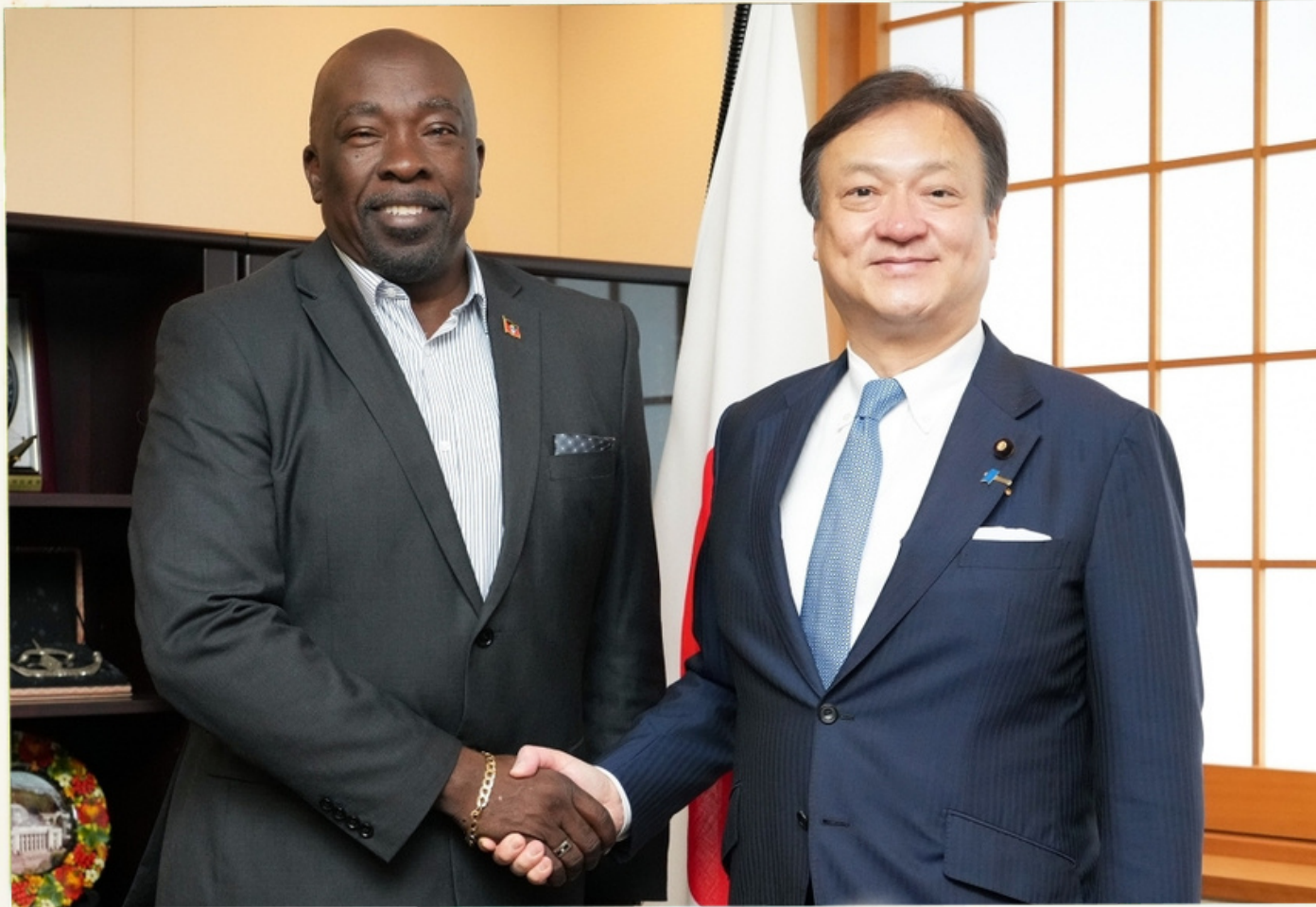

Visit to Japan by the Hon. Melford Nicholas, Minister of Information and Communications Technology, Public Utilities, and Energy



The Hon. Minister Nicholas and Mr. HORII Iwao, State Minister for Foreign Affairs

From August 2 to 8, 2026, the Honourable Melford Nicholas, Minister of Information and Communications Technology, Public Utilities, and Energy of Antigua and Barbuda, visited Japan for the first time under an invitation program organized by the Association for the Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC).

During his visit, Minister Nicholas visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Cabinet Office (Disaster Management), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Hiroshima Prefecture, and Yokohama City. He exchanged views with relevant officials on strengthening bilateral cooperation across a wide range of areas, including water resources management and disaster risk reduction.



The Hon. Minister Nicholas and Mr. KOMORI Takuro, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry

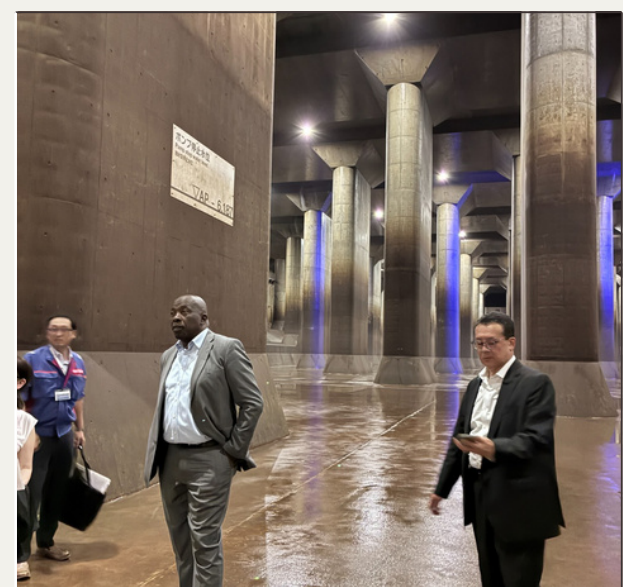
In addition, he visited Fujitecom Co., Ltd., WOTA Co., Ltd., and the Tokyo Office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), where he had the opportunity to learn about the technologies and expertise of Japanese companies in the fields of water and disaster prevention. These visits provided a valuable opportunity to deepen the minister's understanding of concrete solutions—utilizing Japanese technology and experience—to the water and disaster prevention challenges facing Antigua and Barbuda. It is hoped that Minister Nicholas's visit to Japan will serve as a catalyst for further deepening exchanges between the two countries and leading to concrete cooperation.



Minister Nicholas and Mr. MATSUBARA Hidenori, Assistant Vice Minister, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



The Hon. Minister Nicholas and Mr. MATSUMURA Naoki, Director of the International Relations Division, Disaster Management Bureau at the Cabinet Office



Hon. Minister Nicholas tours the Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel, a world-class flood-defense system