

# **1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Japan-Brazil Joint Committee on Promoting Trade and Investment between METI and MDIC**

## **Co-Chair's Joint Statement**

On February 20, 2009, the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Japan-Brazil Joint Committee on Promoting Trade and Investment between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (hereinafter "METI") and the Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade of Brazil (hereinafter "MDIC") was held in Brasilia, based on the Memorandum signed by Mr. Akira Amari, then Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and Mr. Miguel Jorge, Minister of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Brazil.

The Japanese side was chaired by Mr. Hiroyuki Ishige, Vice-Minister for International Affairs, METI, and included representatives of METI, the Japan Patent Office (JPO), National Metrology Institute of Japan (NMIJ) of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, the Embassy of Japan, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), Nippon Keidanren and Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Brazil.

The Brazilian side was chaired by Mr. Ivan Ramalho, Executive-Secretary, MDIC, and included representatives of the Ministries of External Relations (MRE), Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (MAPA), Finance (MF), Labor and Employment (MTE), Justice (MJ), Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA), National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality (INMETRO), National Institute for Industrial Property (INPI), Superintendence of Manaus Free Zone (SUFRAMA) and National Confederation of Industry (CNI).

I. Both sides welcomed the substantial increase in trade and investment between the two countries in 2008 and shared the views on the importance of further promotion of two-way trade and investment, taking into account deteriorating international economic situation as a result of global financial crisis.

II. Both sides emphasized the huge potential in trade and investment between the two countries and also reaffirmed that the improvement in trade and investment environment is essential for further expansion of trade and investment.

III. Both sides shared the need to address the following 4 issues to improve trade and investment environment in both countries; (a) Trade and Investment Promotion, (b) Business Facilitation, (c) Metrology, (d) Intellectual Property Rights. The Co-Chairs established a Working Group for each issue and requested the Groups to

indicate focal points in order to establish follow-up mechanisms in appropriate formats for each important issue and to develop further action plans, when necessary, for the next meeting.

IV. Both sides shared the view that the continuous exchange of opinions is important to deepen mutual understanding for addressing these issues.

V. Both sides welcomed the course of discussion made through the preparation process towards the establishment of the Working Groups and expressed their strong desire to implement the following measures in a concrete manner.

#### 1. Trade and Investment Promotion

(1) The parties shared the view of the importance of increasing bilateral trade and investment flows and discussed possible joint measures such as capacity building for Brazilian public officials and for medium and small sized enterprises; exchange of trade and investments missions; holding trade and business fairs; holding seminars on major Brazilian infrastructure projects in Japan; cooperation on financing infrastructure projects including partnership between JBIC and BNDES; producing manuals on how to promote investment in Japan/Brazil in respective languages; and the elaboration of a study for promoting trade in services.

(2) Japanese side took note of the proposals from Brazilian side such as cooperation on plant and animal sanitary measures protection; cooperation on statistics on international trade in service; the exchange of information on franchises; exchange of information on medical devices market; labeling of genetically modified organisms and food with allegations of functional properties; administrative cooperation in the scope of GSP; and cooperation in productive integration.

(3) Both sides recognize that further exchange of information is necessary for identifying possible areas of specific cooperation under such issues.

#### 2. Business facilitation

(1) In order to facilitate business, both sides discussed various issues such as tax and customs related issues; register of importers; registration of companies; process of working visas.

(2) The Brazilian side took note of the presentation from the Japanese business sector with regard to business facilitation.

(3) Both sides reaffirmed importance of continuous exchange of opinions as noted in paragraphs III and IV.

### 3. Metrology

Both sides stressed the importance of sharing understanding on metrology through enhanced exchanges of information for promoting trade between the two countries, and also shared the need to take the following actions jointly:

(1) Both sides confirmed that NIMJ and INMETRO will continue to collaborate sequentially on joint research work and on development of new measuring methods and procedures, based on ongoing exchanges of information since 2004 between these institutes.

(2) Both sides shared interests in deepening understanding on respective national standard of the Vibration and Acoustics area and encourage both NMIJ and INMETRO to collaborate on these subjects sequentially.

(3) Both sides shared the need to enhance exchanges of information between NMIJ and INMETRO in Information Technology (IT) for Metrology, Chemical Metrology, Nanometrology and other Metrological areas of common interest.

(4) Both sides recognized the interest of NMIJ and INMETRO in signing a Memorandum of Cooperation that provides a tool for science and technological cooperation in metrology.

### 4. Intellectual Property

In view of the importance of intellectual property rights to trade and investment, both sides exchanged information and opinions as follows:

(1) Both sides shared the need to exchange information on the process of patent examination and considered possible cooperation between JPO and INPI within available resources, in accordance with their respective national laws and regulations, which would include actions as follows:

- Acceptance of INPI trainee(s) in Japan;
- Acceptance of mission(s) from Brazil;
- Dispatch of mission(s) to Brazil; and
- Preparation and distribution of Portuguese-version of the AIPN manual.

(2) The Japanese side requested information and underlined the need to continue to exchange opinions on legislation concerning technology transfer and remittances of royalties abroad, and Brazilian side took note of the interest of the Japanese side.

(3) Both sides exchanged information on national measures against counterfeiting and piracy.

(4) The Japanese side clarified that JPO is using the Brazilian list of non-exhaustive names of Brazilian biodiversity and updated information of trademark cases. The Brazilian side invited the Japanese side to consider Portuguese in the trademark examination.

V. On the occasion of the first meeting, both sides endorsed the following projects symbolizing trade and investment trend between the two countries:

(1) JBIC signed on December 25, 2008 an United Loan Agreement totaling up to US\$250 million with BNDES to finance the Cargo Railway Network Development Project in Brazil. Both governmental financial institutions will celebrate this project today as the symbolical deal for promoting economic cooperation between the two countries. JBIC and BNDES will continue to enhance their strategic partnership for pursuing the possibility of new technical and financial cooperation mainly in the infrastructure projects, considering each respective institutional missions.

(2) NEXI and BNDES stated that they will sign the Memorandum today in the presence of Mr. Hiroyuki Ishige, Vice-Minister for International Affairs, METI and Mr. Ivan Ramalho, Executive-Secretary, MDIC. This Memorandum promotes the implementation of activities in order to identify opportunities with a view to coordinate their strategies and activities in Brazil and in Japan, including common priority sectors for each Party and to cooperate in achieving common development objectives.

VI. Both sides shared the view on holding a next meeting in Tokyo by October, 2009.