

## Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Commends Ethiopia Karate Federation

In celebration of Ethiopia Karate Federation receiving FY2022's Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation, an awarding ceremony was held on 17 January 2023 at Ambassador Ito's residence in Addis Ababa. The ceremony was followed by a Karate demonstration by young Karate practitioners learning Karate in Addis Ababa, which attracted a large audience of participants including Ambassador Mesfin, State Minister of Culture and Sports proposing and media.

Since its official establishment more than 20 years ago, Ethiopia Karate Federation has been committed to the promotion of Karate in Ethiopia. Today, there are regional Karate federations in all regions of the country, with 182 DOJOs (Karate training halls) and the Karate population of more than 10,000 people. Since 2001, the organization has been a member of the African Karate Federation and contributing to training of Karate practitioners and black belt holders to further promote high-quality Karate. The organization is also actively involved in exchanges with the Japanese Karate community, such as inviting Japanese Karate masters to Ethiopia for events organized by the Embassy of Japan in Ethiopia.

The Foreign Minister's Commendations are awarded to individuals and groups with outstanding achievements in international fields, in order to acknowledge their contributions to the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries and areas. The Commendations also aim to promote the understanding and support of the Japanese public for the activities of the recipients.



Commendation to Ethiopia Karate Federation



President Ethiopia making remarks



Ambassador Mesfin, State Minister of Culture and Sports proposing a toast



Group Photo



Junior Practitioners demonstrating Karate



Sushi demonstration