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December 5, 2014

Title: Japanese NGO (A-PAD) Dispatches Relief Team to Philippines in Advance of Super Typhoon Hagupit

Tokyo – (December 5, 2014) Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management (A-PAD), a Tokyo-based NGO has dispatched a team including rescue dogs to the Philippines to prepare for damage from Hagupit, a super typhoon expected to hit the islands of Leyte and Samar in central Philippines as early as the afternoon of December 6. This same area has yet to recover from damage inflicted by Haiyan a massive typhoon which struck in November 2013 affecting an estimated 10 million inhabitants.

The A-PAD disaster relief team including rescue dogs is to join forces with staff of Citizen's Disaster Response Center (CDRC), a Philippine emergency relief NPO. The A-PAD team, headed by CEO Keisuke Onishi arrived in the potential landfall area on Leyte via Cebu late December 4.

The activities of the joint Japanese-Philippine disaster preparedness team will include securing ferry and truck transport in anticipation of the need to deliver emergency supplies. The A-PAD team has made plans to arrive at the expected disaster area because of lessons learned from last year's typhoon when damage to roads and interruption of other transport services resulted in delays in the delivery of needed supplies.

Among the canine rescue unit heading from Japan to the Philippines is Yumenosuke, a dog known for having taken part in rescue efforts in August in the wake of the mudslide disaster in Hiroshima in which dozens of people were trapped inside collapsed buildings and under mountains of rubble. Yumenosuke is among a group of abandoned dogs retrained by Peace Winds in Hiroshima for work as members of canine emergency response teams. The dogs, including Yumenosuke, had been abandoned by owners and

were slated for destruction.

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↑ Disaster relief activities in the Philippines, 2013



↑ Yumenosuke searching victims in Hiroshima, August 2014

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Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management (A-PAD):

The Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management is a trans-national disaster aid alliance that works to facilitate cooperation and understanding between governments, private companies and NGOs in the Asia Pacific region.

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