

# JNA News Release

Japanese Nursing Association

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<https://www.nurse.or.jp/jna/english>

## Appointment of new Board members

The Japanese Nursing Association (JNA) held its 2023 Annual General Convention on June 7, attended by a total of 1,834 delegates and general members. As a result of the election of the Board members, Ms. Hiroe Takahashi was elected as the 14th JNA President. Other newly-appointed Board members are Prof. Kazuko Nin and Prof. Noriko Yamamoto as Vice Presidents, and Dr. Yukari Nakano as an Executive Officer. Dr. Nakano will be in charge of international affairs. ■

JNA Executive Board Members FY2023	
President	Hiroe Takahashi (newly-elected)
Vice Presidents	Kumiko Ii Kazuko Nin (newly-elected) Noriko Yamamoto (newly-elected)
Executive Director	Hamako Katsumata (re-elected)
Executive Officers	Kumiko Yoshikawa (re-elected) Hiroko Imoto Mineko Moriuchi (re-elected) Akiyo Kizawa (re-elected) Yumi Tamogami (re-elected) Yukari Nakano (newly-elected)



Ms. Hiroe Takahashi  
New JNA President

### Hiroe TAKAHASHI, RN, MW, MA, JNA President

Prior to her appointment as JNA President, Ms. Hiroe Takahashi served as President of the Osaka prefectural Nursing Association, and as a Board Member, Prefectural Representative of the JNA for six years. She has developed some innovative projects through industry-government-academia collaboration, and during the COVID-19 pandemic, she has dedicated herself to supporting nursing professionals on the front lines. Her nursing experience expands from educator/researcher in international nursing to director of nursing at a hospital. She received the Healthy Society Award in 2021. She holds a master's degree in arts.

## G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki

### 1) JNA's Participation in on-site exhibition

JNA participated and set up a display booth in the on-site exhibition, a side event of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki on May 13-14 (Photo 1).

At the JNA booth, powerful video messages were delivered by the ICN President Pamela Cipriano and the JNA then President Toshiko Fukui on the joint statement to the G7 Hiroshima Summit and G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki. A video titled 'Individual Testimonies of Nursing Care after the Atomic Bombing of Nagasaki in 1945', and an animation on nursing in the remote Japanese island also drew attention.



G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki participants (G7 Health Ministers, government officials, and representatives of EU, ASEAN presidency, and G20 presidency) and booth exhibitors. Dr. Kizawa, Executive Officer, represented JNA.

\*The photo provided by MHLW

Our display panels featured the JNA's efforts to sustain and strengthen UHC, and nursing and the social situation in Japan, which has achieved UHC at an early stage and is facing new challenges. The contents of the panels were as follows:(1) Challenges of Nursing toward 2040 in Japan, (2) Nursing Innovation toward 2040, (3) Creating a Healthy Community led by Public Health Nurses, (4) Promotion of Women's Active Engagement led by Midwives (Midwife-led Continuity of Care Model of Practice) (5) Nursing Contribution during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Future Challenges.

The exhibition hall attracted many meeting participants including Health Ministers and government officials from G7 members, ASEAN Presidency, G20 Presidency, media representatives and exhibitors.

When Health Ministers and representatives visited the JNA booth on May 13, along with our panel, we emphasized that without healthcare professionals including nurses, it is impossible to achieve rebuilding a strong healthcare system and UHC, and we asked for discussion placed human resources centered and urged the need for support and investment in the healthcare professionals.

In this context, Canadian Health Minister agreed that healthcare professionals are the heart of UHC and exchanged views on the challenges of securing nursing professionals and the importance of support for that. The Minister kindly welcomed our participation in the upcoming ICN Congress to be held in Montreal, Canada from July 1 (Photo 2).

Moreover, we exchanged views with UK Health Minister and representatives on social issues facing the UK and Japan, which have similar demographics and challenges. They expressed an interest in our effort and target number of securing the nursing workforce by utilizing unemployed nurses with a long-term perspective. We shared a common understanding that the improvement of the working environment for nurses is an urgent issue in order to secure active nursing professionals (Photo 3).

We shared with Indonesian Health Minister and representatives on issues including the current mental health of nurses in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the urgent need to take action to secure the nursing workforce in the future.

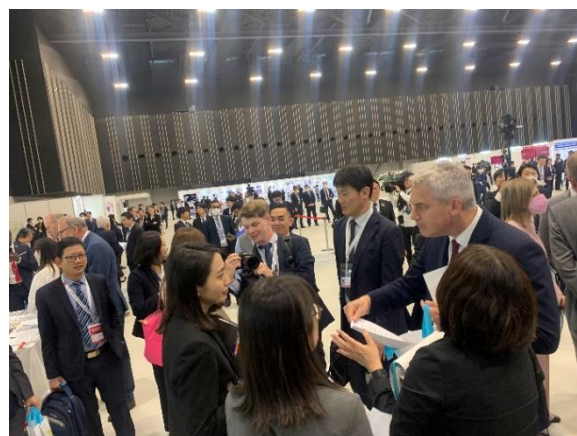
Representatives from many countries expressed their interest in nursing professional associations' efforts in policy promotion. We explained how the JNA, other national nursing associations and ICN have been sharing the experiences with each other in order to provide high quality nursing care to the public and to develop



**【Photo 1】 JNA booth**



**【Photo 2】 Canadian Health Minister (third from right) and representative, and Dr. Nakano and Dr. Kizawa, JNA Executive Officers**



**【Photo 3】 UK Health Minister**



**【Photo 4】 Mr. Kato, Japanese Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare (far right)**

nursing and the nursing profession, and stressed the importance of the role of nursing associations in each country. Mr. Katsunobu Kato, Japanese Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare also visited our booth and stated that support for healthcare professionals became an important part of the discussion (Photo 4). ■

## 2) Outcome documents of G7 Health Ministers' meeting in Nagasaki

Following the meeting in Nagasaki, the G7 Health Ministers adopted the G7 Nagasaki Health Ministers' Communiqué\*<sup>1</sup> on the G7's direction and actions, as well as the G7 Global Plan for UHC Action Agenda\*<sup>2</sup> as an annex to the Communiqué, in which outlines actions to be taken by the G7 to accelerate efforts to achieve UHC worldwide by 2030.

The outcome documents of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki outline the future initiatives needed for overall healthcare, including known issues. Since the G7 is a framework for discussion by developed countries with a global perspective, leadership in support of other countries is the main focus; however, the resolution of issues in each of the G7 members is also mentioned as a premise.

In the G7 Global Plan for UHC, the G7 Health Ministers also committed to taking action in the eight action areas outlined in the UHC Action Agenda, in order to support country-led efforts to implement UHC, to maximize the outcomes of the UN General Assembly high-level meeting on UHC, and to achieve UHC worldwide.

These outcome documents are the proof of the G7 members' agreement on securing and supporting healthcare professionals, investment in healthcare, and innovation in healthcare systems, which are consistent with the JNA's recommendations for the G7 meetings; therefore, they can serve as a basis for the JNA to promote nursing policy in the future. They are also highly compatible with the nature of nursing as the entire documents refer to the priority of primary health care. As an area of high novelty, it is mentioned to promote the accumulation of individual health information using digital technology within international frameworks, not only for use in healthcare practice, but also to promote evidence-based policy making. The future progress should be closely monitored in this regard. ■

\*1 <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/10500000/001096403.pdf> (in English)

\*2 <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/10500000/001096405.pdf> (in English)

## JNA President's Award

JNA President's Award was presented at the Annual General Convention in June. The winners included Dr. Masako Kanai-Pak, the former ICN First Vice President in 2013-2017, and Prof. Megumi Teshima, a current ICN Board member. ■



Dr. Kanai-Pak (left), Dr. Fukui, then JNA President (middle), Prof. Teshima (right)