

Undersecretary of State
Marcin Korolec

Warsaw, 9 November 2011

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**Mr.
Satoru Hayashi
President
Japanese Business Council in Europe**

Dear President,

Thank you for your letter addressed to Prime Minister Donald Tusk dated 21 October 2011 regarding EU-Japan Economic Integration Agreement.

We would like to ensure you that we recognize the importance of deepening trade and investment relation between the EU and Japan. In this regard, we welcome decisions of the last EU-Japan Summit, held in Brussels on 28 May 2011, to strength all aspects of the EU-Japan relationship and to define the scope and framework of future economic partnership agreement. We are aware that a move towards Free Trade Agreement that was announced at the Summit was very important step forward. Therefore, the launch of the scoping exercise is great opportunity to define exact parameters and level of ambition of those future possible negotiations. However, the readiness to consider the potential launch of FTA depends *inter alia* on Japanese ability to dismantle Non Tariff Barriers and restrictions on public procurement. As you are also aware, full tariff elimination, investment liberalization and protection would be an important part of those negotiations too.

Latest Japanese proposals are a step in the right direction but we are looking forward to the substantial and economically feasible elimination of non-tariff barriers by Japan which significantly restrict access of EU goods to the Japanese market. The scoping exercise should

therefore aim at achieving the highest possible level of convergence in advance of negotiations.

In this regard, we also welcome Japanese Business Council in Europe's strong support to open EU-Japan negotiations. We hope that shared commitments and efficient approach on the scoping exercise would pave the way to successful negotiations addressing all issues of shared interest to both sides including tariffs, non-tariffs barriers, services, investment and public procurement.

*Best regards,
Maciej Kowalczyk*

