

Embassy of Japan

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Press Release

Japan celebrated the 64th Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan

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Majuro, Marshall Islands

On February 22 the Embassy of Japan in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) hosted a reception to celebrate the 64th birthday on February 23 of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan at the Marshall Islands Resort. The reception was attended by over 120 guests, including Her Excellency Hilda C. Heine, the President of the RMI, Honorable Members of the Council of Iroij, Honorable Kalani Kaneko, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Honorable Ministers and Senators, local government mayors, government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, business communities and Japanese-Marshallese community.

Ambassador TANAKA opened his remark by celebrating the 64th birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and expressed appreciation to all the guests for joining the celebration. Ambassador then congratulated the last year's 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the RMI and Japan with the visit by then President David Kabua to open the new Embassy building in Tokyo, and manifested Japan's continuous commitment to support of the region's development in line with 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent of the Pacific Islands Forum. Regarding ALPS treated water release from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, Ambassador reassured that Japan would continue timely and transparent dialogues with the RMI based on scientific evidence. As the spread of COVID-19 is lessened, Ambassador showed his gratefulness that the bilateral cooperation, such as JICA volunteers and youth exchange program, is revitalized again and showed his expectation that relationship between two countries will become even more vigorous.

Minister Kaneko congratulated the 64th birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan on behalf of President Heine, people, and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Minister appreciated two countries' historical and diplomatic relationship, stating Japan was one of the few countries to recognize the RMI as an independent and sovereign nation on its independence. Minister showed his gratitude mentioning some of Japan's cooperative projects in infrastructure, maritime safety, education, health, disaster relief, and so on. Minister also introduced a valuable meeting in Fiji at the 5th Ministerial Interim Meeting of the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM) with H.E. KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. Lastly, Minister acknowledged Japan's international leadership with solidarity, and assured RMI's support to the people and the Government of Japan for their friendship, partnership, and continuous support.

Followed by the remarks, guests of honor were invited to the stage to break open the sake barrel with wooden mallets, which expressed the opening of good fortune. A buffet dinner with some Japanese cuisine including sushi, shrimp tempura and chicken cutlets, and for drinks, Japanese beer, sake, and wine were served. The reception concluded with entertainment of dancing and singing performed by the Embassy staff.

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