



For Immediate Release

ACCJ Expresses Concern Over Japan Post Group Initial Public Offering Plan

November 1, 2012 – For many years the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) has urged the Government of Japan to ensure that Japan Post is not allowed to expand its business operations until equivalent conditions of competition are established between Japan Post and the private sector. Nevertheless, the initial public offering (IPO) plan released by the Japan Post Group and approved by a cabinet member assumes that Japan Post will issue new products before a level playing field is established. This plan moves Japan in the wrong direction at a time when efforts are underway regionally and globally to address the competitive impact of state-owned enterprises on the market.

Allowing Japan Post to offer new or modified products, including loans or education endowment insurance, before equivalent conditions of competition are achieved is inconsistent with Japan's international trade commitments under the World Trade Organization's General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

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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, 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.

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