

平野達男参議院議員
「世界防災フォーラム」におけるステートメント
Statement by Mr. Tatsuo Hirano
Member of the House of Councilors on the occasion of
World Bosai Forum 2017 in Sendai

(冒頭)

各国・関係機関から御列席の皆様，日本国参議院議員の平野達男です。私は2011年3月11日の東日本大震災の復興において復興担当大臣として対応しました。本日は，津波に特化したしまして，東日本大震災から得られた教訓及びこれからの取組についてお話したいと思っております。

(Introduction)

Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Tatsuo Hirano, a Member of the House of Councilors of Japan. I dealt with the reconstruction efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11th, 2011 as a Minister for reconstruction in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. Today, I would like to talk about the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake and measures going forward, focusing on tsunami disaster.

(日本の被害・取組)

東日本大震災で，我が国は，過去に体験したことのない巨大津波に直面しました。死者・行方不明者は，2万人を超え，その大半は津波による被害でした。東日本大震災から約6年と8ヶ月がたち，多くの方々にご支援頂いたおかげで震災からの復興が着実に進んでいます。平成29年10月時点で避難者は，約47万人から約8万人まで減少し，住宅再建は着実に進捗しています。学校，病院施設の復旧は概ね完了し，被災した道路や堤防等のインフラはほぼ復旧しています。被災地では，地方公共団体は，住民が再び津波の被害を受けることがないように，住居の高台への集団移転を進めるとともに，被災した宅地を買い取り，今後そのような土地に住宅が再建されることがないように必要な建築制限などを行っています。

(Damage from the Great East Japan Earthquake and reconstruction efforts in Japan)

In the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, unprecedented massive tsunami struck Japan. The combined total of confirmed deaths and missing persons is more than 20,000, and most of them were victims of tsunami. Almost six years and eight months have passed since the earthquake. We are steadily moving toward recovery thanks to the supports from many people. As of October 2017, the number of evacuees has decreased from approximately 470,000 to 80,000, and housing reconstruction is steadily progressing as scheduled. Reconstruction of school facilities and medical facilities has been almost completed and public infrastructures including affected roads and sea embankments are almost restored. In the affected areas, local governments have been supporting group relocation from affected areas to uplands that could be free from future tsunami damage. Local governments also purchase the affected residential lands for relocating persons and enact necessary architectural regulation so that houses cannot be built in those lands from now on.

(伝統的知見の重要性)

しかし、どんなに対策を進めても、自然災害を完全に抑えることはできません。ハード面の整備を進めることは重要です。また、東日本大震災を通して、伝統的知見の活用が改めて見直されました。東日本大震災の被災地は、これまで何度も津波に襲われてきました。この経験を生かし、我々の祖先は、津波被害を受けた際、津波到達地点に多くの石碑を設置しました。未曾有の震災を通して改めて感じたことは、これらの先人による伝統的知見を学ぶこと、そして伝えていくことの重要性です。石碑の中には、「此処より下に家を建てるな」と記述されているものもあります。この石碑を目標に、多くの方が高台へ避難し津波を逃れました。一方、石碑が景色の一部となり避難に有効に活用できていない事例もありました。また、東日本大震災の津波は予想を遙かに上回る規模であったため、日頃の訓練どおり高台や施設に避難したにも関わらず、津波にのみ込まれ亡くなられた方も多くいました。我々は、津波の被害の経験を伝えていくとともに、最大規模の津波を想定して、避難用の高台を確保し、より安全な避難場所を整備する必要性を認識しました。

(The importance of traditional knowledge)

However, no matter how much we take measures, we cannot prevent natural hazards completely. Improving hard aspects of infrastructure is important. At the same time, the use of traditional knowledge has been re-evaluated based on the experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake. The areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake were repeatedly hit by tsunamis in the past. Making use of their experience, our ancestors erected many stone monuments on the point that tsunami waves reached when they faced massive tsunami. Through the experience of the unprecedented disaster, I have a renewed sense of importance of learning traditional knowledges of ancestors and hand them down to future generations. One of these stone monuments reads “Do not build your homes below this point”. Many people evacuated to higher ground to reach that stone monument. On the other hand, there are some cases that such stone monuments had not been utilized for evacuation because they were recognized as a part of landscape. Moreover, since the scale of tsunami caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake far exceeded our expectation, unfortunately, many people caught up by tsunami and lost their lives, even though they had evacuated to the ground and facilities as they conduct evacuation drill. In addition to pass on our experiences of tsunami disaster, we found we needed to secure higher ground for evacuation and to build safer evacuation facilities by assuming the tsunami which is equivalent to the largest scale.

(津波被害を伝承する必要性)

人類は自然災害から逃れることはできませんが、自然災害の危険を知っていれば被害を最小限にすることは可能です。津波をはじめ自然災害による被災者数を減らすためには、一人でも多くの市民に防災・減災について正しく理解してもらい、一緒に取り組むことが重要です。11月5日の「世界津波の日」は、日本の有名な逸話である「稲むらの火」に基づきます。1854年に大津波が発生した際に、和歌山県の小さな村のリーダーであった濱口梧棲は、自分の大切な稲むらに火を放ち、人々を高台に導き、多くの村民の命を救いました。

(The importance of passing on damages caused by tsunami to future generations)

Although human being cannot always escape from natural hazards, we can minimize the damage they cause if we are aware of their associated risks. It is important to ensure that as many as citizens as possible understand the prevention and the mitigation of disasters correctly and to take measures for it together. The designation of November 5th as “World Tsunami Awareness Day” is based on the well-known Japanese story of “Inamura-no-hi”, the burning of harvested rice sheaves”. In 1854, when a great tsunami hit Japan’s coastline, Hamaguchi Goryo, a leader of a small village in Wakayama Prefecture, saved many villagers’ lives by setting fire to his precious sheaves of harvested rice and guiding them to higher ground.

(世界津波博物館会議)

東日本大震災のような巨大な津波の発生頻度は1千年に一度とも言われています。大きな津波は、人間のライフスパンをはるかに超えた長い間隔で発生するため、我々は津波の被害の経験を何世代にもわたって伝えていく必要があります。また、津波被害の記録のみならず、津波石や地層などの過去の津波の痕跡に注目することも重要です。これらの痕跡を研究することにより、遡上高の推定や、より精度の高い発生年代を確認することができるようになります。

本年、「世界津波の日」である11月5日に、日本政府と国連国際防災戦略事務局（UNISDR）の共催により、沖縄県石垣島で「世界津波博物館会議」を開催しました。この会議には日本国内及び海外の津波博物館等の関係者が参加し、過去に自然災害の被害を受けた経験とその経験から得た教訓を共有し、これを後世に伝え、将来の津波に備えるための方途について議論を通じて理解を深めました。日本には、先ほどお話しをした「稲むらの火」の逸話の舞台となった和歌山県広川町に「稲むらの火の館」が建設されており、津波防災教育の拠点となっています。また、インドネシアのアチェやハワイのヒロにも津波博物館があり、過去の津波被害の記録を後世に伝える役割を担っています。また、東日本大震災で被災した岩手県大船渡市では震災から二年目の2013年3月11日に「大船渡津波伝承館」が仮オープンし、現在、本オープンに向けた準備が進められています。また、国が中心となり、新たな津波博物館建設の準備も進められています。これらの津波博物館が記録を後世に伝え、世界中の人々がこれらの経験と教訓を共有し、将来の津波に備えることは極めて重要です。

(World Tsunami Museums Conference)

It is said that massive tsunami such as one caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake occur at a rate of once every thousand years. As the interval of massive tsunami is far greater than the human life span, we need to pass on the experiences of damages caused by tsunamis from generation to generation. We also attach importance to paying attention not only to records of damages caused by tsunami, but also to the traces of tsunami in the past such as tsunami stones and strata. By studying these tsunami traces, we will be able to speculate run-up height and time in which tsunami occurred with higher accuracy.

This year, the Government of Japan and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) co-hosted the “World Tsunami Museums Conference” on November 5 on the “World Tsunami Awareness Day” on Ishigaki Island, Okinawa Prefecture. Representatives from tsunami museums and related organizations in Japan and overseas attended this conference and deepened their understanding through discussion on ways to share the experiences and lessons learned from damages caused by natural hazards in the past in order to pass them on to the future generation and prepare for future tsunamis. In Japan, “Inamura-no-Hi no Yakata” was built in Hirogawa-cho in Wakayama Prefecture, where the episode of “Inamura-no-Hi” came from, and it has become an educational center for tsunami disaster risk reduction. There are also tsunami museums in Aceh of Indonesia and Hiro of Hawaii, and they are playing key roles to pass on records of tsunami disaster in the past to future generations.

In addition, in Ofunato city of Iwate Prefecture, which was affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, “Ofunato Tsunami Museum” partially opened on March 11, 2013, the second year from the earthquake and is now being prepared for grand opening. Also Japanese government is proceeding with a plan to build new tsunami museums in the Tohoku region. It is extremely important that these tsunami museums pass on records to future generations, share these experiences and lessons learned with people worldwide and prepare for future tsunamis.

（「世界津波の日」高校生サミット）

また、次世代を担う若者の理解を深めることが何よりも重要です。若者が自然災害について理解を深め、防災への意識が高まれば、将来の防災・減災の取組にもつながります。我が国は、今月7-8日に自然災害の被害を受けやすい島嶼国を中心とする世界25ヶ国の高校生を日本に招待し、「『世界津波の日』2017 高校生島サミット in 沖縄」を開催しました。私も同サミットに参加し、高校生達が、自分たちの国や地域を将来の津波から守るため、真剣に津波防災について議論を行う様子を見ました。参加した高校生たちが自国に戻り、将来、防災・減災分野におけるリーダーとして活躍することを期待しています。

（High School Students Summit on “World Tsunami Awareness Day”）

Furthermore, it is extremely important to deepen the understanding among the youth who will be responsible in the next generation. If young people deepen their understanding of natural hazards and become more aware of disaster risk reduction, it will help to reduce and mitigate future disaster risk. Japan hosted the “High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day in Okinawa” from 7th to 8th this month, with the participation of high school students from 25 countries mainly from disaster prone islands countries. I also attended this Summit and saw them discussing seriously on tsunami disaster risk reduction in order to protect their own countries and regions. I sincerely hope that those students would play active roles as leaders in the area of disaster risk reduction in future, after they returned to their countries from this Summit.

（津波防災訓練）

津波防災に対する取組は世界全体で進めていく必要があります。備えあれば憂いなし、また世界防災フォーラムで宣言されたように、忘れなければ災害に対処することができます。事前の備えと日頃の心構えが災害発生時に明暗を分けます。日本では、小さな子供たちからお年寄りまで、日頃の備えや訓練を重ねていますが、こうした取り組みは、大規模災害のリスクを抱える他の国々でも非常に有益だと考えます。日本はそうした観点から、UNDPと連携し、アジア太平洋の18ヶ国において地元の学校と共同で津波避難訓練の実施を支援しています。

(Tsunami Evacuation Drill)

There is a need to take measures on tsunami disaster risk reduction worldwide. In Japan we say “Be prepared and have no regrets.” Also we can say, as World Bosai Forum says, “We can handle disasters because we do not forget.” Preparedness and daily attitude decide the outcome of disasters. In Japan, people of all ages, from small children to the elderly, continue to prepare for disaster risks and to conduct evacuation drills. These measures would also be beneficial for other countries that have risks of large-scale disaster. In that point of view, Japan, in cooperation with the UNDP, is providing assistance to the implementation of tsunami evacuation drills jointly conducted with local schools in 18 countries in Asia-Pacific region.

(UNISDR 議連)

防災・減災の取組は、UNISDR を中心とした国連機関や我が国と問題意識を共有する国々、自治体、市民社会など多様な関係者と連携して進めていくことが重要と考えます。今年4月に日本では超党派の国会議員による UNISDR 議員連盟を立ち上げ、私は議連の事務局長を務めています。日本は、東日本大震災からの復興経験と教訓を踏まえ、より災害に強い地域社会の構築に向けて、今後も世界に貢献していきたいと考えます。

(UNISDR Parliamentary Association)

We attach importance to promoting efforts on disaster risk reduction in cooperation with various actors concerned such as United Nations organizations including UNISDR, countries that share same concerns with Japan, local authorities, civil societies and others. Japan-UNISDR Parliamentary League has been established in April this year with the participation of all-party members of National Diet where I assume the post of secretary general. Japan would like to further contribute to the world towards building more disaster resilient community based on the experiences of reconstruction and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake.

御静聴、ありがとうございました。]

Thank you very much for your attention.