



ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES JURISTES DEMOCRATES
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS
ASOCIACION INTERNACIONAL DE JURISTAS DEMOCRATAS
МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АССОЦИАЦИЯ ЮРИСТОВ ДЕМОКРАТОВ
國際民主法律家協會
رابطة الحقوقيين الديمقراطيين العالميين

**General Assembly
Human Rights Council
37th Session
Item 6 – Japan UPR outcome report**

Check against delivery

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL) together with Greenpeace Japan welcome the Fukushima UPR recommendations made by the governments of Austria, Germany, Portugal and Mexico and also the decision of the government of Japan to accept all of those recommendations.

The Japanese government must now change its current policies.

There is an urgency in Japan that requires the government to act to rapidly and fully implement those recommendations. The nuclear crisis continues in Fukushima, both at the plant and in the surrounding highly contaminated regions.

In areas of Fukushima where Greenpeace has investigated, we have confirmed high levels of radioactive contamination many times above the maximum recommended 1mSv/y. Yet the government has lifted evacuation orders deeming it safe for people to return. It clearly is not.

The Japanese government has accepted the recommendation from Germany to restore annual exposure to 1mSv, yet at the same time are communicating to the people of Japan that there is no cancer risk if exposed to 100msv in one year, including to pregnant women and children. They are defying all scientific evidence to pursue this misguided policy and are not in compliance with the UPR recommendation made Germany which the government of Japan has now accepted.

It is Japanese government policy to terminate compensation and other financial support after lifting evacuation orders.

As of March 2017, the government has removed as many as 29,000 self evacuees from the official record. These evacuees, had their only and critically important housing support cut in March 2017, with legal actions now underway to evict them from their emergency homes.

With regards to thyroid cancer screening implemented for Fukushima children exposed to radioactive iodine, it is being proposed by the authorities to consider reducing thyroid screening against many parents' wishes.

Such policies and actions of the Japanese government are wholly inconsistent with the guiding principles on internal displacement, and therefore not compatible with Japan's acceptance of the UPR recommendations of Austria and Portugal.

Defacto, Japan is forcing people through financial coercion, to return to unsafe homes without significant citizens' participation in the process, in defiance of Japan's human rights commitments.

The Japanese government is seeking to create an illusion that after suffering a triple reactor meltdown that Japan has fully recovered and thereby to reduce public opposition to nuclear power.

The systematic violation of human rights of Fukushima citizens in Japan, in particular women and

children, is a deliberate policy directly linked to its overall energy policy, specifically the aim to restart nuclear reactors.

IADL and Greenpeace call on the government of Japan to fully implement and without any delay the UPR recommendations it has accepted. The Japanese government must not fail the people of Japan who have suffered so much as a consequence of the nuclear disaster. Failure to fully implement UPR recommendations would be a serious violation of Japan's domestic and international human rights obligations.

Thank you.

March 16th, 2018