Conferral of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette Upon Mr. Randall Sidney Jones, Senior Economist, Head of Japan Desk, OECD,

On April 29, 2014 (Japan Time), the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2015 Spring Imperial Decorations. Among 85 foreign recipients is Mr. Randall Sidney Jones, Senior Economist, Head of Japan Desk, OECD, who will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette, in recognition of his significant contributions to better understanding of Japan and formulation of policy recommendations for Japan through economic analysis at the OECD.

- •DECORATION: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette
- •SERVICE: Contributed to better understanding of Japan and formulation of policy recommendations for Japan through economic analysis at the OECD
- •NAME(AGE): Randall Sidney Jones (60)
- •MAJOR TITLES: Senior Economist, Head of Japan/Korea Desk, Division of Country Studies 3, Country Studies Branch, Economics Department, OECD
- •ADDRESS (NATIONALITY): France (United Stated of America)

Mr. Jones received his Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Michigan in 1984. After studying at the Tsukuba University as a research student and working at the US Council of Economic Advisers, the Japan Economic Institute and the US Department of State, he entered the OECD as an economist in 1989. He worked on the Japan Desk of the OECD from 1993-97 and from 2002 to the present.

Mr. Jones worked especially hard to contribute to structural reform and policy discussion of Japanese economy and policy as the main author of the "OECD Economic Outlook" and "OECD Economic Surveys of Japan". Most assessment and policy recommendations like dual labor market, income inequality, fiscal consolidation, electricity market and agricultural policy reform, which he shed light on, have had significant impacts on policy discussion in Japan. He has supported Japan's efforts for economic revitalization.

In addition to this, Mr. Jones greatly contributes to OECD policy formation for Japan as the primary expert on Japan in the Organization. He has played an important role in the visits of the Secretary General to Japan including the visit of April 2011 after The Great East Japan Earthquake. He also contributed to the start-up of the OECD Tohoku School and the success of the 2014 Ministerial Meeting of OECD, which was chaired by Japan.