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7 – National Matters

National Matters – Japan

The Signing Ceremony of the MoC for the Japan- France Twinned Lighthouses

On 15 November, the Japan Coast Guard hosted the Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between Kannonsaki Lighthouse*¹ and Millier Lighthouse*² on Twinned Lighthouses at Verny Park in Yokosuka. The MoC was signed by the relevant organizations of both nations: from Japan, the Japan Coast Guard, the City of Yokosuka, and the Tokokai (Lighthouse Association) ; and from France, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, Forests, the Sea and Fisheries (DGAMPA), the City of Brest, the City of Beuzec–Cap–Sizun, and the Association of the Millier Lighthouse. Although DGAMPA and the City of Beuzec–Cap–Sizun were unable to attend the signing ceremony, the incoming Ambassador of France to Japan participated as the official representative on behalf of DGAMPA.

In conjunction with the signing, the painting of the Millier Lighthouse, created and donated by Mr. TAKEISHI who is a Japanese lighthouse artist, was presented to the Association of the Millier Lighthouse.

In the future, the parties express their intention to cooperate in areas such as reciprocal exhibition of materials related to the history of both lighthouses and mutual visits by relevant personnel with a view to promoting and strengthening the historical and cultural ties between the two lighthouses and their respective communities.

* 1 Kannonsaki Lighthouse: Located in Yokosuka City, Kanagawa Prefecture, it is Japan's first Western-style lighthouse. Construction commenced on November 1, 1868, under the direction of French engineer François Léonce Verny with the contribution of the Florent brothers, and it was first lit on January 1, 1869. The original structure was a house-type design, It was reconstructed twice following earthquakes, and the current lighthouse is the third generation.

* 2 Millier Lighthouse: Located on Cape Millier in the commune of Beuzec-Cap-Sizun, France, it is a house-type lighthouse designed by a French engineer and first lit in March 1881. It stands in Finistère, the home region of the Florent brothers, who contributed to the construction of Kannonsaki Lighthouse in Japan.



[The Signing Ceremony]



The Association of the Millier Lighthouse

The City of Brest

the incoming Ambassador of France to Japan

Japan Coast Guard

The City of Yokosuka

Tokokai

Display of the Signed MoC



Presentation of the Painting

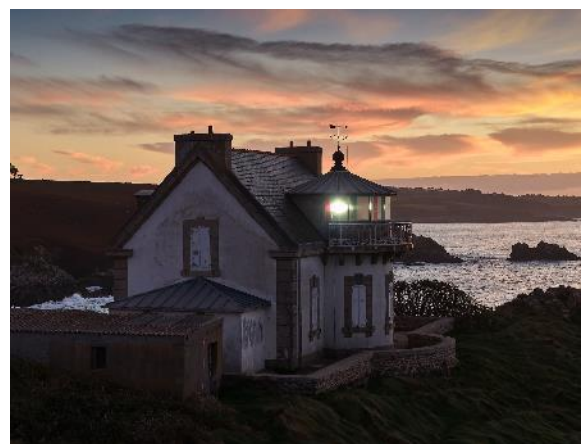


Visit to the Kannonsaki Lighthouse



The Original Structure

The Kannonsaki Lighthouse



The Millier Lighthouse