

Resolution for the Deaf Movement 2021

1. To build an organization and movement that can respond to the new era and realize a society where everyone can play an active role.

- (1) We shall examine our movement' form so that it can respond to the new era, and join forces with our regional organizations and friends across the country to build a strong organizational structure that will not be defeated by the anxiety and confusion in society caused by COVID-19.
- (2) In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Japan, we shall work with Japan Disability Forum (JDF) and other organizations involved with people with disabilities to ensure that no one with a disability is left behind in any field.
- (3) In this digital age, we shall seek to develop an environment where all deaf children and adults can use ICT in an information barrier-free environment, and promote their social participation in all areas, including education and employment.

2. To advocate the protection of the basic human rights of all people with disabilities, including the deaf.

- (1) In order to promote the reasonable accommodation of people with disabilities in all aspects of society, including welfare, employment, education, and culture, we shall continue to strengthen the scheme in line with the principles of the Act for Eliminating Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, placing those with disabilities as the core and call for the development of social resources and amendments to the law so that all people with disabilities, including the deaf, can live with peace of mind.
- (2) We shall seek compensation, including lump-sum payments, to those affected by forced sterilization and abortion under the former Eugenic Protection Act and their families, and work to eradicate any remaining discrimination and eugenic thought against the disabled.
- (3) To enable the deaf to fully exercise their right to participate in politics, we shall call for the mandatory provision of visual access to information, including sign language, in all situations related to political participation, such as political broadcasts and parliament meetings.

3. To protect sign language, which is the lifeline of the deaf, and call for the enactment of the Japanese Sign Language Act and the Act on Information Accessibility and Communication Guarantee for Persons with Disabilities in order to realize a truly mutually beneficial society.

- (1) We shall seek to put the Japanese Sign Language Act into effect, to deepen the awareness that sign language is equal to other spoken languages, and to remove social barriers surrounding the deaf.
- (2) We shall call for the enactment of the Act on Information Accessibility and Communication Guarantee for Persons with Disabilities, which guarantees information access for the disabled in all areas, including the national and local governments, private companies, judiciary, medical care, labor, and education fields.
- (3) We shall seek to guarantee the five rights related to sign language, which are the basis of life of the deaf, and demand that not only the government but also private companies and all citizens guarantee the use of sign language, and strive to realize a mutually beneficial society that transcends language barriers.

4. To ensure that deaf children and their guardians have the opportunity to receive education in a sign language and empower all deaf children to establish their own identity.

- (1) In order to create an environment where deaf children and their guardians can acquire and learn sign language from infancy, we shall call on all relevant organizations involved with deaf children, such as those in the medical and educational fields, to provide appropriate information in order to meet all medical and educational needs of deaf children.
- (2) We shall strive to ensure education in sign language so deaf children can establish their own identity, and advocate the continued existence of schools for the deaf and the improvement of their environment.
- (3) We shall promote support measures to ensure that all deaf infants and their guardians, regardless of whether they have cochlear implants or not, are provided with the appropriate information, exposed to sign language, and given opportunities to acquire and learn sign language.

5. To call for strengthening the system of access to information for the disabled in various fields so the deaf can fully participate in society.

- (1) We shall promote the use of the Sign Language Mark and Communicate-Through-Writing Mark in order to spread the understanding of the means of communication, to raise awareness of securing access to information for the disabled in the society, and request the improvement of the environment so that deaf people can obtain information by visual means and can enjoy all artistic and visual works.
- (2) In addition to the expansion of communication support services based on the provision of sign language interpreters and face-to-face interpretation, we shall demand the national and local governments take responsibility for the establishment of a remote sign language interpretation system to supplement and strengthen the existing framework in cases of unavoidable emergencies such as COVID-19 and natural disasters.
- (3) To ensure the Telephone Relay Service is easy to use for all people, we shall seek improvement in its awareness and its uniform provision throughout the country as a public telecommunication service, equivalent to voice telephone services.

6. To seek the development of social resources and the enhancement of employment support with the aim of promoting social participation of the deaf.

- (1) We shall call for the development of social resources, such as the further expanding functions of information facilities for the hearing impaired, and the enhancement of facilities related to the elderly deaf and the deaf people with multiple disabilities.
- (2) To ensure that deaf people can work with peace of mind, we shall seek further understanding regarding the provision of reasonable accommodation in all workplaces, including government and private companies, secure employment opportunities, and enhance the working environment based on the characteristics of deaf people.
- (3) We shall call on the national and local governments to provide financial support for the continuous business operations of facilities for the deaf and others who use, enter, or visit such facilities, which face a significant decrease in remuneration and other income or medium- to long-term business deterioration due to disasters and the recent demand to refrain from using and visiting such facilities.

7. To enhance and develop information access and communication guarantee for the deaf in emergency situations, and seek social development that protects the lives of the deaf and allows them to live in peace.

- (1) In preparation for disasters which are expected to occur more frequently in the future, we shall seek to provide disaster prevention information, secure the communication environment and access to information for the disabled, improve consultation and support systems including cooperation with local communities, and create an environment where the deaf people can also support other disaster victims.
- (2) We shall seek to promote the creation of a society where the deaf can protect their own lives and those of their neighbors by calling for the establishment of a system in which they can make emergency calls in various simple ways, anywhere in Japan.
- (3) In order to obtain information when a disaster occurs and to improve access to information for the disabled at evacuation centers, we shall demand improvement in the environment so deaf people and others can obtain accurate information in the event of a disaster and can take the appropriate actions on their own. For example, installing Eye Dragon 4 at evacuation centers and welfare facilities.

8. To seek the successful screening of the 70th anniversary commemorative film "Emu" and work to revitalize the organization along with our regional organizations.

- (1) We shall seek to promote social participation by the deaf and make more people aware that sign language is an attractive and wonderful language through the nationwide screening campaign of the "Emu" movie with the goal of 500,000 viewers, in order to create a mutually beneficial society where everyone can live together in peace and harmony.
- (2) We shall promote expansion of federation membership, increased readership of Japanese Deaf News and Mimi Quarterly, dissemination of publications, and subscription to the National Sign Language Training Center Supporters' Association, in order to develop a campaign that enables the Japanese Federation of the Deaf (JFD) and its regional organizations to establish their financial base and strengthen the organization.
- (3) The JFD and its regions and regional organizations shall work together to promote the importance of the Deaf movement, deepen connections between deaf people and others, including young people, and expand membership of the federation by seeking to meet the needs of each member.

9. To further develop sports for the deaf in order to realize Japan's bid for the 2025 Summer Deaflympics.

- (1) We shall seek to deepen cooperation and collaboration among sports organizations for the deaf and regional organizations in order to promote the Deaflympics and sports for the deaf, train high-level athletes and discover young athletes, and raise awareness so that participation in the Deaflympics will become a dream for deaf athletes.
- (2) We shall seek to enhance Japan's influence in the world of sports for the deaf as a central country in Asia, and to demonstrate leadership in the development of international sports for the deaf, leading to the realization of Japan's bid for the 2025 Summer Deaflympics.
- (3) We shall call for thorough access to information on competitions and related events for the deaf so that deaf people can enjoy watching the games to the full, as well as participation in the management of international sporting events through venue preparation and volunteers.

10. To connect with the deaf around the world and deepen international cooperation, aiming for world peace.

- (1) We shall promote understanding of the International Day of Sign Languages established by the United Nations, and cooperate with the United Nations and the World Federation of the Deaf to support improvement of the environment surrounding the deaf in Japan and abroad by utilizing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as indicators.
- (2) To foster and support deaf organizations in countries in Asia for the improvement of deaf education, development of social resources for the deaf, and training international sign language interpreters, we shall actively promote fund-raising activities for the Asian Deaf Friendship Aid Project.
- (3) We shall cooperate in movements to prevent global warming, protect the Earth's precious resources, and protect world peace without war by seeking a ban on nuclear weapons and the complete removal of inhumane weapons such as landmines.

Slogan

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- 5. To call for strengthening the system of access to information for the disabled in various fields so the deaf can fully participate in society.**
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