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28 September 2012

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following honorary appointment and award within the General Division of the Order of Australia:

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

HONORARY COMPANION (AC) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Mr Akio MIMURA,

6-1 Marunouchi, 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan

For eminent service to strengthening and advancing the Australia-Japan bilateral trade and economic relationship.

HONORARY MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Mr Masayasu YOSHIMOTO,

Australian Embassy, Japan, 2-1-14 Mita, Minato-Ku, Tokyo, Japan

For service to Australia at the Australian Embassy in Japan and by providing assistance to Australian victims of the earthquake and tsunami in March 2011.

By Her Excellency's Command

Stephen Brady

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA**Appointed an honorary Companion (AC) in the General Division**

NAME :	Mr Akio Mimura
POSITION :	Director, Member of the Board and Senior Adviser, Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metal Corporation, and Chairman, Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee
ADDRESS :	6-1 Marunouchi, 2-chome Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8071 JAPAN
CITATION :	<i>For eminent service to strengthening and advancing the Australia-Japan bilateral trade and economic relationship.</i>

Mr Akio Mimura is Director, Member of the Board and Senior Adviser, Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metal Corporation, and Chairman, Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee (JABCC). He has led the JABCC since 2008, a peak industry body of top leaders representing Japanese business interests working with Australian businesses.

Mr Mimura has re-energised Australia-Japan links by building on the traditional resource, energy and agricultural ties and also developing a strong additional focus on service industry links. In 2009, he led the establishment of an Australia-Japan public-private partnership on infrastructure cooperation, heading several business delegations to Australia, and in 2010 and 2011 led joint Australia-Japan delegations to India and Indonesia to investigate ways in which businesses in Australia and Japan could jointly deliver infrastructure projects to third countries. Additionally, Mr Mimura played a critical role in the establishment of the first Japan-Australia Public Private Policy Dialogue on Infrastructure which was held in Tokyo in March 2011. The forum opens up new opportunities for businesses and government agencies beyond the traditional spheres of energy and resources.

Mr Mimura has also been a strong supporter for concluding an Australia-Japan Free Trade Agreement, which should be extremely beneficial for Australia. Furthermore, under his oversight, Nippon Steel's subsidiary Nippon Steel Engineering has played an active role as a member of the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute – an Australian Government initiative.

Through his work over many years, Mr Mimura has had a transformative impact on economic ties between Australia and Japan.

Telephone No: (business) 813 6867 4111

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

Awarded an honorary Medal (OAM) in the General Division

NAME : Mr Masayasu Yoshimoto

POSITION : Driver

ADDRESS : Australian Embassy, Japan
2-1-14 Mita
Minato-Ku
Tokyo 108-8361
JAPAN

CITATION : *For service to Australia at the Australian Embassy in Japan and by providing assistance to Australian victims of the earthquake and tsunami in March 2011.*

Mr Masayasu Yoshimoto, a locally engaged staff member, has been a dedicated driver at the Australian Embassy in Japan for the past 10 years. Following the Japan earthquake and tsunami, Mr Yoshimoto volunteered to be a member of the first Consular Emergency Response Team to drive into the disaster zone on 13 March 2011 to establish a base in Sendai City. The team was there to work with Japanese authorities and others to find and help over 100 Australian citizens believed to have been caught up, or killed, in the disaster. He remained in the disaster zone for the duration of the consular mission, departing on 22 March.

Mr Yoshimoto's efforts were exceptional and courageous as he faced considerable hardships – the magnitude of the devastation and human loss, threats of seismic aftershocks, potential exposure to radiation, extreme cold, hazardous roads and lack of food and fuel. Besides sourcing fuel and food for the team, and working out the logistics as they travelled long distances, Mr Yoshimoto also provided translation services. He also volunteered to drive a round trip of 750km through officially mandated exclusion zones to deliver anti-radiation prophylactic drugs to Australians in areas facing increased levels of radiation.

Mr Yoshimoto's contribution to the welfare of Australian citizens and also his service to Australia as an official Embassy driver are commendable.

Telephone No: Not available