

2011 — WE REMEMBER TŌHOKU AND FUKUSHIMA — 2014

March 11, 2014

Consul General Kazuo Sunaga
Japanese Consulate of Atlanta
3438 Peachtree Road NE
Suite 800
Atlanta, GA 30326

FOR DELIVERY to His Excellency Shinzō Abe, Prime Minister of Japan

Dear Consul General Sunaga:

We wish to express our deep sympathy and support for the Japanese people, who are facing the nuclear accident in Fukushima even as they continue to recover from the Great East Japan (Tōhoku) Earthquake and tsunami of three years ago. We wish to affirm the celebrated technological prowess of Japan and her ability meet the challenge of containing and decommissioning the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, and to lead the world in deploying safe energy systems such as solar, wind and tidal power.

We believe that the primary focus of your government must be on mitigating the catastrophic radiation releases from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, preventing further disasters, and developing energy efficiency and safe energy sources instead of on restarting nuclear reactors and exporting nuclear technology. It is important for Japan to conserve its financial, managerial and regulatory resources in order to meet the supreme challenges facing the Japanese people. The following list includes our requests:

1. We call on you to abandon plans to restart nuclear reactors across Japan. We are also working toward the goal of moving beyond nuclear power in our own country.
2. Please expedite the stabilization of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant's reactors and spent fuel pools.
3. Stop the flow of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean. The ocean extends far beyond Japan. It is owned by the entire planet and is essential to life on Earth.
4. Please do not export nuclear reactors to other countries.
5. Please fully compensate all victims of the nuclear accident in Fukushima and provide medical treatment and relocation assistance for people living in contaminated areas.
6. Stop the incineration of radioactive rubble and waste throughout Japan, a practice that does not destroy the radioactivity but rather disperses it into the air, incinerator ash and other solid waste.
7. Please begin a robust food monitoring program for all Japanese citizens and restore strict limits on allowable radiation exposures, especially for Japanese children.
8. We are very concerned about the message that is being sent by the recently enacted Act on Protection of Specified Secrets, which discourages open discussion and transparency about the nuclear accident in Fukushima. This law is having a negative impact on the Japanese people, as well as the global commons and, indeed, the future of us all.

We speak with sadness for the people who have been forced to abandon their homes and hometowns and farmers who have lost their farmlands and their animals. Many people will never be able to go back to their homes and businesses because of radiation contamination. TEPCO and government regulators are responsible for solving this crisis and taking steps toward self-accountability regarding early decisions to locate the facility in an area known for earthquakes and tsunamis. We call on the Japanese government to stand with its people through this ongoing tragedy and to resist exploitation and capture by profit-making corporations and the international nuclear industry.

Radiation knows no national or prefectural borders. We must not allow another nuclear disaster. We urge you to exercise your leadership to achieve the goals of these eight recommendations.

With sincerest and highest regards,

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