



Education International
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Bildungsinternationale

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Mr. Yuzuru Nakamura, President
Japan Teachers' Union (*NIKKYOSO*)
C/O Japan Education Hall,
Nihon Kyoiku Kaikan 2-6-2 Hitotsubashi,
Chiyoda-Ku
Tokyo
Japan

Brussels, 14 March 2011

Dear Mr Nakamura,

We wish to extend our sympathy to you, the colleagues at the Japan Teachers' Union and the people of Japan at this very difficult and tragic time. It was with great shock and sadness that we received news of the devastating impact of the earthquake and tsunami of March 11.

The massive scale of destruction across Miyagi, Iwate and Fukushima prefectures must be a huge blow, affecting as it does entire communities. Saddened by the casualties and devastation, we are also uplifted by the resolve of the Japanese people in the face of such crisis and their determination to move forward together.

Education International expresses its solidarity with the teachers, students and people of Japan. EI would like to extend its solidarity to assist in alleviating the suffering of those affected by the disaster. We wait to be guided by the JTU as to how best to channel our solidarity in order that those in the affected zones be supported in rebuilding their lives, schools and communities.

I reiterate once again our condolences for those who have perished in the disaster and our heartfelt solidarity with those affected by its wake. Do not hesitate to contact us to appraise us of your situation and to indicate any way in which we can be of assistance to you during the challenging days and weeks ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Fred van Leeuwen