



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](#).

### 1. [Response to the Situation in Ukraine \(Updated regularly\)](#)

[Measures by the Japanese Government \(PDF\)](#)

#### [Additional Support for Emergency Economic Recovery to Ukraine](#)

On June 7, Ms. Takako Suzuki, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Sergiy Korsunsky, Ambassador of Ukraine, signed and exchanged notes concerning additional financial support of 65 billion yen for the "Emergency Economic Reconstruction Development Policy Loan."

This program is to provide additional financial support as a parallel financing with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to meet short-term financial demand of the Government of Ukraine, which is facing an economic crisis due to the effects of Russia's aggression and to support promoting various institutional reforms in the economic field.

The Government of Japan will continue to provide support for and stand by the people of Ukraine who are facing hardship, in collaboration with the international community, including the G7 members.

#### [Japan-France Summit Telephone Talk](#)

On June 1, PM Kishida held a telephone talk with Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of France.

PM Kishida stated that the bilateral cooperation between Japan and France as exceptional partners is extremely important, and he hopes to continue their close coordination in dealing with the situation of Ukraine. The two leaders confirmed the importance of close collaboration of the G7 on sanctions against Russia and support for Ukraine. They also shared the understanding that they would cooperate to support vulnerable countries facing the challenges in food security and energy.

The two leaders also confirmed that they would continue to work closely together on regional issues in East Asia, including North Korea, as well as in Africa.

### 2. [Keynote Address by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio at the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue](#)



(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office)

On June 10, during his visit to Singapore, PM Kishida attended the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue and delivered a keynote speech.

PM Kishida presented his recognition of the current situation in which there is increasing uncertainty in the region and the international community. Under these circumstances, Kishida said his administration will advance a "realism diplomacy for a new era" under which Japan will respond astutely and decisively while focusing on universal values and ideals for the future.

He then announced that he would advance the five-pillar "Kishida Vision for Peace" with a view to maintain and strengthen the peaceful order in this region, and that Japan would boost its diplomatic and security role in the region. This includes fundamentally reinforcing Japan's defense capabilities within the next five years and securing the substantial increase of Japan's defense budget needed to effect it, in order to defend Japan and to contribute to the peaceful order in the region, facing the increasingly severe security environment surrounding Japan.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister expressed that Japan would strengthen the functions of the United Nations Security Council, including the reform of the UN Security Council. The Prime Minister also stated his intention to promote economic security initiatives, in cooperation with the G7, ASEAN, and other countries.

[Summary of PM Kishida's keynote speech.](#)

[Full text of PM Kishida's keynote speech.](#)

[Text of PM Kishida's press conference given after the keynote speech.](#)

### 3. [Japan-U.S. Vice Ministers' Meeting](#)

On June 8, Mr. Mori Takeo, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a meeting with Ambassador Wendy R. Sherman, Deputy Secretary of State of the USA, during his visit to the Republic of Korea to attend the Japan-U.S.-ROK Vice Ministers' Meeting.

The two sides welcomed that President Biden's visit to Japan in May demonstrated the unwavering U.S. commitment to the Indo-Pacific region and concurred to strongly follow up on its outcomes. The two sides also reaffirmed their intention to swiftly strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, building upon the discussion at the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting.

The two sides exchanged their views on regional issues, including the situation in Ukraine, concurred to continue to work closely together in addressing various issues related to China, and reaffirmed their commitment to work closely, together with the ROK, in addressing North Korea's nuclear and missile issues.

### 4. [Statement by FM Hayashi on the Election of Japan as a Non-permanent Member of the UN Security Council](#)

On June 9, Japan was elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) at the elections of the UN General Assembly and will serve a two-year term in the UNSC starting from January 1, 2023. Japan will assume membership in the UNSC for the 12th time since joining the UN in 1956, which is more than any other UN Member State.

The UNSC bears primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, on which Japan places great importance. However, this can be said to be a time of trial whereby the UNSC is currently not able to function effectively in the face of the aggression against Ukraine by Russia, which is a permanent member of the UNSC, nor against the nuclear and missile activities of North Korea.

Japan will aim to maintain and strengthen the international order based on the rule of law, while cooperating in order for the UNSC to fulfill its expected role, through close communication and careful dialogue with other Member States.

Japan will cooperate and coordinate closely with other Member States through its term as a member of the UNSC, with the determination to firmly protect universal values and lead the international community.

### 5. [Informal Ministerial Discussion on the Trade Pillar of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework \(IPEF\) for Prosperity](#)

On June 11, Mr. Shingo Miyake, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, participated in the informal Ministerial Discussion on the trade pillar of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) held in Paris, France, representing the Japanese government.

This informal ministerial meeting was hosted by H.E. Ambassador Katherine Tai, United States Trade Representative, and attended by representatives from Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The participants discussed trade, one of the four pillars of the IPEF. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Miyake mentioned the importance of having thorough discussions among partner countries to establish a framework that strikes a balance between cooperation and rule-making.

Each participant also expressed hope for further discussions toward tangible outcomes in the future.

### 6. [Publication of the IAEA's Report on Regulatory Review of the Handling of ALPS Treated Water at the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station](#)

On June 16, IAEA published a report on Regulatory Review on the ALPS treated water, which was conducted in March 2022, following the Terms of Reference (TOR) on Reviews of Safety Aspects of Handling ALPS Treated Water at TEPCO's FDNPS, which was signed in July 2021.

The report describes the IAEA's review related to five technical topics, including the responsibilities and functions of the government, major principles and safety objectives, and authorization process.

The Government of Japan will continue its cooperation with the IAEA to ensure safety of the ALPS treated water as well as confidence and transparency of its handling. It will continue its efforts to promote the understanding regarding the handling of ALPS treated water in the international community.

[IAEA Press Release](#)

[IAEA Report \(PDF\)](#)

### 7. [Updates on the COVID-19 Situation and Travel to Japan](#)

[Daily COVID Data Updates](#)

#### **Traveling from the U.S. to Japan:**

All foreigners, including U.S. citizens, are currently required to get a visa to enter Japan.

For information on the requirements and procedures for getting a visa to visit Japan,

[please check our website.](#)

#### **Recent Updates (NEW)**

##### [Border measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

##### [New entry of foreign nationals \(New\)](#)

Based on the New Border Measures (29), from June 10, 2022, foreign nationals who apply for (new entry) into Japan based on either of the following categories (1), (2) or (3) below are regarded as those with "special exceptional circumstances" and are allowed for new entry into Japan in principle, if the receiving organizations located in Japan complete prescribed applications in the Entrants, Returnees Follow-up System (ERFS).

(1) Foreign nationals newly entering Japan for a short-term stay (less than three months) for purposes including business and employment (continued from March 1)

(2) Foreign nationals newly entering Japan for a short-term stay for tourism (only when a travel agency among others organizing the trip serves as the receiving organization of the entrants) (starts from June 10) (New)

(3) Foreign nationals newly entering Japan for a long-term stay (continued from March 1)

### Consulate Activities

**Holiday Closure:** In observance of Juneteenth, our office will be closed on Monday, June 20. Regular office hours will resume June 21.

#### [The Japan International MANGA Award](#)

Applications are being accepted until July 8, 2022. To submit your work, please contact us at [info@se.mofa.go.jp](mailto:info@se.mofa.go.jp).

The award is open to all comic artists working in various mediums, who currently reside in North America. We eagerly look forward to receiving as many entries from creators in this region as possible. [More info can be found here.](#)

#### [Japan Fair Haiku Contest](#)

The second annual Japan Fair Haiku Contest is accepting haiku submissions, in both English and Japanese, until June 19. The winners will be announced during Japan Fair's live stream on July 9 and given prizes! [Click here for more information.](#)

#### [Tacoma-Kitakyushu - Celebrating 63 Years of Sister City Relations](#)



The cities of Tacoma (U.S.) and Kitakyushu (Japan) are celebrating 63 years of sister city relations this month. In 1961, Kitakyushu gifted Tacoma a Torii and a Shinto shrine. Originally the Torii and shrine were located at the Washington State Historical Society but were later moved to the Japanese Gardens at Point Defiance Park.

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

Until next time, thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

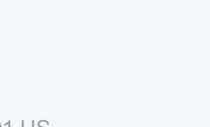
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