

# **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

## **DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH JAPAN**

### **25<sup>TH</sup> INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING EP/JAPAN**

Strasbourg 21 – 22 April 2004

European Parliament Delegation Chairman Mr Jan ANDERSSON and Japanese Delegation Chairman Mr Taro NAKAYAMA introduced their respective members and recalled the history of EP–Japan interparliamentary relations over the 25 years of their existence.

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> WORKING SESSION – 21 APRIL 2004**

##### **Recent EU issues**

The Chairman exposed the current issues related to EU enlargement, the process towards the European constitution, and the Lisbon process.

Mr Tsutomu HATA highlighted the importance for the rest of the world that the EU emerge as a counterweight to US dominance and considered that the enlargement was a response to the attempts at creating an artificial division between a "new Europe" and an "old Europe". He expressed the same interest for the process of the European constitution.

Mr Taro NAKAYAMA raised the question of the numerous further candidate countries, the cultural and economic differences involved, referring to the cultural boundaries of Europe, a question mirroring those posed by the idea of promoting multilateral Cupertino in Asia.

Mr Georg JARZEMBOWSKI pointed to the fact that the reconciliation after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War was both an objective and a precondition for trust and co-operation – something the Japanese should bear in mind when making gestures of symbolic significance. He insisted on the common values of Christian heritage at the heart of the European civilisation, being it the mark for the borders of Europe.

Mr Christian Ulrik von BOETTICHER exposed the progress on the European constitution under the Irish presidency after the apparent failure of the December 2003 Summit. He contradicted Mr JARZEMBOWSKI's assimilation between Christian faith and European civilisation – relating the latter to the cultural and legal framework rather than the religious identity.

Ms Sylvia–Yvonne KAUFMANN recalled her experience as a member of the Convention and explained that the draft constitution had on purpose used the open formula "*Any European country may become a member of the EU*" without defining what the definition of a European country is, while insisting on full conformity with the "*acquis communautaire*", referring to the Human Rights aspects involved. She also mentioned that the right of secession from the Union was for the first time explicitly included in the draft constitution. She made clear that not only the qualified majority vote was a sticking point, but that over 20 different issues were still under negotiation.

Mr Ole SØRENSEN detailed the respective situations of candidates and other European countries regarding accession to the EU and explained the importance of a proper functioning of the Commission in the future framework.

Mr Jean–Maurice DEHOUSSE put the past successes and current challenges of the EU in a historical perspective.

### **Political situation in Japan**

Mr Yoshimasa HAYASHI reported on the last election of the House of Representatives on 9 November 2004, highlighting that it had marked a bipolarisation of the political landscape between LDP and DPJ. He exposed the reforms under way regarding the pensions policy and the regional finance scheme. He finally detailed the recent developments of the North Korean abductions cases.

Mr Bruno GOLLNISCH compared the present political situation in Japan with the one 10 years before. He wondered whether the current bipolarity was still a right–left one or simply a competition between two parties with equal support for liberal economic principles. He asked for clarifications about the two main parties' positions regarding regional and international security policy.

Mr Yoshimasa HAYASHI confirmed that the debate was extremely active, with the LDP clearly in the political lead. The establishment of a regional security mechanism was the only way to solve the North Korean issue.

Mr Keishu TANAKA related the erosion of LDP and the new political landscape to the evolution of the society, ageing population, workforce flexibility, globalisation. In the opinion of the DPJ, wide–ranging reforms and simplification were required in the pension schemes, the education system, the local and regional government and finance.

Mr Glyn FORD compared the bipartisan structure in Japan with the one in European countries, insisting on similarities. He insisted on the necessity for Japan to get rid of the shadow of World War II and think independently on questions of security if Japan is to assume a significant role on the world scene.

### **Global and regional security**

Mr Glyn FORD reported on the economic situation and market evolutions in the DPRK. He explained the interest shown by the North Korean regime in the EU.

He then detailed the issues related to the nuclear crisis, in particular the six-parties talks. He insisted on the need to support political change on part of the regime rather than look for regime change.

Mr Taro NAKAYAMA declared that a solution of the abductees' issue was a prior condition for Japan to co-operate with North Korea, and should come before Japan would accept to discuss World War II compensations.

He explained that energy security, not only military security, was essential to the stability of the Northeast Asia region.

Mr Christian Ulrik von BOETTICHER developed on the invasion of Iraq, justifying the intervention on the grounds of the long-term benefits for the stability of the region. He insisted on the fundamental political importance of security mechanisms, giving the example of the enlargement of the EU, it being for the new members a part of a wider approach including also accession to NATO so as to benefit from the protection of the USA military power.

He commented on the EU Member States' policies in the fight against terrorism, regretting the weakness of the competencies and means of the EU. He judged that the appointment of an EU co-ordinator of the fight against terrorism was but a public opinion move.

Mr Yutaka BANNO felt that the debate in Japan on the revision of the Constitution and the security questions was definitely not an ideological issue.

Mr Ole SØRENSEN warned against the adverse consequences for the civil liberties that may arise as a result of measures to fight terrorism. Mr Christian Ulrik von BOETTICHER played down the threats in comparison with the risks involved.

Mr Tsutomu HATA said the North Korean issue would be solved with the co-operation of EU and China. On Burma, he said the country was opening up and making some efforts to liberalise. The assistance donors gave would help them.

Mr Youichi MASUZOE said that in dealing with North Korea, both dialogue and pressure should be used together.

### **Economy and trade relations**

Mr Malcolm HARBOUR explained and detailed the content of the "Lisbon agenda", and the present stage of completion of its objectives, in particular its objectives in R&D – which was still far too low in the EU compared to Japan.

Mr Tsukasa IWAMOTO wondered how Europeans viewed the current situation of the Japanese economy, and how, in EU experience, development aid and assistance were compatible with the need to mobilise resources for internal reform and enlargement – both in practice and in terms of political assistance.

Mr Masazumi GOTÔDA inquired about the EU attitude on agriculture in the WTO negotiations, confessing that he had believed that EU shared Japan's views of protection of self-sufficiency and of the multiple functions of agriculture, and he had felt betrayed by EU's concessions to the USA in tariffs and dismantling of protections, recalling that Japan was only 40% self-sufficient in food.

Mr Olle SCHMIDT criticised the EU Member States for not giving themselves the means to fulfil the Lisbon objectives, and regretting the lack of a proper European economic policy, the loose adherence to the stability pact by larger countries and the little political will for structural reforms.

He explained how enlargement would be a "win-win" game and provide the manpower and markets that would drive the development not only of the concerned countries but the whole of the Union.

## **2<sup>ND</sup> WORKING SESSION – 22 APRIL 2004**

### **Science and energy issues**

Mr Christian Foldberg ROVSING made a brief presentation of the nuclear fusion research and the ITER project. He detailed the issues at stake with the choice of a location for this project. The key was an attractive site. Otherwise the highly qualified specialists would not participate and that would put the project at risk.

Mr Youichi MASUZOE and Mr Tsukasa IWAMOTO described the site proposed by the Japanese government and highlighted its advantages. The Japanese government was willing to contribute 10 Bn € (over 10 years) for the construction and 10 Bn € (over 20 years) for operations if Japan was selected as site for ITER.

Mr Malcolm HARBOUR made a presentation of the activity of STOA in the European Parliament and suggested that STOA could co-operate with its counterpart in the Diet.

### **Cultural Co-operation between EU and Japan**

The subject was introduced by a presentation of "2005: EU–Japan Year of People–to–People Exchange", made by Mr Kevin WALSH representing the European Commission.

Mr Tsutomu HATA mentioned the subject of the preservation of intangible heritage and gave an account of a number of EU–Japan cultural activities.

Ms Mary Elizabeth BANOTTI insisted that the cinema and television were by far the more powerful media for projecting a country's image, especially with younger people.

Mr Kousuke HORI mentioned the inclusion in the educational curriculum of values of openness alongside with education to patriotism.

Mr Bruno GOLLNISCH pleaded for the traditional Japanese house and drew the attention of the Japanese counterpart to the need to preserve this essential heritage.

Mr Bruno GOLLNISCH, Mr Georg JARZEMBOWSKI, Mr Glyn FORD and Ms Mary Elizabeth BANOTTI described the perceptions attitudes and constitutional practices towards teaching of patriotism in the educational systems in their respective countries.

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Both Delegations agreed on organising the 26<sup>th</sup> EP–Japan Interparliamentary meeting in May 2005 in Japan.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH JAPAN

25<sup>TH</sup> EP/JAPAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING

DRAFT PROGRAMME

20–24 April 2004 in Strasbourg & Dublin

**Tuesday 20 April**

19:50           Arrival of Japanese Delegation from Paris on flight AF7766

Dinner offered by Consul General of Japan (*for Japanese delegation only*)  
and transfer to

*Hotel Chateau de l'Ile*  
*4, quai Heydt*  
*F-67540 Ostwald*  
*Phone : (33) 03 88 66 85 00 – Fax : (33) 03 88 66 85 49*

**Wednesday 21 April**

08:30           Secretariat meeting

09:00           Bureau working breakfast for the leaders of the two delegations  
*Venue:     Hotel Chateau de l'Ile*

11:00           Courtesy call on Mr Enrique Barón Crespo, Chairman of the PSE Group  
*Room:     LOW N 1.1A*

11:30           Courtesy call on Mr Hans–Gert Pöttering, Chairman of the PPE–DE Group  
*Room:     LOW N 1.1A*

13:00           Lunch hosted by Mr Alejo Vidal–Quadras Roca,  
Vice-President of the European Parliament, in honour of the Japanese Delegation  
*Venue:     Private room*  
*Members' restaurant*  
*LOW Building*

15:00           First Working Session  
*Room:     WIC 100*

18:30           Return to hotel

- 19:40 Leave hotel for
- 20:00 Dinner offered by Mr Jan Andersson, Chairman of the Delegation for relations with Japan  
*Venue: Hotel Chateau de l'Ile  
4, quai Heydt  
F-67540 Ostwald  
Phone : (33) 03 88 66 85 00 – Fax : (33) 03 88 66 85 49*

#### **Thursday 22 April**

- 08:30 Departure of the Japanese delegation from hotel
- 09:00–09:30 Courtesy call on Mr Pat Cox, President of the European Parliament  
*Room: LOW 15<sup>th</sup> floor*
- 09:45 Second Working Session  
*Room: WIC 100*
- 12:00 Attend plenary session of the European Parliament (diplomatic gallery)  
Welcome by the President
- 13:00 Lunch hosted by Leader of the Japanese Delegation  
*Venue: Château de Pourtalès  
161, rue Mélanie  
F-67000 Strasbourg Robertsau  
Phone: (33) 03 88 31 37 40 – Fax: (33) 03 88 45 77 82*
- 15:00 Leave for airport
- 16:30 Departure of the Japanese delegation for Paris on flight AF7771
- 17:40 Arrive at CDG airport
- 18:50 Departure for Dublin on flight AF5010
- 19:45 Arrival in Dublin and transfer to  
*Berkeley Court Hotel  
Lansdowne Road*

#### **Friday 23 April**

- 08:45 Depart hotel for
- 09:15 Meeting with Mr Sean Dorgan, Chief Executive of I.D.A.  
*Wilton Park House*

- 10:15 Depart I.D.A
- 10:25 Arrive at and tour of  
*Leinster House*
- 10:50 Courtesy call to Cathoirleach, Mr Rory Kiely, Speaker of the Senate
- 11:00 Meeting with Mr Michael Woods, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
Mr Gerard Collins, MEP, will be present
- 11:50 Depart Leinster House
- 12:00 Tourt and lunch at  
*Irish Distillers*
- 14:30 Depart Irish Distillers
- 15:00–16:00 Presentation by Mr Peter Coyne, Dublin Docklands Authority  
Attended by representatives of Japanese companies based in Docklands  
Development
- 16:00 Dublin Tour including Trinity College
- 19:00 Dinner at Japanese Embassy  
*Brighton Road*  
*Foxrock*

### **Saturday 24 April**

- 10:00 Depart hotel for
- 10:30–11:00 Meeting with Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern  
*Government Buildings*
- 11:00 Depart Government Buildings
- 12:00 Visit to Newgrange Monument, Co. Meath, private tour arranged
- 12:45 Depart Newgrange Monument for lunch  
*Coachman's Inn*
- 14:00 Depart Coachman's Inn for check-in at airport
- 15:45 Depart Dublin for London

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## **DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH JAPAN**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Japan/EP Interparliamentary Meeting  
20–24 April 2004

### **1. Members of the Japanese delegation**

#### *House of Representatives*

Mr Taro NAKAYAMA, Leader of the Delegation (Liberal Democratic Party)  
Mr Tsutomu HATA, Advisor (Democratic Party of Japan)  
Mr Kousuke HORI (Liberal Democratic Party)  
Mr Hiroyuki SONODA (Liberal Democratic Party)  
Mr Keishu TANAKA (Democratic Party of Japan)  
Mr Yutaka BANNO (Democratic Party of Japan)  
Mr Masazumi GOTODA (Liberal Democratic Party)

#### *House of Councillors*

Mr Yoshimasa HAYASHI, Vice-leader of the Delegation (Liberal Democratic Party)  
Mr Youichi MASUZOE (Liberal Democratic Party)  
Mr Tsukasa IWAMOTO (Democratic Party of Japan)

### **2. Secretariat of the Delegation**

Mr Takumi KIBIKI (Secretary, House of Representatives)  
Ms Naoko MINE (Secretary, House of Representatives)  
Mr Kazuhiko MATSUI (Secretary, House of Councillors)  
Ms Ioko KOJIMA (Secretary to Mr. Taro NAKAYAMA)  
Mr Jiro HATA (Secretary to Mr. Tsutomu HATA)  
Mr Shinsuke UENO (Secretary to Mr. Masazumi GOTODA)

### **3. Interpreters**

Ms Mariko HIGUCHI  
Ms Mieko KUSANO  
Ms Nana OYAMADA  
Mr. Masashi OKABE  
Ms Kyoko HIROTA  
Ms Yumi FUJII

### **4. Japanese Mission to the EU (Brussels)**

Mr Kazuo ASAKAI, Ambassador



**5. Japanese Consulate General in Strasbourg**

Mr Hidekazu YAMAGUCHI, Consul General  
Mr Kazuyuki OHDAIRA, Deputy Consul General  
Mr Yukuo MURATA, Consul  
Mr Tatsuya AIZAWA, Consul  
Ms Kaori SHINOHARA, Administrative staff  
Ms Masami TEZUKA, Administrative staff  
Ms Françoise RICHER, Local staff

**6. Other Participants**

Ms Mariko KATSUI (EC Delegation, Tokyo)