

Introductory Call on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe by Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

At 9:40 am on 25th April 2016, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore made an introductory call on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The call lasted approximately 25 minutes. The summary of the meeting is as follows.

1. At the beginning of the meeting, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe expressed his appreciation for Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's condolence message for the Earthquake Centered in the Kumamoto Region of Kumamoto Prefecture. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe then conveyed his warm welcome towards Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, who is making his introductory visit to Japan in his capacity as Foreign Minister of the Republic of Singapore to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Singapore.
2. After conveying his condolences for the Earthquake Centered in the Kumamoto Region of Kumamoto Prefecture, Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan stated that Singapore stands ready to render whatever assistance and support to Japan. The Foreign Minister also said he was glad to be able to visit Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on his first visit to Japan as the Foreign Minister of Singapore. He went on to mention that Singapore publicly supports Japan's "Proactive Contribution to Peace" and that Singapore believes and supports Japan's recently enforced Legislation for Peace and Security in strengthening the Japan-US alliance as the pillar for regional peace and stability. Foreign Minister Balakrishnan also stated that Singapore will further its cooperation with Japan to develop the two countries' bilateral relations, with the hope of contributing to regional peace and stability.
3. Finally, Prime Minister Abe, having expressed his gratitude to Singapore for its understanding and support for Japan, stated that he was delighted that great strides had been made by Singapore's former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and former leaders of both countries in building a close relationship between Japan and Singapore over the last 50 years. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe also expressed his hopes for a year of greater advancements befitting the celebration of 50 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Japan and Singapore agreed to work in close cooperation towards the success of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.