

The new Prime Minister of Japan



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On 16 September, **Mr SUGA Yoshihide** became the 99th Prime Minister of Japan.

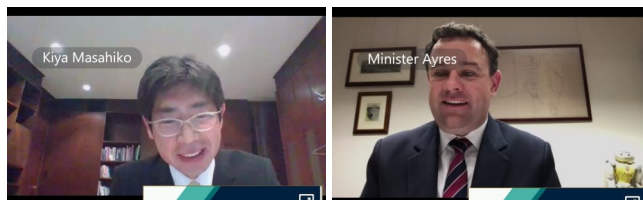
A native of Akita Prefecture, since 1996 he has represented the Kanagawa No.2 electoral district in the Lower House.

The Suga Cabinet was inaugurated on 17 September. Japan's Foreign Minister remained unchanged and Mr MOTEGI Toshimitsu has held the position since September 2019.

The full Cabinet list can be found on the website of the Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet:

https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/meibo/daijin/index_e.html

NSW-Japan Engagement: A Shared Recovery



On 29 July, the NSW Government, in partnership with the Consulate-General of Japan in Sydney, hosted an online briefing session “NSW-Japan Engagement: A Shared Recovery”, exclusively for the Japanese business community.

The Hon. Stuart Ayres, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney gave the keynote speech, and senior leaders from the NSW government spoke about NSW's response to the COVID-19 crisis and a framework for recovery.

In his opening remarks, Consul-General Kiya Masahiko expressed his gratitude to the NSW Government and said business opportunities in NSW would be significant for Japanese business communities.

Another important Japan-NSW business event is to be held on 4 November—the theme: “NSW–Japan: Engagement for the Future”. Presented by the NSW Government, in partnership with the Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee (JABCC) and the Consulate, it will feature an exclusive briefing by The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier of NSW, on her vision for the State and on the future of the NSW-Japan relationship.

If you would like to learn more about Japanese business in NSW or watch the video of the 29 July webinar, please see our webpage:

www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/japanese_business.html

Top level meetings continue between Japan and Australia

On 6 October, Mr MOTEGI Toshimitsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, chaired the **Second Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Foreign Ministers' Meeting** and dinner with Senator the Hon Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Australia, HE Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India, and The Honorable Mike Pompeo, Secretary of State of the United States. It was **the first ministerial-level international conference held in Japan since the outbreak and spread of COVID-19.**

The four Ministers shared the view to regularize this Foreign Ministers' meeting and hold the next one at an appropriate timing next year.

Earlier that day, Prime Minister Suga received a courtesy call by the visiting foreign ministers, accompanied by Minister Motegi, and on the following day, 7 October, Mr Motegi held a **Japan-Australia Foreign Ministers' Meeting** over lunch with Senator Payne. At the outset, he told his Australian counterpart:

I welcome your visit. As 'Special Strategic Partners,' Japan and Australia have great potential to further reinforce our cooperative ties.

An overview of the so-called Quad meeting can be found here

www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000244.html

and of the Japan-Australia bilateral meeting here

www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002924.html

