

Foreign Minister's Commendations for FY 2026 (individuals)

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
1	AKAO Kazumi	Representative of Friends Without A Border Japan	Luang Prabang, Lao PDR	Promotion of international cooperation
2	Akita Yuki	Japanese Language Education Officer at Universiti Brunei Darussalam	Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam	Promotion of Japanese language education in Brunei
3	Almazbek AZIMOV	Former president of MEXT Scholarship Alumni Association of Kyrgyz Republic	Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Kyrgyz Republic
4	HASAN HÜSEYİN ATAR	the chairman of JICA Alumni Association	Diskapi, Ankara, Türkiye	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Türkiye
5	Mikael Adolphson	Keidanren Professor of Japanese Studies	Cambridge, United Kingdom	Promotion of Japanese studies in the United Kingdom
6	Akhmetova Laura Tulegenovna	Director of Humanitarian Foundation "Degdar"	Astana, Kazakhstan	Promotion of Japanese culture in Kazakhstan
7	ARISE NAOTSUGU	Japanese Language Institute Cameroon, Conseiller	Sayama-shi, Saitama, Japan	Promotion of Japanese language education in Cameroon
8	Eduardo Arturo Armas García	Shitoryu Karate-do 7th Dan (Shihan)	San José Pinula, Guatemala	Promotion of Karate in Guatemala
9	Clara Setsuko Ando	President of Brazil-Japan Alumni Association of Brasília (ABRAEX)	Brasília, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
10	Kangmin Yi	The Korea-Japan Cultural Exchange Council, Secretary General	Seoul, Republic of Korea	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and the Republic of Korea
11	IKEGAWA TOSHIO	Former President of the Japanese Association of La Paz	La Paz, Itapua, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Paraguay
12	IKEDA Jyun	EX-PRESIDENTE DE LA COOPERATIVA AGROPECUARIA INTEGRAL SAN JUAN DE YAPACANI	San Juan, Santa Cruz, Bolivia	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Bolivia
13	Noemia Kazue Ishikawa	Researcher at the National Institute for Amazonian Research (INPA)	Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil	Promotion of academic exchange between Japan and Brazil
14	ISHIBASHI Hiroshi	President of the Board of Directors, Ishibashi Foundation	Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and foreign countries
15	Isrami Bin Ismail	President, Alumni Look East Policy Society (ALEPS)	Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Malaysia
16	Joseph Walsh	Designer and Maker	Riverstick, Cork, Ireland	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Ireland
17	Pablo Ugarte	Catad' Or CEO	Las Condes, Santiago, Chile	Promotion of Japanese Sake in Chile
18	Uchimura Akira	Former President of the Nikkei Corporation of the Valparaíso region	Providencia, Santiago, Chile	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Chile
19	Philip Agress	Former Senior Vice President, AdvaMed	Fairfax, Virginia, U.S.A.	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and the U.S.A.
20	Wim Eynatten	Chair of Legal & Tax Committee, Belgium-Japan Association and Chamber of Commerce (BJA)	Leuven, Belgium	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Belgium
21	Vibeke Emond	Translator	Lund, Skåne, Sweden	Promotion of Japanese culture in Sweden

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
22	Guillermo EGUIARTE BENDÍ MEZ	Researcher of Japanese architecture	Mexico City, Mexico	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Mexico
23	Mohammad Abdelmonem ElSawy	Founder and Director of ElSawy Culturewheel	Sheikh Zayed, Giza, Egypt	Promotion of Japanese culture in Egypt
24	ESSADKI Laïla	Présidente de l'Association Marocaine pour la Langue et la Culture Japonaise	Kénitra, Morocco	Promotion of Japanese language education in Morocco
25	Joan Ericson	Proessor of Japanese, Emerita, Colorado College	Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese language education in the U.S.A.
26	ERDENEBAYAR BATJARGAL	President of the Association of Japanese Language Teachers of Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Promotion of Japanese language education in Mongolia
27	Jorge Junzi Okubaro	Escritor	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
28	Luiza Hifumi Okuma Maruy de Nomura	Former President of The Japanese Peruvian Womens' Association	Lima, Peru	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Peru
29	Sérgio Ocimoto Oda	Ex-Presidente da Associação Pró-Excepcionais Kodomo-no-Sono	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Brazil
30	Nivaldo Ryosun Odo	Honorary Presidente da Sociedade Beneficente Casa da Esperança (Kibô-no-Iê)	Santana de Parnaíba, São Paulo, Brazil	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Brazil
31	Aoyagi Etsuko	Professor Emerita, University of Tsukuba	Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Algeria through literary studies
32	José Miguel Castro Bascuñán	Ex President of Chilean Japanese Interparliamentary Group of the Chamber of Deputies	Antofagasta, Antofagasta, Chile	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Chile
33	Motoyo Kay Gatlin	Former President of Ikenobo Anchorage Alaska Chapter	Bellevue, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of Ikebana in the U.S.A.
34	Huda Ibrahim Al Khamis-Kanoo	Founder, Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation	Al Reem Island, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	Promotion of Japanese culture in the United Arab Emirates
35	Petr Kabele	Professor, Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Civil Engineering	Prague, Czech Republic	Promotion of technological cooperation between Japan and the Czech Republic
36	Melisa Miharū Kamibayashi	Former President, Ottawa Japanese Community Association	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Canada
37	KAMIYA MASAKO	professor emeritus at Gakushuin University	Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of women's empowerment in international organizations
38	Panos Karan	Founder, Fukushima Youth Sinonietta	London, United Kingdom	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Greece through music
39	KAWAI MITSUMASA	Chairman & CEO JOUJU Co., LTD.	Ota-ku Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of economic exchange between Japan and Viet Nam
40	Toshikazu Kawamura	Vice-Presidente Beneficente e Presidente do Sojukai(Responsável dos idosos) da Associação Cultural e Beneficente Nipo-Brasileira de Curitiba	Curitiba, Parana, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
41	Taeko Kanno	Ex-Presidente da Associação da Cultura Japonesa de Porto Alegre	Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
42	Kitajima Kazuyuki	Sogetsu Ryu Artist	Hacienda Heights, California, U.S.A.	Promotion of Ikebana in the U.S.A.

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
43	Leticia Vieira Guimarães	Presidente da Associação Monbukagakusho Alumni do Sul do Brasil	Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
44	Kimura Kozo	Former Chairperson of the San Mateo Nippon Gakuen	Millbrae, California, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese language education in the U.S.A.
45	Dharmendra Kumar	Chairperson, Namaste Japan Fest Executive Committee	Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka, Japan	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and India
46	Tilen Klugler	Mayor of Slovenj Gradec	Slovenj Gradec, Slovenia	Promotion of mutual understanding between sister cities
47	Francis COURTOT	Président de l'association « Les Ailes de l'Amitié »	Beaucourt, France	Promotion of mutual understanding between sister cities
48	Huang, Tzu-Chin	Former Research Fellow, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica	New Taipei, Taiwan	Promotion of Japan studies in Taiwan
49	Hwang, Tsing-Yuan	Former Executive Director of the Board The Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce, Taiwan (CNAIC)	Taipei, Taiwan	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Taiwan
50	Koga Rikuta	Founder of Shotokan Karate-do International Swiss Federation and Chief Instructor	Locarno, Ticino, Switzerland	Promotion of Karate in Switzerland
51	Tiguiko Koshimizu	Ex-Instrutora de Ikebana na Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS)	Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil	Promotion of Ikebana in Brazil
52	GOTO MUTSUKO	Former Principal Director of the Japanese Language School of La Paz	La Paz, Itapua, Paraguay	Promotion of Japanese language education in Paraguay
53	KONISHI Chizu	President of the Konishi International Exchange Foundation	Nishinomiya-shi, Hyogo, Japan	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and France
54	Franck COPIN	Animateur du réseau Japon de l'enseignement agricole	Yssingaux, France	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and France
55	Thomas D. Conlan	Professor in East Asian Studies and History, Princeton University	New Jersey, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japan studies in the U.S.A.
56	Patsy Surh O' Connell	Founder and President of Asia Pacific Cultural Center (APCC) in Washington	Gig Harbor, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
57	Saito Hiromi	Chair of the Japan-Sakhalin Association	Taito-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of public awareness regarding foreign policy of Japan
58	Mark Sakamoto	Writer	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Canada
59	Célia Sakurai	Especialista de história da imigração japonesa no Brasil	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
60	Juraj Szabo	Former President of the Slovak Bonsai Association	Kosice, Slovakia	Promotion of Japanese culture in Slovakia
61	Raul Sameshima	Presidente de la Asociacion Japonesa de Tijuana	Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Mexico
62	Armin Siegert	Head of Department for International Economic Affairs, Nuremberg Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz, Bayern, Germany	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Germany
63	Anna Zielinska-Elliott	Translator	Lexington, Massachusetts, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese culture in Poland and the U.S.A.

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
64	SISYU	Artist	Kamakura-shi, Kanagawa, Japan	Promotion of Shodo in foreign countries
65	Fumie Shitara	Diretora da Escola de Língua Japonesa de Castro	Castro, Paraná, Brazil	Promotion of Japanese language education in Brazil
66	Shibata Silvio Kazuhiro	Ex-Presidente da Associação Cultural e Fomento Agrícola de Tomé-Açu	Tomé-Açu, Para, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Brazil
67	Bruno JAMES	President, Association Franco-Japonaise Toulouse	Toulouse, France	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and France
68	Susan Schmidt	Emeritus Executive Director of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese	Boulder, Colorado, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese language education in the U.S.A.
69	Mina Johnson	Former President, Sister Cities of Nashville	Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between sister cities
70	Adrian M Simper	International Special Advisors, Nuclear Damage Compensation and Decommissioning Facilitation Corporation	Carlisle, United Kingdom	Promotion of scientific and technological cooperation between Japan the United Kingdom
71	John M. Scannapieco	Former Board Chair of Japan American Society of Tennessee	Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
72	Suzuki Teruji	Professor, Tokai University	Warsaw, Poland	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Poland
73	Bruce Stronach	Former Director, Executive Board, Organizational Member, Japan Network for International Education (JAFSA)	Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
74	Shinichi Seino	President of the Board, Kinmon Gakuen	San Francisco, California, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
75	Seki Nilda Naoko	Former Principal Director of the Japanese Language School of Asuncion	Asuncion, Paraguay	Promotion of Japanese language education in Paraguay
76	Eugenio Zoffili	President of the Italy-Japan Bilateral Friendship Section of IPU of the Italian Parliament	Rome, Italy	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Italy
77	Sonofuku Michie	Ex Jefa de Administración de Colegio Japonés de Caracas	El Hatillo, Miranda, Venezuela	Promotion of Japanese language education in Venezuela
78	Sombat Tapanya	Principal Instructor of the Aikido Renshinkan Dojo	Hang Dong District, Chiang Mai, Thailand	Promotion of Aikido in Thailand
79	Dao Thi Nga My	Former Dean of Faculty of Japanese Language and Culture, University of Languages and International Studies, VNU	Hanoi, Viet Nam	Promotion of Japanese language education in Viet Nam
80	Takagi Yurie	Chair, Friendship Association Meerbusch-Shijōnawate	Meerbusch, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Germany
81	TAKAHASHI MSAKO	Former Director of La Colmena Japanese Language School	La Colmena, Paraguari, Paraguay	Promotion of Japanese language education in Paraguay
82	Takamine Yutaka	President, Non-Profit Organization Empowerment Okinawa	Tomigusuku-shi, Okinawa, Japan	Promotion of international cooperation
83	Yoshiko TAKEUCHI	Co-Director, Shikoku Global Network	Matsuyama-shi, Ehime, Japan	Promotion of international cooperation in Mozambique
84	Toru Takeda	President of Caribbean Resort Service Japan	Benito Juarez, Quintana Roo, Mexico	Supporting implementation of consular services in Mexico

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
85	Toshiko Takenaka	Professor of University of Washington Law School	Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of the rule of law in the international community
86	Habel Miho	Former president of the Japan Club of Geneva	Avully, Geneva, Switzerland	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Switzerland
87	John Tateishi	Former National Executive Director, Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)	Marin County, California, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
88	Tatishev Yerkin Nureldaemovich	President of Kazakhstan Federation of Kendo and Iaido	Almaty, Kazakhstan	Promotion of Kendo in Kazakhstan
89	Nataya Tananone	Former, Old Japan Students' Association, Kingdom of Thailand Under the Patronage of His Majesty the King, Northern Region Branch	San Sai District, Chiang Mai, Thailand	Promotion of academic exchange between Japan and Thailand
90	Bob Taft	Honorary Chair of Operation 2000 Cherry Trees	Spring Valley, Ohio, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
91	Tang Kok Lian	President, Japan Graduates Association of Malaysia (JAGAM)	Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Malaysia
92	Choi Bok Sil	Vice President, Korea-Japan Cooperation Council	Seoul, Republic of Korea	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the Republic of Korea
93	Ivonne Inés Díaz Chales	Chair of Japanese Studies at the University of Arts of Cuba	Marianao, Havana, Cuba	Promotion of Japanese language education in Cuba
94	Thomas Taylor	Former State Representative of Georgia General Assembly	Dunwoody, Georgia, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
95	Marcus Jacobus Teeuwen	Professor, University of Oslo, Faculty of Humanities, Department of Culture, Religion, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Japan Studies	Oslo, Norway	Promotion of Japan studies in Norway
96	TEBA Hicham	Président de L' ASSOCIATION ORIGAMI POUR ART ET CULTURE	Tiznit, Morocco	Promotion of Japanese culture in Morocco
97	TERAO RYUKICHI	Professor, School of Social Sciences, Waseda University	Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of Japanese culture in Colombia
98	Makiko Doi	Professor Emerita, Central Washington University	Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of academic exchange between Japan and the U.S.A.
99	César Tomás Towie Cuesta	Chairman, Cuba IAIDO association	Centro Havana, Havana, Cuba	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Cuba through martial arts
100	Peter Dolan	President of Salem-Ota Cultural Exchange	Groveland, Massachusetts, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between sister cities
101	Takeshi Naito	Lecturer(Part-Time), Tokushima University Graduate School of Biomedical Science	Tokushima-shi, Tokushima, Japan	Promotion of international cooperation in Nepal
102	Nagae Neide Hissae Maruishi	Professora Assistente Doutora de Língua e Literatura Japonesa na Faculdade De Filosofia, Letras e Ciências Humanas Universidade de São Paulo	São Paulo, Brazil	Promotion of Japan studies in Brazil
103	NAKAGAWA Eri	Associate Professor, the College of Music, Mahidol University	Bangkok, Thailand	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and Thailand through music
104	Nagami Yoshiki	Former President of the Japanese Association of Pirapo	Pirapo, Itapua, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Paraguay
105	NAKAMURA MASAOKI	Former JICA expert	Edogawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of international cooperation

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
106	Nakamura Takubunji	Second Vice President of Brazil-Japan Cultural Institute	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and Brazil
107	NUKINA NOBUYUKI	Sensei, Asociatia Clubul Sportiv Ikuieikan	Vienna, Austria	Promotion of Karate in Romania
108	Noda Hideko	Junior Associate Professor, Department of Human Welfare, Faculty of Human Life, Jumonji University	Niiza-shi, Saitama, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Croatia
109	Walid S. Basha	Associate Professor, An-Najah National University, Palestine	Jenin, Palestine	Promotion of Japanese culture in Palestine
110	HASUNUMA Tadashi	Founder and Director of SAPESE (South Africa Primary Education Support Initiative)	Johannesburg, South Africa	Promotion of international cooperation in South Africa
111	Rosina Buckland	Head of the Japanese Section, British Museum/Asahi Shimbun Curator: Japanese Collections	London, United Kingdom	Promotion of Japanese culture in the United Kingdom
112	HAMANO Ryuho	Calligrapher	Toyohashi-shi, Aichi, Japan	Promotion of Japanese calligraphy in foreign countries
113	HAYASHI Tomomi	Japanese Cultural Society in Estonia, President	Tallinn, Estonia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Estonia
114	Daniel Baran	President of Slovak Federation of Karate and Martial Arts	Bratislava, Slovakia	Promotion of Karate in Slovakia
115	Wendy Patricia Barrantes Jiménez	President of the Independent Living Center "Morpho" in Costa Rica	San Isidro, San José, Costa Rica	Promotion of international cooperation in Costa Rica
116	Paul Howarth	Former CEO of the UK National Nuclear Laboratory	Cheshire, United Kingdom	Promotion of scientific and technological cooperation between Japan and the United Kingdom
117	Martin Hiestand	Former Head of the Division "International Suppression of Terrorism; Law Relating to Crimes Against the State; Special Assignment: German-Japanese Legal Relations"	Stahnsdorf, Germany	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Germany
118	HIGAKI RYUSUKE	Former President of Federation of Japanese and Nikkei Associations of Paraguay	Luque, Central, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Paraguay
119	Monika Bincsik	Diane and Arthur Abbey Curator for Japanese Decorative Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art	New York, New York, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese culture in the U.S.A.
120	Dr. Robert Feinberg & Mrs. Betsy Feinberg	Japanese Art Collectors	Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese culture in the U.S.A.
121	Bui Anh Tuan	Former President of Hanoi Foreign Trade University	Hanoi, Viet Nam	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Viet Nam
122	Michael Joseph Forrester	Former President, Seattle Japanese Language School	Sammamish, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
123	Madalena Fuke	Ex-Presidente da Associação do Festival do Japão em Rio Grande do Sul	Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil	Promotion of Japanese culture in Brazil
124	FUJIKAKE YOKO	Dean/Professor of College of Urban Science and Professor of Institute of Urban Innovation, Yokohama National University	Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, Japan	Promotion of international cooperation in Paraguay
125	Sou Fujimoto	Architect	Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and foreign countries through architecture
126	Puster Aya	Publisher, Aya Puster Verlag	Ludwigshafen am Rhein, Germany	Promotion of Japanese language education in Germany

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
127	Miki FUCHIBE	Chair, Okinawa Association of Corporate Executives	Itoman-shi, Okinawa, Japan	Promotion of understanding about foreign/security policy
128	Furukawa Satoshi	Astronaut, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency	Moriya-shi, Ibaraki, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
129	FURUTA Yoshiaki	Former President of Japanese Social Center of Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz, Bolivia	Promotion of Japanese language education in Bolivia
130	Soon Pretorius	Chief Instructor of the Japan Shotokan Karate Association (JSKA) Africa	Pretoria, South Africa	Promotion of Karate in South Africa
131	Verena Blechinger-Talcott	Former Vice President, Freie Universität Berlin	Berlin, Germany	Promotion of Japan studies in Germany
132	Kaori Flores Yonekura	Filmmaker	Campo Elías, Mérida, Venezuela	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Venezuela
133	Laurence BERGAMINI	Professeur de japonais du Lycée Général et Technologique Théodore Ozenne	Toulouse, France	Promotion of Japanese language education in France
134	Stephen N. Potter	Chairman, Japan America Society of Chicago (JASO)	Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
135	Kenneth David Boffard	Professor Emeritus at the University of the Witwatersrand	Johannesburg , South Africa	Promotion of technological cooperation between Japan and South Africa
136	Matsuzaki Yasuaki	Ex-gerente Administrativo do Hospital Amazônia de Quatro Bocas	Tomé-Açu, Para, Brazil	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Brazil
137	Kiichiro John Matsushima	Retired Emeritus, Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, Colorado State University	Fort Collins, Colorado, U.S.A.	Promotion of international cooperation in the U.S.A.
138	MAZBARA Mizuki	Festival Director, GINMAKU Japanese Film Festival	Zurich, Switzerland	Promotion of Japanese culture in Switzerland
139	Matsumiya Shinsaku Angel	President of the Japanse Association of Chaves	Capitan Miranda, Itapua, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Paraguay
140	Cristina Matsumiya•Tanaka	Representative of Nikkei Women in Paraguay	Asuncion, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Paraguay
141	Akiko Maruoka	Japanese Language Instructor	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Promotion of Japanese language education in Canada
142	Mitani Tetsuro	The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago Executive Director	Barrington, Illinois, U.S.A.	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and the U.S.A.
143	MIYAGI Kazuo	President of Bolivian-Japanese Nikkei Association	Okinawa Uno, Warnes, Santa Cruz, Bolivia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Bolivia
144	Alina Miron	Full Professor of International Law at the University of Angers (France)	Angers, France	Promotion of the rule of law in the international community
145	Hisao Sal Miwa	Former Chairman, Japan-America Society of Hawaii	Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
146	Melchior von Muralt	Chair of the Joint Commission of the Empress Shōken Fund	Crassier, Vaud, Switzerland	Promotion of public awareness regarding foreign policy of Japan
147	MUNKH-OCHIR SERGELEN	President of Mongol Kosen College of Technology	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Promotion of Japanese-style education in Mongolia

No.	NAME (Omit Titles From Names)	MAJOR TITLES	ADDRESS	SERVICES
148	Wilhelm Meemken	Managing Director of ECOS Consult GmbH	Osnabrück, Lower Saxony, Germany	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Germany
149	Graham Morris	Japan-America Society of Oregon, Executive Director	Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
150	Yasuhara Hiroshi	Director of La Plata Nihongo Gakko	La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina	Promotion of Japanese language education in Argentina
151	YAMADA HIROYUKI	Former Secretary-General of the Japanese Association of La Paz	La Paz, Itapua, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the Paraguay
152	Eduardo Yoshida	Presidente da Aliança Cultural Brasil-Japão	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the Brazil
153	Tashko Rizov	President, JICA Alumni Association of North Macedonia	Skopje, North Macedonia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the North Macedonia
154	Sébastien LECHEVALIER	President of Fondation France-Japon de l' EHESS	Paris, France	Promotion of Japan studies in France
155	Daniel Leroy	Vice President, Professeurs de francais en Flandre	Brugge, Belgium	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Belgium
156	Ramiro Antonio López Mizuno	Presidente de la Asociación de Amistad Colombo Japonesa Seccional Atlántico	Barranquilla, Atlantico, Colombia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the Columbia
157	Watanabe Suwako	Portland State University, Department of World Languages and Literatures, Department Chair	Tigard, Oregon, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese language education in the U.S.A.
158	Tomoyuki Watanabe	Former Vice President & Managing Director, United States-Japan Foundation	Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A.
159	Watabe Masakazu	Former Professor, Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages, Brigham Young University	Orem, Utah, U.S.A	Promotion of Japanese language education in the U.S.A.

Foreign Minister' s Commendations for FY 2026 (groups)

No.	GROUP NAME	ADDRESS	SERVICES
1	ARCOBONSAI Club of Garda Trentino	Arco, Italy	Promotion of Japanese culture in Italy
2	Arbquerque Sistercity Foundation	Arbuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between sister cities
3	National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute"	Kyiv, Ukraine	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Ukraine
4	Ikebana International Seattle Chapter #19	Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of Ikebana in the U.S.A.
5	Ohara School of Ikebana Seoul Chapter	Seoul, Republic of Korea	Promotion of Ikebana in the Republic of Korea
6	Sakura Immigrants Association	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Argentina
7	Illinois Association of Teachers of Japanese	Glen Ellyn, Illinois, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese language education in the U.S.A.
8	Urasenke Tankokai Michigan Association	South Lyon, Michigan, U.S.A.	Promotion of Chado in the U.S.A.
9	Asociación Uruguay de Bonsai	Montevideo, Uruguay	Promotion of Japanese culture in Uruguay
10	Japan Association in the UK	London, United Kingdom	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the United Kingdom
11	Omotesenke Domonkai, Eastern Region, USA Inc.	New York, New York, U.S.A.	Promotion of Chanoyu in the U.S.A.
12	Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary	Budapest, Hungary	Promotion of Japanese Studies and Japanese language education in Hungary
13	Kanazawa City	Kanazawa-shi, Ishikawa, Japan	Promotion of sister city exchange with Ghent, Belgium
14	City of Carouge	Carouge, Geneva, Switzerland	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Switzerland
15	Ville de Cannes	Cannes, France	Promotion of sister city exchange with Shizuoka-shi, Shizuoka
16	Associação Okinawa de Campo Grande	Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil	Promotion of Japanese culture in Brazil

No.	GROUP NAME	ADDRESS	SERVICES
17	Nha Xuat Ban Kim Dong (Kim Dong Publishing House)	Hanoi, Viet Nam	Promotion of Japanese culture in Viet Nam
18	Kenya Judo Federation	Nairobi, Kenya	Promotion of Judo in Kenya
19	City of Ghent	Ghent, Belgium	Promotion of sister city exchange with Kanazawa-shi, Ishikawa
20	JAL FOUNDATION	Shinagwa-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and foreign countries
21	National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ), Cambodia	Siem Reap, Cambodia	Promotion of international cooperation in Cambodia
22	Cosquín en Japón Executive Committee NORTE JAPON	Kawamata-cho, Fukushima, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Argentina
23	Federación Costarricense de Judo	San José, Costa Rica	Promotion of Judo in Costa Rica
24	Verein Partnerstaetekomitee St. Poelten	St.Poelten, Austria	Promotion of sister city exchange with Kurashiki-shi, Okayama
25	Seattle Kendo Kai	Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A. through martial arts
26	JSPS Sweden Alumni Club	Solna, Stockholm, Sweden	Promotion of academic exchange between Japan and Sweden
27	JTI Caucasus LLC	Tbilisi, Georgia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Georgia
28	Shizuoka City	Shizuoka-shi, Shizuoka, Japan	Promotion of sister city exchange with Cannes, France
29	Japan Care Net	Mueang Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai, Thailand	Supporting implementation of consular services in Thailand
30	Scandinavia-Japan Sasakawa Foundation	Stockholm, Stockholm, Sweden	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Nordic region
31	Skåne Japanese Association	Malmö, Skåne, Sweden	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Sweden
32	Sri Lanka-Nippon Educational and Cultural Centre	Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Western Province, Sri Lanka	Promotion of Japanese culture in Sri Lanka
33	Seidokan Japan Center	Valby, Denmark	Promotion of Japanese culture in Denmark

No.	GROUP NAME	ADDRESS	SERVICES
34	The Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL Australia)	Canberra, Australia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Australia
35	ChadouUrasenkeTankoukaiChekoKyoukai	Prague, Czech Republic	Promotion of Chado in the Czech Republic
36	Charity and Support Foundation "Japanese Garden"	Kretinga, Lithuania	Promotion of Japanese culture in Lithuania
37	Association d'Amitié Tunisie-Japon	Tunis, Tunisia	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Tunisia
38	The Association of Joseon Tongsin	Busan, Republic of Korea	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the Republic of Korea
39	University of Santiago de Chile, Faculty of Humanities, Linguistics and Literature Department, Applied Linguistics in Translation Studies, mention in English	Santiago, Chile	Promotion of Japanese language education in Chile
40	DIFAR	Tsu-shi, Mie, Japan	Promotion of international cooperation in Bolivia
41	Japanische Industrie- und Handelskammer zu Düsseldorf e.V.	Düsseldorf, Germany	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Germany
42	Denver Taiko	Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.	Promotion of Japanese culture in the U.S.A.
43	Dovletmammad Azadi Turkmen National Institute of World Languages	Ashgabat, Turkmenistan	Promotion of Japanese language education in Turkmenistan
44	HACHIDORI-KAI, Japanese Ladies' Association of Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Trinidad and Tobago
45	The Kyogen Theatre – Nagomi Kyogen Czech	Brno, Czech Republic	Promotion of Japanese culture in the Czech Republic
46	Italy-Japan Business Group (IJBG)	Rome, Italy Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Italy
47	Central Cooperativa Nikkei Agrícola Limitada	Fernando de la Mora, Central, Paraguay	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Paraguay
48	NITTAI KOUZA TOMONOKAI	Yamato-shi, Kanagawa, Japan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Taiwan
49	La Serena City's Japanese Garden "Kokoro no Niwa"	La Serena, Coquimbo, Chile	Promotion of Japanese culture in Chile
50	Hakuba-Club	Hannover, Lower Saxony, Germany	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Germany

No.	GROUP NAME	ADDRESS	SERVICES
51	Federación de Asociaciones Japonesas y Nikkei del Paraguay	Fernando de la Mora, Central, Paraguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Paraguay
52	Vancouver Japanese Language School and Japanese Hall	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	Promotion of Japanese language education in Canada
53	Vancouver Japanese Business Association of Commerce and Industry (KONWAKAI)	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and Canada
54	The Philippines-Japan Economic Cooperation Committee, Inc. / The Japan-Philippines Economic Cooperation Committee	Makati, Republic of the Philippines Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan	Promotion of economic relations between Japan and the Philippines
55	Association Ecole Japonaise du Puy-de-Dôme Ichigokaï	Clermont-Ferrand, France	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and France
56	Bhutan Judo Association	Tashi Pelkhil, Thimphu, Bhutan	Promotion of Judo in Bhutan
57	FUJINBORANTIYA HIMAWARIKAI	Pirapó, Itapua, Paraguay	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Paraguay
58	Culture Association「Yamato」	Casale Monferrato, Italy	Promotion of Japanese culture in Italy
59	Nagano Kenjinkai México	Mexico City, México	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Mexico
60	Le Centre de la langue japonaise de Montréal The Montreal Japanese Language Center	Montréal, Quebec, Canada	Promotion of Japanese language education in Canada
61	Yamatotakada City	Yamatotakada-shi, Nara, Japan	Promotion of sister city exchange with Lismore city, Australia
62	Yamato Dojo Uruguay Budokan	Montevideo, Uruguay	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Uruguay through martial arts
63	JICA Alumni Association Cultural in Jordan (JAACJ)	Amman, Jordan	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Jordan
64	Asociación Cultural Japonesa de La Colmena	La Colmena, Paraguari, Paraguay	Promotion of implementation of consular and migration services in Paraguay
65	LA PAZ BOLIVIAN JAPANESE CULTURAL FOUNDATION	La Paz, Bolivia	Promotion of Japanese language education and Japanese culture in Bolivia
66	Little Tokyo Historical Society	Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.	Promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A
67	Wayra JaponAndes	La Paz, Bolivia	Promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and Bolivia through music

Excellent Executive Official Chef of Japan's Overseas Mission for FY 2026

		Name	Speciality	Place of work (Overseas Establishments)	Duration of work
1		Jumpei Asai	Japanese Cuisine French Cuisine	Consulate General of Japan in Boston	Jan. 2023 – Present
2	*	Muneyuki Izawa	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka Embassy of Japan in the United Arab Emirates Embassy of Japan in Cambodia	Oct. 2011 – Oct. 2018 Jan. 2019 – Jul. 2021 Jan. 2023 – Present
3		Muneo Imada	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in South Africa	Dec. 2022 – Present
4	*	Kazuhito Kawahira	French Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Paraguay Embassy of Japan in Colombia Embassy of Japan in Slovakia Embassy of Japan in Timor-Leste Embassy of Japan in Papua New Guinea Embassy of Japan in Pakistan	Jun. 2008 – Sep. 2011 Oct. 2012 – Oct. 2015 Apr. 2016 – Jan. 2020 Mar. 2020 – Nov. 2022 Jul. 2023 – Nov. 2024 Dec. 2024 – Present
5		Kanchittapol Onsri	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Laos	Sep. 2019 – Present
6		Satoru Kubota	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka Embassy of Japan in Sweden	Nov. 2021 – Oct. 2024 Nov. 2024 – Present
7		Akio Sato	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Portugal	Jul. 2023 – Present
8		Kentaro Shibayama	Japanese Cuisine	Consulate-General of Japan in Leon	Apr. 2020 – Present
9		Akinori Suzuki	French Cuisine	Consulate-General of Japan in Brisbane	Jul. 2023 – Present
10		Atsushi Suzuki	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Denmark	Oct. 2022 – Present
11	*	Daisuke Suzuki	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in the Philippines Embassy of Japan in Spain	Mar. 2016 – Jul. 2024 Jul. 2024 – Present
12		Keita Sotozono	French Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in the Netherlands	Jan. 2023 – Present

13	*	Hiroomi Takabayashi	French Cuisine	Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit Embassy of Japan in Denmark Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO	Nov. 2006 – Jun. 2009 Oct. 2010 – Aug. 2013 Dec. 2017 – Mar. 2020 Jan. 2024 – Present
14		Kennosuke Tachikawa	Chinese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Guinea	Dec. 2022 – Present
15		Yoko Nakazono	French Cuisine	Delegation of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament	Dec. 2023 – Present
16	*	Kazuyuki Miyaoka	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Russia Embassy of Japan in Chile Embassy of Japan in Chile	May. 2011 – Jan. 2016 Sep. 2020 – Nov. 2023 Jan. 2024 – Present
17	*	Kosei Miyamura	Japanese Cuisine French Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Myanmar Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka Consulate-General of Japan in Strasbourg	Apr. 2014 – Mar. 2018 Oct. 2018 – Nov. 2021 Nov. 2022 – Mar. 2026
18	*	Shigenobu Morimoto	French Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Germany Embassy of Japan in Nigeria Embassy of Japan in Panama	Mar. 2012 – Feb. 2022 May. 2022 – Oct. 2024 Oct. 2024 – Present
19		Satoshi Yamamoto	French Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in Peru	Oct. 2023 – Present
20		Asuka Yoshinari	Japanese Cuisine	Consulate-General of Japan in Vladivostok Embassy of Japan in Latvia	Nov. 2021 – Aug. 2024 Oct. 2024 – Present
21		Kiyotaka Yoshihashi	Japanese Cuisine	Embassy of Japan in the United States of America	Jan. 2024 – Present
22		Toshiaki Watanabe	French Cuisine	Consulate-General of Japan in Marseille	Feb. 2024 – Present

*Awarded for a second time for having as a chef for Chef of Japan's Overseas Mission for an extended period of time.