

Naoyuki Kawahara, M.D., Ph.D.

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Address: 2-1-8 Miyanomachi, Yahata-Higashi, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka, Japan

Nationality: Japanese, Date of Birth: 23 September 1965

Professional Experience

2006 – Present

CEO, NGO ROCINANTES

Founded and currently lead an international NGO dedicated to improving primary health care, maternal and child health, and medical capacity building in Sudan, Zambia, and other developing countries.

2025 – Present

Committee Member, International Research and Development Evaluation Committee,
National Institute for Health Crisis Management

Participate in the national-level review and evaluation of international medical research and development projects.

2024 – Present

Academic Advisor, Japan Federation of Medical Devices Associations

Provide expert advice on global health collaboration, regulatory issues, and medical device innovation.

2022 – Present

Visiting Professor, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan

2022 – 2024

Specialist, COVID-19 Infection Control, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka, Japan

2017 – Present

Visiting Professor, Nagasaki University, Nagasaki, Japan

2013 – Present

Clinical Professor, Kumamoto University, Kumamoto, Japan

2020, 2025

Subcommittee Member, 4th & 5th Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize

Served as a member of the subcommittee responsible for reviewing and recommending candidates for the prestigious Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize.

2002 – 2005

First Secretary and Medical Attaché, Embassy of Japan in Sudan

2001 – 2002

Second Secretary and Medical Attaché, Embassy of Japan in the United Kingdom

2000

Advance Team Member, Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Medical Team, Mozambique

Deployed as part of the advance team for the Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team in response to the catastrophic floods in Mozambique, providing medical support and coordination.

2000

Member, United Nations Election Observation Mission, Tanzania

Served as an official member of the UN election observation team during the Tanzanian presidential election, monitoring electoral processes and contributing to fair and transparent elections.

1998 – 2001

Second Secretary and Medical Attaché, Embassy of Japan in Tanzania

1993 – 1994

Medical Doctor, Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital and Atomic-bomb Survivors Hospital

1992 – 1993

Medical Doctor, Kyushu University Hospital

Education

1994 – 1997

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Medical Science

Doctoral Course in Surgical Medicine, Division of Medical Science, Graduate School, Kyushu University

1986 – 1992

Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)

Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, Kyushu University

Awards and Honors

- **2023 – 30th Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize**
Awarded the 30th Yomiuri International Cooperation Prize for outstanding contributions to global health and international cooperation. **Ceremony attended by then Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa.**
 - **2021 – 50th Anniversary Social Contribution Award, Social Contribution Support Foundation**
Presented by Mrs. Akie Abe, Chairperson of the Foundation and spouse of the late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, in recognition of significant contributions to society and international development.
 - **2018 – Sen Kayoko Award**
Presented by the Sen Kayoko Foundation for outstanding achievements in promoting international medical cooperation.
 - **2014 – Ohyama Health Award**
Presented by the Ohyama Memorial Foundation for contributions to public health improvement.
 - **2013 – Fukuoka Prefecture Cultural Prize, Social Division**
Presented by Governor Hiroshi Ogawa of Fukuoka Prefecture, in recognition of distinguished contributions to culture and society.
 - **2010 – Social Contribution Award**
Presented by the Social Contribution Award Committee, recognizing long-term dedication to improving healthcare access in developing countries.
 - **2010 – Healthy Society Award**
Ceremony attended by Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, recognizing significant contributions to the creation of a healthier society in Japan and abroad.
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Appointments and Recognitions

- **2009 – Present – Cultural Ambassador of Kitakyushu City**
Appointed by Kitakyushu City to promote the city's cultural and international initiatives.
- **2011 – Present – Nagasaki Peace Special Envoy**
Recognized by the City of Nagasaki to advocate for peace and nuclear disarmament globally.