【News】 "Professor Takehiko Kaneko from the Department of Health and Nutrition of Wayo Women's University Participates as Sports Doctor in the 32nd Southeast Asian Games"

## [Text]

Professor Takehiko Kaneko of the Department of Health and Nutrition has joined the 32nd Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games 32), held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, as a Japan Sports Association certified sports doctor from May 11th to May 16th. His purpose for staying in Phnom Penh was to provide medical support to the Cambodian National Judo Team athletes. The SEA Games, often called the "Olympics of Southeast Asia," hosted 48 sports disciplines, including Judo. Professor Kaneko contributed significantly to the world of sports medicine, offering his expertise to support athletes in one of the region's most prominent sporting events.



[Photo] Judo Kata Competition [Photo] Cambodian Team's 10 Medal Haul at SEA Games

The Cambodian Judo National Team, which received medical support from Professor Kaneko, comprises Cambodian athletes and a student refugee from Ukraine and Japanese competitors. This diverse team significantly outperformed their previous competition record by securing impressive medals at the SEA Games. In the Kata competition, they garnered two bronze medals. They clinched one gold, two silver, and five bronze medals in individual matches. This performance is a significant step from the previous games, where they acquired just one bronze medal. The team's success marks a notable achievement in the history of the SEA Games, demonstrating the impact of unity, diversity, and skilled medical support.



[Photo] Bronze Medalist Holding Romduol, the Mascot of the SEA Games



[ Photo ] Professor Kaneko with Cambodian Athlete, a Bronze Medalist



[Photo] Japanese Support Team Dispatched with Cambodian National Teams

[Photo] Professor Gōtarō Ogawa, Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Cambodia (right)

The support team in which Professor Kaneko participated was composed of several leading figures in the world of Judo. Director Hatsuyuki Hamada, who is second from left in the front row of the top left picture, is a champion of the 1979 and 1983 All Japan Judo Weight Class Championships (Kodokan Cup) and the 1983 Pacific Rim Judo Championships. Misato Nakamura, the far left in the front row of the top left picture, is a world champion, having won the World Judo Championships in 2009, 2011, and 2015 and is also an Olympic medalist from the Beijing and Rio de Janeiro Games. Another key figure is Gōtarō Ogawa, former ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Japan to Cambodia, featured in the top right picture. Together, this esteemed group has significantly contributed to developing friendly relations between Japan and Cambodia through involvement in this major sporting event.



【Photo】 Commemorative Group Photo of the Japanese Support Team and the Cambodian National Judo Team