

The 19th Japan-CARICOM Consultations

The 19th Japan-CARICOM Consultation Meeting was held virtually on March 10, 2021.

Mr. Teiji Hayashi, Assistant Minister, Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and Mr. Beausoleil Sam, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Haiti, co-chaired the meeting with the participation of Permanent Secretaries, Ambassadors to Japan from CARICOM member states, along with representatives of the CARICOM Secretariat, as well as Ambassadors of Japan to various CARICOM countries.

Japan and CARICOM welcomed the opportunity of the Consultation meeting which took place for the first time in 4 years, and agreed to continue to maintain and strengthen the Japan-CARICOM relationship.

During the meeting, participants reviewed the Japan-CARICOM relationship with regard to cooperation in response to COVID-19 and the three pillars of Japan's CARICOM policies (the first pillar: "Cooperation towards sustainable development, including overcoming the vulnerabilities particular to small island states"; the second pillar: "Deeping and expanding fraternal bonds of cooperation and friendship"; and the third pillar: "Cooperation in addressing challenges of the international community").

CARICOM member states expressed their appreciation for Japan's assistance in response to COVID-19, and both sides reaffirmed their desire to continue to advance Japan-CARICOM exchanges and enhance cooperation in such areas as public health, climate change, disaster management, and UN security council reform.

