

Remarks by H.E. Mr. HAYASHI Hajime,
Ambassador of Japan to the UK,
for Bestowal of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star
upon Lady Arden of Heswall
(1st September, 2022)

Lady Arden, My Lords and Distinguished Guests,

Today, I have the truly wonderful task of honouring Lady Arden of Heswall for her invaluable contributions towards strengthening the relationship and mutual understanding between Japan and the United Kingdom in the judicial field.

Throughout her distinguished career, Lady Arden has enjoyed considerable achievements in the judicial field, not least as one of the UK's leading justices, but she has also played a significant role in the UK's relationship with Japan.

Though those present here today are well aware, I would like to touch upon just a few of Lady Arden's achievements.

First of all, Lady Arden has played an important role in enhancing the relationship between the judiciaries of the United Kingdom and Japan. While acting as a contact point with the Japanese Supreme Court for a long time, Lady Arden has increased opportunities for meetings and

discussions between Japanese Supreme Court justices and other members of the Japanese judiciary and their counterparts in the UK. As a result, we have enjoyed continuous communications between the British and Japanese judiciaries and have realised wider and deeper understanding of our respective judicial systems and cultures and common challenges that both of our judiciaries face today.

Secondly, under her leadership as the Head of International Judicial Relations at the Royal Court of Justice, the English courts have accepted and arranged training for many young Japanese judges. It is well known amongst young Japanese judges studying in the UK that Lady Arden is a most friendly and dedicated professional who kindly gives her valuable time advising them personally on how to carry out research and interviews for their studies. Her advice was not only on the judicial system and culture in the UK but also covered a wide range of topics, including how to work professionally as a judge, and it obviously has been a significant contribution to the training of young judges. It is interesting to note that those Japanese judges who once received her guidance are now playing leading roles in a wide range of fields in the Japanese judiciary.

Furthermore, Lady Arden has also been an excellent supporter of the activities of my embassy. Lady Arden has attended many events organised by the Embassy of Japan in the UK including occasions such as the Emperor's birthday receptions. Lady Arden has also been a regular

participant in the Japanese and British lawyers' networking receptions, which have played a particularly important role in strengthening relationships between British and Japanese lawyers.

It is certainly difficult to describe all of Lady Arden's contributions and achievements towards the judicial relationship between Japan and the UK in a short remark. However, in view of her sterling work in this important field, Lady Arden is clearly a most worthy recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, which has been bestowed upon her by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

Please join me in congratulating Lady Arden on her magnificent achievements. Congratulations!