



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Invites Students From Island Countries Across the World to the "High School Students Islands Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day"

One hundred fifty high school students from island countries around the world, mostly from the Pacific region, have been invited by the Government of Japan as "Youth Ambassadors for World Tsunami Awareness Day". Accompanied by their teachers, the Youth Ambassadors will participate in the "High School Students Islands Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day" on 7 and 8 November 2017, in Okinawa.

H.E Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan, will host a Send-Off Reception for the 30 Youth Ambassadors from Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tuvalu and Vanuatu at his residence (337 Princes Road), at **12 noon on Thursday, 2 November 2017**.

We welcome your attendance at the reception. For further queries, please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and phone number: 3304633.

1. Background of the "High School Students Islands Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day"

The resolution to establish the World Tsunami Awareness Day (November 5th) was adopted by consensus at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in December 2015. This resolution was jointly proposed by 142 countries, as a follow up to the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) held in Sendai, Japan and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This resolution aims at protecting the precious lives of the people around the world by raising awareness on precautionary measures against tsunamis.

On 7 and 8 November 2017, Japan will host the "High School Students Islands Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day" in Okinawa, which is Japan's sole island prefecture with many inhabited remote islands. A total of 150 high school students from island countries around the world will attend the Summit together with Japanese students to learn and share their knowledge and experiences. The students participating have been bestowed with the title, namely "Youth Ambassadors for World Tsunami Awareness Day".

The "High School Students Islands Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day" will be held for the purpose of training future leaders who will undertake in-country resilience measures towards protecting people's lives, bodies and properties from earthquakes and tsunamis, thus minimising the damage to livelihoods and economies. To this end, high school students from island countries that have similar natural environments to Okinawa have been invited to be given the opportunity to acquire knowledge on disaster risk reduction and understand the threat of earthquakes and tsunamis. They will also learn how to save people's lives and properties from tsunamis through the comprehensive and systematic implementation of national policies on disaster mitigation and risk reduction, rapid rehabilitation and reconstruction as well as international cooperation.

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2. The School to be attending to the Send-Off Reception

- Fiji : Ratu Kadavulevu School
- Kiribati : King George V and Elaine Bernacchi School
- Nauru : Nauru Secondary School
- Tuvalu : Motufoua Secondary School & Fetuvalu Secondary School
- Vanuatu : Central School

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