

**JMC jointly hosted a Briefing Reception with the US and European Industries toward the speedy conclusion of the Environmental Goods Agreement**

11<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Japan Machinery Center for Trade and Investment

On 1<sup>st</sup> December, Japan Machinery Center for Trade and Investment (JMC), together with the United States association, Coalition for Green Trade, and the European association, SETI Alliance, invited the negotiators of the Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) to a Briefing Reception jointly held at the WTO to request a “speedy conclusion of an ambitious Environmental Goods Agreement on time”.

The EGA negotiations started in July 2014, with the end of 2015 as the target for conclusion. As we are drawing close to this target, the three regional associations held the event in order to convey to the negotiators our request for conclusion by the target.

Mr. Genichiro Shimada, the chairman of the JMC International Trade and Investment Committee, from Panasonic Corporation, participated on behalf of JMC and gave a speech at the event. He made the point that he would like to have the negotiators consider how to make the negotiations result in accelerating innovation of eco-friendly technologies and bring the results of the negotiation to the real world as soon as possible. He also stated his hope to hear some sort of outcome at the 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference in Kenya or other occasions in the very near future.

In parallel to the event, a Global Business Letter, attached below, was sent out by the world's major industry associations, including JMC and JMC-based Japanese Coalition for Environmental Goods Agreement (JCEGA), to communicate a similar message to the negotiators for an early conclusion of the negotiations.

JMC will continue to actively support the negotiations, in coordination with other overseas industry associations.



## Global Business Calls for Substantial Progress on a WTO Environmental Goods Agreement by Nairobi Ministerial Conference

December 1, 2015

An open letter to WTO negotiators:

On behalf of associations representing business from around the world, we urge governments to conclude an ambitious Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) that will eliminate tariffs on a broad range of environmental goods and technologies under the umbrella of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Industries across the globe strongly endorse efforts to negotiate an EGA that is commercially significant, negotiated in a timely fashion, implementable and adequately flexible to accommodate and adjust to innovation.

To this end, we call on negotiators to make substantial progress towards an ambitious outcome by the 10th Ministerial Conference of the WTO to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from 15 to 18 December 2015.

We hope the agreement will encourage the inclusion of as many economies as possible, provided that new entrants are supportive of an ambitious result. We applaud Iceland, Israel and Turkey for joining the negotiations this year, and encourage additional economies to consider entering into the agreement as a means to lowering the cost of adopting environmentally-friendly technologies and integrating into global supply chains.

We commend the work of our countries' negotiators on their progress so far and commit to working with governments around the world to realize substantial progress towards a comprehensive EGA that promotes economic growth, improves environmental outcomes and advances innovation by the 2015 WTO Ministerial Conference.

Sincerely,

Air-Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Institute (AHRI)  
American Composites Manufacturers Association (ACMA)  
Association of Global Automakers  
Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI)  
Australian Cleantech  
Australian Industry Group (AIG)  
Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE)  
Business Council of Australia  
Business NZ  
Business Roundtable (BRT)  
Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters (I.E. Canada)  
Canadian Association of Recycling Industries  
Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance  
Canadian Council of Chief Executives  
Canadian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association  
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters  
Coalition of Services Industries (CSI)  
China Association of Lighting Industry (CALI)  
Communications and Information Network Association of Japan  
Confederation of Danish Industries  
Confederation of Finnish Industries  
Confederation of Swedish Enterprise  
Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT)  
Emissions Control Technology Association (ECTA)  
European Wind Energy Association (EWEA)  
Fluid Sealing Association  
Greenhouse CleanTech  
Hong Kong Coalition of Service Industries  
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)  
Innovation Norway

Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)  
Japan Analytical Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JAIMA)  
Japan Electric Measuring Instruments Manufacturers' Association (JEMIMA)  
Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA)  
Japan Lighting Manufacturers Association (JLMA)  
Japan Machinery Center for Trade and Investment (JMC)  
Japan Photovoltaic Energy Association (JPEA)  
Japanese Coalition for Environment Goods Agreement  
Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA)  
Keidanren, Japan Business Federation  
Korea International Trade Association (KITA)  
National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)  
Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)  
SETI Alliance  
Singapore Business Federation (SBF)  
Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)  
SolarPower Europe  
SolarUnited (formerly IPVEA)  
SPECTARIS: German High-tech Industry Association  
Sustainable Business Australia  
Taiwan Semiconductor Industry Association (TSIA)  
The Canadian Chamber of Commerce | La Chambre de Commerce du Canada  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
US-China Business Council  
United States Council for International Business (USCIB)  
World Energy Council