



EMBASSY OF JAPAN
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 31, 2011

Dear members of all Japan-America Societies:

I am grateful for the kindness, solidarity, and massive grass-roots support that you have shown to the Japanese people after the tragic Great East Japan Earthquake. I am especially moved by your fund-raising activities, which have exceeded \$16 million. This effort truly embodies what you have been devoted to: the strong kizuna ("bonds of friendship") between our two countries.

More than two months have passed since the disaster on March 11, and Japan is once again open for business and tourism. We are now shifting to the restoration and recovery stages of this massive disaster. While we face severe hardships, it is not enough to simply restore the status quo. We will emerge from this disaster stronger than ever.

Once again, thank you for standing with us. Moving forward, we will need your support, as a partner of our country and people, to ensure that Japan comes back from this disaster as a stronger and more prosperous nation.

Sincerely,

Ichiro Fujisaki
Ambassador of Japan
to the United States of America

*Thank you very much
This is truly great.
People here in Japan
will feel solidarity with you.*