

Nuclear Adviser to Japan's Prime Minister Resigns Amidst Controversy

By Global Research

Global Research, April 29, 2011

AFP and Channel News Asia 29 April 2011

Region: Asia
Theme: Environment

TOKYO: A senior nuclear adviser to Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan submitted his resignation Friday, saying the government had ignored his advice and failed to follow the law.

Toshiso Kosako, a Tokyo University professor who was named last month as an advisor to Kan, said the government had only taken ad hoc measures to contain the crisis at the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant.

In a tearful press conference, he said the government and its commissions had taken "flexible approaches" to existing laws and regulations, and ignored his advice after he was named an advisor on March 16.

"I cannot help but to think (the prime minister's office and other agencies) are only taking stopgap measures... and delaying the end" of the nuclear crisis, he told reporters.

Tokyo officials had drafted measures to deal with the accident that were not in strict accordance with the law, and the decision-making process had been unclear, he said.

"There is no point for me to be here," as the Kan administration had failed to listen to him, said Kosako, an expert on radiation safety.

It was not clear whether the government would accept the resignation, but his letter and comments served as a fresh blow to the embattled Kan, who has been badly criticised for his handling of the nuclear crisis.

The Fukushima Daiichi power plant has been releasing radioactive materials since it was battered by a magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami on March 11 that left nearly 26,000 people killed or missing.

The nuclear accident and natural disaster have forced the evacuation of more than 150,000 people from their homes.

On Friday, April 29th, 2011, Toshiso Kosako, a Tokyo University Professor resigned his post as Senior Nuclear Adviser to the Japanese Prime Minister stating that the government had failed to heed his advice, and failed to follow the law. Professor Kosako was recently appointed within the last 30 days, and was upset that the Japanese Government had raised the exposure limit for children to 20mSv/year despite the objections he had raised. He openly accused SPEEDI of not openly publishing information about the threat to the children

of Japan outside of the restricted area.



Here is an excerpt [Global Research, translation from Japanese unverified, requires editing]

The Nuclear Safety Commission, in particular, in a nuclear emergency, it is the core of the organization should do the technical guidance and advice, carry out instructions based on the law, where there appears to be fairly lacking in basic radiation protection decisions based on Mashita.

For example, radiation doses of residents (which was already exposed, those now expected to be exposed) is a network system predicting rapid radiation emergencies (SPEEDI) Dearimasu is what should be done by the law stipulates that not operate as procedures. Laws and regulations, and guidelines based on the assumption that there is a provision that the term is difficult to determine the source of radioactive release, this step is not taken, the result is utilized properly can be used while in the environment no. The situation of public exposure has become SPEEDI can be evaluated more quickly, not quickly released the results.

http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_asiapacific/view/1125750/1/.html

Our thanks to www.lucaswhitefieldhixson.com for this news item

The original source of this article is AFP and Channel News Asia Copyright © Global Research, AFP and Channel News Asia, 2011

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Global Research

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca