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Minister for Reconstruction  
Nemoto Takumi

Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan  
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An Urgent Request concerning the Basic Policy Proposal for the “Statute on Protection and Support for the Children and other Victims of Tokyo Electric Power Company Nuclear Power Plant Disaster (Children and Victims Protection Law)”

On August 30, the Reconstruction Agency announced a basic policy proposal for the “Statute on Protection and Support for the Children and other Victims of Tokyo Electric Power Company Nuclear Power Plant Disaster (Children and Victims Protection Law)” that supports the victims of the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Power Station accident. When considering the fact that 1 year has passed since the law's enactment, one cannot help but question whether the government has actually been making any efforts to answer the needs of the victims and the local municipalities affected by the accident.

Furthermore, the basic policy plan contains factors that contradict the objective and regulations of the said law. For example in Article 5 Section 3 it is written, “prior to formulating the basic policy proposal, the government will take the necessary actions to reflect the opinions of the people living in the areas affected by the TEPCO Nuclear Power Plant accident, and those that have evacuated from those areas.” However there have not been any hearings of the opinions of either the local residents or the evacuees. This shows how the said law has not been put into practice.

Moreover, 9 mayors of north western Chiba, an area that has been classified as priority areas for the radioactive contamination surveys provided for in the Act on Special Measures concerning the Handling of Pollution by Radioactive Materials, has requested for its inclusion as a region needing support. However this request was not considered in the basic policy proposal. Issues such as these make it clear that the opinions of the local governments that must deal with decontamination and look after the health care for its residents are not being reflected.

Therefore we strongly urge for the implementation of the following:

1. Open public hearings Concerning the basic policy proposal, to be held at prefectures close to Fukushima, and municipalities where there are evacuees from Fukushima.
2. A fundamental revision of the basic policy proposal based on the opinions collected.
3. Municipalities that contain zones that have an additional radiation dose of higher than 1mSv/year should be included into the areas receiving aid.
4. When revising the basic policy proposal, hold consultative meetings with affected individuals and supporters.
5. Allow public comments on the new basic policy proposal and make the public comment period longer than 2 months.

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