

# “Judo×Social Inclusion” An International Dialogue On Social Inclusion For People With Disabilities Through Judo.

Mr. Keiji Suzuki, Olympic gold medalist and head coach of the Japan Men’s Judo Team, and Mr. Yusuke Hatsuse, Paralympic Judo Athlete & Director of Japan Blind Judo Federation visited Barbados, November 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. On November 14, in commemoration of Japan-CARICOM Friendship Year 2024, the Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation, in association with Barbados Olympic Association and the Barbados Judo Association, held a special event under the theme of “Judo x Social Inclusion”.

During their trip, the athletes visited the Barbados Association for Supported Employment (First BASE), an NGO which provides a wide range of training program for people with disabilities, and the Challenor Creative Arts & Training Centre which offers training resources to young Barbadians with disabilities. The athletes gave a judo demonstration and took part in a panel discussion on the theme “Judo x Social Inclusion.” Additionally, they paid a courtesy visit to the Honourable Kirk D.M. Humphrey, MP, Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs.



The 'Judo x Inclusion' event



The judo demonstration



The panel discussion



Visit to First Base



The Challenor Creative Arts and Training Centre



The courtesy call to the Honourable Kirk D.M Humphrey, MP, Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs



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