

CHAPTER 1

Overview

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1 60 Years after the War—Japan’s Efforts as a Nation Striving for Peace

The year 2005 marked the 60th year since the end of World War II in 1945. At the end of the war, Japan, whose economy had been reduced to dust, was temporarily occupied by the United States (US). Yet, from this situation, the people of Japan resolved to build a peaceful and prosperous country. Based on this way of thinking, Japan opted to act in concert with other liberal democratic countries to maintain world peace and prosperity which were essential for Japan’s own peace and prosperity. Japan also chose to keep minimum defense capability authorized under the Constitution to ensure the peace and security of Japan. Moreover, Japan, which restored its sovereignty by the San Francisco Peace Treaty, concluded the Japan-US Security Treaty and became a US ally, and then advanced the reconstruction of the country. Japan strongly supported the ideal that nations form the United Nations (UN), declared the non-use of force, and strove to maintain the peace and safety of the world through cooperation. Since it joined the UN in 1956, Japan has proactively promoted international contributions in various fields under the principle of international coordination, in which cooperation with the UN is the centerpiece. In addition, Japan has consistently attached importance to relations with countries in the Asia-Pacific region and proactively promoted friendly relationships with and cooperation for the development of developing countries in the region. As a result of such efforts, today’s Japan is the world’s second largest economic power and enjoys peace and prosperity built upon a foundation of amity with other countries.

As the year 2005 marked the 60th year since the end of World War II, the outset of this year’s *Diplomatic Bluebook* gives a comprehensive summary of how Japan, a nation striving for peace, wishing to be a responsible member of the international community, has developed its diplomacy in order to build a peaceful and stable international environment.

Since the end of World War II, Japan has moved forward as a peaceful country placing, at the nation’s foundation, values that have been achieved by humankind during its course of history, such as respect for freedom, democracy, and basic human rights. As such, Japan has achieved rapid economic development with the support of the US and international organiza-

tions such as the World Bank. Japan has also proactively contributed to resolving a variety of global issues as a responsible member of the international community.

In terms of economic cooperation, Japan joined the Colombo Plan in 1954 and began providing Official Development Assistance (ODA). A variety of issues exist in developing countries, such as poverty, hunger, environment, water, infectious diseases, corruption, conflict, and terrorism. Through its ODA, Japan facilitates the economic development of developing countries and thus contributes to the peace and development of the international community by resolving these issues. At the same time, Japan also encourages the development of the private sectors of the developing countries in East Asia, especially in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), through ODA and direct investment from private enterprises, thereby contributing significantly to their economic growth.

Japan has established itself as a major economic power as a result of the steady efforts of its people, benefiting from the free trading system. Further, Japan has not just been merely self-content being a peaceful country; it has worked on preventing international conflicts, as evidenced in its endeavors aimed at disarmament and non-proliferation.

Along with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 came the demise of the Cold War structure which had shaped international relations following the end of World War II. In this post-Cold War world the benefits of globalization have been realized in all parts of the lines, allowing for the instantaneous movement of people, goods, and capital. The other side of this, however, is the emergence of global-scale problems, including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), international terrorism, transnational organized crime, infectious diseases such as pandemic influenza, and environmental problems. Regional conflicts and civil wars have continued, and issues of poverty also remain suffused throughout the world, primarily in developing countries.

Turning one’s focus to the environment surrounding Japan, unstable factors remain in East Asia, such as the situation on the Korean Peninsula and Taiwan Strait relations. At the same time, new elements

are emerging in the region which will have a significant impact on the world order, such as the rise of China and India.

The peace and prosperity enjoyed by Japan in the 60-year period since the end of World War II has come about as a result of the ceaseless efforts of the people of Japan; yet, they are also largely attributable to the efforts of the international community centered around the UN pursuing peace and stability. Japan proactively has been cooperating as a major country bearing responsibility among the international community, especially since after the end of the Cold War. Based on the International Peace Cooperation Law, which was enacted in 1992, Japan has dispatched personnel for UN Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) and similar endeavors. Japan has also dispatched Self-Defense Forces (SDF) vessels to the Indian Ocean based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law which was enacted as a response to the terrorist attacks in the US on September 11, 2001. Furthermore, Japan has dispatched the SDF in Iraq based on the Law Concerning the Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq since 2003.

On April 22, 2005, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi attended the Asian-African Summit held in Indonesia and indicated his steadfast determination for Japan to develop itself as a peaceful country. In addition, reflecting on World War II, Prime Minister Koizumi expressed his resolve to continue to prize the relationship of trust it enjoys with the nations of the world and to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world as a globally responsible member of the international community.

Over the last 60 years since the end of World War II, Japan has promoted its diplomatic policies, pursuing well-timed and unique contributions in order to attain the peace and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region and ensure the common interests of the international community as a whole. The basis of those efforts is the determination to protect Japan's national interests, that is, to pursue peace and prosperity for Japan and for its citizens. This basic principle remains unchanged. Japan will continue to position the Japan-US alliance and international coordination as the cornerstone of its diplomacy and endeavor toward maintaining and strengthening the Japan-US alliance, which is the linchpin of peace and stability in Japan and the Asia-

Pacific region. Furthermore, Japan will devote itself to multilateral cooperation through international organizations such as the UN, as well as to fostering relations with its neighboring countries, such as China and the Republic of Korea (ROK). In this way, Japan as a peaceful country intends to engage in international cooperation on the issues related to regional stability and cooperation as well as on various challenges the international community faces, such as international terrorism, poverty and development, humanitarian crises, and violations of human rights. Japan will continue its efforts to create a world that is both peaceful and prosperous.



Prime Minister Koizumi addressing the plenary at the Asian-African Summit (April 22; Jakarta, Indonesia; Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office, Cabinet Secretariat)

Specific Achievements to Date (Japan's Exclusively Defense-Oriented Policy and Japan-US Security Arrangements)

Japan has renounced war in its Constitution and has decided to possess the minimum necessary defense forces and no offensive weapons beyond this limit.

Japan has inhibited increases in its defense expenditures, holding such expenditures to a rate of 1% in proportion to its gross domestic product (GDP).¹ In addition to this, Japan ensures transparency of its

1. In contrast with Japan for which the national defense expenditures for FY2003 as a ratio of GDP were 0.988%, the US spent 3.5%, the United Kingdom (UK) 2.7%, Germany 1.1%, and France 2.0% (Defense of Japan 2005 White Paper). Also, defense expenditures for China were 1.4% according to released figures (for FY2005).

defense policy expenditures as well as defense posture through measures such as the deliberations of the National Diet and publishing the Defense white paper, approvals of the National Defense Program Guidelines and the Mid-Term Defense Program at the Security Council and in a Cabinet meeting, as well as various public relations activities and the information disclosure on the part of Japan Defense Agency (JDA) and the SDF.

Moreover, while countries such as the US and the Soviet Union were developing nuclear weapons, in 1967 Japan made clear its three non-nuclear principles of “not possessing, not producing, and not permitting the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan,” and it has adhered to its position as a non-nuclear country.

The Japan-US Security Arrangements and the US military presence based on these arrangements, in conjunction with the building up of Japan’s defense capacity on an appropriate scale, play a vital role as deterrence to ensure Japan’s security and prosperity, and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

(Cooperation for World Prosperity)

Under the multilateral free trading system based on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the high tariff rates of various countries were lowered, the competitiveness of exports of Japanese manufactured goods was raised, and Japan became a wealthy country. The construction and maintenance of a multilateral free trading system with many countries around the world is important to achieve the world’s economic prosperity and eliminate poverty. Japan has been proactively taking part in negotiations through the World Trade Organization (WTO), which has taken over the GATT and has been promoting the liberalization of trade. At the same time, in order to establish common economic rules between Japan and partner countries, thereby promoting the liberalization and facilitation of trade and investment between both countries, Japan is promoting economic partnerships through Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with other countries.

Moreover, Japan has provided ODA amounting to US\$230 billion to 185 countries and regions over the last 51 years, starting from 1954 (ranked as the world’s largest donor country for 10 consecutive years from 1991). In particular, Japan’s support for East Asian and Southeast Asian countries as well as India has induced a high degree of economic development in these countries,

and contributed to pull the world’s center of gravity toward Asia. At the time of the Asian currency crisis in the latter half of 1990s, Japan made significant contributions by means of ODA and Other Official Flows (OOF) provided through the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).² Furthermore, Japan recognizes that the resolution of the problems facing Africa, such as poverty, hunger, infectious diseases, and conflict, is important for the stability and prosperity of the international community at large. Based upon such recognition, Japan has been proactively supporting Africa through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) process, including by holding TICAD three times since 1993.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA),³ which implements technical cooperation of ODA projects, has sent approximately 280,000 experts and members of the missions to 166 developing countries. JICA has also accepted roughly the same number of trainees from developing countries. Furthermore, approximately 28,000 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) dispatched by JICA, who work hand in hand with the local people in various countries, show how Japan, as a peaceful country, has achieved development.

In addition, following the major earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and tsunami in the Indian Ocean in December 2004, as well as the large-scale earthquake in Pakistan (and surrounding areas) in October 2005 and so on, Japan Disaster Relief Teams were dispatched to the areas and they actively contributed to the emergency assistance of the afflicted areas. Furthermore, Japanese



Members of the Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team provide medical care for a child, one of the victims of the major earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and tsunami in the Indian Ocean (Photo: JICA)

2. Established in 1999. Its predecessors were the Japan Export Bank which was established in 1950, the name of which was changed to the Export-Import Bank of Japan (JEXIM) in 1952, and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan (OECF), established in 1961.

3. Established in 1974.

non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which work under the umbrella of the Japan Platform (JPF) also provided emergency humanitarian assistance in response to the needs at the earthquake areas.

(Efforts for the Construction of an Internationally Peaceful Environment)

As the only country ever to have experienced atomic devastation, and from the standpoint of promoting nuclear disarmament in the international community and preventing conflicts, Japan has been proactively making efforts for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Japan has been taking a number of initiatives for the reinforcement of the regime of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and for the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). Specifically, Japan has submitted draft resolutions on nuclear disarmament to the UN General Assembly every year since 1994, which have been adopted with the support of a great many countries. Japan has been playing a leading role in the international community in the field of conventional weapons as well. For example, Japan has submitted draft resolutions to the UN General Assembly on small arms and light weapons since 1995 onward; it has also called on countries that have not yet done so to conclude the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (the Ottawa Convention), and it drafted a UN General Assembly resolution on the establishment of the UN Register of Conventional Arms in 1991. In addition, since Japan neighbors nuclear states such as China and Russia, as well as North Korea which is suspected of developing nuclear weapons, non-proliferation of WMD, missiles, and their related materials is an issue that is directly related to Japan's security. Recognizing such a security environment, Japan has been promoting diplomatic efforts and collaboration with the international community, actively taking part in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), including the hosting of a PSI maritime interdiction exercise. Furthermore, Japan has been proactively taking part in the international export control regimes for non-proliferation, as well as prohibiting the export of weapons in principle according to the Three Principles on Arms Exports and their related policy guidelines. Through these means, Japan has been contributing to avoiding international conflict.

After the outbreak of the Gulf War in 1991, Japanese people increasingly shared the recognition that Japan must make sufficient contributions to ensure



The hand-over ceremony for the playground of Tacitulu Elementary School constructed in Timor-Leste by Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel

international peace and security. Thus, Japan enacted in 1992 the International Peace Cooperation Law which enabled cooperation including the dispatch of SDF units for PKO and international humanitarian relief activities. Based on this law, Japan dispatched SDF personnel and civilian police officers to PKO deployed in locations such as Cambodia, Mozambique, the Golan Heights, and Timor-Leste, aiming at the observation of ceasefires and transitional governance.

Furthermore, international terrorism came to be recognized as a new threat after the terrorist attacks in the US on September 11, 2001. Japan enacted the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law in October 2001 in order to contribute to the efforts of the international community for the purpose of prevention of international terrorism and others. Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) vessels have conducted refueling activities in the Indian Ocean, and these efforts received high evaluations from other countries. In addition to these, Japan has also been actively engaged in the international community's "fight against terrorism," by means such as the conclusion and implementation of all 12 of the conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism.

Furthermore, in order to support nation-building in Iraq following the collapse of the administration of former President Saddam Hussein, Japan enacted the Law Concerning the Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq in July 2003. Along with the activities carried out by the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) in Samawah, located in the southern part of the country, which include water provision, medical services, and repair work on public infrastructure, the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) is conducting air-lift activities from Kuwait to Iraq. The activities of the SDF, which have involved no major incidents so far, are being carried out in close collaboration with local people and contribute significantly to the

reconstruction of Iraq.

Furthermore, as a supplement to traditional concepts for security which focus on the interaction of states, Japan emphasizes the concept of “human secu-

urity,” which places focus on the threats towards individual human beings. Japan is taking a leading role and conducting activities so as to permeate this concept throughout the international community.

TOPIC

Visit of Their Majesties The Emperor and Empress to Saipan

In the sixtieth year after the end of the war, Their Majesties The Emperor and Empress visited Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which is a territory of the United States of America, on June 27 and 28 to mourn and pay tribute to all those who lost their lives in the war and to pray for world peace. The visit was the first overseas visit that Their Majesties made with the primary aim of mourning and paying tribute to the war dead.

Saipan was one of the principal battle sites of the war outside of Japan, a place that saw the deaths of not only soldiers but also many civilians. Their Majesties laid flowers at the Monument of the War Dead in the Mid-Pacific, erected by the Government of Japan. Their Majesties then visited Suicide Cliff and Banzai Cliff, and also paid tribute to the Okinawa Peace Memorial and the Monument to the Korean Peace Memorial.

Their Majesties also laid wreaths at the Marianas Memorial (a memorial for local people who died in the war) and the American WWII Memorial (a memorial for the United States Forces soldiers who died in the

war), both erected by the Governments of the United States and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prior to these visits, Their Majesties met with people including representatives of war-bereaved associations and veterans’ associations, and at the beach listened to a description of what it had been like at the time of the war.

Their Majesties also visited a day-care center (Manamko), to be received by senior citizens engaging in some cultural activities and to have conversations together. Their Majesties presented words of sympathy for the hard work of those who had survived the harsh times of the war and carried on with their lives afterward in Saipan.

The visit on this occasion was successfully carried out, thanks to the cooperation of the Governments of the United States and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Their Majesties received a warm welcome in Saipan from a great number of its people.

Threats such as ongoing outbreaks of terrorism and proliferation of WMD including nuclear weapons remained a major challenge to the international community. At the same time, dealing with new challenges that are different from the so-called conventional threats, such as the threat of the emergence of pandemic influenza, was emphasized from the aspects of both international cooperation and assurance of the safety and security of citizens.

In the Middle East, there still remains further need for cooperation among the international community for the nation-building of Afghanistan and Iraq despite a certain degree of progress in the political processes observed in each country. Furthermore, unstable public security in those countries remains a big challenge for the smooth implementation of reconstruction efforts.

With regard to nuclear non-proliferation, two major issues remained unresolved: neither the Six-Party Talks, in which Japan, the US, the ROK, China, Russia, and North Korea take part, nor the consultation at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors and between Iran, which resumed the uranium enrichment-related activities in August 2005, and the “EU3” (France, Germany and the UK) offered solid prospects for a peaceful resolution. The Iranian nuclear issue in particular has become one of the pressing concerns to the international community, as the Special Meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors held in February 2006 adopted a resolution in which the Board requested the IAEA Director General to report the issue to the UN Security Council. While the international nuclear non-proliferation regime was facing serious challenges as are evident in those issues, the standpoints of the concerned countries failed to converge at the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) held in May, and a consensus document was not achieved for this reason. In addition, there is no mention of disarmament and non-proliferation in the Outcome Document adopted at the World Summit in September. The entire international community thus needs to continue its unified and persistent efforts in this field.

Beneath an international situation such as this, Japan has advanced diplomatic policies for 2005 with the following priorities: (1) protecting Japanese nationals at home and abroad through the ensuring of measures for security and safety of Japanese abroad; (2) Japan taking the lead toward building a new international order; (3)

letting Japan’s voice be heard through strategic information dissemination; and (4) solid foundations of Japanese foreign policy with reinforcement of intelligence, ODA, cultural exchanges, and organizational support.

One of the biggest agenda of Japan’s diplomacy in 2005 was the reform of the UN Security Council. As the UN member states strengthened their moves toward improving the functions of the UN in the run-up to the World Summit in September, Japan, together with Germany, Brazil, India and others, led a vigorous diplomatic campaign in order to realize Security Council reform, playing a vital role in building up international momentum for the reform of the UN and the Security Council.

In the Middle East, Japan continues its efforts in cooperation with the international community, by extending the terms of dispatch of the SDF in Iraq for the nation-building and in the Indian Ocean for the “fight against terrorism.”

To Japan, relations with its Asian neighboring countries are extremely important. The economic development of China, which is an important neighboring country for Japan, provides “opportunities” for Japan’s future. Further development of Japan-China relations is one of the priorities for Japanese diplomacy. The ROK shares fundamental values such as democracy and the market economy in common with Japan, and candid exchanges of opinions took place between Japan and the ROK through summit meetings and foreign ministers’ meetings. Japan exercised its leadership at the East Asia Summit (EAS) held for the first time in 2005, where it made diplomatic efforts toward the establishment of an open East Asian community (EAc).

In 2005, a great many people fell victim to events such as the hurricane in the US, the large-scale earthquake in Pakistan, terrorist attacks in London and on the Island of Bali in Indonesia, and avian influenza spread worldwide. Owing to this, the importance of both protecting Japanese nationals abroad and managing crises was acknowledged anew in 2005. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has taken measures in order to preserve the safety and security of citizens overseas, such as effectively transmitting overseas travel information and warnings, strengthening the relief structure for Japanese nationals abroad, and enhancing the consular system and its services.

Furthermore, the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi,

Japan (EXPO 2005), was successfully held in Japan in 2005 and served as an important asset for Japanese diplomacy.

(Reform of the United Nations (UN))

In order for the international community to effectively address new challenges, such as pandemic influenza and the fight against terrorism, as well as other threats to peace, it is necessary to strengthen the functions of the UN, which is the world's only universal and comprehensive international organization. The number of the UN member states has increased dramatically from 51 at its inception in 1945 to 191 at present, due to accessions of new, particularly developing, countries. And yet, until now, almost no structural reforms have been carried out in response to this expansion. The year 2005, the 60th anniversary of the UN, was a year in which the international community took this situation with a sense of crisis and widely recognized the need for UN reform. In particular, it is a matter of special urgency for the international community that the composition of the Security Council, which shoulders the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, reflect the realities of the international community in the 21st century. Japan has advocated the need for Security Council reform and expressed its readiness to assume greater responsibility as a permanent member on a reformed Security Council. In September, the 2005 World Summit was held with an unprecedented level of participation of heads of state and government from over 170 countries. The Outcome Document adopted at the Summit encompassed various measures to enable the UN to effectively deal with threats facing the international community, such as the need for Security Council reform and the establishment of a Peacebuilding Commission and a Human Rights Council.

Japan's permanent membership on the Security Council would bring the following benefits for Japan: (1) it would enable Japan to better serve its interest on issues of international peace and security that have direct bearing on Japan's national interest; (2) it would also enable Japan to have a voice commensurate with its contributions to the international community to date; (3) Japan would be able to gain quicker access to information that is closely relevant to its security by holding a permanent seat on the Security Council, where abundant information on international affairs flows; and (4) Japan would be able to play a more constructive role in the maintenance of international peace and security through participating in decision-making on a variety of challenges addressed by the UN.



Foreign Minister Machimura delivers an address entitled "A New United Nations and Japan" at the 60th Session of the General Assembly of the UN (September 17, New York)

Japan's permanent membership on the Security Council would also benefit the international community in enhancing the credibility and effectiveness of the Security Council and strengthening the functions of the UN in the following aspects: (1) Japan would be able to actively engage in diplomatic efforts in the fields of disarmament and non-proliferation as a permanent member that does not possess nuclear weapons, unlike the current permanent members; (2) Japan's permanent membership as the world's second-largest economy in the Council would further strengthen the capacity of the international community to respond to various challenges; and (3) it would enhance Asian representation in the Security Council, where only China is currently a permanent member.

It is necessary to get a two-thirds majority vote of all the UN member states in order to realize Security Council reform. Although a draft resolution submitted by the Group of Four (G4) countries (Japan, Germany, Brazil, and India) to the UN General Assembly was not put to a vote in the end, it was followed by the submission of a draft resolution by the African Union (AU) and the one by the "Uniting for Consensus" group that is opposed to the expansion of permanent seats during the same session of the UN General Assembly. It is a remarkable achievement in itself that, for the first time in the history of the UN, more than one draft resolution calling for significant change in the composition of the Security Council was submitted to the General Assembly. Moreover, the Outcome Document adopted at the 2005 World Summit states that an early reform of the Security Council is an essential element for overall effort to reform the UN, and there is a broad agreement among member states that realizing the reform is a matter of urgency.

Reform of the Security Council is a difficult endeavor that would significantly transform the postwar

international system. The campaign carried out by the G4 over the last year has created unprecedented momentum toward the realization of reform. The year 2006 marks the 50th anniversary of Japan's accession to the UN, and Japan considers that Security Council reform has entered its second stage. Japan will continue its efforts toward reform, building on its experiences to date.

At the same time, Japan also carries out diplomatic efforts to strengthen the functions of the UN so that it can deal more effectively with issues such as development, human rights, humanitarian assistance, and peace building with a view to achieving comprehensive reform of the UN. As for administrative and financial areas, in order for the UN to function more effectively and efficiently, Japan is working toward UN management and Secretariat reforms, including mandate review, improving transparency and accountability, and strengthening oversight functions. Furthermore, Japan intends to continue proactive participation in the negotiation on the UN scale of assessments by the end of 2006 to make it more equitable and fair, duly taking into account the status and responsibilities of member states.

(The Asian Region)

The year 2005 was also a year in which Asia's dynamism was prominently displayed. China continued to achieve a high economic growth rate, and India also developed primarily around the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry, with both countries increasing the significance of their presence centered around economic spheres. In addition, following the trends toward regional integration in Asia advanced thus far through the frameworks of ASEAN and ASEAN+3 (Japan, China, and the ROK), the first EAS was held in Malaysia.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Taro Aso visited Malaysia for the sake of international conferences related to ASEAN and the Foreign Ministerial Meeting with the EAS member countries, prior to which he delivered a policy speech entitled "Asian Strategy as I See It: Japan as the 'Thought Leader' of Asia." In this speech, Foreign Minister Aso called Japan a "thought leader," which in the past has taken the lead in working to address difficult issues such as overcoming aging and nationalism in Asia. He also indicated that Japan is a stabilizing force within Asia, as well as the fact that Japan is a country which emphasizes a sense of equality between countries. As such, in conjunction with welcoming the rise of China, Foreign Minister Aso also called for "transparency" in a number of different fields and indicated his hopes that ASEAN will play a role in

regional cooperation, including the creation of an open East Asian community (EAc).

Prime Minister Koizumi attended the EAS. Japan facilitated the advancement of Asian regional cooperation in a format that guarantees openness, transparency, and inclusiveness, as a result of which India, Australia, and New Zealand also took part in the EAS in addition to ASEAN+3. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration was adopted at the EAS, which states that the EAS could play a "significant role" in community building in the region, that the EAS will be an open, inclusive, and transparent framework, and that through the EAS its participants will strive to strengthen global norms and universally recognized values, among other assertions.

As Asian regional cooperation is being advanced, the presence of concerns over security persists within East Asia. North Korea's proclaimed possession of nuclear weapons poses a direct threat to the East Asian region, including Japan. While China is expanding its economic interaction with Taiwan, it adopted the Anti-Secession Law. It is necessary to observe closely the cross-strait relations. The situation related to the modernization of Chinese military power and increases in its national defense expenditures is also still partially unclear.

The interdependence between Japan and China was further deepened in such areas as economic relations and people-to-people exchanges, one example of which is the fact that the total trade value between Japan and China (including Hong Kong) surpassed that between Japan and the US following the year 2004. There are areas in which the opinions of Japan and China differ, such as the outbreak of violent activities targeting Japanese diplomatic establishments and Japanese companies in China in April, historical issues, and resource development in the East China Sea. Yet, these must not have a negative effect on the development of Japan-China relations as a whole. Throughout ancient and modern history, China is one of the countries to which Japan attaches importance, and Japan is calling on China to strengthen future oriented cooperative relations with Japan based on a broad perspective.

Despite difficult aspects in Japan-Korea relations such as the Takeshima issue and historical issues, the Japan-Korea Friendship Year 2005 was held in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the normalization of relations between the two countries. Personal exchanges were promoted through this as well as the short-term visit visa exemptions implemented on the occasion of EXPO 2005, Aichi, Japan, and through the continuation of this measure. In addition, candid

exchanges of opinions were carried out regarding bilateral relations, including historical issues, at the summit and foreign ministerial-levels. Furthermore, Japan made efforts for close coordination with the ROK and China through a cooperative framework between Japan, China, and the ROK; the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), East Asian regional cooperation, as well as through the Six-Party Talks on North Korea's nuclear issue.

As for issues surrounding North Korea, Japan devoted diplomatic efforts to the comprehensive resolution of outstanding issues of concern, such as the abduction, nuclear and missile issues, based upon a fundamental philosophy of "dialogue and pressure." For the abduction issue, Japan took repeated opportunities, including the Japan-North Korea Comprehensive and Parallel Talks in February 2006, to request the return of the surviving abductees to Japan, unveiling of truth, and the extradition of suspects. However, a positive response was not presented by the North Korean side over these demands. Still, widening international efforts over the abduction issue were seen, such as the first adoption of the "Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" resolution at the UN General Assembly in December 2005 with Japan as one of the co-sponsors. Concerning the nuclear issue, the first Joint Statement from the Six-Party Talks was released in September at the second round of the fourth Six-Party Talks. The contents of this document represented a certain measure of progress, such as promises by North Korea that it would verifiably dismantle "all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs" and return to the NPT and IAEA safeguards at an early date. However, since the adjournment of the first round of the fifth Six-Party Talks in November, North Korea has refused to resume the talks, using the US measures to combat money-laundering as its excuse.

Conflicts between security authorities and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) continued for nearly 30 years in Aceh in Indonesia, yet with the momentum following the tsunami damage from December 2004 serving as a catalyst, a peace accord was achieved between the Indonesian Government and GAM in August 2005. In Timor-Leste, the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET)(represented by Mr. Sukehiro Hasegawa), which had been deployed for the consolidation of peace and nation-building in the country, successfully completed its mandate. Its successor mission is the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL) which will carry out its mandate over a term lasting until May 2006.

As for relations with India, which is emerging as a major political and economic power, Prime Minister Koizumi visited India in April where it was confirmed with Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh of India to incorporate a strategic orientation into the relations between the two countries and a joint statement and an action plan were announced. During Foreign Minister Aso's visit to India in January 2006, it was confirmed that strategic dialogues between the foreign ministers of the two countries would be conducted. It was also confirmed that the two sides would earnestly consider the possibility of a Japan-India Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), in light of the work of the Japan-India Joint Study Group (JSG) which holds comprehensive consultations among representatives from business circles, academic fields, and government officials of both countries regarding ways for strengthening economic relations between the two countries.

(The US)

The US is an invaluable ally of Japan, and Japan-US relations are the linchpin of Japanese diplomacy. At the Japan-US Security Consultative Committee (SCC) (2+2 Meeting) held in Washington D.C. in February 2005, Japan and the US identified their common strategic objectives. In addition, the US is reorienting its global defense posture with the goal of realizing a posture with increased mobility. With regard to the military realignment in Japan, a joint document was released at the 2+2 Meeting held in October 2005 in Washington D.C., which included the acceleration of Futenma relocation and return and the reduction of the Marine personnel in Okinawa. At the summit meeting conducted on the occasion of the visit to Japan of President George W. Bush of the US in November, discussions were held on a wide array of international issues beyond bilateral Japan-US relations, and both leaders affirmed to further promote "Japan-US Global Alliance." On the other hand, concerning the issue of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) between Japan and the US, scientific deliberations were thoroughly undertaken by the Food Safety Commission on the premise of ensuring food safety for consumers. Based on these, the two-way trade of beef was resumed in December. However, when it came to light in January 2006 that beef containing spinal column, a specified risk material (SRM) which is not approved for importation, arrived in Japan, Japan suspended all import procedures for US beef.

(The Middle East Region)

Ensuring peace and stability in the Middle East region is

an issue which is directly connected with the peace and prosperity of the international community as a whole, as well as an important issue from the perspective of securing oil resources for Japan.

In Iraq and Afghanistan, support continues for nation building through the international community on the two fronts of both countries' respective political processes and economic recovery, with Japan taking a proactive role as well.

In Iraq, a draft constitution was approved by means of a national referendum, in addition to which elections for the National Assembly were held without any major disturbances. These items demonstrate the fact that Iraq's democratic political process is making significant advances. Conversely, indiscriminate attacks targeting international soldiers of the multinational forces (MNF) (primarily US forces) and civilians continue one after another, with a large number of killed and wounded occurring on the Iraqi side as well. The stabilization of security remains a major issue in order for the support of the international community for nation building in Iraq to progress. Japan is providing support through the dispatch of the SDF to Samawah and other places and through ODA as an inseparable pair, and has also extended for one year the period of dispatch of the SDF, stipulated by the Basic Plan to the Law Concerning the Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq.

In Afghanistan, the National Assembly opened following the Lower House elections, and the transitional period for building national governance structure (political process) was completed. Moreover, the Government of Afghanistan has completed disarmament through the carrying out of programs for the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of Ex-Combatants (DDR) for which Japan and other countries have been providing assistance, and disarmament of the former national army of roughly 60,000 people was accomplished. In order to cooperate in the fight against terrorism implemented by the international community, Japan has extended the duration of the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, under which the MSDF is dispatched to the Indian Ocean, for another year. The continuation of reconstruction assistance by the international community and further improvements in the security situation are required for steadfast nation building in Afghanistan.

In Iran, hard-line conservative President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was inaugurated as president in August. Iran subsequently resumed its uranium enrichment-related activities under President Ahmadinejad early in

2006. Following this, in February 2006, the Special Meeting of the IAEA's Board of Governors adopted a resolution which included reporting Iran's nuclear issue to the UN Security Council.

Though terrorist attacks have not ended in Israel, there have been some positive movements seen in the Middle East Peace Process in the meantime, such as the election of Dr. Mahmoud Abbas, the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), as the president of the Palestinian Authority, the transfer of jurisdiction for the security in Jericho and Bethlehem from Israel to the Palestinian Authority, agreements reached among several Palestinian factions to cease violence, the withdrawal of Israeli settlers and soldiers from the Gaza Strip and northern part of the West Bank, and the reopening of the Gaza-Egypt border crossing. The international community continues to support the Middle East Peace Process by convening the London Meeting on Supporting the Palestinian Authority. However, in January 2006, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel suddenly retired from the political horizon due to his illness, and Hamas, which denies the existence of Israel, became the leading party in the elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council. These events have drawn attention in terms of how they will affect the future of the Middle East Peace Process.

(The European Region)

The European Union (EU) expanded to 25 member states in 2004 with the accession of 10 countries, including Central and Eastern European countries as well as three Baltic states. In 2005, negotiations for accession were initiated with Turkey and Croatia, and it was decided that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia would be granted candidate status for accession. On the other hand, ratification of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe (TCE), which would serve as an important document for the political and economic integration of the EU, was rejected through national referendums in France and the Netherlands. Following this, it was decided by the European Council that the ratification deadline would be extended.

Within the EU, there were some moves toward the lifting of the arms embargo on China which was adopted after the incident at Tiananmen Square in 1989. However, Japan and the US are opposed to lifting of the embargo from the perspective of the stability of the East Asian region, and a conclusion to the issue has been postponed.

Despite such individual issues, Japan has positioned the EU, which is further gaining in influence among the

international community backed by its own integration and enlargement, as a partner which shares fundamental values, and is building solid relations with the EU through dialogue and cooperation. Moreover, Japan is not only promoting bilateral relations, but also close cooperation with each member state of the EU over a number of international challenges such as reform of the UN and the reconstruction of Iraq, as well as Iran's nuclear issue. In addition, the year 2005 was set as "the EU-Japan Year of People-to-People Exchanges" and a variety of exchange events were held in both Japan and the EU. Through this as well as in conjunction with "Germany in Japan 2005/2006" personal exchanges between Japan and the EU were enlivened.

Turning to the situations in individual countries, consecutive terrorist bomb attacks occurred in the UK while the Group of Eight (G8) Summit was being held in the country, and in France a series of violence occurred in regions on the outskirts of major cities, including Paris. As a result of the general election held in Germany in September, a grand coalition administration was created between the Christlich-Demokratische Union (Christian Democratic Union) (CDU)/Christlich-Soziale Union (Christian Social Union) (CSU) and the Sozialdemokratische Partei (Social Democratic Party) (SPD), with CDU leader Angela Merkel as the chancellor.

In November, Russian President Vladimir Putin visited Japan and a summit meeting was held. Here, on the Northern Territories issue, which is the biggest outstanding issue between Japan and Russia, an agreement was made to find a solution that is acceptable to both countries based on the various agreements and documents signed to date. In addition, it was also agreed by both sides to further strengthen cooperation in a wide range of areas in accordance with the "Japan-Russia Action Plan," through such steps as the signing of the 12 documents. In Russia, under the favorable economy and a stable political footing, large-scale social reform plans, "Priority National Projects," were announced as measures to improve the everyday lives of the people. Yet at the same time, such movements as strengthening of state control over the economy and regulations for non-profit organizations (NPOs) were also observed. In the area of diplomatic relations, while cooperation is being maintained with Western nations, issues arose between Russia and some of its surrounding countries concerning the price of natural gas and others.

From among the states of the former Soviet Union, developments were seen in the Central Asian region such as the conclusion of a treaty of alliance between

Uzbekistan and Russia. Ukraine and Georgia organized the Community of Democratic Choice together with various pro-Western countries in the Baltic and Black Sea regions.

(The African Region)

The year 2005 was the "Year of Africa," in which the international community focused its attention on Africa with the Asian-African Summit held in Indonesia and African issues becoming one of the main themes of the G8 Gleneagles Summit. Issues facing Africa were also major topics at the World Summit and the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference (WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Conference). Africa, for its part, bolstered its efforts at regional cooperation and integration through the African Union (AU). In particular, Africa demonstrated to the world the magnitude of its power in numbers in issues such as UN Security Council reform. In the meantime, Africa continues to be faced with many challenges, such as poverty and conflict. In Sudan, a signing ceremony was held for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement to put an end to the civil war between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) which lasted for more than 20 years. Meanwhile, in the Darfur region, in the western part of the country, the public security and humanitarian situations have deteriorated, producing a large number of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), as a result of clashes between government troops and anti-government forces that have continued since 2003.

As a responsible member of the international community, Japan has undertaken active diplomacy toward Africa, recognizing that Africa could be a powerful partner in striving to advance Japan's ideals in the international fora. Japan's diplomacy toward Africa was particularly active in 2005, or the "Year of Africa." At the Asian-African Summit, Prime Minister Junichiro



A JICA expert provides guidance for the cultivation of rice to local residents in Uganda (Photo: JICA)

Koizumi announced that Japan would double its ODA to Africa in the three years to come, and also elaborated on Japan's initiatives such as the strengthening of Asian-African cooperation in order to harness Asia's experience for Africa's development.

(The Latin American and Caribbean Region)

In the Latin American and Caribbean region, the economy continues to grow, backed by factors such as increasing worldwide demand for resources, and macro-economic stability has been achieved through neoliberal economic policies. On the other hand, against a backdrop of expanding disparities between the rich and the poor, popular movements calling for the improvements of social problems grew, and government administrations changed in Bolivia and Ecuador.

For Japan-Latin American and Caribbean relations, the Japan-Mexico Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) entered into force in April 2005 and the Central American Products Exhibition 2005 was held in November with a view to the steady implementation of the Vision for a New Japan-Latin America and Caribbean Partnership which was announced in 2004. In addition to these efforts toward strengthening multifaceted economic relations, negotiations for the EPA with Chile were initiated in February 2006.

As part of the Japan-Central America Year 2005 commemorating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Central America, the heads of state of seven Central American countries visited Japan in August to hold the Japan-Central America Summit Meeting. Furthermore, former President Alberto Fujimori of Peru, who had been residing in Japan as a result of turmoil in the political situation within Peru, arrived in Chile in November. The Government of Chile provisionally detained former President Fujimori based on a request from the Government of Peru, following which judicial proceedings have been under way.

(Efforts against New Threats)

Numerous incidents of terrorism occurred in all parts of the world, and the threat from international terrorism remains as serious as ever. This can be said from the series of terrorist bomb attacks in parts of the Philippines including Manila (February), the series of terrorist bomb attacks in London (July), the simultaneous terrorist bomb attacks on the Island of Bali, Indonesia (October), and the simultaneous terrorist bomb attacks in Amman, Jordan (November). Japan continues the fight against

terrorism by extending the dispatch term for the SDF deployed to the Indian Ocean, signing the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, working toward supporting the capacity building of developing countries to respond to terrorism and making other efforts.

On climate change, the Kyoto Protocol, which mandates the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by developed countries, entered into force. However, the US does not take part in the Kyoto Protocol, and developing countries are not obliged to commit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the Protocol. In view of this, in future climate change countermeasures Japan is encouraging other countries to construct an effective framework that brings about maximum reduction efforts by all major emitting countries, while enabling all countries to take effective mitigation measures in accordance with their own capabilities.

The issue of climate change was also taken up as a primary agenda at the G8 Gleneagles Summit, where it was decided to take concrete action for energy conservation, the use of clean energy, and related initiatives.

Since 2003, human infection of avian influenza (virus subtype H5N1) has been increasing in Southeast Asia, with 76 fatal cases having been reported (as of the end of 2005) to the World Health Organization (WHO). With the possibility of an outbreak of pandemic influenza transmissible from human to human considered particularly high in the endemic regions for avian influenza, many countries and international organizations took the initiative to hold international meetings. In December, Prime Minister Koizumi announced that Japan would implement cooperation amounting to US\$135 million until March 2006, especially with Asian countries, as a measure to tackle avian and pandemic influenza. Moreover, in January 2006, Japan and the WHO jointly hosted the Japan-WHO Joint Meeting on Early Response to Potential Influenza Pandemic. Here, intensive discussions were conducted among experts from Asian countries, major donor countries, and experts from international organizations on the issue of early containment in the event of an outbreak of pandemic influenza. Also in the same month, Japan announced additional support of US\$20 million at the International Pledging Conference on Avian and Human Pandemic Influenza held in Beijing. Aside from these, Japan is making efforts by taking measures for Japanese nationals living abroad based upon the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Action Plan of the Japanese government formulated in November 2005.

Prime Minister Koizumi announced in June that

Japan would provide, on top of its prior contribution of approximately US\$350 million, an additional US\$500 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the coming years. The Global Fund was established following a process which stated at the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit. Furthermore, Prime Minister Koizumi announced cooperation with the prospect of a total amount of US\$5 billion over the following five years based on the Health and Development Initiative (HDI).

(The Global Economy and International Efforts on the Economic Front)

While the world economy continues growing robustly, challenges still exist such as global imbalances and the steep rise in the crude oil prices. At the G8 Gleneagles Summit, agreement was reached over working to address issues such as structural reform, improving energy efficiency, and improving the transparency in the oil markets. Moreover, at the 13th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting held in Busan, ROK, a Midterm Stocktake of Progress toward the Bogor Goals⁴ was conducted. As part of such stocktaking, it was affirmed to strengthen efforts for behind-the-border issues like structural reforms for each member and protecting intellectual property rights, as well as improving the investment environment. In addition, Japan received support to host the APEC process in 2010.

Enhancing the multilateral trading system will yield prosperity for the world economy and greatly benefit Japan. During the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, Japan contributed to issuing a strong message in a stand-alone document aimed at moving forward the WTO negotiations. Furthermore, at the WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Conference, Japan formulated the "Development Initiative for Trade," a comprehensive package to promote the development of developing countries through the WTO's Doha Round, thereby making it possible to acquire greater benefits via the free trading system. At the Ministerial Conference, the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration was adopted, which will serve as a basis for a final agreement. The aim of concluding the round of negotiations before the end of 2006 and an operating schedule designed to this end were also agreed upon at the conference, with agreements being reached for issues such as substantially improving duty-free and quota-free market access for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and eliminating agri-

cultural export subsidies by 2013.

Furthermore, Japan is conducting negotiations for the conclusion of EPAs as a complementary measure to the WTO. The EPA with Mexico came into force and the EPA with Malaysia was signed in 2005. In addition, negotiations with Thailand have also made progress and preparations for the signing were mostly completed in spring 2006.

(EXPO 2005)

The 2005 World Exposition, Aichi, Japan (EXPO 2005) was held successfully, with over 22 million visitors gathering through its half-year period, far surpassing the initial goal. The event also contributed to promoting the Visit Japan Campaign which encourages foreign travelers to visit Japan. What is more, nearly 100 VIPs from various countries, including royalty and heads of state, visited Japan on the occasion of events such as the National Days which introduced the traditions and culture of different countries, and held meetings with VIPs from the Government of Japan. This served as a valuable asset for Japanese diplomacy in terms of maintaining favorable bilateral relations. In addition, the success at the Exposition under the theme of "Nature's Wisdom" enhanced Japan's image abroad as a country which takes environmental issues seriously and also contributed to the promotion of public diplomacy.



His Imperial Highness The Crown Prince of Japan visiting the Nagakute Area of EXPO 2005 in June (Photo: The Chunichi Shimbun)

(ODA)

The objective of Japan's ODA is to contribute to the peace and development of the international community, and thereby to help ensure Japan's own security and prosperity. As nations are becoming increasingly inter-

4. See page 65.

dependent, humanitarian issues such as poverty and hunger as well as global issues including the environment and infectious diseases pose a threat to individual citizens across borders. In order to tackle these issues of global concern, Japan has been utilizing its ODA. In implementing ODA, Japan emphasizes the perspective of “human security.” Through advocating this concept, Japan aims to create a society that enables each individual to lead a life with dignity. Such goals will be achieved through safeguarding individuals and local communities as well as through building their capacities. Japan is also strengthening cooperation with the NGOs in order to promote the concept of “human security.”

The year 2005 marked the fifth year after the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and the progress of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which are globally shared development goals, was evaluated for the first time. The importance of support for Africa, in which many of the development challenges are concentrated, was also reaffirmed in the same year.

In addition, Japan announced it would double its ODA for Africa at the Asian-African Summit. Japan also expressed its intent to increase its ODA volume by US\$10 billion over the next five years. At a series of international meetings, Japan advocated principles of ownership on the part of developing countries and partnerships with the international community, as well as poverty reduction through economic growth and the

necessity of South-South Cooperation. Moreover, Japan took the lead over other countries in immediately responding to the major earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and the tsunami in the Indian Ocean in December 2004. When the large-scale earthquake in Pakistan occurred, Japan provided support in a notable manner, responding to the needs of the disaster area. This was accomplished through efforts such as the dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams and the provision of emergency relief goods, loan aid, grant aid, and technical cooperation, as well as the activities of the international organizations and the Japanese NGOs affiliated with the Japan Platform (JPF).



Foreign Minister Aso giving a speech on ODA policy at the Japan National Press Club (January 19, 2006, Tokyo)