

Joint Statement
on Promoting and Expanding Cooperation under the Comprehensive
Partnership
between Japan and the State of Qatar

H.H. Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, made an official visit to Japan from February 19 to 20, 2015. During the visit, His Highness met with H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, the Prime Minister of Japan.

Both sides appreciated the tremendous development in cooperative bilateral relations. Both sides recognized the stability of the Middle East is the foundation for peace and prosperity for the world, and the Japanese side underscored the efforts by Qatar to this end.

The Japanese side explained its determination and efforts to contribute even more proactively to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community from the policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation. In response, the Qatari side supported that policy and welcomed Japan's contribution to regional and international peace and stability. The Qatari side also stressed that the international peace and security in the world would not be achieved without dialogue based on principle of equality, in compliance with the provisions of the international law, implementing the resolutions of international legitimacy, respecting the principles of human and people's rights and activating of the Charter of the United Nations mechanisms to prevent regional conflicts and addressing its roots and settling them peacefully.

Recalling the Joint Statement on the Strengthening of the Comprehensive Partnership toward Stability and Prosperity issued on the occasion of the visit of Prime Minister Abe to the State of Qatar from August 27 to 28, 2013, both sides expressed their intention to further promote and expand cooperation in various fields under the Comprehensive Partnership as follows:

I. Political and Security Fields
(Bilateral Cooperation and Exchange)

1. His Highness offered sincere condolences for the Japanese nationals murdered in Syria and expressed solidarity with Japan. Prime Minister Abe expressed deep appreciation for the solidarity and sympathy extended by the Qatari side. Both sides expressed condemnation against all forms of terrorism in the strongest possible terms. Both sides shared the recognition that Japan and Qatar would stand united and cooperate in tackling the threat posed by terrorism and work to maintain peace

and stability in the Middle East region. Prime Minister Abe expressed his support for the efforts by Qatar and the international community in countering terrorism. His Highness expressed deep appreciation for the long-standing contribution that Japan has been making to that end through non-military/humanitarian assistance, and welcomed Japan's determination to further strengthen such engagement.

2. Both sides welcomed that the first meeting of the Policy Dialogue was held in Doha in January 2014 and the first meeting of the Security Dialogue was held in Tokyo in June 2014, and expressed their intention to continue promoting these frameworks of dialogue. Both sides also welcomed the signing of the Memorandum on defense exchange.
3. Both sides welcomed the participation of Qatar's Permanent Emergency Committee members in a training course on nuclear safety in Japan in December 2013. Both sides expressed their intention to further promote cooperation to create safe and secure national lands, regions, and economic society that have strength and flexibility, even in the event of any disasters. Both sides shared their intention to closely cooperate for successful holding of the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai in March 2015.

(Cooperation through Multilateral Frameworks)

4. Both sides welcomed the fruitful outcomes of the Japan- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Strategic Dialogue Senior Officials' and Experts' Meetings held in Tokyo in January 2015 and expressed their intention to further expand dialogues and cooperation between Japan and the GCC.
5. Both sides reaffirmed their intention to work together toward the success of the thirteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to be held in Doha in April 2015. The Qatar side expressed its support for Japan's candidacy to host the Fourteenth UN Congress.

II. Economic Fields

(General Frameworks)

6. Both sides welcomed the successful holding of the eighth meeting of the Japan-Qatar Joint Economic Committee in November 2014 and confirmed to continue utilizing this framework as a forum of exchanging views on bilateral economic relations in a wide range of areas.
7. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, and expressed their strong intention to continue the ongoing negotiations on the proposed Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investment.
8. Both sides also expressed their intention to make joint efforts for the early

resumption of the negotiations of the Free Trade Agreement between Japan and the GCC.

9. Both sides expressed their intention to continue discussion to ease and lift the restriction on the imports of Japanese food put in place after the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011.
10. Both sides welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) in the field of information and communication technology to promote the cooperation in this field such as exchanging information, and interchanging among experts, and encouraging business activities and investments in the two countries in the field of communication and information technology.
11. Both sides welcomed the signing of the MOC in the field of health. The Qatari side welcomed Japan's intention to contribute to improving healthcare in Qatar, through introducing the well-accepted Japan's quality medical products such as mammography and other digital imaging systems in Japan, and the Japanese side welcomed Qatar's intention to learn Japan's experience in regulation of pharmaceutical and medical devices for prompt introduction of Japanese products.

(Energy)

12. The Japanese side expressed its hope that Qatar would continue to be a reliable supplier of natural resources and contribute to a more competitive and flexible LNG market including the relaxation of destination clauses. The Qatari side reiterated its commitment to continuing and expanding its supply of oil and LNG to Japan at mutually acceptable terms and conditions in a stable and reliable manner. Both sides shared the view that competitive LNG pricing would be important for the sustainable development of the LNG market. In this context, both sides reiterated the importance of dialogues between producers and consumers in the energy sector such as the fourth LNG Producer-Consumer Conference in Tokyo scheduled on September 16, 2015.
13. Both sides welcomed Japanese companies' participation in oil and natural gas development such as the Block A project and LNG projects in Qatar, and reaffirm Qatar's support for Japanese companies. In this connection, both sides welcomed the ongoing cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Chiyoda Corporation and the Qatar Petroleum (QP) signed in August 2013 in the field of training programs for Qatari engineers. Both sides also welcomed the cooperation based on the MOU between the Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation and the QP in August 2013.

(Projects)

14. Both sides welcomed the recent participations of Japanese companies in various projects in Qatar such as the E'shailSat 2, helium and Doha Metro projects, and

shared the intention to cooperate to further promote the participation of Japanese companies.

15. The Qatari side expressed its strong interest of an advanced cultivation approach, “plant factory” applied in Japan, and expected that such cooperation would be strengthened. The Japanese side welcomed its interest as a new area of cooperation between the two countries in the agriculture sector.
16. Both sides confirmed their interest to expand cooperation in infrastructure development with regard to the Qatar National Vision 2030 and the 2022 FIFA World Cup, including construction of stadiums, airports, desalination, waste water treatment projects and urban planning.

III. Culture, Education and People-to-People Exchanges Fields

(Culture and Science)

17. Given the importance of promoting the cooperation in the field of education and scientific research, both sides welcomed the signing of the MOC in the fields of education, scientific research and technology.
18. Both sides welcomed the opening of the Japanese language, sociology and history courses at Qatar University in September 2014 and the initiation of the first phase of a three-year educational project “Japanese Lesson Study Institute for Qatar leaders”. Both sides also welcomed the signing of three MOUs of Qatar University with the Institute of Energy and Economics of Japan, the Institute of Developing Economies of the Japan External Trade Organization and Osaka University to promote joint research and development activities of mutual interest.
19. Both sides welcomed that the staffs of the Qatar Foundation were hosted for training by the National Institute for Materials Science in Japan. Both sides also welcomed that the joint research laboratories and programs would be established by RIKEN and the Qatar Biomedical Research Institute of the Qatar Foundation, with the aim to promote preventive and personalized medicine.

(People-to-People Exchanges)

20. Both sides welcomed the decision of reciprocal visa exemption for Japanese and Qatari diplomatic and official/special passport holders that would further strengthen the current friendly and close bilateral relations. The Qatari side expressed its desire for Japan’s further consideration to issue multiple entry visas for Qatari ordinary passport holders, and its readiness to take the reciprocal procedures.
21. Both sides reiterated the importance of promoting the cooperation in the field of tourism. In this regard, both sides welcomed the signing of the MOC on tourism.
22. Both sides welcomed the signing of the MOC in the fields of youth and sports to promote the further cooperation in this field. The Qatari side expressed its hope to

utilize Japan's preceding experiences in hosting 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, in organizing other sports events, in particular FIFA World Cup 2022.

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