

## **Yasuo Takahashi**

Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, Yasuo Takahashi has extensive knowledge and experience regarding environmental issues, having held several positions within the Ministry of the Environment after he completed the Graduate School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo in 1983. Prior to assuming his current position in July 2017, Yasuo Takahashi served key positions in the Ministry including Director General, Environmental Management Bureau (2015) and Deputy Director General, Minister's Secretariat (2014). While serving as head of the Environmental Management Bureau in the last several years, he has supervised overall works relating to environmental pollution, and he has also actively been involved in international cooperation. He strongly supported the activities of the "Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership (APCAP)" in close collaboration with UNEP. APCAP is due to publish a regional assessment report within the next few months, which will provide actionable solutions and a co-benefits approach to improve air quality and overcome many other development challenges in Asian countries.