

# IMMIGRATION CONTROL

2015



Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice, JAPAN

2015

# Immigration Control

**Japan**

Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice

# Introduction

## Publication of the 2015 Immigration Control Report



**Cruise Ship**

In this age of globalization, the Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice plays a vital role in both promoting sound international exchange by enabling foreign nationals visiting Japan for diverse reasons from various countries and regions to smoothly enter and stay in Japan and differentiating between which foreign nationals should and which foreign nationals should not be permitted to enter and stay in Japan so as to maintain the law and order of Japanese society. The Immigration Bureau is also responsible for deporting, pursuant to laws and regulations, those foreign nationals already in the country who are unwelcome in terms of protecting the safety and interests of Japanese citizens. Moreover, another major role played by the Immigration Bureau is that of developing the procedures for refugee recognition and making determinations as to whether a foreign national seeking asylum in Japan should be recognized as a refugee.

The immigration report entitled “Immigration Control”, first published in 1959, has now reached its 21th edition. “Immigration Control” was a publication which only summarized the trends in immigration control administration over a five-year period until 2003. However, given the accelerated pace of changes in the conditions affecting Japan’s immigration control policies, immigration control administration has had to incorporate various new measures so as to be able to respond properly. In line with the rapid changes, starting 2004, the “Immigration Control” report has been published annually mainly summarizing the trends in immigration control administration over a twelve-month period.

The 2015 Immigration Control Report gives a brief description of the operations of the Immigration Bureau and, while looking back over the changes in the operations which took place over the past five years from 2010 to 2014, gives a summary of the recent circumstances and policies of immigration control administration, focusing mainly on the actions taken in FY 2014, such as formulation of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th edition), revision of the system of technical intern training, the efforts toward the achievement of a tourism-oriented country intended to attract more foreign tourists to Japan, and the measures taken for stringent prevention of the entry of possible terrorists at the port of entry.

Part I, entitled “Immigration Control in Recent Years,” introduces, based on statistical data, such topics as foreign nationals entering and departing from Japan (Chapter 1), foreign nationals residing in Japan (Chapter 2), implementation of the system of technical intern training (Chapter 3), Japanese nationals departing from and returning to Japan (Chapter 4), deportation procedures for foreign nationals (Chapter 5), recognition of refugee status (Chapter 6), and promotion of measures against trafficking in persons and proper protection of foreign victims of domestic violence (Chapter 7).

Part II, entitled “Major Policies Related to Immigration Control Administration”, gives formulation of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th edition) (Chapter 1), outline of the amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Chapter 2), promotion of the acceptance of highly-skilled foreign nationals (Chapter 3), smooth and strict implementation of immigration examination at the port of entry (Chart 4), measures against illegal or imposter foreign residents in Japan (Chapter 5), promotion of appropriate and prompt refugee protection (Chapter 6), responses to international society and international situations (Chapter 7), improvement of public relations activities and public services (Chapter 8), policy for the achievement of a symbiotic society co-existing with foreign nationals (Chart 9).

Furthermore, the data section features the outline of Japan’s immigration control system and related statistics in recent years.

Finally, we hope through this report that immigration control administration will prove to be beneficial and easy to understand.

December 2015

**Hiroshi Inoue**

Director-General of the Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice of Japan



# Points of the 2015 Immigration Control Report

## ■ Organization of the 2015 Immigration Control Report

- This report consists of three parts: Immigration Control in Recent Years (Part I), Major Policies Related to Immigration Control Administration (Part II), and Data Section.
- Part I describes the immigration operations conducted during 2014 based on the statistics over the five-year period from 2010 to 2014.
- Part II describes the major immigration control policies (implemented during FY 2014 as well as some of the measures for FY 2015).
- Data Section describes summary of the operations, etc. of the Immigration Bureau

## ■ Part I Immigration Control in Recent Years

- Number of foreign nationals entering Japan

Number of foreign nationals who entered Japan in 2014 (including those who re-entered Japan with a re-entry permit) was 14,150,185, and the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, excluding those who had re-entered, was 12,388,748, which marked a substantial increase of 2,894,964 (25.7%) and 2,834,333 (29.7%), respectively. Some factors influencing the increase in the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2014 are thought to be the continuing trend of the weak yen and the fact that the measures being implemented toward the realization of a tourism-oriented country by the entire government working together with private sectors has prompted an increase in the number of tourists coming to Japan.

- Number of foreign residents

The number of foreign residents combining the number of mid to long-term residents with the number of special permanent residents was 2,121,831 as of the end of 2014, increased by 2.7% compared to the end of 2013.

The percentage of foreign residents to the total population of Japan was 1.67%, increased by 0.05 point compared to the number at the end of 2013.

- Number of foreign nationals illegally staying beyond their authorized period of stay

The number of foreign nationals illegally staying beyond their authorized period of stay as of January 1, 2015 was 60,007, and although there was a decline after reaching a record of 298,646 foreign nationals, which was the highest ever, on May 1, 1993, this trend is seeing an increase once again for the first time in 22 years. This is thought to be because initially the number of foreign nationals staying beyond their authorized period of stay was greatly reduced owing to crackdowns which were continuously being implemented to expose illegal immigrants, but recently smaller groups of illegal immigrants are spreading out throughout the country which is making large-scale crackdowns difficult and the number of foreign nationals undergoing the deportation procedures is seeing a downward trend. Meanwhile, in recent years, the entire government has been working on promoting Japan as a tourism-oriented country, and as a result of the visa waiver and visa requirement easing measures vis-à-vis the ASEAN countries implemented since July 1, 2013, the number of foreign entrants in 2014 had significantly increased compared with the previous year, and this is believed to have had some impact on the increasing number of foreign nationals staying beyond their authorized period of stay.

## ■ Part II Major Policies Related to Immigration Control

### Administration

- Formulation of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition)
  - Toward the realization of proper and smooth immigration control administration, the Minister of Justice shall formulate the Basic Plan for Immigration Control, which aims to clarify the situation of foreign nationals who enter and reside in Japan, and to stipulate the guidelines for management of entry and residence of foreign nationals and other necessary matters concerning related measures.
  - The Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition), envisaging a period of the next five years, which is advocated smooth acceptance of foreign nationals vitalizing the Japanese economy and society, call for a national debate on the acceptance of foreign nationals in light of the declining birthrate and aging population, efforts toward the establishment of a new system of technical intern training, contributing to a symbiotic society co-existing with foreign nationals through accurate operation of the residence management system, etc. efforts to realize a tourism-oriented country, promotion of countermeasures at the port of entry toward the realization of a safe and secure society and countermeasures, etc. against illegal residents, and promotion of appropriate and prompt refugee protection, etc. as the basic policies was formulated on September 15, 2015.
- Outline of the Bill for Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act
 

“Bill for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act” was submitted to the 189th session of the Diet on March 6, 2015. The outline is as given below.

  - In order to accept foreign nationals engaging in the work of nursing care, a new status of residence of “Nursing Care” will be established to enable foreign students graduated from a care worker training facility and acquired the qualification of a certified care worker to engage in the work of nursing care or instructions on nursing care as a certified care worker based on a contract with a Japanese nursing care facility, etc.
  - A penalty which is equivalent to the current penalty for illegal entry or illegal landing will be imposed on the foreign national who obtained landing permission or permission to change the status of residence, etc. through deception or other wrongful means, and a penalty will also be established against those who facilitate the execution of this act for the purpose of profit, furthermore, the associated grounds for deportation and the grounds for revocation of the status of residence will be also revised.
  - The amendment will make it possible to revoke the status of residence of the suspect immediately in the case where the suspect resides engaging in or attempting to engage in other activities without engaging in the original activities even when three months that is the period requirement of the current provision to revoke the status of residence have not yet elapsed, and moreover a new provision is to be established so that if there are reasonable grounds to believe that foreign nationals whose status of residence has been revoked for the reasons mentioned above, will flee, it will be possible to immediately switch to the deportation procedures, without setting a grace period for departure.
  - Immigration control officers in addition to immigration inspectors are able to conduct inquiry into the facts relating to revocation of the status of residence.
- Revision of the System of Technical Intern Training
 

“Bill on Proper Implementation of Technical Intern Training for Foreign Nationals and Protection of the Technical Intern Trainees” was submitted to the 189th session of the Diet on March 6, 2015. The outline is as given below.

  - Provisions are laid down for a system of certification of the technical intern training plan created for each technical intern trainee, the criteria for certification such as the conducting of an evaluation on the acquisition of skills, etc. by the technical intern trainee and the grounds for disqualification of the certification, as well as

provisions for the collection of reports, orders for improvement, revocation of certification, and other matters.

- In addition to establishing a permission system for the supervising organizations and the criteria for permission and the grounds for disqualification of the permission, provisions are laid down for the collection of reports, orders for improvement, revocation of the permission, and other matters.
  - Provisions are established to prohibit acts of human rights infringement against the technical intern trainees, to prescribe penalties for such acts, and to enable the trainee to file a report with the competent Minister in the event of the implementer of the technical intern training or the supervising organization committing an act of infringement as well as a provision on penalties with regard to rendering disadvantageous treatment as a result of the trainee filing the report.
  - Organization on technical intern training is newly established as an authorized corporation, and this organization is to perform the administrative affairs relating to certification of the technical intern training plans and permission for the supervising organizations, on-site inspections for the implementers of the technical intern training and supervising organizations, and advice and assistance for the technical intern trainees.
  - The act enables the acceptance of technical intern trainees of technical intern training (iii) (implementation of the 4th and 5th year of the technical intern training) limited to trustworthy implementers of technical intern training and supervising organizations.
- **Promotion of the Acceptance of Highly-Skilled Foreign Nationals**
- The points-based preferential immigration treatment for highly-skilled professionals classifies the activities of the highly-skilled foreign nationals into the three categories of “advanced academic research activities”, “advanced specialized/technical activities” and “advanced business management activities” with a certain number of points being awarded for such items as “academic background”, “professional career” and “annual salary” according to the characteristics of each category. Foreign nationals whose total number of points exceeds a certain number of points are recognized as “highly-skilled foreign nationals”, thereby according them preferential immigration treatment.
  - In order to further promote the acceptance of highly-skilled professionals, the new statuses of residence of “Highly Skilled Professional (i)” and “Highly Skilled Professional (ii)” were established through an amendment of the Immigration Control Act in 2014 for those highly-skilled professionals who had previously been granted the status of residence of “Designated Activities”(enforced on April 1, 2015).
- **Smooth and strict implementation of immigration examinations at the port of entry**
- Government-wide efforts are currently underway in Japan toward achieving a tourism-oriented country, and for its part, in order to further promote smoother immigration examinations, the Immigration Bureau has introduced secondary immigration examinations, installed or increased the number of automated gates and streamlined the immigration examinations for cruise ship passengers through landing permission for cruise ship tourists.
  - In order to protect people’s lives and public safety, it is of vital importance to unfailingly prevent the entry into the country of terrorists disguising themselves as tourists. Therefore, the Immigration Bureau continues to implement strict immigration examinations at the ports of entry through the utilization of such measures as biometrics data, ICPO’s data on lost and stolen passports and the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS). In addition, there are concerns about the occurrence and increase in so-called cases of stowaways where foreign nationals attempt to illegally enter Japan using ships in order to avoid the landing examinations which utilize personal identification information, and since terrorists and other suspect persons may be hiding among these illegal entrants, information pertaining to cases of illegal immigration is being collected, analyzed and shared by mobile teams composed of immigration control officers and various forms of joint training are being conducted with reinforced cooperation from the relevant organizations, while border measures such as patrols at the seaports and coastal areas and searches of ships entering Japan are being strengthened.

○ Measures against illegal and imposter foreign residents in Japan

- The number of foreign nationals staying illegally beyond their authorized period of stay had been steadily decreasing since 1993 owing to past measures that were being taken, but this trend is seeing an increase for the first time in 22 years, and it is estimated that there are still some 60,000 illegal foreign residents (as of January 1, 2015) in Japan, and therefore efforts to further reduce the number of foreign nationals illegally staying beyond their authorized period of stay are being promoted through strengthened detection, reinforced collection and analysis of information on illegal foreign residents, and the promotion of voluntary appearances.
- “Imposter residents” are foreign nationals who are residing in Japan having illegally received entry or residence permission as though they come under one of the statuses of residence having disguised their identity or activities such as by using forged or altered documents or false documents under the cover of a fake marriage, fake studies or fake employment, etc., or they may not necessarily have concealed the purpose of their activities from the onset but are currently engaged in illegal work which is far removed from their status of residence. The presence of imposter residents in Japan who illegally use a status of residence cannot be overlooked, and therefore, the Immigration Bureau is striving to strengthen the detection of imposter foreign residents and to reinforce the collection and analysis of information.
- Based on an agreement concluded between the Immigration Bureau and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) in September 2010, the Immigration Bureau and the JFBA are to discuss methods of improving the situation of problems related to detention in immigration control. In addition, the Immigration Bureau and the JFBA have arranged for legal consultations, etc. to be provided by attorneys to the detainees.
- With regard to detainees who have been detained for a considerable period of time following the issuance of a written deportation order, the Immigration Bureau will continue to check and examine the necessity for and suitability of provisional release for such detainees at regular intervals, and will flexibly utilize provisional release while taking individual situations into account so as to implement further appropriate deportation procedures.
- In July 2010, the Immigration Bureau established the Immigration Detention Facilities Visiting Committee consisting of experts from outside the Immigration Bureau, and the Immigration Bureau will continue to make efforts to ensure further transparency in security measures, and to improve and enhance the operations of the immigration detention centers, etc., while taking the Committee’s views into consideration.

○ Promotion of appropriate and prompt refugee protection

- In order to quickly stabilize the legal status of foreign nationals who are to be recognized as refugees, the Immigration Bureau set six months as the standard processing time for the examination of refugee applications, and announces on a quarterly basis the average processing (examination) time for refugee applications on the Ministry of Justice website.
- A program to accept and support the resettlement of Myanmarese refugees who were staying in a refugee camp in Thailand was launched in FY 2010 as a pilot project for the acceptance of refugees desiring resettlement. The first group consisting of 27 refugees from five families came to Japan in FY 2010, 18 refugees from four families came to Japan in FY 2011, 18 refugees from four families came to Japan in FY 2013, and 23 refugees from five families came to Japan in FY 2014 (Although 16 refugees from three families were to enter Japan in FY2012, each of them declined the offer of acceptance prior to entry into Japan.).
- Based on the results of the Advisory Council on Resettlement held under the auspices of the Liaison and Coordination Council for Refugee Issues from March 2012 to December 2013, Japan’s future policy on resettlement was approved by the Cabinet on January 24, 2014, and in accordance with the contents of this Cabinet Agreement and the “Specific Measures for the Admission of Refugees through Resettlement” (decision of the Liaison and Coordination Council for Refugee Issues of January 24, 2014), Myanmarese refugees who are staying temporarily in Malaysia are to be eligible for acceptance from FY 2015 onwards.



- Responses to international society and international situations
  - The Immigration Bureau has been actively involved in negotiations for the conclusion of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with various countries.
  - Based on the respective EPAs, nurse and certified care worker candidates have been accepted from Indonesia since FY 2008, from the Philippines since FY 2009, and from Viet Nam since FY 2014. The number of foreign nationals accepted up until FY 2014 was 1,235 from Indonesia, 1,004 from the Philippines, and 138 from Viet Nam.
  - On April 28, 2015, an outline agreement was reached at the Japan-U.S. summit meeting on the implementation of a bilateral travel facilitation initiative pertaining to the U.S. Global Entry Program (GEP) and Japan Trusted Traveler Program (a new program making foreign nationals who have been identified as “trusted travelers” eligible to use the automated gates).
  - The Immigration Bureau attended international conferences, including G7/8 meetings and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) to develop cooperative ties and to share information through discussions and exchanges of opinions with other countries.

# 2015 Immigration Control Report

Introduction - Publication of the 2015 Immigration Control Report

Points of the 2015 Immigration Control Report

Contents

## Part I. Immigration Control in Recent Years

### Chapter 1. Foreign Nationals Entering and Departing from Japan

#### Section 1. Changes in the Number of Foreign Nationals

<b>Entering and Departing from Japan</b> .....	2
<b>① Foreign Nationals Entering Japan</b> .....	2
(1) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan .....	2
(2) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Nationality/Region.....	3
(3) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Gender and Age.....	4
(4) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Purpose of Entry (Status of Residence).....	4
A. “Temporary Visitor”.....	6
B. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Employment in Professional or Technical Fields .....	8
(a) “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Intra-company Transferee”.....	10
(b) “Entertainer” .....	11
(c) “Skilled Labor” .....	11
C. “Technical Intern Training (i)” .....	11
D. “Student” .....	12
E. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position .....	13
<b>② Special Landing Permission</b> .....	15
(1) Permission for Landing at a Port of Call .....	15
(2) Permission for Landing in Transit .....	15
(3) Landing Permission for Crew Members .....	15
(4) Permission for Emergency Landing.....	15
(5) Landing Permission Due to Distress .....	15
(6) Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge .....	16
<b>③ Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan</b> .....	16

<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of immigration examinations)</b> .....	17
<b>Section 2. Judgment for Landing</b> .....	18
<b>① Receipt and Processing of Hearings for Landing, and Filing of Objections</b> .....	18
<b>② Foreign Nationals Falling Under Any of the Grounds for Denial of Landing</b> .....	19
<b>③ Special Permission for Landing</b> .....	21
<b>Section 3. Pre-entry Examination</b> .....	21
<b>① Advance Consultation for Visa Issuance</b> .....	21
<b>② Certificate of Eligibility</b> .....	21
<b>Chapter 2. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan</b>	
<b>Section 1. Number of Foreign Residents in Japan</b> .....	22
<b>① Number of Foreign Residents in Japan</b> .....	22
<b>② Number of Foreign Residents by Nationality/Region</b> .....	22
<b>③ Number of Foreign Residents by Purpose (Status of Residence)</b> .....	23
(1) “Permanent Resident” and “Special Permanent Resident” .....	23
(2) Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan for the Purpose of Employment in Professional or Technical Fields .....	25
(3) “Technical Intern Training (i) and (ii)” .....	27
(4) “Student” .....	27
(5) “Trainee” .....	27
(6) “Designated Activities” .....	27
(7) Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position .....	28
<b>Section 2. Examination of Statuses of Residence</b> .....	29
<b>① Permission for Change in the Status of Residence</b> .....	30
(1) Change of Status of Residence from the Status of Residence of “Student” to a Status for Employment Purposes .....	30
(2) Permission to Change Status of Residence in Order to Participate in “Technical Intern Training (ii)” .....	31
<b>② Permission for Extension of Period of Stay</b> .....	33
<b>③ Permission for Permanent Residence</b> .....	33
<b>④ Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence</b> .....	34
<b>⑤ Re-entry Permission</b> .....	34

⑥ Permission to Engage in an Activity Other Than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted	34
<b>Section 3. Number of Issuance of Residence Cards and Special Permanent Resident Certificates</b>	35
① Number of Issuance of Residence Cards	35
② Number of Issuance of Special Permanent Resident Certificates	35
<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of residence examinations)</b>	36

### Chapter 3. Implementation of the Technical Intern Training Programs

<b>Section 1. Outline of the System</b>	37
<b>Section 2. Responses to Cases of Inappropriate Acceptance</b>	38

### Chapter 4. Japanese Nationals Departing from and Returning to Japan

<b>Section 1. Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan</b>	40
① Total Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan	40
② Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Gender and Age	40
③ Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Airport and Seaport	41
<b>Section 2. Number of Japanese Nationals Returning to Japan</b>	42

### Chapter 5. Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

<b>Section 1. Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay</b>	43
① Number of Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay by Nationality/Region	43
② Number of Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay by Status of Residence	45
<b>Section 2. Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act Necessitating the Implementation of Deportation Procedures</b>	46

<b>① Outline</b> .....	46
<b>② Number of Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act by Grounds for Deportation</b> .....	47
(1) Illegal Entry .....	47
(2) Illegal Landing .....	49
(3) Overstay .....	49
(4) Activity Other Than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted ..	50
<b>Article: Reaction to Activists Claiming Sovereignty over the Senkaku Islands</b> .....	51
<b>③ Illegal Foreign Workers</b> .....	51
(1) Summary .....	51
(2) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Nationality/Region .....	51
(3) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Gender .....	52
(4) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Type of Work .....	53
(5) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Place of Work .....	53
<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an immigration control officer in charge of detection of offenders)</b> .....	55
<b>④ Outline of Decisions on Violations</b> .....	56
(1) Receipt and the Processing of Cases of Violation .....	56
(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order .....	57
(3) Provisional Release .....	58
(4) Special Permission to Stay in Japan .....	59
<b>⑤ Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals</b> .....	59
(1) Deportation at the Expense of Foreign National (Voluntary Departure) .....	61
(2) Deportation at the Expense of the Government of Japan .....	61
(3) Deportation at the Expense of and on the Responsibility of Carriers .....	62
<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an immigration control officer in charge of deportation)</b> .....	63
<b>⑥ Departure Orders</b> .....	64
(1) Investigation into Violations .....	64
A. Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Nationality/Region .....	64
B. Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Applied Article .....	64
(2) Examination .....	64
A. Receipt and Processing of Cases .....	64
B. Issuance of a Written Departure Order .....	65



(3) Confirmation of Departure ..... 65

## **Chapter 6. Recognition of Refugee Status**

**Section 1. Applications and Processing for Recognition of Refugee Status** ..... 66

① **Application for Refugee Status** ..... 66

② **Processing of Applications for Refugee Status** ..... 67

③ **Implementation of the System for Permission for Provisional Stay** ..... 67

**Section 2. Filing of an Objection** ..... 68

① **Filing of an Objection** ..... 68

② **Processing of the Objection** ..... 68

**Section 3. Purpose of the Refugee Examination Counselors System and the Implementation** ..... 68

**Section 4. Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge** ..... 69

**Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of a refugee inquirer)** ..... 70

## **Chapter 7. Promotion of Measures Against Trafficking in Persons and Proper Protection of Foreign Victims of Domestic Violence**

**Section 1. Promotion of Measures Against Trafficking in Persons** ..... 71

① **Measures Against Trafficking in Persons** ..... 71

② **Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons** ..... 71

③ **Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons** ..... 72

**Section 2. Proper Protection of Foreign Domestic Violence Victims** ..... 73

① **Outline** ..... 73

② **Number of Recognized Foreign Domestic Violence Victims** ..... 73

**Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an officer in charge of the measures against trafficking in persons)** ..... 75

# Part II. Major Policies Related to Immigration Control Administration

## Chapter 1. Formulation of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition)

<b>Section 1. Considerations Regarding Formulation of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition)</b> ..	78
<b>① Immigration Policy Discussion Panel</b> .....	78
(1) Outline of the Immigration Policy Discussion Panel .....	78
(2) Sub-Panel for Discussions on the System of the Acceptance of Foreign Nationals ..	79
(3) Expert Meeting on the Refugee Recognition System .....	80
<b>② The Joint Experts Discussion Panel of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Relating to Revision of the System of Technical Intern Training</b> .....	81
<b>Section 2. Basic Principles of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition)</b> .....	82
<b>Section 3. Major Challenges of the Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition)</b> .....	83
<b>① Smooth Acceptance of Foreign Nationals Vitalizing the Japanese Economy and Society</b> .....	83
(1) Acceptance of Human Resources Contributing to Economic Growth .....	83
A. Promotion of the Acceptance of Foreign Nationals in Professional and Technical Fields in Response to Changes in the Economy and Society .....	83
B. Promotion of the Acceptance of Highly-Skilled Foreign Nationals .....	84
C. Acceptance of Foreign Nationals in Fields in Urgent Need of Human Resources ..	84
(2) Promotion of the Appropriate Acceptance of Foreign Students .....	84
<b>② Call for a National Debate on the Acceptance of Foreign Nationals in Light of the Declining Birthrate and Aging Population</b> .....	84
<b>③ Efforts Toward the Establishment of a New System of Technical Intern Training</b> .....	84
(1) Measures to Optimize the System of Technical Intern Training .....	84
(2) Revisions Relating to Expansion of the System Based on the Original Purpose of the System .....	85
<b>④ Contributing to a Symbiotic Society Co-existing with Foreign Nationals Through Accurate Operation of the Residency Management System, etc.</b> .....	85

(1) Accurate Operation of the Residency Management System and Revision of the System .....	85
(2) Efforts Toward the Realization of a Symbiotic Society Co-existing with Foreign Nationals .....	85
<b>⑤ Efforts to Realize a Tourism-Oriented Country .....</b>	<b>85</b>
(1) Expansion of Use of the Automated Gates .....	85
(2) Facilitation of Immigration Examination Procedures Pertaining to Foreign Visitors on Cruise Ships .....	86
(3) Other Efforts Contributing to the Realization of a Tourism-Oriented Country .....	86
<b>⑥ Promotion of Countermeasures at the Port of Entry toward the Realization of a Safe and Secure Society and Countermeasures, etc. Against Illegal Residents .....</b>	<b>86</b>
(1) Implementation of Strict Immigration Examinations and Other Countermeasures at the Port of Entry for the Purpose of Preventing the Entry of Terrorists and Other Suspect Persons .....	86
A. Promotion of Landing Examinations Utilizing Personal Identification Information .....	86
B. Reinforcement of Countermeasures at the Port of Entry Utilizing Information in Cooperation with the Relevant Organizations .....	87
C. Reinforcement of Countermeasures against Illegal Entrants Using Vessels, etc. ..	87
(2) Promotion of Countermeasures Against Foreign Nationals Illegally Residing or Posing as Legitimate Residents in Japan .....	87
A. Implementation of Proactive Detection .....	87
B. Reinforcement of Countermeasures Against Foreign Nationals Posing as Legitimate Residents .....	87
C. Reinforcement of Coordination with the Police and Other Law Enforcement Agencies .....	87
D. Implementation of Appropriate Treatment of Detainees and Prompt Deportation .....	88
(3) Reinforcement of the Intelligence-Gathering Functions of Immigration Control .....	88
(4) Appropriate Operation of Special Permission to Stay in Japan .....	88
<b>⑦ Promotion of Appropriate and Prompt Refugee Protection .....</b>	<b>88</b>
(1) Efforts, etc. for the Purpose of Appropriate and Prompt Refugee Recognition .....	88
(2) Acceptance of Refugees Through Resettlement .....	89
<b>Article: “Japan Revitalization Strategy” and Immigration Control Administration .....</b>	<b>91</b>

## Chapter 2. Outline of the Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act

<b>Section1. Enactment and Enforcement of the Act for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Act No.74 of 2014)</b> .....	92
① <b>Promotion of the Acceptance of Foreign Professionals with Highly-Specialized Skills</b> .....	92
② <b>Facilitation of the Entry Procedures Relating to Foreign Passengers on Cruise Ships</b> .....	92
(1) Establishment of a New Special Landing Permission .....	92
(2) Expansion of the Scope of Foreign Nationals Eligible for Special Re-entry Permission .....	92
③ <b>Facilitation of the Immigration Procedures Relating to Certain Temporary Visitors</b> .....	93
④ <b>Others</b> .....	93
(1) Development of Status of Residence .....	93
A. Amendment Relating to the Status of Residence of “Investor/Business Manager” ..	93
B. Consolidation of the Status of Residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” .....	93
C. Amendment Relating to the Status of Residence of “Student” .....	93
(2) Amendment Enabling the Acquisition of Passenger Name Record (PNR) .....	93
(3) Development of Provisions Relating to the Investigative Authority of the Immigration Officers .....	94
<b>Section2. Submission of the 2015 Act for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control Act (Bill for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act)</b> .....	94
① <b>Outline</b> .....	94
② <b>Establishment of the New Status of Residence of “Nursing Care”</b> .....	94
③ <b>Strengthening of Countermeasures Against Imposter Residents</b> .....	94
<b>Setion3. Submission of the Bill on Proper Implementation of Technical Intern Training for Foreign Nationals and Protection of the Technical Intern Trainees</b> .....	95

<b>① Measures for Optimization of the System</b> .....	96
(1) Strengthening of the System of Supervision and Management .....	96
(2) Protection of the Technical Intern Trainees .....	96
(3) Establishment of Organization on Technical Intern Training .....	96
<b>② Measures for Expansion of the System</b> .....	97
<b>Article: Emergency Time-Limited Measures in the Fields</b>	
<b>of Construction and Shipbuilding</b> .....	97

## Chapter 3. Promotion of the Acceptance of Highly-Skilled Foreign Nationals

<b>Section 1. Outline of Points-Based Preferential Treatment for Highly-Skilled Professionals</b> .....	98
<b>Section 2. Establishment, etc. of New Statuses of Residence</b> ..	98
<b>① Outline</b> .....	98
<b>② Preferential Treatment</b> .....	99
(1) Highly Skilled Professional (i) .....	99
(2) Highly Skilled Professional (ii) .....	99
<b>Section 3. Situation of Acceptance</b> .....	100
<b>Section 4. Publicity Measures</b> .....	100

## Chapter 4. Smooth and Strict Implementation of Immigration Examination at the Port of Entry

<b>Section 1. Efforts to Promote a Tourism-Oriented Country</b> ..	101
<b>① Efforts to Reduce the Waiting Time for Examinations</b> .....	101
<b>② Automated Gates</b> .....	101
<b>③ Response to Cruise Ship Passengers</b> .....	102
<b>④ Measures to Enable the Longer Stays of Wealthy Foreign Nationals</b> .....	103
<b>Section 2. Strengthened Countermeasures at the Port of Entry</b> .....	103
<b>① Implementation of Immigration Examinations Through the Use of Biometric Information</b> .....	103
<b>② Use of ICPO's Database on Lost and Stolen Passports</b> .....	104
<b>③ Immigration Examinations Through the Use of APIS and PNR</b> ..	104
<b>④ Patrol Activities at Airports and Seaports</b> .....	104
<b>Article: The Importance of Immigration Control as Measures Against Terrorism</b> .....	106



<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of a document examination office staff)</b> .....	107
--	-----

**Chapter 5. Measures Against Illegal or Imposter Foreign Residents in Japan**

<b>Section 1. Implementation of Measures Against Illegal Foreign Residents</b> .....	108
--	-----

<b>① Past Efforts to Reduce the Number of Illegal Foreign Residents</b> ..	108
<b>② Efforts to Further Reduce the Number of Illegal Foreign Residents</b> .....	108
(1) Strengthened Detection .....	108
(2) Preparation of an Environment Facilitating Voluntary Appearance .....	109

<b>Section 2. Implementation of Measures Against Imposter Foreign Residents</b> .....	109
---	-----

<b>① Countermeasures Against Imposter Foreign Residents, etc.</b> .....	109
<b>② Crackdowns on Imposter Foreign Residents, etc.</b> .....	110
(1) Reinforcement of the Collection and Analysis of Information .....	110
(2) Strict Handling Through Reinforced Exposure and Proactive Application of Law ..	110
<b>③ Strict Treatment of Brokers Aiding Foreign Nationals in Illegal Residence and Imposter Residence</b> .....	111

<b>Article: Measures Against Illegal Residents and Imposter Residents</b> .....	111
---	-----

<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an officer of the inquiry into the facts)</b> .....	112
---	-----

<b>Section 3. Efforts for Further Appropriate Treatment</b> .....	113
---	-----

<b>① Efforts for Further Appropriate Treatment of Detainees</b> .....	113
<b>② Activities and Duties of the Immigration Detention Facilities Visiting Committee</b> .....	113

<b>Article: At the Front Line of Immigration Control Administration (voice of an immigration control officer in the Detention Department)</b> .....	114
---	-----

<b>Section 4. Promotion of the Deportation of Deportees</b> .....	115
---	-----

<b>① Implementation of Safe and Reliable Deportation of Deportation Evaders</b> .....	115
<b>② Implementation of Mass Deportation Using Chartered Flights</b> .....	115

③ Promotion of the Use of IOM Repatriation Programs .....	115
---	-----

## **Chapter 6. Promotion of Appropriate and Prompt Refugee Protection**

<b>Section 1. Promotion of Appropriate and Prompt Processing of Applications</b> .....	116
<b>Section 2. Acceptance of Refugees Through Resettlement</b> .....	116
<b>Section 3. Promotion of Collaboration with NGOs</b> .....	117

## **Chapter 7. Responses to International Society and International Situations**

<b>Section 1. Treaties and International Conventions</b> .....	119
① Major Actions for Negotiations for the Conclusion of EPAs with Other Countries .....	119
② Acceptance of Nurse and Certified Care Worker Candidates Based on EPAs .....	119
③ Reports and Examinations in Accordance with Human Rights Treaties .....	119
④ Responses to the Bilateral Travel Facilitation Initiative .....	120
<b>Section 2. International Conferences</b> .....	120
① G7/8 Rome-Lyon Group Migration Experts Sub-Group Meeting ..	120
② Other International Conferences .....	120

## **Chapter 8. Improvement of Public Relations Activities and Public Services**

<b>Section 1. Promotion of Public Relations Activities</b> .....	121
<b>Section 2. Improvement of Public Services</b> .....	122
① Facilitating the Landing Examination Procedures .....	122
② Information Services for Foreign Nationals .....	123
③ Immigration Bureau Website.....	124
④ Measures Related to Switching Over from the Certificate of Alien Registration to the Residence Card or Special Permanent Resident Certificate.....	124

## **Chapter 9. Policy for the Achievement of a Symbiotic Society Co-existing with Foreign Nationals**

<b>Section 1. Participation in the Meeting on Cities with Large Populations of Foreign Nationals</b> .....	125
<b>Section 2. Participation in Government-Wide Efforts</b> .....	125

# Data Section

## Data Section 1. Outline of Japan's Immigration Control System

<b>Section 1. Purpose and Legal Basis</b> .....	128
<b>Section 2. Immigration Procedures for All Persons</b> .....	128
<b>① Procedures for the Entry and Departure of Foreign Nationals</b> ..	128
<b>② Procedures for Entry (Landing) Examinations of Foreign     Nationals</b> .....	129
(1) Entry (Landing) Examination .....	129
(2) Hearing .....	130
(3) Filing of an Objection .....	130
<b>③ Pre-entry Examination</b> .....	132
(1) Advance Consultation for Issuance of Visas .....	132
(2) Certificate of Eligibility .....	132
<b>④ Special Landing Permission</b> .....	134
(1) Permission for Landing at a Port of Call .....	134
(2) Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists .....	134
(3) Permission for Landing in Transit .....	134
(4) Landing Permission for Crew Members .....	134
(5) Permission for Emergency Landing .....	135
(6) Landing Permission Due to Distress .....	135
<b>⑤ Procedures for the Departure and Return of Japanese     Nationals</b> .....	135
<b>Section 3. Examination of the Status of Residence of     Foreign Nationals</b> .....	135
<b>① Status of Residence System</b> .....	135
<b>② Examination of the Status of Residence</b> .....	139
(1) Permission for Change of Status of Residence .....	139
(2) Permission for Extension of Period of Stay .....	139
(3) Permission for Permanent Residence .....	139
(4) Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence .....	140
(5) Re-entry Permission .....	140
(6) Permission to Engage in an Activity Other Than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted .....	140
<b>③ System of Revocation of Status of Residence</b> .....	141
<b>Section 4. Residency Management System of Mid to Long-     Term Residents, etc.</b> .....	142

<b>① Residency Management System of Mid to Long-Term Residents</b> ..	142
(1) Residence Card ..	143
(2) Notifications and Applications Relating to Residence Cards ..	143
A. Notification of the Place of Residence ..	143
(a) Notification of the Place of Residence After Newly Landing in Japan ..	143
(b) Notification of the Place of Residence in Connection with a Change in the Status of Residence and Other Related Matters ..	144
(c) Notification of a Change of Place of Residence ..	144
B. Notification of a Change of an Item on the Residence Card Other Than the Place of Residence ..	144
C. Application to Extend the Valid Period of the Residence Card ..	144
D. Application for Reissuance of a Residence Card Due to Loss or Other Causes ..	144
E. Application for Reissuance of a Residence Card Due to Damage or Soiling, etc. ....	145
(3) Notification Concerning the Organization of Affiliation or Concerning the Spouse ..	145
A. Notification from a Mid to Long-Term Resident Concerning the Organization of Affiliation ..	145
(a) Notification Concerning the Organization Where the Foreign National Is Engaging in Activities ..	145
(b) Notification Concerning the Contracting Organization ..	145
(c) Notification Concerning the Spouse of the Foreign National ..	146
B. Notification Concerning Mid to Long-Term Residents to be Given by the Organization of Affiliation ..	146
(4) Measures to Increase Convenience of the Mid to Long-Term Resident by Using Immigration Bureau's Electronic Notification System ..	148
A. Immigration Bureau's Electronic Notification System ..	148
B. Immigration Bureau's Seiji Search System ..	148
(5) Inquiry into the Facts ..	149
<b>② The System of Special Permanent Residents</b> ..	150
(1) Special Permanent Resident Certificate ..	150
(2) Notifications and Applications Relating to Special Permanent Resident Certificates ..	151
A. Notifications on the Place of Residence ..	151
B. Notification of a Change of an Item on the Special Permanent Resident Certificate Other Than the Place of Residence ..	151
C. Application to Extend the Valid Period of the Special Permanent Resident Certificate ..	151
D. Application for Reissuance of a Special Permanent Resident Certificate Due to Loss or Other Causes ..	151

E. Application for Reissuance of a Special Permanent Resident Certificate Due to Damage or Soiling .....	152
<b>③ Information Coordination Between the Ministry of Justice and     the Municipalities .....</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>Section 5. Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals .....</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>① Investigation into Violations by an Immigration Control Officer ..</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>② Examination of Violations by an Immigration Inspector/Hearing     by a Special Inquiry Officer .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>③ Determinations by the Minister of Justice .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>④ Grant or Denial of Permission for Residence .....</b>	<b>155</b>
(1) Denial of Permission for Residence (Deportation) .....	155
(2) Special Cases of Determinations by the Minister of Justice (Special Permission to Stay in Japan) .....	156
<b>⑤ Departure Order System .....</b>	<b>156</b>
<b>Section 6. Refugee Recognition Procedures .....</b>	<b>156</b>
<b>① Accession of the Refugee Convention .....</b>	<b>156</b>
<b>② Refugee Recognition Procedures .....</b>	<b>157</b>
(1) Definitions .....	157
(2) Permission for Provisional Stay .....	157
(3) Inquiry into the Facts .....	157
(4) Recognition of Refugee Status by the Minister of Justice and Effects of Refugee Status .....	157
<b>③ Filing of an Objection .....</b>	<b>158</b>
<b>④ Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge .....</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Data Section 2. Organizational Expansion and Staff     Enhancement</b>	
<b>Section 1. Organizations .....</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>① Outline of the Immigration Control Organization .....</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>② Review of the Organizational Structure of the Immigration     Control Offices .....</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>Section 2. Staff .....</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>① Immigration Control Staff .....</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>② Staff Increase .....</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>③ Training .....</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>Data Section 3. Budget</b>	
<b>Section 1. Budgets .....</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Section 2. Facilities .....</b>	<b>170</b>



## Data Section 4. Immigration Litigation

**Section 1. Summary** ..... 171

**Section 2. Major Court Cases** ..... 172

## Data Section 5. Statistics

- (1) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Mid to Long-Term Residents for the Principal Statuses of Residence by Nationality/Region  
(※ Investor/Business Manager, Engineer, Specialist in Humanities/International Services, Intra-company Transferee, Entertainer, Skilled Labor, Technical Intern Training (i), Technical Intern Training (ii), Student, Trainee, Designated Activities, Permanent Resident, Spouse or Child of Japanese National, Long-Term Resident) • • 176
- (2) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Foreign Residents of the Principal Nationalities/Regions by Status of Residence/Status  
(※ R.O.Korea (/Korea), China, the Philippines, Brazil) ..... 183
- (3) Status of Implementation of Immigration Examination Using Personal Identification Information (2014) ..... 187
- (4) Changes in the Number of Cases of Detection of Forged or Altered Documents • • • 187

## Charts

Chart 1	Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan .....	2
Chart 2	Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan by major nationality/ region .....	3
Chart 3	Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2014).....	4
Chart 4	Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” by purpose of entry .....	7
Chart 5	Number of foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region (2014).....	8
Chart 6	Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields .....	9
Chart 7	Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” by major nationality/region .....	12
Chart 8	Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Student” by major nationality/region .....	13
Chart 9	Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for activities based on personal status or position .....	14
Chart 10	Changes in the number of foreign nationals who were denied landing by major nationality/region .....	20
Chart 11	Changes in the number of foreign residents, and changes in the number of foreign residents as a percentage of the total population of Japan .....	22
Chart 12	Changes in the number of foreign residents by major nationality/region .....	23
Chart 13	Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields .....	26
Chart 14	Changes in the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan.....	40
Chart 15	Number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan by gender and age (2014) .....	41
Chart 16	Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by major nationality/region .....	45
Chart 17	Changes in the number and percentage of requests for a hearing .....	57
Chart 18	Changes in the number of issuances of written deportation orders by nationality/ region .....	58
Chart 19	Outline of the report of the “6th Immigration Policy Discussion Panel”.....	79
Chart 20	Outline of the “Results of the Study on the Direction of the Revision of the Refugee Recognition System (Report)”.....	80

Chart 21	Points of the report of the “Joint Experts Discussion Panel of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare relating to revision of the system of technical intern training (January 30, 2015)”.....	82
Chart 22	Outline of the “Basic Plan for Immigration Control (5th Edition)” .....	90
Chart 23	Flow of landing examinations .....	131
Chart 24	Procedures for advance consultation for issuance of visas and applications for certificates of eligibility .....	133
Chart 25	Procedural flow of the residency management system of mid to long-term residents ..	147
Chart 26	Information coordination between the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and the municipalities .....	153
Chart 27	Flow of deportation procedures and departure order procedures.....	154
Chart 28	Patterns and procedures for application for recognition of refugee status .....	159
Chart 29	Immigration Bureau organizational chart .....	162
Chart 30	Responsibilities of the Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice.....	163
Chart 31	Changes in the number of immigration control office personnel.....	168
Chart 32	Changes in the budget for immigration control administration .....	170

## Tables

Table 1	Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan by status of residence .....	5
Table 2	Changes in the number of cases of special landing permission .....	15
Table 3	Changes in the number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan by period of stay ...	16
Table 4	Changes in the number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing ..	18
Table 5	Changes in the processing of the hearings for landing .....	19
Table 6	Changes in the number of objections filed, and decisions by the Minister of Justice ..	21
Table 7	Changes in the number of cases of pre-entry examinations .....	21
Table 8	Changes in the number of foreign residents by status .....	24
Table 9	Changes in the number of permission examined in status of residence examinations ...	29
Table 10	Changes in the number of cases of permission for change of the status of residence from student, etc. to a status for employment by status of residence .....	30
Table 11	Changes in the number of cases of permission for change of the status of residence from student, etc. to a status for employment by nationality/region .....	31
Table 12	Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” (including the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)”) by nationality/region .....	32
Table 13	Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” (including the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)”) by occupation .....	33
Table 14	Changes in the number of cases of permission for permanent residence by nationality/region .....	34
Table 15	Number of issuances of residence cards (2014) .....	35
Table 16	Number of issuances of special permanent resident certificates (2014) .....	35
Table 17	Changes in the number of organizations subject to a finding of misconduct by type of receiving arrangement .....	38
Table 18	Number of cases of misconduct by category (2014) .....	39
Table 19	Changes in the number of Japanese nationals returning to Japan by period of stay ...	42
Table 20	Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by major nationality/region .....	44
Table 21	Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by major status of residence .....	46
Table 22	Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by grounds for deportation .....	46

Table 23	Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality/region .....	47
Table 24	Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by nationality/region.....	48
Table 25	Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry using aircraft by nationality/region ...	48
Table 26	Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by vessel by nationality/region .....	48
Table 27	Changes in the number of cases of illegal landing by nationality/region.....	49
Table 28	Changes in the number of cases of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by nationality/region.....	49
Table 29	Changes in the number of cases of activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted by nationality/region .....	50
Table 30	Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by nationality/region.....	52
Table 31	Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by type of work.....	53
Table 32	Changes in the number of cases of illegal foreign workers by area .....	54
Table 33	Changes in the number of cases of receipt and findings of violation examinations by immigration inspectors, hearings by special inquiry officers and decisions of the Minister of Justice.....	56
Table 34	Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by grounds for deportation .....	57
Table 35	Changes in the number of cases of permission for provisional release.....	58
Table 36	Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by grounds for deportation .....	59
Table 37	Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by nationality/region .....	59
Table 38	Changes in the number of deportees by nationality/region.....	60
Table 39	Changes in the number of deportees by means of deportation .....	60
Table 40	Changes in the number of deportees through voluntary departure by nationality/region .....	61
Table 41	Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality/region (2014).....	64
Table 42	Changes in the number of issuances of written departure orders by nationality/region ..	65
Table 43	Changes in the number of applications for refugee recognition .....	66
Table 44	Changes in the number of foreign nationals protected as refugees etc. ....	67
Table 45	Changes in the number of objections filed, and decisions of the Minister of Justice ...	68
Table 46	Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2014).....	72
Table 47	Changes in the number of victims of trafficking in persons .....	72
Table 48	Number of recognized foreign domestic violence victims (2014) .....	74

Table 49	Changes in the number of domestic violence cases recognized by regional immigration bureau .....	74
Table 50	List of Statuses of Residence (as of April 1, 2015) .....	136
Table 51	Reorganization, abolishment or establishment of branch offices of the regional immigration bureaus (actual performance) .....	166
Table 52	Changes in the number of immigration control office personnel .....	168
Table 53	Changes in the number of filed cases of immigration litigation (judgments on merits) (as of the end of 2014).....	172