The Online Symposium in the UN on the Abductions Issue

"International cooperation to resolve the abductions issue as a global issue"

Co-hosted by the governments of Australia, Japan, the US, and the European Union

June 16, 2022 8:00am-9:45am EST (21:00- 22:45 JST)

The abductions issue is a serious concern for the international community. The governments of Australia, Japan, the US, and the European Union will co-host an online symposium on the issue, as a side event of the UN, with participation of the members of the Permanent Mission to the UN in New York.

At this online symposium, we will have an opportunity to directly listen to the voices of families of the victims from Japan and other countries.

We have also invited former ambassadors of European countries to North Korea to discuss the current situation in North Korea and the ways to resolve the abductions issue, based on their experience posted in North Korea.

1 Opening Remarks	ISHIKANE Kimihiro	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN
2 Keynote Remarks	MATSUNO Hirokazu	Chief Cabinet Secretary and Minister in Charge of the Abduction issue of Japan
3 Remarks by the representatives of co-hosts	Linda Thomas-Greenfield Mitch Fifield Olof Skoog	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the United States to the UN Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Australia to the UN Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Head of Delegation of the European Union to the UN
4 Remarks by a member of the House of Representa- tives of Japan	FURUYA Keiji	Chairman of the Committee of Congressional Members to Act for the Early Rescue of Japanese Victims Abducted by North Korea
5 Appeal by the Families of Victims	Presenters YOKOTA Takuya IIZUKA Koichiro HAYASAKA Enakichi HAYASAKA Yuji James Sneddon Banjong Panchoi	Representative of the Association of Families of Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea Secretary-General of the Association of Families of Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea Secretary of the Family Association of the Missing Persons Probably Related to the DPRK Brother of HAYASAKA Katsuo Brother of David Sneddon Nephew of Anocha Panchoi
6 Panel Discussion	Moderator HOSHINO Toshiya Panelists Alastair Morgan Jonas Michael Wendel	Professor, Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University Former Ambassador of the UK to North Korea Former Ambassador of Sweden to North Korea
7 Closing Remarks	ISHIKANE Kimihiro	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN

Please watch the live broadcast of the symposium on UN Web TV (in English) and the official YouTube Channel of the Headquarters for the Abduction Issue, the Government of Japan (in Japanese)



