

Japan's efforts in accepting refugees

(Accepting refugees to Japan)

- Japan had opened and will open its door to refugees and has accepted many refugees so far. For instance, Japan has accepted more than 11,000 people Indo-Chinese refugees as well as over 120 refugees from Myanmar as the resettled refugees.
- There are also many people who are allowed to stay in Japan due to the humanitarian consideration and so forth. By including such cases, over 120 applicants applying for refugee recognition were allowed to stay in Japan as „long term resident“ or other „status of residence“ in 2016 only.
- The support system for refugees is fulfilling. As part of the integration support programme, Japan offers the Japanese language education, guidance for adjusting to local community, job training, the support system for resettlement and so forth. For applicants applying for refugee recognition who are financially in need, Japan bears their costs of living.

(Syrian refugees)

- The deterioration of the situation in and around Syria has caused an influx of refugees and displaced persons from the Middle East into Europe. Sharing universal values on human rights, Japan expressed its solidarity with the international society and implements the following assistance.
 - 1) Direct assistance to the refugees in the field of health and sanitation, education, and food (approximately 810 million US dollars)
 - 2) Emergency humanitarian assistance to fragile non-EU member states (approximately 2.5 million US dollars in total for Serbia, Macedonia, etc)
- Japan considers that the most important support for Syrian refugees is to create an environment where they can go back to their home country with a sense of security. For that purpose, Japan has offered urgent humanitarian support, assistance to the host countries and development assistance. Japan's such contribution has been highly evaluated by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and other countries. Japan considers it is important to keep supporting Syria's neighboring countries where many Syrian refugees live, and activities by international organizations.

- As for accepting Syrian refugees to Japan, the number of Syrian applicants after the crisis is far from 100. Also, there is not necessarily a strong need for resettling into Japan, a very far country geographically and culturally from their home country.
- At the Iseshima G7 Summit meeting held in last May, Japan announced to start receiving maximum 150 Syrian exchange students in 5 years from 2017. At the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants held in last September, Prime Minister Abe stated that the family of the students is welcomed to stay in Japan if they wish to do so under the existing framework. The process to start the receiving the students is under way.