

Dear Sir / Madam,

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that I have launched a personal newsletter “*Japan Now*” to keep you updated on a wide range of topics regarding Japan. This newsletter will be issued quarterly from now on, with some extra issues on a necessary basis.

In this issue, I wish to inform you on the following topics:

1. **Prime Minister Abe’s Visit to Trinidad and Tobago**
2. **Prime Minister Abe’s speech for Latin America and the Caribbean**
3. **Web Japan / Discuss Japan: Gateways to Japan**

Your opinions / comments on the topics are welcome. In case you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please so indicate in your reply to this email.

### **1. Prime Minister Abe’s Visit to Trinidad and Tobago**

Mr. Shinzo Abe, the Prime Minister of Japan, paid a visit to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and attended events held in Port of Spain on July 27 and 28. This was the first-ever visit to the Caribbean region by a Japanese Prime Minister.

On Monday July 28, Prime Minister Abe attended the first-ever Japan-CARICOM Summit Meeting with the attendance of leaders from 14 CARICOM member states. The Secretary-General of CARICOM also participated in the meeting.

At the Summit Meeting, Prime Minister Abe stressed solidarity between Japan and CARICOM member states and announced Japan’s policy for CARICOM which consisted of three pillars as follows:

- First Pillar: Cooperation towards sustainable development including overcoming vulnerabilities particular to small island states.
- Second Pillar: Deepening and expanding bonds founded on exchanges and friendship.
- Third Pillar: Cooperation in addressing challenges of the international community.

More details of this policy can be found at: [www.mofa.go.jp/files/000047228.pdf](http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000047228.pdf)

Prime Minister Abe also held individual meetings with the leaders from CARICOM member states during the visit. The overviews of these meetings can be found at the following website:

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/la\\_c/crb/page22e\\_000473.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/la_c/crb/page22e_000473.html)

### **2. Prime Minister Abe’s speech for Latin America and the Caribbean**

Last month, Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Abe made a policy speech toward Latin America and the Caribbean in Sao Paulo, where he specified three guiding principles: *Progress Together*, *Lead Together*, and *Inspire Together*.

Under the first principle, *Progress Together*, Prime Minister Abe expresses his intention to deepen the economic ties between Japan and Latin America and the Caribbean. The second principle “*Lead Together*” entails joint initiatives and leaderships by Japan and Latin America and the Caribbean confronting international challenges hand-in-hand to lead international society in a positive direction. The third principle “*Inspire Together*” is to build and leave a world that is at peace and prosperous for our children, our grandchildren and the generations to follow.

The full script of this speech is available at: [http://www.mofa.go.jp/la\\_c/sa/br/page3e\\_000208.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/la_c/sa/br/page3e_000208.html)

### **3. Web Japan / Discuss Japan: Gateways to Japan**

“Web Japan” aims at helping people around the world get to know more about Japan and the Japanese. With more than about 300 million hits per year from around the world, it has become one of Japan’s leading portal websites for information on the country. Web Japan is sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and operated by a Japanese non-governmental organization.

The site provides highly reliable information on Japan across many different genres including culture, sightseeing, society, history and nature. The content is provided primarily in English, but a portion of the site is multilingual.

<http://web-japan.org/>

“Discuss Japan” is also a portal website in English that presents translations of essays and discourse by Japanese specialists in fields including politics, economics, culture, and science and technology. The editorial board of “Discuss Japan” selects essays from Japanese magazines and newspapers to provide a wide-ranging picture of domestic views about Japan today.

Following the selections and advice of the editorial board, the content is managed exclusively by The Japan Journal, Ltd. with the cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. “Discuss Japan” does not necessarily represent or reflect the views of either the Government of Japan or the editorial board members.

<http://www.japanpolicyforum.jp>

It is my sincere hope that you find these websites useful in getting to know better about Japan.

Sincerely,

Yoshimasa Tezuka  
Ambassador