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Office of the President

Japan Goodwill Ambassador to Palau Commits to Stronger Partnership and Cooperation in Support of Palau's Tourism Industry

Japan Goodwill Ambassador to Palau Mr. Shiro Kiyokawa reaffirmed his commitment for stronger partnership and cooperation with the Republic of Palau in the area of tourism during his courtesy visit with President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. on December 5, 2018 held at the President's Satellite Office in Koror.

Mr. Kiyokawa, a corporate adviser for the Hokuto Kensetsu Co. Ltd., who was accompanied to the meeting by four other notable business representatives from Japan, announced their plans to explore the possibilities of opening a 24/7 convenience store, a foreign currency exchange, and a \$1 dollar store similar to *daiso* stores in Japan, to help increase and support the number of Japanese visitors to Palau in addition to supporting Palau's economic growth.

In his capacity as Goodwill Ambassador to Palau, Mr. Kiyokawa also expressed his support of re-establishing direct flight services between Palau and Japan and vowed to assist and promote Palau as a tourist destination. He further expressed his commitment to continue to encourage and promote stronger cooperation between both nations.

President Remengesau thanked Goodwill Ambassador Kiyokawa for his contributions to Palau's economic development as well as his efforts in strengthening and promoting the special bond of friendship Palau and Japan shares.

Mr. Kiyokawa was appointed by President Remengesau as Goodwill Ambassador on February 19, 2018 with a portfolio of supporting Palau's high-value tourism strategy and Palau's Marine Sanctuary initiatives as well as promoting trade and culture exchanges.