



~ **Embassy Newsletter** ~

<TOPICS>

1. APEC Japan 2010 Economic Leaders' Meeting
2. The Aichi-Nagoya Ministerial Meeting of the REDD+ Partnership
3. COP10 to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
4. Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)

1. APEC Japan 2010 Economic Leaders' Meeting: Leaders Adopt "The Yokohama Vision" Laying the Path for the Future of APEC

During the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting held in Yokohama between November 13 and 14, 2010, the Leaders discussed the themes of regional economic integration, growth strategy, human security, and the future of the Asia-Pacific region. Based on these discussions, the Leaders' Declaration, "The Yokohama Vision – Bogor and Beyond," was adopted. The Vision lays out paths toward APEC becoming a more "economically-integrated community" that promotes stronger and deeper regional economic integration, a more "robust community" with a higher quality of growth, and a more "secure community" that provides a more secure economic environment.

Specifically, Leaders endorsed the Report on APEC's 2010 Economies' Progress Towards the Bogor Goals, and agreed to take concrete steps toward the realization of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) in order to further promote regional economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region, thereby achieving a more "Economically-integrated community." To this end, Leaders confirmed that an FTAAP should be pursued as a comprehensive free trade agreement by developing and building on ongoing regional undertakings, such as ASEAN+3, ASEAN+6, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), among others. In addition, they formulated the first comprehensive and long-term growth strategy for the Asia-Pacific region, the APEC Leaders' Growth Strategy, to be implemented toward 2015 with the aim of realizing a more "robust community." Leaders also agreed to safeguard human security through an initiative to build a more "secure community," focusing on food security, disaster management, infectious disease preparedness, anti-corruption, and counter-terrorism efforts, etc.

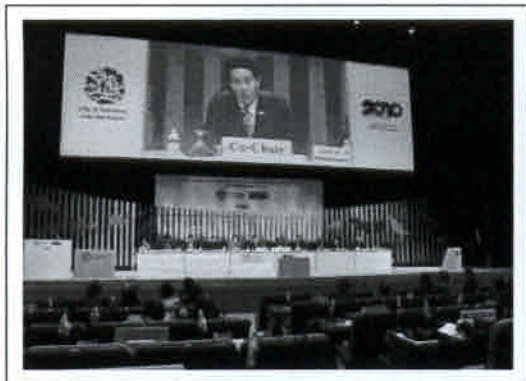
During the meeting, Mr. Naoto Kan, Prime Minister of Japan, exerted leadership as the Chair, making clear his determination for the further "opening" of Japan. He stated that Japan would pursue additional liberalization of its economy to support the efforts of APEC members for regional economic integration. In doing so, he sent a forward-looking message conveying Japan's intent to move toward growth together with the world, including the Asia-Pacific region, which has demonstrated remarkable economic development. The



stance of Japan was of great significance as APEC members worked to concretely set the course of action toward the realization of an FTAAP. Going forward, APEC members will take concrete steps to realize "The Yokohama Vision." The Vision, announced this year, will be passed on to the next APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in the United States, where it is expected that the Vision will take on an even clearer shape and bring about intended results.

2. The Aichi-Nagoya Ministerial Meeting of the REDD+ Partnership: Creating Momentum to Advance Negotiations at COP16

The Aichi-Nagoya Ministerial Meeting of the REDD+ Partnership was held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture in Japan on October 26, 2010, under the co-chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Seiji Maehara, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and H.E. Mr. Samuel T. Abal, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Immigration of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.



This Ministerial Meeting was held under the "REDD+ Partnership," a mechanism designed to enhance the international coordination and cooperation on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+). The REDD+ Partnership was established in response to the widely held idea that reducing emissions from REDD+ has a crucial role to play in the tackling of global warming, which was broadly recognized by the international community at the COP15 meeting of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held at the end of the last year. The Ministerial Meeting was attended by Ministers and the heads of delegations from 62 countries participating in the REDD+ Partnership. Representatives from various international organizations, the UNFCCC Secretariat and non-government organizations (NGOs) also attended the meeting.

Japan actively led discussions, as a co-chair, and also as a top donor in the forestation area. The Ministerial Meeting confirmed the achievements of the past forest preservation activities under the REDD+ Partnership, such as the creation of databases on REDD+ actions, finance and results, and mechanisms to share information. The Meeting also released a Co-Chairs' Summary that presents the outcome of activities under the



Partnership and the directions of future activities to be taken by the international community. Ministers were able to strongly appeal to the international community by sharing the view that they should accelerate the initiatives of REDD+, a key pillar of climate change commitments, and create the momentum to further advance negotiations on climate change just a month before COP16.

3. The Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): Japan Contributes to the Adoption of the Nagoya Protocol and Other Important Decisions as the President of the Conference

The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, from October 18 to 29. The meeting drew the participation of more than 13,000 people from the Parties to the Convention, relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other institutions. H.E. Mr. Ryu Matsumoto, Minister of the Environment, served as the President of the Conference. On October 27, H.E. Mr. Naoto Kan, Prime Minister of Japan, attended the High Level Segment of COP10 that the Government of Japan hosted concurrently from October 27 to 29.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Kan announced the Life in Harmony Initiative (2 billion dollars) to support efforts being made by developing countries for biological diversity conservation; Minister Matsumoto announced the Japan Biodiversity Fund (1 billion yen) developed under the above Initiative to support the compilation of national strategies on biological diversity, and assistance (1 billion yen) to developing countries for capacity building regarding Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) related to genetic resources. Furthermore, H.E. Mr. Yutaka Banno, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, announced specific assistance measures concerning genetic resources and forest conservation.

COP10 adopted the Nagoya Protocol on ABS and the New Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (the "Aichi Target") for 2011 onward. In addition, the fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties Serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP5), held prior to COP10, adopted the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress for Damages Resulting from Living Modified Organisms.

Japan, as the President of the COP10 and COP-MOP5 meetings, welcomes these outcomes. For the heavily debated Nagoya Protocol, Japan contributed to building consensus among the Parties toward the agreement by presenting a balanced draft President's text which reflected the interests of all the Parties at the meeting. Going forward, Japan will contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and proactively support the efforts of developing countries to achieve the Aichi Target and



implement the Nagoya Protocol by utilizing its knowledge and technology, taking into account the needs of developing countries.

4. Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA): Final Round Resolves Nearly All Substantive Issues

The eleventh and final round of the negotiations for the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) was concluded successfully in Tokyo, Japan on October 2, 2010, and the Government of Japan hosted the negotiations. Participants in the negotiations included Australia, Canada, the EU, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, and the United States.

Participants in the negotiations constructively resolved nearly all substantive issues and produced a consolidated and largely finalized text of the proposed agreement. Besides, during the week, the Government of Japan hosted informal meetings with stakeholders, including representatives from NGOs and business leaders, and the participants in the round.

Japan congratulates this outcome, as it raised the necessity of the ACTA at the G8 Gleneagles Summit in 2005 and has promoted its negotiations thereafter. The ACTA is an agreement that will establish an international framework to more effectively combat the proliferation of counterfeiting and piracy, which undermines legitimate trade and the sustainable development of the world economy. It is expected to contribute to ensuring sound development of the world contents industry. Japan will work with other participants with a view to realizing early taking-into-effect of the ACTA. The Government of Japan wishes to engage in discussions with other countries and regions with a view to promoting understanding on the challenges in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy and to expanding international cooperation in this field.