## Ambassador Okuyama's attendance to Japan-Middle East Strategic Dialogue

On 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of May, Ambassador Okuyama attended the Japan-Middle East Strategic Dialogue, jointly organised by the Center for Strategic Studies at University of Jordan and the RCAST Open Laboratory for Emergence Strategies (ROLES) at University of Tokyo.

The conference aimed to promote academic exchange between Japan and Jordan and was attended by a number of researchers and experts from Japan and Middle Eastern countries, who discussed the situation in Gaza, Middle East politics, economic cooperation and Japan's role in the region. In his opening remarks, Ambassador Okuyama noted that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Jordan and Japan, and stressed the importance of Jordan as a gateway to the Middle East and as a keystone of regional stability.

Ambassador Okuyama also participated as a panellist in a special panel on 'Jordan-Japan relations' on the second day, where he touched on the strength of bilateral relations between Japan and Jordan in all areas, including the strategic partnership, and stressed the need to continue to expand and deepen such relations.

