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Statement by the Press Secretary/Director General
for Public Information and Cultural Affairs of the
Foreign Ministry on the Decision on the Date of an
Election for a Constitution Making Body in South Africa

July 3, 1993

1. The Government of Japan welcomes the fact that, at the Multi-Party Negotiation Forum held on July 2 in South Africa, agreements were reached among the political parties, among others, to hold an election for a constitution making body on April 27 next year and to establish a "Transitional Executive Council". The election to be held next April will be the first democratic election in South Africa in which black people will participate. The establishment of a Transitional Executive Council is of particular significance in that prior to the election all the South Africans will participate in the process of governing South Africa for the first time. The Government of Japan pays high tribute to negotiators of the parties for their decision as a great step forward towards the realization of democratic South Africa.
2. The Government of Japan hopes that all the political parties will participate in the future Multi-Party Negotiation Process in a spirit of cooperation in order to resolve the remaining issues and to reach a comprehensive agreement on the democratization process as soon as possible, and that such an agreement will be strictly adhered to by all the parties so as to build a genuinely democratic South Africa at the earliest possible date.

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