Australia-Japan Society (ACT) Inc.
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Media Release: Friday 18 March 2011

Today, His Excellency Shigekazu Sato, Ambassador of Japan to Australia accepted a donation of $5,000 presented to him by the Australia-Japan Society of the ACT (AJS ACT). The funds will go to the Embassy of Japan Red Cross (Japan) Pacific Disaster Relief Fund.

AJS ACT President, Stuart Forsyth said, 'we cannot know the horror and terror that the survivors have been through but it is our hope that this modest donation will assist the people of Japan to recover and rebuild their great nation."

The Red Cross (Japan) are providing emergency humanitarian assistance to the estimated half a million people who have been made homeless by the earthquake and tsunami that hit the Tohoku region of Japan one week ago.

In a letter to Ambassador Sato, Mr Fosyth said, "on behalf of our membership, I wish to convey deep sorrow for the suffering that so many are experiencing from the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami".

He also expressed his gratitude for the Japanese Government's support for the Australian citizens in tsunami affected areas who may be in harm's way.

Mr Forsyth said, "the Society aims to continue in its efforts to raise funds and assist in providing support as an expression of our solidarity with the affected Japanese communities".

The AJS ACT is a non-profit community organisation, formed in 1972 with a diverse membership of Australian and Japanese youth, professionals, retirees. Its mission is to foster relationships across national borders through grass-roots networking and cultural exchange.

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