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Press Release

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Advancing the plans of settlement construction by Israel

(Statement by Foreign Press Secretary Norio Maruyama)

1. The Government of Japan deeply deplores that, according to information, the Government of Israel has approved plans for settlements in the East Jerusalem and the West Bank, despite repeated calls from the international community including Japan for freezing settlement activities.

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 that are undermining the viability of a two-state solution.

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