

Skopje, 12 March 2011

To:

**His Excellency Naoto Kan**  
Prime Minister of Japan

CC:

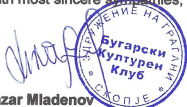
**His Excellency Makoto Ito**  
Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Bulgaria

Your Excellency Prime Minister Kan,

I am writing to you because we are deeply shocked about the tragedy that happened yesterday – the disastrous earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan, causing many human casualties and material damage.

On behalf of our civil society organization, I would like to express our deepest condolences to the families of those who lost their lives. Please allow me to convey a message of strong moral support to all the people of Japan. We wish the Japanese nation courage and strength of mind and spirit to endure this indescribable catastrophe.

With most sincere sympathies,



Бугарски  
Културен  
Клуб  
СКОПЈЕ

**Lazar Mladenov**  
President of the "Bulgarian Cultural Club" – Skopje

**Enclosure: Profile of the "Bulgarian Cultural Club" - Skopje"**

### Profile of the "Bulgarian Cultural Club" - Skopje

The Bulgarian Cultural Club – Skopje (BCCS) comprises citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who have preserved their Bulgarian nationality throughout the ages and are proud of the rich cultural heritage of our Bulgarian predecessors from the Macedonian lands. BCCS is working hard to advance the democracy and the rule of law in the Macedonian society and to encourage good neighbourly relations with the Republic of Bulgaria, based on our common history and the need for a sustainable economic prosperity and a better quality of life on the Balkan Peninsula and across the united Europe.

We strongly believe in the multi-cultural concept of the Republic of Macedonia and devote our endeavours to implementing the Copenhagen political criteria for EU accession and the Council of Europe standards. In that context, we call for respecting human rights and closely watch a number of human rights' violation cases involving Macedonian Bulgarians (e.g. the cases of Mrs. Spaska Mitrova and Mr. Miroslav Rizinski, who is a member of our Executive Board).

Furthermore, we are working to eliminate the hate speech and hostility against the Bulgarian people, frequently encountered in the public life, media, school textbooks and academic editions in the Republic of Macedonia, along with rude misinterpretations and offensive falsifications of our history, causing prejudices and unfriendliness.

We are therefore counting very much on a closer cooperation with the relevant Japanese authorities and the international community. For further correspondence please use our current e-mail address: [contact@bkks.org](mailto:contact@bkks.org).