



TRAVEL REPORT

VISIT TO JAPAN AND LONDON

by

The Honourable John Mickel MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Queensland Parliament

2 - 21 March 2010

PROGRAM

Time Differences

Japan **1 hour behind Brisbane**

London **10 hours behind Brisbane**

Tuesday 2 March

5.45pm Depart Brisbane Domestic Airport for Sydney on flight QF553

8.20pm Arrive in Sydney and transfer to International Airport

10.05pm Depart Sydney for New Tokyo International Airport on flight QF21

Wednesday 3 March (Tokyo)

6.10am Arrive at the New Tokyo International Airport, Narita and met by
**Mr Tak Adachi, Commissioner Japan, Trade Queensland
Office Tokyo**

 Depart for Imperial Hotel Tokyo by Government car driven by
Commissioner

 Arrive at the **VIP Entrance**, Imperial Hotel

Accommodation
Imperial Hotel Tokyo
1-1-1 Uchidaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Tel: +81-3-3504-1111

 Briefing on Japan by Commissioner Japan and visit Trade
Queensland Office Japan to meet staff

9:40am Depart Imperial Hotel for the National Diet Building – the House of
Representatives by a hire car

10:00am -
10:30am Courtesy call on Seishiro Eto, Vice Speaker, the House of
Representatives

 Venue: Office of the Vice Speaker
2-1-2 Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Interpreter: Ms. Chiga Funaki

10:40am Depart for Imperial Hotel by hire car

11:50am	Depart Imperial Hotel for “La Rochelle” by hire car
12:30pm - 2:00pm	Lunch with Mr Takaku AM and Mr Tomohiko Taniguchi, Advisor to Chairman of JR East Japan, Former Vice Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
	Venue “La Rochelle” Shibuya Cross Tower 32F 2-15-1 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo +81-3-3400-8220
2:00pm	Depart “La Rochelle” for Imperial Hotel by hire car
3:15pm	Depart Imperial Hotel for Idemitsu Kosan by hire car
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Meeting with Chairman Akihito Tembo and President Kazuhisa Nakano of Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd and inspection of Idemitsu Art Museum
	Venue Chairman’s Room, Idemitsu Kosan Marunouchi Kokusai Bldg. 1-1-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo Interpreter: Ms Chiga Funaki
4:30pm	Depart Idemitsu Kosan for ADVAN
5:00pm- 6:00pm	Meeting with ADVAN Co. Ltd. Courtesy call on President Masanosuke Yamagata and inspection of the show room (B1 Floor – 3rd Floor)
	Venue ADVAN Headquarters and show room 4-32-14 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo Tel: +81-3-3475-0194 (Mr Yoshinosuke Yamagata, Exe Director)
	Interpreter: Ms Chiga Funaki
6:00pm	Depart ADVAN for Imperial Hotel
	Accommodation Imperial Hotel Tokyo 1-1-1 Uchidaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo Tel: +81-3-3504-1111

Thursday 4 March (Tokyo/Saitama/Tokyo/Kyoto)

8:40am	Depart Imperial Hotel for the No. 1 Office Building of the House of Representatives in Nagatacho
	Met by Ms. Sakaguchi, Secretary to Mr. Shuhei Kishimoto
9:00am - 10:00am	Meeting with Mr Shuhei Kishimoto (Member of the House of Representatives), Dr Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi (Member of Diet Budget Committee, Member of the House of Representatives)
10:00am - 11:00am	Tour of the House of Representatives guided by Ms Sakaguchi, Secretary to Mr Kishimoto and an English speaking staff, International Protocol Division, House of Representatives.
11:00am	Depart the National Diet Building for Imperial Hotel by hire car
11:15am	Depart Imperial Hotel for Peninsula Hotel in Yurakucho for lunch meeting
11:30am - 12:30pm	Lunch with President Yoshitaro Iwasaki , Iwasaki Sangyo Co Ltd and Mr Tadahiro Matsushita , Vice Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, People's New Party, Member of the House of Representatives. • Iwasaki Sangyo was the pioneer investor in Queensland tourism industry from Japan, starting in the '70s. The company has been looking for an opportunity to run a stock farm in Queensland.
	Venue "Tsuruya" Japanese Restaurant in The Peninsula Tokyo, B1 1-8-1 Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo Tel of "Tsuruya": +81-3-6270-2715
12:30pm	Depart The Peninsula Tokyo for Saitama by car
2:00pm - 4:00pm	Courtesy call on Governor Kiyoshi Ueda of Saitama Prefecture and Chairman Nobuo Okunoki of Saitama Prefectural Assembly
	Venue 3-15-1 Takasago, Urawa-ku, Saitama City, Saitama Prefecture. Tel: +81-48-830-2713 (International Division – Ms. Ogawa)
	Interpreter: Ms Funaki (arranged through TQO Japan)
4:00pm	Depart for Imperial Hotel Tokyo by car
5:30pm	Return to Imperial Hotel
6:00pm	Depart Imperial Hotel for JR Tokyo Station by car

6:30pm Depart JR Tokyo Station for Kyoto by Shinkansen (bullet train)
Nozomi #125

8:50pm Arrive at Kyoto Station

Met by the driver of hire car at Hachijouguchi

Depart for Westin Miyako Hotel Kyoto by hire car

Accommodation

Westin Miyako Hotel Kyoto
Keage, Sanjo, Higashiyama-ku,
Kyoto
TEL:+81-75-771-7111

Friday 5 March (Kyoto/Osaka/Kyoto)

8:20am Depart Westin Miyako Hotel for Osaka Prefectural Government by
hire car (about 1hour and 30 minutes)

10:00am - 10:50am Courtesy call on **Governor Toru Hashimoto** of Osaka and
Speaker Hidemi Asakura of Osaka Prefectural Assembly

Met by Ms Okayama, International Division, at the Main Entrance
of the Osaka Prefectural Government Bldg. and escorted to the
Governor's office.

10.55am Depart Osaka Prefectural Government for lunch meeting with
Sekisui House

12:40pm Met by **Mr Mitsuoka** of Sekisui House at the main lobby of New
Otani Hotel Osaka to depart for Nishinomiya Marina City by car
provided by Sekisui House

Visit to Sekisui House's projects in Nishinomiya, Kobe – Rokko
Island, and Osaka: Nishinomiya Marina City, apartment building
developments in Osaka

Depart for the Headquarters of Sekisui House Co Ltd to meet
Chairman Wada

Venue

Board Guest Room,
Sky East Bldg. 20F
1-1-88 Ohyodonaka, Kita-ku, Osaka
(Contact: Mr. Suguro, Director of Secretariat
Tel: +81-6-6440-3000)

After the courtesy call on Chairman Wada, dinner will be hosted by Sekisui House

Venue

Westin Hotel Osaka
1-1-20 Ohyodonaka, Kita-ku, Osaka
Tel: +81-6-6440-1111

After the dinner depart for Westin Miyako Hotel Kyoto by car provided by Sekisui House

Accommodation

Westin Miyako Hotel Kyoto
Keage, Sanjo, Higashiyama-ku,
Kyoto
TEL:+81-75-771-7111

Saturday 6 March (Osaka/Kyoto/Tokyo)

- 9:00am Visit **Kyoto Imperial Palace**
(One hour tour in the Kyoto Imperial Palace has been booked through the Imperial Household Agency.)
- After Kyoto Imperial Palace, visit to historical places in Kyoto by taxi
- 1:30pm Depart Westin Miyako Hotel for Kyoto Station by hire car
- 2:16pm Depart Kyoto Station for Tokyo by Shinkansen (bullet train)
Nozomi #26
- 4:33pm Arrive at Tokyo Station and depart for Imperial Hotel by hire car

Accommodation

Imperial Hotel Tokyo
1-1-1 Uchidaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Tel: +81-3-3504-1111

Sunday 7 March

- 7:50am Luggage collection and checkout procedures
- 8:00am Depart Imperial Hotel **VIP** Exit for New Tokyo International Airport, Narita by hire car
- 11.10am Depart for London from New Tokyo International Airport, Narita on flight BA6

2.25pm Arrive at Heathrow International Airport and transfer to hotel (refer to travel options sheet)

Accommodation

Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel
200 Westminster Bridge Road
London
Ph: +44 844 4156790

Reservation Number: 74P63H5

SUNDAY 7 MARCH		SATURDAY 13 MARCH	SUNDAY 14 MARCH
Arrival day		Tour of London (optional)	Free day
MONDAY 8 MARCH Commonwealth Day, International Women's Day		MONDAY 15 MARCH	
Tour of Parliament Welcome and Introduction to the Seminar Women in the 21 st Century <i>Lunch</i> <i>Commonwealth Day Observance at Westminster Abbey</i> <i>Reception at Marlborough House in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen (limited number of tickets available – issued by ballot)</i>		The Speaker's Role in Parliament The Serjeant At Arms <i>Reception as guests of Rt Hon. John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons</i> <i>Lunch</i> The Industry and Parliament Trust The Electoral Commission	
TUESDAY 9 MARCH		TUESDAY 16 MARCH	
The Westminster Parliamentary System Political update Bicameralism and the work of a second chamber <i>Lunch</i> The role of the Opposition Debates <i>Clerk of the House of Commons Reception</i>		Broadcasting Parliament Engaging with the media The Public Accounts Committee <i>Lunch</i> Young people and Parliament: Engaging the next generation Open Forum: Scrutiny and Accountability How is Parliament run?	
WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH		WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH	
Questions Public Expenditure Scrutiny of the Prime Minister (view Prime Minister's Questions) <i>Lunch</i> The legislative Process Open Forum: Effective Legislation The Committee System <i>Reception at No. 10 Downing Street</i>		Paying for Parliament Resources for former Members Working relations in Parliament: Ensuring Excellence <i>Lunch</i> Open Forum: Representing Diversity Research and information services for Members MPs and the Internet	
THURSDAY 11 MARCH		THURSDAY 18 MARCH	
Parliamentary Standards Hansard Party discipline in Parliament <i>Lunch</i> Open Forum: Running Parliament The role of an MP in the constituency		Parliamentary democracy: strengthening and supporting Climate change: the role of Parliamentarians The Financial Crisis and Regulation <i>Farewell lunch in the House of Lords</i> Summing up and feedback Closing session and presentation of Seminar certificates	
FRIDAY 12 MARCH		FRIDAY 19 MARCH	
Constituency Visits		Departure day	

Thursday 18 March

Depart London for Heathrow Airport

10pm Depart Heathrow for Singapore on Flight QF10

Friday 19 March

6.40pm Arrive in Singapore

9.05pm Depart Singapore for Brisbane on Flight QF52

Saturday 20 March

6.50am Arrive in Brisbane

COUNTRY BRIEF – JAPAN

Capital:	Tokyo
Official Language:	Japanese
Population:	127.6 million (2009)
Real GDP growth:	0.3% (quarter change, 3rd quarter 2009)
Forecast GDP growth:	-5.4% (annual change, 2009 estimate) 1.7% (annual change, 2010 estimate)

Trade Queensland Office (Tokyo)

Commissioner: Tak Adachi

Address: Suite 1303 Yurakucho Denki Building
7-1 Yurakucho 1 - chome
Chiyoda - ku
Tokyo 100-0006 JAPAN

Phone: +81 (0) 3 3201 7864

Mobile: 090 2300 0165

Country Overview

Political (Source: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)

- Japan is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary government.
- The Head of State is the Emperor which is a hereditary position. His Majesty Emperor Akihito ascended the throne in January 1989 as the 125th Emperor of Japan
- On 30 August 2009, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) won the Lower House election by a landslide, claiming more than 300 seats in the 480-seat chamber. The victory by the main opposition party ended more than half a century of almost uninterrupted rule by the Liberal Democratic Party. The President of the DPJ, Mr Yukio Hatoyama was ushered in as the new Prime Minister in mid-September.
- The current list of Japanese Ministers is attached.

Economic (Source: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)

- Japan's economy, the second largest in the world, is highly efficient and very competitive. Japan imports high quantities of mineral resources to support its diversified, advanced and successful industrial base.
- In the June quarter 2009, Japan's economy grew by 0.9% on a quarter by quarter basis, after contracting for four straight quarters, and Japan's exports rose 6.4%, the first increase in five quarters, on the coat-tails of a fiscal stimulus driven recovery in its biggest trading partner, China.

- Although Japan's economy has started to grow again, unemployment has crept up to 5.7%, the highest level since the second world war.

Trade and Investment – Japan – Queensland

Overview (Source: Queensland Treasury, Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR) and Trade Queensland)

- In 2008–09 (preliminary), Queensland's merchandise exports to Japan were valued at \$16,556 million, representing 29.4 per cent of Queensland's total merchandise exports.
- In 2008-09 (preliminary), Queensland's total merchandise exports to Japan comprised 31.5 per cent of Australia's total merchandise exports to Japan.
- In 2008-09 (preliminary), major merchandise export items to Japan included Coal, coke and briquettes (\$10,258 million), Combined confidential items (\$3,141 million), Meat and meat preparations (\$1,670 million), Non-ferrous metals (\$578 million) and Feeding stuff for animals (excluding unmilled cereals) (\$308 million).
- Queensland's merchandise exports to Japan grew by 83.2 per cent or \$7,517 million, from \$9,039 million in 2007–08 to \$16,556 million in 2008–09 (preliminary).
- Trade Queensland assisted a wide cross-section of Queensland companies to export to Japan and in turn generated approximately A\$45 million in export outcomes during 2008-09. This result was achieved through a combination of direct business matching activities together with over 43 Japan-focused trade initiatives involving over 100 Queensland companies. Key sectors of focus have included leisure industries, education and training, food and agribusiness and equine.

Collaboration Activities (Source: Trade Queensland)

- On 13-18 December, the Hon. Andrew Fraser MP, Treasurer visited Japan as a special guest of the Japanese Government to forge high level relationships with Japanese politicians and key business figures.
- On 29 September-2 October 2009, the Honourable Andrew Fraser MP, Treasurer visited Japan during the annual Queensland Treasury Corporation mission and met five steel company executives to discuss the Government Asset Sales and other relevant issues.
- On 13-16 September 2009, the Honourable Stephen Robertson MP, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade visited Japan on route to the Asia Pacific Cities Summit 2009 in Korea.
- On 5 March 2009, the Honourable John Mickel MP, former Minister for Transport, Trade, Employment and Industrial Relations hosted a business reception in Brisbane for over 400 guests. Mr Makoto Hinei, the Consul-General of Japan was the official guest speaker and Trade Queensland Commissioner Tak Adachi also attended the event in celebration of the important and enduring Queensland-Japan relationship.
- On 3-5 April 2008, the Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Premier visited Japan on her first international mission as Premier of Queensland to reassure key Japanese coal buyers of Queensland's commitment to the industry and to encourage growth in trade and relationship with Japan.

- The Queensland-Japan relationship encompasses economic, scientific, educational, cultural and sporting exchanges, supported through closely developed government relationships at the national, prefectural and local level.
- The Queensland Government has well-established, formal government-to-government relationships with Saitama Prefecture, Osaka Prefecture, and Ehime Prefecture:

Agreement on the Sister Relationship between the State of Queensland and the Prefecture of Saitama, established on 27 October 1984 in Urawa City, Japan and celebrated the 20th anniversary in 2004;

Memorandum of Friendship Agreement between the State of Queensland and the Prefecture of Osaka, signed on 4 May 1988 in Brisbane.

Memorandum of Understanding on Economic Exchange between the State of Queensland and the Prefecture of Ehime signed on 24 November 1997 in Brisbane.

Science and Technology (Source: Trade Queensland and Office of Biotechnology, Therapeutic Medicines and Devices)

- The University of Queensland (UQ) has had a long-standing collaboration with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) on the development of scramjet technologies.
- The University of Queensland's Brain Institute has an Agreement with the Riken Brain Science Institute in Saitama which enables an exchange of researchers in the critical field of neuroscience.

Biotechnology (Source: Trade Queensland and Office of Biotechnology, Therapeutic Medicines and Devices)

- In March 2009, a delegation consisting of 11 Queensland companies, attended the International Food Ingredients and Additives conference in Tokyo, Japan. The Tokyo office of Trade Queensland assisted with the organisation of the delegation and provided opportunities for business matching with interested Japanese firms. The delegation included clients from the therapeutic medicine and nutraceutical space. Companies were able to showcase their products and present at the conference to over 32,000 attendees.
- In 2006 the Eskitis Institute for Cell and Molecular Therapies located at Griffith University was provided funding of \$300,000 by the Queensland Government Innovation Fund for the project The Genome Network of stem cells through the National and International Research Alliances Program. They partnered with Riken Genome Sciences Centre of Japan in undertaking this project.

Creative Industries (Source: Trade Queensland)

- Trade Queensland's contemporary music export strategy (QMEx) has identified Japan as a potential export market for Queensland contemporary music. Under QMEx, Trade Queensland is planning to appoint a booking agent and a marketing/PR service provider in Japan to assist Queensland music artists with touring, profiling and obtaining export outcomes. Meetings with potential partners will be undertaken at BIG SOUND Music Industry

Summit and Showcase 9-11 September 2009 in Brisbane to further assess the market and to build relationships.

Tourism (Source: Tourism Queensland and Trade Queensland)

- For the year ending March 2009, total overseas visitors to Queensland from Japan was 252,000. This represented a 23 per cent decline on the previous year. Visitor nights stayed in Queensland by Japanese tourists was down 18 per cent at 2,912,000 nights. Expenditure by Japanese visitors for this period was \$458 million, down 4 per cent on the previous year.
- Japan's Ms Mieko Kobayashi, one of 16 finalists out of 35,000 applicants for Tourism Queensland's "Best Job in the World," was recently appointed Tourism Ambassador for Queensland. Ms Kobayashi was awarded the role by Premier Anna Bligh at a ceremony at the Gold Coast on Monday 6 July 2009. Ms Kobayashi's Ambassador role will strengthen Queensland's exposure to Japan and entice more Japanese visitors to Queensland.

Education (Source: Australian Education International (AEI) Student Data, Trade Queensland and Department of Education and Training)

- Japan is Queensland's fifth largest source of students on long term student visas and Queensland hosts 30% of the total number of Japanese students studying in Australia.
- In calendar year-to-date (June 2009), Queensland had 2,800 Japanese student enrolments, representing 11.5 per cent decrease from calendar year-to-date (June 2008).
- In April 2008 Metropolitan Institute of TAFE announced it had signed an MOU with the Bunka Gakuen outlining the relationship between the two institutes in the area of fashion design, education and training.
- In July 2009, Gold Coast Institute of TAFE announced it had signed a joint agreement with Yomiuri Institute of Technology to open an office in Japan.
- In accordance with the Friendship Agreement Memorandum of 4 May 1988, and the Memorandum of Economic Cooperation Agreement of 21 August 1998, the 2009-10 Exchange Program between the Queensland State Government and the Osaka Prefectural Government includes a reciprocal Education Exchange between Queensland and Osaka teachers.

Clean Technologies and the Environment (Source: Enabling Technologies)

- In February 2009, Japan hosted the eighth annual NanoTech conference, which attracted 47,000 delegates and over 600 exhibiting companies from around the world. A Queensland delegation of nanotechnology businesses and researchers attended the conference in Tokyo, supported by the Queensland Government's Japan Office.

Primary Industries and Fisheries (Source: Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries (QPIF) and Trade Queensland))

- Japan is Queensland's largest export market (by value and volume) for beef. In 2008-09 (preliminary) Queensland exported more than 270.3 million kilograms of beef at a value of \$1,533.5 million. Queensland's second and third largest export markets for beef for 2008-09 (preliminary) are the United States of America (valued at over \$581 million) and South Korea (valued at \$361.6 million).

- Japan is one of the target markets for QPIF's Global Markets Initiative (GMI). As part of GMI, three consignments of Queensland mangoes were sent to Japan in 2008 season. GMI has so far generated \$87,925 in mango exports to Japan. More consignments are likely in the 2009 season with Japan being the focal export market for the mango industry this year.
- Trade Queensland led a trade mission to the International Food Ingredients and Additives (IFIA) Trade Fair in Tokyo in May 2009. A total of 10 Queensland companies participated in the trade mission. Overall, the IFIA trade mission was very successful as each of the participating clients was able to identify promising leads in the market. On average, each of the participating companies was able to generate an average of 5 solid leads each.

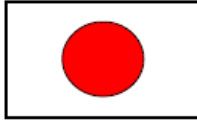
Mining and Energy (Source: Queensland Mines and Energy and Trade Queensland)

- Since 1988, Queensland Mines and Energy (QME) has had an ongoing relationship with the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organisation (NEDO). Discussions are underway concerning a government-to-government cooperative coal project.
- In February 2009 officers from QME's Exploration Attraction Unit again attended the Australia – Japan Mineral Exploration Investment seminar in Tokyo, to raise the profile of Queensland as Japan's preferred mineral and energy investment destination. During that visit individual presentations were also delivered to Mitsubishi Metals and the Japan Oil Gas and Metal National Corporation (JOGMEC) on Queensland exploration opportunities and geoscience initiatives.
- Japanese companies hold extensive interests in a large number of Queensland coal mining projects and as a result are one of Queensland's most important export coal customers. Since the onset of the global financial crisis and the resultant decline in Japanese steel production, Queensland coking coal exports to Japan decreased significantly.
- The following Japanese companies recently met with officers from QME to discuss mineral and energy investment opportunities in Queensland: Idemitsu and Osaka Gas; JFE Resources Australia; and ITOCHU Australia Ltd.

Callide Oxyfuel Project

- The Callide Oxyfuel Project aims to demonstrate how "oxyfiring" technology can be successfully retrofitted to an existing power station to produce near zero-emissions power generation, and to determine the requirements for a purpose built plant.
- The project involves the conversion of one of the 30 megawatt Callide A units (located near Biloela) to oxyfiring for the post combustion capture, transport and geological storage of approximately 10,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year over a nominal two to three year period.
- The Callide Oxyfuel Project is comprised of six partners — CS Energy, Schlumberger and Xstrata Coal, and a Japanese consortium comprising IHI Corporation, J-Power, and Mitsui and Co.

- The Japanese Government, through Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) has also provided support to the Project.
- The success of the project to date is an excellent example of the State and Federal Government, electricity generating industry and coal industry working in partnership with international organisations to achieve a beneficial outcome.
- Following on from its involvement in the Callide Oxyfuel Project, the Japanese Government (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) and industry members visited Australia in March 2008, to gain a better understanding of Queensland initiatives, research capability and demonstration projects which support the development of low emission coal technology.



JAPAN

Fact Sheet

General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

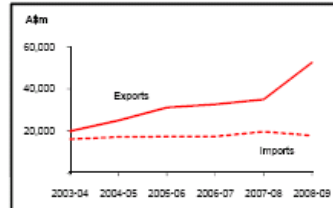
Capital: Tokyo
Surface area: 378 thousand sq km
Official language: Japanese
Population: 127.6 million (2009)
Exchange rate: A\$1 = 79.1345 Yen (Aug 2009)

Head of State: HM Emperor Akihito
Head of Government: Prime Minister HE Mr Yukio Hatoyama

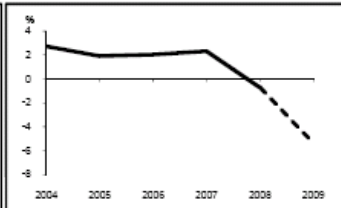
Recent economic indicators:

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008(a)	2009(b)
GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):	4,605.9	4,552.2	4,362.6	4,380.4	4,910.7	5,048.6
GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):	3,666.3	3,872.8	4,080.6	4,295.5	4,356.3	4,186.7
GDP per capita (US\$):	36,059	35,633	34,150	34,287	38,457	39,573
GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):	28,703	30,315	31,943	33,622	34,116	32,817
Real GDP growth (% change yoy):	2.7	1.9	2.0	2.3	-0.7	-5.4
Current account balance (US\$m):	172,070	165,690	170,437	210,967	157,079	96,891
Current account balance (% GDP):	3.7	3.6	3.9	4.8	3.2	1.9
Goods & services exports (% GDP):	13.8	14.9	16.7	18.4	18.4	12.5
Inflation (% change yoy):	0.0	-0.3	0.3	0.0	1.4	-1.1

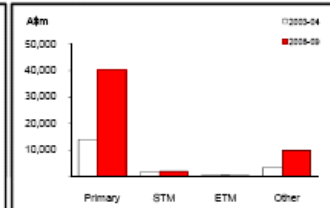
Australia's merchandise trade with Japan



Real GDP growth



Australia's merchandise exports to Japan



Australia's trade and investment relationship with Japan (d):

Australian merchandise trade with Japan, 2008-09:

Exports to Japan (A\$m):	52,597	Total share:	22.8%	Rank:	1st	Growth (yoy):	50.4%
Imports from Japan (A\$m):	17,839		8.1%		3rd		-9.3%
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	70,436		15.7%		2nd		28.9%

Major Australian exports, 2008-09* (A\$m):

Coal	23,428
Iron ore & concentrates	7,342
Beef	2,101
Aluminium	1,422

Major Australian imports, 2008-09 (A\$m):

Passenger motor vehicles	5,515
Refined petroleum	1,369
Goods vehicles	1,098
Civil engineering equipment & parts	712

*Includes A\$9.9bn of confidential items, mainly LNG, nickel, wheat & sugar, 19% of total exports.

Australia's trade in services with Japan, 2008-09:

Exports of services to Japan (A\$m):	2,308	Total share:	4.3%
Imports of services from Japan (A\$m):	2,472		4.4%

Major Australian service exports, 2008-09 (A\$m):

Personal travel excl education	761
Transportation	758

Major Australian service imports, 2008-09 (A\$m):

Transportation	1,134
Business & professional	437

Australia's investment relationship with Japan, 2008 (e):

Australia's investment in Japan (A\$m):	29,108	Total:	1,112
Japan's investment in Australia (A\$m):	89,511		35,959

Japan's global merchandise trade relationships:

Japan's principal export destinations, 2008:

1	United States	17.6%
2	China	16.0%
3	Republic of Korea	7.6%
10	Australia	2.2%

Japan's principal import sources, 2008:

1	China	18.9%
2	United States	10.2%
3	Saudi Arabia	6.7%
4	Australia	6.2%

Compiled by the Market Information and Research Section, DFAT, using the latest data from the ABS, the IMF and various international sources.

(a) All recent data subject to revision; (b) IMF/EIU forecast; (c) PPP is purchasing power parity; (d) Total may not add due to rounding; (e) Stock, as at 31 December. Released annually by the ABS.

MEETING WITH MR SEISHIRO ETO, VICE SPEAKER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Date: Wednesday 3 March 2010
Time: 10:00am-10:30am
Venue: Office of the Vice Speaker
2-1-2 Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo

ATTENDEES

Mr Seishiro Eto	Vice Speaker, House of Representatives
Mr Tak Adachi	Commissioner Japan

MEETING OUTCOMES

- Obtained a briefing on Parliament's new direction and policy visions
- Sought his view on policy, in particular, the Australia-Japan relationship.

BACKGROUND

- Japan is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary government. The bicameral Parliament, or "the Diet", is the sole law making body in Japan and consists of a House of Representatives with 480 seats and the upper house, the House of Councillors, with 247 seats.
- Members of the House of Representatives are elected for a four-year term, although in practice the House is generally dissolved and elections called well before its term is ended, at the Prime Minister's discretion. The next House of Representatives election must be held by August 2013.
- Japan's Constitution of 1947, instituted a Westminster style bicameral Parliament or Diet. Under the Public Elections Law (revised February 2000) there are 480 seats in the House of Representatives (Lower House) and 242 seats in the House of Councillors (Upper House). The Prime Minister is elected by a majority vote in both Houses. If the Houses disagree, the decision of the House of Representatives takes precedence.

PERSONAL HISTORY

Mr. Seishiro ETO

Member of the House of Representatives (H.R.) for Kyushu (proportional representation), returned nine times to the H.R. and once to the House of Councillors

Party Affiliation: Independent (Liberal Democratic Party, LDP, prior to assuming office as Vice-Speaker)

Born: 29 April 1941, Oita Prefecture

Education: M.A. in Political Science, Waseda University, March 1973



Career:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1971 | Elected Mayor of Kusu Town, Oita Pref. |
| 1977 | Elected to the House of Councillors |
| 1983 | Elected to the House of Representatives (now in 9th term) |
| 1986 | Parliamentary Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries |
| 1990 | Chairman, Standing Committee on Finance, H. R. |
| 1990 | Director of the Finance Division of the Policy Research Council, LDP |
| 1991 | Director of the Personnel Affairs Bureau, LDP |
| 1994 | Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, LDP |
| 1995 | State Minister (Director-General), Defense Agency, 2 nd Murayama Cabinet |
| 1997 | Vice Chairman of the Research Council on the Tax System, LDP |
| 1999 | Senior Deputy Secretary General, LDP |
| 2000 | Chairman, Standing Committee on Audit and Oversight of Administration, H.R. |
| 2000 | Chairman, Special Committee on International Economical Cooperation, LDP |
| 2001 | Senior Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs |
| 2003 | Chairman, Special Committee on Prevention of International Terrorism and Japan's Cooperation and Support; Humanitarian Assistance for Reconstruction in Iraq, H.R. |
| 2003 | Chairman, Administrative Reform Promotion Headquarters, LDP |
| 2006 | Chairman, Standing Committee on Fundamental National Policies, H.R. |
| 2008 | Chairman, Standing Committee on Budget, H.R. |
| 2009 | Vice-Speaker, House of Representatives (on 16 September) |

(as of September 2009)

LUNCH WITH MR HIROSHI TAKAKU AM, PRESIDENT OF TAKAKU ASSOCIATES INC. AND MR TOMOHIKO TANIGUCHI, ADVISOR TO CHAIRMAN OF JR EAST JAPAN, FORMER VICE PRESS SECRETARY/DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR PRESS AND PUBLIC REALTIONS FOR THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Date: Wednesday 3 March 2010

Time: 12:30pm-2:00pm

Venue: "La Rochelle"
Shibuya Cross Tower 32F
2-15-1 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
+81-3-3400-8220

ATTENDEES

Mr Hiroshi Takaku	President, Takaku Associates Inc.
Mr Tomohiko Taniguchi	Advisor to Chairman of JR East Japan, Former Vice Press Secretary/Director- General for Press and Public Relations for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MEETING OUTCOMES

- Mr Takaku has made significant contributions to the Australia-Japan relationship over the past 20 years, many of these voluntarily, with exchange activities a key focus. Sought his view on Australia-Japan relationship.
- I emphasised the interest of the Queensland Parliament in a Queensland-Japan Friendship Group being established. Advised that the Leader of the Opposition would be undertaking a meeting in Japan and that the senior Ministers and the Premier were committed to the relationship.
- The Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) won the Lower House election by a landslide on Sunday 30 August 2009, securing more than 300 seats in the 480-seat chamber. The DPJ has put forth a number of policies that could have a significant impact on Queensland, including the party's proposal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 25 per cent by the end of 2020.
- The Japanese Embassy and Consulates have been conducting a number of seminars in each State providing an update on Japan's foreign relations. In 2008 Mr Takaku was the guest speaker under the Public Diplomacy Program sponsored by the Japanese Government. Under the Program Mr Takaku visited Queensland from 17-18 September where he met with the Governor and myself as former Minister for Trade. On 14 December 2009, Mr Takaku hosted a dinner for Minister Andrew Fraser, Treasurer and Minister for Employment and Economic Development in Tokyo.
- Sought his views on any opportunities available to Queensland to engage with the Japanese national government.

BACKGROUND

- Mr Takaku is a member of the Australia-Japan Business Advisory Board which has been set up by States and Austrade in order to raise the profile of Australia in the top business circles in Japan. Mr Tak Adachi, Queensland Trade Commissioner was instrumental in forming this body in consultation with Austrade, and he nominated Mr Takaku to be one of the members.
- Mr Takaku was in charge of the Japan-Australia Young Political Leaders Exchange program from 1983 and as such, he has developed and maintained contacts on both sides of Australian politics, at very senior levels of State and Federal government (Prime Minister included).
- Mr Takaku was awarded the Honorary Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2005 for his contribution to young political leaders exchange activities between Australia and Japan.
- Mr Takaku has excellent spoken English and being a former journalist for the prestigious Japanese newspaper, 'Asahi Shinbun', also regularly contributes his opinions to newspaper editorials.
- He has previously written articles about Australia that has made special reference to the important role of the States, and how it is misunderstood by Japanese politicians and Government officials.
- Mr Takaku attended most of the Queensland Government hosted receptions in Japan over the years, including by the Premier, Governor Quentin Bryce and various events hosted by Ministers. He has introduced many contacts to Trade Queensland's Japan office.

Mr Tomohiko Taniguchi

- Mr Taniguchi was born in Kagawa Prefecture (on the island of Shikoku) in 1957.
- In 1981, he graduated from the faculty of law at Tokyo University.
- After graduating he worked for a magazine called, "Modern Korea" then found work at Tokyo Semitsu.
- From 1985-2003 Mr Taniguchi worked as a journalist at Nikkei Business Publications, eventually becoming chief editor. During this period he became a guest researcher at Princeton University under the Fulbright Program as well as taking on the role of Chairman of the Foreign Press Association, London.
- Mr Taniguchi was formerly the Vice Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations for Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Mr Taniguchi now plays an influential role as an advisor for the chairman of East Japan Railway Company (JR East).

ATTACHMENT

- CV for Mr Hiroshi Takaku AM, President of Takaku Associates Inc.
- CV for Mr Tomohiko Taniguchi, Advisor to Chairman of JR East Japan, Former Vice Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

CV FOR HIROSHI TAKAKU AM

President of Takaku Associates Inc.



Mr. Hiroshi Takaku is President of Takaku Associates, Inc., which he founded in July 2000. The principle service of Takaku Associates is to provide both foreign and Japanese clients with consulting and research services in the area of international business and political activities. While engaging in consultancy activities for profit, Mr. Takaku has been undertaking various pro bono public activities which include support to incoming and outgoing journalists, setting up appointments for foreign political leaders. He made a speech trip to four cities in Australia at the invitation of the Japan's Foreign Ministry in 2008 and also participated in the 6th Japan-Australia conference in Canberra in February, 2010. He was awarded Honorary Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2005 for his contribution to young political leaders' exchange activities between Australia and Japan. He has been a member of Australia-Japan Business Advisory Committee since 2009.

After graduating from Keio University Faculty of Law in 1972, he joined the Asahi Shimbun as a reporter. In 1976, he engaged in investigative reporting of political scandal involving a powerful governor and chairman of the National Governors Associations.

In 1983, he joined Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), which is a non-profit and non-governmental organization to promote international understanding and exchange activities. He directed JCIE political exchange programs including the U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program, and the Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program.

CV FOR TOMOHIKO TANIGUCHI

Since April 2009 to present: Visiting Professor at the School of Global Japanese Studies, Meiji University;

August 2008 to present: Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA); Senior Advisor to the board of Central Japan Railway (JR Tokai); Advisor to WEDGE Corporation;

April 2008 to present: Professor by Special Invitation on international political economy at Keio University Graduate School of System Design and Management.

August 2005 and July 2008: Deputy Press Secretary and Deputy Director-General on Public Diplomacy and Chief Speech Writer at the MOFA; prior to that Editor-at-Large and Chief Senior Writer for Nikkei Business, Nikkei BP., Inc.

He spent sabbaticals at Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School as Fulbright Visiting Fellow, at Shanghai Institute of International Studies as Visiting Fellow and at Brookings Institution as CNAPS Visiting Fellow.

He has served Foreign Press Association in London as President (elected first from the east of Suez). He has published four books in Japanese on foreign exchange regime and on international affairs, co-authored four others, and written numerous articles both in Japanese and in English.

He read law and politics and earned BA at the University of Tokyo. He also read economics at the Graduate School of Economics, Saitama University.

He was born in Kagawa, June 1957.

MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN TEMBO OF IDEMITSU KOSAN CO., LTD AND VISIT TO IDEMITSU ART MUSEUM

Date: Wednesday 3 March 2010

Time: 3:30pm – 4:00pm

Venue: Chairman's Room
Idemitsu Kosan Headquarters and Idemitsu Art Museum
1-1-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

ATTENDEES

Mr Akihito Tembo

Chairman of Idemitsu Kosan Co.

Mr Kazuhisa Nakano

President of Idemitsu Kosan Co.

MEETING OUTCOMES

- I emphasised the on-going relationship between Japan and Queensland and Queensland's on-going commitment to trade relationships.
- Idemitsu is promoting the clean use of coal through its Coal and Environment Research Laboratory and, with other companies, is working on the development of ultra clean coal.
- Compared with other fossil fuels, such as petroleum and natural gas, coal emits a larger amount of CO₂ during combustion, which places a larger burden on the environment.
- In 1988, Idemitsu established the Coal Research Laboratory (currently: Coal and Environment Research Laboratory). This conducts research on a variety of clean-coal technologies, such as high efficiency coal combustion, SO_x, NO_x and N₂O (greenhouse gas) reduction.
- The Premier paid a courtesy call on Mr Tembo, Chairman (President at that time) of Idemitsu on 4 April 2008 during her visit to Japan. The Premier briefed Mr Tembo on the work that has taken place to rectify the damage to the mines in Queensland as a result of the January 2008 floods.
- Premier also thanked Idemitsu Kosan Corporation (Idemitsu) for its continuing support of the Historical Asian Loans Program with the Queensland Art Gallery
- Governor Quentin Bryce met with the founder family member Mr Idemitsu when she visited the Idemitsu Museum of Arts on 14 November 2006.
- Minister Andrew Fraser, Treasurer and Minister for Employment and Economic Development, met with Mr Idemitsu when he visited the Idemitsu Museum of Arts on 18 December 2009.

BACKGROUND

- Idemitsu Kosan Co. Ltd. (Idemitsu) was a major privately owned Japanese oil company until becoming a publicly listed company in October 2006. Idemitsu employs almost 8,000 people worldwide (as of March 2009), making it one of Japan's major oil, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and

petrochemical companies. Idemitsu has diversified into the coal industry and promotes high value-added products such as bio-fuels.

- In 1984, Idemitsu commenced exploration and development of coal mines in Australia.
- Idemitsu is an active investor in the Queensland coal industry:
- Idemitsu holds a 100% share in the Ebenezer mine, near Ipswich, which closed in 2003. The mine produced 6.3 million tonnes of coal that year but known deposits of 17 million tonnes remain.
- Idemitsu invested in the Ensham coal mine, 40km northeast of Emerald, in 1994 and currently holds an 85% stake in the mine. Ensham mine produces approximately 7.8 million tonnes of thermal coal annually, principally for the export market.
- Idemitsu also owns 100 % of the Boggabri Coal Mine and the Muswellbrook Coal Mine in New South Wales and owns 30% of the Tarrawonga Coal Mine also in New South Wales.
- The total annual production of these four coal mines in Queensland and NSW is approximately 10 million tonnes.
- Idemitsu Kosan has its Australian subsidiary, Idemitsu Australia Resources Pty Ltd (Head Office: Brisbane, President: Kosuke Yamamoto)

Idemitsu Museum of Arts, Japan and the Queensland Art Gallery

- The Idemitsu Museum of Arts was established in 1966 based on the Oriental art collection of Idemitsu founder Sazo Idemitsu, father of the current Chairman and Director of the Idemitsu Museum of Arts, Shosuke Idemitsu.
- The Idemitsu Museum of Arts is a highly respected institution with an international reputation for the excellence of its holdings of East Asian art.
- The Idemitsu Museum of Arts, built around private collections, was established in 1966. This Museum houses genre paintings, ukiyo-e woodblock prints, and pottery mainly from Japan and China.
- The Idemitsu Museum of Arts houses ancient traditional Japanese art, including Zen Buddhist paintings, calligraphy scrolls and pottery dating back to 8000 BC.
- Idemitsu Kosan is a special patron of the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation. Since 1990 the company has donated \$290,000 to the Art Gallery Foundation and has provided substantial funds for Gallery acquisitions including the major purchase of a late 16th century Japanese ceramic jar. ("Special Patron" is the designation given to those individuals or organisations that have donated in excess of \$250,000 to the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation).
- The Gallery has developed a strong relationship with the Idemitsu Museum of Arts through the Historical Asian Loans program.
- This program facilitates the long-term loan to the Gallery of significant works of art from a number of prestigious international institutions, including the

Idemitsu Museum of Arts, the Shanghai Museum, the National Museum of Korea, and the Smithsonian Institutions' Arthur M Sackler Gallery in Washington DC.

- The program conceived of as early as 2003, and in December 2006 the new Historical Asian Galley display was opened to the public in the original Gallery building as part of the opening celebrations for the Gallery of Modern Art.
- The display provided the Gallery's audiences with an insight into aspects of East Asian cultural history, as well as the opportunity to view important objects that are currently beyond the Gallery's means to acquire by purchase.
- Eight works from the Idemitsu Museum of Arts – comprising 16th to 18th century ceramics relating to the Japanese tradition of the tea ceremony – form part of display.

MEETING WITH MR MASANOSUKE YAMAGATA, PRESIDENT, ADVAN CO. LTD

Date: Wednesday 3 March 2010
Time: 5:00pm – 6:10pm
Venue: ADVAN Headquarters and Showroom
4-32-14 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku,
Tokyo 150-0001

ATTENDEES.

Mr Masanosuke Yamagata	President, Advan Co. Ltd
Mr Yoshinosuke Yamagata	Executive Director

MEETING SYNOPSIS

- Met with the President of Advan Co. Ltd, Mr Masanosuke Yamagata to congratulate them on signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Queensland exporter, Claypave.
- Was provided with a tour of Advan Co. Ltd's showroom which displayed high quality imported products.
- Was also provided with an opportunity to encourage Advan Co. Ltd to explore opportunities with other Queensland exporters in the building industry.
- Mr Yamagata expressed an interest in securing more products from Queensland especially wine. Asked the Queensland Trade Commissioner to follow this up.

KEY POINTS

- The meeting provided an opportunity to support a top Queensland exporter, Claypave.
- Congratulated Advan on its signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Claypave in February 2009 to import their products to Japan.
- Acknowledged that the signing of this MoU is a clear demonstration of the fact that it often requires several years to establish sufficient trust with a Japanese company to enter into a fruitful and durable relationship.
- Advised Mr Masanosuke that there has been renewed interest in Claypave's 'green building' products as the building industry and consumers become more environmentally conscious.
- Encouraged Mr Masanosuke to utilise the Trade Queensland business network to explore opportunities with other exporters in the building industry.

ISSUES

- Advan Co. Ltd is a well known importer and distributor of building materials and also a leading importer and distributor for quality wall, ceiling and floor products in Japan.
- Advan Co. Ltd holds an annual exhibition in their showroom each year, inviting over 3000 designers/architects to exhibit.
- Advan Co. Ltd signed an Exclusive Distributorship Agreement for the sale of Claypave pavers and bricks to the Japanese professional market and home centre market for. Under this new arrangement Advan Co. Ltd will import at least A\$3 million per year worth of pavers/bricks from Claypave.
- Trade Queensland Japan has provided ongoing assistance to Claypave in its marketing efforts in Japan for the past few years since an International Business Cadet from Claypave was placed with Trade Queensland Japan in 2006.
- Trade Queensland Japan introduced Claypave to Advan Co. Ltd several years ago and, until this recent agreement, Advan Co. Ltd had only purchased Claypave products on a spot or ad-hoc basis.
- Minister Stephen Robertson met with the one of the executive directors of Advan during his visit in September 2009.

BACKGROUND

Advan Co.

- Advan Co. Ltd was established in March 1975 with the aim of selling imported floor tiles.
- Advan Co. Ltd has branches and show rooms in all major cities in Japan. Their sales for the 2008 fiscal year, ending March 2009, were over A\$170 million.
- Advan Co. Ltd currently has over 240 employees and sells a wide range of imported building materials from all over the world, including Africa, Europe and the US.

Claypave

- Trade Queensland Japan has been assisting Claypave since 1994 when the company was looking for new market opportunities in Japan.
- Trade Queensland Japan originally introduced Claypave to Advan Co. Ltd in 1998, although at that time Advan Co. Ltd supplied its pavers from other countries. However, when Advan Co. Ltd began to have problems with its Malaysian suppliers, they made the decision to import Claypave's quality products.
- In early 2000 Claypave received funds from the government to build new kilns in order to cope with the demand from the Japanese market.
- Claypave sponsored an International Business Cadet for the Trade Queensland Japan office in 2006. The cadet was responsible for studying the Japanese brick and paver market as the size of their Japanese market had begun to shrink.

- Claypave is a privately owned Australian company and operated by a small group of "hands on" people.
- They specialise in the manufacture of clay pavers, and are the market leaders in paver quality, service and innovation.
- The original company, Rylance Collieries and Brickworks began operation in the 1880's, with the current plant being built at Dinmore near Ipswich in the 1930's. The current owners took over manufacturing operations in 1985.
- The new owners made a strategic decision to focus primarily on the manufacture of quality pavers. This proved so successful and demand grew so dramatically that Claypave were able to build the first dedicated, state of the art paving factory in Australia in 1988.
- Demand continued to grow so dramatically that Claypave decided to again increase production capacity in 1995 and the opening of their second tunnel kiln and dryer effectively doubled their production capacity, enabling Claypave to cope with the increased demands for their products.
- Changes in consumer trends to larger format pavers prompted Claypave to further expand its production capabilities to enable the production of a unique, larger size paver.
- Today Claypave employs over 200 people and has distributors in most Australian States as well as Japan, South East Asia, Pacific, North America, Middle East and Europe.
- Claypave has a unique manufacturing process that first extrudes the billet, but then represses it in custom built machines that produce very accurately sized and shaped pavers. It also allows the company to provide the smallest spacer lug of any paver on the market.
- State of the art manufacturing processes allow Claypave to produce not only a high quality clay paver, but also produce products that most other manufacturers cannot.
- Claypave's larger paver sizes, coupled with the unique colours that they are able to achieve with local clays, create a product that is much sought after throughout the world.
- Claypave's environmentally conscious manufacturing methods, detailed below, outline their commitment to producing a 'green building material':
 - Claypave's pavers are made from overburden from disused coal mines, in effect recycling another industry's waste
 - Fired using natural gas, and exceed all emission targets set by the local Environmental Protection Agency
 - Made using reject pavers in the mix
 - Stacked on re-useable timber pallets
 - Packed with recyclable packaging
- As Claypave's clay bricks and pavers are considered a "green" building material, there has been renewed interest in the company and their products from environmentally conscious consumers.

- Claypave has a long history of exporting their products to Japan and as such, their quality products are now highly sought after and recognised by industry members in Japan.

ATTACHMENT

- CV for Masanosuke Yamagata, President of Advan Co. Ltd.

CV FOR MR MASANOSUKE YAMAGATA

President and CEO of Advan Co. Ltd.

- March 1992 Graduated Commerce Department, Meiji University in Tokyo
- April 1992 Joined International Securities Co. Ltd.
- February 1993 Resigned International Securities Co. Ltd.
- February 1993 Enter ADVAN Co. Ltd.
- June 1998 Director/General Manager Merchandise Department, ADVAN Co. Ltd.
- April 2000 Managing Director/General Manager, Merchandise Department, ADVAN Co. Ltd.
- June 2000 Senior Managing Director, ADVAN Co. Ltd.
- April 2004 President & CEO, ADVAN Co. Ltd.
- Present President & CEO, ADVAN Co. Ltd.

MEETING WITH MR SHUHEI KISHIMOTO, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND DR TSUYOSHI YAMAGUCHI, DIRECTOR, DIET BUDGET COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday 4 March 2010

Time: 9:00am - 10:00am

Venue: 1-chome Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

BACKGROUND

- The key focus of Prime Minister Hatoyama's most recent policy speech was to "protect people's lives". This theme is also reflected in the recent budget which coined the key phrase, "defending people's daily lives". Addressing the aging population and birthrate decline, securing employment and economic growth and tackling environmental issues have been the strong focus areas of the DPJ government.
- The 'Hatoyama initiative', passed by the new DPJ government which took office in September 2009, aims to reduce CO2 emissions by 25%, in comparison to 1990 levels, by 2020. This ambitious goal presents a significant challenge for Japan due to its limited land space to develop environmental projects to meet this target. This presents opportunities for Queensland to partner with Japanese firms in pursuing such developments using Queensland as a suitable location with abundant natural resources and a skilled workforce.
- The Cabinet approved the 2010 fiscal budget proposal on 25 December 2009, outlining 92.3 trillion yen in government outlays, the biggest ever initial budget spending plan at the outset of a fiscal year.
- A key area of interest from the Japanese Government planned budget for the 2010FY was the proposed ¥1.16 trillion spending on "food supply." This represents a 33.9% increase on the 2009FY as Japan seeks to become more self sufficient in this area. In particular, they plan to spend ¥561.8 billion on measures to support local agriculture.
- Other key areas include, "Education and Science" receiving ¥5.58 trillion as well as a number of initiatives regarding pensions, child allowances, addressing doctor shortages, eliminating highway tolls and various employment measures. (Source: Highlights of the Budget for FY2010, Ministry of Finance)
- Japan is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary government. The bicameral Parliament, or "the Diet", is the sole law making body in Japan and consists of a House of Representatives with 480 seats and the upper house, the House of Councillors with 247 seats.
- Members of the House of Representatives are elected for a four-year term, although in practice the House is generally dissolved and elections called well before its term is ended, at the Prime Minister's discretion. The next House of Representatives election must be held by August 2013.

- Japan's Constitution of 1947, instituted a Westminster style bicameral Parliament or Diet. Under the Public Elections Law (revised February 2000) there are 480 seats in the House of Representatives (Lower House) and 242 seats in the House of Councillors (Upper House). The Prime Minister is elected by a majority vote in both Houses. If the Houses disagree, the decision of the House of Representatives takes precedence.

ATTACHMENTS

- CV for Mr Shuhei Kishimoto
- CV for Dr Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi

CV FOR MR SHUHEI KISHIMOTO



Shuhei KISHIMOTO

Member of the House of Representatives

Constituency: Wakayama No.1

Number of times elected : 1

Parliamentary Committees & Title	Director, Committee on Financial Affairs Member, Committee on Cabinet
Born	Jul 12, 1956
Education	Faculty of Law, the University of Tokyo (1980)

Member of the House of Representatives
(Liberal Party – Wakayama Prefecture)

Date of Birth: 12 July, 1956

Education: Graduated from Tokyo University (Faculty of Law)

Career:

- 1980 Joined Ministry of Finance
- 1985 Director, Customs Division, Nagoya Taxation Office
Ministry of Finance
- 1986 Official Secretary to Prime Minister Nakasone (seconded)
- 1990 Chief, Budget Bureau, Ministry of Finance
- 1995 Visiting Fellow, International Studies Institute, Princeton
University
- 1996 Visiting instructor, Asian Studies Department, Princeton University

Director, Asian Currency Office, International Bureau, Ministry of
Finance
- 2000 Director, Data Processing System Development Division
- 2001 Director, Cultural Information Industry Division, Ministry of
Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

2002 Director, National Treasury Division, Financial Bureau, Ministry of Finance

Elected as a member of the House of Representatives
(120,309 votes)

BRIEF BACKGROUND

- Member of the House of Representatives representing Wakayama Prefecture since the recent election in September 2009
- Current Member of the Diet Committee on Cabinet
- Current Director of the Diet Committee on Financial Services
- He was recently appointed as Director on the Committee, having been a member on the Committee.
- Former Senior Official of the Ministry of Finance, having joined in 1980
- A Visiting Fellow at the Institute of International Affairs, Princeton University during 1995
- A Visiting Lecturer at Princeton University, within the Faculty of Oriental Studies during 1996
- Senior Official of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, during the period 2000-2002
- Joined Toyota Motor Corporation, following his retirement from the Ministry of Finance in 2004
- Left Toyota in 2005 to pursue a political career
- Graduated Faculty of Law, Tokyo University in 1980

GENERAL COMMENT

While he is a relatively new Diet member, he is held in high regard. Prime Minister Hatoyama has stated publicly that he regards Mr Kishimoto as having the potential of becoming a future Prime Minister of Japan.

CV FOR MR TSUYOSHI YAMAGUCHI



Tsuyoshi YAMAGUCHI

Member of the House of Representatives

Constituency : Hyogo No.12

Number of times elected : 3

Parliamentary Committees & Title	Director, Committee on Budget Member, Special Committee on Anti-Piracy Measures, Prevention of International Terrorism, and Japan's Cooperation and Support
Born	Oct 3, 1954
Education	Faculty of Law, the University of Tokyo Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University
Career	Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Carrier: Joined Ministry of Foreign Affairs

 Seconded from MOFA to Defense Agency

 Served as a diplomat in Japanese embassies in USA, China, Pakistan, and UK

 Elected as a Member of the House of Representatives (2000)

 Re-elected as a Member of the House of Representatives (2005)

Interests: Reading, tennis, sky, golf, soul music

Book: "The Making of an Alliance: Japan's Alliance Policy – 1945-1952"

Person of: Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida (formerly a well known diplomat of
Respect Japan)

TOUR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NATIONAL DIET OF JAPAN

Date: Thursday 4 March 2010

Time: 10:00am – 11:00am

Venue: 1-chome Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

MEETING OUTCOMES

- Discussions were informal. Invited Japanese Parliamentarians to visit Queensland Parliament to familiarise themselves both with Queensland's Parliamentary and public service procedures and trade opportunities.

BACKGROUND

- On 30 August 2009, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) won Japan's Lower House election. The two houses of the Japanese Diet elected DPJ President, Dr Yukio Hatoyama, as Japan's new Prime Minister on 16 September 2009.
- The Diet was first convened as the Imperial Diet in 1889 as a result of adopting the Meiji constitution. The Diet took its current form in 1947 under the adoption of the postwar constitution and is considered by the Constitution to be the highest organ of state power.
- The bicameral parliament is called the Diet and is composed of the Upper House of Councillors and the lower House of Representatives. The lower house holds most of the decision power, however it can be dissolved at anytime by the Prime Minister, in which case a by-election is called. Notwithstanding, the House of Councillors cannot be dissolved.
- Of the 480 members in the House of Representatives, 300 are elected from single seat constituencies under the Single Member Plurality ("First-past-the-post") system, and 180 are elected from eleven separate electoral blocs under the party list system of proportional representation (PR).
- Out of the 242 members in the House of Councillors, 146 are elected from 47 prefectural constituencies by means of the Single Non-Transferable Vote. The remaining 96 are elected by party list PR from a single national list.
- The Hon Andrew Fraser, Treasurer and Minister for Employment and economic Development visited National Diet of Japan on 14 December 2009.

LUNCH WITH MR YOSHITARO IWASAKI, IWASAKI CORPORATION LIMITED AND MR TADAHIRO MATSUSHITA, SENIOR VICE MINISTER OF ECONOMY, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Date: Thursday 4 March 2010

Time: 11:30pm – 12:30pm

Venue: “Tsuruya” Japanese Restaurant in the Peninsula Tokyo, B1
1-8-1 Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

ATTENDEES

Mr Yoshitaro Iwasaki	President of Iwasaki Group
Mr Tadahiro Matsushita	Senior Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry

MEETING OUTCOMES

- Requested a view of the regional economy in Japan
- Sought Mr Iwasaki’s view on the Queensland-Japan business relationship
- This meeting concluded with an invitation from Mr Iwasaki for Queensland to form a closer relationship with Kyusyu. In the past this had been carried out satisfactorily in Fukuoka.
- Will inform the Queensland Japan Parliamentary Friendship Group of this possibility and have passed this onto Trade Queensland. The size of the cities in Kyusyu is a good trade fit for Queensland businesses.

BACKGROUND

- Iwasaki Sangyo was the pioneer of investors in Queensland tourism industry from Japan, starting in the ‘70s. The company has been looking for an opportunity to run a stock farm in Queensland.
- Founded in 1972, Iwasaki Sangyo Co (Australia) Pty Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Iwasaki Corporation Ltd (Japan). The resort area is currently under a management agreement with Rydges and trading as Capricorn Resort.
- Iwasaki Sangyo Co (Australia) Pty Ltd employs approximately 300 staff and its main activities include the running of the resort and maintaining its golf courses. The property is unique as it consists of approximately 9000 hectares along a 15km beach frontage. The 9000 hectares is comprised of resort area, cattle grazing and a large area of natural wetlands. It is important to Iwasaki Sangyo to keep a natural balance between the environment and development as this is a major attraction to guests.
- The company plans to expend around A\$100 million on further expansion and renovation of the resort to include new apartment and villa-style accommodation. This plan is currently on hold due to the global financial

crisis. The new development will cater to all age groups, and both domestic and international visitors. It also intends to undertake residential development in the Rockhampton district.

- Iwasaki Sangyo has a 15 year master plan in place for the resort's future development. An expansion of the cattle grazing areas is also part of the master plan, with cattle numbers to increase from approximately 3000 to 5000. The company owns a line of beef business in Japan and are very interested to expand Wagyu beef exports from Rockhampton.
- In 1996, at the tenth Anniversary celebration of the opening of the Capricorn Resort, Mr F. Iwasaki, President, Iwasaki Corporation (Japan) announced that Iwasaki Sangyo Co. (Australia) Pty Ltd would donate \$200,000 to the Queensland Government for the purpose of a Japanese Language Education Fund for secondary schools throughout Queensland, with a specific focus on Rockhampton City and Livingstone Shire.
- Subsequently, the Iwasaki Sangyo Japanese Travel Bursaries and Achievement Awards Program were established in 1997 and are administered by the Department of Education, Training and the Arts on behalf of the Queensland Government.
- Income from the invested funds forms the basis for the bursaries (\$6,500) and Achievement Awards (\$300), which are awarded to high calibre Japanese language students wishing to improve and enhance their language skills and cultural understanding and awareness each year. To date, 22 bursaries and 47 Achievement Awards have been awarded.
- Iwasaki Group was founded in 1923 by Mr Yohachiro Iwasaki and now employs 4,000 staff. The head office is in Kagoshima, with offices also located in Tokyo, Osaka and Fukuoka.
- Iwasaki Group predicted growth in the tourism and leisure industry in Japan after the Second World War and played a pivotal role in developing a number of tourist attractions at various locations throughout the country, including Hakone and Okinawa.
- Today, Iwasaki Group activities fall under three main divisions of tourism and hospitality, transportation and general industry. The tourism and hospitality division comprises hotels, golf courses, restaurants and travel agencies. Transportation includes public transportation such as bus lines and jet foils, rental cars and also logistics transportation. General industry covers businesses in the fields of energy, information technology and aquaculture.
- The Australia-Japan Business Advisory Board has been established and had its first meeting on 8 April 2009 in Tokyo. The Australia-Japan Business Advisory Board consists of eleven senior business leaders from new industries who hold an interest in promoting the Australia-Japan business relationship. Mr Yoshitaro Iwasaki is one of the members of the Board.
- Minister Stephen Robertson met with Mr Yoshitaro Iwasaki at the Queensland Government Reception during his recent Trade Mission to Tokyo and invited him to meet with Minister when he next visited Australia.

- Mr Yoshitaro Iwasaki is the President of Iwasaki Group that includes Iwasaki Sangyo Co (Australia), trading as Capricornia Resort in Yeppoon.
- Mr Rob Whiddon and Ms Nussara Smith met with Mr Iwasaki in Tokyo in May this year. At the meeting Mr Iwasaki indicated that he is very impressed with the State Government system in Australia as a dynamic system for economic growth. He would like to see the Japanese government system become more decentralized. Mr Iwasaki has mentioned in the past his intent in facilitating a visit to Queensland by Japanese members of Parliament to observe our political structure. Mr Whiddon has sent Mr Iwasaki a letter to encourage the visit

METI

- METI (formerly the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, or MITI) is the Japanese government agency responsible for policy in the areas of the economy, trade, industry, natural resources and energy.
- In the past METI has expressed concern regarding the potential for Queensland's coal infrastructure bottlenecks to impact on the importation of Queensland coal and subsequent flow-on effects to Japanese industrial productivity.
- NEDO (New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organisation) which has been working with the Queensland Government on a number of initiatives, was established by METI in 1980 to develop new oil-alternative energy technologies. Its activities have since been expanded to include industrial technology, energy conservation and environmental technology R&D.
- In the area of clean technologies, METI has been vigorously pursuing new energy technologies for a number of decades. As a result, Japan is one of the many nations who are well advanced in the area of clean energy technologies following the emergence of climate change as a legitimate global threat.

ATTACHMENTS

- CV for Mr Yoshitaro Iwasaki
 - CV for Mr Tadahiro Matsushita
- (Lunch provided)

CV FOR MR YOSHITARO IWASAKI, PRESIDENT OF IWASAKI GROUP

Education:	Graduated from Keio university in March 1976
Career Present:	April 2001 – Current, President of Iwasaki Group
April 2001 – Current, President of Iwasaki Group	Company changed name from “Hayahida Bus Co., Ltd.” to ‘Iwasaki Bus Network Co., Ltd.’ Became President of Iwasaki Bus Network Co., Ltd. (up to the present)
February 2008:	Company changed name from “Hayahida Bus Co., Ltd.” to ‘Iwasaki Bus Network Co., Ltd.’. Became President of Iwasaki Bus Network Co., Ltd. (up to the present)
November 2005:	Reappointed as Vice Chairman of the Board of Iwasaki Education Scholarship Foundation (up to the present)
January 2004:	Iwasaki Corporation Co., Ltd split into six companies (south Kyusyu Bus Network, Osumi Kotsu Network, Kagoshima Kotsu, Kagaima Kosen, Sansyu Jidosya, Tanegashima Kotsu, Yakushima Kotsu). Became President of all companies,
June 2003:	Became President of CS Kyusyu Co., Ltd. (up to June 2004)
June 2002:	Became President of Iwasaki Sangyo Co., Ltd. (up to June 2004)
April 2001:	Company changed name from “Kagoshima Kotsu Co., Ltd.” to “Iwasaki Corporation Co., Ltd.”, (merged with Nankai Yusen, Kagoshima Shousen, Tanegashima Kotsu, Kagoshima Airport Limousine) Became President of Iwasaki corporation Co., Ltd. (up to the present)
June 1998:	Became President of Kagoshima Kotsu Co., Ltd.
December 1997:	Became President of Hayashida Bus Co., Ltd
February 1997:	Became President of Iwasaki Hotels Co., Ltd. (up to the present)
June 1996:	Became President of Kagoshima Yusen Television Co., Ltd. (up to June 2003)
June 1996:	Became Vice President of Kagoshima Kosen Co., Ltd
December 1995:	Became President of Shiratsuyu Brewing Co., Ltd. (up to the present)
January 1995:	Became Vice President of the Board of Iwasaki Education Scholarship Foundation (up to May 2002)
December 1994:	Became Vice Chairman of the Board of Iwasaki Museum Foundation (up to December 2002)
June 1994:	Became Vice President of Iwasaki Sangyo Co., Ltd

February 1993:	Established and became board member of Kagoshima Yomiuri Television station Co., Ltd (up to June 2003)
August 1989:	Became President of Ibusuki Kanko Co., Ltd
June 1988:	Became Board Member of Kagoshima Television Station Co., Ltd. (up to the present)
February 1984:	Entered Iwasaki Sangyo Co., Ltd
April `1976:	Entered Mitsui & Co., Ltd
<u>Public Positions:</u>	
May 2007:	Reappointed as Chairman of Kagoshima Prefecture Bus Association (up to the present)
June 2005:	Reappointed as Vice Chairman of Kagoshima Prefecture bus Association (up to May 2007)
April 2005:	Became Board Member of Kyusyu Tourism Promotion Organisation (up to the present)
November 2001:	Became Board Member of Kagoshima Chamber of Commerce and Industry (up to the present)
November 2001:	Became Board Member of Kagoshima Chamber of Commerce and Industry (up to the present)
June 2001:	Became Vice Chairman of Kagoshima Prefecture Tourism Federation (up to the present)
May 2001:	Became Chairman of the Kagoshima Prefecture Bus Association (up to June 2005)
August 1999:	Became Board Member and Senior Manager of Japan Hotel Association – Kyusyu Dept. (up to the present)
September 1996:	Became Board Member of Japan Hotel Association (up to the present)
August 1995:	Became Board Member of Kagoshima Prefecture Golf Association (up to the present)
June 1992:	Became Board Member of Kagoshima Prefecture Tourism Federation (up to the present)

CV for Mr Tadahiro Matsushita, Senior Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry



Date of birth : February 9, 1939

Place of birth : Satsumasendai, Kagoshima Prefecture

Career

Mar. 1962	Graduated from the Faculty of Agriculture, Kyoto University
Apr. 1962	Joined Ministry of Construction
Jun. 1970	Seconded to the Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mar. 1973	Seconded to the Department of Public Works, Republic of Indonesia
Jun. 1992	Resigned from Ministry of Construction
Jul. 1993	Elected for the first time to the House of Representatives [H.R.] in the 40th general election
Oct. 1996	Reelected to the H.R. in the 41st general election
Nov. 1996	Director, the H.R. Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Director, the H.R. Special Committee on Disasters
Sep. 1997	Director, the H.R. Committee on Rules and Administration Director, the H.R. Special Committee on Okinawa and Northern Problems
Jul. 1998	Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Oct. 1999	Member, the H.R. Special Committee on Disasters
Nov. 1999	Chief Director, the H.R. Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Jun. 2000	Elected for the third time to the H.R. in the 42nd general election
May. 2001	Senior Vice Minister, Cabinet Office
Nov. 2003	Elected for the fourth time to the H.R. in the 44th general election
May. 2004	Chair, the H. R. Committee on Cabinet
Aug. 2009	Elected for the fifth time to the H.R. in the 45th general election
Sep. 2009	Senior Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry

As of September 2009

MEETING WITH KIYOSHI UEDA, GOVERNOR OF SAITAMA PREFECTURE AND NOBUO OKUNOKI, CHAIRMAN OF SAITAMA PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY

Date: Thursday 4 March 2010

Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Venue: 3-15-1 Takasago Urawa-ku,
Saitama-shi, Saitama-ken
JAPAN 330-9301

ATTENDEES

Mr Kiyoshi Ueda

Governor of Saitama Prefecture

Mr Nobuo Okunoki

Chairman of Saitama Prefectural
Assembly

MEETING OUTCOMES

- Mr Ueda provided an overview on the Queensland-Saitama relationship, particularly regarding business opportunities including education.
- Requested this meeting because of the special relationship (Sister State Agreement) between Queensland and Saitama Prefecture. Expressed the hope that the Queensland Japan Parliamentary Friendship Group could be extended to Saitama. This would further enhance business opportunities between Queensland and Saitama Prefecture.

BACKGROUND`

- Queensland has sister-prefecture relationship with Saitama (concluded on 27 October, 1984). The main purpose of the Sister State Agreement stipulates the increase of good relationships between the people of both states by actively implementing exchanges in cultural, educational, industrial and sports areas, however the Queensland Government is keen to leverage the Agreement to effect greater trade and investment outcomes between Queensland and Saitama.
- Over 1000 students in Saitama Prefecture visit Queensland each year to experience activities in Queensland schools and homes
- The Sister State relationship with Saitama Prefecture is one of Queensland's longest such agreements and one of three such agreements in Japan – the others being a Memorandum of Friendship Agreement with Osaka (1988) and a Memorandum of Understanding on Economic Exchange with Ehime (1997).
- In 2009, Saitama hosted the Manabipia Fair, a major life-long learning event and display of local produce. It is held in different prefectures in Japan every year and usually draws well over 1,500 000 people during the five days of the event.

- The Governor of Saitama graciously offered Queensland companies the chance to display their goods and services for a minimal fee in the Manabipia event in 2009.
- Queensland institutions that attended the event include: The University of Queensland, James Cook University, Kings International College, Pathways, Rockhampton Girls Grammar School, Sun Pacific College and Gold Coast Institute of TAFE who in particular acknowledged an export outcome of \$500,000 as a result of participation in the event and assistance from Saitama and Trade Queensland Japan.
- The International division of the Saitama prefectural government is organizing the sister state arena and FOC advertising for the participating companies that will be distributed to schools and the public prior to the event in the event of Manabipia
- Saitama prefecture invited Trade Queensland Japan Commissioner, Mr Tak Adachi and the Queensland mission members to attend a special ceremony on November 2, 2009.
- Saitama Government is consistent in sending messages of gratitude and congratulations for visiting delegations from Saitama to Queensland.
- In 2008, The Premier met Mr Kiyoshi Ueda, who was the host of her trip to Japan, with aim of reaffirming Queensland's Sister State relationship with Saitama Prefecture and extend an invitation for the Governor to visit Queensland. The Premier also discussed how the friendship established under the Sister State Agreement could be utilised to effect trade and investment outcomes for both states, particularly in sectors such as biotechnology and nanotechnology, food and agribusiness and aged care.
- Mr Ueda visited Queensland in November 2005, with significant resulting trade outcomes in the area of food and particularly in beef, with \$A18 million of beef products purchased from Queensland company, Teys Bros.
- The former Premier, the Honourable Peter Beattie visited Saitama in September 2004 to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Queensland Saitama Sister State relationship and met with the Governor of Saitama Prefecture, Mr Ueda. Associated with the 20th Anniversary celebrations was the Queensland Food Fair, a joint initiative of the Trade Queensland Japan Office and the Saitama Prefectural Government International Relations Department, which was held from 1 June to 30 September 2004 at nine 5-star hotels located in Saitama Prefecture.
- Former Premier Peter Beattie again met with Mr Ueda during his trade mission to Japan in April 2005.

ATTACHMENT

- CV for Mr Kiyoshi Ueda
- Profile of Mr Nobuo Okunoki

CV FOR MR KIYOSHI UEDA



Date of Birth

May 15th 1948 Born in Fukuoka City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Academic History

March 1967 Graduated Fukuoka Miike Senior High School

March 1971 Graduated Hosei University School of Law, Law Dept.

March 1975 Completed Political Science research course at Waseda University Graduate School

Major Employment History

1976, Active role in the foundation and development of the Neo Liberal Group

1979 - 1986, Part-time lecturer at the Ministry of Construction's University of Construction, "Regional Sociology", and "National Land Planning" departments.

Starting in 1980 ran for a seat in the House of Representatives. Was unsuccessful 4 times, but with determination and persistence, he was elected on the 5th attempt.

July, 1993, Elected for the first time to the House of Representatives

October, 1996, Elected for a second term in the House of Representatives

June, 2000, Elected for a third term in the House of Representatives

September, 2003, Elected as the 57th Governor of Saitama Prefecture

August, 2007, Re-elected as Governor of Saitama Prefecture

October, 2009, Appointed to be a member of the Local Sovereignty Strategy Council by the Prime Minister

Work published

"Law: The Bread and Butter of Bureaucrats". (O.S Publishing)

Interests

Reading (Particularly about civilization and history) , Mountain climbing, Fishing, Photography, Food: Being surrounded by friends and family eating Saitama vegetables and pork, in line with his belief in local production and local consumption of food.

Personal motto Related publications

“The strong are revealed in times of adversity”, (Literally, the wind reveals the strongest grass)

Related publications

“this is the Ueda way, Prefectural Administration Reform”, by Eiken Itagaki, published by Nisshin Hodo, May, 2007

“Ueda Kiyoshi, Passion-conveying Governor”, by Oshita Eiji, published by Saitama Shimbun, June, 2007

Profile
Mr. Nobuo Okunoki
Chairman, Saitama Prefectural Assembly



Date of Birth:	29 April, 1951
Education: March 1975	Graduated from Waseda University in Tokyo
Career: May 1991-April 1995	Member of Kawaguchi City Assembly in Saitama Prefecture
April 1995 -April 1999	Member of Saitama Prefectural Assembly (1st Term)
April 1999-April 2003	Member of Saitama Prefectural Assembly (2ndTerm)
April 2003-April 2007	Member of Saitama Prefectural Assembly (3rdA Term)
April 2007-Present	Member of Saitama Prefectural Assembly (4th Term)
March 2009-Present	Chairman, Saitama Prefectural Assembly

MEETING WITH TORU HASHIMOTO, GOVERNOR OF OSAKA PREFECTURE AND HIDEKI ASAKURA, SPEAKER OF OSAKA PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY

Date: Friday 5 March 2010
Time: 10:00am – 11:00am
Venue: 2 Chome, Otemae, Chuo-Ku,
Osaka-City, Osaka 540-8570

ATTENDEES

Mr Toru Hashimoto	Governor of Osaka Prefecture
Mr Hideki Asakura	Speaker of Osaka Prefectural Assembly

MEETING OUTCOMES

- The Governor provided an overview on the Osaka Economy
- This was an opportunity to meet one of the youngest Governors in Japan and who is likely to be a national leader in the near future. Mr Hashimoto was interested in the Australian Federal system and was keen to hear of Queensland's experience in making larger local government areas.
- I raised with Mr Hashimoto the need to highlight the Cairns, Whitsunday and Gold Coast areas as suitable close holidaying destination points in Queensland and also our on-going interest in education opportunities especially through Vocational Education
- Mr Asakura, Speaker of Osaka Prefectural Assembly provided a tour of the Parliament and Precinct.

BACKGROUND

- Queensland has sister state-prefecture relationship with Osaka (concluded in October, 1988).
- There are active teacher and student exchange programs between Queensland and Osaka.
- This year marks the 22nd anniversary of the Friendship Agreement between Queensland and Osaka.
- An annual memorandum under the Friendship Agreement with the Osaka Prefectural Government since 1988. The objective of the memorandum is to enhance mutual understanding for both Queensland and Osaka.
- Under the Education Exchange program which is looked after by Education Queensland, the Queensland and Osaka Prefectural Governments exchange their teachers to provide them with language training opportunities respectively. The project has been running successfully over many years.
- There will be no cost associated to Trade Queensland by signing the memorandum.

- In previous years, the memorandum was signed by Mr Toyoei Shigeeda, Senior Executive Director, International Relations, Department of Dynamic Osaka Promotion, Osaka Prefectural Government. However, the Memorandum for 2009-10 was signed by Mr Masahiro Fukuda, Director General, Department of Civic and Cultural Affairs, Osaka Prefectural Government.
- On the Queensland State Government side, the Memorandum for 2008-09 was signed by the General Manager for Trade Queensland. Given the education focus of the Exchange Program, the 2009-10 version of the Memorandum will be signed by both the General Manager for Trade Queensland and Director-General for the Department of Education and Training.
- Trade Queensland Tokyo office received a letter from Mr Toru Hashimoto, Governor of Osaka Prefecture, congratulating the Minister Robertson on the signing on the MoU between Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE (MSIT) and Ueda College of Fashion in September 2009.
- The letter also expressed a wish for further development of the long relationship between Osaka and Queensland.
- Minister Robertson observed the signing of the MoU on 13 September 2009, while in Japan on a trade mission.
- The MoU facilitates the opportunity for Ueda College and MSIT to work together for mutual exchange and study tours, and possibly long term study with credit exchanges.
- The MoU signing was attended by Mr Tetsuya Ueda, Chairman of Ueda College of Fashion, Ms Michiko Mihara, Principal, Ueda College of Fashion, Mr Ryuichi Tsugawa, Manager, Student Affairs, Ueda College of Fashion and Mr Peter Harber, A/Director of Commercial Services, Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE
- As Mr Ueda is also the Chairman of the Osaka Private College Association, the Minister's attendance at this signing was an opportunity to promote a broader link to Queensland TAFE's and colleges.
- On 20 October 2008, Queensland Clinical Trials Network Inc. signed an MoU with Osaka-based organisation, Kansai Bio Promotion Council for know-how exchange and information sharing in the field of life science including areas such as pre-clinical/clinical trials and pharmaceuticals.

ATTACHMENT

- CV for Mr Hashimoto
- CV for Mr Asakura

CV FOR MR TORU HASHIMOTO



Date of birth:
29 June, 1969

Education:

BA. School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University

February 2008	Become Governor of Osaka Prefectural Government
April 1998	Established Hashimoto Law Office
April 1997	Registered as Lawyer
1994	Pass National Bar Examination
March 1993	Graduated from School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University

CV FOR MR HIDEKI ASAKURA



Born: 14 October 1953
Party: Liberal Democratic Party
Terms served: 4

Career:

- graduated from Law at Kobe University
- Chief Secretary at Sumitomo Electric
- Chairman and Secretary of Kansai International Airport
- Chairman and Secretary of Kansai Economic Federation
- Head of the Board of Education and Culture, Osaka Prefecture
- The Liberal Democratic Party's Chairman of Policy Research for Osaka Prefecture

MEETING WITH MR ISAMI WADA, CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF SEKISUI HOUSE

Date: Friday 5 March 2010

Time: 1:00pm - Evening

Venue: 1-1-88, Oyodonaka, Kita-ku, Osaka 531-0076, Japan

ATTENDEES

Mr Isami Wada

Chairman and CEO of Sekisui House

MEETING OUTCOMES

- Sekisui House has signed a Business Agreement with a Queensland company to develop the Ripley Valley. I had previously hosted Sekisui House at Parliament House in a bipartisan lunch function to demonstrate how welcome their investment is into Queensland.
- I undertook the opportunity to mention other Queensland groups they may wish to have a business partnership with.
- Mr Tak Adachi, Queensland Trade Commissioner to Japan undertook to follow up on issues that Chairman Wada raised that were of some concern to him.
- The meetings, inspection and dinner honoured an undertaking I had given that I would visit their premises if I were to visit Japan.

BACKGROUND

- Sekisui House is Japan's largest residential home builder, responsible for the construction of 108,000 homes in 2008.
- The company operates in four business segments: industrialised house construction, real estate sales, real estate leasing, and other; including design, construction, contract work of condominiums, commercial buildings and outdoor facilities, remodelling, and landscaping.
- The company is headquartered in Osaka, Japan. Sekisui House has 69 subsidiaries and seven associate companies with over 22,000 employees.
- The company philosophy places a large emphasis on sustainability. In 2008, Sekisui House built a zero emission house for the 2008 G8 Summit in Tokyo, Japan. The company have a zero-waste policy and have developed technology to recycle building products commonly disregarded as waste.
- The Australian subsidiary of the company operates under the trading name Sekisui House Development Services and is based in Sydney.
- As well as construction, the company has a development arm with the ability to provide turnkey house and land packages.
- In July 2008 the company purchased Australian residential developer Payce Consolidated acquiring a 75 per cent stake in Payce's existing development

pipeline at Waterfront in Homebush in Sydney's inner west, which has 1900 apartments to be developed. Payce Consolidated is a publicly listed company founded in 1978. As a major property development company, Payce has a strong track record in delivering successful projects for residential and commercial markets.

- Sekisui House and Payce will also develop 173 hectares of land at Ripley Valley near Ipswich in Queensland. The Ripley Valley development of 2,500 residential lots will include the construction of 800 Sekisui houses.
- There are also discussions underway to purchase development sites in the Northern Territory and South Australia.
- The Sekisui model of residential construction is significantly different to that of Australia. Under the Sekisui model, the majority of the dwelling is prefabricated in a factory and then assembled onsite, as opposed to primarily onsite construction. Each Sekisui home is reported to have over 100,000 parts built in a factory.
- The company plans to first establish small prefabricated home manufacturing facilities in each Australian state. Each facility will employ between twenty and thirty people. The New South Wales facility is to be established first and expected to be completed by Q2 2010. The Queensland facility earmarked for Ipswich is anticipated to commence construction in Q4, 2010.
- Once the company has secured a strong market share in Australia, it is anticipated that a national manufacturing facility will be built to achieve greater economies of scale. A research and development facility with an emphasis on sustainable design, in possible partnership with a university, could also be established.
- Depending on market acceptance, it is anticipated the national manufacturing facility and research and development centre projects will be considered by management in three to five years.
- The company is considering acquiring market-leading residential construction companies as a means to rapidly acquire market share and enter the Australian market. Over time, it is the company's intention for the acquired companies to gradually phase in the Sekisui pre-fabrication model (Commercial-in Confidence).
- The Mayor of Ipswich raised this meeting request with the Premier at Community Cabinet.
- Sekisui House Chief Executive Officer and Chairman Isami Wada has reaffirmed the company's commitment to build 800 units in Ripley Valley, Ipswich.
- Mr Tak Adachi, Queensland Trade Commissioner to Japan, met with the company's Japanese-based management on Friday 6 November 2009 and discussed the following:
 - Sekisui House wants to identify a local building material company as a partner. This would allow the company to use their existing facilities as a prefabrication factory.

- Sekisui House was interested in forging a partnership with a Queensland University for the purposes of design and town planning. Trade Commissioner Adachi advised that he would contact the General Manager of the Institute for Sustainable Resources at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Commissioner Adachi has now introduced Sekisui House to a QUT representative via a recent email exchange. Commissioner Adachi will continue to monitor the situation and will provide any further assistance with regard to facilitating a meeting between Sekisui House and QUT early next year.
- Invest Queensland has been working with Sekisui House for the past two months and met with Mr Stephen Williams, Sekisui House Executive Director on 17 November 2009.
- Invest Queensland is continuing to work with Sekisui House with the view of establishing a small (thirty staff) fabricated home manufacturing facility in Queensland in mid 2010.
- Invest Queensland is aware of the possibility of the establishment of a research and development centre and national manufacturing facility. The company have advised this expansion will only take place after securing an appropriate level of market share, anticipated to be 2012 at the earliest.
- Sekisui House Delegation visited Brisbane and met The Hon. Stirling Henchcliffe, MP and Mr Michael Choi, Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Trade on December 2009.
 1. Mr. Wada, Isami - Chairman and CEO
 2. Mr. Suguro, Fumiyasu - Executive officer
 3. Mr. Shoji, Keiya - Senior Manager
 4. Ms. Matsuoka, Megumi - Translator
 5. Mr. Abe, Toru - Resident Director
 6. Mr. Yoshida, Masakatsu - Senior Manager
 7. Mr Williams, Stephen - Executive Director, Strategic Alliance with Payce Consolidated Ltd
- On 8 May 2009, Sekisui House and Australian-listed property developer Payce Consolidated Ltd concluded a A\$190 million joint venture agreement to develop almost 4,500 units and homes in Sydney's Homebush Bay and in the Ripley Valley in the southwest of Brisbane.
- This transaction represents one of the largest recent foreign investments in the Australian residential property sector, and Sekisui House's first investment in their international expansion strategy. Sekisui House is working toward supplying high quality, well designed homes and apartments to meet demand in Australia, and to maintain their philosophy of creating healthy and harmonious community environments.
- The combined expertise and financial capacity of this joint venture is expected to bring real advantages for economic and environmental outcomes for the State of Queensland. Their plan for significant investment presents enormous opportunities for stimulus and growth in the Queensland economy.

ATTACHMENT

- CV for Mr Isami Wada

CV FOR MR ISAMI WADA

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sekisui House



- .
- Mr. Isami Wada has been serving as Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Representative Director of Sekisui House, Ltd. since April 24, 2008.

Mr Wada joined the Company in April 1965. His previous titles include Director of Central Area First Sales, Director of Central Area Second Sales, Managing Director, Senior Managing Director and President of the Company.

VISIT TO KYOTO IMPERIAL PALACE

Date: Saturday 6 March 2010
Time: 9:00am –10:00am
Venue: Kyoto Imperial Palace
Kyoto Gyoen 3, Kamigyo-ku
Kyoto City City

BACKGROUND

- Kyoto Imperial Palace, which was the residence of the Imperial family until the capital was moved to Tokyo in 1869, is located in Kyoto Gyoen Park.
- Within the Imperial Palace grounds, which are enclosed by a roofed earthen wall, are the Seiryō-den (Palace Hall) and the Kōgoshō (Minor Palace) – reminiscent of the dynastic age.

Kyoto Prefecture

- From the end of the Nara Period (794), Kyoto has functioned as the crossroads of Japanese history. From its beginnings as the Kunikyo and Nagaokakyo settlements until the Emperor moved to Tokyo, it was the capital of Japan for over 1000 years.
- Even today, Kyoto is the cultural centre of Japan, and continues to be loved by Japanese and people of the world alike. The ancient capital of Kyoto, whose traditions have been matured through the ages, is now making startling advancements
- Its rich culture and experience are being utilized in modern technological industries. For example, semiconductor and liquid crystal displays have been made based on the techniques of Kiyomizu Pottery. Traditional skills developed more than 1000 years ago in this ancient capital are now being utilised in cutting-edge technologies
- Furthermore, the people of Kyoto have produced many religious arts and forms of entertainment. Countless religious Shinto rituals and festivals have captured the imagination of people the world over. Among these, festivals such as Gion Matsuri that were lost in the turmoil of war have been restored, and continue to be carefully maintained traditions.
- The people of Kyoto as a matter of course open their cultural treasures to the world.

(Reference from KYOTO Prefectural Government Tourism Division:
<http://www.pref.kyoto.jp/visitkyoto/en/>)



59th Westminster Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedures 7–19 March 2010

OBJECTIVES FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

- To learn about accountability and legislation mechanisms
- To study the structure, administration and funding of a Parliament and the work of its key office holders
- To examine methods to represent and engage better with communities (to include a constituency visit)
- To explore the contributions parliamentarians can make to the issue of climate change
- To explore the contributions parliamentarians can make to the outcome of the global financial crisis
- To interact and exchange views with Members and officials at Westminster
- To mark and celebrate Commonwealth Day and International Women's Day

PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 7 MARCH

All day Delegates arrive

MONDAY 8 MARCH

COMMONWEALTH DAY AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament

0932 Tours of the Palace of Westminster (and at 0940 and 0944)

(Delegates not in possession of a security pass will be escorted to the Pass Office)

1045 *Coffee*

1100 Seminar Briefing in the Attlee Suite

The programme; past innovations, future developments – welcoming MPs and Clerks Representative of the Clerk of the Overseas Office, House of Commons

Mr Andrew Tuggey DL (Secretary CPA UK Branch)

1115 Welcome and Delegates Introductions

Mr John Austin MP (Labour) (Chairman, CPA UK Branch Executive Committee)

Mr Nigel Evans MP (Conservative) (Treasurer, CPA UK Branch Executive Committee)

1200 The Role of Women in the 21st Century

How can women be further empowered in the 21st century? Have women achieved equality of opportunity with men?

The representation of women in Parliament and their role as women Members.

Mr Peter Bottomley MP (Conservative)

Baroness Nicholson (Liberal Democrat)

Rt Hon. Joan Ryan MP (Labour)

Chair: **Baroness Northover** (Liberal Democrat)

1300 *Lunch with Members in Dining Rooms A and B, House of Commons*

1430 Attend an Observance for Commonwealth Day at Westminster Abbey in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (Head of the Commonwealth) and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh

1600 Delegates leave by coach for hotel **or** the Royal Commonwealth Society

1630 Tea for 10 delegates

1730 Leave by coach for hotel

1715 Assemble in hotel lobby - transport provided to Marlborough House

1800 Reception for Commonwealth Day at Marlborough House as guests of HE Mr Kamallesh Sharma (Commonwealth Secretary-General) in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

1915 Leave by coach for hotel

1945 Reception and Buffet dinner in hotel, Plaza Suite 1-3, for **all** delegates

TUESDAY 9 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament, proceed to Attlee Suite

0930 The Westminster Parliamentary System

Analysis of the Westminster model; its historical background; key defining features; recent reforms. How does it compare with other models around the world? What are its strengths, what are its weaknesses? Is there room for improvement, and if so, where? Is it relevant to the demands of the 21st century?

Lord Tyler CBE (Liberal Democrat) (Spokesperson for Constitutional Affairs)

Mr Robert Rodgers (Director General Chamber Services and Clerk Assistant, House of Commons)

Dr Rhodri Walters (Reading Clerk and Clerk of the Overseas Office, House of Lords)

Chair: **Mr Paul Keetch MP** (Liberal Democrat)

1030 Political Update

Overview of the main UK political debates during 2009/2010. What are the current topics, and what are the big discussions in the run up to the general election likely to be? Do they impact internationally?

Miss Kate Hoey MP (Labour)

Mr Nigel Evans MP (Conservative)

Mr Andrew Stunell OBE MP (Liberal Democrat)

1130 *Coffee*

1145 Bicameralism and the Work of a Second Chamber

What is the role of the Second Chamber? Is it necessary? Does a bicameral parliament enhance democracy? How is it selected/elected? What is the role of a Presiding Officer in a second chamber?

Rt Hon Baroness Hayman (Lord Speaker)

Chair: **Lord Harrison** (Labour)

1300 *Lunch with Members in the House of Commons, Dining Rooms A and B*

1430 Role of the Opposition

What is the role of the opposition in scrutinising the Executive? Should they cooperate with members of government and other parties in order to make parliament work? Should government parties prepare for life in opposition?

Mr John Barrett MP (Liberal Democrat)

Mr Mark Pritchard MP (Conservative)

1530 Debates

Why debate: purposes and uses? What are the different types of debate? What procedures should be followed?

What are Opposition Days? What behaviour is acceptable in the Chamber during a debate? Can back-benchers introduce debates? What is the role of the Speaker?

Mr Eric Illsley MP (Labour)

1630 Leave by coach for hotel

1800 Assemble in hotel lobby - transport provided to Parliament Street

1830 Reception as guests of Dr Malcolm Jack (Clerk of the House of Commons) at 3 Parliament Street

1930 Leave by coach for hotel

www.cpaukbranch.org

WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH

(DELEGATES JOINED BY YOUNG DELEGATES FROM COMMONWEALTH YOUTH EXCHANGE COUNCIL)

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament, proceed to Attlee Suite

0930 Questions: Costs and Effectiveness

What are the different types of questions? How are they tabled? Canada and the UK have Freedom of Information Acts, how does such legislation impact on questions? What costs and resources are given over to answering questions?

Mr Andrew Kennon (Clerk of the Table Office, House of Commons)

Chair: **Rt Hon. Kevin Barron MP** (Labour)

1030 Public Expenditure and the Role of Parliament

How does the estimate cycle work? How does the budget cycle work? Does Parliament have a role in the process?

Should Parliament approve the budget before it is tabled? Can it be defined and refined?

Mr Richard Bacon MP (Conservative)

Mr Austin Mitchell MP (Labour)

Mr John Benger (Clerk of Delegated Legislation, House of Commons)

1130 Coffee

1145 Scrutiny of the Prime Minister

How is the elected Head of Government held to account in Parliament?

Mr Liam Laurence Smyth (Clerk of the Journal Office, House of Commons)

1200 Questions to the Prime Minister (view by link)

1300 Lunch in the Attlee Suite

1400 The Legislative Process

Where do bills originate? Who drafts them? What stages must they pass through? How do they become law? What are Private Members' Bills?

Mrs Christine Russell MP (Labour)

Mr Tom Mohan (Clerk of Public and Private Bills, House of Lords)

Mr Alan Sandall (Clerk of Grand Committees, House of Commons)

Chair: **Lord Dholakia** (Liberal Democrat) (Deputy Leader Liberal Democrats, House of Lords)

1500 Open Forum 1: Effective Legislation

What challenges do you face when drafting and passing effective, well-targeted legislation?

Delegates to raise topics for discussion and to present.

1600 Tea

1630 The Committee System

How do Committees function? Are Members appointed or voted in? Where are the Members drawn from? How is a

chairman appointed? To whom do they report, and who monitors them? Do Committees have a role in Parliament?

Does the executive have a role to play in the committee process?

Mr Mike Gapes MP (Labour) (Chairman, Foreign Affairs Select Committee, House of Commons)

Mr Tim Yeo MP (Conservative)

Mr Robert Wilson (Principal Clerk of Select Committees and Deputy Head of the Committee Office, House of Commons)

1800 Leave by coach for Number 10 Downing Street

1830 Reception at Number 10 Downing Street, hosted by Rt Hon. Harriet Harman QC MP (Leader of the House of Commons and Lord Privy Seal; Minister for Women and Equality)

1930 Leave by coach for hotel

THURSDAY 11 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament, proceed to Attlee Suite

0930 Parliamentary Standards

The work of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards and the Standards and Privileges Committee. How do they interact? How are they tasked? To whom do they report? What is the follow-up?

Mr John Lyon CB (Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, House of Commons)

Mr Andrew Dismore MP (Labour)

1030 Hansard

History of Hansard. How is the Official Report recorded, edited and published? How is Hansard funded? Does Hansard have a role in the electronic age? What is the practice in other legislatures?

Ms Lorraine Sutherland (Editor, Hansard, House of Commons)

Mr Richard Purnell (Sub-Editor, Hansard, House of Commons)

1130 *Coffee*

1145 Split Session

Party Discipline In Parliament

How do the Whips operate as a channel of communication between the front and back benches? How is party discipline maintained? How do government and opposition interact to deliver parliamentary business? How are

Whips' Offices organised?

Mr James Duddridge MP (Conservative) (Opposition Whip)

Lord Shutt of Greetland (Liberal Democrat) (Chief Whip)

Rt Hon. John Spellar MP (Labour) (Comptroller of Her Majesty's Household)

Chair: **Mr Ben Chapman MP** (Labour)

Procedural Reform in the Wilson Room

1300 *Lunch with Members in the House of Commons, Dining Rooms A and B*

1430 Open Forum 2: Running Parliament

What are the challenges involved in running an efficient, effective parliament? Delegates to raise topics for discussion and to present.

1530 *Tea*

1545 Split Session

The Role of the MP in the Constituency

What does a constituency MP do? How is the constituency office organised? How does the role of the constituency MP vary from country to country? What is the relation between the party and the MP? What is the link between a list MP and a constituency MP? How are list and constituency MPs perceived by the electorate?

Mr Andy Love MP (Labour)

Mr Andrew Rosindell MP (Conservative)

Chair: **Lord Corbett of Castle Vale** (Labour)

Parliament on the Web in the Wilson Room

1645 Constituency visit briefings

1715 Leave by coach for hotel

FRIDAY 12 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

Constituency Visits (all delegates)

SATURDAY 13 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

1030 Tour of London by coach (optional)

Mr Kerry Woodrow (Guest lecturer)

SUNDAY 14 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

MONDAY 15 MARCH PROGRAMME | 13

1100 The Serjeant at Arms

Historical throw back, or does the post have a role in the 21st century Parliament? What are the Chamber duties of the post? Where is its influence felt elsewhere in the House?

Mrs Jill Pay (Serjeant at Arms)

Chair: **Sir Nicholas Winterton DL MP** (Conservative)

1145 Coffee

1215 Leave on foot for Speaker's House

1230 Reception as guests of Rt Hon. John Bercow MP (Speaker of the House of Commons) at Speaker's House

1330 Lunch with Members in the House of Commons, Dining Rooms A and B

1500 The Industry and Parliament Trust (IPT)

What are the benefits of increased dialogue between parliamentarians and the business sector? How does the IPT operate? To whom does it report? What are the benefits for parliamentarians?

Mrs Sally Muggeridge (Chief Executive, IPT)

Mr Bill Olnor MP (Labour) (Chairman of the Board of Trustees, IPT)

Chair: **Baroness Harris of Richmond** (Liberal Democrat) (Vice-Chairman of the Boards of Trustees, IPT)

1600 Tea

1615 The Electoral Commission

What is the purpose of an Electoral Commission? Is it objective? Who selects the commissioners? Should Parliament interfere in its activities? Is an electoral commission the real guardian of democracy?

Mr Peter Wardle (Chief Executive)

Chair: **Ms Vera Baird MP** (Labour) (Solicitor General)

1715 Leave by coach for hotel

TUESDAY 16 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament, proceed to CPA Room

0930 Broadcasting Parliament

Should Parliament be broadcast? What protocols should be observed in the Chamber? How can viewing figures be increased? How does Westminster compare with other legislatures? What is the balance between public and private media?

Mr Peter Knowles (BBC Parliament)

Chair: **Rt Hon. Lord McNally** (Liberal Democrat) (Liberal Democrat Leader of the House of Lords and Spokesperson for Constitutional Affairs)

1030 Split Session

Engaging with the Media

How do MPs and media interact? How can one build successful relationships with national and local media?

How does the Member work with lobby journalists? How does a Member work with investigative and parliamentary journalists? How can an MP own e-media?

Running a Parliament in the Wilson Room

Ms Philippa Helme (Office of the Chief Executive, House of Commons, Head of Office)

Security in Parliament in Room W2

Mrs Jill Pay (Serjeant at Arms)

1130 Coffee in the IPU Room

1145 The Transparency of Public Accounts

What is the role of a Public Accounts Committee? How does it interact with the National Audit authority?

Do they support each other?

Mr Edward Leigh MP (Conservative) (Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, House of Commons)

1300 Lunch with Members in Dining Rooms A and B

1430 Split Session

Young People in Parliament –

Engaging the Next Generation

Every country has an ever growing young population, how can the next generation be involved more in Parliament?

How much of an issue is it? Do other legislatures have similar issues?

Visit to Mail Screening Facility

Leave by coach for visit to Mail Screening Facility, Canning Town

Accompanied by **Mr Lawrence Ward** (Assistant Serjeant at Arms)

1530 Open Forum 3: Scrutiny and Accountability

What measures are in place to ensure the Executive is held to account? What scrutiny processes are there in place?

How influential is the media in the scrutiny process?

Delegates to raise topics for discussion and to present.

1645 Tea

1700 How is Parliament Run?

Budgets, Commissions, Directorates and Management Boards, how do parliamentarians and officials respond to the challenges? How can individual Members have a voice in deciding how Parliament is run?

Mr Shailesh Vara MP (Conservative) (Shadow Deputy Leader of the House)

Dr Malcolm Jack (Clerk of the House of Commons)

Mr Michael Pownall (Clerk of the Parliaments)

1800 Leave by coach for hotel

1845 Assemble in hotel lobby - leave on foot

1900 Drinks in the Pugin Room, House of Commons, followed by dinner in the Adjournment Restaurant, Portcullis House as guests of Mrs Jill Pay (Serjeant at Arms)

2130 Leave on foot for hotel

WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament, proceed to the Attlee Suite

0930 Paying for Parliament

Should governments fund parliaments? What are the challenges for democracy? How is Parliament funded? Who proposes expenditure in each House? Members' salaries and allowances.

1030 Split Session

Facilities of the House

How does one provide facilities for a modern Parliament? What are the constraints?

Mr John Borley (Director General Facilities, House of Commons)

Tour of Security Control

Mr Mike Naworynsky (Deputy Serjeant at Arms)

1130 Coffee

1145 Research and Information Services for Members

How are the Research and Information Services in a modern Parliament structured? What other information services are available to Members? How can a Member benefit from them? The challenges of the internet.

Mr John Pullinger (Director General Information Services, House of Commons)

Ms Elizabeth Hallam Smith (Director of Information Services and Librarian, House of Lords)

Chair: **Dr Roberta Blackman-Woods MP** (Labour)

1300 Lunch in the Attlee Suite

1400 Split Session

Open Forum 4: Representing Equality and Diversity

How are diverse and minority communities engaged with and represented? Delegates to raise topics for discussion and to present.

Running a Committee in the Wilson Room

Ms Jacqy Sharpe (Clerk of Committees, House of Commons)

Chamber Security

Mr Graham Dear (Principal Doorkeeper)

1500 Tea

1530 MPs and the Internet; Modern Outreach and E-Democracy

How can Members optimise use of the Internet? Facebook? Twitter? YouTube?

Mr Andy Richardson (Director, Hansard Society, eDemocracy Programme)

1715 Leave by coach for hotel

1945 Parliamentary Choir Concert in Westminster Hall (optional)

THURSDAY 18 MARCH

Breakfast available in hotel

0845 Assemble in hotel lobby – transport provided to Houses of Parliament, proceed to Attlee Suite

0930 Parliamentary Democracy: Strengthening and Supporting and Capacity Building

What are the current programmes for strengthening parliamentary democracy and building capacity? How effective are they? Do they meet the needs of parliamentarians? How do emerging democracies interface with developed parliaments?

Mr Mark Hutton (Clerk of the Overseas Office, House of Commons)

Mr Andrew Tuggey DL (Secretary, CPA UK Branch)

Mr Ken Courtenay (General Secretary, British Group, Inter-Parliamentary Union)

1030 Split Session

Climate Change: The Role of Parliamentarians in Influencing the Debate

What is the role of parliamentarians and parliaments in addressing climate change? How effective was Copenhagen?

The challenges of adaptation and mitigation. Whither now? How effective is climate change legislation?

Mr Colin Challen MP (Labour)

Parliamentary Privilege: recent developments in the Wilson Room

Mr Liam Laurence Smyth (Clerk of the Journal Office, House of Commons)

1130 Coffee

1145 Split Session

The Global Financial Crisis

Where is the world now? What role do parliamentarians have in the oversight of financial regulation and holding the executive to account?

Open Forum: experiences of Clerks from the legislatures represented

in the Wilson Room

1245 Leave on foot for House of Lords

1300 *Lunch in the Cholmondeley Room, House of Lords as guests of Professor Lord McColl of Dulwich CBE (Conservative)*

1500 Summing Up the Seminar, Feedback and Presentation of Certificates

Mr Mark Hutton (Clerk of the Overseas Office, House of Commons)

Dr Malcolm Jack (Clerk of the House of Commons)

Mrs Jill Pay (Serjeant at Arms)

Chair: **Mr Andrew Tuggey DL** (Secretary, CPA UK Branch)

1615 Leave by coach for hotel

FRIDAY 19 MARCH

1200 Seminar ends

List of Delegates

- Hon. Kayee Griffin MLC (New South Wales – Australia)
- Hon John Mickel MP (Queensland – Australia)
- Hon Alyssa Hayden MLC (Western Australia – Australia)
- Hon Stephen Lashley MP (Barbados)
- Hon Roy Harrigan MHA (British Virgin Islands)
- Hon Charlie Parker (Nova Scotia – Canada)
- Ms Filomena Rotiroti MNA (Quebec – Canada)
- Mr Ellio Solomon (Cayman Islands)
- Mr Richard Sawle MLA (Falkland Islands)
- Hon Abdou F.S.H Jarju MP (Gambia)
- Hon Ignatius J Karl Hood MP (Grenada)
- Deputy Rhoderick Matthews (Guernsey)
- Hon Dr Margaret Ng (Hong Kong)
- Hon Devi Singh Bhati MLA (Rajasthan – India)
- Mr Jagdish Narain Rai MLA (Uttar Pradesh – India)
- Deputy Montfort Tadier (Jersey)
- Hon Wilson Mwotiny Litole MP (Kenya)
- Mr Teiwaki Areieta MP (Kiribati)
- Hon Albert Mumbo Thindwa MP (Malawi)
- Hon Datuk Tawfiq Hahi Abu Baker Titingan MLA (Sabah – Malaysia)
- Hon Mohamed Asfia Nassar MLA (Sarawak – Malaysia)
- Mr Cheng knim Teng MLA (Selangor – Malaysia)
- Hon Ali Waheed MP (Maldives)
- Hon Vicor James MLC (Montserrat)
- Hon Dharmahaye Rucktooa MP (Mauritius)
- Hon Asser Karibo MP (Bayelsa – Nigeria)
- Hon Jaha Ahmed Usman MP (Borno – Nigeria)
- Hon Dr Fehmida Mirza (Pakistan)
- Ms Yasmeen Rehman MNA (Pakistan)
- Hon Matiullah Agha Syed MNA (Balochistan – Pakistan)
- Dr Muhammad Ashraf Chohan MPA (Punjab – Pakistan)
- Mr Khushdil Khan MPA (NWFP – Pakistan)
- Mr Wajib Ali Khan (NWFP – Pakistan)
- Mr Badshah Saleh MPA (NWFP – Pakistan)
- Mr Mohammad Javid Abbasi MPA (NWFP – Pakistan)
- Hon Wellars Gasamgera MP (Rwanda)
- Hon Tara L Thomas MEC (St Helena)
- Hon Richard Frederick MP (St Lucia)
- Hon Nicholas Prea MNA (Seychelles)
- Hon Midiavhathu Prince Kennedy Tshivhase MP (Limpopo – South Africa)
- Senator Ngomyayona Gamedze (Swaziland)
- Hone George Boniface Simbachawene MP (Tanzania)
- Mr Junia Ragrello MP (Trinidad and Tobago)
- Hon Robert Kasaija MP (Uganda)
- Hon Simon Oyet MP (Uganda)
- Hon Frederick Nkayi Mbagadhi MP (Uganda)
- Hon Sydney Chisanga MP (Zambia)

REPORT

Commonwealth Day on Monday 8 March was observed with a ceremony of all Commonwealth nations at Westminster Abbey. Later that day, I was selected to attend a reception for Commonwealth Day at Marlborough House in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Cornwall and His Excellency Mr Kamallesh Sharma, Commonwealth Secretary-General.

On Day Two the issues of relevance to the Queensland Parliament included consideration of the Committee stages of Bills and whether these should be debated in other areas of the Parliamentary precinct while Second Reading debates occurred in the main chamber. If this were to be adopted for the Queensland Parliament, it would have resourcing implications for mainly Hansard but also other staff support services, and this matter would require discussion and resolution. The initiative would free up the House's time for discussion of matters of importance for Private Members. The argument can be mounted that the current arrangements of 20 minutes means that Members canvass in Bills issues which could be raised if more time were permitted for Private Members' business. This would mean that less time would be needed for Second Reading speeches. A further matter considered was the use of information technology to enable the public to examine at what stage a Bill is at. Other matters under discussion included having a secret ballot for the election of Deputy Speaker and whether in future the Deputy Speaker should always come from the ruling party. In the House of Commons, where there are three Deputy Speakers, at least one comes from the Opposition parties.

The discussion on bicameralism with a non-elected House of Lords and in the context of the British Parliament Allowances Scandal begged a larger question, which is if the House of Lords holds the Government to account, then in a non-elected environment the public cannot adequately hold the House of Lords to account when that some of the Lords are allegedly involved in the Allowances Scandal.

Another issue for possible consideration by Queensland is whether the chair of the various Parliamentary committees should in all cases come from the ruling party. The suggestion of allowing for the appointment of an Opposition Member to the position of committee chair would be on the basis of the ruling party continuing to have a majority of Committee positions.

I viewed Prime Minister's Question Time which is for a session of 30 minutes in each week. While there are interesting points in having a period set aside for the Prime Minister to be scrutinised, he was permitted to read the names of soldiers killed in the war, which though honouring the supreme sacrifice by members of the armed services, I felt more appropriately belonged in a Ministerial Statement.

I also expressed reservations to other seminar delegates about the Speaker referring to Members by their surnames instead of their electorates – perhaps understandable in a large House like the House of Commons – but also referring to them in a quite personal way – a practice I will not adopt.

The session on the role of the MP in their constituency brought home one of the great issues confronting all parliamentarians at the present time - it seems across the developed world - the increasing amount of time that is spent on matters where an MP is not dealing with issues relating to the Parliament or matters relating to the Government. Increasingly MPs are being called on to carry out roles that they are not trained for. There are an increasing number of calls that deal with social work type matters and regrettably an increasing number of calls to them are related to the mental

health state of constituents. The concern for a majority of MPs was how under-prepared they are for this role.

I visited the constituency of Winchester held by the Liberal Democrat Member Mr Mark Outen and we discussed this issue and how his staff felt about resolving some of these matters. It may well be that in the future, training of electorate office staff in Queensland involves more consideration being given to how MPs and electorate office staff interact with people, particularly those who are agitated, in telephone conversations and within the electorate office environment. It may well be too that the future induction to new Members into Parliament includes advice on how to handle constituents who present with mental health issues.

Added to this are the difficulties that arise for constituents in their level of knowledge of the different levels of Government and how they interact with each other. In parliamentary democracies both in Australia and abroad, lacking is the notion that the Government is not all embracing and all powerful, and that government cannot do everything and resolve every issue and problem that people increasingly expect government to become involved in. The conclusive experience of MPs is that there needs to be greater education for the public that Government is limited both in scope and capacity. While the community engagement activities of the Queensland Parliament, for example, Youth Parliaments, Regional Parliaments, public sector seminars on the Parliamentary and legislative processes, are more extensive than those undertaken by the House of Commons, there still remains a pressing need for educating the public about the role and scope of government. Such a public education program focussing on the role of Parliament, government and civics issues generally, (preferably delivered in school and community settings) would help set more realistic expectations about what governments can achieve within the constraints of limited resources and the complexity of modern society, where a legislative and regulatory response by government may often be demanded by the community but may be, on balance, neither advisable or cost effective.

A related issue in this regard highlighted during the session on the role of the MP in their constituency is that the greater the amount of a MP's time that is consumed by constituency matters, the less time a MP has to devote to the consideration of legislative issues. The concern was raised that the quality of legislative and regulatory responses to public policy issues would suffer as a result of insufficient time being given to their consideration, including as a result of inadequate processes for in-depth and expert scrutiny and opportunities for community ventilation and consultation. A comprehensive article pertaining to this issue and examining two examples of legislation fast-tracked through the British Parliament without what was considered adequate pre-legislative scrutiny – the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 – is available online. (See "The Parliamentary Standards Act 2009: A Constitutional Dangerous Dogs Measure?" by Neil Parpworth, *Modern Law Review*, Volume 73, Issue 2, Pages 262-281.) The anti-glassing laws recently introduced in Queensland can be seen as legislation which exemplifies a government response to a pressing community issue, the ramifications of which are difficult to gauge when there has not been sufficient opportunity for exhaustive pre-legislative scrutiny.

In the second week of the program was a session on the Industry and Parliament Trust, which I found of particular relevance to Queensland given the example set by the restoration work which has occurred at Old Government House and the building's public presentation, which includes a marvellous history section depicting the role Old Government House played in the history of Brisbane and of Queensland.

By comparison the Queensland Parliament is very much a poor cousin in its historical presentation. Therefore, drawing on both what is done partially in the House of Commons and also what has been done by Malcolm Fraser federally in Australia, a trust could be set up in Queensland which businesses would be encouraged to fund. Such a trust could be administered by the Speaker, a representative of the Government and representatives from the opposition and the independents, and also representatives from business. The trust would provide a framework for raising funds from the corporate sector to help finance the preservation and presentation of the history of the Parliament, as well as to promote greater understanding of the role of Parliament from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

In return for such an investment business could be encouraged to come to Parliament to further their educational understanding of the workings of the State's legislature and how business can interact with Parliament to get a better understanding of the parliament's role, including the impact of legislation on business. But secondly business could be encouraged to take on MPs in a non-paid capacity so that Members of Parliament can learn to understand the pressures on business. These exchanges would be designed as a two-way process which would help in the understanding of legislation and regulation and the role it plays and also the burden of regulation as it impacts on business. The House of Commons administers this through a section called the Industry and Parliament Trust, and this is something that we could examine in Queensland to see if it could have application here.

In terms of information technology it would be constructive if when we are updating the website of the Queensland Parliament we could look at the House of Commons website, which has gone to considerable lengths in the information that it provides to the general public, to see whether the Queensland parliamentary website can borrow some of the techniques that are used in the House of Commons.

The program organised by the Commonwealth Parliament Association was very well run and had the active involvement of many MPs and the House of Lords. I found the best parts of it were simply the interaction of developing nations and ourselves. I was particularly encouraged by the delegates from Pakistan who, against a background of terrorist attacks and the military involving itself in government affairs, nevertheless remained deeply committed to establishing a stronger form of Parliamentary democracy. I thought this was truly inspiring and it was a pleasure dealing with and interacting and listening to the delegates and the issues they face.

With this our 150th year of Parliamentary democracy in Queensland, I think there is a great deal about our system in Queensland that we can be proud of. A seminar such as the one that occurred in Westminster is one that emphasises we have reason for being proud of what we have done but at the same time being humble enough that know that we can learn from others. This was one of the strengths of this seminar. Some of the recommendations and reports that were given to me, I intend to forward to the committee headed by the Honourable Judy Spence MP that has been set up to oversee improvements in the committees system of the Queensland Parliament.