**URGENT CALL FOR ACTION:** 

# Say NO to Secrecy of JBIC & MOFA! Act Now for ODA Loan Agreement Disclosure on Koto Panjang Dam Project

Japanese Committee Supporting the Victims of Koto Panjang Dam http://www2.ttcn.ne.jp/~kotopanjang/ENG00.htm

## Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) & Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Hiding Loan Agreement on Dam

In the fourth trial on Nov 13 2003 of the Koto Panjang Dam Case, which is the first case in history to sue infamous Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) for human rights violation and environmental destruction in the Third World, the plaintiffs - approximately 8,400 Sumatrans in Indonesia and the surrounding ecosystem itself represented by WALHI<sup>\*1</sup> - strongly requested the defendants (Japanese government, JBIC, JICA<sup>\*2</sup>, and TEPSCO<sup>\*3</sup>) to disclose key documents to the project. They include the **Yen Loan Agreement** signed by JBIC and Indonesian government, and the **Detailed Design (D/D)** made by TEPSCO. The judge also required the agreement. Yet JBIC stubbornly rejected to present it to the court because of 'foreign affairs', and MOFA supported them. They have refused to make all other important documents public as well.

Why will an financial document such as the loan agreement cause foreign affairs? Who accept such a poor excuse? The real reason for refusal is that their claim, "Koto Panjang Dam is an internal issue in Indonesia and we have no responsibility," would mostly collapse if contents of the agreement come to light.

The loan agreement is said to include so-called 'Three Conditions for Loan' to be followed by Japanese aid agencies, which was imposed by a series of setback in the late 1980's to early 1990's including the Narmada Dam project in India: (a) Residents' agreement on eviction, (b) Residents' agreement on terms and conditions of compensation, and (c) Proper consideration to environmental protection including Sumatran elephants. Nevertheless, the dam was constructed with massive fund poured from Japan without any serious measures to protect residents and environment. Disclosing the agreement document would expose Japanese aid agencies' responsibility for the enormous damage to the people's lives and ecosystem. The three conditions have been made open in the Diet only in outline, but the exact wording remains unclear.

#### Act Now to Force Them to Present Key Documents!

Although Japanese ODA is financed from tax, postal savings and so on, there's no checking system by people or legislature and its applications have been driven by bureaucracy and special interests of Aid Mafia under strict secrecy. We intend to break this totally undemocratic system of Japanese 'aid' activities as well as to restore people's lives and environment through the lawsuit. We have launched the campaign to demand disclosure of the key documents to Koto Panjang Dam project. Please join this e-mail, TEL, and FAX actions against JBIC and MOFA!

- (\*1) The Indonesian Forum for Environment --- The largest body of environmental NGOs and various social groups in Indonesia.
- (\*2) Japan International Cooperation Agency --- A key player in Japanese aid activities financed by the government.
- (\*3) Tokyo Electric Power Services Co., Ltd. --- A private engineering service company who played a big role in the project.

#### ADDRESSES TO BE ATTACKED

#### **ODA Yen Loan Agreement:**

Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) --- They have and hide the agreement document.

Address: 1-4-1 Oote-machi Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 100-8144 Japan

TEL: +81-03-5218-3101 FAX: +81-03-5218-3955

E-Mail Submit Form on Web: https://www.jbic.go.jp/english/opinion/index.php (in English)

<u>Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)</u> --- They support JBIC secrecy on the pretext of 'foreign affairs'.

Address: 2-11-1 Shiba-Koen Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105-8519 Japan

Foreign Minister: Yoriko Kawaguchi

To contact Loan Aid Division of the Economic Cooperation Bureau TEL: +81-03-3580-3311

E-Mail: oda@mofa.go.jp

E-Mail Submit Form on Web: http://www3.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/mail/qa.html (only in Japanese)

### Detailed Design (D/D) documents of the dam:

Tokyo Electric Power Services Co., Ltd. (TEPSCO) -- They made the document as the main contractor.

Headquarter: 3-3-3 Higashi-Ueno Daito-Ku, Tokyo 110-0015 Japan

TEL: +81-03-4464-5111 FAX: +81-03-4464-5113 E-Mail: voice@tepsco.co.jp