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Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan on the Recent Situation in Iraq

1. The Government of Japan is deeply concerned that since June 10 armed insurgents, centering on a terrorist organization, have been employing aggression to occupy cities in Northern Iraq, including Mosul City, resulting in large numbers of casualties.
2. The Government of Japan strongly condemns these attacks by armed insurgents, and continues to support the fight of the Government of Iraq and its citizens against this terrorist organization. In addition, as one part of its support for Iraq, the Government of Japan is considering extending humanitarian aid via international organizations to displaced persons inside Iraq arising from this situation.
3. The Government of Japan welcomes the confirmation of the results of Iraq's recent third parliamentary elections on June 16. Japan calls on all of Iraq's political forces to cooperate in order to launch a new government promptly, based on the results of the elections.
4. The Government of Japan calls for Iraq to respect the rights of all citizens across all religious groups, and for national unity to be achieved through the formation of the new government. The Government of Japan also hopes that the people of Iraq will unite to overcome the current difficulties.
5. The Government of Japan continues to take thorough measures for protection of Japanese nationals.

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