



Ms. Misako Ito currently serves as Secretary-General of the Japan CULCON Secretariat. Her early career started at Toshi Shuppan, Publishers as an editor of numerous books on international relations as well as on arts and culture of modern and contemporary Japan, including editing a monthly journal, *Tokyo-jin*, which was then commissioned by Tokyo Metropolitan Government. Ms. Ito's involvement with *Gaiko Forum*, a monthly journal on foreign affairs, then supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), started from its inception in 1988. Sixteen years of her experience in *Gaiko Forum*, including five years as Editor-in-Chief, helped her create a network in the world of intellectual exchange, and that brought her to the Japan Foundation as the first Managing Director from the private sector at the newly established Information Center (JFIC) at the Japan Foundation HQs in 2004.

Appointed as Counselor at the Embassy of Japan in the U.S. in December 2006, she also served as Director of the Japan Information and Culture Center (JICC) of the Embassy of Japan in Washington D.C. until January 2011. It was followed by another three years' posting as Director of the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles (JFLA). During her two postings in the U.S. over seven years, she launched new programs with more focus on grass-roots, community-based programs engaging younger generations in the region. While her tenure in Los Angeles, she also covered all fifty states in terms of promoting Japanese language education, including the annual operations of Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) in the U.S.

After a brief stint as Director of Global Japan Initiative at the UCLA's Paul Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies in Los Angeles from April to May in 2014, she joined MOFA from June in 2014 and was posted in Singapore as Director of Japan Creative Centre (JCC) and as Counsellor of Embassy of Japan in Singapore. During her two-and-a-half years in Singapore, she further developed bilateral cultural and people-to-people exchange programs and led the planning and implementation of various events related

to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Singapore and Japan (SJ50) in 2016.

Ms. Ito holds a B.A. degree from Tsuda College in American Studies.

伊藤実佐子

●日米文化教育交流会議（カルコン）日本側事務局長〔2017年1月就任〕

1986年～2004年、都市出版株式会社にて雑誌『東京人』『外交フォーラム』編集、また国際関係および文化芸術関係単行本の編集・出版に携わる。特に『外交フォーラム』は1988年の創刊時から担当し、退社するまでの5年間は同誌編集長を務める。〔東京〕

2004年～06年、国際交流基金情報センター（JFIC）所長〔東京〕。

2006年～2011年、在アメリカ日本国大使館参事官、広報文化センター（JICC）所長〔ワシントンD.C.〕

2011年～2014年、国際交流基金ロサンゼルス日本文化センター（JFLA）所長〔ロサンゼルス〕。この間、米国50州における日本語教育各種支援事業にも従事。

2014年、カリフォルニア大学ロサンゼルス校（UCLA）ポール・テラサキ日本研究センターにおいて新イニシアティブ・ディレクターとして2カ月勤務〔ロサンゼルス〕

2014年～2016年、在シンガポール日本国大使館参事官、ジャパン・クリエイティブ・センター（JCC）所長〔シンガポール〕。

国内における出版界および知的交流分野での活動経験を活かし、直近の10年間に亘る海外勤務では、日本理解のための人的交流プログラム立ち上げや各種文化機関との連携による対市民外交に携わった。

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