2007 Noto hanto earthquake and seismic gaps

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The aftershock area of the Noto hanto Mj6.9 earthquake which occurred on 2007 March 25 shows the NE-SW direction and it is located at the elongation of the source area of the 1993 Notohanto-oki earthquake. The locations of their sources coincided with the active faults in the Japan Sea. The seismicity distribution and the fault plane solutions suggest that there are three seismic belts of which trend is NE-SW direction. In these seismic belts, two seismic gaps of the third kind are found. The one 'Gap A' is located w off the Noto peninsular and the other 'Gap B' is located at the north end of the Noto peninsular. In the area of 'Gap B', the epicenter of the 1729 M6.6–7.0 earthquake was estimated. As the recurrent time of this earthquake was not known, the possibility of the occurrence of the future earthquake is not clear. The further research of the active faults in this area will be needed.