



Prime Minister Aso and other G8 leaders pose for a commemorative photo at the opening of their summit in L'Aquila, Italy, on July 8.
Photo: Pool

TOPICS  Prime Minister

L'Aquila Summit

Prime Minister Taro Aso attended the Group of Eight (G8) Summit held in the central Italian city of L'Aquila between July 8 and 10. On July 8, the G8 leaders adopted declarations on the global economy, which has shown signs of stabilization but still remains in an uncertain situation, on political issues such as North Korea and Iran, and on global warming. The leaders also issued a declaration on counter-terrorism and a statement on nuclear nonproliferation.

In the discussion on economic issues, Prime Minister Aso showed Japanese efforts to provide

stimulus to boost growth and stabilize the financial sector. In the discussion on climate change, Prime Minister Aso stated the importance of establishing a framework in which major emitters will fulfill their responsibilities. He also emphasized the importance of participation by China and other countries in the framework.

In the discussion on political issues, Prime Minister Aso stated that a firm response must be taken to nuclear tests and missile launches by North Korea. The G8 leaders' declaration also condemned North Korea in the strongest

terms, and called on the international community to implement fully the provisions of a U.N. Security Council resolution. On humanitarian matters including the abduction issue, the document also urged North Korea “to take prompt actions to address the concerns of the international community.”

The leaders of G8 countries and major emerging economies, such as China and India, held the Major Economies Forum on July 9. Also, these countries, in a separate session, agreed to aim to successfully conclude the Doha Round of multilateral trade talks under the World Trade Organization in 2010.

On July 10, Prime Minister Aso discussed on food security with all the leaders of 27 nations, including emerging and African nations. The leaders adopted the “L’Aquil” Joint Statement on Global Food Security, which featured

commitments by the G8 and others toward a goal of mobilizing 20 billion dollars over the next three years until 2012.

 On the Internet

http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/asophoto/2009/07/10laquila_e.html



Prime Minister Aso unveils Japanese assistance measures for the reconstruction of L’Aquila hit by an earthquake in April as he holds a press conference jointly with his Italian counterpart Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.



Prime Minister Aso attends the G8 working session in L’Aquila, Italy, on July 8.