



## **Press Release**

### For Immediate Release

# ACCJ Applauds Launch of the U.S.-Japan Economic Dialogue

**April 21, 2017** – The President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ), Christopher J. LaFleur, joined other U.S. and Japanese business leaders on April 19 in meetings with Vice President Michael R. Pence and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross in Tokyo. During the meetings, LaFleur emphasized the ACCJ's strong support of the U.S.-Japan Economic Dialogue, which Vice President Pence kicked off on April 18 with Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso, and expressed his hope that Vice President Pence and Secretary Ross will prioritize efforts to strengthen and enhance the U.S.-Japan partnership, creating more jobs and investment, and furthering economic growth in both the United States and Japan.

"The ACCJ applauds the commitment President Trump and Prime Minister Abe made in February to strengthen the U.S.-Japan economic relationship and is extremely pleased that Vice President Pence and Deputy Prime Minister Aso have taken the first steps to achieve this objective. We are also pleased to see that Secretary Ross met with Minister Seko on a range of issues that are key to the success of the Dialogue. The U.S. and Japanese economies are deeply interlinked through trade and cross-border investment and, when that partnership adheres to principles of openness and free trade, it becomes a powerful engine for economic growth. The ACCJ looks forward to supporting this new and encouraging effort to further enhance our great economic partnership," said LaFleur.

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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, currently 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, 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. The ACCJ's more than 60 committees represent a variety of industries and make policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as viewpoints, public comments and white papers. The ACCJ holds about 500 events and seminars a year, many of which focus on government policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable events and CSR activities.

PRESS CONTACT: ACCJ External Affairs (phone: 03 3433 6542; email: external@accj.or.jp).