

THE JAPANESE WORKERS' COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

12 session, Item.3(a)

24-28 February 2014

Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations

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on behalf of the

Japanese Workers' Committee for Human Rights (JWCHR)

Geneva, 24 February 2014

Last session of this Committee, we reported the human rights situation in Fukushima, Japan. We would like to introduce the current situation of human rights in post-manmade disaster .

11 September 2013, some of the Fukushima sufferers now living in Kanagawa Prefecture brought a case to Yokohama District Court, demanding compensation and restitution for damage by Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster on March 11, 2011.

About 3 years passed since the Fukushima disaster. But the government and Tokyo Electric Power Co., Inc. have not fairly

compensated victims. They still giving a priority to profit instead of life and are busy promoting and exporting atomic power generation.

People's tribunal on Fukushima to question the responsibility of the Japanese government and TEPCO which was started by Japanese citizens and held 10 courts in Fukushima, Hiroshima, Osaka, Tokyo and so on. In the final verdict as of July 21, 2013, the judges requested appointment of special rapporteur on nuclear power plant disaster and human rights and suggestion of draft convention prohibiting nuclear power plants in the General Assembly, along with total decommissioning of all nuclear power plants.

In Fukushima, the number of thyroid cancer incidence among 254,000 children under 18 years old is 33, and 41 are doubtful. The number of victim is only increasing and it is afraid that incidence ratio of that disease will be larger than that of Chernobyl.

The sufferers are forced to return to Fukushima and in more anxiety because the government announced that the dose limit of radiation exposure could be higher than 1 mSv per year. This is disregard of the Victims Assistance Act and breach of Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is violation of the article 25 of Japanese Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. After the disaster, the sufferers have been violated their rights to life, rights to better lives, and to health.

Finally we request to Advisory Committee to conduct research and debate that will be a base for the Japanese government to set appropriate legislation and measures with sincere attitude. It should finally lead victims to a full protection of human rights and compensation in post-manmade-disaster.