

**Opening Remarks by MARUYAMA Hideharu, the
Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of Japan
for the 4th Tokyo Immigration Forum**

Your Excellency, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I am MARUYAMA Hideharu, the
Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of Japan.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of you
participating in the 4th Tokyo Immigration Forum today.

I am so delighted to have the opportunity to meet delegates from
many immigration authorities and international experts here in
Tokyo face to face.

Given the increasingly tense global situation, it is essential that
we continue to work closely with each other in order to promptly
and accurately tackle challenges our immigration authorities are
facing today.

Of course, mutual understanding and sharing of values can never

be achieved overnight. So, I believe that it is essential for us to continue dialogue, while deepening the understanding of the systems, social conditions, cultures, history and so on of each country and region, and respecting each other's positions.

This annual forum will provide an opportunity for continuous dialogue and the building of next-generation partnerships. Through such dialogue and partnership, this forum is also expected to provide insights into the various challenges facing our respective countries.

Now, let me briefly provide an overview of this forum.

First, following my opening remarks, Ms. Amy Pope, the Director-General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), will deliver a keynote speech via video message.

Next, in today's Plenary Session, panelists will discuss the theme of "Recently-Introduced Immigration Measures."

Then, tomorrow, based on today's presentations, we will be holding a discussion, inviting all participants to join us.

Additionally, two Breakout Sessions will be held tomorrow on the themes of “Refugee Protection in the Asia and Pacific Region” and “Enhancing Regular Labour Migration Pathways in the Asia and Pacific Region.”

Furthermore, Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will give a speech.

On the final day, in the morning, we will have a tour of Haneda Airport and hold a seminar on “Countermeasures against Falsified and Altered Documents,” where we will introduce the immigration control measures being implemented in Japan.

Now, I would like to conclude my remarks, hoping that these three days will be a meaningful and productive time for all of you.

Thank you very much.