

58TH ANNUAL AUSTRALIA – JAPAN JOINT BUSINESS CONFERENCE JOINT STATEMENT

The Australia Japan Business Co-operation Committee (AJBCC) and the Japan Australia Business Co-operation Committee (JABCC) held their 58th Annual Joint Business Conference online on Tuesday 5 October 2025.

Reflecting the conference theme, “Collective Efforts for Turbulent Times”, the conference discussed the major international factors – the COVID-19 Pandemic, changes in regional and global strategic and geo-economic circumstances and the global push towards carbon neutrality – that are reshaping the international business environment and their consequences for Australia-Japan trade, investment and economic partnership.

Key conclusions of the conference were:

- (1) The Australia-Japan partnership is stronger than ever, and is growing further in importance, breadth and depth. The business relationship, which is based on strong economic complementarity, shared values and deep and strong mutual trust built on decades of economic co-operation, remains a vital pillar of that partnership.
- (2) The AJBCC and JABCC strongly support the efforts of our respective governments to preserve the open, free and rules-based nature of our regional order, so that all are able to pursue prosperity in a peaceful, secure environment. The AJBCC and JABCC will work together with their members to promote the diversity and resilience of Australia-Japan supply chains in the face of external shocks such as pandemics or geo-political risks.
- (3) The AJBCC and JABCC will actively pursue further collective efforts as our economies recover from the COVID-19 Pandemic. Recognising that the Australian Government has recently announced a pathway to reopening international travel, the AJBCC and JABCC call upon the governments of Japan and Australia to take all reasonable steps in that regard, consistent with the safety and welfare of their peoples, so as to facilitate the restarting of travel between the two countries for tourism and business as expeditiously as possible.
- (4) The global push to reduce carbon emissions, and the shared commitment of our countries to pursue carbon neutrality, presents challenges for current patterns of trade and investment, but also huge opportunities to open up new areas of collective effort, including in relation to renewable energy, clean hydrogen and other technologies. The AJBCC and JABCC welcomed the cooperation already taking place in these fields, and will seek to collaborate to enhance that further, including through ongoing, regular dialogue on these topics.
- (5) The AJBCC and JABCC recognised the strong potential that exists for new Australia-Japan collective endeavours in fields such as smart cities, building infrastructure for the 21st Century, medical research, and technological innovation, and for Australian and Japanese businesses to build on their bilateral partnerships and work together effectively in third-country markets.
- (6) The AJBCC and JABCC recognised the opportunities for future collective efforts posed by the holding of the Osaka Expo in 2025 and the Brisbane Olympic Games in 2032 and agreed to consult closely to maximise Australia-Japan collaboration around these events.

The 59th Annual Joint Business Conference will be held in Tokyo from 9-11 October 2022.