National Day of Fiji

PUBLICITY

Fiji always committed to being a good global citizen

By Filimone Waqabaca Ambassador of Fiji

TO HEAL AND HOPE

It is with great pleasure and honor on this memorable occasion that I extend, on behalf of the President of the Republic of

Fiji, H.E. Ratu Wiliame Maivalili Katonivere, and the government and people of Fiji, warm greetings to Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor



and Empress.

and the members of the Imperial Household, as well as to the government of Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and people of this great nation, Japan. I also extend warm greetings and "bula vinaka" to all Fijians and friends of Fiji in Japan.

Fiji-Japan relations

The government and people of Fiji are grateful for the special bond underlying its relationship with Japan since establishing diplomatic ties 54 years ago. Japan continues to be Fiji's vital development partner, and over the years, the government of Japan has contributed immensely to Fiji's socioeconomic development. I express my sincere appreciation to Japan for providing official development assistance worth over \$1.6 billion to Fiji since the establishment of



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our bilateral relationship in 1970. Japan's ODA program, through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), provides valuable support for Fiji's human and physical resources, including valuable humanitarian assistance in times of natural disasters. Since 1983, JICA's volunteer scheme has dispatched 765 volunteers to Fiji.

Reassuring Fiji that we will overcome all the hardships encountered and our hope will be restored Courtesy of Embassy of Fiji

Fiji's commitment to being a good global citizen is manifested through its ongoing engagement with the United Nations and the leading role it continues to play in various international forums. Fiji continues to advocate for the PALM Process, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the fight against global warming and safeguarding the health of our oceans, adopting an inclusive and caring approach to all parties concerned to ensure that no one is left behind.

Fiji is also committed to our obliga-

tion to implement human rights covenants and conventions based on the Universal Declaration and continue to uphold global peace and security.

Our 2024 Fiji Day theme also reassures our nation that we have and

will overcome all the hardships encountered, and our hope is restored, for there will always be better times ahead.

May I extend our sincere appreciation to all our corporate sponsors, The Japan News, Fiji's Honorary Consular Corp in Japan, the Japan-Fiji Parliamentary Friendship League, the Fijian community and friends for their continued support and commitment to the promotion of goodwill between Japan and Fiji.

May God bless Fiji-Japan relations.



to the People of the Republic of Fiji on the 54th Anniversary of Their Independence

Akita-Fiji Friendship Association ^{Chairman} Yoshiyuki Tsuji Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Fiji in Akita

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