

Opening Remarks by SUZUKI Keisuke, the Minister of Justice of Japan, for the 4th Tokyo Immigration Forum

Your Excellency, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I am SUZUKI Keisuke, the Minister of Justice of Japan.

And today, I would like to wholeheartedly welcome all of you, representatives of national and regional immigration authorities and international organizations, to the 4th Tokyo Immigration Forum.

In recent years, humanitarian crises, such as conflicts, poverty and disasters, have been prolonged and become more severe in many areas of the world. Thus, the number of forcibly displaced people has increased greatly and is said to have surpassed 120 million by the middle of this year.

In order to tackle these challenges properly, it is essential that our immigration authorities from each country work closely together.

Moreover, immigration authorities are expected not only to conduct appropriate border control but also to act responsibly as members of the international community.

With this in mind, the 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 the Forum, which will also contribute greatly to the international community.

Now, I invite you all to participate in the dialogue by actively sharing your ideas and knowledge. Let me conclude my opening remarks by expressing my high hope that this 4th Forum will be an opportunity for us to take a positive step together toward resolving issues in our countries and regions.

Thank you very much.