

Approved by Acclamation

October 14, 2014
Darwin, Australia

**Australia-Japan Business Cooperation Committee (AJBCC)
Japan-Australia Business Cooperation Committee (JABCC)**

**52nd Australia-Japan Joint Business Conference
Conference Statement**

The AJBCC and JABCC welcomed the signing of the Japan Australia Economic Partnership Agreement (JA-EPA) by Prime Ministers Tony Abbott and Shinzo Abe on 8th July 2014 in Canberra. Both committees have advocated for this outcome since 2002.

In their Joint Statement, issued at the time of the signing, both Prime Ministers emphasized the importance of the JA-EPA as follows:

“The JA-EPA will underpin the expansion of bilateral trade and investment for decades to come, taking bilateral economic relations to a new level the two countries will seek to bring the JA-EPA into force as early as possible.”

At the 52nd Australia-Japan Joint Business Conference held in Darwin, Australia from October 12th through 14th 2014, Delegates affirmed the value of the JA-EPA for enhancing the integration of both economies bilaterally, and through their collaboration, with the broader Asian economy.

Delegates called upon the Parliaments of Australia and Japan to conclude the ratification of the JA-EPA at the earliest possible date and also set the earliest possible ‘Entry into Force’ date.