

The 17th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific



The 17th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific was held at the Supreme Court of Japan from September 18 to 21, 2017 for the first time in 14 years since we hosted the 10th Conference in 2003.

Since 1985, this biennial Conference has been bringing together the judicial heads of countries and regions throughout the Asia-Pacific to one of the cities in this area and providing them with opportunities to discuss common topics. A total of 32 Chief Justices or their representatives attended the Conference, which was hosted by Chief Justice Itsuro Terada of the Supreme Court of Japan and Chief Justice Thomas Bathurst of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in Australia (Chair of the Judicial Section of LAWASIA).



At the Conference, under the concept of reinforcement of the judiciary's role in promoting and enhancing the rule of law, there were 6 sessions covering each theme: Strengthening the Functions of the Judiciary, Enhancing Public Trust, Court

Efficiency, Role of Courts regarding Recent Family Issues, Improving Human Resources in Courts, and Role of the Chief Justices for the Future Judiciary.

Chief Justice Terada delivered an opening speech as the host. Following the speech, Chief Justice Terada along with Chief Justices from other countries and regions chaired each session in turn, from which discussions developed.

At each session, the challenges and experiences of each country and region were introduced, followed by free discussion. Through these sessions, attendees shared recent judicial trends from the Asia-Pacific region and common issues that our judiciaries are facing. Japan also actively introduced its judicial system and experiences on this occasion.

Chief Justices exchanged views fruitfully and deepened mutual relationships.

