



*Representative Office of Japan to PNA*  
*Representative's Newsletter #2, November 2010*

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am pleased to send you the second Representative's Newsletter.

Below are the topics of the newsletter.

1. Inauguration of H.E. Mr. Seiji Maehara as the Minister for Foreign Affairs
2. Address by PM Naoto Kan at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly
3. The recent incident off the Senkaku Islands
4. Inauguration of the first infrastructure project of JAIP
5. Japan's New Assistance to the PNA for Financial Support
6. Awarding Ceremony to Dr. Hussein Jaddu and Dr. Walid Basha

In addition to inform the aforementioned recent topics on Japan's foreign policy, I would like to take this opportunity to provide the basic information about Japan's contribution to the Middle East Peace Process as attached.

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Sincerely yours,

Naofumi HASHIMOTO  
Representative of Japan

1. Inauguration of H.E. Mr. Seiji Maehara as the Minister for Foreign Affairs

After winning reelection as the President of the Democratic Party of Japan, Prime Minister Kan made a Cabinet reshuffle on September 17, 2010. He named Mr. Seiji Maehara, former Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, as new Minister for Foreign Affairs. In his inaugural greeting, Mr. Maehara expressed his wish to promote diplomacy with economic diplomacy at the core. Mr. Katsuya Okada, former Minister for Foreign Affairs, became the Secretary-General of the Democratic Party of Japan which is a key position in the party.

2. Address by PM Naoto Kan at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly

On September 22, 2010, Prime Minister Naoto Kan delivered an address at the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly. In his address, Prime Minister Kan 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 peace-building, with the aim to overcome the challenges that the international community is facing. He also stressed the importance of UN reform Protection.

The full text of the speech is available at

[http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/kan/statement/201009/22speech\\_e.html](http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/kan/statement/201009/22speech_e.html)

3. The recent incident off the Senkaku Islands

On September 7, 2010, an incident occurred in which a Chinese fishing trawler collided with patrol vessels of the Japan Coast Guard in Japanese territorial waters off the Senkaku Islands. The Government of Japan handled the incident duly and strictly under its jurisdiction and in accordance with domestic laws as a case involving obstruction of the execution of official duty by a Chinese fishing trawler.

There is no doubt that the Senkaku Islands are clearly an inherent territory of Japan, in

light of historical facts and based upon international law. Indeed, the Senkaku Islands are now under the valid control of Japan. There exists no issue of territorial sovereignty to be resolved concerning the Senkaku Islands. The Chinese government began to raise questions regarding the Senkaku Islands in the 1970s only after a report of possible oil resources in the area attracted the regional attention. In addition, an article in the People's Daily dated January 8, 1953, under the title of "Battle of people in the Ryukyu Islands against the U.S. occupation", made clear that the Ryukyu Islands consist of 7 groups of islands including the Senkaku Islands. Moreover, "World Atlas" published in China in 1960 treated the Senkaku Islands as part of Okinawa.

For further details about the basic facts of the Senkaku Islands and the incident, please refer to

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

#### 4. Inauguration of the first infrastructure project of JAIP

As part of Jericho 10,000 program, on October 11, 2010, a ceremony was held at the future site of Jericho Agro-Industrial Park (JAIP) with attendance of Prime Minister Dr. Salam Fayyad, for the inauguration of the rehabilitation of part of Mahmoud Darwish Street (1.8 km) and for the ground-breaking of JAIP land reclamation. JAIP is a core project of Japan's Corridor for Peace and Prosperity Initiative which aims to provide the Palestinians job opportunities and facilitate the export of value-added products to the surrounding areas.

For further details of the project, please refer to

<http://www.ps.emb-japan.go.jp/PressRelease/n11-10-2010.html>

#### 5. Japan's New Assistance to the PNA for Financial Support

The Government of Japan has decided to extend a Non-project grant aid of 1.5 billion Yen (approx. USD 18.8 million) to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) as a kind of its budget support to the PNA. Notes to this effect were signed and exchanged on October 24, 2010 between Japanese Representative Mr. Hashimoto and Prime Minister Dr. Salam Fayyad. With this grant, the PNA will procure some commodities critically needed for

daily economic activities. Since 2007 up to this day, Japan has extended Non-project grant aid to the PNA totaling 5.4 billion Yen (about USD 63 million).

For further details about the grant, please visit

<http://www.ps.emb-japan.go.jp/PressRelease/n24-10-2010.html>

#### 6. Awarding Ceremony to Dr. Hussein Jaddu and Dr. Walid Basha

On October 28, 2010, Mr. Hashimoto, Representative of Japan, hosted the awarding ceremony for Dr. Hussain Jaddu and Dr. Walid Basha in Ramalla, in recognition of their distinguished contributions to the deepening of understanding about Japan in Palestine. This was the first time for the Representative of Japan to the Palestine National Authority to give the Representative's Commendation award. Around 50 guests, including Ms. Janet Michael, Mayor of Ramallah, attended the ceremony.

For further details about the ceremony, please go to

<http://www.ps.emb-japan.go.jp/PressRelease/n28-10-2010.html>

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