

September 30, 2024 Yazaki Kizuna Foundation

## Awarding of Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2024

The Yazaki Kizuna Foundation (hereinafter referred to as "the Foundation") has been awarded a Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2024 in recognition of its contribution to the friendship and goodwill between Japan and Samoa through the Foundation's efforts to promote international exchange in Samoa.

The award ceremony was held at the likura Guesthouse of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan on Thursday, August 8, where Ms. Yoko Kamikawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, presented a certificate of commendation to Mr. Kitami, Managing Director of the Foundation.

This award was recommended by Mr. Keisuke Senda, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Embassy of Japan in the Independent State of Samoa.

## 1. Background of the Foreign Minister's Commendation

The objective of the Foreign Minister's Commendation is to honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the promotion of friendly relations between Japan and other countries and have made particularly outstanding achievements to that effect, and to ask the public in all positions to further understand and support their activities. For this year, 186 individuals and 59 organizations (of which 38 individuals and 6 organizations reside in Japan, and 148 individuals and 53 organizations reside overseas) were awarded with commendations.

## 2. Summary of Achievements of the Foundation

"The organization (Yazaki Kizuna Foundation) was established in January 2018 in response to the decision by Yazaki Corporation to terminate its business and withdraw from Samoa after manufacturing automotive parts there for 26 years. This was to express appreciation to the people of Samoa who had supported Yazaki's main business, wire harness production, for so many years, and since its establishment, the organization has contributed to the promotion of private-sector exchange and mutual understanding between Japan and Samoa by providing university scholarships to support the development of Samoa's future leaders and assisting small-scale businesses aimed at supporting job creation."

## 3. Others (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release)

August 1, 2024 Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release: "Foreign Minister's Commendation for FY 2024" https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\_000001\_00959.html

Outline of the Foundation

Name: Yazaki Kizuna Foundation

President: Michiyo Hamada

Location: W Bldg. 7F, 1-8-15 Konan, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0075, Japan

Establishment: January 2018 (operations started April 2018)

Objective: To promote international mutual understanding and economic cooperation with developing regions of the world through international exchange with those regions.

URL:https://www.yazaki-kizuna.jp/ja/





Award Ceremony (Photo provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Certificate of Commendation

For inquiries regarding this matter, please contact: Yazaki Kizuna Foundation E-mail address: info@yazaki-kizuna.jp