

Remarks by H.E. Mr. HAYASHI Hajime,
Ambassador of Japan to the UK,
for the Bestowal of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays
with Neck Ribbon upon Miss Janice Brennan
5th October, 2023

Miss Brennan, Distinguished Guests,

Today, I have a truly wonderful task of honouring Miss Janice Brennan for her invaluable contributions towards strengthening mutual understanding and the relationship between the United Kingdom and Japan in the legal and judicial field.

Throughout her distinguished career, Miss Brennan has enjoyed considerable achievements in the legal and judicial field, not least as one of the leading figures in Middle Temple, but also by playing a significant role in the UK's relationship with Japan.

Though those present here today are well aware of Miss Brennan's many achievements, I would like to touch upon just a few of them now.

Firstly, Miss Brennan has played an important role in the development of the relationship between Japan and the UK through organising the Middle Temple Seminar for Japanese judges, prosecutors and government officials to discuss various topics related to the criminal justice system since 2005. In particular, the seminar gave a great number of suggestions concerning the establishment of the Japanese lay-judge system.

Miss Brennan also carried out lectures as an expert professor at the United Nations Asia Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in Tokyo. The institution is one of the UN bodies and provides

training and seminars to experts on criminal justice all over the world, including those from developing countries. In her series of lectures, Miss Brennan gave informative presentations and contributed important technical assistance in this field.

Miss Brennan has also helped Japanese government lawyers to carry out research on the British criminal justice system for many years. Her enormous cooperation in this regard has contributed to strengthening the relationship and promoting mutual understanding between Japan and the UK.

Furthermore, Miss Brennan has been a constant source of support for successive ambassadors, including myself, and also for the Embassy of Japan in the UK. She has worked to build bridges between the Japanese Embassy and British lawyers, the judiciary and many eminent people in this field. She has also given assistance for the embassy's research on the criminal justice system of the UK.

It is obviously difficult to fully cover all of Miss Brennan's wide-ranging contributions and achievements in my short remarks. However, in view of her sterling works, Miss Brennan is clearly a most worthy recipient of The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, which has been bestowed upon her. Please join me in congratulating Miss Brennan on her magnificent achievement.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.