

# Public Survey on the Green Goods Initiative

Information on the respondents	
1. Entity name (maximum 50 characters) -open reply-(compulsory)	Japan Business Council in Europe a.i.s.b.l
2. Contact details (address, telephone number, email) (maximum 270 characters) -open reply-(compulsory)	
Rue de la Loi 82, 1040 Brussels, Belgium Phone: +32 2 286 53 30 E-mail: info@jbce.org	
3. Contact person (maximum 100 characters) -open reply-(compulsory)	
Seiji Yoshino (Mr.), Secretariat	
4. What is your profile? -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Trade association representing businesses
5. If you are a business, do you qualify as an SME <sup>1</sup> ?  <sup>1</sup> According to the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p.36), a company qualifies as an SME if 1) it employs less than 250 persons (including managers, etc.) and 2) it has an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million EURO and/or its annual balance sheet does not exceed 43 million EURO. Please note that the previously mentioned figures (employees, turnover and balance sheet) refer to the consolidated data of the company in question and its partners and/or linked companies proportionally aggregated to the percentage interest in the capital or voting rights. For further explanations please consult the <b>new SME user guide</b> : -single choice reply-(optional)	
6. If you are a business, are you a goods supplier and/or a services supplier? -single choice reply-(optional)	
7. What are your main areas/sectors of activities/interests? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(compulsory)	air pollution control - renewable energy - water treatment - waste management - cleaner or more resource efficient technologies and products - environmental monitoring, analysis and assessment equipment
<b>8. TRANSPARENCY AND CONFIDENTIALITY</b> To ensure that our public consultation is open and transparent, the report of the consultation will be published on the European Commission's website and, will include a list of the names and contributions of all the organisations that have agreed to this publication from which we have received	I agree to the publication of my contribution to this public consultation

contributions to this process.

Please, indicate your preference: -single choice  
reply-(compulsory)

### **Section 1: Questions for all stakeholders**

1. What are your general views on the negotiations to liberalise trade in green goods and services?

-open reply-(optional)

We fully agree with this initiative since it will certainly contribute towards both protecting our planet and further global economic growth through trade.

- reduction of tariffs on environmental goods

2

-single choice reply-(optional)

- elimination of tariffs on environmental goods

1

-single choice reply-(optional)

- reduction of non-tariff barriers to trade in environmental goods

3

-single choice reply-(optional)

- reduction of barriers to trade in environmental-related services

4

-single choice reply-(optional)

- other

5

-single choice reply-(optional)

3. What types of goods and services do you think should be covered by the green goods initiative? (e.g. any specific sector) -open reply-(optional)

APEC 54 environmental goods should be covered by this initiative as a first step and then the members concerned should consider adding more environmental goods which fall under 6 categories identified by the member countries of APEC and all intermediate goods (i.e. essential material or components to produce the qualified goods) as well.

4. What factors should the EU take into account in the development of its proposal for a list of environmental goods (e.g. trade volume, environmental use of products, customs control, customs classification, etc.)? Please explain your answer.

-open reply-(optional)

Trade volume, environmental use of products, clear customs classification which enables easy identification of products by the customs.

5. Environmental goods can be described as goods that can positively and directly contribute to environmental protection, climate action, green growth and sustainable development. Do you agree with this statement? Please explain your answer. -open reply-(optional)

Basically we agree with the proposed statement but we think the wording "positively" is quite vague thus must be rephrased by more concrete and quantifiable one.

6. Environmental goods should not be classed as 'environmental' depending on *how* they were produced, in part because of the difficulty for Customs to distinguish such goods and the lack of globally agreed criteria. What is your view on this?

-open reply-(optional)

We agree with the view that environmental goods should not be qualified depending upon how they were produced. This is because we believe that the purpose of this green goods initiative is to facilitate the global trade of those goods of which use could contribute to the protection of environment. We believe the difficulty for Customs to distinguish such goods and/or the lack of globally agreed criteria should not be reason to justify this view. We believe how to reduce environmental negative impact by production process and supply chain should be tackled by different initiative such as product footprint methodology.

7. Where do you see the greatest potential for positive environmental impact arising from this initiative (sector or country/region)? -open reply-(optional)

We are not in a position to specify concrete sector or country/region. We think such positive environmental impact would be mostly visible in those countries/regions where a significant amount of environmental burden has been incurred thus reduction of the negative environmental impact is of urgency and sufficient economic power to deploy the green goods exists.

8. Do you think the green goods initiative should include a review mechanism to allow updating of the list of environmental goods and to better reflect changes in technology? Please explain your answer. If you think it should, do you have views on the how the mechanism could work? -open reply-(optional)

Yes, we fully support the view to introduce the said review mechanism. Technology evolves so fast and the goods with such latest technology should always be on the list for timely review and adoption. In order to make such review mechanism practically workable, WTO secretariat should encourage the member countries to submit a kind of review request specifying which products should be newly added and/or which be deleted together with economic impact assessment analysis data and any other relevant information. In addition, we propose that the HS code related questions or requests arising from the green goods initiative (either agreed or under negotiations) are always to be reported in timely manner to the WCO so that necessary solution to such issues can be implemented effectively and consistently.

9. Do you have views concerning a future possible dispute resolution of the green goods initiative? If so please elaborate.

-open reply-(optional)

The current dispute settlement system which already exists in the framework of WTO should be utilized in order to avoid any additional and unnecessary complexity.

10. Are there any other issues related to trade in environmental goods and services that are not mentioned above and on which you would like to provide your views?

-single choice reply-(optional)

## **Section 2. Questions for businesses or their associations**

1. What kinds of environmental goods do you export?  
(multiple replies are possible)

-multiple choices reply-(optional)

2. What are your five top non-EU **export** markets for environmental goods and/or related services? (please specify and rank) -open reply-(optional)

- Australia

-single choice reply-(optional)

- Canada

-single choice reply-(optional)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• China</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chinese Taipei</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Costa Rica</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hong Kong China</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Japan</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Zealand</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Norway</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Singapore</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Switzerland</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Republic of Korea</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USA</li></ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
4. To which other countries do you export environmental goods and /or services? (please specify, and rank them) -open reply-(optional)	
5. Who are your biggest competitors in the sector of environmental goods and/or services in non-EU export markets? -single choice reply-(optional)	

6. From which non-EU markets do you import environmental goods and/or services? (please specify top five and rank)

-open reply-(optional)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canada</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• China</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chinese Taipei</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Zealand</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norway</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Switzerland</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Republic of Korea</li> </ul> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USA</li> </ul>	
-single choice reply-(optional)	
8. From which other countries do you import environmental goods and /or services? (please specify, and rank them) -open reply-(optional)	
9. Please specify products that, in your view, should be covered by the green goods initiative (please specify HS codes, description, environmental rationale). -open reply-(optional)	
10. Are there any products that, in your view, should <b>not</b> be covered by the green goods initiative? (please specify) -open reply-(optional)	
11. If you export environmental goods to third countries with which the EU has concluded Free Trade Agreements (FTA), do you utilise preferential tariffs under those FTAs? -single choice reply-(optional)	
12. What are the main barriers to trade you encounter for your environmental goods in non-EU export markets? -single choice reply-(optional)	
13. What kind of barriers, related to the categories below, do you encounter in non-EU countries in which you operate? -multiple choices reply-(optional)	
14. Which types of non-tariff barriers do you think should be reduced through the green goods initiative as a matter of priority (max 3)? -open reply-(optional)	
15. What kind of environment-related services do you or would you like to provide in non-EU countries? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(optional)	
16. Who provides above mentioned services? -single choice reply-(optional)	
17. What proportion of your turnover related to exports is represented by environment-related services compared to environmental goods? (approximate answer is sufficient) -open reply-(optional)	
18. Are there areas/sectors in which you are at a disadvantage in countries or territories in which you operate compared to competitors from non-EU countries? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(optional)	

19. What are the main barriers that you encounter in <u>providing cross-border environment-related services</u> in a WTO member participating in the green goods initiative? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(optional)	
20. What are the main barriers that your sector encounters in <u>establishing a commercial presence</u> with regard to <u>environment-related services</u> in a WTO member participating in the green goods initiative? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(optional)	
21. What are the main barriers that your sector encounters in the <u>temporary movement of natural persons for business purposes</u> with regard to <u>environment-related services</u> in these countries? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(optional)	
22. For environment-related services, where do you see the most important opportunities for your business (areas/sectors and trade barriers)? Which factors should the EU take into account when identifying the relevant measures? -open reply-(optional)	
23. In your sector, do you have a particular interest in entering the markets of <u>the WTO members involved in green goods initiative</u> ? If so, which are they? (multiple replies are possible) -multiple choices reply-(optional)	
24. In your sector, do you have a particular interest in entering other non-EU markets? Please specify. -open reply-(optional)	
25. In the course of doing business in non-EU countries have you ever encountered any requirements or incentives to: -open reply-(optional)	
25.a. export a given level or percentage of services -single choice reply-(optional)	
25. b. achieve a given level or percentage of domestic content. -single choice reply-(optional)	
25.c. requirement to purchase, use or accord a preference to goods produced in the country or territory, or to purchase goods from domestic producers -single choice reply-(optional)	
25.d. transfer a particular technology, a production process or other proprietary knowledge? -single choice reply-(optional)	
26. Any other views on constraints or opportunities for trade in environmental goods and services? -open reply-(optional)	

