



For Immediate Release

**ACCJ's 13th "Diet Doorknock" concluded with great success
U.S. business leaders exchanged views with over 50 Japanese Diet members**

February 20, 2009 - The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) completed its 13th Diet Doorknock, a coordinated three-day effort to meet and exchange views with members of Japan's Diet, including members of the Cabinet. Key ACCJ leaders, led by ACCJ President Thomas W. Whitson, participated in meetings that brought together 72 U.S. business leaders with 58 Japanese senior Diet members from February 17 to 19.

"We were pleased to exchange views with so many Diet leaders and top government officials regarding issues to improve the business environment and promote economic growth for both countries, and want to express our gratitude to them for making time for open dialogue during an especially busy Diet session," said ACCJ President Whitson.

"As we stressed during our Doorknock, we believe that both countries must renew their commitment to essential free market principles, regulatory transparency, and level playing fields to promote the good governance and sustained economic growth needed to overcome this crisis. ACCJ members have been good corporate citizens over the past 60 years in Japan, and the ACCJ is ready to work constructively with the Diet and the Government of Japan as Japan works to recover from the current economic downturn" added Whitson.

During the Doorknock, ACCJ representatives distributed a number of documents describing the ACCJ's Core Advocacy Principles and key policy concerns. These documents are available on the ACCJ's website:

ACCJ's Core Advocacy Principles

<http://www.accj.or.jp/doclib/advocacy/Core_Advocacy_Principles.pdf>

2009 Winter Diet Doorknock (Selected ACCJ Advocacy Issues)

<http://www.accj.or.jp/doclib/advocacy/DDK_Leave_Behind.pdf>

###

0904 E

About 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 1,300 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.

PRESS CONTACT: ACCJ Media Officer Minako Motoki (phone: 03 3433 6542; fax: 03 3433 8454; email: mmotoki@accj.or.jp).