

## Makoto Washizu



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Mr. Makoto Washizu is the President of Japan International Transport Institute (JITI). Prior to the assumption of his current position, Mr. Washizu was Ambassador of Japan to the Slovak Republic, after having served as the Deputy Vice-Minister for Tourism Policy of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT). At the ministry he had previously held many important positions since his joining in 1972.

As the Deputy Vice-Minister for Tourism and the Director-General of Tourism Department, he devoted himself to promoting tourism including the “Visit Japan Campaign” which started in April 2003 and set a target of 10 million foreign visitors to Japan in 2010.

During his career at MLIT, he was appointed as Director-General of the Maritime Bureau, where he prepared new draft laws and passed them to the Diet, which were related to the security of ports and harbours and the establishment of a liability scheme of general cargo ships involved in oil pollution incidents.

In 1999, he was appointed as the Deputy Director-General of the Railway Bureau, where he administrated mainly private railway companies.

Mr. Washizu has had an additional diplomatic career as a Counsellor at the Embassy of Japan in the United Kingdom. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of Tokyo in 1972.