

The Official Answer from
His Excellency, Mr Yamagami Shingo, Ambassador of Japan to Australia
regarding the Question raised by Senator the Hon Concetta Anna Fierravanti-Wells
during the Senate Public Hearings held on 24th August

【Relevant Question】

“Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Just very quickly before I go, the Pacific Islands Forum in 2016, as part of its disaster risk management, adopted the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific. A key component of that was the Pacific Resilience Facility. Now that the Pacific Island Forum has released the framework of that facility, given the necessity that its capitalisation is about \$1.5 billion, I welcome your views as to whether leading partners, such as Australia and Japan, in the Pacific should lead the way and commit to substantial capitalisation of the funds as well as encourage other development partners in the region to do likewise.

Ambassador Yamagami: As for your specific question, let me look into that. I'll talk with my colleagues in Tokyo, and I will get back to you¹.”

【Official Answer】

Climate change is an important issue for the international community. During PALM9, which was hosted by Japan this July, climate change and disaster resilience was emphasized as one of the priority areas of cooperation for the next 3 years.

In regards to the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific, this was raised by a number of PIF leaders during PALM9. In response, PM Suga welcomed the PIF's efforts to build resilience to climate change and disasters, including through the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific, as stated in the Leader's Declaration.

Although the Government of Japan, at present, does not intend to contribute funds to the facility, the Government of Japan would like to closely monitor discussions among the PIF countries (including the effects from five of the Micronesian countries leaving the PIF) for future consideration.

¹ Cited from the website of Parliament of Australia
<https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22committees%2Fcommittee%2Fba2a597b-4fd3-4095-a5fa-5df1299f7111%2F0000%22>