



**About The 6th UNHCR Refugee Film Festival**

UNHCR Representation in Japan proudly presents the 6th edition of the UNHCR Refugee Film Festival.

This year's film festival has a special meaning for different reasons. First, it is a year that UNHCR commemorates several anniversaries: 60 years since the 1951 Convention relating to Refugees was adopted; 30 years that Japan has acceded to the 1951 Refugee Convention; and 150 years since the birth of Fridtjof Nansen, the first League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Second, the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan earlier this year powerfully reminded us that all of us may be forcibly displaced at some point. We have been deeply impressed by the resilience and the strength with which people responded to these crises. Many of the films highlight how individuals can make a difference, alleviating the plight of people displaced by war, conflict, human right abuse or natural disaster. The films you are about to watch aim to raise awareness of the world's 43 million refugees and internally displaced persons and to create a sense of responsibility to provide hope for a better future to anyone who is forced to flee.

UNHCR Refugee Film Festival

Date: 1 October (Sat) - 9 October (Sun) 2011  
 Venues: Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Tokyo  
 Instituto Cervantes de Tokio  
 Aoyama Gakuin University (Souken Bldg. 12F Conference Room)  
 Aoyama Gakuin ASTUDIO  
 Royal Norwegian Embassy in Tokyo  
 Global Festa JAPAN 2011

Organized by: UNHCR Representation in Japan  
 In Partnership with: Japan Association for UNHCR  
 Main Sponsors: AEON/AEON 1% CLUB/Canon Inc.  
 Sponsors: Johnson & Johnson Japan Group/Linklaters Tokyo/Sony Corporation/Toyota Motor Corporation  
 In Cooperation with: Aoyama Gakuin University/ Culture Convenience Club Co.,Ltd./Instituto Cervantes de Tokio /  
 Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Tokyo/Japan Visualmedia Translation Academy ®/  
 Royal Norwegian Embassy/SUDA SEIHAN Co.,Ltd./UNIQLO CO.,LTD.  
 Supporter: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Representation in Japan  
 Public Information Unit

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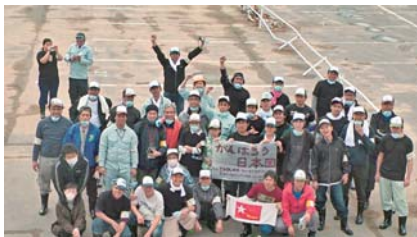
[www.unhcr.or.jp](http://www.unhcr.or.jp) [unhcr.refugeefilm.org](http://unhcr.refugeefilm.org)



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## Programme (Highlight Films)

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### **The Neighbourly TOMODACHI** 《Japan Premiere/Opening Film》

Directed by Cecilia Ami Kitajima  
Japan / 2011 / 100min / Documentary

\*Screening at Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival 2011 related event  
“Cinema With Us”

Following the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, 95 Burmese (Myanmarese) refugees living in Japan engaged in volunteer activities in the devastated areas. Despite the fact that their life as refugees in Japan is not easy, they willingly volunteered. What drove them to do so? The camera focuses on a young woman who left her mother in her home country.



### **Illegal** 《Japan Premiere》

Directed by Olivier Masset-Depasse  
Belgium, France, Luxembourg / 2010 / 95min / Drama

\*Cannes 2010 Director's Fortnight Official Selection

Tania and her son Ivan arrived in Belgium eight years ago. Although they are well integrated, they live without legal status. One day, Tania is arrested by the immigration office; Ivan manages to escape. Separated from her son, Tania discovers that her rights are brutally ignored in the detention center.



### **Enemies of the People** 《Japan Premiere》

Directed by Thet Sam Bath, Rob Lemkin  
Cambodia, UK / 2010 / 93min / Documentary

\*Sundance Film Festival 2010 World Documentary Special Jury Prize

The Khmer Rouge slaughtered nearly two million people in the late 1970s. From foot soldiers to Pol Pot's right-hand man, the notorious Brother Number Two, local journalist Sambath – who lost his parents and his siblings in the Killing Fields – records shocking testimony never heard before.

#### **Related Event** **“Human Cinema Festival supported by AEON”**

In our world, there are people who are forced to flee all of a sudden, due to conflict, persecution and natural disaster. They are forced to leave their homeland, losing their peaceful life. Although they are forced to live in a precarious situation, they live desperately with hope, every single day. Our will is to let the people know about those refugees and in order to do so, with the support of AEON Group, we will hold the “Human Cinema Festival supported by AEON” in 20 theaters of Warner Mycal Cinemas and AEON cinema, in October 2011.

(Organizer: Japan for UNHCR / Sponsors: AEON, AEON 1% Club / In Cooperation with: Warner Mycal Co.Ltd., AEON cinemas Co.Ltd. )

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