

March 22, 2011

Dear Mr. Mabe,

As the Executive Director of the Japan Association of International Publications (JAIP) I felt that I should write to all our members and overseas supplier colleagues, friends and associates to reassure you that it appears that all our Members are well, despite the traumatic events you will have seen in the news.

Whilst we have been mercifully spared as an industry, that is not the universal case within the library infrastructure and other centres where your publications are appreciated and inform. There are parts of our Country that will live with the consequences of nature's force for many years to come.

I am sure that many observers to this devastating catastrophe would wish to do what they can to offer support to the North-east region of Japan. I am hearing that some of our overseas friends are thinking to make donations as a direct contribution to easing the plight of those affected. As an Association, therefore, we feel that we are best placed to co-ordinate such a heart-warming act of International friendship to our colleagues in the affected area. If you are considering making a donation, either funds or practical materials, then the Association would be pleased to act as a conduit on your behalf. So, please let us know your consideration by return. Then we will be responding to you what action to be taken.

As you will be only too aware it is still impossible to assess the total loss in terms of life and infrastructure. As we gain a better understanding of these details I will issue subsequent bulletins to keep you apprised of the situation. Certainly, main research and education facilities and libraries and contents will have been destroyed by the Tsunami. We are sure that we have lost many friends, clients and colleagues and we appreciate your support and kind thoughts at this time.

Sincerely,  
Takashi Yamakawa, Executive Director  
Japan Association of International Publications