



Press Release

報道資料

For Immediate Release

**American Businesses in Japan Applaud Progress on
Bilateral Trade Agenda and Call for Swift
Conclusion of Comprehensive Agreement**

September 26, 2019 [Tokyo, Japan] – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) applauds the joint trade agreement signed by the U.S. and Japanese governments on the digital economy, agriculture and industrial goods. We are particularly encouraged by the agreement on digital trade, which will help ensure even greater success of innovative American companies in Japan’s market.

While we welcome these steps to level the playing field in key sectors and set high global standards in digital trade, the ACCJ encourages both governments to swiftly move to the second stage of negotiations and to complete a comprehensive bilateral trade deal that will address additional outstanding trade issues, set platinum level standards for the Asia Pacific region in key areas, and promote future oriented products, services and technologies critical to jobs and investment in both countries.

The U.S.-Japan economic relationship is one of the largest in the world, with nearly \$300 billion traded in goods and services in 2018. Immediate attention to outstanding market access and regulatory issues will ensure this bilateral relationship remains one of the strongest in the world. These efforts are essential to ensuring continued commercial opportunities for the most innovative areas, including life sciences, energy, manufacturing, fintech, and services.

“The U.S. and Japan should continue to work together to harmonize standards and establish high-standard trade rules in the Indo-Pacific region. The opportunity before us is unprecedented; both countries have clearly demonstrated a commitment to economic progress for the benefit of workers, exporters, and consumers. It is critical we do not lose momentum,” said ACCJ President Peter M. Jennings. “We envision continued engagement as a win-win for both countries that will enhance the long-standing economic partnership.”

###

1905 E

About ACCJ

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies. Over its 70-year history, the ACCJ has positioned itself as one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. The ACCJ has approximately 3,500 members who together represent over 1,000 globally minded companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the U.S. and Japanese governments, business organizations and others, the ACCJ engages in activities that advance its mission of further developing commerce between the U.S. 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 over 500 events and seminars a year, many of which focus on government policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable and CSR activities.

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