



News Release

April 21, 2011

Visit of Director-General for Middle Eastern and African Affairs of
the Japanese Foreign Ministry to Bahrain

Mr. Shigeo MATSUTOMI, Director-General, Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited the Kingdom of Bahrain from 20th to 21st of April, 2011, as part of his tour in the region. During the visit, he met with His Excellency Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs and other officials.

During the meetings, His Excellency Shaikh Khalid expressed, on behalf of government and people of Bahrain, their deepest condolences and sympathy for loss of lives and the destruction caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.

Mr. MATSUTOMI and Bahraini officials have exchanged their views and opinions about recent developments in the region and measures to stabilize its situation. In this regard, they also discussed the current situation in Bahrain. Mr. MATSUTOMI reiterated Japan's strong and full support for the National Dialogue and expressed his hope that a practical solution would be soon worked out through the dialogue for the benefit of all the citizens of the Kingdom.

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For further information in regard to this press release, media inquiries can be directed to Mr. Hiroto Asaoka, Public Affairs Section of Japanese Embassy at 17716565 and hiroto.asaoka@mofa.go.jp or to Japanese Embassy's Web site at <http://www.bh.emb-japan.go.jp/index.htm>