

13 September 2016

Dear Friends,

I hope this email finds you well.

On 9 September, North Korea conducted its second alleged nuclear test since January this year. The further development of the nuclear capability of North Korea constitutes a grave threat to Japan's security and seriously undermines the peace and security of the region as well as the international community. In response to this alleged nuclear test, Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe issued a statement strongly condemning the nuclear test conducted by North Korea.

[http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97\\_abe/statement/201609/statement.html](http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201609/statement.html)

(Text of the Prime Minister's statement)

The action of North Korea is both a regional security challenge as well as a threat to undermining the global regime of nuclear non-proliferation. Only North Korea has conducted nuclear tests since the turn of the century. It constitutes a grave challenge to the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime centered on the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Japan and Australia hold non-proliferation dearly, as exemplified by Australia's recent successful initiative to produce a non-proliferation statement at the East Asia Summit. Japan strongly condemns this testing and, as stated by Prime Minister Abe, Japan will implement measures of its own as well as further strengthening collaboration with countries concerned such as the United States, the Republic of Korea, China and Russia, to ensure the effectiveness of relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, and consider further measures against North Korea including further action in the UNSC.

Yours sincerely,

/s/

Sumio Kusaka

Ambassador of Japan to Australia