

## Statement calling for a nuclear-free world: 5th anniversary of the “3.11” Fukushima nuclear disaster

March 11, 2016  
Friends of the Earth Japan

We the undersigned express our deep condolences to all nuclear victims: people affected by the “3.11” nuclear disaster at Fukushima in 2011, those who suffer from Chernobyl nuclear accident, nuclear plant workers, nuclear bomb victims, and all people of the world who are under any nuclear threat.

On the fifth anniversary of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in Japan, the situation is far from resolved. Contaminated water is still leaking from the destroyed plant, and radioactive waste is just piling up, without any sound resolution. More than 100 children have had surgery for thyroid cancer<sup>1</sup>. Housing assistance for “voluntary” evacuees will be suspended starting in March 2017, leaving them an uncertain future. Yet despite all these problems, the Japanese government is pushing hard to restart nuclear power plants, ignoring public opinion against restarting<sup>2</sup>.

In April 2015, FoE Japan and three people from Fukushima travelled to Belarus to meet victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. We were inspired that despite their political challenges, there is still hope among those who have been struggling for years to protect children from nuclear dangers. We were also strongly convinced that people must demand the necessary aid for nuclear disaster, and that governments protect people from nuclear threat. FoE Japan has been working with people from Fukushima and other people to ensure the rights of victims and to stop all the nuclear power plants. The situation is still hard, FoE Japan continue to work with them for the world free from nuclear threat.

We the undersigned denounce the Japanese government’s irresponsible actions of restarting nuclear power plants and its failure to provide sufficient aid for Fukushima disaster evacuees. We also demand following:

1. Stop all existing nuclear power plants and plans for new nuclear power plants.
2. Make an “energy shift” from dirty to sustainable energy.
3. Work toward a world free from all forms of nuclear threat.

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<sup>1</sup> Fukushima Prefecture in Japan reported 166 cases of malignant or suspected thyroid cancer and 116 cases confirmed after surgery (February 15, 2016)

<sup>2</sup> “60 percent of population is against restarting nuclear power, Nikkei poll finds” (The Nikkei, February 29, 2016)