

September 3, 2025

Press Release

Ambassador of Japan, Dr. UMEZAWA Akima, Pays a Courtesy Call on the President of the Republic of Suriname

On August 29, 2025, His Excellency Dr. UMEZAWA Akima, Ambassador of Japan, met with Her Excellency Jennifer Geerlings-Simons, President of the Republic of Suriname, in Paramaribo. The meeting provided an opportunity to reaffirm Japan's commitment to strengthening bilateral relations with the Republic of Suriname.

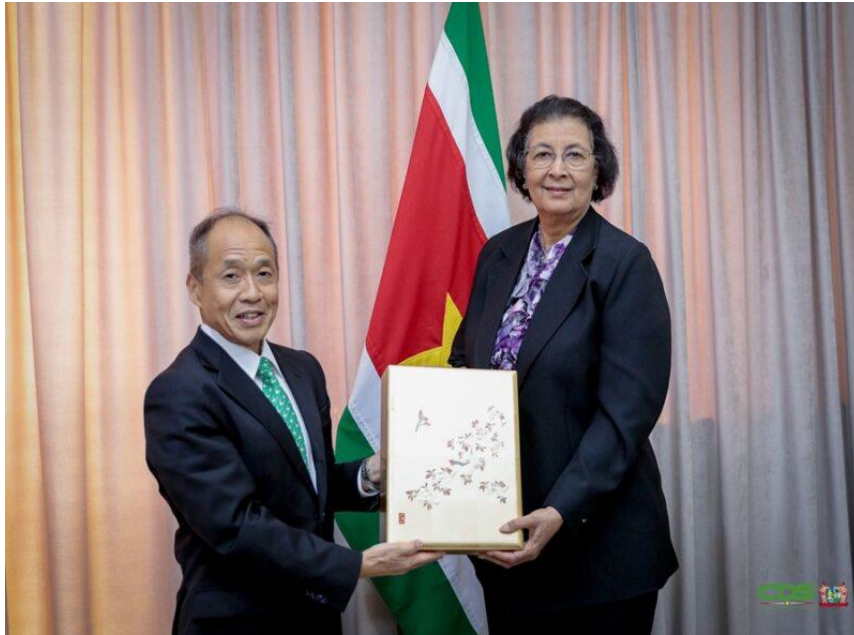
During the meeting, Ambassador UMEZAWA highlighted the importance of expanding cooperation in the social, cultural and economic spheres. He acknowledged the growing exchanges in cultural diplomacy, referencing Suriname's successful participation in the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan in June of this year, where Surinamese traditional dances left a strong impression on Japanese audiences.

Notably, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and the Republic of Suriname. As part of the events to commemorate this milestone, three Japanese films will be screened at TBL cinemas, and a handover ceremony of Japanese book donations will be held in October to further cultural exchange.

In respect of economic cooperation, the Government of Japan will extend its continued support to Suriname with a drainage improvement project to mitigate flooding risks in Paramaribo in January 2026. Cooperation in the fields of human security, public health, environmental protection, agriculture and fisheries was also outlined, with Japan set to deliver a large ice-making machine to a local fishing village in September 2025.

Ambassador UMEZAWA reiterated the importance of these initiatives in fostering mutual understanding and bilateral ties between the two countries, and later expressed his deep appreciation for Suriname's natural landscapes and culture.

Ambassador UMEZAWA also paid courtesy calls on His Excellency Dr. Gregory Rusland, Vice President of the Republic of Suriname; His Excellency Melvin W. J. Bouva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Cooperation; and His Excellency Mike M. Noersalim, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, with whom matters of mutual interest were also discussed.



(Photo Credit: Office of the President of Suriname)

Ambassador UMEZAWA presents H. E. Jennifer Geerlings-Simons, President of the Republic of Suriname, with a gift during their courtesy call on August 29, 2025.



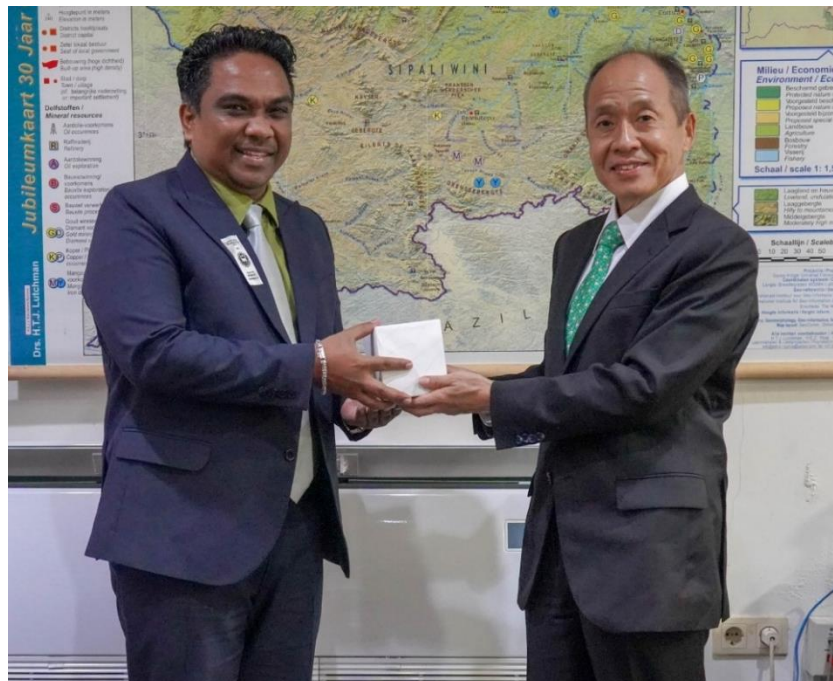
(Photo Credit: Office of the Vice President of Suriname)

Ambassador UMEZAWA with H.E. Dr. Gregory Rusland, Vice President of the Republic of Suriname, during their courtesy call on August 29, 2025.



(Photo Credit: Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Cooperation of Suriname)

Ambassador UMEZAWA pays a courtesy call on H.E. Melvin W. J. Bouva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Cooperation, on August 29, 2025.



(Photo Credit: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries of Suriname)

Ambassador UMEZAWA presents H.E. Mike M. Noersalim, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, with a gift during their courtesy call on August 29, 2025.