

**Video Message by H.E. Ms.
KAMIKAWA Yoko,
Foreign Minister of Japan
Follow-up meeting to the
humanitarian conference for the
civilian population in Gaza**

6 December 2023

- The situation surrounding Israel and Palestine is worsening, and the humanitarian situation in Gaza is becoming deeply concerning.
- Japan had welcomed the pause in fighting, the release of the hostages and the scaling up of humanitarian deliveries to Gaza, as they would lead to calming down the situation. However, it is regrettable that fighting has now resumed. It is important that the parties concerned return to the deal in order to improve critical humanitarian situation and calming down the situation as soon as possible.
- Japan will actively continue its diplomatic efforts, to this end.
- In the statement on November 29, G7 Foreign Ministers underscored the importance of protecting civilians and compliance with international law, in particular international humanitarian law. We also support future

pauses as needed to enable assistance to be scaled up, and to facilitate the release of all hostages.

- On December 1, medical items from Japan arrived at El-Arish airport, arranged by JICA. They are additional relief supplies following the ones arrived in November. However, we are concerned about the long queue of trucks on the Egyptian side. There is a need to increase processing capabilities, including the use of the Kerem Shalom crossing.
- We will disburse our grant of approximately 65 million US Dollars without delay. I hope that other countries will do the same as soon as possible.
- We will work closely with the international community and will do our best to improve humanitarian access.
- Thank you.