



Report of the Closing Event

Closing Event for the International Year of Biodiversity

Dec.18 (Sat) ~ 20 (Mon), 2010



Closing Event for the International Year of Biodiversity

Going All Out to Conserve Biodiversity

The closing event to review the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB), which was designated by the United Nations, took place in Kanazawa, Ishikawa, from December 18 to 20, 2010. Participants, including representatives from 28 countries and the European Union (EU), UN organizations and related domestic and overseas organizations, confirmed that we human beings should live in harmony with nature and make every effort towards achieving sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity.

Outline of Closing Ceremony for IYB

● Part 1 : IYB Closing Ceremony

< Opening Speech >

- **Ryu Matsumoto** COP10 President
Minister of the Environment, Japan

< Welcome Speech >

- **Masanori Tanimoto** Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture

< Guest Speech >

- **Message from Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations** (Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity)

- **Kiyotaka Akasaka** United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information

- **Alphonse Kambu** Program Officer of the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions at the United Nations Environment Program

- **T.P. Singh** Regional Group Head of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Asia Regional Office

- **MISIA** Honorary Ambassador for COP10

< Video presentation of IYB >

● Coffee Break

● Part 2 : General Overview of MOP5, COP10 and IYB

< Reports of the Results of MOP5/COP10 >

- **Michihiko Kano** MOP5 President
Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan

- **Shoichi Kondo** COP10
State Secretary for the Environment, Japan

- **M.F. Farooqui** COP11; Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, India

- **Masaaki Kanda** Chairman of the Aichi-Nagoya COP10 CBD Promotion Committee, Governor of Aichi Prefecture

< Reports of IYB >

- **Shiro Wakui** Deputy Chairman of the Japanese National Committee for IYB

< Overview of IYB >

- **Ahmed Djoghlaif** Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity

● Part 3: IYB-IYF Bridging Ceremony

< Speech for IYF >

- **Michihiko Kano** Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Japan

- **Drago Stambuk** Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Japan

- **Jan McAlpine** Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

- **Sanae Numata** Member of the Japanese National Committee for IYF

< Video presentation of IYF >

< Bridging Ceremony >

- **Bridging from IYB to IYF, Commemorative photos**

● Closing

< Closing Speech >

- **Yukiyoshi Yamano** Mayor of Kanazawa City, Ishikawa, Japan

Closing Ceremony

The next decade is of utmost importance



• Ishikawa Ongakudo, Hougaku Hall, the venue of the Closing Ceremony

Date: December 18 (Sat.), 2010, 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Ishikawa Ongakudo, Hougaku Hall, (20-1, Showa-machi, Kanazawa, Ishikawa)

Participants: Guests including representatives of participating countries, UN organizations and related domestic and overseas organizations (28 countries and EU, approx. 400)

The closing event to review the International Year of Biodiversity took place after the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10), which was held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, in October 2010. As part of the event, reports were given on various activities held all over the world for conservation of biodiversity, as well as on the achievements of COP10 and the 5th meeting of the conference of the parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (MOP5). There was also a bridging ceremony for the transition to the International Year of Forests.

[Part 1]

Closing Ceremony for the International Year of Biodiversity

Opening Speech



On behalf of the Japanese Government
Ryu Matsumoto
COP10 President
Minister of the Environment, Japan

A treasure to be handed down to future generations

Biodiversity is a heritage that we look after for the children of the future. This precious treasure must be handed down to future generations. Now is the time for the countries of the world to work together based on the achievements of COP10. The International Year of Biodiversity will end this month, and the International Year of Forests will begin next year. Let us strengthen the link between conservation of global biodiversity and conservation of forests all over the world. The steps to be taken in the next decade are really crucial. Let us harness all of the wisdom of humankind, and take action together.

Welcome Speech



On behalf of the venue
Masanori Tanimoto
Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture

Activities carried out from a local perspective

The issue of biodiversity is a global challenge, but at the same time it is an issue that all individuals, local governments and local communities must tackle. Our prefecture is working on biodiversity conservation through the use and conservation of satoyama and satoumi — the nearby mountains and sea — which make up the natural environment that is closest to us. Satoyama accounts for approximately 60% of our prefecture's land and is closely related to people's livelihood. Through this closing event, we would like to introduce our activities to the world and contribute to the conservation of biodiversity from a local perspective.

General Overview of MOP5, COP10 and IYB

The accomplishments of MOP5-COP10 held in Nagoya, Aichi, were reported, and a general overview of the International Year of Biodiversity was conducted.

Reports of the Results of MOP5/COP10



Michihiko Kano

MOP5 President
Minister of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries,
Japan

Accomplishments at MOP5

At MOP5, we adopted the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on liability and redress in the case of damage being caused by the transfer of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) across national borders to biodiversity and its sustainable use. We were also able to summarize a strategic plan to train and educate human resources for that purpose.



Shoichi Kondo

State Secretary for
the Environment,
Japan

Adoption of Aichi Target and Nagoya Protocol

COP10 adopted the Aichi Target, which is the global target on biodiversity for the next decade, and the Nagoya Protocol, which addresses access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization. All parties agreed on the importance of the Aichi Target in stopping the loss of biodiversity. Now that the Nagoya Protocol has been successfully adopted, we will endeavor to put it into practice promptly.



Masaaki Kanda

Chairman of the Aichi-Nagoya COP10 CBD Promotion Committee,
Governor of Aichi Prefecture

The highly valued efforts of Aichi

We are very pleased to hear that the efforts made by the local government of Aichi Prefecture for COP10 contributed to the success of the conference. By hosting COP10, the local citizens gained a much deeper understanding of biodiversity. This momentum needs to be utilized for the future development of the community.



M.F. Farooqui

COP11
Additional Secretary
of the Ministry of
Environment and
Forests, India

Turning decisions into reality in cooperation with Japan

India intends to work very constructively with Japan in order to realize all of the decisions made at COP10 into reality. We would like to effectively spread the message to all the parties of CBD that biodiversity conservation is closely linked to poverty alleviation. We should convert the ambitious strategic plan into a practical road map for action and make great accomplishments by COP11.

Reports and Overview of IYB



Shiro Wakui

Deputy Chairman of
the Japanese National
Committee for IYB

Thirty projects implemented

For IYB, the Life on Earth Committee was established by many representatives from various fields in order to support biodiversity. We implemented about 30 projects aimed at deepening people's understanding of biodiversity, and established the Life on Earth Supporters, consisting of businesses and public organizations. We will start a new chapter as a committee to support the UN Decade of Biodiversity.

Overview of IYB



Ahmed Djoghla

Executive Secretary
of the Convention on
Biological Diversity

The most important event of 2010

French daily "Le Monde" stated that COP10 was the most important event held in 2010. The International Year of Biodiversity has been truly a unique human and international environmental experience. We are grateful to all parties for their leadership and would like to prepare for the next phase of the UN Decade of Biodiversity.



• Shoichi Kondo, State Secretary for the Environment, Japan, reporting the results of COP10

Guest Speech



Message from Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations

Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary
of the Convention on Biological
Diversity

Reducing poverty and supporting peaceful communities

In this International Year of Biodiversity, thousands of events showing passion for biodiversity have taken place throughout the world. The United Nations issued the message that biodiversity plays a central role in poverty alleviation and human security. However, we have a long way to go in order to decelerate the speed of biodiversity loss. Let us maintain and accelerate the momentum generated by the past year into this next year of International Year of Forests and through the decade until 2020.



Kiyotaka Akasaka

United Nations Under-Secretary-
General for Communications and
Public Information

See the bigger forest, not just the trees

In the conservation of biodiversity, we are only halfway to the goal. If we know the value of the benefits provided by an ecosystem, we can make better, more-informed decisions. In addition, we should not separate the issues of biodiversity and forests apart from other issues. Just as with climate change, the solutions regarding biodiversity and desertification are often the same. It is all about sustainable development. We must see the bigger forest, not just the trees.



Alphonse Kambu

Program Officer of the Division of
Environmental Law and Conventions
at the United Nations Environment
Program

Perception of Nature in the Global Economy

The importance of the world's natural assets to the lives and livelihoods of billions of people, and in particular the poor, has finally moved from the invisible into the visible spectrum of the global economy. The value of natural assets for the global economy is also recognized. We are convinced that Biodiversity has spiritual importance and is crucial for sustainable development. I hope that the next year will be the start of working on new challenges.



T.P. Singh

Regional Group Head of the
International Union for Conservation
of Nature and Natural Resources, Asia
Regional Office

Benefitting enormously from investment in nature

The relationship between human development and biodiversity conservation is not a trade-off anymore. The positive economic effects of investment in nature are clear. For example, it has been proved that conserving biodiversity protects natural assets that have a value corresponding to billions of dollars.

Looking ahead to the "Rio+20" in 2012, the international community will consider the adoption of a global institutional framework for sustainable development and green economy to reduce poverty. We would like to increase our efforts to secure the conservation of biodiversity.



MISIA

Honorary Ambassador for COP10

Uta - representing coexistence with nature

The Chinese character uta, "song", is composed of characters representing a container for dedication to God on the left-hand side and people who are praying on the right-hand side. As this character shows, songs and music were created in thanks to nature. I have been so impressed with this Chinese character uta, which represents coexistence with nature. I believe that it is important for us to continue to learn about the importance of biodiversity and to be interested in and aware of it. I hope that all lives will be able to share the joy of biodiversity.

IYB-IYF Bridging Ceremony

A ceremony bridging the International Year of Biodiversity to the International Year of Forests was held in order to pass on accomplishments and carry out friendly exchanges.

Bridging Ceremony



• Ceremony for the transition from the International Year of Biodiversity 2010 to the International Year of Forests 2011

• Taking commemorative photos after the Closing Ceremony and the Bridging Ceremony



Michihiko Kano
Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan

Sustainable forest management in the world

Forests can contribute to the recharge of water resources, the conservation of land, the conservation of biodiversity and the prevention of global warming. Forestry, the maintenance of forests and trees, can provide employment opportunities and aid in the development of the regional economy. We would like to expand our activities in the restoration of forests and forestry, not only in Japan but also beyond our borders, and we hope that sustainable forest management will be promoted throughout the world.



Drago Stambuk
Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Japan

Recognition of humankind as part of nature

If we are going to survive, we must be in balance with nature. We should not conquer nature; rather, we should allow ourselves to be part of nature. Ethical principles should take priority over self-interest and profit. We must elevate our minds and become better than we are.



Jan McAlpine
Director of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

Reaffirming the relationship between humans and forests

The satoyama concept shows that living things and nature are interdependent and that humans are included in that relationship. The theme of IYF is a celebration of the relationship between forests and people. We should reconfirm the relationship between humans and forests, recognize how much we depend on forests and how much forests depend on us, and disseminate the importance of forest conservation.



Sanae Numata
Member of the Japanese National Committee for IYF

Fostering "forests for people"

The Japanese National Committee for IYF has played a role in supporting forests and people, which are the focuses of IYF. We sincerely hope that people all over the world will act in order to conserve and cultivate "forests for people," as mentioned by the UN, so that our wonderful forests and natural environment can be inherited by future generations. We really hope that the coming year — 2011, the International Year of Forests — will be a wonderful year.

Closing Speech



On behalf of the host city
Yukiyoshi Yamano
Mayor of Kanazawa City, Ishikawa, Japan

A close connection between nature and people's lives and culture

In Kanazawa City and Ishikawa Prefecture, there are many traditional crafts and seasonal customs that have developed thanks to the continuing beneficial role of nature in people's lives. The natural environment and people's lives and culture are closely interlinked. This awareness will be the first step in helping to maintain biodiversity. We would like to be involved in the International Year of Forests next year, being aware of this close connection between nature and our daily lives.

Enjoying the Satoyama-Satoumi Culture of Ishikawa Prefecture

Date: December 18 (Sat.), 2010, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Venue: ANA Crown Plaza Hotel Kanazawa, 3rd floor, "Otori Room" (16-3, Showa-machi, Kanazawa)

Participants: Approx. 400 representatives of member countries and guests from the UN and other relevant organizations

The Welcome Reception was held at the ANA Crown Plaza Hotel Kanazawa after the Closing Ceremony. The participants enjoyed traditional dishes, sweets and local sake made with products grown in the rich satoyama-satoumi environment of Ishikawa Prefecture, and traditional performances by the Kanazawa "Su-bayashi" and "Gojinjo Taiko" drums. Mr. Ryu Matsumoto, Minister of the Environment, and Mr. Masanori Tanimoto, Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture, delivered welcome speeches. Mr. Yukiyoshi Yamano, Mayor of Kanazawa City, called for a toast. Finally, Mr. Hajime Shogen, Chairperson of the Ishikawa Prefectural Assembly, made a closing speech, ending the welcome reception on a high note.



- 1** Mr. Yamano, Mayor of Kanazawa City, called for a toast to celebrate the success of the Closing Ceremony for IYB.
- 2** The participants enjoyed chatting while celebrating the achievements of the International Year of Biodiversity.
- 3** A powerful Gojinjo-daiko drum performance was presented as an attraction.
- 4** Dishes made with local products and fresh seafood were served along with local sake.



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1 Dr. Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary, gave the Award of Convention on Biological Diversity to Governor Tanimoto of Ishikawa Prefecture (left), who took a leadership role in the closing event of IYB.

2 Panel discussion on the use and maintenance of satoyama-satoumi for conservation of biodiversity

3 Many members of the general public of Ishikawa Prefecture gathered in the hall.

Making Ishikawa a model connecting all lives on Earth

Date: December 19 (Sun.), 2010, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Ishikawa Ongakudo, Hougaku Hall (20-1, Showa-machi, Kanazawa)

Participants: Participants in the Closing Ceremony, people concerned in the region, general public of Ishikawa (25 countries, approx. 650)

The Commemorative Symposium opened with a performance by elementary-school children wearing animal masks. Following greetings by Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Mr. Masanori Tanimoto, Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture, introduced various activities for biodiversity conservation in Ishikawa, and Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, Vice-Rector, United Nations University, delivered a speech reviewing the International Year of Biodiversity.

In the panel discussion on the theme “Biodiversity —Nurturing Live in Satoyama and Satoumi” it was expected that the way of life in Ishikawa, where people live in harmony with nature, would be the model for connecting diverse lives on Earth. In addition, MISIA, a singer and the honorary ambassador of COP10, made an appeal for the importance of nature conservation and presented a message song for Biodiversity.



• Governor Tanimoto and Dr. Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary, appealed for the conservation of biodiversity along with children on the stage.

Panel Discussion



[Coordinator]
Shiro Wakui
Professor,
Tokyo City University
and Chubu University

Making a pledge to the people of the world with confidence and pride

If you truly feel that you live in a wonderful community, you have sun shining on your community. Ishikawa people are proud of satoyama-satoumi, where they coexist with nature, and have made a pledge to be a model to connect the diversity of all lives on Earth. We are ready to support you from outside of Ishikawa. With this pledge in all our hearts, let us make this day the beginning of this endeavor.



[Panelists]
Gretchen C. Daily
Professor,
Stanford University

Promotion of the Natural Capital Project

As the extinction of plants and animals accelerates, the earth is becoming like a moonscape. It is necessary for us to imagine how many plants and animals we would need to bring with us in order to live on the moon. There is a group called the Natural Capital Project, in which strategic investments in nature are made because they will yield a high return and many benefits for people and society, as well as for the conservation of nature. I hope that this project will be promoted throughout the world.



[Panelists]
Ann McDonald
Director,
United Nations University
— Institute of Advanced
Studies, Operating Unit
Ishikawa/Kanazawa

Challenging with passion for conservation

I have visited many satoyama communities in Ishikawa, where I have found a lifestyle developed in accordance with the rhythm of nature. I would like to express my deep respect for the guardians who have preserved satoyama-satoumi for hundreds of years. Although there are many challenges to overcome in the conservation of satoyama-satoumi for coming generations, we can overcome them as long as we have passion.



[Panelists]
Koji Nakamura
Professor,
Deputy President,
Kanazawa University

Cooperation with industry, government, academia and the local community

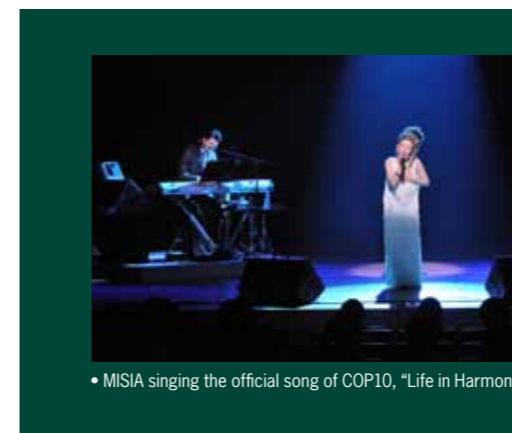
Since depopulation and aging are accelerating in the Okunoto area of Ishikawa Prefecture, villages that are managing natural resources through satoyama are collapsing. The training of young people in managing satoyama and the encouragement of interaction with urban residents is now taking place in cooperation with the government, local communities, corporations and universities. We would like to find solutions to various problems, such as land ownership, which cannot be solved under current laws.



[Panelists]
Mitsuyo Kusano
Freelance newscaster
and member of
the “Life on Earth”
Supporter’s Club

Learning the process of living in satoyama-satoumi

In satoyama-satoumi, there is the process of living. The process is invisible in modern society. Regaining an environment where the process is visible will be our theme in order to recapture natural human livelihoods. We suggest that children be given enough time to spend in satoyama-satoumi and determine its value.



• MISIA singing the official song of COP10, “Life in Harmony”

Learning about nature around our neighborhoods

Since I was appointed COP10 Honorary Ambassador, I have learned about the current situation with regard to biodiversity in Japan. During the activities for conservation of biodiversity, I discovered that the wildcats that live in Tsushima, where I spent my childhood, are endangered. I was surprised to learn this, and I really feel that continuous learning is very important. If we think about such endangered species and act for them, the world will change. Why don't we start by learning about the nature around us in our neighborhoods?

MISIA

COP10 Honorary Ambassador, musical artist

Life on Earth Interactive Plaza



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Learning the value of nature

Date: December 18 (Sat.) and 19 (Sun.), 2010
 Venue: Ishikawa Ongakudo, Interchange Hall
 (20-1, Showa-machi, Kanazawa, Ishikawa)
 Participants: Approx. 600

The latest information on biodiversity was disseminated through stage performances, exhibitions and experiences in booths. Many people, including adults and children, gathered at the hall and enjoyed this event focused on learning about the importance of nature and conservation of the environment.

- 1 Ru Oshiba, entertainer and member of the "Life on Earth" Supporters' Club, sang and took part in a talk show.
- 2 Mothers and children making crested ibises using wool yarn in the "Satoyama-Satoumi Craft Making Area"
- 3 Many people tried the quiz on biodiversity.
- 4 Exhibition of stuffed animals representing the animals that live in satoyama
- 5 Various panels showing the environments and living things of Ishikawa, Japan and places all over the world

Excursion in Kanazawa

Date: December 19 (Sun.), 2010
 Participants: 82 people from 20 countries



Participants visiting Kanazawa Castle with volunteer guides



Wearing a kimono and pattern dyeing at the Kaga Yuzen Traditional Industry Center

[Two-and-a-half-hour tour]

- A Tour for first-time visitors (Kenrokuen Garden and Kanazawa Castle Park)
- B Tour visiting sites related to Kanazawa, City of Crafts (21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, "Craft Hirosaka" craft shop)
- C Tour visiting historical and cultural sites (Kanazawa Yasue Gold Leaf Museum, Higashi Chaya area)

[Half-day tour]

- D Tour for first-time visitors (Kenrokuen Garden and Shigure-tei Teahouse, Kanazawa Castle Park, Higashi Chaya area and Kanazawa Yasue Gold Leaf Museum)
- E Tour visiting sites related to Kanazawa, City of Crafts (Kaga Yuzen Traditional Industry Center, Kanazawa Noh Museum, "Craft Hirosaka" craft shop, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa)
- F Tour visiting historical and cultural sites and satoyama (Nishi Chaya area, Kanazawa Yuwaku Edomura, Kanazawa Yuwaku Center for Crafts and Culture)

Noto Optional Tour



● Noto Optional Tour

Date: December 20 (Mon.), 2010
 Participants: 18 people from 8 countries

[Tour]

Tazuruhama Wild Bird Park (Nanao City) → oyster farm (Nanao City) → west Nanao Bay → Noto Fisherman's Wharf (Nanao City) → Shirafuji sake brewery (Wajima City) → Inachu lacquerware shop (Wajima City) → Kiriko Center (Wajima City) → senmaida terraced rice paddies (Wajima City)



• Visiting an oyster farm in Nanao Bay, part of satoumi



• Observation of migrant birds resting in the western part of Nanao Bay



• Visitors cheered at the sight of terraced rice paddies facing the Sea of Japan

Pre-event

Fukui

"Life on Earth" Talk Show in Fukui

Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2010
 Venue: Phoenix Plaza, Small Hall, (1-13-6 Tahara, Fukui)
 Organizer: Ministry of the Environment
 Co-organizer: Fukui Shimbun

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Part 1: Lecturer: Izumi Washitani, Professor of Tokyo University
 "Biodiversity and Related Conservation Activities in Fukui Prefecture"

Part 2: Lecturer: Miyoko Omomo, Entertainer, Member of the "Life on Earth" Supporters' Club
 "Food and Beauty", "Comfortable life created by biodiversity"



We learned through our neighboring environment in Fukui Prefecture that biodiversity supports the lives of living creatures, including human beings.

Toyama

Biodiversity and Business Opportunities International Year of Biodiversity Memorial Symposium

Date: Wednesday, November 24, 2010
 Venue: Toyama International Conference Center, Main Hall (1-2 Otemachi, Toyama)
 Organizer: Ministry of the Environment
 Co-organizer: Kitanihon Shimbun Newspaper

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Keynote Lecture:
 Lecturer: Naoki Adachi, President of Response Ability Inc.
 "Moving into the Age of Biodiversity Management"

Panel Discussion:
 Making biodiversity a business opportunity through the presentation of business approaches

MC: Miyoko Omomo, Entertainer, member of the "Life on Earth" Supporters' Club
 Coordinator: Naoki Adachi, President of Response Ability Inc.
 Panelists: Masahide Horiuchi, Manger of Environment, Social Environment Promotion Department, Asahi Breweries Ltd.
 Masaaki Sasaki, Masaaki, Sasaki, Manager of Environment Promotion Department, Sekisui House Corp.
 Toshiki Yoneya, Vice Manager of Environment Department, Hokuriku Electric Power Company



With the fact that living organisms are attracting attention as sustainable resources to replace petroleum in mind, we looked at advanced case reports to see why we need to work seriously on preserving biodiversity.



Global Biodiversity Strategy Office, Biodiversity
Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau,
Ministry of the Environment,
Government of Japan.

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