

## **Prime Minister Fukuda Reshuffles Cabinet, New Ministers Inaugurated**

**On August 2, the reshuffled cabinet of Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda was formally invested in ceremonies at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, with most of the former cabinet members having been replaced.**

**Tsuneo Suzuki, member of the House of Representatives, became the new Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), while Toshihiro Nikai, also from the lower house, became Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), among others.**

Other members of the new cabinet include Seiko Noda as Minister of State for Science and Technology, and Consumer Affairs; Masahiko Komura as Minister of Foreign Affairs (retained); Tetsuo Saito as Minister of the Environment; and Mikio Hayashi as chairman of the National Public Safety Commission and Disaster Prevention. Minister Hayashi also serves concurrently as chairman of the Nuclear Safety Commission, under the Cabinet Office.

*Editor: Mio Kimuro, JAIF*