

Phone Conversation between Foreign Minister Maehara and Foreign Minister McCully on Canterbury Earthquake  
(7 March 2011)

1. On 7 March 2011, Mr. Seiji Maehara, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, had a telephone conversation with the Hon. Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, during which Minister Maehara reported his resignation from his post.
2. The Japanese side thanked the New Zealand Government officials for their consideration extended so far to the Japanese victims and their family members, and requested their continued efforts to meet the requests of these family members, such as prompt identification of missing individuals and recovered remains.
3. Foreign Minister McCully thanked the Government of Japan for its assistance to date, including the dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief team, and said that the Government of New Zealand will do as much as it can in terms of assistance for the Japanese family members in question.
4. The Japanese side stated that it prays that the Government of New Zealand and the people of New Zealand will recover from the disaster as quickly as possible. Foreign Minister McCully expressed his gratitude for being able to work closely with Japan based on the relationship of trust with Minister Maehara.