



**Press Release**

**報道資料**

***For Immediate Release***

**ACCJ Engages with U.S. Officials in its Annual  
“Washington, D.C. Doorknock,” Calling for Continued  
Engagement with Eye to Timely Conclusion of Trans-  
Pacific Partnership (TPP)**

**May 2, 2014** [Washington, D.C.] – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) conducted its annual “Washington, D.C. Doorknock” from April 30 to May 1. Chamber leaders met with U.S. lawmakers, government officials, business organizations and thought leaders to emphasize the importance of the Japan-U.S. relationship in all its facets – commercial, strategic, personal and otherwise – and of Japan and the United States continuing to lead the multi-party negotiations in view of reaching a robust and high-standard Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement at the earliest possible date.

The ACCJ has expressed its strong support for the TPP, believing that the agreement will not only enhance economic growth but also further strengthen the roles that both Japan and the United States play in promoting stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region, which is a driving force for the global economy as a whole.

ACCJ President Jay Ponazecki said, “As business leaders, we consider the TPP to be essential for stimulating competitiveness, promoting economic growth and creating jobs in the U.S., Japan and the greater Asia Pacific region. It is important to keep the momentum created by President Obama’s recent visit to Japan, and for the two nations that share many important values in common – including democracy, rule of law and strong commitments to human rights – to work together in leading the establishment of a trade architecture in the economically vibrant Asia-Pacific region through initially a high-standard, 21st century TPP, with the goal of establishing a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP) in the future. We think an ambitious TPP will serve as a model for how trade should be carried out not only in the region, but globally as well.”

During their meetings, the ACCJ delegation also expressed support for the passage of the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) as an important tool to facilitate the full conclusion and implementation of the TPP.



Other topics discussed were the state of the Abe administration's growth strategy and economic policies, business opportunities in Japan created by Abenomics and the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and other issues of importance to the Japan-U.S. economic relationship.

The Washington, D.C. Doorknock is one of the ACCJ's largest consolidated annual advocacy initiatives.

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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 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 approximately 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.

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