

## **NEW YORK PHARMA FORUM PROGRAM**

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000**

**SPEAKER:** **Mr. Toshihiko Takeda**, Senior Officer, Research and Planning,  
Health Policy Bureau, The Ministry of Health and Welfare of Japan

**TOPIC:** **Insights Into Japan's Health Care Policymaking Process**

Mr. Toshihiko Takeda of the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MHW) will visit New York this month with the former Minister of Health and Welfare, Mr. Yuya Niwa. (Mr. Niwa will be a guest speaker at the Japan Society in a special session co-sponsored by the New York Pharma Forum – please see separately enclosed information on that program). Prior to the Forum's joint program with Japan Society, Mr. Takeda has agreed to share his insights on Japan's health care policymaking process and system. He will describe the complex interaction that takes place among various interest groups in Japanese society in order for change to occur: the pharmaceutical industry, the Ministries, politicians, hospitals and physicians, insurance plans, and, increasingly, consumers.

He will then discuss informally with us changes he believes will take place under upcoming health care reform, including the drug price system, physician's fees, hospital inpatient expenses, drug policies, and others.

Mr. Takeda is no stranger to New York Pharma Forum. From 1990 to 1994, he was stationed in New York as Director of Health and Welfare of JETRO New York and as a representative of the MHW. He worked with Japanese and American health care industry in order to enhance the mutual understanding and maintain the good relationship that the two countries enjoy. During his stay in New York, Mr. Takeda was also actively involved with New York Pharma Forum and made a great contribution to the Forum's development and growth as an advisor. After joining the MHW in 1983, Mr. Takeda gained experiences in broad areas that include health and medical services for the aged, industrial policy for pharmaceutical companies, international harmonization of pharmaceutical regulations, health policy, and overall social security policy.