

March 7, 2011

Dear Excellency Abhisit Vejjajiva,

Re: Request for the Thai Government's endorsement over the recommendations made by the government-appointed multi-stakeholders committee to permanently open the sluice gates of the Pak Mun Dam

We, the undersigned civil society, have been working on environment and human-rights related issues in various countries throughout Southeast Asia, and around the globe and have been monitoring the Government of Thailand's efforts to resolve the problems associated with the Pak Mun Dam. The struggle of the Mun River's people who have been adversely affected by the Pak Mun Dam over the past two decades is well-known internationally, as the dam has destroyed fisheries and subsequently impacted the livelihoods and food security of more than 6,000 families. The dam has furthermore demonstrated the failure of fish passages to effectively mitigate fisheries impacts in the Mekong River basin, while also highlighting one of the World Bank's greatest investment failures.

In late 2010, after an investigation into the Pak Mun Dam, the Thai Government appointed multi-stakeholders committee on the Pak Mun Dam recommended that the government permanently open the sluice gates of the Pak Mun Dam, in order to restore the Mun River's ecosystem. The committee also recommended that people's livelihoods be restored, while also compensating for the losses suffered by more than 65 dam-affected fishing communities.

As the recommendations made by the Committee were welcomed by civil society groups around the world and the communities affected by the dam, we are now very concerned with the continued reluctance observed by the Cabinet to comply with these recommendations. For this very reason, we respectfully urge the Thai Government to adopt the Committee's recommendations and allow the Mun River to flow freely.

We believe that the implementation of these recommendations is the right way

to peacefully resolve the chronic problems and conflicts that this dam has caused. Moreover, we believe that the recommendations would benefit Thai society as a whole, while also ensuring the sustainability of the Mekong River basin, one of the most important rivers in the world, for present and future generations.

Thank you, Your Excellency, for your time and consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Endorsed by 133 organizations and individuals from 19 countries:

International Organizations

- Global Association for People and the Environment (GAPE) / Canada
- World Rainforest Movement / Uruguay
- Mekong Monitor Tasmania / Australia
- Association for International Water Studies (FIVAS) / Norway
- Vietnam Rivers Network / Vietnam
- Both ENDS / The Netherlands
- Mekong Watch Japan / Japan
- Eco-culture Study Group/ Thailand
- Green Watershed / China
- SAGAMI River Camp-In-Symposium / Japan
- Water and Energy Users' Federation-Nepal (WAFED) / Nepal
- Himalayan and Peninsular Hydro-Ecological Network-HYPHEN / Nepal
- Nepal Policy Institute-NPI / Nepal
- Arun Concerned Group-Nepal / Nepal
- Anti Pancheshwar-Purnagiri Dam Struggle Committee- Dadeldhura, Nepal / Nepal
- No Nukes Asia Forum Japan / Japan
- International Rivers / U.S.A
- Suigen-ren / Japan
- Network for Indonesian Democracy / Japan
- Nagoya Center for Philippine Concerns(NCPC)/Japan

- Fujimae Ramsar Society / Japan
- Focus on the Global South / Thailand, India and Philippines
- FNA:Fukuoka NGO Forum on ADB / Japan
- Citizens' Society Against Shitara-dam Construction / Japan
- The Struggle Committee Against TOKUYAMA DAM / Japan
- Conservation Party of Asian Shallows and Tidal Flats / Japan
- Kan-Iku/Environmental Awareness Group / Japan
- ODA Reform Network / Japan
- AM-Net / Japan
- Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES) / Japan
- Jubilee Kansai Network / Japan
- Kansai Action Center on Philippine Human Rights Issues / Japan
- 3S Rivers Protection Network / Cambodia
- Renewable-Hydrogen-Network / Japan
- EarthRights International / U.S.A
- Iruka & Kujira (Dolphin & Whale) Action Network / Japan
- Jubilee Kyushu on World Debt and Poverty / Japan
- Thai Working Group for Climate Justice (TCJ) / Thailand
- Theivanai Amarthalingam / Malaysia
- Towards Ecological Recovery and Regional Alliance (TERRA) / Thailand
- Centre for Environmental Justice / Sri Lanka
- Biodiversity Information Box / Japan

Concerned Individuals

- Chuenchom Sangarasri Greacen, Palang Thai / Thailand
- Chris Greacen, Palang Thai / Thailand
- Philip White, International Liaison Officer, Citizens' Nuclear Information Center / Japan
- Kanokrat Lertchoosakul, Lecturer, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University / Thailand
- Dr. Kenji Ago / Japan
- MITSUTA Kanna, Friends of the Earth Japan / Japan
- Nagase Riei, Mekong Watch Japan / Japan
- OOKI Akira / Japan
- Mari Hoshikawa / Japan

- Machiko Kaida, C-Rights / Japan
- KAWABATA Yasumasa, Chiba University Faculty of Engineering Department of Urban Environment Systems Junior / Japan
- Shinobu Kusakabe / U.S.A
- Fujiwara Toshikazu, Citizens Against Chemicals Pollution / Japan
- Vasana Chinvarakorn / Thailand
- Nobuki Fujimoto, Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center / Japan
- Keiko Kikuchi, Daito Bunka University / Japan
- Masaki Kuwata / Guatemala
- Oyama Yoshio / Japan
- Yusaku Imada, Social Forum / Japan
- Pornsiri Cheevapattananuwong, Lecturer, Department of Sociology and Anthropology Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences / Thailand
- NOMURA Tamio / Japan
- Terada Kae / Japan
- Takeshi YASUMA, Citizens Against Chemicals Pollution (CACCP) / Japan
- Yoko Kitazawa, Pacific Asia Resource Center / Japan
- Tomoko Oshima / Japan
- NAKAJIMA Noriko / Japan
- Natsuko Hirabayashi / Japan
- Agnieszka Kroskowska, u2cancauseneffect / Canada
- Hironori Nagamatsu / Japan
- Sakae Motohashi / Japan
- Kawauchi ShunEi / Japan
- Shigeo Hagiwara / Japan
- Kenichi Iyanaga, Circle of Life / Japan
- NISHII Kazuhiro / Japan
- Ohyama Hideaki, Fukuoka Freedom School / Japan
- TOMOHIRO ICHIKAWA, Takasaki Ctiy University of Economics / Japan
- Yamamoto Tsutomu / Japan
- Sayaka Hashimoto, Waseda University / Japan
- Do Thi Hai Linh, People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature) / Vietnam
- MASAO TANAKA, Japan Printing House / Cambodia
- Keiko Tanak / Japan
- Kazue Tanaka / Japan
- Chieko Mori / Japan

- Hizumi Kazuo, Lawyer / Japan
- Junko Okura, Jubilee Kyushu / Ireland
- Kyouko Sibata / Japan
- Penchom Saetang, Ecological Alert and Recovery - Thailand (EARTH) / Thailand
- Watanabe Tomoaki, FNA:Fukuoka NGO Forum on ADB / Japan
- Masahiro Watarida, Globalization Watch Hiroshima(GWH) / Japan
- Masashi Yamguchi / Japan
- Alex Itoh / Japan
- Norly Grace Mercado, Regional Coordinator, BIC - Mekong and SEA / Philippines
- Tipakson Manpati, Mekong School Alumni Network / Thailand
- Hatsuko HOYANO, Journalist / Japan
- ICHINO Kazuo / Japan
- SO MAKINO / Japan
- TERAO Terumi, Professor Emeritus, Nagoya Institute of Technology / Japan
- Nami Akimoto / Japan
- GOTO HIROMI / Japan
- Yuki Sakamoto / Japan
- Yuriko Matsuzaki / Japan
- Nartutaka Onimatsu, Greens Japan / Japan
- TOMOKO HARANO, Biodiversity Information Box / Japan
- OHKAKU Noboru / Japan
- OKAMOTO, Kazuyuki / Japan
- Michio Fukushima, Senior researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies / Japan
- Emi Kimura / Japan
- Eigo Komai, FoE Japan / Japan
- KANDA Hiroshi / Japan
- Sayoko Inuma, Global Environmental Forum / Japan
- Eri Watanabe, FoE Japan / Japan
- HYAKUMURA Kimihiko / Japan
- Kenji Ohki, Shimonoseki(Yamaguchi) East Timor Association / Japan
- MORIBE Toshiko / Japan
- Makoto Uchitomi, ATTAC Kyoto / Japan
- Masahito HIRANO, Japan International Volunteer Center Laos Office / Laos

- Kanokwan Manorom, Faculty of Liberal Arts,Ubon Ratchathani University / Thailand
- Phùng Thị Bích Lam, Mekong School alumni / Vietnam
- Nguyen Duc Anh, Mekong School alumni / Vietnam
- Hong Van Pham Thi, Tuoï Tre newspaper / Vietnam
- HARANO Yoshimasa, Japan Civil Network for Convention on Biological Diversity / Biodiversity Information Box / Japan
- Yu Terashima, Citizens for Saving the river Kawabe / Japan
- Lam Dinh Uy, Center for Biodiversity and Development / Vietnam
- Siriluk Sriprasit, Mekong School Alumni and M.A. Student in Southeast Asian Studies - Chulalongkorn University / Thailand
- Mitsumasa Ohta / Japan
- Nguyen Thi Kim Cuc , Mekong school Alumni and Postgraduate of Master of Human Rights and Democratisation , University of Sydney and Kathmandu School of Law / Nepal
- Yasuo NIIMURA, River Revival Research Japan / Japan
- Hideyuki BAN, Co-director, Citizens' Nuclear Information Center / Japan
- Chonthicha Srisuk / Thailand
- Toshiyuki Murase, Japan Civil Network for Convention on Biological Diversity / Japan
- Nov Piseth