



## Chargé d’Affaires ad interim Robert Rapson

### U.S. Embassy Seoul

Rob Rapson is a career member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister Counselor. He assumed his current position as Chargé d’Affaires ad interim at U.S. Embassy Seoul on January 20, 2021. Immediately prior, Mr. Rapson served as Deputy Chief of Mission at U.S. Embassy Seoul, 2018-2021 and as Political Minister Counselor and acting Deputy Chief of Mission at U.S. Embassy Tokyo, 2015-2018.

Rob Rapson’s substantial Korea experience includes assignments as Director of the Office of Korean Affairs at the Department of State, 2012-2015; Deputy Economic Counselor/Senior Trade Officer, U.S. Embassy Seoul, 1997-2000; and Vice Consul, U.S. Embassy Seoul & U.S. Consulate Busan, 1984-1986.

From 2011-2012, Mr. Rapson was on special assignment at U.S. Embassy Kabul as the Mission Coordinator for the U.S. Government civilian field presence throughout Afghanistan. He served as Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargé d’Affaires at U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur from 2008-2011.

Rob Rapson’s other assignments with the State Department include: Director of the Office of Mainland Southeast Asia (2006-2008); Division Chief, Office of Bilateral Trade for Asia, Near East, and Africa (2003-2005); Economic Counselor, U.S. Embassy New Delhi (2000-2003); Political-Economic Chief, U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe (1993-1996); Desk Officer in the Office of Japanese Affairs (1989-1990); Watch Officer in the 24-hour Operations Center (1988-1989); and Economic Officer, U.S. Embassy Jakarta (1986-1988).

Mr. Rapson is the recipient of numerous Department of State individual and group Superior Honor Awards. He holds a BA in international relations from the Pennsylvania State University and is a graduate of the Singapore American School. Mr. Rapson is married with two adult sons.