



SPECIAL RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE
23RD JOINT MEETING OF THE UNWTO COMMISSION FOR SOUTH ASIA AND THE
UNWTO COMMISSION FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

We, the Members of the UNWTO Commission for South Asia and the UNWTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific at our 23rd Joint Meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 25 March 2011,

Taking cognisance of the magnitude of the most disastrous earthquake and tsunami that rocked and destroyed many areas of the north-eastern part of Japan including Miyagi, Iwate, Fukushima, Ibaraki and Chiba prefectures on 11 March 2011,

Utterly shocked by the extent of the damage that the calamity has caused in terms of precious lives and property,

Express our deepest sympathies and condolences to the Government of Japan, the local authorities of the areas that have suffered the most from this catastrophe, as well as the families of the victims and those anxiously waiting for news of their loved ones who have disappeared,

Express our support to, and solidarity with, the Government of Japan and the Japanese people as a whole, in their efforts to provide medical and humanitarian assistance to the surviving population; and to Japan's tourism industry in its endeavours to offer travel assistance to both foreign and local tourists to ensure their safety,

Express our confidence in the ability and capacity of the Japanese people to draw on their risk management, know-how and past experience to confront this tragedy,

Resolve to work together with the Government of Japan, in collaboration with our respective governments, our tourism industries, the private sector and the media in mitigating the negative impacts of the tragedy on Japan's overall tourism development and,

Commit to stand by the people of Japan in the difficult task of reconstructing and putting in place what has been lost to this unprecedented calamitous situation that has befallen their country.