



Washington Coalition for Comfort Women Issues, Inc.

워싱턴지역 정신대문제 대책위원회

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**Statement for the 1000th Global Wednesday Demonstration
to Protest**

Japan's Military Sexual Slavery of Comfort Women

Presented at Noon on December 14, 2011

at the Japanese Embassy in Washington DC

by the Washington Coalition for Comfort Women Issues, Inc.

It has been four years since the United States House of Representatives unanimously adopted House Resolution 121 in which they demanded that Japan "formally acknowledge, apologize and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner" for coercing young women into sexual slavery.

Begun on January 8, 1992, today marks the 1,000th Wednesday protest by the surviving Comfort Women in Korea, regarded as the longest ongoing protest in history. We, the Washington Coalition for Comfort Women Issues, along with other Korean-American organizations, join in that protest by focusing the world's attention on the continuing failure of the Japanese government and its Emperor to formally acknowledge their responsibility for these despicable crimes.

We demand that the government of Japan admit its coercion of some 200,000 young women into sexual slavery and the denial of their fundamental human rights. We further demand official and public apology for these crimes and immediate compensation and reparations for the survivors. Such an apology might in some small way atone for these crimes against humanity and may help prevent such atrocities in the future.

Therefore, until the Japanese government satisfies these minimal steps to atone for their crimes, we resolve as follows:

- * We will continue our public protest, in alliance with other human rights organizations, against the continuing denial of the Japanese government of this ugly stain on that nation's honor;
- * We will object by every means at our disposal any step to advance Japan's status in the community of nations, including and especially Japan's potential admission as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council;
- * We will not accept the sincerity of the Japanese government in any attempt to reconcile with this heinous period of their history unless they begin to correct the egregious distortions in their school textbooks about the Japanese military's crimes against the Comfort Women.