

Press Release (This is provisional translation. Please refer to the original text written in Japanese.)

5 April 2011
Employment Policy Division,
Employment Security Bureau

To the press and whom it may concern,

“‘Japan as One’ Work Project”

- Conclusion on the countermeasures Phase 1 decided at the “Conference on promotion of employment support and job creation for the disaster victims”

“Conference on promotion of employment support and job creation for the disaster victims” (Chaired by Yoko Komiyama, Vice-Minister of the Health, Labour and Welfare) was established with the purpose of formulating the overall countermeasures across the ministries to promote employment support and job creation for the disaster victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and to strongly push ahead the plan. Through the conference, the whole government has made effort on deciding the countermeasures to support the disaster victims’ employment and living.

This press release is to announce that the conclusion on the countermeasures Phase 1 that was decided at the conference .

The basic guidelines to deal with the project was set as, “to support the disaster victims’ employment and living by Japan becoming one,” thus named the overall project as “‘Japan as One’ Work Project.” From now on, our policy is to implement measures in various areas and inform them widely at the same time. The main points of the project are as follows.

【Main points of the conclusion on the countermeasures Phase 1】

< Basic guidelines to deal with the project >

The disaster victims’ employment and living will be supported by “Japan becoming one”, through measures listed below.

- ① Creating employment opportunities for the disaster victims and utilizing the companies and resources affected by the disaster through reconstruction projects.
- ② By carefully taking into consideration of the desires of the disaster victims and local areas accepting the disaster victims, supporting the employment in areas outside the affected

sites for those who desire.

<Tentative, emergency overall countermeasures>

- ① Steadily creating jobs through the reconstruction projects.
 - Expanding “project on job creation in priority areas” and “ emergency job creation project”
 - Measures to prioritize the employment of people from the local areas
- ② Constructing a system to match the disaster victims and jobs
 - Creating the “Japan as One” Job Council
 - “Japan as One” Hello Work (expanding the functions of the public employment security offices (“Hello Work”))
- ③ Maintaining and securing employment of the disaster victims
 - Expanding the Employment Adjustment Subsidies

<Informing the disaster victims for sure through effective public relations activities>

Conference on promotion of employment support and job creation for the disaster victims

1. Purpose

To formulate overall countermeasures to promote employment support and job creation for the disaster victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and to strongly push ahead the plan.

2. Members

(The Chair)

Yoko KOMIYAMA, Senior Vice-Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare

(Chief of Secretariat)

Masao KOBAYASHI, Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Labour and Welfare

(Chief of Secretariat)

Shougo TSUGAWA, Parliamentary Secretary for Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Director-General for Economic and Fiscal Management, Cabinet Office

Director-General for Regional Vitalization, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Director-General, Employment Security Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Director-General, Human Resource Development Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Director-General, Rural Development Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Director-General, Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Director-General, Housing Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Deputy Vice-Minister for Construction, Engineering and Real Estate Industry, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Director-General, Policy Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Deputy Director-General for Economic and Social Policy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Director-General, Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Director-General of Waste Management and Recycling Department, Ministry of the Environment

Phase 1 of the “‘Japan as One’ Work Project”

- Supporting your employment and living through “Japan as One”- (The conclusion on the countermeasures Phase 1 decided at the “Conference on promotion of employment support and job creation for disaster victims”)

1. Basic guidelines to deal with the countermeasures Phase 1

The disaster victims’ employment and living will be supported by “Japan becoming one”, through measures listed below:

- ① Creating employment opportunities for the disaster victims and utilizing the companies and resources affected by the disaster through reconstruction projects.
- ② By carefully taking into consideration of the desires of the disaster victims and local areas accepting the disaster victims, supporting the employment in areas outside the affected sites for those who desire.

2. Tentative, emergency overall countermeasures

Steadily creating jobs through the reconstruction projects.

○Promotion of reconstruction projects

- Restoration of infrastructure, clearing of rubbles, construction of provisional housing and repairing and rebuilding of housing affected by the disaster

◎Expansion of “project on job creation in priority areas” and “emergency job creation project”

- Adding the “areas to deal with the earthquake disaster” to the priority area of the “project on job creation in priority areas”
- Abolishing the one-year restriction on the employment period

◎Measures to prioritize the employment of people from the local areas”

- Promoting to secure orders to local construction companies in the tentative restoration projects
- Requesting that private employers to submit the job offer for restoration projects to the public employment security offices (“Hello Work”)
- Providing incentives through the provision of employment subsidies targeting the unemployed affected by the disaster

Constructing a system to match the disaster victims and jobs

(1) Strengthening the function of matching disaster victims and jobs in the affected areas

○Creating the “Japan as One” Job Council

By Prefectural Labour Bureau taking the lead, setting up the councils comprising of the local governments, outpost agencies of the Japanese government and the relevant organizations on the prefectural basis.

○Expanding the functions of the public employment security office (“Japan as One” Hello Work)

- Providing on-site counseling services to the evacuation areas
- Assisting those engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishery and self-employed workers
- Expanding and conducting occupational training flexibly

○Employment support in the areas affected by the disaster

- Holding joint company information sessions targeting the disaster victims
- Requesting industry organizations to explore companies active in hiring disaster victims

(2) Strengthening the functions of matching disaster victims and jobs outside the affected areas.

- Providing information on how to secure housings and life in the local areas
- Securing job opportunities for those engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishery and self-employed workers

Maintaining and securing employment of the disaster victims

◎Expanding the Employment Adjustment Subsidies

- Expanding the exceptional cases currently implemented in the five prefectures to the areas in further need
- Taking new exceptional measures for businesses outside the affected areas but having close business relationships with those in the affected areas, and for those affected by the planned power outage.

○Assisting the management reconstruction of small-and-medium businesses

○Preventing the cancellation of job offers of new graduates

- Implementing strategies of preventing the cancellation of job offers of new graduates who were affected by the disaster
- Assisting the employment of affected students by expanding the subsidies for the employer who hire them
- Employment by the local governments through “project on job creation in priority areas”
- Exploring and publicly announcing companies hiring new graduates in the affected areas

○Dealing with dismissals, rejection of the extension of contracts and terminating the contracts of dispatched workers

3. Informing the disaster victims for sure through effective public relations activities