



Press Release

報道資料

For Immediate Release

**ACCJ Releases Viewpoint to
Welcome the Government of Japan's Five-Year Strategy for
the Creation of Innovative Drugs and Medical Devices**

October 26, 2007 -The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) has released a viewpoint on the "Five-Year Strategy for Creation of Innovative Drugs and Medical Devices" (the "Five-Year Strategy"), issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT); the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW); and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in April 2007. In this viewpoint, the ACCJ strongly supports the goals of making Japan a more dynamic center of medical technology research and development and ensuring timely access for Japanese patients to the world's leading medical technology set forth in the Five-Year Strategy.

The ACCJ is confident that the Five-Year Plan has the potential to create the market-based environment necessary for medical technology innovation in Japan. The best way to encourage medical technology innovation is to create the right fundamental conditions for researchers, scientists, entrepreneurs, investors, and manufacturers to pursue their ideas, rather than selecting specific technologies or companies to promote. These fundamental conditions include:

- A predictable, transparent, and efficient regulatory system that leads to timely and reasonable decisions, before and after marketing;
- A fair, adequate and predictable reimbursement environment that values innovation;
- A sound clinical research environment supportive of medical device clinical trials;
- A judicious intellectual property protection and technology transfer regime; and
- Healthy venture finance markets.

The ACCJ noted that its members have much to contribute to the implementation of the Five-Year Strategy and look forward to working with the Government of Japan, Japanese companies, health care providers, universities and other stakeholders to see the goals of the Five-Year Strategy realized.

The full text of the viewpoint, "Welcoming the Government of Japan's Five-Year Strategy for Creation of Innovative Drugs and Medical Devices," is available at the following link. www.accj.or.jp/document_library/Viewpoints/VP070907MDD.pdf

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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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