

Dear friends of the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle,

Our bi-monthly newsletter, "From Japan to the Northwest," is intended to share important and interesting information related to Japan, our region, and the Consulate's activities. You can find current and past issues of the newsletter [here](#).

This is a special edition of the newsletter. We will resume our regular bi-weekly schedule from next week.

Special Edition: President Biden and other Quad Leaders in Japan

U.S. President Joe Biden visited Japan this week for the first time as president. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia and Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India also visited to attend the Quad Leaders Meeting and bilateral meetings.

Below are some highlights from these important meetings, including links to the statements released and further information on the various initiatives that were announced.

1. Japan-Australia-India-U.S. (Quad) Leaders' Meeting



(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office).

On May 24, PM Kishida hosted the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. (Quad) Leaders' Meeting with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, and President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. of the United States of America.

Amid the situation of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the four countries reconfirmed that no unilateral change of the status quo by force is tolerated in any region, especially in the Indo-Pacific. The four countries affirmed that the principles including rule of law, sovereignty, and territorial integrity must be upheld in any region.

The four leaders concurred on the importance of furthering practical cooperation and making the region more resilient as the countries of the Indo-Pacific region face pressing challenges such as COVID-19, climate change, and infrastructure.

On COVID-19, the four leaders welcomed the progress such as over 670 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines donation to the world, including the Indo-Pacific, and joint handover ceremonies of Indian vaccines to [Thailand](#) and [Cambodia](#).

On infrastructure, the four leaders affirmed their commitment to further deepen cooperation and announced that they will seek to extend more than 50 billion USD of infrastructure assistance and investment in the Indo-Pacific over the next five years.

On climate change, the four leaders launched the "[Quad Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Package \(Q-CHAMP\) \(PDF\)](#)". They also shared the view to expand support for disaster risk reduction and cooperation in clean energy.

[Read the full summary of the meeting here](#), [an overview of the Quad meeting, and the history of the Quad here](#), and [the Quad leaders' joint statement here](#).

2. Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting and Joint Statement



(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office).

On May 23, 2022, Prime Minister Kishida held a summit meeting and other events with U.S. President Joe Biden.

After the summit meeting, the two leaders released a joint statement.

Excerpts from Joint Statement:

As global partners, Japan and the United States affirm that the rules based international order is indivisible; threats to international law and the free and fair economic order anywhere constitute a challenge to our values and interests everywhere. Prime Minister Kishida and President Biden shared the view that the greatest immediate challenge to this order is Russia's brutal, unprovoked, and unjustified aggression against Ukraine. The two leaders condemned Russia's actions, and called for Russia to be held accountable for its atrocities. They reaffirmed their support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Regarding regional issues, the two leaders reaffirmed that the Indo-Pacific is a region of vital importance to global peace, security, and prosperity - and one that faces mounting strategic challenges to the rules-based international order. From this standpoint, Prime Minister Kishida and President Biden committed to action to advance their shared vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

Regarding resilient, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, the two leaders discussed opportunities to further secure our shared prosperity. They exchanged perspectives on the importance of bold economic policies, including Prime Minister Kishida's "new form of capitalism" and President Biden's plan to build from the bottom up and the middle out, that promote technological advances while recognizing that the benefits of such progress must accrue to all communities, reduce inequality, and strengthen the middle-class in both nations. The two leaders applauded the work to date under the [Competitiveness and Resilience \(CoRe\) Partnership announced last year \(Fact Sheet\)](#), and expressed their intention to hold the Japan-U.S. Economic Policy Consultative Committee (the Economic "2+2") at the Ministerial level in July 2022.

Regarding climate change, Prime Minister Kishida and President Biden recognized the existential threat of the climate crisis, and committed to making the 2020s the decisive decade for climate action. They affirmed their intent to meet today's energy demands while working toward long-term energy security by implementing ambitious 2030 nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement and 2050 net zero emission goals. In service of these goals, the two leaders affirmed their intent to enhance cooperation under the [Japan-U.S. Climate Partnership \(PDF\)](#).

[Read the full Japan-U.S. Joint Leaders' Statement here](#). (PDF)

[View photos of President Biden's visit here](#).

3. Summit-level meeting on the launch of the Indo-Pacific Economic

Framework (IPEF)

On May 23, the United States hosted a summit-level [meeting on the launch of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework \(IPEF\)](#) in a hybrid format, which Prime Minister Kishida, U.S. President Joseph Biden and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, attended in person. Summit-level and cabinet-level representatives from 10 other countries attended online.

President Biden stated that 13 countries launched the IPEF today to work together to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic growth and to address regional challenges.

Prime Minister Kishida stated that Japan will participate in the IPEF and work with partner countries to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the region. Representatives from each country also welcomed the launch of the IPEF and expressed their expectations for closer collaboration in the future.

[Read the Joint Statement from all 13 IPEF member countries \(PDF\)](#)

4. Japan-Australia Leaders Meeting



(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office).

On May 24, PM Kishida [held a leaders meeting](#) with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia.

At the outset, Prime Minister Kishida expressed his sincere congratulations on Mr. Albanese's invitation as Prime Minister and expressed his gratitude for Prime Minister Albanese's visit to Japan immediately after taking office.

Recognizing that Russia's aggression against Ukraine undermines the very foundations of the international order, the two leaders condemned it severely and concurred that similar incidents must never be allowed to happen in the Indo-Pacific region.

The two leaders affirmed that Japan and Australia will continue to work closely together on the basis of three pillars: (1) deepening cooperation in the areas of security, defense, and economy; (2) further coordination with allies and like-minded countries, including cooperation between Japan, Australia, India and the U.S., to contribute to peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region; and (3) cooperation on global issues such as climate change.

The two leaders concurred on the importance of strengthening the network of allies and like-minded countries, including cooperation between Japan, Australia, India, and the U.S., as well as between Japan, Australia, and the U.S., and Prime Minister Kishida reiterated Japan's support for AUKUS. The two leaders also confirmed that Japan and Australia, together with other like-minded countries, will deepen coordination in the Pacific islands region.

4. Japan-India Leaders Meeting

On May 24, PM Kishida held a leaders meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India.

The two leaders agreed on the importance of working together with allies and like-minded countries to realize a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific", and confirmed their commitment to cooperation in many areas, including defense and security, clean energy, and infrastructure.

As this year marks 70 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India, both leaders concurred on the importance of strengthening people-to-people and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

(At this time, only a Japanese summary of this leaders meeting is available. [It can be found here](#). An English translation may be posted soon.)

That's it for this special issue of "From Japan to the Northwest."

Until next time, thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

View past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here: https://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/ttpr_en/08182021_e-newletter.html

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