

To whom it may concern

August 23, 2021

Notice of postponement of "World BOSAI WalkTohoku+10"

Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation in the "World BOSAI Walk Tohoku+10" project. This WALK was planned as an outdoor-centered event for a small group of people that can be held even during the COVID-19 crisis. The plan was to hold the opening ceremony at the Iwaki 3.11 Memorial and Revitalization Museum in Utsunomiya, Iwaki City on September 4, and the closing ceremony at the Hachinohe City Minato Experience & Learning Center in Tatehana, Hachinohe City on October 7.

However, in the past week or two, the Covid-19 Delta variant has been spreading rapidly, and the country's medical system is in a critical situation. It has been decided to extend the declaration of a state of emergency and expand the area, and Fukushima and Miyagi prefectures are implementing priority measures to prevent the spread of the infection. Since there is no effective way to stop this situation at this time, it is expected that other prefectures will fall into a similar situation by September. A medical doctor from Tohoku University, who is working at the forefront of infectious disease control, advised us to postpone the WALK.

After much deliberation by the secretariat, we have decided to officially postpone the WALK as of today. This is because, in addition to the situation described above, the WALK is an event that crosses prefectural borders, and in the unlikely event that a WALK participant or a person scheduled to be interviewed at the WALK becomes seriously ill with corona, he or she will not be able to be hospitalized and receive proper treatment, which could be fatal. In addition, sending out information via SNS at this time may cause inconvenience to those who have stopped by and supported us.

We assume that this may be rescheduled around March 2022, which will be the 11th year since the occurrence of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

Although the secretariat is not satisfied with the last minute decision to postpone the WALK, we have made this decision in order to put human life first and to avoid causing any inconvenience or worry to the people in the affected areas and our supporters. We would like to ask for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our deepest apologies to all those who will be inconvenienced by the change in schedule.

Representative Director, World BOSAI Forum

Yuichi Ono

