



~ **Embassy Newsletter** ~

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**1. Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Ceremonies**

Prime Minister Naoto Kan attended at the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Peace Ceremonies for atomic bomb victims in August 2010. You would find his speeches at the ceremonies through URLs available to see entire texts.

[http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/kan/statement/201008/06aisatu\\_e.html](http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/kan/statement/201008/06aisatu_e.html)

(In Hiroshima, 6th of August 2010)

[http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/kan/statement/201008/09aisatu\\_e.html](http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/kan/statement/201008/09aisatu_e.html)

(In Nagasaki, 9th of August 2010)

**2. Basic Facts on the Senkaku Islands and the Recent Incident**

You would lately read or hear the news about the Senkaku Islands through newspapers and TV news. You will be able to find clearer and deeper ideas on it through URLs below.

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/china/r-relations.html> (October 2010)

**3. Address by Prime Minister Naoto Kan at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly: Announcement of Concrete Contributions in 4 Areas**

Heads of states, ministers, and other delegates from countries around the world delivered addresses under the theme of "reaffirming the central role of the United Nations in global governance" at the General Debate of the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly, which started on September 23. In his address, Prime Minister Naoto Kan of Japan announced, in line with his idea of creating a society in which human suffering is reduced to a minimum, Japan's intention of making concrete contributions in the four areas of (i) assistance to the developing countries, (ii) the global environment, (iii) nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and (iv) peacekeeping and peacebuilding, as described below, with the aim to



overcome the challenges that the international community is facing. The Prime Minister also stressed the importance of UN reform.

(i) Assistance to the developing countries

While introducing the announcement of the "Kan Commitment," new contributions in the health and education areas, which are crucial areas for achieving the MDGs, Prime Minister Kan announced Japan's policy of leading the efforts towards meeting the MDGs, as well as continuing and strengthening its assistance to Africa through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) process, in accordance with the concept of human security.

(ii) Global environment

Prime Minister Kan stated that Japan would lead international negotiations for the success of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16), aiming at adopting a new and comprehensive legally binding document to establish a fair and effective international framework, and that it would steadily support developing countries and others that are taking measures to address climate change. The Prime Minister also indicated Japan's determination to play an important role as chair of the 10th Conference of Parties (COP 10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity, stating that COP 10 must be successful in order to halt the loss of biodiversity.

(iii) Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation

Prime Minister Kan expressed Japan's resolve, as the only country that has ever suffered the devastation of atomic bombings, to take steps to realize a world without nuclear weapons, and his will to send out messages to the world about the horror of the use of nuclear weapons and the value of peace by appointing "Special Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons." The Prime Minister also stated that Japan intended to deepen discussions, including by launching a new group at a Foreign Ministers meeting, thereby expanding international support for nuclear disarmament.

(iv) Peacekeeping and peacebuilding

While referring to Japan's achievements of active contribution to the UN PKOs and disaster relief operations in Haiti, Pakistan, and Timor-Leste, Prime Minister Kan announced Japan's intention to make concrete efforts in such areas as investing in peace, providing assistance to PKO training centers, and developing human resources. The Prime Minister also stated that Japan would continue to support Afghanistan's efforts in a comprehensive and integrated manner, focusing on the three pillars of security, reintegration, and sustainable and self-reliant development.

As per the UN reform, Prime Minister Kan stated that it was important to realize an effective and efficient UN in order to address global issues appropriately, and expressed his view that reform was indispensable in order for the Security Council to



have legitimacy which reflects the realities of the international community, and to be effective. He furthermore expressed Japan's determined aspiration to take on further responsibilities as a permanent member of the Security Council.

#### ***4. Meetings on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation: Japan and Australia Launch a New Initiative, etc.***

The 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in May adopted the Final Document concerning nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Aiming to further enhance the momentum for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, Japan played a major role in the following three meetings on the occasion of the United Nations General Assembly in September, including a Foreign Ministers' meeting on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation co-hosted by Japan and Australia.

##### 1. Foreign Ministers' meeting on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation (co-hosted by Japan and Australia)

On September 22, Japan and Australia co-hosted a Foreign Ministers' meeting on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Ten countries, including Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), participated.

The participants unanimously adopted the Joint Statement by Foreign Ministers, which elaborates the resolve of participating countries to (i) steadily implement the agreement at the 2010 NPT Review Conference and (ii) conduct high-level discussions on a realistic proposal regarding a mid/long-term direction in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in an effort to advance work on concrete and practical measures for a world of decreased nuclear risk as a milestone on the path towards realizing a world without nuclear weapons.

Mr. Seiji Maehara (co-chair), Foreign Minister of Japan, stressed the importance for this cross-regional new group to work to (i) reduce the number of nuclear weapons and diminish their role and (ii) address issues such as the immediate commencement of negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT). He furthermore expressed his wish to set a direction in which the new group should advance towards the second Foreign Ministers meeting to be held next year, in such a form as an action plan. Rather than competing with existing groups, the new group is to pursue their efforts with an open and inclusive approach in cooperation with other nations.

##### 2. Fifth CTBT Ministerial Meeting

On September 23, Japan, together with other co-hosting nations, held the fifth Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) Ministerial meeting. The 72 participating nations adopted the Joint Ministerial Statement on the CTBT, in which the



Foreign Ministers called upon all States that had not yet done so, the Annex 2 States in particular, to sign and ratify the Treaty without delay, and stressed the importance of continuing a moratorium on nuclear weapon tests.

Foreign Minister Maehara emphasized that (i) the CTBT is not only an indispensable building block to support the NPT regime, but also an important measure to guide those non-NPT signatories into the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and (ii) political leaders of all the Annex 2 States should exert their leadership for early signatures and ratification of the Treaty and a moratorium on nuclear testing should be continuously observed pending its entry into force.

Japan holds in high regard the demonstration of political will on the early entry into force of the CTBT, as exemplified by the participation in the meeting of the United States and Iraq, which have yet to ratify the Treaty, and their support for the Joint Ministerial Statement. Japan intends to continue its efforts for the early entry into force of the Treaty.

### 3. High-level Meeting on Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations

On September 24, the Secretary-General of the United Nations convened the High-level Meeting on "Revitalizing the Work of the Conference on Disarmament and Taking Forward Multilateral Disarmament Negotiations," following which the Chair's Summary was announced, including concrete suggestions by the Secretary-General.

Foreign Minister Maehara (i) strongly called for the immediate commencement of negotiations on an FMCT and the declaration and maintenance of a moratorium on the production of fissile materials for weapon purposes and (ii) made Japan's position clear that a certain deadline must be set for discussions in the Conference on Disarmament (CD); any failure in making progress would require the exploration of alternative paths; and if there is no emerging prospect of launching negotiations on an FMCT within the CD, Japan, together with like-minded countries, is ready to take the initiative to provide a venue for the negotiations.

Japan commends that participants at the foreign-minister level of many UN Member States, including members of the CD, have called for the early start of substantive work, including the commencement of negotiations on an FMCT, and demonstrated in a concerted manner political will to achieve a breakthrough in the stagnation in negotiations at the CD. Japan believes that the outcome of the meeting will lead to the advancement of the CD going forward.

### **5. High-level Meeting on Biodiversity: Efforts to Reach Agreements at COP10 in Nagoya**

On September 22, a high-level meeting on biodiversity was held at the United Nations headquarters in New York. From Japan, Mr. Seiji Maehara, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and



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Mr. Ryu Matsumoto, Minister of the Environment, attended the meeting. This high-level meeting was convened as a contribution to the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity (IYB), and its outcomes was reported at COP10 of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya in October (which Japan chaired).



**Mr. Maehara, Minister for Foreign Affairs  
at the UN headquarters in New York on Sep. 22**

In his address, Minister Maehara proposed to make the ten years starting in 2011 the Decade of Biodiversity, calling for the adoption at the General Assembly session of a resolution on the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), a new organization to be charged with scientific analysis on biodiversity. He also made a reference to the SATOYAMA Initiative: international efforts in promoting conservation and the sustainable use of the natural environment in the regions which have been created through such human activities as agriculture, forestry and fisheries. In addition, the Minister stated that Japan was ready to support developing countries if a global common target was agreed upon at COP10. Minister Matsumoto expressed his resolve as the Chair of COP10, which will be held under the theme of Living in Harmony with Nature, to come to agreements on major issues.

Efforts to reach international agreements at COP10 have gained momentum at this meeting, an epoch-making event in which biodiversity was discussed for the first time at a high-level meeting of the UN General Assembly. COP10, together with the fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (MOP5), was convened in Nagoya in October 2010. Expected outcomes of COP10 include: revisions to the 2010 Biodiversity Target set in 2002 for the period after 2010 (i.e., establishment of post-2010 targets); establishment of an international regime on access and benefit-sharing (ABS); and adoption of a rule under the Cartagena Protocol for liability and redress. As the host country of COP10, Japan actively contributed to the discussions to realize these outcomes.



**6. High-level Plenary Meeting of the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly on the MDGs: Promise to the Next Generation – Japan Pledges USD 5 Billion in Support for Health, USD 3.5 Billion for Education**

A United Nations Summit meeting with a focus on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was held between 20-22 September. During the meeting, participants discussed the status of progress toward the achievement of the MDGs as well as an action agenda for the way forward. Prime Minister Naoto Kan and Minister for Foreign Affairs Seiji Maehara attended the meeting on behalf of Japan.

In his address to the meeting, the Prime Minister announced concrete contribution measures in the fields of health and education, the two areas among all the MDGs on which progress lags the farthest behind, based on the principle of achieving a "society in which human suffering is reduced to a minimum." Emphasizing his dedication to these areas, the Prime Minister named his initiative the "Kan Commitment." Specifically, the Prime Minister announced that Japan would provide assistance of USD 5 billion over five years beginning in 2011 in the health field – including contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria amounting to USD 800 million in the coming years – and USD 3.5 billion for support in the field of education. In addition, in terms of the form of the contributions to be made, the Prime Minister proposed to the international community two assistance models: one to support the health of mothers and children called "EMBRACE" (Ensure Mothers and Babies Regular Access to Care), and the other to support basic education called "School for All." At the same time, the Prime Minister called for strengthening coordination among a broad range of stakeholders working for the achievement of the MDGs, and proposed that Japan hold an international conference on the matter next year.

The outcome document adopted at the end of the meeting contained elements which Japan has emphasized as important, such as human security, comprehensive efforts on each goal, the strengthening of efforts by all stakeholders including civil society and the private sector, and the factors which Japan values when it provides support for the fields of health and education. It is a major achievement that the international community was able to come to an agreement on the important factors when working for the achievement of the MDGs and make clear a direction for future efforts during this Summit meeting.

Copies of the development policies announced by Japan this time are available via the links below:

Health: [http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/mdg/pdfs/hea\\_pol\\_ful\\_en.pdf](http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/mdg/pdfs/hea_pol_ful_en.pdf)

Education: [http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/mdg/pdfs/edu\\_pol\\_ful\\_en.pdf](http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/mdg/pdfs/edu_pol_ful_en.pdf)