## IMF-JC 50<sup>th</sup> National Convention,September,6,2011 Remarks from Kan Matsuzaki, IMF Director for Shipbuilding and Shipbreaking

Many precious lives were lost in the Great East Japan Earthquake. I offer my heartfelt sympathies to all of the victims of this disaster and honor those who have given their tremendous efforts toward volunteer activities for rescue and recovery.

As the sole Japanese member of the IMF head office personnel, I have recently asked for donations and reported on state of the damage and volunteer activities.

In addition, through my work with the Shipbuilding and Shipbreaking division of which I am director, I sense now more than ever the importance of a thorough approach to safety and health issues promoted by trade unions. Precarious work is on the rise in the world's metal industry. The IMF plans to increase its efforts toward organization by investing its resources for activities in South and Southeast Asia. For these reasons as well, we expect even more of the IMF-JC, which has the greatest influence in Asia.