RESOLUTION OF PROTEST OVER THE

SPILLAGE INCIDENT OF WASTEWATER CONTAINING PFOS AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS FROM THE US ARMY OIL STORAGE FACILITY IN URUMA CITY

At around 4:46 PM on June 10, an incident occurred in which wastewater containing the perfluorinated compound (PFC), perfluoroctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and other contaminants, spilled into off-base waterways from US Army Oil Storage Facility in Uruma City.

The area around the spill site is a quiet residential neighborhood, and also with the Tengan River flowing nearby, there are concerns over health hazards for the local residents and impact on the natural environment. As the prefectural and municipal governments were not notified of the incident until after a full day from its occurrence, we cannot help but address that the reporting system regarding crisis management is insufficient.

Health risks, including carcinogenicity of PFOS and other such compounds, have been indicated and international regulations have been implemented, and in Japan, the use and production of such chemicals are generally prohibited. Despite this, we have seen spills and discharge of fire-retardant foam containing PFOS and other such chemicals from MCAS Futenma in December 2019, and in April 2020. Indignation and sense of distrust felt among the Okinawan residents are increasing over the repeated wastewater spillage by the US Forces.

We have made pressing calls for thorough investigations into the causes and implementation of preventive measures to the US Forces and relevant agencies every time an accident or incident involving the US Forces occurs. It is truly regrettable that this incident has taken place despite our calls, and it is absolutely unacceptable.

To that end, in our duty to protect the lives and the safe and secure living environment for the people of Okinawa Prefecture, we strongly protest against this recent incident and call for the prompt execution of the following five items.

- 1. Implement thorough safety management measures at US Forces facilities in Okinawa where PFCs, including PFOS and other such chemicals, are stored and administered; and develop and disclose specific measures to prevent its recurrence.
- 2. Conduct surveys to investigate the cause of the pollution.
- 3. Strictly operate according to the notification system in place for times when incidents or accidents occur and provide information promptly and accurately.
- 4. Do not use, stock, or store PFCs, including PFOS and other such chemicals.
- 5. Remove/withdraw facilities where PFCs, including PFOS and other such chemicals, are stocked/stored.

The above is resolved as stated on this 12th day of July 2021.

Okinawa Prefectural Assembly