



## Press Release 報道資料

*For Immediate Release*

### **ACCJ Reaffirms Support for Japan Joining the TPP as Mexico and Canada Move Forward**

**-Expresses Concern Japan Will Be Left Behind-**

**June 20, 2012**– Following the announcements from the recently concluded G20 meeting in Los Cabos that Mexico and Canada have been invited to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations, the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) urges Japan's leaders to affirmatively commit to joining the TPP and avoid being left behind. Today the ACCJ released the following statement:

*The ACCJ has been clear in its support for Japan joining the TPP negotiations at the same high level as other negotiating countries. As good corporate citizens of Japan who provide the country jobs, capital and technology, our members believe that Japan joining the TPP is critically important for sustained prosperity in both Japan and the United States.*

*We were encouraged by the Prime Minister's statement of strong interest in Japan joining the TPP negotiations at APEC in November, which he reiterated at the Asia-Pacific Council of American Chambers (APCAC) U.S.-Asia Business Summit held this March here in Tokyo and during his April visit to the United States.*

*We are concerned, however, that the window of opportunity is closing for Japan to join the TPP before substantive negotiations are completed. While Japan could join later, delay would result in a lost opportunity for Japan to join in a process of shaping what are likely to be the rules to govern trade more widely in Asia in the years to come.*

*We urge the two Governments to successfully conclude their consultations regarding achieving the high standards of TPP and addressing issues of concern, so Japan can join the TPP as soon as possible.*

###

#### **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, the ACCJ has members representing over 1,000 companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the governments of the United States and Japan and other business organizations, the ACCJ promotes trade and investment flows between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the environment for international business in Japan. Over 60 committees representing various industries play a central role in making ACCJ policy recommendations by issuing Viewpoints, Public Comments and White Papers and holding over 500 events and seminars annually on public policy and economic trends. The ACCJ also undertakes charitable efforts and supports its members' CSR activities.

**1210 E**