The impact in its various forms of the March 11 earthquake and resultant tsunami continue during what will be a lengthy recovery and rebuild period. Damage to factories in the most affected Tohoku area, a disrupted supply chain, and transportation as well as energy issues, are among the problems faced by Japan.

As already informed through AP INFORMER, no new events were added to the Affiliate's calendar for May and June, as members continued to focus on the immediate needs of their workplaces. However, existing planning as shown on the Affiliate's Website, including the Winter Meeting in December, will go ahead on the dates shown.

While a key event in the Affiliate's calendar, the Annual Meeting, had to be cancelled in April, a commemorative publication in the Japanese language celebrating 10 years of the Affiliate's existence has since been published and distributed to the Japan-based membership.

Furthermore, the AGM, which is normally held at the very beginning of the Annual Meeting, was rescheduled and made available to membership through a Webinar--both real-time as well as on-demand.

The "Japan Affiliate Pest Control Handbook" in the English language continues to be made available to global membership as a free download from the HQ Website. Meanwhile, a more comprehensive version of the same document, in Japanese only, has now been printed and can be purchased.

To further improve the operations of the very busy Affiliate office in Yushima, Tokyo, a sophisticated database has been commissioned--a resource-consuming initiative but a step expected to bring benefits.

For more information on the Japan Affiliate and its activities, please visit www.ispe.org or contact Natsumi Sahara, Office Manager, at nsahara@ispe.gr.jp or tel: 81-3-3818-6737. Alternatively, contact Shigeru Nakamura, Head of Secretariat, at shigeru.nakamura@shimz.co.jp.