

**TAKEHIRO SHIMADA** *Minister, Embassy of Japan, Washington, DC* 

Takehiro Shimada was appointed Minister for Communications and Cultural Affairs of the Japanese Embassy in the United States in August 2017, making this his second appointment on the Cultural Affairs team in the United States. Prior to his assignment in Washington, he served as the Director of the Japanese Policy Planning Division for the Headquarters for the Abduction Issue, Cabinet Secretariat.

He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1991 where he worked in the areas of international peace cooperation, China and Mongolian Affairs, and foreign policy among others. He has experience in both economic and political affairs in addition to cultural affairs.

Shimada graduated from Keio University in Law (BA, 1991), and studied abroad at Oxford University (Second BA in Modern History 1994). He is married and has two daughters, one of whom is a student at University of Pennsylvania. His hobbies include baseball, swimming, golf, and gardening.