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On 4th October, H.E. Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan sent the following telegram of condolence to H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Al-Jaafari, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, upon learning of the demise of H.E. Mr. Jalal Talabani, former President of the Republic of Iraq on 3rd October, 2017.

- 1. Upon receiving the news on the demise of H.E. Mr. Jalal Talabani, former President of the Republic of Iraq, I share the deep sorrow with Your Excellency and the people of the Republic of Iraq. On behalf of the Government and the people of Japan, I hereby express my sincere condolences to the family of H.E. Mr. Talabani as well as the Government and the people of Iraq.
- 2. H.E. Mr. Talabani has fulfilled the President's responsibility as a nucleus of the new united Iraq in the difficult period after the war in 2003. I would like to renew my deepest respect to H.E. Mr. Talabani who exerted himself to develop the relations between Iraq and Japan, which has been cooperating in the reconstruction of Iraq after the war.
- 3. I pray from the heart that his soul may rest in peace, and wish that the Government and the people of Iraq will overcome this sadness as soon as possible.

4th October, Heisei 29 (2017) Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan Taro Kono