

REPORT ON A MEETING WITH INAWASHIRO (FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE) MAYOR
ON THE HOST CITY PROGRAMME FOR TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES
SATURDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER, 2016

The Head of Mission, H.E. Mr. S.J.K. PARKER-ALLOTEY and his Spouse, Mrs. Alice PARKER-ALLOTEY, led a delegation from the Mission which included Nana Kwabena AMAGYEI (First Secretary/Consular Affairs) and Mr. Daisuke TAKEDA (Consular Assistant), to Inawashiro where he held a meeting with the Mayor of Inawashiro, Mr. Hiroshi Zengo, and other coordinators involved in the Host City Programme for Ghanaian Team for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic games, to formally convey the Government of Ghana's acceptance of their offer to host Ghana's Teams and discuss other details of their proposal. The meeting was held at the Hotel Listel in Inawashiro, Fukushima Prefecture, on Saturday, 5th November, 2016, from 11:05 to 11:50hrs.

2. In his introductory statement, Mr. Zengo, made reference to how Inawashiro, the hometown of Hideyo Noguchi, the eminent Japanese Medical Scientist who passed on in Ghana during his quest to research into yellow fever vaccine, deemed it an honour to host the Ghanaian Team for the Tokyo 2020 games and to re-inforce the bonds of friendship between the two (2) countries. He recalled that the foundation of Ghana/Japan friendship was laid by the son of their town and added that the people of Inawashiro were in readiness to welcome and host the Ghana Team.

3. In his remarks, H.E. Mr. Parker-Allotey, thanked the Mayor for his generosity and agreeing to meet with the delegation from the Embassy of Ghana at very short notice. According to H.E. Mr. Parker-Allotey the Town of Inawashiro has three (3) main connections to Ghana. He noted that the first (1st) was Dr. Noguchi, who was born in the town but lived and died in Ghana. The second (2nd) connection, was through chocolate, since every person living in Inawashiro knows "Ghana Chocolate" made by Lotte. The third (3rd) was through a young lady writer, Kaoru, who authored the book, "The Chocolate and the Blue Sky", which jointly was translated by the spouse of H.E. Mr. Naoto Nikai, the former Japan Ambassador to Ghana, and H.E. Mrs. Matilda Amissah-Arthur, the wife of our current Vice President.

4. H.E. Mr. Parker-Allotey noted that the Government of Ghana had accepted, with gratitude, the offer by the Authorities of Inawashiro to host the Ghanaian Team and therefore the meeting was to discuss arrangements and facilities to be put at the disposal of the Team. In concluding his statement, Ambassador Parker-Allotey expressed thanks to the Mayor and his delegation for their hospitality.

5. The authorities then proceeded to provide briefing on the facilities and arrangements, which covered training, discounts on accommodation, transportation and medical, for the Ghanaian Team.

6. After an exchange of gifts between the Head of Mission and the Mayor of Inawashiro, the meeting, ended at 11:50am. The delegation from the Mission was then hosted to a lunch by the City authorities. Attached are some photographs taken at the event.





