

## **Mr. Yukio OKAMOTO**

Yukio Okamoto entered Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a career diplomat in 1968. He retired from the Ministry in 1991 and established Okamoto Associates Inc., a political and economic consultancy.

From 1996 to 1998, he served as Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Okinawa affairs under the Hashimoto Cabinet.

From October 2001 to March 2004, he served as Special Advisor to the Cabinet and again as a Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on foreign affairs under the Koizumi Cabinet.

Concurrent with these last two appointments, Mr. Okamoto served as the chairman of the Prime Minister's Task Force on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Okamoto is the president of his consultancy firm. He also teaches at Ritsumeikan University and is an advisor to the Japan Foundation. Mr. Okamoto serves on several corporate boards and is chairman of Shin Gen'eki Net, a non-profit organization for 15,000 senior citizens.

Mr. Okamoto is a regular contributor to major newspapers and magazines, a well-known public speaker and a frequent guest on public affairs and news broadcasts.