

Supporting the future of Syria and the region, Brussels V Conference
Statement by
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Mr. Chairpersons, distinguished delegates, let me begin by expressing my respect to the resolve of EU and UN to hold today's Brussels V conference, which is an important opportunity to renew the commitment of the international community toward the settlement of the Syrian crisis.

This month marks the tenth anniversary of the Syrian crisis. Japan remains concerned about the longstanding stalemate of the crisis, as well as the receding momentum for its settlement. The Syrian people should not be left in the current unstable circumstances.

Today, Japan reaffirms its unwavering commitment to delivering humanitarian assistance for all Syrians who are facing difficulties. Japan's assistance to Syria and neighboring countries has amounted to over 2.9 billion U.S. dollars since 2012. Moreover, Japan contributed to the adoption of relevant UNSC resolutions while serving as a member of the Security Council. We are determined to continue close collaboration with the international community to enhance access to humanitarian assistance in Syria. This includes the extension of the mandate for UN cross-border humanitarian assistance and effective implementation of cross-line assistance.

The Syrian crisis will never end without a political solution in line with UNSCR 2254. In this regard, Japan strongly hopes for acceleration of discussions at the Constitutional Committee and its steady progress. There is no doubt that the next presidential election should be held with the participation of all Syrians and in a manner which ensures the understanding of the international community. To this end, Japan is committed to continue its diplomatic efforts in close cooperation with the UN and with international partners.

Due to the prolonged crisis and the socio-economic impact of COVID-19, humanitarian needs are diversifying year by year, and the international community needs to respond all the more flexibly. Today I am pleased to announce that Japan has decided to provide an additional contribution of about 200 million USD for humanitarian assistance and social stabilization support for the people of Syria and neighboring countries in the year 2021. I would like to conclude my remarks by emphasizing Japan's commitment of continuing its utmost efforts to address the humanitarian crisis in Syria. Thank you for your attention.

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