

## Chapter 3

# Japan's Foreign Policy to Promote National and Worldwide Interests

### 1. Efforts for Peace and Stability of Japan and the International Community

#### Current Status of the Security Environment Surrounding Japan

The security environment surrounding Japan is becoming increasingly severe. Amid progressively greater presence of emerging countries in the international community, the power balance has been changing, and this has substantially influenced the dynamics of international politics. The advancement of globalization and rapid progress in technological innovation have invited a change in the relative influence between states and non-state actors, increasing threats of terrorism and other crimes by non-state actors that undermine national security. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other related materials also remains a threat. In addition, risks, to the global commons, such as seas, outer space and cyberspace, have been spreading and becoming more serious. Global issues that cannot be dealt with by a single country—namely, poverty, environmental issues and humanitarian crises—are emerging as issues of human security. At the same time, the risk of the expansion of an economic crisis from one country to the entire global economy is growing.

While the change in the balance of power on a global scale provides opportunities for security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, it has also given rise to regional issues and tensions.

North Korea has continued nuclear and missile development, including uranium enrichment activities, in violation of the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks and United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions. Despite the fact that the international community has both demanded full compliance by North Korea with relevant UNSC Resolutions, and has repeatedly and strongly insisted that it exercise self-restraint, North

Korea nevertheless proceeded to conduct its third nuclear tests in February 2013. North Korea's continued nuclear and missile development further exacerbates the threat to security in the region, seriously undermining the peace and stability of the international community, and cannot be tolerated. China's moves to strengthen its military capabilities without sufficient transparency, and its rapidly expanded and intensified activities at sea and in the air, are matters of concern for the region and the international community. In January 2013, there was an incident in which a Chinese warship directed its fire control radar at vessel of JMSDF (Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force), and in November, China unilaterally established and announced the "East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone." These actions can be regarded as attempts to change the status quo by coercion and may cause further escalation of the situation.

#### Proactive Contribution to Peace

In order to respond to such security issues, defend its territorial integrity, protect the lives and property of Japanese nationals, as well as ensure the stability, the sustainable prosperity and development of the international community, Japan is determined to contribute even more proactively to peace and stability of the region and international community from the policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace," based on the principle of international cooperation. In December 2013 the National Security Council (NSC) was established and Japan's first National Security Strategy (NSS) was adopted.

NSC-related organizational chart

<p><b>4-Minister Meeting (new)</b> (Prime Minister, Chief Cabinet Secretary, Foreign Minister, Defense Minister)</p>	<p><b>9-Minister Meeting</b> (Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Chief Cabinet Secretary, Foreign Minister, Defense Minister, 5 other relevant ministers)</p>	<p><b>Emergency Situations Minister Meeting (new)</b> (Prime Minister, Chief Cabinet Secretary, other ministers to be designated)</p>
<p><b>To function as the control tower of foreign and defense policy concerning national security</b></p>	<p><b>To maintain the role of the current Security Council in ensuring civilian control</b></p>	<p><b>To strengthen emergency situations responses</b></p>
<p>Convened on a regular basis and as necessary to decide fundamental policy orientation, including mid- to long-term National Security Strategy.</p>	<p>Consider important issues regarding national defense, such as Basic Policy for National Defense Program Outline, or response to armed attack situations from more comprehensive and diverse perspective.</p>	<p>Consider important issues which require highly political decisions and propose necessary measures.</p>

\* Other ministers may be asked to attend the meeting as required, based on the decision of the chairman (Prime Minister). A deputy minister may carry out duties as a proxy if an emergency situation demands a flexible response.

Reference: "Other ministers to be designated" (schematic image)

**Ex. 1: Intrusion in territorial waters, illegal landing**

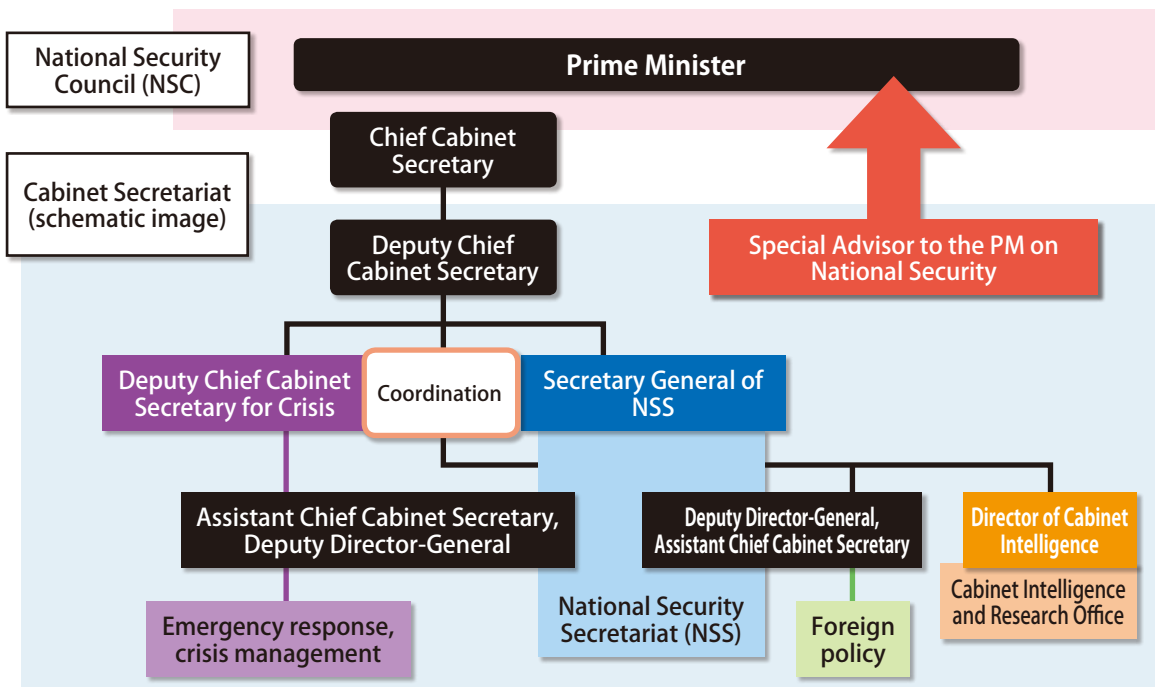
Minister of Justice, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Minister of Defense, Chairman of the NPSC

**Ex. 2: Radioactive terrorism**

Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, Minister of Justice, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Minister of the Environment, Minister of Defense, Chairman of the NPSC

**Ex. 3: Mass refugee situation**

Minister of Justice, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister of Finance, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Minister of Defense, Chairman of the NPSC



### Outline of National Security Strategy (NSS)

The NSS makes it clear that, as the fundamental principles of national security: Japan will continue to adhere to the course it has taken to date, as a peace-loving nation; as a major player in world politics and the global economy, it will ensure its own security, as well as peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, and contribute ever more proactively to securing peace, stability and prosperity in the international community, from the perspective of a "Proactive Contribution to Peace," based on the principle of international cooperation.

In this context, Japan defines its national interests as follows: (1) maintaining the peace and security of Japan and ensuring its survival; (2) achieving the prosperity of Japan and its nationals, thereby consolidating its peace and security; and (3) maintaining and protecting the international order based on universal values and rules.

In order to safeguard its national interests and to fulfill its responsibility in the international community, Japan will seek to achieve the following national security objectives: (1) to strengthen the deterrence, thereby deterring threats from reaching Japan; (2) to improve the security environment of the Asia-Pacific region, and prevent the emergence of and reduce, direct threats to Japan through strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance and enhancing trust and cooperative relations between Japan and its partners; and (3) to improve the global security environment and build a peaceful, stable and prosperous international community.

In order to attain these objectives, the NSS states that Japan takes the following strategic approaches: (1) Strengthen and expand Japan's capabilities and roles; (2) Strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance; (3) Strengthen diplomacy and security cooperation with Japan's partners; (4) Contribute proactively to international efforts; (5) Strengthen cooperation based on universal values; and (6) Strengthen domestic foundations, and promote domestic and global understanding.

### Ensuring Japan's Peace and Stability

In order to ensure Japan's peace and stability, first it is necessary to strengthen and expand Japan's capabilities and roles. In particular, it is imperative that Japan strengthens diplomacy to realize a desirable international order and security environment. In addition, Japan will develop a highly effective and joint defense force. As part of this plan, Japan adopted the new National Defense Program Guidelines in December 2013 and decided to create an effective Dynamic Joint Defense Force that can respond seamlessly and, as occasion demands, flexibly to an array of situations based on joint operation.

Second, ensuring the forward development of the U.S. Forces, based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, and thereby strengthening the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements are essential not only for the security of Japan but also for the peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The governments of Japan and the U.S. held Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (2+2) in October 2013, and confirmed that they would promote bilateral security and defense cooperation in such wide-ranging areas as maritime security, Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD), cyberspace, outer space and extended deterrence, as well as the revision of the "Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation." With regard to the realignment of the U.S. forces in Japan, in December 2013, the U.S. National Defense Authorization Act entered into force, which included a budget related to the relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam, and the governor of Okinawa approved the landfill necessary for the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to Henoko. Both governments are determined to reduce the impact on local communities including Okinawa, while maintaining deterrence, by steadily implementing the existing agreements between the two governments.



*U.S. President Obama (left) and Prime Minister Abe took the opportunity at the G20 Saint Petersburg Summit to hold a Japan–U.S. summit meeting (September 5, Saint Petersburg, Russia; Source: Cabinet Public Relations Office)*

Third, it is necessary for Japan to build trust and cooperative relations with its partners both within and outside the Asia–Pacific region, with which it shares universal values and strategic interests, and to create multilayered relations for security cooperation. It is crucial that Japan promotes bilateral cooperation with both the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Australia which, like Japan, are U.S. allies, as well as with ASEAN countries and India. It is also important that Japan advances trilateral cooperation under the Japan–U.S.–ROK, Japan–U.S.–Australia and Japan–U.S.–India frameworks. Moreover, Japan will further strengthen relations with European countries as partners that play an important role in ensuring the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community. Concerning its relationships with countries such as the U.K. and France, Japan has been pursuing cooperative relationships in the field of defense equipment. In addition, it is important to promote relationships of trust with China and Russia, which are major powers in the region through security-related dialogue and exchanges. Furthermore, Japan intends to promote collaboration and cooperation in multilateral regional cooperative frameworks, such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting–Plus (ADMM–Plus), and

strengthen multilayered cooperative relations within these bilateral and trilateral cooperative frameworks.

#### **Peace-building**

The security and prosperity of Japan cannot be attained by simply improving the security environment surrounding Japan; they are dependent on the peace and stability of the international community. Based on this line of thinking, Japan is actively working to resolve different issues faced by the international community. In particular, seamless efforts toward peace-building are crucial for the peace and stability of the international community. These efforts range across the entire process: from peace-keeping and emergency humanitarian assistance, designed to prevent the reoccurrence of conflicts and achieve sustainable peace in post-conflict regions, to the promotion of peace processes, ensuring security and the advancement of reconstruction and development. Japan considers peace-building to be one of its key diplomatic agenda items, and is acting accordingly. Related concrete initiatives include proactive cooperation with UN peacekeeping operations (PKOs), on-the-ground activities utilizing Official Development Assistance (ODA), contributions in the UN, and human resource development.



*A Self-Defense Forces Engineer Company working together with local citizens to build a community road in the Na-Bari district of the capital, Juba, in coordination with Japan's ODA project under the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) (South Sudan; Source: Ministry of Defense)*

### Threats to Security

Terrorism and transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, cybercrime and money laundering have become serious threats to the international community in line with advancing globalization and technological innovation as well as the increased movement of people. The terrorist attack in Algeria in January 2013, in which many people were killed, including 10 Japanese, demonstrates that terrorism poses a real threat for Japan. Transnational organized crime may provide a source of funds for terrorism, and also has a serious impact on Japan's economic activities, including investment, tourism and trade. Following the incident in Algeria, Japan has strengthened its international counter-terrorism measures and since it is difficult to combat terrorism and transnational crimes by a single country, Japan has been cooperating with the international community at the bilateral level and through the UN, to actively support capacity building for countries where legislation and other systems are inadequate.

### Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Japan will continue to pursue initiatives to achieve the goal of "a world free of nuclear weapons." As the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings, these policies allow Japan to fulfill its mission of conveying to the world the devastation caused by nuclear weapons, and to improve the security environment surrounding Japan. Under the framework of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), launched by Japan and Australia in 2010, Ministerial meetings were held twice again in 2013. Japan submitted an annual draft resolution entitled "United Action towards the total elimination

of nuclear weapons" to the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, which was co-sponsored by a record high of 102 Member States, and was adopted with an overwhelming majority. In October 2013, Japan joined a joint statement on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered at the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, based on the fact that the content was revised so the intent of the statement overall is consistent with both the security policy and nuclear disarmament approach of Japan. In addition, Japan established the Youth Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons framework, which supports the younger generation in conveying the consequences of nuclear weapons at international conferences and other meetings overseas. Japan is making a great deal of effort to pass on these activities to the next generation.

Japan is also taking various measures aimed at reducing non-nuclear weapons. Since September 2013, the international community has been making efforts to have Syria abolish chemical weapons, and Japan has committed to cooperating in this regard by sending Ground Self-Defense Force officials and providing financial support. Moreover, in the field of conventional weapons, the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which Japan has actively promoted as co-author, was adopted by the UN General Assembly. Japan signed the treaty on June 3, the day it was opened for signature.

### Global Commons

"Open and Stable Seas," which are upheld by maritime order governed by law and rules and not by coercion, constitute global commons for peace and prosperity of the international community as a whole. From this perspective, Japan is dedicated to ensure

the freedom and safety of navigation and overflight of the high sea through various efforts containing piracy operations and cooperation with other countries. Especially for Japan, a maritime nation surrounded by sea, the international law of the sea based primarily on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is indispensable for securing its maritime rights and interests as well as for undertaking maritime activities smoothly.

In terms of outer space and cyberspace, Japan is promoting policy coordination with countries which share a common interest in realizing and strengthening the rule of law, and is actively contributing to developing international rules and confidence-building measures. In addition, Japan is striving to assist capacity-building in developing countries.

#### United Nations

The role of the UN as a universal and comprehensive

international institution is growing in a continuous manner as the international community faces diverse challenges, such as global and transnational issues. In this context, it is essential for the UN to strengthen its functions in a manner that reflects the reality in the current international community. Based on this understanding, Japan is working for the early realization of UN reform, especially Security Council reform. Japan announced at the General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly in September, that the creation of “a society in which women shine” and the making of a “Proactive Contribution to Peace” are its core diplomatic policies for the future. In order to deploy Japanese diplomacy in line with these policies, Japan will collaborate with international organizations such as the UN, and exercise leadership in the international community not only through financial contributions, but also through more active human resources and intellectual contributions.



*Minister for Foreign Affairs Kishida at the G4 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (September 26, New York)*

#### Rule of Law

The establishment of the “rule of law” in the international community is an important factor in promoting stable relations between countries, the peaceful settlement of disputes and “good governance” within countries. Opposed to unilateral attempt to change the status quo by coercion, Japan regards the establishment of the “rule of law” in the international community as one of the pillars of its foreign policy, and is actively making various efforts to this end. Establishing the “rule of law” is also important from the perspective of defending the integrity of Japan’s national territories, securing its maritime and economic rights and interests, and protecting its citizens.

#### Human Rights and Women

Human rights and fundamental freedom are universal values, and it is the basic responsibility of states to protect and promote these values. At the same time, it is a legitimate issue of concern for the entire international community. In order to lay the foundations not only for the peace and prosperity of Japan, but also for the peace and stability of the international community, it is essential that these values are fully guaranteed in each country. Currently, Japan is working more actively than ever in the field of human rights, by promoting “diplomacy emphasizing universal values.” Aiming at improving human rights and humanitarian issues around the world, Japan is making proactive contributions through multilateral initiatives that include

the UN as well as through bilateral dialogues. As for women's rights in particular, Japan has shown strong commitment to participate in international efforts in the field of women's empowerment and the promotion and protection of women's rights as a response to global issues.

An increase in international marriages and divorces in Japan, reflecting advancing globalization, has given rise to various problems concerning children, such as their illegal removal across national borders by one of

the parents. Finding solutions to such issues has become a pressing task. Recognizing the importance of issues regarding the removal of children, the Government of Japan moved toward concluding the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Hague Convention) and, after the 2013 Diet deliberation concerning approval of the Hague Convention and the Implementation Act, concluded the Convention in January 2014.

## 2. Japan's International Cooperation—ODA and Response to Global Issues

### Strategic utilization of ODA

Over 60 years since 1954, Japan has actively utilized ODA and contributed to poverty reduction in developing countries, peace-building, realization of sustainable economic growth, and resolution of global issues. Such contributions help protect the daily lives of Japanese citizens and also create a favorable international environment, since Japan relies on other countries for resources and food, while depending on international peace. Moreover, ODA has played a vital role from the perspective of cultivating trust in Japan among members of the international community and enhancing its presence. Following the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011, Japan received heartfelt sympathy and support from 174 countries and regions worldwide, including developing countries. This can be seen as an expression of gratitude for Japan's contributions through ODA.

ODA addresses development issues in developing countries, and is also expected to help revitalize Japan's economy by taking in the dynamic growth of developing and emerging countries. The "Infrastructure System Export Strategy" (formulated in May 2013) and the "Japan Revitalization Strategy" (approved by the Cabinet in June 2013) express Japan's intention to utilize ODA strategically in such areas as infrastructure systems export, sharing advanced technologies and know-how of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) and local governments, sharing medical technology and services, and the securing of international standards. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been implementing initiatives in conjunction with related ministries and agencies through the effective utilization of frameworks, including the Ministerial Meeting on Strategy relating Infrastructure Export and Economic Cooperation (established in March 2013).

The importance of ODA is increasing as Japan seeks to be a "proactive contributor to peace" as upheld by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The National Security

Strategy (NSS) approved by the Cabinet in December 2013 states that responding to development issues contributes to improvement in the global security environment, and Japan needs to strengthen its efforts as part of its "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation.

Moving ahead, Japan will cooperate closely with local governments, NGOs and the private sector to promote proactive and strategic ODA activities.

### Response to Global Issues

While rapid globalization has resulted in dramatic economic and societal development worldwide, it has also brought about diverse threats to human security that transcend national borders. The challenges of conflict, terrorism, disasters, infectious diseases, environmental issues such as climate change, human trafficking, refugee problem and labor issues, accompanying the greater movement of people, economic crises and growing social disparity cannot be addressed by one country alone. Instead, the international community must work together while keeping in mind the perspective of human security (focusing on the individual human beings, and promoting their protection and empowerment).

As 2015, a milestone year for global issues draws near, Japan is reinforcing its efforts in pertinent fields. It is the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and accelerating progress is a common issue for the international community. Moreover, serious discussions are being held regarding the formulation of international development goals beyond 2015. Japan has strengthened its efforts in this area by leading discussions in cooperation with countries concerned and international organizations, the focus being on MDGs and the post-2015 development agenda's guidelines for defining major international development assistance-related policies. In May 2013, Japan announced its Strategy on Global Health Diplomacy, which makes contribution to resolving the world's health issues—

vital for achieving human security—a key challenge for Japan's diplomacy. As part of this strategy, Japan is strengthening its initiatives to provide universal health coverage, ensuring that everyone has access to essential health services without suffering excessive financial burden. In addition, Japan is focusing its efforts on disaster risk reduction, drawing on its experience of numerous disasters, including the Great East Japan Earthquake. Preparations are under way for the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture in March 2015.

In the area of climate change, 2015 is the year by which a new international framework applicable to all parties must be agreed. Within this context, in November 2013, Japan announced a Proactive Diplomatic Strategy for Countering Global Warming—Actions for Cool Earth (ACE) to take the lead in negotiations for creating the new international framework.

In the area of global environment issues, sustainable development, which aims to integrate economic, social and environmental aspects, has gained momentum following Rio+20. Japan is actively taking part in international debate toward sustainable development. Japan is also contributing to concrete initiatives by leveraging its experience and knowledge, including serving as host country for the Diplomatic Conference on the Minamata Convention on Mercury, held in Kumamoto Prefecture in October 2013.

While the continued melting of Arctic sea ice, due to global warming, has increased the possibility that the Arctic may be used for shipping routes and the development of natural resources, there has been growing international debate in recent years regarding

problems the Arctic region faces, such as the impact of human activity on the environment. Japan established organizational frameworks to participate in international discussions concerning the Arctic, including the appointment of the Ambassador in charge of Arctic Affairs in March 2013. Consequently Japan was granted observer status to the Arctic Council in May 2013. Japan aims to further contribute to the Arctic Council, with its scientific knowledge and technology accumulated over the years.

Concerning Antarctica, the Antarctic Treaty introduces basic principles such as (1) the use of Antarctica for peaceful purposes, (2) freedom of scientific investigation and international cooperation, and (3) a freeze on territorial rights and claims. In keeping with these basic principles, Japan promotes research and observation activities. Moreover, Japan is committed to the conservation of the Antarctic environment in accordance with the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, and contributes to the maintenance of the Antarctic Treaty System.

#### Science and Technology Diplomacy

The international community holds a high level of interest in, and great expectations of, Japan's science and technology, fields that rank among the most advanced in the world. Japan is contributing to peace and stability in the international community, resolution of global issues and further advancement in science and technology at home and abroad by enhancing relationships and cooperating with other countries through science and technology diplomacy. Japan is also striving to enhance its soft power by transmitting information as a science- and technology-based nation.



## Special Feature

# The Diplomatic Conference for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

### 1. About the Convention

The Minamata Convention on Mercury is a global legally binding instrument that covers the whole lifecycle of mercury, including its mining, use in products, waste management and disposal. It is the first treaty by the international community to comprehensively regulate a single substance

### 2. The Diplomatic Conference for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The Conference of the Plenipotentiaries for the Minamata Convention on Mercury and its preparatory meetings were held in the cities of Kumamoto and Minamata on October 7–11, 2013. More than 1,000 people attended the conference, including government officials from about 140 countries and regions, with ministers from more than 60 countries, as well as representatives from international organizations and NGOs.

The opening ceremony was held in Minamata on October 9. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, in his message, called for the eradication of harm from mercury, and pledged a total of US\$2 billion over the next three years in assistance from Japan to support anti-pollution measures in developing countries. Prior to this ceremony, attendees from around the world placed flowers at the memorial monument, planted trees, and visited organizations and facilities related to Minamata disease.

The Conference of the Plenipotentiaries on October 10–11 was chaired by Minister of the Environment Nobuteru Ishihara, where the Minamata Convention on Mercury was unanimously adopted. Minister for Foreign Affairs Fumio Kishida signed the convention for Japan. He further announced specific plans for the US\$2 billion in aid, along with new measures to support human resource development specializing in preventing mercury contamination, expressing a resolve to realize a world free of mercury pollution.

### 3. Significance of the Diplomatic Conference on the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The attendance at the diplomatic conference by ministers from more than 60 countries and 92 signatories (including European Union) reveal the strong interest of the international community in the mercury regulation. Based on the lessons of Minamata disease, Japan has participated in the negotiations with firm determination that the same sort of damage to health and environmental pollution should never recur. The fact that Japan hosted the Diplomatic Conference for the Minamata Convention on Mercury is of great significance to demonstrate the country's resolve to the international community.

The convention was also an important opportunity for Japan to share with the world its experience and show its technology to the world in the environmental field.



*Attendees from around the world at the flower offering ceremony (October 9, 2013, Minamata; Source: Ministry of the Environment)*



*Minister for Foreign Affairs Kishida signing the Minamata Convention (October 10, Kumamoto)*

### 3. Economic Diplomacy

The Abe administration is putting every effort into reviving the Japanese economy through the policy mix of its “three arrows”: Bold monetary policy, flexible fiscal policy and a growth strategy that encourages private investment. In June, the Cabinet decided to package its new growth strategy as the “Japan Revitalization Strategy.” Under the initiative of Minister Fumio Kishida, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has made earnest efforts to strengthen economic diplomacy as a means of promoting the revitalization of the Japanese economy, presenting it as one of the three pillars of Japan’s foreign policy. In part owing to a series of initiatives known as Abenomics, the Japanese economy showed signs of a departure from deflation and moderate recovery in 2013. Although economies in industrialized countries took a favorable turn, characterized by signs of recovery in the United States and part of Europe, growth slowed down in emerging countries, which had been the driving force behind the world economy. Moreover, energy prices have remained at a high level on the whole for reasons such as increased energy demand mainly in emerging countries, resource nationalism in resource-rich countries and the impact of the situation in the Middle East. Against this backdrop, at the G8 and G20 summits, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe explained his intention to revitalize the Japanese economy and thereby contribute to growth of the global economy. For this he garnered praise, while stirring high expectations among world leaders.

Furthermore in 2013, Japan commenced economic partnership agreement negotiations on an unprecedented scale, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Japan, China and the ROK, and the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). It has become important to develop such economic partnerships in a mutually complementary manner, providing also a path to a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP). Japan has recognized the importance of continuous contribution to the process of developing global trade and investment rules including through participation in the discussion toward the realization of a FTTAP in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), while steadily implementing Japan’s growth strategy.

Negotiations for multilateral trade liberalization have remained in deadlock for many years but the regime under the World Trade Organization (WTO) continues to play a key role in creating new rules and implementing existing rules that include dispute settlement. At the

9th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Bali, Indonesia in December 2013, the “Bali Package” agreement was reached, involving trade facilitation, agriculture and development. In particular, an agreement on trade facilitation generates benefits for both industrialized countries and developing countries, predominantly by speeding up and enhancing transparency in customs procedures. This was the first time, since the WTO was established, that all the Members agreed on the content of a multilateral agreement, prompting expectation that this would help reinvigorate the stymied Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations. Meanwhile, the WTO members who share the objective for advancing the further liberalization of trade in services (23 countries and regions as of December 2013) have entered full negotiating mode since summer 2013 on the Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA). In addition, negotiations are proceeding on expansion of coverage of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA), with the aim of reaching early conclusion. Japan’s policy is to continue making contributions, to ensure that the free and open global trading system is maintained and strengthened.

The Japanese economy has shown signs of recovery. However, for such signs to be translated into steady growth, it is necessary to take in the growth of foreign countries, including emerging countries, through promoting overseas activities of Japanese companies. Over the years, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has supported the activities of Japanese companies, including the establishment of the contact points for Japanese companies at the diplomatic missions overseas. To further strengthen this initiative, the Headquarters for the Promotion of Japanese Business Support, headed by Minister Kishida, was set up inside the Ministry, and the Business Support Division was established. Moreover, amid growing demand for infrastructure worldwide, the Government has announced a target of approximately ¥30 trillion in infrastructure exports by 2020. Prime Minister Abe, Minister for Foreign Affairs Kishida and other Cabinet members have conducted “top-level sales” to promote Japan’s infrastructure and technology overseas as a means of achieving this target, making the most of the opportunities including dignitaries’ visits. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is striving to prevent reputational damage or misinformation after the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, and to promote foreign exports of Japanese products. To this end, the Ministry provides other countries with up-to-date and accurate

information regarding efforts in response to the accident, including its response on the issue of contaminated water, as well as steps taken to guarantee the safety of Japanese products (Japanese inspection standards

and systems, and shipment restrictions, etc.). Strenuous efforts are being made to have import restrictions eased and removed.



*Prime Minister Abe at the reception to promote Japanese cuisine on a visit to Russia (April 30, 2013; Source: Cabinet Public Relations Office)*

The Japan Revitalization Strategy comprises the utilization of National Strategic Special Zones and invigoration of inward direct investment, mainly through fundamental reinforcement of the Government's system of attracting and supporting foreign enterprise as part of the Strategy of Global Outreach. In terms of efforts to promote investment in Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs makes use of international conferences, embassies and consulates-general for publicity purposes, and also conducts active PR activities on the websites of its diplomatic missions overseas. There is a pressing need to ensure a stable supply of resources at reasonable prices, as Japan relies heavily on foreign countries for resources and has become increasingly dependent on fossil fuels since the Great East Japan Earthquake. Utilizing a variety of diplomatic tools, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has conducted a strategic resource-diplomacy through various efforts to strengthen comprehensive and mutually beneficial ties with resource-rich countries and to diversify its resource-supplying countries. In particular, Prime Minister Abe and Minister Kishida have actively engaged in resource-diplomacy by visiting major resource-rich countries and regions, including North America, Mongolia, Russia and the Middle East in 2013. In addition, the Ministry newly appointed Special Assistants for Natural Resources at diplomatic missions overseas with a view to strengthening its functions including information-gathering. In the face of expected world population growth and global food

shortages, Japan has worked on efforts for ensuring food security. In 2013, Japan succeeded in inviting the Secretariat of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission to be established in Japan, in order to actively contribute to the international management of marine resources.

The year 1964 not only marked the Tokyo Olympics, but also Japan's accession to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the nation thereby taking its place as one of world's industrialized nations, both in reality and in name. Japan chairs the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in May 2014 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of its accession to the OECD. In light of the Lehman Shock of 2008 and Japan's experience with the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011, this provides an opportunity to discuss such matters as resilience of the economies and societies and outreach activities for Southeast Asia, as well as make a strong impression both domestically and internationally regarding Japan's economic revitalization including casting off deflation.

Revitalization of Japan's economy returns Japan's voice to the international community, allowing it to contribute to a favorable international economic environment and worldwide economic growth. Japan is in the midst of reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake, and will continue along the path of strong economic diplomacy toward the revitalization of its economy.

## 4. Efforts to Promote Understanding of, and Trust in Japan

Non-governmental actors have been playing an important role in shaping global order and the influence of public opinion on foreign policy has become more pronounced. In order to implement foreign policy effectively, it is essential for Japan to adequately provide information to the public on Japan's fundamental stance and philosophy. In addition, it is vital for Japan to promote interest and affinity and build a positive image of Japan by providing information, not only to governments but also directly to citizens of other countries, and by encouraging interpersonal interaction at a general public level.

Japan utilizes a variety of methods to convey information, namely print media, electronic media, images and video, including social networking services (SNSs) and other means befitting the IT era, and works to extend its reach by providing content in a number of languages. In particular, in the field of territorial protection, Japan is striving hard to enhance understanding of, and support for, its position and the legitimacy of its claims, by creating materials (print media, video) in 11 major languages and providing information including through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website. The Ministry invites international opinion leaders, journalists and other important individuals to Japan and supports the participation of Japanese intellectuals in international conferences interacting with foreign people through arranging

lectures and other occasions.

In order to improve the image of Japan overseas, efforts are being made to introduce diverse aspects of Japanese traditional culture and pop culture, and to promote Japanese language through the Japan Foundation, in light of the increasing importance of soft power.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports international exchange activities through sports. At the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session held in Buenos Aires, Tokyo was elected as the host city for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Consequently, the Ministry will cooperate with Tokyo Metropolitan City, the Organizing Committee and other pertinent ministries in handling preparations for a successful event in 2020. In addition, Japan intends to make an international contribution through sports by steadily promoting the Sport for Tomorrow program, details of which were announced at the session.

At the 37th Session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO held in Cambodia, "Fujisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration" nominated by Japan was inscribed on the World Heritage List.

"Washoku, traditional dietary cultures of the Japanese, notably for the celebration of New Year" was inscribed on the list of Intangible Cultural Heritage at the 8th session of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO held in Azerbaijan.



*Fujisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration*



*Washoku, traditional dietary cultures of the Japanese, notably for the celebration of New Year (Source: the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan)*

## Tokyo Selected as the Host City for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

In September 2013, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Jacques Rogge announced, at the 125th IOC Session, that Tokyo will be the host city for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It was a special moment because the long-awaited dreams of not only people involved in sports, but also of the entire Japanese people came true. However, in order to realize that moment, extraordinary efforts were made by a large number of people in both the public and private sectors, centering on the sports community. The full-scale support provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan was especially one of the great sources of our strength for the Tokyo host city bid.

I was elected as a member of the IOC at the IOC Session held in the summer of 2012. Subsequently, while engaging in promotion activities at international events, I traveled all over the world to pay courtesy visits on over 100 IOC members who hold voting rights. We were unsure whether we would be able to visit each IOC member at least once during the promotion period. Therefore, the Japanese embassies in the member countries were an enormous source of support for us. Needless to say, in addition to all the support extended to myself in each country, we appreciated the full-scale support we received from Japanese embassies, which included gathering information and explaining the significance of Tokyo's role as host to government officials and sports communities in each country.

What can Japan contribute to the international Olympic movement? How we answer this question was absolutely vital to the bid's success. The sports communities in the world gave a very high appraisal toward the "Sport for Tomorrow," the international contribution program by the Japanese Government.

The final vote for the selection of the 2020 host city was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and large numbers of delegates from Japan traveled to the city in support of Tokyo's bid. It included Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Minister for Foreign Affairs Fumio Kishida, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Hakubun Shimomura, former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori, and several members of the Japanese Diet. In addition, many leaders from Japan's business community also traveled to Buenos Aires in support, including honorary chairman of Toyota Motor Corporation Fujio Cho. This extensive backing enabled us to make a powerful appeal for support of our endeavor to have Japan selected. At the time of the bid, there were anxieties over the issue of radiation-contaminated water among IOC members, but a powerful speech by Prime Minister Abe succeeded in dispelling the anxieties. I am confident to say that this "All-Japan" approach was one of the key factors that led to our successful bid. And Her Imperial Highness Princess Akiko of Mikasa as well as Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado also visited Buenos Aires during this period. If we can optimize this All-Japan approach for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, I believe that we could make it a historical event, which will remain in the hearts and memories of people all over the world.



*JOC President Takeda conveys the splendor of Tokyo*  
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*After the announcement of Tokyo as the successful host city bidder, IOC President Jacques Rogge (center) congratulates Japanese Prime Minister Abe (left) and JOC President Tsunekazu Takeda (right)*  
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Tsunekazu Takeda  
President of Tokyo 2020 Bid Committee  
IOC Member  
President of Japanese Olympic Committee