

## Jordan, Japan discuss nuclear cooperation, region

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AMMAN (JT) - Prime Minister Samir Rifai on Wednesday discussed with Japanese Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Hisashi Tokunaga means to bolster bilateral ties at various fields.

During the meeting, the Japanese official delivered a letter from Japanese Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara on ways to enhance cooperation between the two partners.

Discussions also covered nuclear cooperation between the two countries and Japan's support for several development projects in Jordan, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Tokunaga voiced Japan's appreciation for His Majesty King Abdullah's efforts to achieve regional peace and stability.

Also yesterday, Tokunaga discussed with Minister of Foreign Affairs Nasser Judeh the latest regional developments, particularly the peace process.

During the meeting, Judeh stressed Jordan's position, which calls for solving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution and according to the adopted terms of reference and the Arab Peace Initiative, which guarantee the establishment of an independent and viable Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its capital.

The two sides stressed the need to enhance bilateral relations in the economic, cultural and social fields.

Judeh voiced Jordan's appreciation for Japan's projects in the Kingdom, in addition to bilateral cooperation in the nuclear sector.

Last September, Jordan signed a nuclear cooperation deal with Japan that covers uranium exploration, nuclear reactor construction, protection against nuclear radiation and the management of nuclear waste.

Meanwhile, Judeh met yesterday with members of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee and briefed them on the latest developments in the region.

During the meeting, Judeh outlined the Monarch's efforts regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Judeh also briefed the committee on the outcomes of his visit to Palestine and his meetings with Palestinian leaders.

Also on Wednesday, Tokunaga signed a \$560,000 grant agreement for the Kingdom with the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Jafar Hassan for drawing up detailed designs of the Rehabilitation and Improvement of Water Facilities in Tafileh project.