



EBC Secretariat News

EU Business Dialogue Roundtable a Success
EBC Chairman, Richard Collasse, EBC Executive Director, Alison Murray and EBC Policy Director Jakob Edberg, attended the EU-Japan Business Dialogue Round Table (EJBDRT) on June 3-4 in Berlin. European and Japanese business leaders presented their recommendations on enhancing trade and investment opportunities, WTO negotiations, and a new bilateral agenda to EC Commissioner Günter Verheugen and METI Vice Minister Yamamoto, MOFA Vice Minister Matsushima, and MIC Vice Minister Shimizu. As co-chair of Working Group 1 on Trade and Investment, Mr. Richard Collasse delivered a high level speech on strengthening EU-Japan economic cooperation. The joint policy recommendations were submitted to President Prodi of the European Commission and Prime Minister Abe at the annual EU-Japan Summit held the following day in Berlin.

EBC calls for an Economic Integration Agreement (EIA)

The EBC has called on the Government of Japan and the European Commission to begin negotiations on an EIA. An EIA goes beyond an FTA or EPA by integrating the two countries through a bilateral agreement that includes regulatory harmonization, tariff elimination and a joint approach to global issues such as climate change, energy security, and technological innovation. The proposal for an EIA was formally introduced by the EBC Chairman at the EU Business Dialogue Roundtable (EJBDRT) in Berlin. The EJBDRT Co-Chairs requested that Working Party 1 take the proposal forward by forming an EIA taskforce.

EBC Welcomes New Partners

The EBC welcomes Laurent Bardon who replaces Thomas Naecke as First Secretary, Trade Section, Delegation of the European Commission to Japan. The EBC thanks Thomas Naecke for his collaboration and support of the EBC over the years.

French Chamber President, Michel Lachaussee, and Swedish Chamber President, Carl Eklund, joined EBC's Executive Director and Policy Director at a welcome lunch for the European Commission's new Head of Unit for Trade Relations with the Far East, Helena Konig.

The 2007 EBC Policy Report Become a Sponsor Now!

The EBC is in full swing preparing the annual policy report, the leading source of economic and trade policy analysis for Europe and Japan. The annual report identifies industry and sector specific barriers to business growth for European companies in Japan and recommends regulatory reforms to stimulate investment. Sponsorships are available in the form of company logo advertisements. Do not miss this exceptional opportunity! **For sponsorships and orders contact Alison Murray (ebc@gol.com)**

EBC Committee News

Airlines

In a press release, the EBC expressed its support for the Council of Economic and Fiscal Policy report announcing liberalization of the aviation sector. The EBC continues to advocate that the GOJ open up Haneda airport to increase the number of international flights to and from Europe.

Healthcare

Eucomed, the Brussels-based federation of medical device industries and organizations regularly visits Japan to promote mutual regulatory acceptance for devices produced in the EU and Japan. On July 5 and 6, the EBC Secretariat organized Eucomed's visits to the Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare

(MHLW), the Japan Federation of Medical Device Associations (JFMDA), the Japan Medical Association (JMA), and the Pharmaceutical & Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) as well as with the Delegation of the European Commission to Japan.

Banking

The EBC met with the Financial Services Agency (FSA) to recommend that firewall restrictions under the current FIEL Law be lifted to allow financial services businesses to act as one financial conglomerate. The EBC believes that reducing such firewalls would significantly enhance Japan's position towards becoming a global financial center.

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Summer Event Calendar

DATE

July 11:
EU Delegation Seminar
"EU-Japan Cooperation Forum on
Research and Innovation"

July 12:
BCCJ Luncheon
"Virgin at 30,000 Feet"
GCCIJ Seminar
"Leadership Development in Ja-
pan"

July 18:
JIEA Briefing
"New Irish Government"

July 28:
SCCJ
"Summer Golf Competition"

July 30:
GCCIJ Seminar
"Women in Business"

August 30:
BCCJ Seminar
"Carbon Emission Trading"

August 31:
Osaka Business
& Investment Center
"Seminar for Foreign Firms Start-
ing up Businesses in Osaka"

For details on these events refer
to the Event Calendar on the
EBC website :
<http://www.ebc-jp.com/>