Joint Statement of the 27th Brazil-Japan Business Council Plenary Meeting

November 19, 2026

The Japan Business Federation (Keidanren) and the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) today co-hosted the 27th Brazil-Japan Business Council Plenary Meeting in Tokyo. Chair of the Keidanren Japan-Brazil Economic Committee, Tatsuo Yasunaga, led the Japanese side. At the same time, Brazil was represented by Eduardo Eugenio Gouvêa Vieira, Vice-President of CNI, many business leaders from both countries participated in the event.

Last year, Japan and Brazil marked the 130th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. During President Lula's state visit to Japan that year, the two countries confirmed that they would advance consultations under the Strategic Partnership Framework between Japan and Mercosur with a view to deepening their trade relationship in order to elevate bilateral ties to new heights as strategic and global partners. Building on these developments, participants at the Japan-Brazil Summit Meeting this June announced the launch of negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). The first round of negotiations is expected to take place in the near future.

As Japan and Brazil look to take this new step toward strengthening their relationship, geopolitical tensions are rising in various parts of the world, trade policies that place national interests above international rules are proliferating, and risks of disruptions to supply chains are growing. In that context, our two countries, which attach great importance to a free and open international economic order, must work to maintain and strengthen that order through plurilateral initiatives, including those on electronic commerce, and the advancement of WTO reform. At the same time, we recognize the importance of fostering diversified, resilient, and sustainable supply chains that contribute to global economic security and long-term growth. From this standpoint, the business communities of both countries once again welcome the launch of EPA negotiations and strongly hope for the early conclusion of a high-quality, comprehensive agreement.

Brazil, the largest economy in Latin America, combines a capacity to supply food and feed that ranks among the largest in the world with abundant energy[1], plentiful mineral resources, and a diverse range of biofuels and other low-carbon energy sources. Leveraging its strategic geographic location to serve as a reliable supplier to various regions of the world, Brazil is an especially important partner for Japan in terms of both economic security and energy security. One example of this partnership is that the two countries co-chaired the Ministerial Meeting on Sustainable Fuels held in Osaka last autumn. Against this backdrop, the business communities of the two countries agreed to

[1] Brazil is currently among the world's ten largest oil producers, with oil production already exceeding 4 million barrels per day. The country is expected to further improve its position in global production rankings in the near future, supported by significant resource potential and ongoing investments in the sector.

deepen cooperation toward achieving both stable energy supply and decarbonization by drawing on the complementary strengths of Japanese technology and Brazilian energy. They also shared the view that strategic cooperation in sustainable fuels, including biofuels and synthetic fuels, should be advanced with an eye to deployment in third countries. In addition, they agreed to call on their respective governments to sign a Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) agreement as soon as possible to support decarbonization.

Going forward, the business communities of both countries will continue to work in close partnership to deepen cooperation across a broad range of fields, including trade and investment, energy, critical minerals and resources, and green transformation, thereby elevating bilateral relations to new heights and contributing to sustainable growth and prosperity in South America and the Indo-Pacific region.

Tatsuo Yasunaga
Chair, Japan-Brazil Economic Committee
Keidanren

Eduardo Eugenio Gouvêa Vieira
Vice-President of the Brazilian National
Confederation of Industry (CNI)