

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

*Delegation for relations with Japan*

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## **MINUTES** of the meeting of 21 January 2009, from 16.15 to 17.15 BRUSSELS

The meeting opened at 16.25 on Wednesday, 21 January 2009, with Georg Jarzembowski (Chair) in the chair.

### **1. Adoption of the draft agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

### **2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 2 December 2008**

The minutes were adopted.

### **3. Communications by the Chair**

The Chairman informed the Delegation on a traditional tea ceremony to be organised with the support of the Mission of Japan to the EU for the delegation on February 17 and thanked Mr Grau i Segu for his initiative in this respect. More information will be communicated by e-mail to the members.

### **4. EU-Japan relations: exchange of views with representatives of the European Commission**

The Chair welcomed Mr Christopher DASHWOOD, Desk Officer for Japan from DG RELEX, and Mr Marco CHIRULLO from DG TRADE, European Commission, and Mr. Shinji MINAMI, Principal Deputy Director in the Economic Integration Division of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Chair asked the guests to make an assessment about the impact of the global financial crisis in Japan and the solutions proposed by the Japanese government.

Mr Minami gave a presentation of the current economic situation in Japan. The Japanese

financial market had been less hit by the global financial crisis but recession of the world economy had consequences on Japan, which had entered recession like EU member countries. A common problem for Japan and the EU was the rise in unemployment.

The Japanese government had announced a package of measures to stimulate the economy (fiscal and monetary measures). In international fora, Prime Minister Aso also stressed the importance of implementing effectively last year's G20 agreement and called for cooperation between our leading countries. Mr Aso also pointed out the need for structural reforms in excessive consuming countries and emerging countries which are excessively dependent on external demand. With regard to the WTO agreement, Japan was very disappointed by last year's results as expansion of international trade is very important for the stable growth of world economy. The Japanese government was committed to reach an early conclusion of the Doha round negotiations.

About the EU-Japan relationship, both sides should contribute to the expansion of trade and investment. The EU commission and the Japanese government are negotiating throughout the framework of regulatory reforms dialog. To develop economic relations, we should consider more drastic measures.

The Economic Integration Division was currently working on negotiating a Free-Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement with Switzerland. Japan-Switzerland FTEPA is the first FTEPA concluded with a European country for Japan. This agreement achieves high level liberalization of trade in goods, services and investment. Moreover it allows higher protection of IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights) and provides for new legal instruments (E-commerce, Certificate of Origin). With regards to trade in goods, we achieved 99% of liberalization (for instance, some agricultural products as cheese and chocolate are included). The IPRs chapter is very detailed, it expanded the protection and includes geographical indications, which is in the interest of the EU side. European countries and Japan can therefore conclude a sophisticated type of EPA to develop their relationship.

Mr Dashwood gave a presentation of EU-Japan relations. First, about the Science and Technology Agreement, it has been negotiated for many years and last round of negotiations was held in November 2008. Both sides made excellent progress and constructive talks. We hope to sign the final agreement in February, we also hope it will be a significant step forward in our economic cooperation.

Regarding civilian aviation, talks took place the week before, between the Commission Vice-president and the Minister of transport and they found an agreement on the removal of community designation. They also agreed to cooperate more closely on security matters.

About the regulatory reforms dialog, a meeting took place in December 2008 in a very positive atmosphere. Constructive progress was made on public procurement in the railway sector and privatisation of the Japanese post service and opening of the medical and healthcare market, for instance. This was important to make our strategic partnership more operational because we had concerns about non-tariff barriers in the past.

The next EU-Japan Summit is to take place in the first half of this year. Because of the strategic partnership's importance, we would like to have a stand-alone event, not happening in the shadow of other major events. However, this will take time to agree on dates as there will be elections in Japan by September 2009 and many international events are already

scheduled (G8, G20 etc.). As soon as there is an agreement on dates, the European Parliament will be informed. The Summit is expected to deal with global and bilateral topics : climate change, cooperation, regional security, financial crisis...

Mr Chirullo explains that trade cooperation with Japan is overall in good shape. However, there is room for intensifying cooperation and the EU has intention to do so. A high level trade dialog took place at the end 2008 and we are looking with interest at other agreements that Japan is signing with other countries. Two fields in which our cooperation is very fruitful are intellectual rights and WTO. As far as intellectual rights property is concerned, an action plan adopted in 2007 was followed by concrete actions. Japan and the EU cooperated on its enforcement in third countries, in Southeast Asia for instance, and negotiated the ACTA (Anti-Counterfeiting Treaty Agreement). The fact that penal law is not completely under the competence of the community is a problem as we want the treaty to be as wide as possible. Although the two parts don't always have the same view, this is overall a promising field

As, regrettably, an agreement couldn't be reached in the WTO on the DDA (Doha Development Agenda), we can consider that this is now a question of political will to conclude the deal, as there are very few issues left. With Japan, there is fruitful cooperation on some issues like services and non-agricultural market access, for instance.

Mr Newton Dunn asks what is lacking to reach the agreement. He would also like to learn about Japanese views about climate change.

Mr Panayotov stresses that there are many possibilities of collaboration between the EU and Japan (especially in producing strategic metals necessary for sensitive technologies).

The Chair asks whether Japan has modified its policy on climate change. About next G20 Summit, has the Japanese government already made proposals to overcome the financial crisis ? The Chair also asks to the representatives of the Commission which dates it prefers for the Japan-EU Summit. As far as the Action Plan is concerned, how can we give more substance to it in order to strengthen EU-Japan relationship ?

Mr Gollnisch thanks Mr Menami for his presentation. He asks him to be more precise about the evolution of Japanese unemployment rate and governmental measures to tackle the crisis (are there only tax reductions?) and the inflation rate.

Mrs Gurmai asks Mr Menami to give details about Japanese strategy and Japanese role in tackling the global financial crisis.

Mr Menami explains that the unemployment rate has known a drastic increase in recent months. He also stresses that Japan can contribute to tackle global crisis by stimulating its own economy through the expansion of investment and international trade. In this regard, the Japanese automobile industry would like that an FTA agreement be reached with the EU.

On climate change, he can't make any comment but stresses that the Japan-EU high level dialogue on environment is a good framework to work together towards the same objective.

With regards to the Action Plan, Mr Menami welcomes any proposal by MEPs.

Mr Dashwood then explains that, concerning the Science and Technology Agreement, the only remaining problem concerns the interpretation of the notion of person (as it can be

defined by residency or citizenship) but he thinks that legal services from both sides will find a solution.

He stresses that climate change is one of the Commission's top priorities for 2009 Summit. He hopes it will be possible to make significant progress with the new US Administration before Copenhagen. The EU is looking for partners in Japan to set an ambitious program.

As far as Summit dates are concerned, the Commission doesn't have a preference but it needs approximately 3 months to prepare it and would prefer not to have this Summit back to back with the G20 or G8. But, logistically, most of problems lie in Japan.

Concerning the Action Plan, the Commission's intention is to make it more operational and concrete.

Mr Chirullo explains that the Commission is aware of Japanese interest in FTA and is also interested in doing more. But there are still difficulties: Japan is mainly interested in removing some precise tariff lines whereas our businesses are mainly facing non-tariff barriers, so a difficult balance needs to be found.

The Chair recalls that economic integration has not always been well accepted in Tokyo. He wonders about the necessity of an EU-Japan FTA (we have no FTA with the US and trade is very developed).

#### **5. Preparation of the 30th EP-Japan Interparliamentary Meeting (5-10 April 2009)**

A draft programme can be found in the dossier. The Chair reminded that due to the upcoming election, only 6 members can travel. Therefore, only full members can apply, not substitutes. Members interested in taking part in the visit may contact the Secretariat by Wednesday 28, 12 AM.

The Chair invited comments and suggestions on the issues to be discussed during the working sessions.

#### **6. Any other business**

None.

#### **7. Date and place of next meeting**

**The next meeting will take place in Strasbourg on 25 March at 16:00.**

The meeting closed at 17.12.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/  
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/JELENLÉTI ÍV/  
REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTÁ DE PREZENÇÁ/  
PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Předsednictvo/Předsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Georg Jarzembowski (P)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Janusz Lewandowski, Ioan Mircea Pașcu, Antolín Sánchez Presedo, Bill Newton Dunn, Margarita Starkevičiūtė, Sylvia-Yvonne Kaufmann, Bruno Gollnisch
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Zita Gurmai, Vladko Todorov Panayotov

178 (2)
183 (3)
46 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/ Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/ Novērotāji/Stebētājai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/ Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσιμεhe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/ Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina taç-'Chairman/
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Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nōukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)
Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)
Christopher Dashwood, Tim Toemmel
Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte institūīi/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

Други участници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Ini účastnici/Dруги udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare	
M. Minami (Japan mission)	
Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat	
PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI	Philipp Schulmeister

<p>Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselēi/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Preşedinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli</p>	
<p>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli</p>	
<p>Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat</p>	
<p>DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC</p>	<p>Stefan Schulz</p>
<p>Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten</p>	
<p>Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariat výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusseksretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Secretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet</p>	
<p>Thierry Jacob</p>	
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Paġġs/Padėjėjas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten</p>	
<p>Germana Carnazza</p>	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Předseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem./Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Μέλος/Member/Membre/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/Membru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urzednik/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman