



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Dear Nigel

JAPANESE HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAMME

1. The Japanese Ambassador called today to say, as expected, that the Japanese would like this subject to be on the agenda for the Toronto Summit.
2. I said that British scientists had participated with great interest in the discussions which had been organised by the Japanese. They were not of course representatives of the British Government itself. We thought that the next stage should be for the Japanese Government to consider the feasibility study which was being put to them, and thereafter to make proposals if they so wished. Our own view was that it would be right for the Japanese to fund any such programme for at least an initial period of, say, five years. Since there were as yet no Japanese proposals and the issue was in flux, we did not think that it would be a suitable subject for discussion at the Toronto Summit. The Heads of State and Government already had a very fully charged agenda.
3. Mr Chiba took this very calmly. He said that Mr Takeshita might nevertheless wish to make a brief report to his colleagues on where the programme had got to.

Yours ever,

Rodric

R Q Braithwaite

Copies: Sir G Littler, HM Treasury
Mr J W Fairclough
Mr Richardson, ERD
Mr Cooper, FED