Industry-Academia-Local Governments Joint Declaration For Industrial Revival From the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

On March 11, 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami devastated the Tohoku region. This calamity not only caused the catastrophic damage for the agriculture and fisheries industries in its coastal areas, but also brought extensive damages toward the manufacturing industry such as automobile, semiconductor etc., and further toward the tourism industry. With the addition of the nuclear power plant accident, Tohoku region is facing its challenges to overcome the complex disaster that is historically unprecedented.

In recent years, Tohoku region has been surrounded by severe circumstances such as the falling birthrate, increasing elderly population, and ever-intensifying competitions from fast-growing Asian countries. Tohoku region must initiate the industrial revival under these circumstances. In order to achieve this objective, Tohoku region needs to promote highly value-added industrial clusters to maintain and expand the number of employment by continuously generating innovation through the Industry-Academia-Local Government Collaboration. The region also needs to strengthen its ties with the emerging markets headed by other Asian countries. Tohoku University, Miyagi Prefectural Government, Sendai City Government, and Tohoku Economic Federation will work together to continuously generate innovation which focuses on the automobile industry, advanced electronics industry, and next-generation industries such as aircraft, healthcare, and new energy; as well as agriculture, fisheries, and tourism industries which are indigenous strengths of the region.

These four organizations will immediately work together on the following items:

- (1) Establishing the activity bases for the Industry-Academia-Local Government Collaboration projects such as the Miyagi Industrial Revival Park.
- (2) Working on special reconstruction areas in order to generate innovation in new industrial fields such as next-generation automobile, etc.
- (3) Inviting international R&D projects such as the International Linear Collider.
- (4) Promoting the new generation of environment and energy R&D projects such as the alga biomass project.
- (5) Enhancing education and research functions and facilities for disaster and crisis response
- (6) Increasing the population of international exchanges by hosting international conferences, etc.

The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami brought the unprecedented damages in Tohoku region. However, it could not break the strong ties among the Industry, Academia, and Local Government in the region. We now declare that Tohoku University, Miyagi Prefectural Government, Sendai City Government, and Tohoku Economic Federation gather all the wisdom to achieve the world-leading industrial revival from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

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