

FY2020 INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ACCEPTANCE OF FOREIGN NATIONALS AND THEIR INTEGRATION INTO JAPAN:

“Disseminating Information to Foreign Residents in Japan: Issues and Challenges Seen in COVID-19 Pandemic”



Time and Date

Thursday, 25th February 2021, hours:13:00-17:00

Web meeting

Zoom webinar (Advanced registration is required)

Host Organizations

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of Japan,
International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Support Organizations

Ministry of Justice, Agency for Cultural Affairs,
Tokyo Metropolitan Government,
Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR)

MOFA and IOM have been hosting annual “International Forum on Acceptance of Foreign Nationals and Their Integration into Japan” since 2005, aiming at providing opportunities to discuss challenges and measures relevant to initiatives for the purpose of deepening understanding of the issues regarding integration of foreign nationals among Japanese society.

The number of foreign residents in Japan is about 2.9 million in mid-2020 and is expected to increase. Under Covid-19 pandemic situation, foreign residents are often put in a vulnerable situation in terms of accessing to the necessary information such as the prevention measures, and means to gain access to the public support due to their social and linguistic backgrounds, which calls for prompt response. Furthermore, with increase of the foreign residents, the variety of languages in use are more diversified. The government agencies, hospitals, and business communities face the challenges of how to address the multilingual situation, and various efforts including a use of the “plain Japanese” have been introduced.

This year, the forum will discuss under the theme of “Disseminating Information to Foreign Residents in Japan: Current Situation and Issues seen in COVID-19 Pandemic”. The forum will invite speakers from Japan and abroad and they will share the views, good practices and challenges regarding the theme.

We are sincerely looking forward to seeing all of you in online web seminar.

Program English - Japanese simultaneous Interpretation provided

[Part 1]

13:00 Introduction to forum proceedings

13:00 Opening Remarks by

Mr. Konosuke Kokuba, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs

13:10 Keynote speech by

Mr. António Vitorino, Director General of International Organization for Migration

13:25 Presentation by

Dr. Sharon Harvey, Associate Professor of Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

13:45 Break

[Part 2] Presentation of Good Practices

14:00 [Foreign Residents and the Covid-19]

Mr. Yuji Yamamoto, Manager, DS In Japan Company

14:15 [Plain Japanese in Healthcare Field]

Yuko Takeda MD PhD FACP MSc, Department of Medical Education, Juntendo University

14:30 [Internal communication in the work place and Plain Japanese]

Mr. Yasuhiro Inoue, CEO, Hiro Food Service

14:45 Q&A session

15:00 Break

[Part 3]

15:15 Panel Discussion

Theme: Dissemination of Information to Foreign Residents Living in Japan and “Plain Japanese”

Moderator;

Mr. Keizo Yamawaki, Professor, School of Global Japanese Studies, Meiji University

Panelists;

Ms. Terumi Yamaguchi, Mayor of Ikuno City, Osaka

Ms. Midori Nil, Citizen's Network for Global Activities

Ms. Nina Hakkarainen, Chair, the Foreign Women's Association, Paruyon

Mr. Masahiro Ishikawa, President, Somic Ishikawa Inc.

16:55 Closing Remarks by

Mr. Mikio Mori, Director-General of the Consular Affairs Bureau, MOFA

To attend this forum, please register at the following webpage:

<https://ws.formzu.net/dist/S61751171/>

- Advanced registration is required for attending the forum.

Those without advanced registration will not be admitted to join the forum.

- Personal data submitted to the secretariat will be properly administered and used exclusively for the purpose of the management of the forum.

- If you have not received the auto reply after the registration, please contact below.

Inquiries: intl-forumfy2020_registration@ec-intl.co.jp

Organizer information Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan:

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/index.html>

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Office in Japan: <https://japan.iom.int/en>

