

中野外務大臣政務官スピーチ

サモア加盟署名式

Mr. Chair,

Deputy Prime Minister of the Independent State of
Samoa, Honorable Fonotoe

Excellencies,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Japan and Samoa have been continuously building and deepening the long-term friendship for about 40 years, realizing economic development which benefits both countries and Asia-Pacific region.

Geographically, Japan and Samoa share the Pacific Ocean, and Japan is pleased to host the 6th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM6) in May 2012, aiming to reinforce the cooperation with the Pacific Islands in tackling the various challenges the region faces, such as climate change.

Given all that, it was a great honor and privilege for Japan to serve as a chair of the working party on the accession of the Independent State of Samoa.

Today, Japan whole-heartedly welcomes the accession of Samoa. The road to this goal might have been sometimes bumpy and tough for both Samoa and the Members concerned. However, we are all sure that sharing experience of hard work has further consolidated bilateral relations and enhanced multilateral cooperation.

Let me seize this opportunity to reassure you all that Japan is determined to further contribute for maintaining and strengthening the multilateral trading system, together with our new WTO partner, Samoa.

Thank you.