

Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On May 22 Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs held a 45-minute meeting with the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia who was visiting Japan for the 7th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM7). The outline of their discussion is as follows.

1. Minister Kishida welcomed Minister Bishop to Japan one year after her previous visit, and expressed his gratitude to Minister Bishop for attending PALM7. He also expressed his hopes for Japan and Australia to work together and contribute to the peace and security of Pacific island nations. Furthermore, with this year marking the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and the establishment of the United Nations, Minister Kishida went on to express his hopes for cooperation with Australia aimed at contributing to regional and global peace and stability.
2. Minister Bishop expressed that she is looking forward to PALM7 in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture. She also stated that Australia welcomes exchange students from Fukushima Prefecture as Australia cares for the reconstruction of areas struck by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, which signifies Japan and Australia's close relationship.
3. Both foreign ministers confirmed the strengthening of bilateral relations through the Japan-Australia 2+2 Foreign and Defense Ministerial Consultations, and discussed the NPT Review Conference as well as the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI). Minister Kishida and Minister Bishop also discussed trilateral cooperation between Japan, Australia, and the United States, cooperation between Japan and Australia in the Pacific, and the current situation of our region.



(Images courtesy of Cabinet Public Relations Office)

Original Japanese text: http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press3_000091.html