



Press Release  
Embassy of Japan in Lao PDR

20 February 2016

## Sensational “Cool & Kawaii JAPAN 2016” held in Vientiane

The Embassy of Japan in the Lao PDR, in cooperation with Lao Bang Fai and the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, held a cultural exchange event entitled “**Cool & Kawaii JAPAN 2016**” outside the Lao National Culture Hall on the evening of 20 February 2016. The event aimed to promote mutual understanding at a grassroots level by introducing Japanese pop culture such as J-Pop music and cover dance, cosplay (performing in costumes based on animation characters) and others.

During the event, CONDORS (a Japanese male dance group in their characteristic Japanese school costumes) displayed their comical and powerful dance routine as the main guest performers. ASAKURA KATE from Japan, a singer, who is, as a cosplayer, also Hatsune-miku, a female humanoid robot, gave enjoyable performances in a colorful costume. COCONUTS-NUTS, a song-and-dance group from Japan, gave a cheerful, family-oriented performance, including catchy songs with an environmental theme.

A special feature was the debut of the first Lao–Japanese song, “Reach your Dreams”, with a wonderful dance by selected Lao and Japanese dancers, “TEAM VTE.” The cover dance and Cosplay contests took place during the event and the winner of the cover dance contest received the chance to visit Japan. Lao Bang Fai and Dongdok Crew also entertained with their popular dance performance.

The event was attended by a large audience, including young people, families and fans of Japanese pop culture. The audience also enjoyed taking photos of the symbolic decorations of Japanese lanterns, Japanese food and cultural experience stalls which were set up at the venue. The entire program was broadcast live by Lao Star TV. (End)