

EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation to Japan

The Ambassador

Tokyo, 31 January 2019

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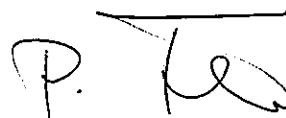
Saveno: del-japan.002.dir(2019) 565829

Dear Mr Yamagami,

I have the honour to confirm the intention of the EU to cooperate with Japan in the field of food additives, as discussed between the two sides during the EU-Japan EPA negotiations.

I have further the honour to inform you that the relevant authorities in the EU stand ready to engage with their counterparts in Japan to cooperate on issues related to food additives based on the attached paper.

Yours sincerely,



Patricia Flor

Mr. Shingo Yamagami  
Director-General  
Economic Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
JAPAN

Copy: Peter Berz, Marco Chirullo, Nevena Mateeva and Luis Portero, DG TRADE

Europa House, 4-6-28 Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047, Japan.  
Tel Main: +81 (0)3 5422 6001 - Fax: +81 (0)3 5420 5544 - E-mail: [Delegation-Japan@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Delegation-Japan@eeas.europa.eu)

<http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/japan>  
E-mail: [Patricia.FLOR@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Patricia.FLOR@eeas.europa.eu)

Annex  
**Cooperation on Food Additives**

With a view to enhancing the food safety for consumers in both the European Union and Japan through cooperation between the authorities relevant for the approval of food additives in the European Union and in Japan, respectively (hereinafter referred to as “the authorities”) and to minimising negative effects of SPS measures on bilateral trade between the European Union and Japan of products in which food additives are used:

1. the authorities intend to enhance, while taking into account the relevant provisions of Chapter 6 (SPS) of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership, done at Tokyo including its Annex on Food Additives, their cooperation on issues related to food additives, both in general and on specific food additives, in accordance with their respective laws, regulations and procedures, to the extent practicable and within their available resources; such cooperation may relate to international standards and guidelines, scientific issues, including data requirements necessary for approval procedures as well as their experiences with practices relevant for an efficient approval procedure of food additives;
2. their scientific authorities, in full respect of the internal separation of tasks of each side, are encouraged to enhance exchanges of information, in general and for specific food additives, within the limits of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the European Food Safety Authority and the Food Safety Commission of Japan of 15 October 2015;
3. the authorities express their intention to share risk assessment used as a basis for approval of additives through their scientific authorities when requested;
4. the authorities reaffirm that the submission of the necessary application and required information by an applicant for the approval of food additives is essential for the approval procedures; when requested by an authority which accepted an application, the relevant authority of the other side will provide the requesting authority with information used in the approval process of the requested authority to the extent allowed by its laws and regulations;
5. such exchange of information referred to in paragraphs 2 to 4 does not prejudice the outcome of the approval procedures by the authorities of either side for individual applications to approve food additives, nor does it commit to ensure approval of a specific food additive;
6. the authorities intend to consider appropriate and mutually convenient ways of facilitating the approval processes of food additives, including for cases of extension of use, in accordance with each side's relevant laws, regulations and procedures;
7. for the purposes of the cooperation referred to in paragraphs 1 to 6, the authorities may cooperate in any way they consider appropriate, including by the use of electronic means, video conferences or meetings, which may be convened by the authorities at any time; and
8. in addition to communications made through the means referred to in paragraph 7, the authorities intend to share or discuss a list of food additives of interest to each side, and the progress or result of activities on cooperation related to food additives, including in the Committee on SPS referred to in Article 6.15 of Chapter 6 (SPS) of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership done at Tokyo and on other occasions available to them, as appropriate.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Tokyo, Japan*

31 January 2019

Dear Ambassador Flor,

I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated 31 January 2019 and confirming the intention of Japan to cooperate with the European Union in the field of food additives, as discussed between the two during the Japan-EU EPA negotiations.

I have further the honour to inform you that the relevant authorities in Japan stand ready to engage with their counterparts in the EU to cooperate on issues related to food additives based on the attached paper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized characters that appear to be 'Shingo Yamagami'.

Shingo Yamagami  
Director-General  
Economic Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Ambassador Patricia Flor  
Head of the Delegation  
of the European Union to Japan

## Annex

### Cooperation on Food Additives

With a view to enhancing the food safety for consumers in both the European Union and Japan through cooperation between the authorities relevant for the approval of food additives in the European Union and in Japan, respectively (hereinafter referred to as “the authorities”) and to minimising negative effects of SPS measures on bilateral trade between the European Union and Japan of products in which food additives are used:

1. the authorities intend to enhance, while taking into account the relevant provisions of Chapter 6 (SPS) of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership, done at Tokyo including its Annex on Food Additives, their cooperation on issues related to food additives, both in general and on specific food additives, in accordance with their respective laws, regulations and procedures, to the extent practicable and within their available resources; such cooperation may relate to international standards and guidelines, scientific issues, including data requirements necessary for approval procedures as well as their experiences with practices relevant for an efficient approval procedure of food additives;
2. their scientific authorities, in full respect of the internal separation of tasks of each side, are encouraged to enhance exchanges of information, in general and for specific food additives, within the limits of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the European Food Safety Authority and the Food Safety Commission of Japan of 15 October 2015;
3. the authorities express their intention to share risk assessment used as a basis for approval of additives through their scientific authorities when requested;
4. the authorities reaffirm that the submission of the necessary application and required information by an applicant for the approval of food additives is essential for the approval procedures; when requested by an authority which accepted an application, the relevant authority of the other side will provide the requesting authority with information used in the approval process of the requested authority to the extent allowed by its laws and regulations;
5. such exchange of information referred to in paragraphs 2 to 4 does not prejudice the outcome of the approval procedures by the authorities of either side for individual applications to approve food additives, nor does it commit to ensure approval of a specific food additive;

6. the authorities intend to consider appropriate and mutually convenient ways of facilitating the approval processes of food additives, including for cases of extension of use, in accordance with each side's relevant laws, regulations and procedures;

7. for the purposes of the cooperation referred to in paragraphs 1 to 6, the authorities may cooperate in any way they consider appropriate, including by the use of electronic means, video conferences or meetings, which may be convened by the authorities at any time; and

8. in addition to communications made through the means referred to in paragraph 7, the authorities intend to share or discuss a list of food additives of interest to each side, and the progress or result of activities on cooperation related to food additives, including in the Committee on SPS referred to in Article 6.15 of Chapter 6 (SPS) of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership done at Tokyo and on other occasions available to them, as appropriate.