



Representative Office of Japan to the P.A.

VIP2 Center 3rd Floor, Yazoor Street, Al-Bireh

Tel. 02-2413120/1/2 Fax: 02-2413123

E-mail: culture3@repjapan.ps

www.ps.emb-japan.go.jp

September 29th, 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Statement by the Press Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, on the decision regarding the construction of housing units in East Jerusalem

1. The Government of Japan deeply deplores that, according to the news, the Israeli Government will announce the approval of the construction of 1,100 new housing units for Jewish people in Gilo of East Jerusalem on September 27.
2. The statement issued by the Middle East Quartet on September 23 calls on both sides to resume negotiations and to refrain from any provocative action. Such an act goes against the ongoing efforts by the international community to resume the negotiations for peace.
3. Japan does not recognize any act that prejudices the final status of the territories in the pre-1967 borders, and Japan has repeatedly called upon Israel to fully freeze settlement activities. Japan reiterates its strong call to Israel to refrain from any unilateral act that changes the current situation in East Jerusalem and to not implement the above-mentioned plan of construction for the sake of the progress of the peace process.
4. Now is the time for both the Israeli and Palestinian sides to concentrate on the goal of a “two-state solution,” which is important for not only the Middle East but also the international community as a whole. Japan once again strongly urges that both sides act for the boosting of mutual trust and continue to make steady efforts for peace.

Official Link: http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2011/9/0928_03.html

(END)