

September 1, 2026

International Policy Division, Policy Bureau

Overseas Project Promotion Division, Policy Bureau

Summary of Minister Kaneko's Visit to the Philippines and Malaysia

Minister Kaneko Yasushi visited the Philippines and Malaysia from August 11 to 14, 2026.

As the security environment in the waters surrounding Japan becomes increasingly severe, it is more important than ever to strengthen cooperation with coastal states in maritime safety and security, and to ensure the safety of Japan's sea lanes. During the visit, Minister Kaneko met with YB Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution bin Ismail, Malaysian Minister of Home Affairs, attended the exchange ceremony for the Memorandum of Cooperation in the maritime safety and security sector, and discussed specific measures for cooperation. He also visited the Philippine Coast Guard and confirmed the further deepening of bilateral cooperation.

In addition, he held meetings with the Philippine Secretary of Tourism and the Malaysian Minister of Transport.

Building on the outcomes of this visit, MLIT will continue to contribute to maintaining and strengthening regional maritime safety and security and maritime order toward realizing the Updated Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP), while further deepening cooperation with the Philippines and Malaysia in areas related to land, infrastructure, transport and tourism.

□ Period of the Visit: August 11 – 14, 2026

□ Destinations: Philippines and Malaysia

□ Schedule

- August 11: Visit to the Philippine Coast Guard
- August 12: Bilateral meeting with the Philippine Secretary of Tourism
- August 13: Bilateral meetings with the Malaysian Minister of Transport and Minister of Home Affairs, MoC exchange ceremony in the maritime safety and security sector

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