

Ceremony for Conferment of Decoration on H.E. Dr. Taleb Rifai, Former Secretary-General of UNWTO

On 24 January 2019, a ceremony was held at the Japanese Ambassador's residence to award H.E. Dr. Taleb Rifai, Former Secretary-General of UNWTO (United Nations World Tourism Organization), with the Decoration (The Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun) which he was conferred in Autumn 2018.

After serving as the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Minister of Information, and Minister of Tourism, he has been active in international organizations field for a long period. From 2010 to 2017, he has served as the Secretary General of UNWTO, where he has worked on developing the world's tourism industry. Especially with regard to Japan, he has greatly contributed to the development of Japan's tourism policy, through making advice to high level of the Japanese government, holding a symposium for tourism revival after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami 2011, and strengthening cooperation between local governments, private companies and UNWTO. Since these achievements are highly valued, the conferment of decoration on Dr. Rifai was decided last year.

The ceremony was attended by many guests, including members from the Royal Family, current working ministers, former ministers, senators and businessmen, in celebration of Dr. Rifai's award and for further development of the relationships between Japan and Jordan.

(Main VIPs)

- 1- HRH Prince Raad bin Zeid
- 2- HRH Princess Dana Firas
- 3- H.E. Mr. Samir Murad, Minister of Labor
- 4- H.E. Mr. Akel Biltaji, Former Minister of Tourism
- 5- H.E. Mr. Nayef al-Fayez, Former Minister of Environment, Minister of Tourism
- 6- H.E. Mr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Senator
- 7- H.E. Mrs. Alia Bouran, Senator



Conferment of Decoration



Remarks by Mr. Rifai



Group Photo



Mr. & Mrs. Rifai with Ambassador & Mrs. Yanagi

(Reference: Cabinet Office "Conferment of Decorations on Foreign Nationals, 2018 Autumn")

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000415621.pdf>