

**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**To:** [Media](#)  
**Cc:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Tokyo - media request - Child custody [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Friday, 18 February 2022 3:07:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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## OFFICIAL

Dear Media team,

A journalist from NHK, Japan's national broadcaster, got in touch with us to request an off-the-record backgrounder on the child custody issue. As you would be aware, this is a sensitive issue that gets [frequent media attention](#).

Based on the request from the journalist s 47F(1) it is clear he been talking with Australian parents affected by this issue. s 47F(1) has asked for an opportunity to ask about the Embassy's view on the Japan's child custody system. He isn't planning any specific coverage of the issue at this stage but said he is likely to do some reporting in the future.

s 33(a)(iii), s 47E(d)

We know that under the media guidelines, this kind of backgrounder with the Japanese press is at the discretion of HOM, s47E(d) we wanted to run it past you.

Regards

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Counsellor (Public Affairs) | 参事官 (広報文化スポーツ部担当)

### Australian Embassy Tokyo | オーストラリア大使館

2-1-14 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-8361 | 〒108-8361 東京都港区三田2-1-14

Phone s22(1)(a)(ii) Mobile s22(1)(a)(ii) Fax s22(1)(a)(ii)

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-----Original Message-----

From: s 47F(1)

Sent: Thursday, 17 February 2022 2:37 PM

To: Tokyo Enquiry <[enquiry.tokyo@dfat.gov.au](mailto:enquiry.tokyo@dfat.gov.au)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] s22(1)(a)(ii)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender.



s22(1)(a)(ii)

**s 47F(1)**

s22(1)(a)(ii)  
:090-9013-1915

E-mail: **s 47F(1)**

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**From:** s 47E(d)  
**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii); s 47E(d)  
**Subject:** RE: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] ?Jomo News???????????????? [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Friday, 6 October 2023 2:49:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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**OFFICIAL**

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 October 2023 1:49 PM  
**To:** s 47E(d) @dfat.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi ITU,

As per the advice from <sup>s22(1)(a)(ii)</sup> I'd be most grateful if you could please translate these lines into right Japanese terms/expression:

//

**On background (for use in reporting, not for attribution):**

The Australian Embassy provides consular assistance to Australian parents facing difficulties maintaining contact with their children in Japan. Due to privacy considerations, it is not appropriate to comment on individual cases.

Since 2004, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided consular assistance to the parents of 88 children involved in parental abduction and child custody cases in Japan.

//

I'd also be grateful if you could prioritise this request complete this afternoon so that we can send them to the journalist before the end of today.

For any questions, please let me know.

Many thanks,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 October 2023 1:26 PM  
**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii)

Please see the response to the journalist below. Can you please coordinate with ITU on getting the right Japanese expression for this?

Regards

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Media <[media@dfat.gov.au](mailto:media@dfat.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 October 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; Warren Macilwain <[Warren.Macilwain@dfat.gov.au](mailto:Warren.Macilwain@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[s22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@dfat.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au)>  
Media <[media@dfat.gov.au](mailto:media@dfat.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii)

Thank you for the below information.

Following consultation with CCD, please see below the amended response. s 47E(d)

s 47E(d)

//

**On background (for use in reporting, not for attribution):**

The Australian Embassy provides consular assistance to Australian parents facing difficulties maintaining contact with their children in Japan. Due to privacy considerations, it is not appropriate to comment on individual cases.

Since 2004, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided consular assistance to the parents of 88 children involved in parental abduction and child custody cases in Japan.

//

Kind regards,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Assistant Director | Media Liaison Section (MLS)  
Media and Communications Delivery Branch (CMB)  
Strategic Communications Division (SCD)

T +s22(1)(a)(ii) | M <sup>s22(1)(a)(ii)</sup> | E s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au



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*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.*

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au  
**Sent:** Thursday, 5 October 2023 10:21 PM  
**To:** Warren Macilwain <Warren.Macilwain@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au; s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au; s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au; Media <media@dfat.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au; s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au; s22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au  
**Subject:** FW: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Good evening CCD team and Media

We received a media enquiry from a domestic media outlet in Japan. HOM has approved the highlighted line below and our proposed action.

s 47E(d)

With thanks

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Second Secretary (Management) & Consul | 二等書記官兼領事  
(Consular, Crisis Management & Emergency Planning, HR, Protocol)

**Australian Embassy Tokyo | オーストラリア大使館**

Mobile/WhatsApp: +s22(1)(a)(ii) | s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 October 2023 6:28 PM  
**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; Consular Tokyo s 47E(d) <@dfat.gov.au>; Claire Elias <Claire.Elias@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi again everyone,

Please find attached the English questions. I was wondering if we could provide a statement like this to the journalist?

*The Australian Embassy provides consular assistance to Australian parents facing difficulties maintaining contact with their children in Japan. Since 2004, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has provided consular assistance to the parents of 88 children involved in parental abduction and child custody cases in Japan.*

I raised this with HOM this afternoon briefly this afternoon.

Regards

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 October 2023 12:56 PM  
**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <@dfat.gov.au>

s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; Consular Tokyo s 47E(d) ; Claire Elias

<[Claire.Elias@dfat.gov.au](mailto:Claire.Elias@dfat.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks s22(1)(a)(ii) – yes that would be useful. Can you find 30 mins in our diaries to get together?

s 47F(1)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 October 2023 11:42 AM

**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>

**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; Consular Tokyo s 47E(d) Claire Elias

<[Claire.Elias@dfat.gov.au](mailto:Claire.Elias@dfat.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii) – it looks like the questions are quite factual, ie about case numbers etc.

s 47E(d)

Regards

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 October 2023 9:50 AM

**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>

**Cc:** s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; s22(1)(a)(ii) <[@dfat.gov.au](mailto:@dfat.gov.au)>; Consular Tokyo s 47E(d)

**Subject:** Media query on child custody (from Gunma local newspaper): [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】 s22(1)(a)(ii) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii) ,

Please see below the media query from a [Gunma local Japanese newspaper, Jomo News](#) s22(1)(a)(ii)



The query is about the **child custody, s 47E(d)**

The questions they have sent us are quite in details with names of children and their age.

Grateful for advice.

With many thanks,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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Public Diplomacy Officer (Media) 報道担当官

Public Diplomacy Section 広報文化部

Australian Embassy, Tokyo 在日オーストラリア大使館

**P** s22(1)(a)(ii) | **M** s22(1)(a)(ii) | **Fax** s22(1)(a)(ii)

Email: s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au

[Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) |



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[We acknowledge](#) the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

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**From:** Cultural Tokyo <[Cultural.tokyo@dfat.gov.au](mailto:Cultural.tokyo@dfat.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 October 2023 9:04 AM

**To:** s22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] 【Jomo News】s22(1)(a)(ii)

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s22(1)(a)(ii)

The Jomo News reporter sent an inquiry to cultural.tokyo. Could you please respond it?

Kind regards,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s22(1)(a)(ii)

**Sent:** Tuesday, 3 October 2023 3:31 PM

