

Hand delivered on 7/11/2016

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Tokyo, 1 November, 2016

Excellency,

It has been almost one year since the resolution to establish November 5th as "World Tsunami Awareness Day" was unanimously adopted at the United Nations General Assembly last December. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my deep gratitude for the strong support that Your Excellency kindly extended toward this initiative.

It is my firm conviction that awareness of tsunami can save the precious lives of many people. Our calamitous experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 2011 as well as those of other countries, such as Indonesia and Chile, confirm this. It is this belief that pushed me to propose "World Tsunami Awareness Day".

This year marks the first annual commemoration of "World Tsunami Awareness Day". In collaboration with UNISDR and interested countries, we are convening a series of Tsunami awareness raising events and tsunami drills around the world, including the event in New York on November 3rd. We are also planning awareness raising events and evacuation drills in Japan in the days leading up to November 5th. I sincerely hope that through these activities knowledge of tsunami will be spread to more people around the world and awareness will be heightened, thereby contributing to saving the precious lives of as many people as possible.

Please allow me to ask my colleague, Mr. Teru Fukui, Member, House of Representatives, to bring this letter to you to convey my deep gratitude for Your Excellency's continuous support for "World Tsunami Awareness Day".

Last but not least, we would be honored if Your Excellency or a representative from the United Nations could attend the High School Students Summit on "World Tsunami Awareness Day". The summit will take place on **November 25th and 26th** this year in the town of Kuroshio, in Kochi Prefecture, Japan.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Sincerely yours,

二階 隆夫

Toshihiro Nikai
Secretary-General of Liberal Democratic Party
Member of the House of Representatives

His Excellency Mr. Jan Eliasson
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

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