone therapy.

Support Systems: Breast cancer is a difficult journey, but you need not have to go through alone.

PERSATUAN ALUMNI AOTS MALAYSIA

NOTICE OF THE 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 3rd December 2024

Dear PAAM Members,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN for the 40th Annual General Meeting of PAAM to be held as follows:

Date: Sunday, 20th April 2025

Venue: CRYSTAL CROWN HOTEL PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR
12, Lorong Utara A, Off Jalan Utara, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

Time: 2.00pm - 5.00pm

AGENDA:

1. Registration of members for PAAM 40th AGM (for those who have submitted prior confirmation of attendance)
2. Opening Address by the President
3. Confirmation of minutes of the 39th AGM
4. Matters arising from the 39th AGM minutes
5. Presentation and Adoption of 2024 Annual Report of PAAM
6. Presentation and Adoption of PAAM's Statement of Accounts ending 31st December 2024
7. Any other business for which prior notification had been received (if any)
8. Adjournment of PAAM 40th AGM

Tan Teng Ek
Hon. Gen Secretary

PROGRAMME FOR THE 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12.00 pm to 1.30 pm	Buffet lunch at above mentioned venue
1.30 pm to 2.00 pm	Attendance Registration for Members
2.00 pm	40 th AGM Call-to-Order
5.00 pm	40 th AGM Adjournment

Note: To facilitate the preparation of AGM as well as the catering of lunch for members by the Hotel, only members who have advised their attendance PRIOR to the AGM and lunch, will be allowed to participate in these events.

PERSATUAN ALUMNI AOTS MALAYSIA

NOTICE OF THE ADJOURNED 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 3rd December 2024

Dear PAAM Members,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN for the Adjourned 40th Annual General Meeting of PAAM to be held as follows:

Date: Sunday, 20 April 2025

Venue: CRYSTAL CROWN HOTEL PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR
12, Lorong Utara A, Off Jalan Utara, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

Time: 2.31pm - 5.00pm

AGENDA:

1. Registration of members for PAAM Adjourned 40th AGM (for those who have submitted prior confirmation of attendance).
2. Opening Address by the President
3. Confirmation of minutes of the 39th AGM
4. Matters arising from the 39th AGM minutes
5. Presentation and Adoption of 2024 Annual Report of PAAM
6. Presentation and Adoption of PAAM's Statement of Accounts ending 31st December, 2024
7. Any other business for which prior notification had been received (if any)
8. Adjournment of PAAM Adjourned 40th AGM

Tan Teng Ek
Hon. General Secretary

PROGRAMME FOR THE Adjourned 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.31 pm	Adjourned 40 th AGM Call-to-Order
5.00 pm	Adjourned 40 th AGM Adjournment

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

1. **Visit to HARVIST factory in Semenyih which manufactures premium red palm oil, an edible oil with very high carotene content.**
2. **Tea talk on 'Honey'.**

These two activities will be organised after PAAM's 40th AGM. So please be on the look-out for further details in respect to these two activities which we will circulate to your good self after our AGM.