

*Briefing on Japanese Policy on Skilled Immigration*

*From Embassy of Japan in Australia*

*For Joint Standing Committee on Migration*

*18 August 2003*

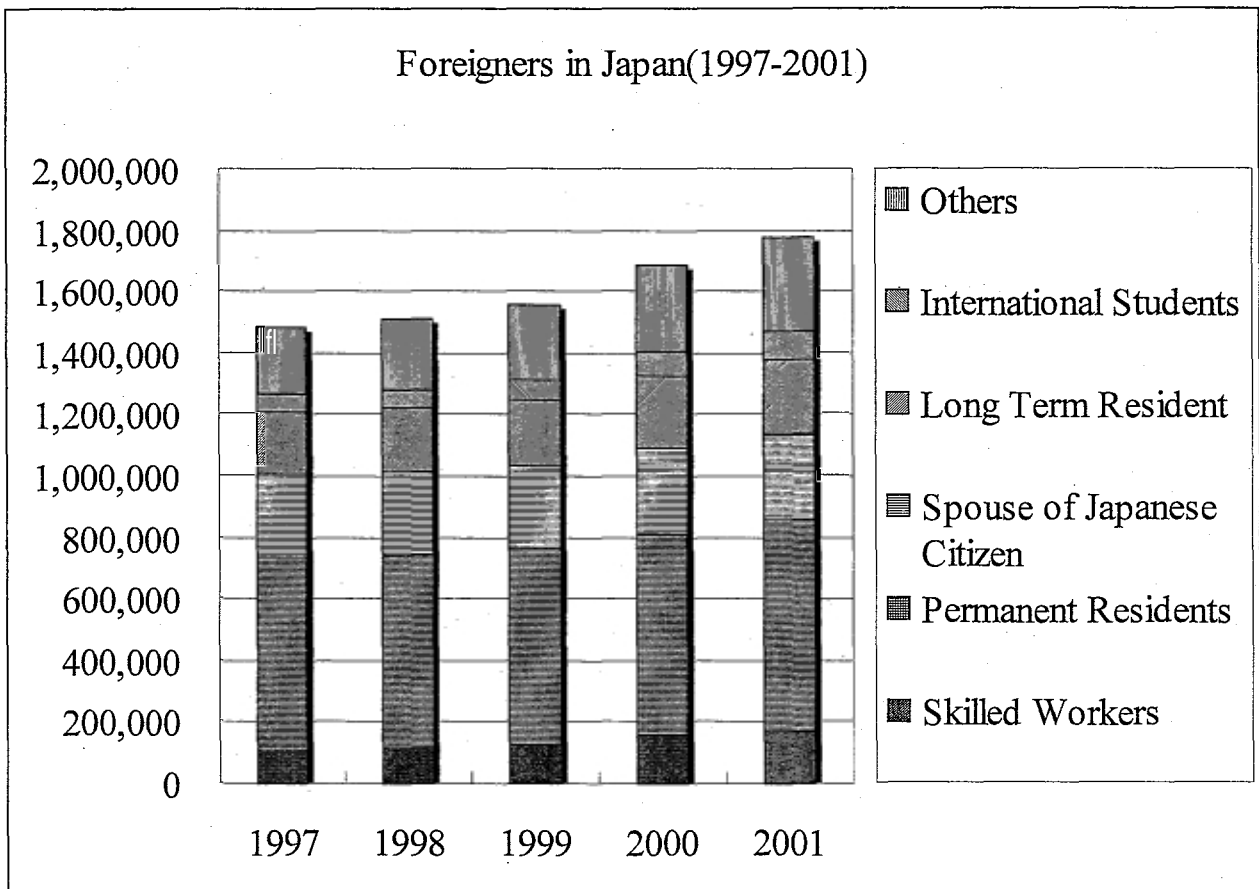
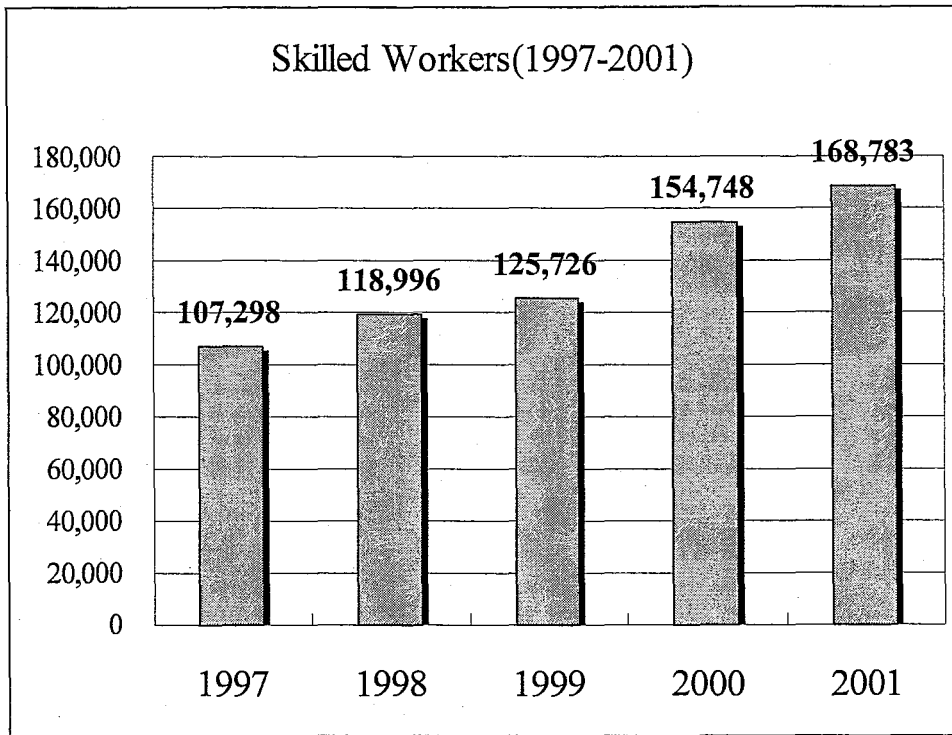
*Summary*

Basic Principle

No national policy to accept migrants into the Japanese Society

Policy Dealing with Skilled Foreign Workers in Japan

- (1) Policy Towards Skilled Foreigners: “positive approach” (*Basic Plan for Immigration Control*)
- (2) Skilled Foreigners in Japan: Increasing
- (3) Role of Local Governments: No Active Role Played
- (4) No Encouragement for Skilled Japanese Citizens to Return
- (5) Citizenship and Permanent Residence: Skilled Foreigners Seems Advantageous



***Immigration and Refugee Recognition Act, Article 22:***  
**Provisions for Permanent Residence**

*the Minister for Justice may grant permission only when he deems that the alien conforms to the following items and that his permanent residence will be accordance with the interest of Japan*

- (1) The alien's behavior and conduct must be good,*
- (2) The alien must have sufficient assets or ability to make an independent living".*

***Nationality Act, Article 5: Provisions for Naturalization***

*The Minister for Justice shall not permit the naturalization of an alien unless he or she fulfils all of the following conditions:*

- (1) that he or she has domiciled in Japan for five years or more consecutively;*
- (2) that he or she is twenty years of age or more and of full capacity according to the law of his or her home country;*
- (3) that he or she is of upright conduct;*
- (4) that he or she is able to secure a livelihood by one's own property or ability, or those of one's spouse or other relatives with whom one lives on common living expenses;*
- (5) that he or she has no nationality, or the acquisition of Japanese nationality will result in the loss of foreign nationality;*