



**Press Release**

**報道資料**

***For Immediate Release***

**ACCJ Releases "the ACCJ Business White Paper:  
'Working Together, Winning Together'"**

**November 9, 2006** - The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) is pleased to announce the release of the "ACCJ Business White Paper: 'Working Together, Winning Together.'"

The Government of Japan has articulated a goal of promoting sustained and stable economic growth and innovation and has identified increasing foreign direct investment (FDI) as a key priority to achieve this goal.

"The ACCJ strongly supports policy measures that foster sustained and stable economic growth and innovation in Japan, and robust inward FDI is a crucial element of an environment that helps achieve that goal," said ACCJ President Charles Lake. Accordingly, the ACCJ Business White Paper identifies structural measures in various areas that, if taken, would contribute to sustained economic growth and innovation and also attract more FDI in line with the government's stated strategy.

"In the Business White Paper, the ACCJ calls on the governments of the United States and Japan to commit to the vision of concluding a comprehensive bilateral Economic Integration Agreement encompassing all aspects of bilateral economic activity," said Lake.

As a first step, in its White Paper the ACCJ calls for the United States and Japan to restructure and reinvigorate the U.S.-Japan Economic Partnership for Growth by establishing a new bilateral mechanism, to include a Cabinet-level U.S.-Japan Ministerial Forum to discuss key bilateral, regional, and global issues facing the two economies. Working groups to address immediate issues and identify areas where material benefit could be gained through further bilateral economic cooperation should also be a part of the new mechanism.

Towards the goal of promoting economic growth, the White Paper also contains recommendations on specific measures in areas such as the Financial System; the Healthcare System; Physical Infrastructure and Air Transport; Information Technology and Communications; Consumer Products and Food; the Legal System; Human Resources; and Government Reform, Procurement, and Privatization.

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## **About the ACCJ**

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies and has grown into one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. Consisting mainly of executives from American companies, currently the ACCJ has members representing 1,400 companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the governments of the United States and Japan, business organizations, and others, the ACCJ promotes activities that help achieve its mission of further developing commerce between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the international business environment in Japan. Over 60 committees representing various industries play the ACCJ's central role in making policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as the Business White Paper and holding over 500 events and seminars annually on public policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable events and other CSR activities.

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