

## Phone Conversation between Foreign Minister Matsumoto and Foreign Minister McCully (6 April 2011)

On 6 April 2011, Mr. Takeaki Matsumoto, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan had a telephone conversation with Hon. Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand.

1. At the beginning of the conversation, Foreign Minister Matsumoto expressed his gratitude to the Government of New Zealand for their various support in confirming the identification of the 28 Japanese victims of the Canterbury Earthquake and their care and support for the families of the victims. He also expressed his expectations for progress in the investigation into the cause of collapse of the CTV Building. In addition, Foreign Minister Matsumoto expressed his heartfelt gratitude for support received in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake, such as the dispatch of a search and rescue team from New Zealand (52 persons) and a donation (1 million NZ dollars).
2. In response, Foreign Minister McCully expressed his gratitude for Japan's support on the occasion of the Canterbury Earthquake, and offered his condolences for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Moreover, Foreign Minister McCully said that New Zealand is prepared to provide continuous support to the families of Japanese victims of the Canterbury Earthquake and added that he would like bilateral/multilateral cooperation in the field of disaster prevention and disaster countermeasures between Japan and New Zealand to be strengthened on the basis of the experience of the two countries.
3. Foreign Minister Matsumoto explained about support for victims of the disaster and displaced persons and about measures taken at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station and added that he would like to keep providing information quickly and accurately to the international society including New Zealand. He then expressed his determination that Japan, like New Zealand, will follow a path of strong recovery from the disaster.
4. Finally, the foreign ministers agreed to keep in close contact to strengthen bilateral relationships before concluding the talks.