

Press Release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

9 February 2009

Messages of sympathy on the bushfires in Victoria, Australia, were delivered by Taro Aso, Prime Minister of Japan to Mr. Kevin Rudd, Prime Minister of Australia and by Hirofumi Nakasone, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan to Mr. Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia.

On 9 February, messages of sympathy and condolences were delivered by Taro Aso, Prime Minister of Japan to Mr. Kevin Rudd, Prime Minister of Australia and also by delivered Hirofumi Nakasone, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan to Mr. Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia regarding the large scale bushfires that have suddenly engulfed the state of Victoria since 7<sup>th</sup> of February.