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Press Release

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Recent Developments in Gaza

(Statement by Foreign Press Secretary Norio Maruyama)

1. Japan is deeply concerned about the series of clashes which occurred on March 30 in Gaza between Palestinian demonstrators and Israeli security forces, causing at least 16 Palestinian deaths and many injuries. Japan extends its sincere condolences to the bereaved families of the victims, and expresses its heartfelt sympathy to those who were injured.
2. Violence cannot be justified for any reason, and Japan condemns such acts of violence. Japan calls on all the parties concerned not to escalate the situation.
3. Japan stresses that all the parties' concerned need to continue their efforts for achieving peace based on a two state solution.

(END)