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Japan and Vanuatu strengthen environmental cooperation

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Focus on Bilateral Partnerships for Climate Action and Sustainability

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The Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology & Geo-Hazards, Energy, Environment, and Disaster Management of the Republic of Vanuatu have formalized their commitment to environmental collaboration through a Memorandum of Cooperation signed on March 10, 2026, in Tokyo.

The agreement reflects a shared vision to strengthen friendly relations between the two ministries and advance efforts in environmental protection, emphasizing the critical role of sustainable practices for the well-being of present and future generations.

The Memorandum highlights the need for cooperation beyond bilateral engagement, encouraging active involvement from private sectors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other relevant institutions in both countries. It recognizes that addressing environmental challenges requires coordinated action at both bilateral and multilateral levels, contributing not only to **national** but also **global environmental protection**.

The areas of cooperation outlined in the agreement are diverse and impactful. These include climate change mitigation and the development of adaptation and mitigation mechanisms, **environmental management with a focus on water quality, sustainable waste management and resource efficiency**â??particularly in handling hazardous and toxic industrial wasteâ??and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including the management of protected areas.

Additionally, the Sides have left room for exploring other mutually agreed areas of cooperation, ensuring flexibility to address emerging environmental priorities. The implementation of this Memorandum will take various forms, such as exchanging

information on best practices, **environmental policies**, **research**, and **technologies**. It also includes facilitating expert and delegation visits, inviting specialists to participate in conferences, seminars, and study tours, and exploring other collaborative activities as mutually decided.

The partnership underscores Japan and Vanuatuâ??s dedication to fostering sustainable environmental practices and addressing global environmental challenges collaboratively.