



## **Primate of Russian Orthodox Church meets with Russia's ambassador to Japan**

On 18 September 2012, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, while on a primatial visit to Japan, met with Mr. Yevgeny Afanasiev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Japan.

Patriarch Kirill thanked the head of the Russian diplomatic mission for the help the Embassy rendered in arranging the primatial visit and for the work the Embassy carries out for uniting Russian compatriots in Japan. The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church also highly appreciated the constructive cooperation between the Embassy and the Japanese Autonomous Orthodox Church and the Tokyo Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Mr. Afanasiev emphasized the importance of Patriarch Kirill's visit timed to the centenary of the demise of St Nicholas of Japan, Equal-to-the-Apostles, and expressed his hope for fraternal relations between the Orthodox faithful of Russia and Japan to strengthen ties between the two countries.