

THE JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF
THE SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER
OF JAPAN AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CHILE

March 29, 2012

At the official invitation of the Government of Japan, His Excellency Dr. Sebastián Piñera, President of the Republic of Chile, paid a visit to Japan between 28 and 30 March 2012. During his visit, President Piñera paid a courtesy call on His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince. Mr. Piñera held a meeting with Mr. Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan, during which they discussed the main areas of interest in the bilateral relations between the two countries and the principles and values that underlie the Chile-Japan partnership.

Both leaders reaffirmed their decision to strengthen the political dialogue between Chile and Japan and to improve bilateral economic relations, facilitating business and cooperation in various areas of mutual interest. They also shared views to enhance their coordination in multilateral fora, reaffirming the commitment of both governments to the protection of human rights and fundamental liberties as well as to democracy and the rule of law.

1. Bilateral relations

- a) Both leaders expressed their satisfaction with the wide scope and long timescale of the friendly bilateral relations between Japan and Chile.
- b) Both leaders recalled the mutual provision of relief for the Chile earthquake and the Great East Japan Earthquake respectively, and each expressed his determination to achieve early, prompt and highly efficient reconstruction.

The Prime Minister of Japan highly appreciated Chile's decision to lift all restrictions on food imports from Japan.

- c) The Prime Minister of Japan reiterated the intention of the Government of Japan to further develop assistance in disaster prevention for Chile. Special mention was made of the JICA/JST project "Enhancement of Technology to Develop Tsunami-resilient Community in Chile", started in 2012 and to be extended till 2016. The President of Chile expressed his appreciation for the valuable Japanese cooperation and technical support extended through this project. In this context, the Prime Minister of Japan underlined the technology that Japanese companies possess for early warning systems utilizing satellite networks for earthquakes and tsunamis.
- d) The President of Chile expressed his country's support for Japan's participation in TPP.
- e) Both leaders confirmed the steady progress in bilateral economic relations through the Japan-Chile EPA and expressed their hope of achieving further progress. The President of Chile expressed his interest in a double taxation agreement.
- f) Both leaders expressed their satisfaction with the bilateral political dialogue at summit and ministerial levels and within the "Japan-Chile Political Dialogue", and declared their intention to further strengthen their contacts at those levels.
- g) As founding members of the Governing Council of the Community of Democracies, both leaders confirmed their interest in strengthening democratic principles and values around the world through the active work of the

Community of Democracies, recognizing the importance of participation of civil society.

- h) Both leaders expressed their intention of further promoting triangular cooperation to assist developing countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region.
- i) Both leaders welcomed scientific and academic exchanges in the areas of astronomy and medical research. Special mention was made of the ALMA Project and the bilateral exchanges promoted by the University of Tokyo and Nagoya University in astronomy and of the medical exchange developed between the Tokyo Medical and Dental University and Clínica Las Condes of Santiago.
- j) In the field of energy, the President of Chile expressed his desire to strengthen bilateral cooperation with Japan in the areas of renewable energy, energy transmission and energy efficiency.
- k) In the area of education, the President of Chile expressed his intention to work towards increasing the number of Chilean graduate and post-graduate students at Japanese universities, taking into account the benefits provided by “Becas Chile” and the growing number of courses in English offered by higher education institutions in Japan. The Prime Minister of Japan welcomed the initiative of the Government of Chile, and expressed his expectation of an increase in the number of Chilean students in Japan.

2. Multilateral cooperation

- a) Both leaders reaffirmed the importance of addressing global environmental issues such as climate change and renewed their intention to achieve a successful outcome at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable

Development, and to work together to ensure a prosperous and inclusive sustainable future for our people, our planet and future generations.

- b) Both leaders emphasized the importance they placed on the sustainable use of natural resources and, consequently, expressed their support of the efforts of the international community.
- c) The Prime Minister of Japan appreciated Chile's support of Japan's permanent membership of an expanded UN Security Council. Both leaders reaffirmed the importance they attached to the reform of the UN Security Council and expressed their intention to continue their cooperation on this issue.
- d) Both leaders confirmed their decision to continue to cooperate on disarmament and non-proliferation issues such as weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons. They declared their wish to strengthen their cooperation within the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) to implement the Action Plan of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, including the promotion of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).
- e) Both leaders recognized the important role played by the Human Rights Council in Geneva in the defense of human rights on the planet and called for renewed support of its activities by the international community.
- f) Both leaders expressed deep concern over the planned launch of a missile announced by North Korea. They shared the view that it would be a violation of the relevant UN Security Resolutions and agreed to urge North Korea to refrain from launching it. They reiterated that North

Korea must take concrete actions towards its denuclearization, to which it committed itself under the 2005 Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. Both leaders welcomed the enhanced support from the community of nations of the UN Resolutions on the situation concerning human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and re-emphasized the necessity of continuing to urge North Korea to take concrete actions based on those resolutions. The Prime Minister of Japan emphasized the importance of solving the abduction issue. The President of Chile extended his strong support of the early resolution of the abduction issue.

g) Both leaders expressed their grave concern about the situation in Syria, in particular the use of force against unarmed civilians by the Syrian Government, and called on all parties to cease the violence immediately and to work towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis. Furthermore, both leaders expressed their strong support of the mission of Mr. Kofi Annan, the Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

h) Both leaders reaffirmed their wish to continue the cooperation between the two countries in multilateral fora such as the WTO, APEC and FEALAC.

3. The President of Chile, along with expressing his gratitude for Japan's warm hospitality, extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of Japan to pay a visit to Chile.