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November 16, 2011

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Mr. Asada Katsumi  
President, Japanese Consumer Cooperative Union  
Co-op Plaza 3-29-8  
Shibuya, Shibuya-Ku  
Tokyo, Japan 150-8913

Dear Mr. Katsumi:

We are pleased to inform you that the United States' cooperative community has raised \$120,000 in support of the rebuilding and recovery of the Japanese cooperative community in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami of last Spring. On behalf Japanese cooperatives and their members, we hope that you will accept these funds for use in fulfilling the recovery goals of JCCU and your members. We thank the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) for providing us with the opportunity to make this announcement during the 2011 ICA General Assembly.

This contribution is the result of the generosity of individuals and organizations throughout the U.S. cooperative community in response to our establishment of the CDF Co-op Emergency Fund for Japanese Recovery. This is all about one of our shared core Co-op Principles – co-ops helping co-ops. We are proud to report that every time there has been a disaster, the cooperative community has responded with financial assistance and, once again, they responded to the needs of the Japanese cooperative community.

While we know that you have received other financial support from organizations and individuals in the United States, we are proud that CDF's fundraising primarily represents contributions from individuals. It includes a \$50,000 check from the CHS Foundation, but it also includes funds raised from the U.S. student housing co-op community, contributions from food co-ops and their members from across the country, and \$5 and \$10 contributions from individuals from across the country.

There's another special dimension to CDF's connection to the Japanese cooperative community. The Cooperative Development Foundation manages a fund that provides financial support for U.S. student housing cooperatives that is known as the Kagawa Fund. As you may know, the Kagawa Fund began more than 20 years ago with a \$50,000 gift from the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union in honor of Dr. Toyohito Kagawa, a prominent Japanese cooperative pioneer and an inspirational force in the creation of the student cooperative movement in North America. The seed money gift from JCCU was another example of the Co-op Principles in practice and it created a lasting bond between the US and Japanese cooperative communities. We are proud to report that \$15,000 of the funds raised now for the Japanese recovery fund came from the US student housing cooperative community.

Today we celebrate the resiliency of the Japanese cooperative community as we begin the worldwide observance of 2012 as the International Year of the Cooperative. The theme of the observance is "Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World" and nowhere is this more evident than in Japan. We hope that these funds from the U.S. cooperative community will speed the recovery of Japanese cooperatives and enable them to continue to add value to the Japanese economy and the Japanese way of life.

We would appreciate your assistance in providing us with information to wire transfer the funds to JCCU as soon as possible. If you would please have the appropriate individual on your staff contact Ms. Ellen Quinn ([equinn@cdf.coop](mailto:equinn@cdf.coop) or 703.302.8094) with that information we would appreciate it very much. We would like to make the cash transfer by December 1, 2011.

Yours in cooperation,



Gasper Kovach, Jr.  
CDF Board Chair