

Provisional translation by FPCJ

# Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM) in Japanese Diplomacy

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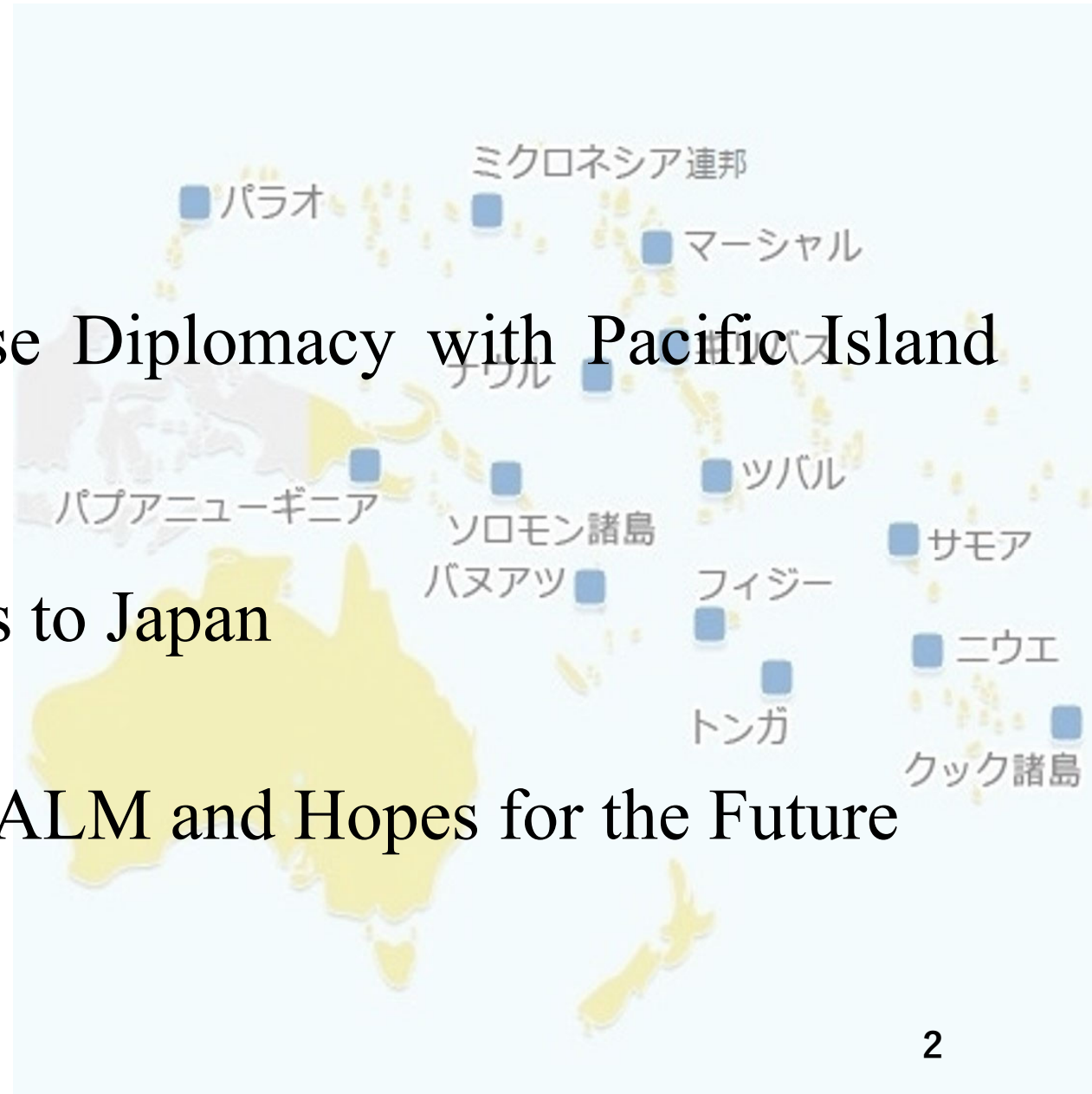
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# Briefing Outline

I. History of Japanese Diplomacy with Pacific Island Countries (PICs)

II. Importance of PICs to Japan

III. Achievements of PALM and Hopes for the Future





# I. History of Japanese Diplomacy with PICs (1)

- 1979

- © The Japanese government announced plans to experimentally dispose of low-level nuclear waste in the Mariana Trench. (Ohira Cabinet)
- © PICs vehemently opposed the plan to dispose of nuclear waste.
- © Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira announced the Pacific Basin Cooperation Concept. He died in June 1980.

- 1980

- © The South Pacific Forum (SPF, now the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)) debated stopping Japan's marine disposal of nuclear waste
- © A growing number of voices protested dumping nuclear waste in the Pacific. This led to Japan engaging in diplomacy with PICs in earnest.

- 1985

- © Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone announced the cancellation of the nuclear waste marine disposal project.
- © PM Nakasone visited Fiji and Papua New Guinea, the first time a Japanese prime minister visited a PIC.



# I. History of Japanese Diplomacy with PICs (2)

- 1987

© Minister of Foreign Affairs Tadashi Kuranari (Nakasone Cabinet) visited Fiji and gave a speech at the SPF. He announced five principles for Pacific cooperation (the Kuranari Doctrine).

- ① Respect for independence and autonomy
- ② Support for regional cooperation
- ③ Preserving political stability
- ④ Expanding economic cooperation
- ⑤ Promoting exchange by individuals

- 1989

© SPF Post-Forum Dialogues with non-member countries began.  
Japan sent vice-ministerial level attendees. Continued attendance since.

- October 1997

© The first PALM was held. Since then, it has been held every 3 years, with PALM10 being held this year.





# I. History of Japanese Diplomacy with PICs (3)

☆The Forgotten Pacific Doctrine

1982 (Suzuki Doctrine)

© Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki visited Hawaii when returning from Washington and gave a speech at the East-West Center.

He announced five principles for Japanese policies for the Pacific

- ① Peaceful ocean (cooperation on efforts to maintain peace)
- ② Free ocean (free exchange of people and goods)
- ③ Diverse ocean (respect for individuality of each nation)
- ④ Mutually beneficial ocean (mutual reliance and mutual understanding)
- ⑤ Open ocean (connections to other regions)



The background of the slide is a photograph of a tropical setting. It features a traditional hut with a thick, brown thatched roof and light-colored wooden walls. Several palm trees are visible, some leaning over the hut. The foreground is filled with lush green foliage, including large-leafed plants and a path. The overall atmosphere is warm and tropical.

## II. Importance of PICs to Japan (1) (Valued neighbors sharing the ocean)

### (1) Historic Connections Since the Meiji Restoration (1868)

#### ① Japanese Emigration

##### ◎ Hawaii:

- 150 Japanese immigrants to Hawaii in 1868 (Immigration Treaty began in 1885), in the 1930s 37.9% of the Hawaiian population was ethnically Japanese

##### ◎ New Caledonia:

- 600 Japanese immigrants in 1892, a total of 5,575 by 1919

##### ◎ Tahiti:

- 137 Japanese immigrants in 1911, 223 in 1912

##### ◎ Others:

- Small numbers of Japanese emigrated to Fiji and Guam for work



A tropical beach scene with palm trees and turquoise water. The sky is blue with some clouds. The beach is sandy and there are some fallen palm fronds in the foreground.

## II. Importance of PICs to Japan (2) (Valued neighbors sharing the ocean)

### ② Mandate Territories

© From 1914, Japan governed Micronesia as the South Sea Islands (present day Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau and Northern Mariana Islands.)

© As of 1940, the Japanese population there was approximately 85,000, and the local population 51,000

### ③ Pacific War

© Micronesia and Melanesia became battlegrounds in the Japan-US conflict

© 600,000 Japanese soldiers were sent to fight there. 100,000 returned alive.



## II. Importance of PICs to Japan (3) (Valued neighbors sharing the ocean)

(2) Suppliers of marine products, minerals, energy, etc.

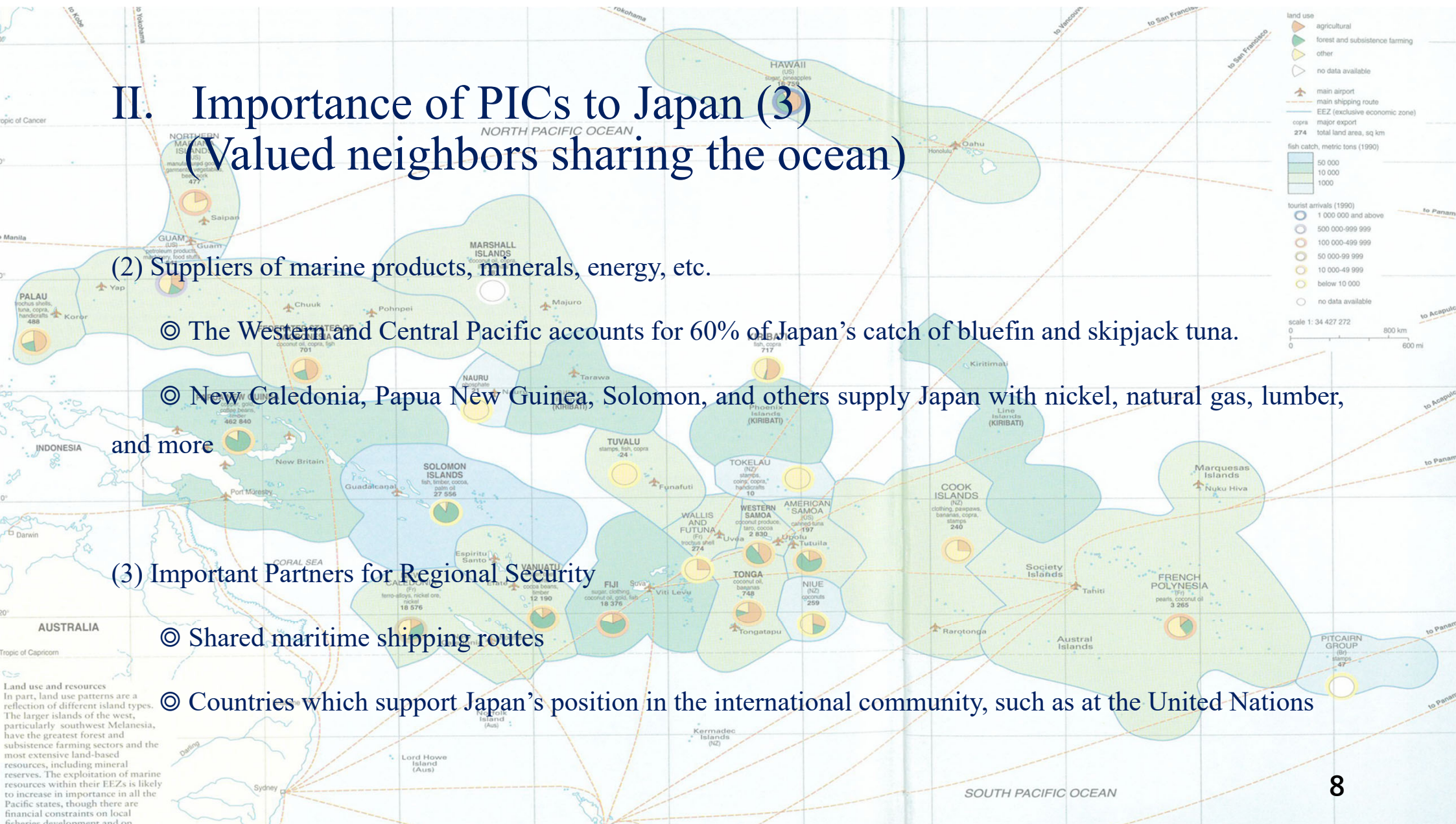
© The Western and Central Pacific accounts for 60% of Japan's catch of bluefin and skipjack tuna.

© New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon, and others supply Japan with nickel, natural gas, lumber, and more

(3) Important Partners for Regional Security

© Shared maritime shipping routes

© Countries which support Japan's position in the international community, such as at the United Nations





# III. Achievements of PALM and Hopes for the Future

## (1) Achievements of the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM)

No.	Year	Venue	Prime Minister	Dialogue Results Summary
1	1997	Fukuoka	Ryutaro Hashimoto	Agree to hold PALM every three years
2	2000	Miyazaki	Yoshiro Mori	Reinforce Pacific Frontier Diplomacy
3	2003	Okinawa	Junichiro Koizumi	Cooperation in five priority areas for the Okinawa Initiative
4	2006	Okinawa	Junichiro Koizumi	Okinawa Partnership Japan promised to cooperate with the PIF's Pacific Plan, and announced a total of 45 billion yen in assistance over three years.
5	2009	Hokkaido	Taro Aso	Islanders' Hokkaido Declaration Provided 45 billion yen as a Pacific Environment Contribution Fund. Announced a total of 50 billion yen in assistance over three years.
6	2012	Okinawa	Yoshihiko Noda	Okinawa Kizuna Declaration. Announced a total of 500 million dollars in assistance over three years.
7	2015	Fukushima	Shinzo Abe	Fukushima Iwaki Declaration - Building Prosperous Future Together Announced a total of at least 55 billion yen in assistance and reaching out to 4,000 people through human resource development and people-to-people exchanges over three years.
8	2018	Fukushima	Shinzo Abe	PALM Leaders' Declaration: Maritime Order based on the Rule of Law, and Sustainability of Ocean Resources/Connecting Pacific Citizens No specific amount was indicated for assistance, at least as much as before was promised.
9	2021	Online	Yoshihide Suga	Joint Action Plan for Strengthening Pacific Bonds and for Mutual Prosperity. New topics such as the ALPS treated water and COVID-19 were discussed, and an action plan for regional cooperation was presented. No specific amount was indicated for assistance, at least as much as before was promised.
10	2024	Tokyo	Fumio Kishida	



# III. Achievements of PALM and Hopes for the Future

## (2) The 10th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM10) and hopes for the future

© Japan will announce intent to work together with PICs to solve shared regional issues

- Full support and cooperation for the PIF 2050 Strategy

- ① Political leadership and regionalism, ② People centered development,

- ③ Peace and security, ④ Resource and economic development,

- ⑤ Climate change and disasters, ⑥ Ocean and natural environment,

- ⑦ Technology and connectivity

## (3) Future hopes for PALM (My personal hopes)

© Japan demonstrating leadership to strengthen regional solidarity, disregarding any political strategic perspective.

- Increased discussion between Japan and PICs towards the establishment of an organization for regional solidarity based around PALM.

