
Statement by the Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the Current Situation in the Palestinian Territories

1. The Government of Japan expresses its deep concern over the current situation in the Palestinian territories, particularly in the Gaza Strip where Hamas seized control and humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate. Such a situation curtails the hopes of those who wish to achieve the Middle East Peace based on the two-state solution.
2. The Government of Japan supports the efforts of President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority to promptly end the crisis, such as the formation of an emergency government, and strongly calls on all the parties concerned to cooperate with the President's efforts in order to prevent further worsening of the situation.
3. The Government of Japan, as announced previously, is considering providing direct economic assistance to the Palestinians through the Office of President in order to show its support for the President's efforts in a tangible manner.