Dear Mr Brégier,

Thank you for your recent letter sent ahead of the EU-Japan Summit of 7 May, enclosing the latest recommendations of the EU-Japan Business Round Table (BRT).

The European Union greatly appreciates the valuable work you and your Japanese Co-Chair Mr Yonekura have supervised. We will carefully study the recommendations and, together with our partners in the Japanese administration, work towards their timely implementation as you request.

Above and beyond the work of the BRT, the wide-ranging recommendations you have made across sectors such as trade, investment, financial services, energy, and the environment are exactly the topics we are addressing through the parallel negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement and a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Japan. As such, the input of EU and Japanese business leaders is of crucial importance to give further impetus to negotiations and help achieve ambitious outcomes to unlock the enormous potential in bilateral EU-Japan relations.

We wish you every success as you continue this work on behalf of EU businesses in a spirit of cooperation with the Japanese business community for our mutual benefit.

Yours sincerely,

For the European Commission