

### **Seven Principles for the Reconstruction Framework**

We, the Reconstruction Design Council in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake, have engaged in vigorous discussions and toured the disaster-afflicted region since our inaugural meeting on April 14.

Today, ahead of the issuance of our first set of recommendations at the end of June, we formulated the “Seven Principles for the Reconstruction Framework” and hereby present it for public release.

Guided by these seven principles and opinions received from all corners of society, we shall continue to engage in further discussions aimed at formulating a “blueprint” for reconstruction that will be a source of hope for Japan in the future.

- Principle 1: For us, the surviving, there is no other starting point for the path to recovery than to remember and honor the many lives that have been lost. Accordingly, we shall record the disaster for eternity, including through the creation of memorial forests and monuments, and we shall have the disaster scientifically analyzed by a broad range of scholars to draw lessons that will be shared with the world and passed down to posterity.
- Principle 2: Given the vastness and diversity of the disaster region, we shall make community-focused reconstruction the foundation of efforts toward recovery. The national government shall support that reconstruction through general guidelines and institutional design.
- Principle 3: In order to revive disaster-afflicted Tohoku, we shall pursue forms of recovery and reconstruction that tap into the region’s latent strengths and lead to technological innovation. We shall strive to develop this region’s socioeconomic potential to lead Japan in the future.
- Principle 4: While preserving the strong bonds of local residents, we shall construct disaster resilient safe and secure communities and natural energy-powered region.
- Principle 5: Japan’s economy cannot be restored unless the disaster areas are rebuilt. The disaster areas cannot be truly rebuilt unless Japan’s economy is restored. Recognizing these facts, we shall simultaneously pursue reconstruction of the afflicted areas and revitalization of the nation.

Principle 6: We shall seek an early resolution of the nuclear accidents, and shall devote closer attention to support and recovery efforts for the areas affected by the accidents.

Principle 7: All of us living now shall view the disaster as affecting our own lives, and shall pursue reconstruction with a spirit of solidarity and mutual understanding that permeates the entire nation.