## Nobuyoshi Takahashi Deputy Director (Legal Advisor) Plant Production Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

Nobuyoshi Takahashi has been Deputy Director (Legal Advisor) of Intellectual Property Division ("Plant Variety Protection and Seed Division" was reorganized into "Intellectual Property Division" on August 1, 2008), Plant Production Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) since 2007, and an attorney.

Prior to his post, Mr. Takahashi had been a judge in Tokyo District Court etc. since 2001.

Mr. Takahashi has a Law Degree from Waseda University and a Law Master's degree from Keio University. He has co-written "Q&A Plant Variety Protection and Seed Act", published several articles and given lectures on plant breeders' rights.

MAFF reorganized Plant Variety Protection and Seed Division (PVPSD) into "Intellectual Property Division (IPD)" integrating the affairs of intellectual property concerning agricultural sector on August 1, 2008.