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## TOPIC 1

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## Results of Visit of State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama to Belgium and Italy

The EU-Japan Business Round Table (BRT) held its 19th Annual Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on Tuesday, July 11, 2017, in which Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama, and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Kentaro Sonoura participated. Taking the opportunity, Japan and the EU held a meeting on the data economy in parallel with the 19th Annual Meeting of the EU-Japan BRT.

Furthermore, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama held talks with a number of European Commission (EC) executives and European Parliament members, in addition to his participation in the EU-Japan BRT.

On Tuesday, July 13, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama visited Italy, which holds the presidency of the G7, and held talks with Minister of Economic Development Carlo Calenda over the G7 ICT and Industry Minister's meeting, which will be held in Turin this September. Furthermore, the State Minister held talks with President Angelo Marcello Cardani of the Communications Regulatory Authority and exchanged views on the information and communications policies of both countries.



Photo: State Minister for MIC Jiro Akama made a presentation at the EU-Japan Business Round Table (BRT)

## Results of Visit of State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama to Belgium and Italy

### 1. 19th Annual Meeting of Japan-EU BRT

The EU-Japan BRT held its 19th Annual Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. Approximately 50 Japanese and EU business leaders (corporate executive officers) attended the meeting and held discussions from the standpoint of the industry towards the reinforcement of the economic relations between Japan and the EU. Furthermore, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama delivered speeches at two sessions, the former was on EU-Japan cooperation on science, industrial technology, and innovation and the latter was on digital economy issues. The participants exchanged their opinions and discussed a number of issues, including the Internet of things (IoT) and 5th generation mobile networks (5G) in the former session, and those, including the free flow of data, utilization of data, and international standardization of the IoT in the latter session.

- Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2017
- Place: Egmont Palace, Brussels, Belgium
- Program:
  - (1) Opening
  - (2) Science, Industrial Technology, and Innovation
  - (3) Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and International Trade
  - (4) Digital Economy
  - (5) Public-Private Joint Sessions

### 2. Meeting on Data Economy

Taking the opportunity of the EU-Japan BRT, Japan and EU government officials held a meeting on the data economy in Brussels, Belgium, on Tuesday, July 11. This meeting was related to the strengthening of the dialogue on the data economy mentioned in the Japan-EU Joint Press Statement, which was issued in Hanover, Germany, this March.

The participants mutually introduced the ICT policies of Japan and the EU, and exchanged their opinions and discussed a number of issues, including those on environment development for the data economy as well as those on the free flow and utilization of data.

#### (Reference) Content of Japan-EU Joint Press Statement

- (1) Promoting high standards of data protection and facilitating the free flow of data  
All participants reaffirmed the importance of ensuring a high level of privacy and security of personal data. They also acknowledged that recent reforms of their respective privacy legislation offer new opportunities to further facilitate mutual data flows. They affirmed the importance of promoting future discussion on these issues.
- (2) Promoting industrial cooperation
- (3) Strengthening the dialogue on the challenges of the data economy to promote alignment  
They confirmed the importance of data in the modern economy and committed to a continuous exchange of views, using such opportunities as the Japan-EU BRT. They called for expert meetings focusing on the aspects of the data economy, and running alongside established dialogues.
- (4) Jointly improving tools to measure impacts of the data economy

## Results of Visit of State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama to Belgium and Italy

### 3. Talks with EC Executives and European Parliament Members

- (1) State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama held talks with Mr. Andrus Ansip (EC Vice-President – Digital Single Market) on Tuesday, July 11, where they confirmed that Japan and the EU would continue their dialogue closely in the ICT field and deepen their cooperation in the future in the early realization of 5G.



Photo: Talking with Mr. Andrus Ansip (EC Vice-President – Digital Single Market)

- (2) Furthermore, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama held talks with European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) Giovanni Buttarelli on Tuesday, July 11, where they exchanged opinions on the development of rules for the IoT era.
- (3) Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama, and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Kentaro Sonoura held talks with Mr. Andrus Ansip (EC Vice-President – Digital Single Market) and Ms. Věra Jourová (Commissioner – Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality) on Tuesday, July 11. Their talks were related to “strengthening the dialogue on the challenges of the data economy” as stated in the Japan-EU Joint Press Statement, which was issued in Hanover, Germany, this March.
- During the talks, they exchanged their opinions at a high level on the development of rules to make maximum use of various data, environmental development for the promotion of the IoT era, and issues toward the achievement of the data economy.
- (4) State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama held talks with Jerzy Buzek, Member of the European Parliament (Chair of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland, and former President of the European Parliament) on Wednesday, July 12. During the talks, they exchanged their opinions on the promotion of Society 5.0 and artificial intelligence (AI).

## Results of Visit of State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama to Belgium and Italy

### 4. Result of Visit to Italy

State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Jiro Akama held talks with Minister of Economic Development Carlo Calenda on Thursday, July 13. During the talks, they confirmed that both countries would cooperate to deepen their discussion over the following points with consideration of the outcomes of last year's G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa, Japan, and work together to lead the discussion toward a success of the forthcoming G7 ICT and Industry Minister's Meeting in Turin in September this year. (1) Promotion of innovation through next-generation production revolution, (2) Promotion of free flow of information, (3) Promotion of AI, (4) the same day, the State Minister held talks with President Angelo Marcello Cardani of Development of high-quality infrastructure.

On the Communications Regulatory Authority, exchanged their opinions on the current status and issues of the information and communication regulatory policies of the both countries, and confirmed their continuous cooperation in common challenges, including the promotion of the IoT, improvement of competition policies in the telecommunications field, and the early achievement of 5G.

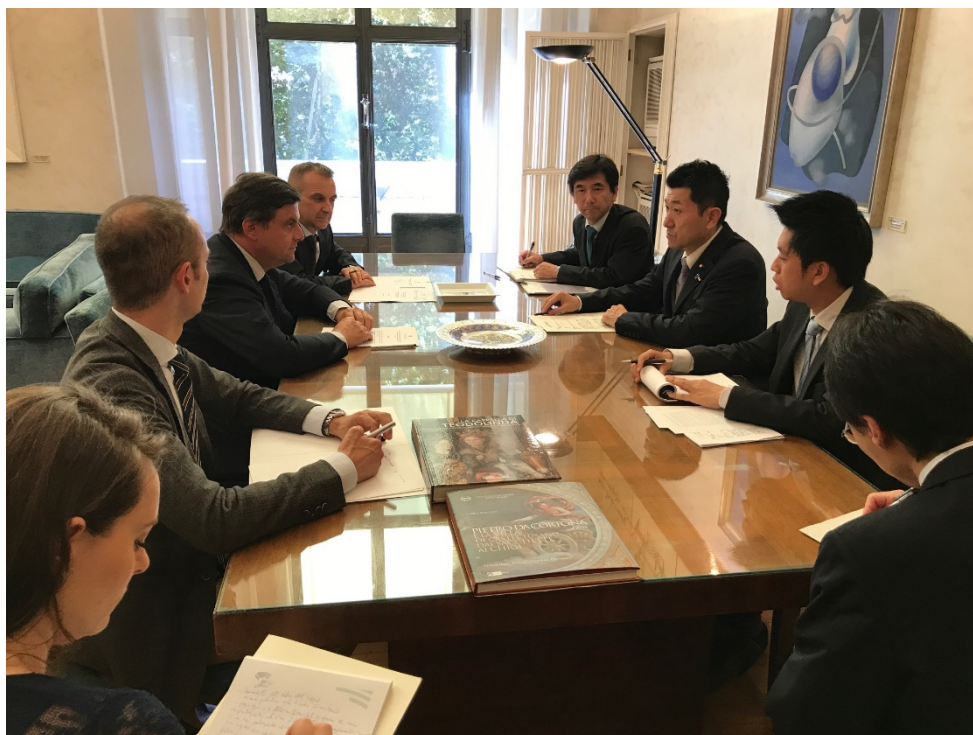


Photo: Bilateral meeting with Minister of Economic Development Carlo Calenda

# Results of Fourth Meeting of Japan-India Joint Working Group

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) held the fourth meeting of the Japan-India Joint Working Group (JWG) jointly with the Ministry of Communications (MoC) of India (former Ministry of Communications & Information Technology of India) in Tokyo on July 13, 2017, under the Japan-India ICT Comprehensive Cooperation Framework. The participants of the meeting from the Japanese side included Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination Masahiko Tominaga from MIC and representatives of ICT-related enterprises, and those from India were headed by Mr. G. K. Upadhyay, Member (Technology) of the Telecom Commission at the Department of Telecommunications under MoC.

Japan and India newly adopted six Japan-India joint projects at the meeting.

## 1. Date

July 13, 2017

## 2. Place

Mita Kaigisho (Minato-ku, Tokyo)

## 3. Participants

**From Japan:** Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination Masahiko Tominaga and Director General of the Global ICT Strategy Bureau Seiji Takagi, both from MIC, and other stakeholders, including representatives of ICT-related enterprises

**From India:** Mr. G. K. Upadhyay, Member (Technology) of the Telecom Commission and Mr. G. Narendranath, Deputy Director General (Security Assurance), both from the Department of Telecommunications under MoC, and other stakeholders

There were 37 participants in total from the public and private sectors of Japan and India.

## 4. Results of Meeting

Japan and India proposed a total of nine joint project candidates, including those on cybersecurity cooperation, ICT application for social and economic challenges, and network infrastructure, in four fields. As a result of discussion, both countries selected the following joint projects and decided to collaborate in implementing the projects.

Furthermore, they confirmed the implementation status of five Japan-India joint projects in four fields, which were selected at the second meeting of the Japan-India JWG.

## Results of Fourth Meeting of Japan-India Joint Working Group

### **(1) Japan-India joint projects newly selected (six projects in three fields)**

- i) Cybersecurity cooperation
  - Cyder Exercises Solution – CYDER – CYber Defense Exercises with Recurrence
  - Security test labs for testing telecom network elements, Establishing a reference test lab under Government etc.
  - Telecom Sectoral emergency response Centre
- ii) ICT application for social and economic challenges
  - Article Tracking System
  - A Trilateral Engagement under JWG in capacity building
- iii) Network infrastructure
  - Cooperation in the area of the 5th generation mobile communications systems

### **(2) Current Japan-India joint projects already selected (five projects in four fields)**

- i) Green ICT infrastructure
  - Green mobile base station project
- ii) Cybersecurity Cooperation
  - Japan-India Combat Spam project
  - Cooperative project for detecting symptoms and quick response to cyber attacks (PRACTICE)
- iii) Disaster management ICT
  - ICT Unit in disaster-affected areas project
- iv) ICT application for social and economic challenges
  - National ID Application and Utilization Platform project

## **5. Future Plans**

Japan and India agreed to hold the next meeting in New Delhi, India, at the earliest opportunity next year or later.

(Reference) Japan-India Joint Working Group

MIC and the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology of India reached an agreement to start consultations with respect to ICT cooperation in October 2013, and held the first meeting of the JWG in Tokyo in February 2014, the second meeting in New Delhi, India, in December of the same year, and the third meeting in Tokyo in November 2015. The meeting this time was the fourth meeting of the JWG.