

Opening Remarks by KOIZUMI Ryuji, the Minister of Justice of Japan, for the 3rd Tokyo Immigration Forum

Your Excellency, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I am KOIZUMI Ryuji, the Minister of Justice of Japan.

And I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of you participating in the 3rd Tokyo Immigration Forum today as a representative of your country, region, or organization.

First, I would like to say a few remarks.

In recent years, the movement of people across borders has increased significantly and it is obvious that the participating immigration authorities are facing common challenges in establishing appropriate border control measures and building inclusive societies.

In order to adequately tackle such challenges, it is essential that our immigration authorities work closely together. This Forum was established as a place for us to share best practices and knowledge to solve challenges we are facing today, as well as to build cooperative relationships between

us.

I truly believe that coordination and cooperation between our immigration authorities will be enhanced through this Forum, which will also contribute greatly to the international community.

Specifically, due to the ever-increasing movement of people, it is clear that one of the imminent challenges that must be handled by our immigration authorities is to prevent various threats at the border.

It is important that we accept foreign nationals according to the rules and provide them with appropriate support, while taking the necessary procedures if a person violates the rules, by applying the laws properly and fairly, in order to build inclusive societies where people can treat each other with respect and live safely in peace.

Moreover, humanitarian crises have been prolonged and become more severe in many areas of the world. Thus, the number of people forced to flee their homes has increased greatly and surpassed 100 million for the first time ever. Hence, to develop permanent solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced people, cooperation of international society is absolutely essential.

I hope that the 3rd Forum will provide an opportunity for us to take proactive steps to solve common challenges faced by the participating immigration authorities, and that it will contribute to creating more harmonious and inclusive societies.

Now, I would like to conclude my remarks by paying my respects to all of you for your continued efforts and offering you my best wishes for the success of this forum.

Thank you very much.