



Dear Sir/Madam

14 June, 2011

RE: JAPAN'S POLICY AFTER THE GREAT EAST JAPAN EARTHQUAKE

More than three months have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake struck. Even in the midst of your own recovery efforts for the earthquake in Christchurch, your country generously sent a search and rescue team and made a donation in the wake of our unprecedented national crisis. On behalf of the government and people of Japan, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for this compassionate support extended by your country and people.

Thanks to the support from many countries including New Zealand, Japan has started full-scale reconstruction work. The IMF expect Japan's economy to bounce back starting in the 2nd half of the year as supply constraints ease and reconstruction spending accelerates. According to the IMF, although the initial shock of the disaster was severe, swift and decisive action by the government and the Bank of Japan have helped to limit its impact on the economy. The recovery is projected to continue into 2012, supported by exports and continued public spending, which will allow GDP growth of 2.9% in 2012.

On 17 May, the Government of Japan released "The Guideline on Policy Promotion for the Revitalization of Japan", which presents policies and initiatives to revitalise Japan after the Great Earthquake. Click [here](http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/topics/2011/20110517_guideline_1.pdf) (http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/topics/2011/20110517_guideline_1.pdf) for the full text of the guideline.

As a response plan for the disaster, Prime Minister Naoto Kan and his government are making their utmost efforts to restore economic vitality as soon as possible. Japan will implement frameworks for new growth and restore its potential for innovative growth. The recovery strategy and rebirth of Japan will be founded on the two principles of dependable finances and social security, and a national strategy focused on growth. With respect to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), Japan continues to investigate whether it should join the negotiations.

For now, we shall move forward with initiatives to revitalise Japan within the scope of "The Guideline on Policy Promotion." I also want to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of restarting certain discontinued initiatives, restoring Japan's overall economic, industrial fitness in the wake of the earthquake, strengthening *kizuna* world-wide and accordingly achieving the dynamic revitalisation of Japan.

Yours Sincerely,

Hideto Mitamura
Ambassador of Japan