

MEXICO-JAPAN JOINT PRESS RELEASE
ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF
PRIME MINISTER SHINZO ABE TO MEXICO

July 25, 2014

The Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, paid an official visit to Mexico from July 25 to July 27, 2014, accompanied by important government and business leaders, in response to the invitation extended by President Enrique Peña Nieto during his official working visit to Japan in April 2013 and in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Hasekura Mission to Mexico and the celebration of the “Japan-Mexico Friendship Year”.

On this occasion, the leaders of Japan and Mexico reaffirmed excellent bonds of friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries and expressed their will to continue to strengthen dialogue and cooperation in all areas of the bilateral relationship, as well as coordination on various themes and in various fora of the international agenda. In this regard, the two leaders welcomed the important progress made in light of the Joint Statement of April 2013 “ Shared Vision and Actions for the Strengthening of the Japan-Mexico Global Strategic Partnership for the Twenty-First Century.”

The two leaders also highlighted the impetus that their respective government provides in implementing structural reforms, which in turn have become their growth strategies. At the same time, the two leaders shared the view that these

reforms have been benefitting the relationship between the two countries and are spearheading a new stage of greater cooperation in the areas of economy, investment and bilateral trade.

Assessing the significant progress achieved in the last fifteen months, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to continue to strengthen the bilateral relationships in the following terms:

I. Expand the scope of the bilateral relationship to new frontiers

1. Continuing to promote political dialogue at all levels

Both leaders confirmed their commitment to continue working on the implementation of the objectives set forth in the Joint Statement and reaffirmed their commitment to continue to strengthen political dialogue and coordination in all areas of the relationship.

Both leaders also expressed their appreciation for the active parliamentary exchanges between the two countries and reaffirmed their commitment to continue promoting them.

Furthermore, both leaders have decided to enhance political dialogue in light of the breadth of the bilateral relationship.

2. Elevating the economic relationship to a new dimension through reforms undertaken by both countries

Both leaders highlighted the outcome of the economic reforms that is being propelled in both countries.

President Peña Nieto praised Prime Minister Abe's efforts

to achieve economic growth and to leave behind the deflationary trend.

Similarly, Prime Minister Abe praised and congratulated President Peña Nieto for the structural reforms that have been approved in the past year.

The two leaders shared the view that the economic reforms carried out in both countries have already made a positive impact in the bilateral economic relationship.

Both leaders also recognized the importance of bilateral trade for economic development, job creation, as well as for the generation of business and investment opportunities. The two leaders acknowledged the contribution of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), signed ten years ago, to the development of the bilateral economic relationship. Furthermore, both leaders welcomed the celebration of the XXXI Japan-Mexico Businessmen's Joint Committee Meeting, organized by the Mexican Business Council of Foreign Trade, Investment and Technology (COMCE) and the Japanese Business Federation (Keidanren).

President Peña Nieto expressed appreciation for the increase to historic levels of the number of Japanese companies established in Mexico, contributing to job creation and technological renovation.

The leaders decided to maintain their efforts to improve the business environment in both countries. In addition, Prime Minister Abe stated that Japan will continue to support SMES and supporting industries, major supplier for the automotive, electronic-electric, and other industrial sectors, through technical cooperation projects and other cooperation scheme. The leaders welcomed the issuance of bonds denominated in

yen without warranty (Samurai bond), totaling 60 billion yen by the Federal Government. Both leaders recognized the existence of the demand for infrastructure in Mexico and welcomed the progress in cooperation and coordination in the said sector.

They also expressed their satisfaction at the progress made in the negotiation of the cooperation agreement between Japan and Mexico on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Both leaders welcomed the signing of the documents listed in the attachment to this joint press release, which will contribute to build a strong and mutually beneficial relationship.

3. Promoting further exchanges and cooperation in the field of science and technology, education and culture

Both leaders reaffirmed the importance of "Japan -Mexico Exchange Program for the Global Strategic Relationship" and pledged to continue their instrumentation. They expressed their satisfaction over the progress of various exchange programs for students and researchers between universities and institutions of both countries.

The two leaders recognized the importance of the celebration, in October this year, of the Second Summit of the Rectors of Japan and Mexico involving the principal universities of both countries. They welcomed the promotion of greater academic and personnel exchanges, and greater links between academia, governments and industries as a result of the said summit.

In the field of aerospace, both leaders confirmed the initiation of dialogue between the Mexican Space Agency (AEM) and relevant Japanese ministries and agencies such as Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) in order to achieve the

development of even greater cooperation. They also welcomed some advancement made towards future industrial cooperation.

The two leaders coincided in furthering the cooperation projects already undertaken by Japan in the utilization of advanced technology in the medical and health sectors.

In this regard, Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to implement a new technical cooperation project called the "Project of Minimally Invasive Technology Training Center " with the involvement of both public and private sectors. President Peña Nieto expressed his appreciation and recognized that this project helps reduce the costs of patient care and improve the public health and welfare system of the population.

President Peña Nieto reiterated his congratulations to Prime Minister Abe for the designation of Tokyo as the host of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2020. Prime Minister Abe stated that as part of the celebration for these games, a program of international contribution called "Sport for tomorrow", will be promoted in order to spread the value and importance of sports and the Olympic movement in more than one hundred countries with the participation of more than ten million people, by the year 2020.

The two leaders expressed their appreciation for the realization of numerous events in the framework of the "Japan-Mexico Friendship Year". They decided to continue to cooperate for the success of the International Cervantino Festival to be held in Guanajuato in October this year, in which Japan as the culminating event of the " Japan-Mexico Friendship Year", will be the honorary guest country.

Both leaders highlighted the increase of

educational-cultural exchanges with the support of the Japan–Mexico Friendship Trust Fund.

The two leaders emphasized the importance of strengthening the bilateral cooperation in the tourism sector in order to increase impact in the socio-economic development of the two countries.

4. Promotion of triangular cooperation

Both leaders welcomed the tenth anniversary of the Japan-Mexico Joint Program (JMPP) in 2013, and recognized the strategic importance of triangular cooperation which contributes to the socio-economic development and growth in the Latin America and the Caribbean region. The two leaders shared the view that the respective cooperation agencies, AMEXCID and JICA, will continue to cooperate in addressing regional challenges.

II. Joint contribution to peace, stability and prosperity of the international community

President Peña Nieto reiterated Mexico's commitment to the development and stability of the international community as an essential element of Mexico's role as a responsible global actor .

Prime Minister Abe, for his part, explained his intention to contribute even further to the peace, stability and prosperity of the region and the international community in light of the policy of "Proactive Contributor to Peace" based on the principle of

international cooperation.

The two leaders, as responsible actors committed to the international community, were in agreement concerning the strengthening of an international order that is based on international law and the principles of the United Nations.

In light of the above, the two leaders reaffirmed their shared view regarding of playing an active role by two countries in the pursuit of peace and stability of the international community.

In concordance with the above, both leaders shared the view on the points described below:

1. Both leaders recognized the importance of increasing the resilience of the economy, free and open international trade for the promotion of economic growth and job creation, as common goals of the two countries. With regards to which, the two leaders affirmed the following:

(1) Cooperate in the maintenance and consolidation of the multilateral trading system based on open and non-discriminating rules under the framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

(2) Encourage all parties to continue moving forward aiming at an early conclusion of the negotiation rounds and the implementation of the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (TPP, for its acronym in English).

(3) Begin process for the negotiation on agricultural products based on the Japan-Mexico EPA and other themes of mutual interest, and coordinate in order to hold the first round of negotiations in the first half of September.

(4) Coordinate policy analysis and share good practices in

forums such as the G20 and the OECD in order to achieve resilient and comprehensive growth of the world economy and continue the fight against protectionism.

2. Both countries expressed their deep concern for the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and reiterated their intention to continue to cooperate in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education and creating awareness on this subject. In this context, both leaders welcomed the 8th Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), that took place on 11 and 12 April 2014 in Hiroshima, Japan, and in which both countries participated. Acknowledging the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as a cornerstone of the international regime of disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen the NPT regime and to ensure its full implementation, particularly in the context of preparing for the NPT Review Conference scheduled to be held from April to May 2015.

3. The leaders of Japan and Mexico confirmed their intention to continue close cooperation in the field of climate change, including cooperation to develop a post-2020 framework applicable to all Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In that context, they reaffirmed their determination to achieve a successful outcome at the COP20 which will be held in Lima, Peru in December 2014.

Taking into account the cooperation so far in the area of climate change, they welcomed the launch of the Joint Crediting Mechanism. They also recognized the importance of utilizing

highly efficient coal-fired power generation technology in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

4. Both leaders recognized the role and importance of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and stability, as well as the definition of the post-2015 development agenda and the achievement of inclusive and sustainable development. In addition, they agreed on the importance of a comprehensive reform of the Security Council that emphasizes the need to increase its representativeness, effectiveness, and transparency of their work.

5. The two leaders expressed their deep concern over North Korea's continued development of its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs, and strongly urged North Korea to fully comply with its obligations under all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, as well as its commitments under the 2005 Six-Party Talks Joint Statement. They also strongly urged North Korea to take immediate actions to address the humanitarian concerns, including the abductions issue.

6. Both sides shared the view to cooperate in the APEC framework for strengthening an agenda which will lead to sustainable development and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. They also shared the view to continue strengthening the partnership between the Pacific Alliance and Japan, and expanded the dialogue, through CELAC. Regarding the strengthening the linkages between the Pacific Alliance and Japan, they come to an accord regarding the importance of closer channels to advance cooperation of mutual benefit.

7. The two leaders also recognized the importance of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which will take place in Sendai, Japan in 2015, as well as their commitment to achieve a global framework to prevent and reduce the risk of disasters based upon the approach to sustainable development and human security.

In concluding, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe expressed his appreciation to the warm hospitality provided by the people and the Government of Mexico on the occasion of his official visit, which contribute to further promote and deepen the political dialogue between the two countries.

(attachment)

(1) Memorandum of Cooperation between Japan and the United Mexican States Concerning the Low Carbon Growth in Mexico

(2) Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Healthcare between the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare of Japan and the Secretariat of Health of the United Mexican States

(3) Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Transportation between the Ministry of Communications and Transportation of the United Mexican States and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

(4) Letter of Intent between the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States for future cooperation

(5) Loan Agreement between Japan Bank for JBIC and BANCOMEXT

(6) Memorandum of Understanding and cooperation between JBIC and PEMEX

(7) Memorandum of Understanding between JBIC and BANOBRAS

(8) Memorandum of Understanding between JBIC and NAFIN

(9) Agreement for academic exchange between the University of

Tokyo of Japan and the National Council for Science and Technology of the United Mexican States

(10) Memorandum of Cooperation for the Establishment of a Joint Program of Postgraduate Scholarships between the University of Tokyo of Japan and the National Council for Science and Technology of the United Mexican States

(11) Memorandum of Cooperation in agricultural research between the National Forestry, Crops and Livestock Research Institute of the Mexican United States and the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences of Japan.

(12) Agreement on mutual cooperation between the Ministry of Economy of the United Mexican States and the Japan External Trade Organization

(13) Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation among Petróleos Mexicanos, PEMEX Exploración y Producción, PEMEX Gas y Petroquímica Básica and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation

(14) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, LTD. and BANCOMEXT