

中野外務大臣政務官発言

GPA 改正交渉関係閣僚会合

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Japan whole-heartedly welcomes the conclusion of the renegotiation of the GPA after 14 years of long and tough negotiations.

Japan has also gone through tough negotiations, but at the last moment, we were able to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement with all the Parties in the market access negotiations.

I also appreciate the efforts made by all the GPA Parties, the Chair and the WTO Secretariat, and congratulate them for making this historical event happen today. It gives great significance to the WTO 8<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference by creating an additional

value worth 80 billion USD to the global procurement market.

Japan is convinced that the conclusion of the renegotiation of the GPA contributes to maintaining and strengthening the credibility of multilateral trading system. While the Doha Round is in stalemate, it proved that collective effort could realize an agreement to enhance free trade.

Now, Japan sincerely invites new partners, especially emerging economies with huge potential to further widen the global procurement market, to join this attractive system. Japan is looking forward to entering into serious negotiations with such Members

Lastly, let me assure you that Japan is determined to further contribute to maintaining and

strengthening the multilateral trading system.

Thank you.