

Press Release

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva
November 3, 2014

Conferral of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, upon Mr. Bernard Gauvin, Chairman of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)

On November 3rd, 2014 (Japan Time), the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2014 Autumn Imperial Decorations. Among the 57 foreign recipients is Mr. Bernard Gauvin, the chairman of the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29). Mr. Gauvin will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, in recognition of his significant contribution as the chairman of WP.29 for almost 30 years to develop it into a global forum for harmonization of vehicle regulations. Mr. Gauvin will be awarded the insignia on November 11th, 2014 (Geneva Time) at the residence of H.E. Mr. Yoichi Otabe, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva.

- DECORATION The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon
- SERVICE Contributed as the chairman to the expansion of WP.29's membership to non-European countries including Japan and the acceleration of WP.29's activities to establish international vehicle regulations, including those regulations of which Japan took leading roles in the establishment.
- NAME (AGE) Bernard Gauvin (70)
- MAJOR TITLES Former Director of the Technical Regulation Division, Road Traffic and Safety Administration, Ministry for Infrastructure, Transport, Spatial Planning, Tourism and the Sea, the Government of France
Chairman of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)
- ADDRESS Paris (France)
(NATIONALITY)

After graduating from the National School of Mines in Paris (École nationale supérieure des mines de Paris) in 1968, Mr. Gauvin entered into one of the ministries of the National Government of France, which is now the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy. Since then, Mr. Gauvin has fulfilled various important posts in the government related to vehicle safety and environment regulations, such as Director of the Technical Regulation Division.

In addition, starting with his experience attending a WP.29 meeting as a member of the French delegation in 1970, Mr. Gauvin has long engaged in the WP.29 activities to harmonize international vehicle regulations on safety and the environment.

In 1987, Mr. Gauvin assumed the role of chairman of WP.29. Since then, Mr. Gauvin, with his remarkable vision toward the globalization of the automotive industry, has achieved expansion of WP.29's membership to non-European countries, including Japan, and the acceleration of WP.29's activities to establish international vehicle regulations, including those regulations of which Japan took leading roles in the establishment, such as the regulation of IWVTA (International Whole Vehicle Type Approval).

Through such achievements, Mr. Gauvin has greatly contributed to the development of the world automotive industry, including in Japan.