

JOINT STATEMENT between JAPAN and JAMAICA

- (1) The Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller, accompanied by a high level delegation, visited Japan from 4 to 8 November 2013 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Japan, His Excellency Shinzo Abe.
- (2) H.E. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan and the Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller, Prime Minister of Jamaica, held a Summit Meeting on 5 November 2013.
- (3) Recalling the 50th anniversary of the commencement of diplomatic relations and the Japan-Caribbean Community Friendship Year to be celebrated in 2014, the two prime ministers highlighted the significance of Prime Minister Simpson Miller's momentous visit. The two prime ministers appreciated with great satisfaction the deep bonds of friendship and cooperation that have marked the first fifty years of the diplomatic relationship.
- (4) Reaffirming their unwavering adherence to fundamental values of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, as well as the deep affinity shared between both island nations, the two prime ministers decided to take concrete steps to deepen cooperation for (I) shared prosperity of peace and sustainable growth, (II) enhanced policy coordination and dialogue between Japan-the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and (III) global issues of mutual concern as responsible actors of the international community.

I. Bilateral Relationship: Shared prosperity through peace and sustainable growth

The promotion of increased political dialogue

- (5) The two prime ministers affirmed that the celebration of the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations in the year 2014 will serve as a catalyst for strengthening the bilateral relationship at all levels and sectors of society and reiterated the importance of enhancing political consultations both bilaterally and in multilateral fora.
- (6) In light of the deeply engrained traditions of parliamentary democracy in both countries, the two prime ministers expressed their support for the revitalization of bilateral parliamentary dialogue through, amongst others channels, the Japan-Jamaican Parliamentarian League and the Japan-Caribbean Parliamentarian League.

The consolidation of a mutually beneficial and sustainable economic relationship

- (7) The two prime ministers welcomed the increasingly active bilateral trade and Japanese investments as well as economic cooperation with Jamaica, which have been instrumental in providing quality jobs, effective assistance for training and technological transfers, which are key elements in the attainment of sustainable growth under shifting economic circumstances.
- (8) Both prime ministers recognized the importance of promoting dialogue for improving business environments and expanding investment opportunities in a diverse range of sectors. The two prime ministers highlighted that global efforts toward achieving green growth offered new opportunities for cooperation and investment in fields such as energy conservation, renewable

energy and mineral resources development, taking note that these are areas in which Japanese firms possess advanced technology and expertise.

- (9) Both prime ministers also highlighted the wealth in tourism resources that exist in both countries and recognized its importance in nurturing mutual understanding. To this end, they called on relevant authorities and other actors to foster cooperation in the tourism sector, including through participation in trade promotion fora such as the annual JATA (Japan Association of Travel Agents) Travel Showcase.
- (10) Prime Minister Simpson Miller expressed her appreciation for the cooperation extended by Japan, both directly and through international organizations such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in areas ranging from agriculture/fisheries, business, education, environment, health and sanitation to infrastructure.
- (11) Both prime ministers welcomed the signing of the Agreement on Technical Cooperation between Japan and Jamaica, which will further facilitate the execution of cooperation activities in Jamaica.
- (12) Prime Minister Abe expressed his commitment to continue Japan's assistance to Jamaica in fields such as environmental protection, disaster risk reduction, the expansion of job opportunities and human resource development, taking into account the priorities identified under the "Japan Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Partnership Programme" established at the 2nd Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Meeting.

Nurturing mutual respect and understanding through dialogue and exchange

- (13) In recognition of the importance of cultural exchanges as an effective instrument for promoting mutual respect and understanding, the two prime ministers reaffirmed their commitment for their continued promotion. Prime Minister Simpson Miller expressed her appreciation for the cultural cooperation extended by Japan, such as Japanese language training and the dissemination of contemporary and traditional arts. Prime Minister Abe appreciated the role that events such as the "One Love Jamaica Festival" in Tokyo have in fomenting cultural exchange.
- (14) The two prime ministers recognized the success of exchange programmes such as "the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program" and the "Invitation Program for Young Officials of the Caribbean Community" and reaffirmed their commitment to maintain and strengthen them.
- (15) Prime Minister Simpson Miller congratulated Prime Minister Abe on the recent designation of Tokyo as the host of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympics Games, and expressed her best wishes for its successful celebration. Both prime ministers reconfirmed the importance of advancing mutual exchange and cooperation in the field of sports.

II. Enhanced policy coordination and dialogue between Japan – the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

- (16) Reaffirming their affinity and solidarity as island states that share the aforementioned core values and aspirations, Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Simpson Miller, in her capacity as head of external relations of CARICOM, reaffirmed that the scope of cooperation between Japan and CARICOM is expanding and concurred in strengthening collaboration on regional and global affairs.
- (17) The two prime ministers noted with satisfaction the success of the Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Meetings and the Japan-CARICOM Consultations in fostering mutual understanding and policy coordination. The two prime ministers concurred in working together for the success of the 4th Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Meeting to be held as part of the Japan-CARICOM Friendship Year in 2014.
- (18) Prime Minister Abe reaffirmed his will to continue and strengthen Japan's cooperation towards CARICOM member states, especially in priority fields such as fisheries, disaster risk reduction and environmental protection. Furthermore, in recognition of the solidarity with Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and bearing in mind their vulnerabilities, Prime Minister Abe announced Japan's contribution of fifty thousand US dollars to the preparations for the coming Third International Conference on SIDS to be held in Samoa in 2014.
- (19) Prime Minister Simpson Miller expressed her appreciation on behalf of CARICOM for the support hitherto provided. Furthermore, in recognition of the collaborative spirit between Japan and CARICOM on issues such as climate change, sustainable use of marine resources and UN Reform, Prime Minister Simpson Miller welcomed the strengthening of relations between Japan and CARICOM.

III. Strengthening cooperation on global issues

- (20) Cognizant of the interest and responsibility that Japan and Jamaica share in upholding an international order of peace and prosperity based on international law, the two prime ministers reaffirmed their commitment to enhance dialogue and collaboration on global issues.
- (21) The two prime ministers affirmed the role and importance of the United Nations in maintaining peace and security. They also stressed the necessity to reform the Security Council and improve its effectiveness, transparency and representativeness. The two prime ministers recalled the commitment by international leaders on early reform of the Security Council in the Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit, and stressed the need to intensify efforts to achieve concrete outcomes by 2015 at the latest. Prime Minister Abe noted with appreciation the Directive of CARICOM Leaders of February 2013 and their initiative to reinvigorate the intergovernmental negotiation process. The two prime ministers reiterated their will to cooperate and enhance dialogue to achieve reform of the UN Security Council.

- (22) Recalling the 30th anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on 10 December 1982 at Montego Bay, Jamaica, in 2012, the two prime ministers, as leaders of maritime nations, shared the recognition that the seas and oceans should be open, free and secure. Both prime ministers further affirmed that maritime order must be maintained and that common principles such as the freedom and safety of navigation and the renunciation of the threat or the use of force must be adhered to, in accordance with international laws including UNCLOS.
- (23) The two prime ministers recalled that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law.
- (24) The two prime ministers reaffirmed their cooperation with regards to international efforts toward disarmament and non-proliferation, including efforts to strengthen the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) regime through concrete and practical efforts toward the success of the 2015 NPT Review Conference. Both prime ministers also reaffirmed their cooperation with regards to international efforts toward the elimination of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. They welcomed the opening for signature of the landmark Arms Trade Treaty in June 2013.
- (25) The two prime ministers expressed their grave concern over North Korea's continued development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programmes, including its uranium enrichment activities. They strongly urged North Korea to take concrete actions towards complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearization and to fully comply with its obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and its commitments under the 2005 Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. They called on the international community to ensure full implementation of UN sanctions against North Korea. Both prime ministers strongly urged North Korea to address, without delay, humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abductions issue.
- (26) The two prime ministers reaffirmed their cooperation for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015 and the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda. They shared the common recognition that the post-2015 development agenda should be an effective framework, based upon human security, which puts people at the centre, and where disaster risk reduction and universal health coverage are appropriately positioned.
- (27) The two prime ministers reaffirmed the importance of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in international fora. They welcomed the convening of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015. The two prime ministers also expressed their willingness to cooperate in establishing a fair and effective post-2020 framework

on climate change, applicable to all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). They confirmed the importance of supporting small island developing states in the area of both mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. In this context, Prime Minister Simpson Miller expressed her appreciation on Japan's recent decision to dispatch to Jamaica an expert for disaster risk reduction of the Caribbean Region. The two prime ministers also concurred that the two countries would continue their discussions on the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) initiated by Japan so as to examine ways in which the two countries could benefit.

- (28) Prime Minister Abe explained his administration's recent efforts in relation to its security policy, highlighting its intention to further contribute to the peace and stability of the region and the world as a "Proactive Contributor to Peace". Prime Minister Simpson Miller, in recognition of Japan's widely acknowledged peaceful orientation, expressed her support for Japan's efforts in contributing to regional and international peace and stability.

IV. Towards the realization of our shared vision in the new century

- (29) Both prime ministers expressed their satisfaction at the outcome of the Summit Meeting. The two prime ministers reaffirmed that the Government and people of Japan and Jamaica are bound not only by genuine friendship but also united in their commitment to universal values such as democracy, human rights and the rule of law. Both prime ministers concurred in the affirmation that the 50th anniversary of the diplomatic relationship will serve as catalyst in strengthening these bonds and reiterated their commitment to advance the bilateral relationship in the decades to come.
- (30) Prime Minister Simpson Miller extended an invitation for the Prime Minister of Japan to visit Jamaica. She also thanked Prime Minister Abe for the warm hospitality and kind courtesies extended to her and the Jamaican delegation during the visit.

Signed on 5 November 2013 in Tokyo, Japan

H.E. Shinzo Abe
Prime Minister of Japan

The Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller
Prime Minister of Jamaica