

CHAPTER 5

Japanese Diplomacy Open to the Public

1. Providing Information Proactively to Citizens

As a democratic nation, it is critically important, when implementing foreign policy, to provide information in a timely and lucid manner regarding its concrete substance and the role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, thereby gaining the understanding and support of the public. From this point of view, the Ministry is intensifying its provision of information through newspapers, television, and other forms of

mass media, while also actively publicizing information through the Internet and providing information to opinion leaders in various fields. The Ministry is also working to improve two-way communication through public relations efforts including various types of fora and lectures, for direct dialogue with the Japanese people, as well as through the gathering of public comments and opinions.

2. Enhancing Diplomatic Capacity

There is a need for Japan to acquire comprehensive diplomatic capacity that can respond flexibly and appropriately to the various changes taking place in the international community. It is important for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to work in coordination with the private sector, intellectuals, and NGOs and to create an “all Japan” system that enables the all-out

mobilization of all possible means, including Japan's economic, scientific and technological, cultural, and public relations strengths as well as its ODA, to advance diplomacy that fully ensures Japan's national interests and contributes to the international community.



Minister for Foreign Affairs Nakasone holds a press conference