

A message from the governor
for 2013 Pledge for Fukushima Revitalization from 3/11

Today is the second anniversary of 3.11.

We see people who lost their precious ones, those who live apart from their familiar homes, those who are restoring their former lifestyles and those who stepped toward a new life....

As I reflect, I believe many of us have both the feeling that “its already been two years” and the feeling that “it is still just two years on” .

I am proceeding with revitalization based on the basic concepts that we will build a society where all citizens can live with peace of mind, free from nuclear power and that, that very society continues to develop.

As shown in the fact that some evacuees have begun to return home, and our efforts for the promotion of renewable energy are underway, we have begun to achieve these objectives little by little. This progress was made possible by the support and the citizens' efforts as well as national and international encouragement. I would heartily like to express my appreciation for all the support.

However, the nuclear accident has not been completely resolved with more than 150,000 citizens still evacuated in temporary housing. Meanwhile, we see some social perception in which the accident itself is fading from people's memory and its harshness is perhaps forgotten by people.

The society that Fukushima aims to create may be far ahead of us, but we will persistently pursue a resolution to the accident and decommission all the nuclear power stations located in the prefecture, we will endeavor to make this a reality.

What is the definition of revitalization to us? It is not only to restore the former Fukushima, but also revitalize Fukushima to a place where all prefectural citizens enjoy a happier life, have heartfelt smiles in their faces and have pride in the fact they are citizens of Fukushima prefecture.

Although it is a long way toward the revitalization, each of us will never give up achieving it through mutual support, making the utmost efforts respectively. And I believe such accumulated efforts will become the considerable leverage we use to drive the whole of Fukushima.

I say that each citizen plays the lead role for revitalization.

Now, I am convinced that the revitalization will be achieved with our strong will and a unified heart moving forward.

I am fully determined to steadily and surely move towards the revitalization in a speedy manner so that the path which Fukushima takes will become a guide for future generations.

Today, I engrave the following words of the Fukushima Declaration in my heart again, and pledge that I will strive for the achievement with you from tomorrow in the end of my message.

We will create once again a beautiful Fukushima.

We will build a dynamic and vibrant Fukushima.

We will show the world and pass down to future generations Fukushima's reconstruction process.

March 11, 2013

Yuhei Sato
Governor
Fukushima Prefecture