

No. 48385

Japan and Singapore

Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Singapore for a new-age economic partnership (with annexes, appendix, agreed minutes to the agreement, implementing agreement and agreed minutes thereto). Singapore, 13 January 2002

Entry into force: 30 November 2002 by notification, in accordance with article 152

Authentic texts: English and Japanese

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: Japan, 3 March 2011

Only the authentic English and Japanese texts of the Agreement, the Schedules of Japan (in Annex I) and Singapore, the Agreed Minutes to the Agreement, the Implementing Agreement and Agreed Minutes thereto, with their respective translations into French, are published herein. The Annexes and Appendix containing the description of products and the product-specific customs rules and customs tariffs are not published herein, in accordance with article 12 (2) of the General Assembly Regulations, to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, as amended, and the publication practice of the Secretariat.

Japan et Singapour

Accord entre le Japon et la République de Singapour pour un partenariat économique moderne (avec annexes, appendice, procès-verbal approuvé de l'accord, accord d'exécution et procès-verbal approuvé y relatif). Singapour, 13 janvier 2002

Entrée en vigueur : 30 novembre 2002 par notification, conformément à l'article 152

Textes authentiques : anglais et japonais

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies : Japon, 3 mars 2011

Seuls les textes authentiques anglais et japonais de l'Accord, les Listes tarifaires du Japon (dans l'Annexe I) et de Singapour, le Procès-verbal approuvé de l'Accord, l'Accord d'exécution et le Procès-verbal approuvé y relatif, ainsi que leurs traductions respectives en français, sont publiés ici. Les Annexes et l'Appendice contenant la description des marchandises et les règles d'origine par produit et tarifs douaniers ne sont pas publiés ici, conformément aux dispositions du paragraphe 2 de l'article 12 du règlement de l'Assemblée générale, destiné à mettre en application l'Article 102 de la Charte des Nations Unies, tel qu'amendé, et de la pratique dans le domaine des publications du Secrétariat.

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
FOR A NEW-AGE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

PREAMBLE

Japan and the Republic of Singapore (hereinafter referred to in this Agreement as "the Parties"),

Conscious of their warm relations and strong economic and political ties, including shared perceptions on various issues, that have developed through many years of fruitful and mutually beneficial co-operation;

Recognising that a dynamic and rapidly changing global environment brought about by globalisation and technological progress presents many new economic and strategic challenges and opportunities to the Parties;

Acknowledging that encouraging innovation and competition and improving their attractiveness to capital and human resources can enhance their ability to respond to such new challenges and opportunities;

Recognising that the economic partnership of the Parties would create larger and new markets, and would improve their economic efficiency and consumer welfare, enhancing the attractiveness and vibrancy of their markets, and expanding trade and investment not only between them but also in the region;

Reaffirming that such partnership will provide a useful framework for enhanced regulatory co-operation between the Parties to meet new challenges posed by emerging market developments and to improve their market infrastructure;

Bearing in mind their rights and obligations under other international agreements to which they are parties, in particular those of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (hereinafter referred to in this Agreement as "the WTO Agreement");

Reaffirming the importance of the multilateral trading system embodied by the World Trade Organization (hereinafter referred to in this Agreement as "the WTO");

Recognising the catalytic role which regional and bilateral trade agreements that are consistent with the rules of the WTO can play in accelerating global and regional trade and investment liberalisation and rule-making;

Realising that enhancing economic ties between the Parties would strengthen Japan's involvement in Southeast Asia;

Observing in particular that such ties would help catalyse trade and investment liberalisation in Asia-Pacific;

Convinced that stronger economic linkages between them would provide greater opportunities, larger economies of scale and a more predictable environment for economic activities not only for Japanese and Singapore businesses but also for other businesses in Asia;

Determined to create a legal framework for an economic partnership between the Parties;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Objectives

The objectives of this Agreement are:

- (a) to facilitate, promote, liberalise and provide a stable and predictable environment for economic activity between the Parties through such means as:
 - (i) reducing or eliminating customs duties and other barriers to trade in goods between the Parties;
 - (ii) improving customs clearance procedures with a view to facilitating bilateral trade in goods;
 - (iii) promoting paperless trading between the Parties;

- (iv) facilitating the mutual recognition of the results of conformity assessment procedures for products or processes;
 - (v) removing barriers to trade in services between the Parties;
 - (vi) mutually enhancing investment opportunities and strengthening protection for investors and investments;
 - (vii) easing the movement of business people including professionals;
 - (viii) developing co-operation between the Parties in the field of intellectual property;
 - (ix) enhancing opportunities in the government procurement market; and
 - (x) encouraging effective control of and promoting co-operation in the field of anti-competitive activities; and
- (b) to establish a co-operative framework for further strengthening the economic relations between the Parties through such means as:
- (i) promoting regulatory co-operation in the field of financial services, facilitating development of financial markets, including capital markets in the Parties and in Asia, and improving the financial market infrastructure of the Parties;
 - (ii) promoting the development and use of information and communications technology (hereinafter referred to in this Agreement as "ICT") and ICT-related services;
 - (iii) developing and encouraging co-operation in the field of science and technology;
 - (iv) developing and encouraging co-operation in the field of human resource development;
 - (v) promoting trade and investment activities of private enterprises of the Parties through facilitating their exchanges and collaboration;

- (vi) promoting, particularly, trade and investment activities of small and medium enterprises of the Parties through facilitating their close co-operation;
- (vii) developing and encouraging co-operation in the field of broadcasting; and
- (viii) promoting and developing tourism in the Parties.

Article 2 Transparency

1. Each Party shall promptly make public, or otherwise make publicly available, its laws, regulations, administrative procedures and administrative rulings and judicial decisions of general application as well as international agreements which pertain to or affect the operation of this Agreement.

2. Each Party shall, upon request by the other Party, promptly respond to specific questions from, and provide information to, the other Party with respect to matters referred to in paragraph 1 above.

Article 3 Confidential Information

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require a Party to provide confidential information, the disclosure of which would impede law enforcement, or otherwise be contrary to the public interest, or which would prejudice legitimate commercial interests of particular enterprises, public or private.

2. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require a Party to provide information relating to the affairs and accounts of customers of financial institutions.

3. Each Party shall, in accordance with its laws and regulations, maintain the confidentiality of information provided in confidence by the other Party pursuant to this Agreement, including business-confidential information.