## **Launch of International Chernobyl Network**

Members of Chernobyl organisations from 10 European countries came together with Japanese campaigners in Poland on October 26th to launch the International Chernobyl Network.

Four years ago the European Chernobyl Network was formed to bring together organisations working to support people in Belarus and Ukraine, the countries worst affected by the 1986 disaster.

But as Fukushima continues to pour radioactive contamination into the sea and the surrounding environment, there is a pressing need for the network to reach out beyond Europe.

"We considered including 'Fukushima' in the title of the network" said xxxxx 'but we realise that any day a further nuclear disaster may occur. Chernobyl was the first power plant disaster to spread contamination across the world and to leave a tragic legacy for future generations. Our Network is open to all those wishing to support the people affected by nuclear disasters anywhere.

After Chernobyl the building of new nuclear plants came to an abrupt halt. In the early 21st century nuclear energy was gaining ground once more, but the Fukushima accident has made many countries rethink their nuclear policy once again.

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