

Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Joe Nakano's visit to New Zealand



Mr. Joe Nakano made a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Murray McCully and had a discussion with Mr. John Hayes, Parliamentary Private Secretary of Foreign Affairs, during his visit to Wellington on the 30th of May 2012. He also met with the members of the New Zealand/Japan Parliamentary Friendship Group at the Parliament. The outlines of his meetings are as follows:

1. Courtesy call on Hon Murray McCully

Firstly, Mr. Nakano expressed again his condolences and sympathies for the loss and damages caused by the Canterbury Earthquake, and requested that the NZ Government continue its support for the families of the victims, as well as continue with the thorough investigation into the cause of the collapse of the CTV Building.

Expressing again his gratitude for the support and warm expressions of sympathy from New Zealand on the occasion of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Mr. Nakano said that this year is the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and New Zealand, and that the Government of Japan would like this anniversary to be an opportunity to further develop our relationship.

Mr. McCully again expressed his condolences to the Japanese victims of the Canterbury Earthquake and thanked Mr. Nakano for the support received from Japan in the aftermath of the earthquake. He also again expressed his condolences to the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and offered further cooperation from the New Zealand Government for Japan's recovery. Mr. McCully said he would like to visit Japan as soon as possible.

Mr. McCully congratulated the Government of Japan on the success of the 6th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM6), and Mr. Nakano thanked Mr. McCully for New Zealand's support and cooperation. In response to Mr. Nakano, Mr. McCully said he had been informed by Mr. Hayes, who attended the PALM6, that there had been fruitful discussions at the meeting, and the New Zealand Government would like to continue cooperating with Japan.

Mr. Nakano and Mr. McCully also discussed the Pacific Islands' regional issues, the 2019 Rugby World Cup (to be hosted by Japan), and cooperation in the international community, along with other issues.

2. Meeting with Mr. John Hayes

Mr. Nakano and Mr. Hayes exchanged their views on the outcomes of the PALM6, the cooperation between Japan and New Zealand in the international area including in the Pacific region, and other issues.

3. Meeting with members of the New Zealand /Japan Parliamentary Friendship Group

Mr. Nakano met with members of the New Zealand /Japan Parliamentary Friendship Group and exchanged views on ways of strengthening the friendship between Japan and New Zealand at various levels this year which marks the 60th anniversary of their diplomatic relations.