

Statement by Ambassador Ishikawa Hiroshi at
“Japan Night Cocktail Reception” by JPX

13 November 2025

Mr. Hiromi Yamaji, Group CEO, Japan Exchange Group
Mr. Hiroshi Nakaso, Chairman, Daiwa Institute of Research
Distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening, and welcome to my residence.

It is truly a pleasure to host all of you this evening. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Japan Exchange Group and the Daiwa Capital Markets Singapore for their outstanding leadership in bringing together investors, business leaders, and innovators from across Japan and Southeast Asia.

Today, many of you attended the Daiwa Investor Conference, and tomorrow, we will convene for the Japan-Southeast Asia Market Forum 2025. These initiatives have been instrumental in raising global interest in Japan's capital markets and business opportunities. The growing engagement we witness today is a testament to the dedication and vision of organizations like JPX and Daiwa. Thank you for your continued efforts in building stronger economic bridges between our regions.

As we gather here tonight, I am particularly mindful of the timing. Next year, 2026, will mark the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Singapore—SJ60. This will be an excellent opportunity to deepen cooperation not only between Japan and Singapore but also across Southeast Asia. The theme of SJ60 we have chosen—"Co-imagine, Co-create, Co-evolve"—reflects our shared commitment to building a brighter future together. I believe the partnerships being formed through forums like tomorrow's will be essential to realizing this vision.

This evening offers us a chance to connect in a more relaxed setting before tomorrow's discussions. As you've heard, we have prepared a selection of Japanese cuisine from AKANE, the flagship restaurant of the Japanese Association, which will hold a celebration ceremony for

completing its renovation Saturday next week. I would also like to introduce our residence chef, Mr. Tsunoda, who will be serving freshly made tempura throughout the evening at the live tempura station. Chef Tsunoda brings his expertise and passion to every dish, and I encourage you all to visit the station to experience his craft. We also have Japanese sake to complement the meal. I hope you will take this opportunity to enjoy authentic Japanese flavors and, more importantly, to engage in meaningful conversations with fellow participants.

Please enjoy the evening, and I look forward to productive discussions tomorrow at the forum.

Thank you.