

## Japan-UK Joint Declaration on Prosperity Cooperation

The Prime Ministers of Japan and the UK,

Recognising that our strong and growing bilateral trade and investment relationship benefits businesses and people in both countries;

Affirming that Japan and the UK are among the strongest global champions of free trade, and that it is more important now than ever that we work together to promote rules-based free and fair trade, for the benefit of our own people and economies and in support of global prosperity;

Recognising our long history of science and innovation collaboration that has benefited our economies and societies and helped to tackle major global challenges;

Have decided to set forth a new framework of cooperation as follows:

### **Enhanced Ministerial Engagement**

1. We are instructing the UK Secretaries of State for International Trade and for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Japanese Ministers responsible for trade, investment and business to develop a new framework to realise our shared long-term vision to deepen our bilateral prosperity relationship.
2. This new framework will set strategic direction for new and existing working-level dialogues to deliver across our trade, investment and innovation relationship. It will be supported by business-to-government engagement to ensure it serves the needs of the business community, and covers key commercial issues.

### **Trade and Investment Working Group**

3. Japan and the UK will cooperate through our new Trade and Investment Working Group to move forward our trade and investment relationship in the following areas:
  - a) **Enhancing our future trade and investment relationship:** We will continue to champion the early signature and entry into force of the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). This will be our immediate priority. As the UK exits the EU, we will work quickly to establish a new economic partnership between Japan and the UK based on the final terms of the EPA. The UK's goal as it leaves the EU is to ensure the freest and most frictionless trade between the UK and the EU. The UK is clear that it wants a smooth and orderly transition to its new relationship with the EU to avoid disruption for business and people of the UK and our key partners, including Japan.
  - b) **Improving market access:** The UK welcomes the many high value and high profile Japanese investments in the UK, and will work closely with Japanese businesses and government to build on these investments in future. We will continue to work together to improve market access including non-tariff measures for both countries. We will also maintain progress towards the resumption of exports of British beef and lamb to Japan. The UK will support

the lifting of EU import restrictions on food and feed from Japan, including those from Fukushima where they have been scientifically verified as safe.

**c) Championing global free trade through multilateral forums:** The UK welcomes Japanese support to establish the UK's independent commitments at the WTO. We commit to working together to progress plurilateral agreements including the Trade in Services Agreement and the Environmental Goods Agreement. Both sides recognise the importance of ambitious regional trade deals as steps towards eliminating global barriers to commerce.

### **Industrial Policy Dialogue**

4. We have decided to launch a new Industrial Policy Dialogue to deepen our cooperation on industrial policies, focused on innovative economies of the future. Our senior officials will convene in Tokyo this year for the first round of this dialogue. This co-operation will initially be based on space, aviation, energy and climate change, advanced manufacturing, and bio-economy.

### **Joint Committee on Science and Technology**

5. Since 1994 Japan and the UK have held Joint Committee meetings based on the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the UK on Co-operation in Science and Technology that have consistently identified new areas for cooperation between our countries.
6. To facilitate greater collaboration, we will aim to establish a "Lead Agency Arrangement" between our research and innovation funding agencies (UKRI, JSPS and JST)<sup>1</sup> to enable our researchers and businesses to more easily collaborate by the next Joint Committee meeting.

### **Nuclear Dialogue**

7. The Nuclear Dialogue is an opportunity to gather officials from across the governments of Japan and the UK once a year, and strengthen bilateral cooperation across the full range of civil nuclear activities. The Dialogue covers the following five areas: nuclear policy; nuclear decommissioning and decontamination; research and development; public communication; and safety and regulation.
8. The UK welcomes Japanese industry involvement in the UK's new build programme. We recognise that the complementary strengths of Japanese and British companies in the civil nuclear sector give us the opportunity to pursue more strategic partnerships for mutual benefit and gain.

### **Cooperation on Climate change**

9. We are both committed to action on climate change and the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. We will work together to support a successful 2018 UN Facilitative Dialogue, and explore the possibility of

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<sup>1</sup> Respectively UK Research and Innovation, the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science and the Japanese Science and Technology Agency.

establishing new joint research and development collaboration towards low carbon societies.

### **Health Dialogue**

10. Japan and the UK have already worked together on a number of health issues, including dementia and patient safety. To further this collaboration we have decided to launch a regular Health Dialogue.
11. This dialogue will discuss key areas of common interest such as antimicrobial resistance, dementia and patient safety and explore new areas of potential collaboration, including social care and non-communicable diseases. This would support the health of our own citizens and help tackle global challenges.

### **Season of Culture**

12. We will collaborate on culture and creative industries to celebrate the Japan-UK Season of Culture between 2019 and 2020, bridging the Rugby World Cup 2019 and Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020.
13. The planned UK Season of Culture in Japan will bring together artists, technologists, researchers and business, building new Japan-UK networks to drive innovation. This season will provide UK artists and their Japanese partners with opportunities to share state-of-the-art digital technology, including virtual reality and robotics.
14. In parallel with the UK Season of Culture, Japan will also aim to hold cultural events as the Japan Season of Culture in the UK. The UK welcomes the opening of Japan House in London next year which will strengthen our cultural ties.
15. The two leaders welcomed a proposal from the Japanese private sector to donate a substantial number of cherry blossom trees to the UK, as a visible symbol of the relationship, and looked forward to the concept being developed further.

Tokyo, 31 August, 2017

Mr. Shinzo Abe  
Prime Minister of Japan

Rt Hon Theresa May  
Prime Minister of the UK