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MEDIA RELEASE

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Former Japanese PM to speak on uranium

Against a backdrop of the continuing Fukushima nuclear crisis, former Prime Minister of Japan Mr Naoto Kan is presenting Facing the Fallout, a speaking tour of Australia to highlight concerns about Australia's uranium industry.

Mr Kan will be speaking in Townsville on Thursday 28 August.

Mr Kan was Prime Minister of Japan when the Fukushima nuclear reactor crisis began in March 2011.

As the triple meltdown unfolded, Mr Kan flew into the stricken nuclear plant at Fukushima via military helicopter in order to assess the crisis first hand. Facing him was the decision of whether or not to order the largest evacuation in human history - the evacuation of Tokyo - should the crisis worsen.

Although this was not deemed necessary, Mr Kan did shut down all of Japan's nuclear reactors.

He is a courageous and authentic leader who has experienced working closely with the nuclear industry.

The Facing the Fallout speaking tour provides a timely reminder of the urgent need for the Australian governments to face up to their nuclear responsibilities. This is especially relevant now that the Federal government is considering exporting uranium to India, a country which has not signed the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty.

And for locals, facing the potential re-opening of the Ben Lomond uranium mine just 30 minutes from the city, it will be of particular interest.

Townsville details:

Date: Thursday 28 August

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: QCWA Hall, Denham Street, Townsville CBD

Free and all welcome

Further information: Wendy Tubman 0428 987 535