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OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
CANADA-JAPAN JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
TOKYO, MARCH 15, 1979

The Government of Canada and the Government of Japan held in Tokyo from March 13 to 15, the Second Meeting of the Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee. The Committee was created under the terms of the "Framework for Economic Co-operation" signed by the two heads of government in 1976. The two delegations reviewed extensively both international and bilateral economic issues of interest to them. The discussions were constructive and informative and were conducted in a friendly atmosphere.

The Japanese delegation, headed by Mr. H. Miyazaki, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, included government officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; Ministry of International Trade and Industry; Ministry of Transport; Ministry of Construction; the Economic Planning Agency; and the Science and Technology Agency. The Canadian Delegation headed by Mr. D. S. McPhail, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, included officials from the Departments of External Affairs; Agriculture; Industry, Trade and Commerce; Energy, Mines and Resources; and Finance.

Both delegations reviewed the world economic situation and economic trends in both Japan and Canada. They affirmed the importance of a successful conclusion to the Multilateral Trade Negotiations as a contribution to the stable development of the world economy. In this context, they stressed the importance of a satisfactory conclusion between the two countries in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, in order to strengthen bilateral co-operation between them. The delegations exchanged views on the issues likely to be discussed at the upcoming UNCTAD V. Both delegations agreed that their countries would co-operate closely with each

other and with other member countries of the forthcoming Tokyo Summit to ensure its success.

Both delegations reviewed the economic co-operation implemented by both governments and the private sectors of the two countries since the first meeting of the Joint Economic Committee. They noted the importance of the bilateral economic relationship and the need for further development of trade and economic co-operation, and agreed that the momentum of bilateral efforts to this end should be continued. The Canadian side noted the potential for the further development of the relationship in accordance with changing priorities and conditions in the domestic economies of Canada and Japan. It noted that opportunities exist for investment, trade, and economic co-operation in secondary manufacturing, specialized technologies, energy-intensive processing and up-grading facilities, energy and mineral resources, fisheries and consumer products. The Japanese delegation while referring to the complementary structure of both countries' trade and economic relationship, stressed that the Japanese market had become more open than ever and is a growing market for manufactured products and that the attractiveness of the market would be more evident as Canada's export efforts are intensified. Both delegations welcomed the establishment of the Canada-Japan Business Co-operation Committee. Noting that its next meeting would take place in Toronto in May 1979, they expressed the hope that the committee would continue to provide a forum for closer contact between businessmen in the two countries leading to constructive developments in such areas as investment, joint ventures and licensing of technology.

(1) The two delegations had a useful exchange of views on both countries' situations and policies through discussions in the sector groups on energy and mineral resources, secondary manufacturing and trade, forestry and agriculture. They held constructive discussions on the future possibility of economic co-operation between the two countries.

(2) Energy and mineral resources:

Both delegations reviewed their respective energy and mineral policies and identified areas for mutual co-operation in specific sectors of interest such as oil and natural gas, with emphasis on the development of the Beaufort Sea and the tar sands, steaming and coking coal, uranium and nuclear energy. Also discussed were a number of non-ferrous metals including copper, lead, zinc, nickel, aluminum and molybdenum. There was a shared belief that co-operative relationships in

the energy and mineral resource sectors could be further strengthened. Noting the importance of co-operation between Canada and Japan in the field of coal, the two delegations looked forward to the discussion of coal policy at the Governing Board Meeting of the International Energy Agency to be held at the ministerial level in Toronto this May.

(3) Secondary manufacturing and trade:

There was a useful exchange of views on current work in Japan and Canada on the changing industrial structures in the two countries and on the development of trade and investment between them. The delegations reviewed the problems and opportunities in the sectors of textiles, electronics, automobiles and parts, petrochemicals, aerospace and ocean industries. The Canadian delegation welcomed the establishment by Japan of the MIPRO (Manufactured Imports Promotion Organization) at the World Import Mart in Ikebukuro, Tokyo, and noted the plans of a full programme of exhibits at the Canada Trade Centre at the MIPRO facility. Both delegations agreed that it would be useful to continue to exchange information on their respective industrial and trade policies. They agreed that sectors in which possibilities existed for further enhancing co-operation or exchange of information between Japan and Canada included electronics, automotive and aerospace.

(4) Forest products:

The delegations exchanged views on the demand/supply situation in forestry products in their two countries, trade and investments concerning such products, and the current situation in related fields such as pulp and paper. They particularly welcomed the many co-operative links which had been established between the lumber and pulp and paper industries in their two countries. They agreed that it would be useful to continue the discussions concerning forestry both at government and private levels.

(5) Agriculture:

The two delegations exchanged views on matters relating to agriculture in their respective countries and reviewed developments in agricultural trade between their two countries. Each side reviewed the underlying factors upon which their agricultural trade policies were based. They also reaffirmed that it would be useful to intensify the exchange of information and discussions between officials concerned with agricultural issues.

Both delegations agreed to hold the next meeting of the Joint Economic Committee in Canada at a mutually convenient time in 1980, and to decide on the specific dates through diplomatic channels.