

Profile (Panelists)

Akihiko Tamura, President & CEO, Narita International Airport Corporation (Keynote Speakers/Panelists)

Mr. Tamura was appointed to the position of President & CEO of Narita International Airport Corporation in June 2019. He joined the Japanese Ministry of Transport (the present Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism) in 1980. He has extensive career over the years at the ministry particularly in the area of aviation, railways, ports, and tourism. He was seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to serve as Counsellor at the Embassy of Japan in the United States of America for three years from 1995. He was appointed to the post of Director-General, Civil Aviation Bureau in 2012 and during the three year tenure, with the vision for the growing tourism demand to Japan, developed a policy to boost the Greater Tokyo Area Airports take-off & landing slot capacity a 50% increase, and developed a framework to facilitate airport privatization in Japan. He was subsequently appointed to the Commissioner of the Japan Tourism Agency in 2015. During his three years tenure, he introduced measures aimed at attracting 40 million visitors to Japan by 2020 and 60 million by 2030. He launched a “New Tourism Strategy to Invigorate the Japanese Economy”, and introduced an international tourist tax to fund improvements in welcoming visitors. He also addressed regional revitalization through tourism in rural areas and worked tirelessly to develop a framework for welcoming visitors from overseas. As a result of his efforts, the number of visitors to Japan surpassed the 20 million mark for the first time in 2016 and also contributed greatly in marking 30 million last December in 2018. Mr. Tamura was born in 1955 and graduated from the University of Tokyo Faculty of Law, and holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Cornell University, U.S.A in 1985.

