



Representative Office of Japan to PA
Representative's Newsletter #1, September 2010

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the commencement of "Representative's Newsletter." This newsletter will include a variety of information and news about the Japan-Palestine relationship as well as major topics of Japan's foreign policy. I hope this newsletter will serve you as a useful source of further understanding Japan.

Below are the topics of the first Representative's Newsletter.

1. Visit to the Palestinian Authority and Israel by Mr. Koichi Takemasa, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs
2. Japanese-Palestinian High-Level Governmental Consultative Meeting
3. Visit to the Palestinian Authority by Mr. Yasuo Hayashi, Chairman of JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization)
4. Visit to the Palestinian Authority and Israel by two Japanese Olympic Judo Champions
5. G8/G20 Summits

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Sincerely yours,

Naofumi HASHIMOTO
Representative of Japan

1. Visit to the Palestinian Authority and Israel by Mr. Koichi Takemasa, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Koichi Takemasa, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, visited the Palestinian Authority and Israel from August 29 to August 30, 2010. Mr. Takemasa had meetings with Palestinian and Israeli governmental leaders including Dr. Salam Fayyad, Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Liberman, Palestinian Foreign Minister Dr. Riad Malki, and Deputy Foreign Minister Daniel Ayalon. During the meetings, Mr. Takemasa called upon both sides to make sincere efforts for the success of direct talks, stressing the need for Israel to freeze all settlement activities, and Japan's position not to recognize any act by Israel that would prejudge the final status of Jerusalem and territories in the pre-1967 borders. At the same time, Mr. Takemasa confirmed that Japan will continue its support for the progress of direct talks.

2. Japanese-Palestinian High-Level Governmental Consultative Meeting

On July 25, 2010, the Japanese delegation headed by Ambassador Yutaka Iimura, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for the Middle East, and the Palestinian delegation headed by Dr. Salam Fayyad held a high-level governmental consultative meeting in Ramallah. This meeting was held as a follow-up of the visit of President, Dr. Mahmoud Abbas, to Japan in February 2010, and will be held annually to provide policy guidance for Japan's cooperation on Palestinian state-building.

Joint Press Release: http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/middle_e/palestine/1007_jprelease.html

3. Visit to the Palestinian Authority by Mr. Yasuo Hayashi, Chairman of JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization)

Mr. Yasuo Hayashi, the Chairman of JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization), and a Japanese private sector delegation visited the Palestinian Authority from July 25 to July 27, 2010. During this visit, Mr. Hayashi met Palestinian Prime Minister Dr. Salam Fayyad. Mr. Hayashi and the Japanese delegation also visited companies that represent each industry, such as food and stone industry in the West Bank.

4. Visit to the Palestinian Authority and Israel by two Japanese Olympic Judo Champions

Two Japanese Olympic Judo Champions, Mr. Yasuhiro Yamashita and Mr. Kosei Inoue, visited the Palestinian Authority and Israel from July 17 to July 22. During their stay, they gave lectures and trainings to the Israeli and Palestinian Judo-ka. As a follow-up of this visit, Solidarity of International Judo Education, the non-profitable organization initiated by Mr. Yamashita, will invite Israeli and Palestinian young Judo-ka to the SANIX International Youth Judo Team Tournament held in Fukuoka, Japan in December 2010.

5. G8/G20 Summits

Prime Minister Naoto Kan made a successful debut in the diplomatic arena at the G8/G20 summit in Canada in June 2010. Making good use of his previous post as Minister of Finance, Mr. Kan effectively presented his ideas and views on the need to pursue economic growth and fiscal reconstruction in tandem. This Japan's dual-faceted approach was well received by other leaders, and was adapted in the final G20 Summit Declaration.

Brief Summary of the G8/G20 Summits by the Foreign Ministry of Japan:

http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2010/brief_summary.html

G20 Summit Declaration (Japan's plan is mentioned in paragraph 10):

<http://g20.gc.ca/toronto-summit/summit-documents/the-g-20-toronto-summit-declaration/>

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