

**「Japan Day 2021」 開会挨拶 (2021 年 11 月 26 日)**

**Remarks by H.E. MURATA Takashi,  
Ambassador of Japan to Finland, “Japan Day 2021”**

Hyvää päivää, I am Murata Takashi, Ambassador of Japan to Finland. Welcome to Japan Day 2021.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Business Finland, JETRO, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland and Finland-Japan Chamber of Commerce for your dedication to co-host this seminar with a large turnout.

This business seminar “Japan Day” has been held by mainly Business Finland and JETRO since 2017, and this is the fourth event. “Japan Day” derives from “Japan-Finland Gateway Program” which is based on the “Joint Statement on a Strategic Partnership between Japan and Republic of Finland as Gateways in Asia and Europe” issued by then Prime Minister, ABE Shinzo and President, Sauli Niinistö in 2016.

This time, we are taking up “sustainability and green economy” as a theme which is significantly increasing the importance at the business field amongst the others that Japan and Finland are at the forefront.

For this seminar, I am honored to welcome a special speaker, Dr. Iwasaki, Representative Director of Takeda Pharmaceutical Company. Takeda, the biggest pharmaceutical company in Japan, has been named in the “Cooperate Knights’ Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World” for the sixth consecutive year. Dr. Iwasaki is expected to deliver a powerful presentation on introducing their approaches towards building sustainable society in business context. Besides Takeda, as speakers, we also have Japanese trading house Marubeni, Japanese start-up Hap,

Finnish start-up Paptik, and lastly JETRO, an official organization working to promote Japan's mutual trade and investment. I strongly believe that this seminar has concentrated elements that Finnish companies would require in order to develop partnerships with Japan in the field of sustainability or green economy.

I hope that this seminar would mark a milestone for further collaborative business partnerships between Japan and Finland, and thereby contribute to assist your business activities as well as strengthen bilateral economic interaction.

I would like to conclude my remarks by wishing fruitful presentations and discussions at today's seminar. I hope you will enjoy the Japan Day 2021.

(end)