

Remarks by H.E. Mr Hiroshi Suzuki,
Ambassador of Japan to the UK,
On the occasion of the presentation of
Ambassador's Commendation
to Dr Adrian Simper
on 16th December 2025

Dr Adrian Simper,
Mrs Margie Simper,
Distinguished guests,

Thank you for coming to the Japanese
Embassy this evening. It gives me great
pleasure to present the Ambassador's
Commendation to Dr Adrian Simper.

Over the years, Dr Simper made great contributions to strengthening Japan – UK nuclear cooperation.

Let me share with you just a few examples. First, Dr Simper visited the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station soon after the accident. He provided invaluable expert assistance to improve safety and helped Japan to transmit accurate information which was most needed at that crucial time.

The decommissioning of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station presents enormous challenges. I wish to express my profound gratitude to Dr Simper for his invaluable expertise and assistance he has provided towards this end.

Secondly, regarding the discharge of ALPS-treated water, Dr Simper lent his professional support in gaining the understanding of the international community.

At the time, he was DESNZ's Chief Nuclear Adviser. He argued that Japan followed the same scientific rationale for discharging liquid radioactive waste as applied by other countries.

He asserted within the UK Government that Japan's approach to the ALPS-treated water should be actively supported. Japan is grateful to have gained such understanding within the UK Government, and around the world.

The timing of today's award is quite fitting for Dr Simper's great contributions. It was precisely five years ago today that the Protocol Amending the Japan-UK Nuclear Agreement was signed. Today marks a significant milestone in Japan-UK nuclear cooperation.

This agreement has further strengthened the robust partnership built between our two nations, and solidified the foundation for future cooperation.

In the field of nuclear power, Japan intends to remain at the forefront of technological innovation and nuclear safety in the world, playing a vital role in meeting the

challenges of securing energy security in a drastically changing world.

Japan is fortunate to have the UK as its trusted partner through many years of endeavours by Dr Simper and his colleagues.

Beside a great man stands a great lady. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Margie Simper. Without her support, Dr Simper could not have achieved such great accomplishments.

To conclude, I would once again like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr Simper for promoting Japan-UK nuclear cooperation. I have high hopes that Japan

and the UK can further strengthen our
vitally important partnership in the months
and year ahead.

Thank you very much.