

Mr. Seiichiro Noboru



Ambassador Seiichiro Noboru took up his post as Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on 19 July 2005.

Born on 28 November 1941, Mr. Noboru obtained a Bachelor of Law from the University of Tokyo in 1965 and joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directly thereafter. He served in the Disarmament, International Trade, First Middle East, Press and Personnel Divisions, as well as the Japanese Permanent Delegation to the OECD, before becoming Director of the First Southeast Asia Division (in charge of Southeast continent countries) in 1984, followed by Director of the First International Organizations Division (in charge of GATT issues) in the Ministry's Bureau of Economic Affairs. In 1988 he became the Bureau's Deputy Director-General and later that year was appointed as a Councillor on External Affairs for the Cabinet.

In 1990 Mr. Noboru became the Director of the Ministry's Policy Co-ordination Division, before being made a Minister at the Embassy in Washington. In 1994 he was appointed Consul-General in Los Angeles. In 1996 he became Director-General of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, and in 1998 Chief Councillor on External Affairs for the Cabinet and then, Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister. Before taking up his current post, he was Ambassador to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament, Ambassador to the OECD and Ambassador in charge of OECD Affairs.

As Ambassador to the OECD, he chaired the Heads of Delegation Working Group 4 whose objective was to elaborate an OECD Strategy for Enlargement and Outreach. The work of the Group culminated in the seminal "Noboru Report" which set out the parameters for an enlarged OECD and a strengthened outreach programme with non-members. Following up on this work and given his particular interest in Middle Eastern affairs, as Special Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs he is acting as co-chair of the Steering Group of the MENA-OECD Initiative on Good Governance for Development, together with Minister Darwish of Egypt.

Ambassador Noboru is married and has two daughters.