

April 7, 2011

## **MESSAGE FROM JAPAN**

On behalf of all Equestrian Families in Japan, I would like to thank you all for your kind thoughts, encouragement to us.

We have all kept up hope with your warm words and still trying hard in this difficult situation.

The situation in Japan is very severe as you all might know.

Starting with the big Earthquake which we never have experienced and next was the massive Tsunami which hit a large area of the Northern part of East Japan (Tohoku). Even we have not passed the first shock of this disaster, now we are facing the fear of the radioactive leak from the nuclear power plant.

First we had to either postpone or cancel our competition and courses, and started to gain information from proper sources of the damage and together we were seeking the speediest, effective and safe support to our Equestrian families in Tohoku.

We have been reported that several riding clubs has been washed away and many horses died. 1 staff from a Riding club in Miyagi is missing but other staffs, members were miraculously safe. They have all been settled to a safe area now.

Japan Equestrian Federation has decided to work with the National Riding Club Association, Riding clubs and volunteers of horse lovers and have sent our first relief items to the equestrian people. 36tons of hay and fuel were sent by trucks immediately to Tohoku.

Updated situation of today is that the shortage of feed has been cleared so from now we need to focus to how to revive the Riding clubs, and carefully follow the situation for those whom are evacuating from the area of radioactive leak.

Fortunately here in Tokyo, there is no radiation effect and we are now back to normal work though we still need to save electricity. Riding & Training are also continued and we will start our competition again. Japan will be ready to compete at the Regional Qualifier for the London Olympic in 3 disciplines.

Thank you again for all your kind thoughts and offers.

I believe Japan is a strong country and we are slowly recovering and starting to see some lights.

With best regards, Alnohitsu Sen

Genshitsu SEN President