

Statement by the Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the Address on October 10 by President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan

October 12, 2004

1. The Government of Japan is paying attention to the fact that President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan, in the address he made on October 10 (Sun) at the Taiwanese "Double Tenth" indicated new ideas" to take the initiative to propose that both sides use the basis of the 1992 meeting in Hong Kong to seek possible schemes that are acceptable', in preparation for a step forward in the resumption of dialogue and consultation" and a proposal for the Three Link policy, stating that "the executive branch is currently formulating a plan that provides convenient and efficient means to facilitate chartered flights for passengers and cargo. It is our earnest hope that cross-strait consultations can begin as soon as possible, so as to seek further progress in the Three Link policy." The Government of Japan looks forward to the concrete implementation of these ideas.
2. The stance of the Government of Japan to maintain its relations with Taiwan at the non-governmental working level, based on the Japan-China joint communiqué, remains the same. Consistently, as always, the Government of Japan strongly hopes that the issues surrounding Taiwan will be solved in a peaceful manner by direct talks between the parties concerned, and that both China and Taiwan will highly respect peace and stability and resume peaceful dialogue as soon as possible.