Urgent Recommendation

to Japanese Society in the Wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

8th April, 2011

The Water Security Council of JAPAN



Preamble

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your cooperation and support for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Japanese people. We are deeply moved by your encouragement. It has inspired us to consider what we can do, and to make every possible effort to solve our problems.

In response to this unprecedented devastation caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunamis, the Water Security Council of Japan*decided to have serious discussions and make recommendations as to how to reconstruct Japan in a truly sustainable manner.

Climate change, resource depletion, and environmental deterioration are the global crises of the 21st century, which are manifesting in "the forms of water disasters", such as melting glaciers, rising sea levels, tsunamis, abnormal high tides, deluges and droughts, and water pollutions that are threatening the mankind. In fact, in the latest great earthquake, Japan was wrecked by giant tsunamis, and the radioactive contaminated water that was released into the sea as a result of nuclear accidents is causing a serious concern to people not only in Japan but also worldwide.

Because of its harsh topographic and climatic conditions, Japan has been suffering from many natural disasters while having very little fossil fuel resources that have been supporting the modern mechanical civilization. It can be said that Japanese society has been given an impetus by this great earthquake to enter the paradigm shift of civilization.

In other words, we must transition from a uniform, concentrated, and energy-consuming society that places efficiency before safety into a dispersed, diverse, flexible, low-carbon, water-friendly, and ecological society that is resilient to disasters and harnesses natural energies as much as possible while mitigating and adapting to global warming.

Historically, Japan has overcome numerous calamities and will surely bounce back from this disaster as well. The challenges the Japanese people are now faced with, as well as how we come up with solutions toward the realization of a water-friendly, ecological society of the future, will soon provide an inspiring model for the rest of the world and the people that are in desperate need of a direction for a sustainable new civilization of the 21st century.

By Professor Norihito TAMBO,

Chairman of the Water Security Council of Japan,

***** the Water Security Council of Japan

Japan is putting its might towards tackling water security issues by creating the Water Security Council of Japan (WSCJ), which was established on January 30th, 2009. Thirty-eight members of the governing council comprising leaders from politics, business and academia assembled in response to a call by H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori, former Prime Minister of Japan; Mr. Fujio Mitarai, former Chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren); and Dr. Norihito Tambo, Professor Emeritus at Hokkaido University.

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Towards a Strong Resilient Low-Carbon Society with Smart Water Recycling Systems

Reconstruction of Cities and the Nation Disaster Resistant

- Refit sub-sea-level area in major cities disaster resistant
- Review land use in coastal area and alluvial plain, and launch disaster resistant zones
- Restore tsunami hit area to a revolutionary high-value agricultural and fishery zone (complexes)
- Promote much more earthquake resistant water supply and sewage systems

Development of Resilient Regions

- Create wide-area information sharing systems for water and wastewater works with advanced information technology
- Construct a much stronger cooperation net work among regional water enterprises in both crisis and normal time
- Operate dams more flexible in time of disaster in order to use the storage for emergency
- Promote the maintenance and management capability of forest conservation and production works, and irrigation net works in collaboration with residents living in urban areas

Creation of a sound Water-Cycling Society

- Map ground water aquifers accurately and quantitatively in order to develop proper ground water conservation and utilization systems
- Preserve and develop regional ground water resources for disasters
- Develop comprehensive water supply and sewage systems with high level training systems for water engineers
- Develop an urban metabolic system of water on the sound ecological system with proper material recycle on a basin

Creation of a Low-Carbon Society

- Boost hydro power energy by re-examining the operation of dams and re-fixing them for a new scheme
- Create dispersed regional energy sources utilizing micro-hydro, winds, and solar power generations
- Re-design the water transmission and distribution systems with a gravitational flow oriented regimes to save energy
- Utilize sewage sludge as a source of energy and fertilizer for the future recycling society

The Water Security Council of Japan, which is composed water experts, intends to do its best to find measures for dealing with radiation contaminated water, which will continue to pose a threat to Japan as well as the rest of the world. We will mobilize all human resources across administrative, academic, and corporate boundaries, and share transparent information in order to resolve the problem.

Governing Council of the Water Security Council of Japan

Chairman

Norihito Tambo President, Hokkaido Research Organization / Professor Emeritus, Hokkaido University

Ex-President, International Water Association / Professor Emeritus, Open University of Japan

Supra-Party Diet members

Business Leaders

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Yuzo Takayabu Executive Director, Japan Project-Industry Council

Masami Ito Representative, Limited Liability Partnership Global Water Recycling and Reuse System Association, Japan

Yoshihiko Misono Executive Director, Japan Water Works Association

Hiromichi Sakamoto Director General, Federation of Japan Water Industries, Inc.

Masahiro Fujiwara President, Japan Water Research Center

Masaru Kurihara Senior Scientific Director, "Mega-ton Water System" Funding Program for World Leading Innovation R&D on

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Yasuhiko Kobayashi Chairman, Japan Environmental Sanitation Center

Makoto Yokozawa Director, Agricultural Development Consultants Association

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Academy Leaders

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Riota Nakamura Vice President Honoraire, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

Takhiko Ohta Professor Emeritus, The University of Tokyo

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Nobuo Mimura Professor, Ibaraki University

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Influenial Individuals

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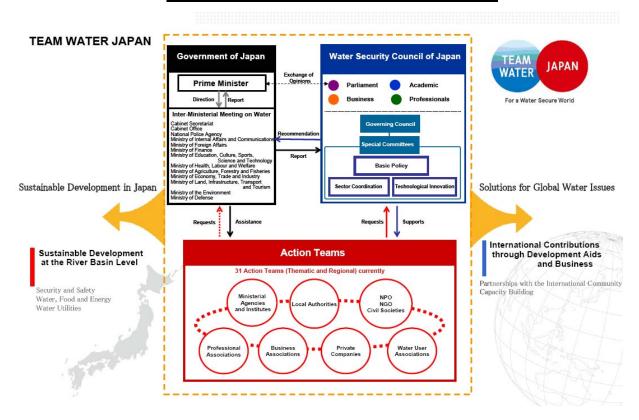
Yoshinori Imai Former President, Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union / Former Vice President, Japan Broadcasting Cooperation

Akihiko Koya Adviser, Local Newspapers Union

Kazunari Yoshimura Technical adviser to the United Nations / Representative, Global Water Japan

Kotaro Takemura Secretary- general, Japan Water Forum

Outline of the Water Security Council of JAPAN



In its long history, Japan has accumulated experience and technologies, related to sharing and using limited water efficiently, by overcoming severe meteorological and topographical conditions. Japan must use this experience and its technologies to contribute to the resolution of global water issues. Japan's advanced development and rich civilization have been made possible by importing great quantities of natural resources from across the globe and exporting manufactured products globally. Therefore, Japan now has a strong responsibility to contribute to the resolution of global water issues.

Japan is putting its might towards tackling water security issues by creating the Water Security Council of Japan (WSCJ), which was established on January 30th, 2009. Thirty-eight members of the governing council comprising leaders from politics, business and academia assembled in response to a call by H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori, former Prime Minister of Japan; Mr. Fujio Mitarai, Chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren); and Dr. Norihito Tambo, Professor Emeritus at Hokkaido University.

WSCJ is being established as an organization under the banners of political leadership, public participation, and full cooperation between public and private sectors. It intends to assist the activities of "Team Water Japan" (TWJ), through which private companies, academic experts, government ministries, local governments and civil society are to collaborate beyond sectoral boundaries for the resolution of domestic as well as global water issues.





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