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Press Release

October 6, 2016

Advancing the plans of settlement construction by Israel

(Statement by Foreign Press Secretary Yasuhisa Kawamura)

1. The Government of Japan deeply deplores that, according to information, the Government of Israel has approved plans for settlements in the West Bank.

2. Settlement activities are in violation of international law and Japan has repeatedly called upon the Government of Israel to fully freeze settlement activities. The Government of Japan once again strongly urges the Government of Israel to desist from implementing its construction plans of that are undermining the viability of a two-state solution, which was the centerpiece of the late Israeli President Peres' tireless work on the Middle East peace process.

(END)