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Statement by Foreign Minister Masahiko Koumura on the Recognition of the Republic of Kosovo

March 18, 2008

[Japanese](#)

1. On March 18, Japan recognized the Republic of Kosovo as an independent state. As the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has made its intention clear that it will run the country pursuant to the "Comprehensive Proposal for the Kosovo Status Settlement" made by the U.N. Special Envoy, Japan expects that Kosovo's independence will contribute to the long-lasting stability of the region.
2. Japan has traditionally good relations with the Republic of Serbia and it has no intention to make its recognition of Kosovo impede the friendly relations with Serbia. Japan hopes that such friendly relations with Serbia will be continued.

(END)

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