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the People of Japan

# **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Japan Invites Students to the "High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day 2019 in Hokkaido"**

Approximately 210 high school students from 43 countries have been invited by the Government of Japan as "Youth Ambassadors for World Tsunami Awareness Day". Accompanied by their teachers, the Youth Ambassadors will join approximately 190 Japanese students at the "High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day 2019 in Hokkaido" on 10-11 September 2019.

In the presence of Ms. Alison Burchell, Permanent Secretary for Education, Heritage and Arts and other government officials, H.E. Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan, will send off the 15 Youth Ambassadors from Fiji, Kiribati and Vanuatu at a reception to be held at his official residence (337 Princes Road), at **12:00PM on Tuesday, 3 September 2019**.

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

### **1. Background of the "High School Students 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 10-11 September 2019, Japan will host the "High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day" in Hokkaido, the "Northern Land," and aims to foster the growth of new leaders who will play a central role in protecting citizens' lives, livelihoods and assets from earthquakes, tsunami and other disasters, all the while minimizing the impacts of disasters on daily life and the economy by contributing to the resilience of their societies. The event will further deepen the kizuna or "bonds" between each country.

The "High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day" 2019 in Hokkaido is committed to using the memories of past disasters as a guide toward preventive and risk reduction measures. A total of approximately 400 high school students will participate as Youth Ambassadors with their escorting teachers at the Summit to learn and share their knowledge and experiences.

### **2. The Schools that will attend the Send-Off Reception**

- Fiji : Adi Maopa Secondary School
- Kiribati: King George V & Elaine Bernacchi School
- Vanuatu: Malapoa College

**END.**