

(2 May 2014)

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ
By the Prime Minister of Japan
and the Prime Minister of Portuguese Republic
Lisbon, 2nd of May 2014

On the occasion of his historic first visit to Portugal, the Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe, met with the Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic, Mr. Pedro Passos Coelho, in Lisbon, on the 2nd of May 2014 having both expressed their mutual interest in deepening the existing bilateral relationship and exchanged views on ways to further develop their common agenda. Both leaders recognized that Japan and Portugal share values and principles such as democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Both leaders referred to the longstanding historical ties between Japan and Portugal, and recalled the commemoration, in 2013, of the 470th anniversary of the first bilateral exchanges and, previously, in 2010, of the 150th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Both leaders underlined the current 430th anniversary of the arrival of Japanese "*Tensho* Youth Envoys" to Lisbon. Prime Minister Abe stated that he looked forward to visiting some of the Envoys' ancient footsteps, *Sintra* and *Évora*, on the 3rd of May.

Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Passos Coelho noted that both Japan and Portugal were returning to a cycle of growth, adding momentum to the global economic recovery. Prime Minister Abe elaborated on his Government's economic policy mix which is aiming at ending deflation and revitalizing the Japanese economy and also expressed his respect for the efforts made by Portugal and its people to successfully place their national finances back on a sustainable path and boosting growth and employment. Prime Minister Passos Coelho detailed the policies foreseen in the aftermath of the Adjustment program.

Both leaders underlined the importance of private companies' activities and welcomed the recent development of investment between Japan and Portugal. Prime Minister Abe noted that the first wave of Japanese private investments in Europe targeted Portugal in the 70's and 80's. More recent investments by Japanese companies represent an important sign of confidence in Portugal's recovery. Both leaders stressed the geopolitical potential of their respective countries as platforms for business expansion to dynamic regions, such as Africa, Latin America and Asia-Pacific. They also welcomed the entry into force of the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, on the 28th of July 2013.

Noting that free and open trade is key to fostering economic growth and promoting job creation, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a swift and successful conclusion of the negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)/Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Japan and the EU, at the same time recognizing the importance of an open and rule-based multilateral trading system for global growth under the World Trade Organization(WTO). Both leaders also underlined the importance of concluding an ambitious and comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) endorsing a substantive cooperation objective for the medium-long term, through negotiations appropriately reflecting Japan and the EU's status as like-minded partners.

Recalling the importance of the Oceans to Japan and Portugal, both leaders noted the large maritime areas surrounding the two countries and the underlying potential to generate significant opportunities in the future. Both leaders supported a fair, just and rule-based multilateral system and reaffirmed the importance of securing and maintaining freedom of the high seas in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In this connection, Prime Minister Abe explained Japan's determination and its security policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation to further contribute to the peace, security and prosperity in the region and the international community. Both leaders emphasized the importance of peaceful settlement of international disputes through dialogue and negotiations in accordance with international law. Portugal welcomed Japan's intention to proactively contribute to international efforts for peace and stability and encourages moves already underway to strengthen cooperation on EU-Japan security and defense initiatives, particularly in Africa.

On the 40th anniversary of democratic revolution of Portugal, Prime Minister Abe paid tribute to Portugal and its people for their achievements and also for their role as pioneers of the globalization process in a historical context.

As a result of their fruitful and in-depth discussions, and building upon the shared history between Japan and Portugal, both leaders decided to take the following joint actions:

1. Political Relations and Security

Japan and Portugal will:

- (1) continue to promote high-level political exchanges in order to raise the level of political relations between the two countries.
- (2) continue to hold a Policy Dialogue between the two Foreign Services. The next session will be hosted by Portugal at a mutually convenient date in a near future.
- (3) explore opportunities to exchange experiences on maritime defense issues between the two Ministries of Defense.
- (4) enhance cooperation on maritime safety and environment namely through the competent authorities of both countries, considering future cooperation with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), located in Lisbon.
- (5) consider increasing cooperation and the exchange of best practices on internal security and civil protection, further developing channels and methods of exchange of information and best practices in the fields of the prevention and fight against crime, management of immigration flows and border control and surveillance, as well as the prevention and fight against natural and human made disasters.
- (6) work together in view of the 70th anniversary of the United Nations (UN) in 2015, to strengthen the UN, with particular emphasis on the reform of Security Council, in order to improve its effectiveness, transparency and representativeness, better reflecting the reality of today's international community.

- (7) continue to exchange their views on gender equality and cooperate internationally to promote the empowerment of women, especially in developing countries. The Government of Japan will host an important international event on women's empowerment later this year and Portugal expresses its willingness to contribute to the success of the event.
- (8) cooperate for the success of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Japan in March 2015.

2. Economy

Japan and Portugal will:

- (1) foster trade and investment between themselves, namely by encouraging the respective private sectors to look into new business deals. In this context, the two countries will facilitate the cooperation between Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Portugal Global Trade and Investment Agency (AICEP).
- (2) continue efforts to enhance their cooperation in the field of energy, in particular, on smart community with New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), Japan.
- (3) promote the cooperation in the field of food, agricultural, and livestock products. Portugal welcomed the lifting of the ban on its pork imports by Japan. Japan welcomed Portugal's understanding that the EU's review of the remaining restrictive measures for radionuclides in food and feed exported from Japan, should be conducted on a scientific basis.
- (4) work together in order to support private companies by sharing information and supporting the improvement of the business environment. They will also assist Japanese and Portuguese companies which intend to do business in third countries.
- (5) share practices in promoting tourism between the competent authorities.

3. Cultural and Academic Cooperation and People to People Exchange

Japan and Portugal will:

- (1) encourage cultural activities to enhance mutual understandings between the two peoples. Both countries may work together on a number of events in Japan and Portugal as is the case the annual "*Festa do Japão*" held in June in Lisbon.
- (2) further promote academic and intellectual exchanges among related universities and institutions. In the same vein, they will look into the possibility of scientific cooperation, for example, in a cutting-edge medical science field.
- (3) encourage Japanese and Portuguese language education in each other's country and welcomed the first Japanese speech contest held in Portugal last year.
- (4) cooperate for contributing to peace and development of the world through sport, in view of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo and the initiative of "Sport for Tomorrow".
- (5) start negotiations on a working holiday framework, promoting mobility, cultural cooperation and people-to-people exchanges among the youth of

the two countries.

- (6) enhance the exchange between their respective archives, based on the five centuries' history.
- (7) promote bilateral exchanges at local level as well by cherishing sister city relations based on the current eight (8) sets of twin towns between the two countries.

4. Other Cooperation with Regional and International Dimensions

Japan and Portugal will:

- (1) exchange views and enhance further coordination among the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Diplomatic Missions in regions of mutual interest.
- (2) further their cooperation in international organizations. Japan will endeavor to participate in the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) as an observer and Portugal welcomes such an intention and will support Japan in her future effort to that end.
- (3) cooperate, when appropriate, to assist developing countries in fighting poverty and in fostering inclusive economic growth and employment.
- (4) co-organize a conference Lisbon, autumn 2014, for further mutual understanding and cooperation between Japan and Portugal as well as between Japan and the EU in the political, economic and cultural fields.

Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Passos Coelho expressed their satisfaction on having held a constructive and productive meeting with action-oriented outcomes. Prime Minister Abe deeply thanked Prime Minister Passos Coelho for Portugal's warm hospitality. In order to follow up on his visit to Portugal, Prime Minister Abe invited Prime Minister Passos Coelho as a guest of Official Working Visit to Japan at a mutually convenient date and Prime Minister Passos Coelho willingly accepted this invitation.

Lisbon, 2nd of May 2014