

**Chapter XX**

**Good Regulatory Practices and Regulatory Cooperation**

**Section A**

**Good Regulatory Practices and Regulatory Cooperation**

**Sub-Section A**

**General Provisions**

**Article 1**

**Objectives and General Principles**

1. The objectives of this Section are to promote good regulatory practices and regulatory cooperation between the Parties with the aim to enhance bilateral trade and investment by:
  - (a) promoting an effective, transparent and predictable regulatory environment;
  - (b) promoting compatible regulatory approaches and reducing unnecessarily burdensome, duplicative or divergent regulatory requirements;
  - (c) discussing regulatory measures, practices or approaches of a Party, including to enhance their efficient application;
  - (d) reinforcing Parties' bilateral cooperation in international fora.
  
2. Nothing in this Section shall affect the right of either Party to define or regulate its own levels of protection in pursuit or furtherance of its public policy objectives in areas such as:
  - (a) public health; human, animal and plant life and health; health and safety; labour

- conditions;
- (b) the environment;
- (c) consumers;
- (d) social protection and social security;
- (e) personal data and cybersecurity;
- (f) cultural diversity;
- (g) financial stability;
- (h) energy security.

3. Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to hinder a Party to:
  - (a) adopt, maintain and apply regulatory measures in accordance with its legal framework, principles<sup>1</sup> and deadlines, to achieve its public policy objectives at the level of protection it deems appropriate;
  - (b) provide or support services of general interest, including those related to water, health, education or social services.
4. Regulatory measures shall not constitute a disguised barrier to trade.
5. This Section shall not be construed as obliging the Parties to achieve any particular regulatory outcome.

## **Article 2**

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this Section:

- (a) "regulatory authority" means:
  - (i) for [the Union]: the European Commission;
  - (ii) for Japan: the Government of Japan.
- (b) "regulatory measures" means measures of general applicability, which are:

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<sup>1</sup> For [the Union], such principles include those established in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union as well as in Regulations and Directives adopted pursuant to Article 289 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

(i) for [the Union]:

(1) regulations and directives, as provided in Article 288 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

(2) implementing and delegated acts, as provided in Article 290 and Article 291 TFEU, respectively;

(ii) for Japan:

(1) laws;

(2) cabinet ordinances (*seirei*);

(3) ministerial ordinances (*shourei*).

### **Article 3**

#### **Scope**

1. This Section shall apply to regulatory measures issued by regulatory authorities in respect to any matter covered by this Agreement.

2. Sub-Sections C {Regulatory Cooperation} and D {Institutional Provisions} shall in addition apply to other measures of general application issued by regulatory authorities, which are relevant for the regulatory cooperation activities, such as guidelines, policy documents or recommendations.

### **Sub-Section B**

#### **Good Regulatory Practices**

### **Article 4**

#### **Internal coordination**

Each Party shall maintain internal coordination processes or mechanisms to foster good regulatory practices, including those set forth in this Section.

## **Article 5**

### **Regulatory Processes and Mechanisms**

Each Party shall make publicly available descriptions of its processes and mechanisms used by its regulatory authority to prepare, evaluate or review regulatory measures. These descriptions shall refer to relevant guidelines, rules or procedures, including those regarding opportunities for the public to provide input.

## **Article 6**

### **Early Information on Planned Regulatory Measures**

The regulatory authority of each Party shall make publicly available at least once per year a list of its planned major<sup>2</sup> regulatory measures, together with a brief description of their scope and objectives, including, if available, the estimated timing for their adoption. Alternatively, where a Party does not make publicly available such a list, it shall provide annually and as soon as possible the Committee on Regulatory Cooperation with the list and its description. This list may be made publicly available without delay except the information designated as confidential.

## **Article 7**

### **Public Consultations**

1. When preparing major regulatory measures, the regulatory authority of each Party shall, where applicable, and in accordance with its respective rules and

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<sup>2</sup> The regulatory authority of each Party may determine what constitute "major" regulatory measures for the purposes of its obligations under this Section.

procedures:

- (a) publish either draft regulatory measures or consultation documents that provide sufficient details about a possible new regulatory measure to allow any person to assess whether and how his/her interests might be significantly affected;
  - (b) offer reasonable opportunities for any person, on a non-discriminatory basis, to provide input; and
  - (c) consider the input received.
2. The regulatory authority of each Party should make use of electronic means of communication and seek to maintain a dedicated single access web portal for the purposes of providing information and receiving input related to public consultations.
  3. The regulatory authority of each Party shall make publicly available any input it receives and/or a summary of the results of the consultations, except to the extent necessary to protect confidential information, including when there are justifiable grounds such as a risk that the interests of a third party would be harmed to withhold personal data or inappropriate content.

## **Article 8**

### **Impact Assessment**

1. The regulatory authority of each Party shall endeavor to systematically carry out, in accordance with its respective rules and procedures, an impact assessment of major regulatory measures it is preparing.
2. When carrying out an impact assessment, the regulatory authority of each Party shall establish and maintain processes and mechanisms under which the following factors will be taken into consideration:

- (a) the need for the regulatory measure, including the nature and the significance of the problem the regulatory measure intends to address;
  - (b) feasible and appropriate regulatory or non-regulatory alternatives (including the option of not regulating), if any, that would achieve the Party's public policy objective; and
  - (c) to the extent possible and relevant, the potential social, economic and environmental impact of those alternatives, including on trade and on SMEs;
  - (d) where appropriate, how the options under consideration relate to relevant international standards, including the reason for any divergence.
3. The regulatory authority of each Party shall publish the findings of its impact assessments no later than the publication of the related proposed or final regulatory measure.

#### **Article 9**

##### **Retrospective Evaluation**

1. The regulatory authority of each Party shall maintain processes or mechanisms to promote periodic retrospective evaluation of regulatory measures put into effect.
2. The regulatory authority of each Party shall make publicly available its plans for and the results of such retrospective evaluations to the extent consistent with its rules and procedures.

#### **Article 10**

##### **Improvements of Regulatory Measures in Effect**

The regulatory authority of each Party shall provide the opportunity for any person to submit input on improvements to regulatory measures put into effect, including

suggestions for simplification or for reduction of unnecessary burdens, while continuing to achieve the Party's public policy objectives.

## **Article 11**

### **Exchange of Information on Good Regulatory Practices**

The regulatory authorities of the Parties shall endeavour to exchange information, including in the Committee on Regulatory Cooperation established under Article 14, on their good regulatory practices as set out in this Sub-Section such as practices regarding impact assessments, including the assessment of the effect on trade and investment, or regarding retrospective evaluations.

## **Sub-Section C**

### **Regulatory Cooperation**

## **Article 12**

### **Regulatory Cooperation Activities**

1. Where a Party decides to propose a regulatory cooperation activity, it shall present a proposal to the other Party via the Contact Point designated under Article 15.
2. The other Party shall review the proposal in due course and shall inform the proposing Party whether it considers the proposed activity suitable for regulatory cooperation.
3. Upon the request of either Party a proposal shall be discussed in the Committee on Regulatory Cooperation established in Article 14.
4. In order to identify suitable opportunities for regulatory cooperation, each Party shall consider:
  - (a) the list provided for in Article 6;

- (b) proposals for regulatory cooperation activities submitted by persons of either Party which are duly justified and accompanied by supporting evidence.
5. Where the Parties decide to engage in a regulatory cooperation activity, the regulatory authority of each Party shall:
- (a) inform the regulatory authority of the other Party about the development of new or the revision of existing measures that are relevant for the regulatory cooperation activity;
  - (b) upon request, provide information and discuss measures relevant for the regulatory cooperation activity;
  - (c) when developing new regulatory or other measures or revising existing regulatory or other measures, consider, to the extent feasible, any regulatory approaches by the other Party on the same or a related matter.
6. The Parties may undertake regulatory cooperation activities on a voluntary basis. For greater certainty, a Party is not required to enter into any particular regulatory cooperation activity, and may refuse to cooperate or may withdraw from cooperation. However, if a Party refuses to engage in regulatory cooperation or withdraws from it, it should explain the reasons for its decision to the other Party.
7. Where appropriate, the regulatory authorities of the Parties may, by mutual consent, task relevant responsible bodies in the Parties with implementation of a regulatory cooperation activity.

### **Article 13**

#### **Good Practices to Promote Regulatory Compatibility**



Regulatory authority of each Party shall consider, *inter alia*, the following mechanisms for promoting regulatory cooperation compatibility:

- (a) promotion of, *inter alia*, common principles, guidelines or codes of conduct, mutual recognition of equivalence and implementing tools to avoid unnecessary duplication of regulatory requirements such as testing, qualifications, audits or inspections;
- (b) cooperation, where feasible, bilaterally and with third countries in relevant international fora with a view to developing and promoting the adoption and implementation of international regulatory standards, guidelines or other approaches, including through joint initiatives and proposals.

#### **Sub-Section D**

#### **Institutional Provisions**

#### **Article 14**

#### **Committee on Regulatory Cooperation**

1. A Committee on Regulatory Cooperation is hereby established to enhance and promote good regulatory practices and regulatory cooperation between the Parties in accordance with this Section.
2. The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation shall be co-chaired, at an appropriate level, by representatives of [the Union] and Japan. The Parties may, by mutual consent, invite interested persons to participate in the meetings of the Committee.
3. The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation may, in particular:
  - (a) discuss proposals for regulatory cooperation;
  - (b) exchange information on, and promote good regulatory practices;

- (c) recommend regulatory cooperation activities on matters of interest to both Parties, including on pre-regulatory research;
  - (d) promote bilateral regulatory cooperation activities with the aim of facilitating compatible regulatory outcomes in each Party, in particular in areas where no regulatory measures exist or where their development is at an initial stage;
  - (e) support the development of practical mechanisms, tools and best practices to promote regulatory cooperation and good regulatory practices;
  - (f) encourage regulatory cooperation and coordination in international fora, including periodic bilateral exchange of information on relevant ongoing or planned activities;
  - (g) identify and endorse periodically priority areas of regulatory cooperation;
  - (h) provide guidelines, if necessary, to help streamlining the regulatory cooperation of the Specialised Committees referred to in Articles XX and of other bilateral regulatory cooperation *fora*;
  - (i) consider the report on the outcome of the consultations referred to in paragraph 7 of Article 16 and review the progress on the implementation of the satisfactory solution under paragraph 5 of Article 16, if applicable; and
  - (j) establish *ad hoc* working groups to pursue specific regulatory cooperation activities which shall report to the Committee on Regulatory Cooperation.
4. The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation shall:
- (a) meet within one year from the date of entry into force of this Agreement and at least once per year thereafter, unless the Parties decide otherwise;
  - (b) adopt its rules of procedure at its first meeting after the entry into force of this Agreement; and
  - (c) report to the Joint Committee on the implementation of this Section, as appropriate.

## **Article 15**

### **Contact Points**

Upon entry into force of the Agreement, each Party shall designate a contact point for the implementation of this Section and for exchange of information under Article 16.

## **Article 16**

### **Exchange of Information on Planned or Existing Regulatory Measures**

1. Each Party may submit via the contact point of the other Party a request for information and clarifications regarding planned or existing regulatory measures. The Party to whom the request was addressed shall endeavour to respond promptly to the other Party via the contact point.
2. Each Party (hereinafter referred to as "requesting Party") may submit via the contact point of the other Party a request to consider its concerns about a planned or existing regulatory measure of the other Party (hereinafter referred to as "responding Party"). In its request, the requesting Party shall identify the regulatory measure at issue, provide a description of its concerns and submit questions, where relevant.
3. The responding Party shall, as soon as possible but no later than 60 days, unless justified, after the receipt of the request by the contact point, provide written comments as regards the concerns raised by the requesting Party to the extent possible, including *inter alia* on the policy objective of the regulatory measure, its rationale, and, where relevant, an explanation as to the absence of a less trade or investment restrictive measure which could achieve the same policy objective with the same efficiency. The responding Party shall reply to any questions for clarification submitted by the requesting Party.

4. After the requesting Party has received the written comments provided by the responding Party or in case the responding Party does not reply within the time period referred to in paragraph 3, the requesting Party may request consultations, through meetings or via electronic means, with the responding Party. Each Party shall appoint an official responsible for conducting the meetings.
5. During the consultations the Parties shall explore in good faith a possible satisfactory solution to address the concerns of the requesting Party, including proposals for an adjustment of the measure at issue or for the adoption of a less trade or investment restrictive measure, where relevant.
6. The Parties shall not be required to disclose confidential or sensitive information or data.
7. A report on the outcome of the consultations shall be prepared by the requesting Party, in consultation with the responding Party. The contact point of the requesting Party shall send the report to the Committee on Regulatory Cooperation for consideration.
8. The request referred to in paragraph 2 can be sent also in cases in which no satisfactory solution has been reached at the level of the relevant Specialised Committee and is without prejudice to the Parties' rights and obligations under Chapter X (Dispute Settlement) or under the dispute settlement procedure of any other applicable agreement.
9. The request referred to in paragraph 2 shall not require the responding Party to achieve a particular regulatory outcome and shall not delay the adoption of a regulatory measure.

## **Section B**

### **Animal Welfare**

#### **Article 17**

### **Animal Welfare**

1. The Parties will cooperate for the mutual benefits on animal welfare matters with focus on farmed animals with a view to improving understanding on their respective laws and regulations.
2. To this purpose the Parties may adopt a working plan defining, with mutual consent, the categories and priorities of animals to be dealt with under this Article, and establish an animal welfare technical working group to exchange information, expertise and experiences in the field of animal welfare and to explore the possibility of promoting further cooperation.

### **Section C**

#### **Final Provisions**

#### **Article 18**

##### **Application of Section A**

1. Section A shall not apply to Section B {Animal Welfare} and the regulatory cooperation in financial services provided for in Sub-Section V [Financial Services] of Section [XX][...] of Chapter XX [Trade in Services, Investment, and e-commerce].
2. Any specific provisions on the same subject matter in other Chapters of this Agreement shall prevail over provisions of Section A.

#### **Article 19**

##### **Dispute Settlement**

Chapter X (Dispute Settlement) shall not apply to this Chapter.

*Limited*

EU-Japan FTA  
GRP and RegCo chapter  
11 October 2017  
Without prejudice

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*Limited*

## CHAPTER 22

### Institutional Provisions

#### Article X

#### Joint Committee

1. The Parties hereby establish a Joint Committee comprising representatives of both Parties.
2. The Joint Committee shall hold its first meeting within 3 months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement. Thereafter, the Joint Committee shall unless otherwise provided for in this Agreement, or otherwise agreed by the Parties meet once a year, or in urgent cases at the request of either Party. The Joint Committee may meet in person or by other means, as agreed by the Parties.
3. The meetings of the Joint Committee shall take place in the Union or Japan alternately, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. The Joint Committee shall be co-chaired by a representative of Japan at ministerial level and the Member of the European Commission responsible for Trade, or their respective delegates.
4. In order to ensure that this Agreement operates properly and effectively, the Joint Committee shall:
  - (a) review and monitor the implementation and operation of this Agreement and, when necessary, make appropriate recommendations to the Parties;
  - (b) supervise and coordinate, as appropriate, the work of all specialised committees, working groups and other bodies established under this Agreement, and recommend to these bodies any necessary action;
  - (c) without prejudice to Chapter x (Dispute Settlement) and Chapter x (Investment Protection), seek to solve problems that may arise under this Agreement, or resolve disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement;
  - (d) consider any other matter of interest under this Agreement as the Parties may agree;
  - (e) adopt at its first meeting its own rules of procedure; and
  - [f] adopt at its first meeting the Rules of Procedure of a Panel and the Code of Conduct for Members of a Panel referred to in Article 30 of Chapter [X](Dispute Settlement), as well as the Mediation Procedure referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 6 of Chapter X (Dispute Settlement).

5. In order to ensure that this Agreement operates properly and effectively, the Joint Committee may:

- (a) establish or dissolve specialised committees, working groups or other bodies, other than those referred to in Articles X.2 and X.3 of this Agreement, and determine their composition, function and tasks.
- (b) allocate responsibilities to specialised committees, working groups or other bodies;
- (c) provide information on issues falling under the scope of this Agreement to the public;
- (d) recommend to the Parties any amendments to this Agreement or amend provisions of this Agreement in cases specifically provided for in Article X.6 'Amendments'.
- (e) adopt interpretations of the provisions of this Agreement, which shall be binding on the Parties and all bodies set up under this Agreement, including panels established under Chapter XX (Dispute Settlement);
- (f) adopt any necessary decisions or make any necessary recommendations as provided for in Article XX (Decision-Making); and
- (g) take any other action in the exercise of its functions as the Parties may agree.

#### **Article X.1**

##### **Decisions and Recommendations**

1. The Joint Committee may take decisions, where provided for in this Agreement. The decisions taken shall be binding on the Parties, subject to their respective internal requirements and procedures. The Parties shall take the measures necessary to implement the decisions taken.
2. The Joint Committee may make recommendations, where provided for in this Agreement.
3. All decisions and recommendations of the Joint Committee shall be taken by mutual agreement.

#### **Article X.2**

##### **Specialised Committees**

1. The following specialised committees are hereby established under the auspices of the Joint Committee:
  - (a) The Committee on Trade in Goods;
  - (b) The Committee on Services, Investment, Corporate Governance and E-commerce;
  - (c) The Committee on Government Procurement;
  - (d) The Committee on Trade and Sustainable Development;



- (e) The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures;
- (f) The Committee on Customs Related Matters and Rules of Origin;
- (g) The Committee on Intellectual Property;
- (h) The Committee on Regulatory Cooperation;
- (i) The Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade;
- (j) The Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture

2. The composition, responsibilities and tasks of the specialised committees referred to in paragraph 1 are defined in the relevant Chapters of this Agreement and can be modified within its scope provided for in this Agreement by the Joint Committee if both Parties so agree.

3. Without prejudice to specific provisions in this Agreement, the specialised committees shall meet once a year, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, or at the request of either Party or of the Joint Committee. They shall be co-chaired, at an appropriate level, by representatives of the Union and Japan. The meetings of each specialised committee shall take place in the Union or Japan alternately, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. The Parties may also agree to hold the meetings of the specialised committees by any other appropriate means of communication. Each specialised committee may decide its own rules of procedure in the absence of which the rules of procedure of the Joint Committee shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

4. The specialised committees may submit proposal for decision to be adopted by the Joint Committee or take decisions where this Agreement so provides.

5. At the request of a Party, or upon a reference from the relevant specialised committee, the Joint Committee at the level of delegates as referred to in Article X.3 (Joint Committee), may address matters that are otherwise not resolved by the relevant specialised committee.

6. The specialised committees shall inform the Joint Committee of the schedules and agenda of their meetings sufficiently in advance and shall report to the Joint Committee on results and conclusions from each of their meetings. The existence of a specialised committee shall not prevent either Party from bringing any matter directly to the Joint Committee.

**Article X.3**  
**Working Groups**

1. The Working Groups on Motor Vehicles and Parts [and on Wine (JP to check)] are established [EU: under the auspices of the Committee on Trade in Goods] in accordance with [Chapters and/or Annexes to be specified].
  
2. The following Working Groups may be established in accordance with relevant Chapters:
  - (a) Working Group under the auspices of the Committee on SPS Measures
  - (b) Working Group under the auspices of the Committee on Regulatory Cooperation
  - (c) Working Group under the auspices of the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade
  - (d) Animal Welfare Technical Working Group under the auspices of the Joint Committee
  
3. Without prejudice to specific provisions in this Agreement or unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Working groups shall meet once a year, or at the request of either Party or of the Joint Committee. They shall be co-chaired, at an appropriate level, by representatives of the Union and Japan. The meetings shall take place alternately in the Union or Japan, or by any other appropriate means of communication as agreed between the Parties. The Working groups shall agree on their meeting schedule and set their agenda by mutual consent. They may agree their own rules of procedures in the absence of which the rules of procedure of the Joint Committee shall apply mutatis mutandis.
  
- 3b. In carrying out their functions, the specialised committees, WGs and other bodies, established under this Agreement shall avoid duplication of their work
  
4. Working groups shall inform the relevant specialised committees or the Joint Committee, as appropriate, of their schedule and agenda sufficiently in advance of their meetings. They shall report on their activities at each regular meeting of the relevant specialised committees or Joint Committee, as appropriate. The creation or existence of a Working group shall not prevent either Party from bringing any matter directly to the Joint Committee or the relevant specialised committees.

**Article x.4**  
**Contact Points**

1. Each Party shall promptly appoint a contact point and notify the other Party.
  
2. The contact points shall:
  - (a) Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, deliver and receive all notification and

- information to be provided between the Parties pursuant to this Agreement;
- (b) facilitate any other communications between the Parties on any matter relating to this Agreement;
  - (c) coordinate preparations for the meetings of the Joint Committee; and
  - (d) address inquiries that they have received pursuant to paragraph [3] of Article [X] (in Transparency Chapter).

Chapter [23] Final Provisions

Article X.1 General Review

Without prejudice to provisions concerning the review in other chapters, the Parties shall undertake a general review of the implementation and operation of this Agreement in the tenth year following the date of entry into force of this Agreement, or at any time agreed by the Parties.

**Article X.2**  
**Amendments**

1. This Agreement may be amended by agreement between the Parties.
2. Such amendment shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date on which the Parties have notified each other that their respective applicable legal requirements and procedures for entry into force have been completed. The notification shall be made by means of the exchange of diplomatic notes. The Parties may by mutual agreement fix another date of entry into force of the amendment.
3. In accordance with their respective domestic legal procedures, the Parties may in the Joint Committee adopt a decision amending this Agreement in areas referred to in paragraph 4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, such amendments shall enter into force upon the exchange of diplomatic notes between the Government of Japan and the European Union.
4. Paragraph 3 shall apply to:
  - (a) Annex [X][Schedules in relation to Article [X] [Elimination of Customs Duties]], provided that the amendments are made in accordance with the amendment of the Harmonized System, and include no change on the rates of customs duty to be applied by a Party to the originating goods of the other Party in accordance with Annex [X];
  - (b) Annex [X'] [Product Specific Rules]; and
  - (d) Annex [X –GI] List of Laws and Regulations of the Parties,];

- (d) Annex [X] List of Geographical Indications
- (e) Annex [X] Government Procurement;
- (f) Annex [X] and [Y] (*Annexes regarding Wine Package*)
- (e) Provisions incorporating the WTO Agreement, in case of amendments to the WTO Agreements, pursuant to Article [X.18 (5)] [X.15 (5)].

### **Article X.3**

#### **Entry into Force**

This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date on which the Parties have notified each other that their respective applicable legal requirements and procedures for entry into force have been completed. The notification shall be made by means of exchange of diplomatic notes between the Government of Japan and the Union. The Parties may by mutual agreement fix another date of entry into force of this Agreement.

### **Article X.4**

#### **Termination**

1. This Agreement shall remain in force unless terminated pursuant to paragraph 2.
2. Either Party may notify in writing the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement. The termination shall take effect six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the other Party, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

### **Article x.5**

#### **No Direct Effect on Persons**

For greater certainty, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as conferring rights or imposing obligations on persons, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of persons under other public international law

**Article x.6**

**Annexes [EU: , Appendices, Joint Declarations, Protocols][JP: and] Notes [EU:  
and Understandings]**

The Annexes [EU: , Appendices, Joint Declarations, Protocols], [JP: and] Notes [EU: and Understandings] to this Agreement shall form an integral part thereof.

**Article X.7**

**Future Accessions to the Union**

1. The Union shall notify Japan of any request for accession of a third country to the Union.
2. During the negotiations between the Union and the candidate country seeking accession, the Union shall:
  - (a) provide, upon request of Japan, and to the extent possible, any information regarding any matter covered by this Agreement; and
  - (b) take into account any concerns expressed by Japan.
3. The Joint Committee shall examine sufficiently in advance to the date of accession of a third country to the Union any effects of such accession on this Agreement.
4. To the extent necessary, the Parties shall, before the entry into force of the accession of that country to the Union:
  - (a) amend this Agreement in accordance with Article 4 (Amendments) or
  - (b) put in place by decision in the Joint Committee any other adjustments or transition arrangements of this Agreement.

**Article x.8**

**Authentic Texts**

1. This Agreement is drawn up in duplicate in the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish and Japanese languages, each of these texts being equally authentic, except for [Part [X] of Annex [X] (Schedules in Relation to Article 8 (Reduction and Elimination of Customs Duties [on Imports])), Schedule of the European Union of Annex [X] (Reservation for existing measures), Schedule of the European Union of Annex [X] (Reservation for future measures), European Union Schedule of reservations of Annex [X] (Reservations and exceptions on key personnel and short-term business visitors), European Union Schedule of reservations of Annex [X] (Reservations on contractual services suppliers and independent professionals.) and EU's part of Section B of Annex [X] (Government Procurement)] which are drawn up in duplicate in the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, and Swedish languages, each of them being equally authentic.
2. In the event of a contradiction, reference shall be made to the language in which this Agreement was negotiated.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at on this \_\_\_th day of \_\_\_ in the year

For Japan:

[Signature by the EU side] ]

#### **JOINT DECLARATION**

"The Union recalls the obligations of those states that have established a Customs Union with the Union to align their trade regime to the one of the Union, and for certain of them, to conclude preferential agreements with countries having preferential agreements with the EU.

In this context, the Parties note that Japan has already started negotiations with one of those countries which

- (a) have established a Customs Union with the Union, and
- (b) whose products do not benefit from the tariff concessions under this Agreement,

with a view to concluding a bilateral agreement establishing a free trade area in accordance with Article XXIV of the GATT. The EU invites Japan to conclude negotiations as soon as possible with a view to having the above-mentioned agreements entering into force as quickly as possible after the entry into force of this Agreement."