



*Pacific Leaders Roundtable Meeting  
on Water and Sanitation*

Asia-Pacific Water Forum

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**5<sup>th</sup> APWF GC**



# Pacific Islands Leaders Roundtable Meeting on Water and Sanitation

20 May 2009

At The World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center

## Organized by

Japan Water Forum (JWF)

Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF)

## Supported by

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

The World Bank Tokyo Office

Chair: Mr. Yoshiro Mori, President of Asia-Pacific Water Forum, President of Japan Water Forum, Former Prime Minister of Japan



# Programme

## Remarks by:

H. E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori

H.E. Ms. Seiko Hashimoto, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Japan

H.E. Mr. Kazushige Taniguchi, Special Representative, Japan, The World Bank

## Pacific Islands Leaders

H.E. Mr. Emanuel Manny Mori, President of the **Federated States of Micronesia**

H.E. Mr. Marcus Stephen, President of the Republic of **Nauru**

H.E. Mr. Litokwa Tomeing, President of the Republic of the **Marshall Islands**

H.E. Mr. Johnson Tribiong, President of the Republic of **Palau**

H.E. Mr. Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister of the Independent State of **Samoa**

H.E. Mr. Feleti Sevele, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of **Tonga**

H.E. Mr. Anote Tong, President of Republic of **Kiribati**, Vice Chair of the 1st Asia-Pacific Water Summit

## Representatives

H.E. Mr. Gabriel Kapris, Minister for Commerce & Industry, Independent State of **Papua New Guinea**

H.E. Mr. Ratu Inoke Kubuabola, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of the **Fiji** Islands in Japan



# Speech Highlights



## Issues of Significance

- water shortages
- flooding events
- lack of adequate infrastructure facilities and equipment
- deteriorating water quality conditions
- sea level rise threats

## Key Messages from the Leaders

- heavy reliance on outside assistance for tackling their water woes
- their nations' gratefulness for Japanese assistance
- the complexity of the web of challenges facing them
- their resolve in fulfilling the commitments and policy recommendations stemming from the 1st APWS



# Ministers for Water Security

## Endorsements

“I reaffirm my government’s full support of Ministers for Water Security Initiative in the Asia-Pacific Region” –H.E. Mr. Emanuel Manny Mori, President of the Federated States of Micronesia.

“The Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands aligns itself in support of the Ministers for Water Security Initiative in Asia Pacific.” –H.E. Mr. Litokwa Tomeing, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.





# Concluding Statements

H.E. Mr. Anote Tong, President of the Republic of Kiribati noted that it is “evident from interventions coming from leaders around the table that we are facing problems in various forms with regards to water and sanitation. It is also evident from the discussions held at this meeting that there is a genuine desire from leaders in our countries to turn to the issues confronting them in terms of water and that we can only achieve much of the solution to our problems through effective partnerships”.

H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori in his Chair’s Summary stated that “the roundtable meeting called for ‘water security’ to be mainstreamed in national development agendas, with the recognition that more investments and regional cooperation are needed. In addition, participants agreed to facilitate cooperation and coordination among various sectors involved in water in each country as well as promoting the APWF Ministers for Water Security Initiative, which aims to send a strong message regarding regional water issues to the international community”.



# Impact

Mr. Mori personally handed his Chair's Summary personally to PM Taro Aso, in advance of the fifth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM 5) held in Hokkaido later in the week.

At PALM 5, Japan committed to : US\$527 million over the next three years to Pacific Countries to help them fight climate change.

'Water and Sanitation' is included as an item in the Scope of Cooperation section of the PALM 5 Declaration.