The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus
In-depth critical analysis of the forces shaping the Asia-Pacific...and the world.

Worldwide Responses to the 20 Millisievert Controversy　20ミリシーベルト論争への世界的反響

May. 31, 2011

Satoko Norimatsu

On April 19, the Japanese government raised the allowable annual radiation exposure limit from 1 mSV (millisievert) to 20 mSV. The decision has been heavily criticized by experts inside and outside Japan, as it is applied to children who are more susceptible to radiation, and this limit does not take internal radiation dosage into consideration. 20 mSV is the yearly average of what is allowed for Japanese nuclear plant workers under normal circumstances. On this website, we have so far primarily written and provided information in English on this "20 mSV" issue and on the Fukushima nuclear crisis in general. In this post we attempt to compile a list of articles, video news, press releases available in English and other languages.

Press TV
Japanese govt. under fire for schoolyard radiation
http://www.presstv.ir/detail/177926.html
Japan confirms meltdown at 3 reactors
http://www.presstv.ir/detail/181545.html

New York Times
Angry Parents in Japan Confront Government Over Radiation Levels
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/26/world/asia/26japan.html?_r=1&emc=tnt&tntemail0=y
Japan Tries to Ease Fury of Parents Near Plant
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/28/world/asia/28japan.html

AFP
Japanese protest revised school radiation limit
http://news.ph.msn.com/regional/article.aspx?cp-documentid=4863806

The Guardian
Fukushima parents dish the dirt in protest over radiation levels
http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/may/02/parents-revolt-radiation-levels

The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus (most comprehensive and in-depth reports on the issue)
Protests: The 20 Millisievert Decision and the Future of Atomic Energy in Japan
http://www.japanfocus.org/events/view/86
20 Millisieverts for Children and Kosako Toshiso's Resignation
http://www.japanfocus.org/events/view/83
Save the Children: Radiation Exposure of Fukushima Students
http://www.japanfocus.org/events/view/81

Spanish National TV "TV1"
Nuevos datos confirman la gravedad de la crisis nuclear de Fukushima
http://www.rtve.es/alacarta/videos/terremoto-en-japon/nuevos-datos-confirman-gravedad-crisis-nuclear-fukushima/1110350/

Der Spiegel
Japan legt hohe Strahlengrenzwerte für Kinder fest

http://www.spiegel.de/wissenschaft/mensch/0,1518,758410,00.html

[Criticism]

Tillman Ruff's Opinion Article in Kyodo News Agency
OPINION: Children of Fukushima need our protection

http://english.kyodonews.jp/news/2011/04/87835.html

A bilingual version on Peace Philosophy Centre
http://peacephilosophy.blogspot.com/2011/04/tilman-ruff-children-of-fukushima-need.html

IPPNW's letter to Education Minister Takaki (bilingual) on Peace Philosophy Centre
IPPNW to Japanese Government: Raising Allowable Radiation Dose for Fukushima Children "Unacceptable."
http://peacephilosophy.blogspot.com/2011/05/ippnw-ippnw-to-japanese-government.html

PSR (Physicians for Social Responsibility)
PSR Press Conference on Chernobyl Anniversary
http://www.psr.org/news-events/news-archive/video-psr-press-conference-chernobyl.html
(with Japanese translation)

Physicians for Social Responsibility Calls 20 mSV for Children "Unconscionable."
http://peacephilosophy.blogspot.com/2011/05/blog-post_06.html

The Japan Medical Association
http://peacephilosophy.blogspot.com/2011/05/20-msv-for-children-scientific-basis.html
[NGOs]

Green Action (One of the four NGOs leading the movement to get the government to rescind the 20 mSV decision.)
Fukushima Update
http://fukushima.greenaction-japan.org/

MSCR (Moms to Save Children from Radiation)
http://mscr2011.jugem.jp/?eid=4

French petition campaign

Un blog du Réseau "Sortir du nucléaire"

Pétition urgente :
Refusons l'exposition des enfants japonais à des doses élevées de radioactivité
http://groupes.sortirdunucleaire.org/spip.php?page=petition-japon