
Masahiko Kurono

Mr. Masahiko Kurono is currently Senior Executive Advisor of Narita International Airport Corporation (NAA) and also has been the Chairman of the Institution for Transport Policy Studies (ITPS) since July 2011. He was the former President and CEO of NAA, which was privatized on April 1, 2004 during his term. As the first President and CEO of the privatized company, Mr. Kurono demonstrated a strong leadership and focused his attention on improving customer service and cost efficiency and also expanding revenue in order to have the company listed on the stock market at the earliest possible opportunity. As a result of his effort, NAA was successful in introducing a revolutionary charging system based on aircraft noise index categories and effectively lowered its landing charges by an average of 21%. This has helped to encourage the use of quieter aircraft at the airport while also resulting in further reduction in CO2 emissions.

Moreover, Mr. Kurono put his heart into expanding taking off and landing slots at Narita Airport. His efforts successfully resulted in the number of annual slots gradually being increased up to 300,000 from 200,000 at which it had been fixed for nearly ten years.

Mr. Kurono has a long, distinguished career in the Ministry of Transport. He served as Vice Minister between 1997 and 1999 and as Director General of the Civil Aviation Bureau between 1995 and 1997, and was instrumental in the liberalization of air transport in Japan. As the General Manager of the Department for the Reform of National Railways in 1990, he successfully oversaw the privatization of Japan's state-owned railways.

Mr. Kurono graduated from the University of Tokyo with a Bachelor's of Law in 1964.