NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF

(DG TRADE), (DG MARKT), (DG CNET), (DG CLIMA),
(DG HOME), (DG JUST), (DG ENER),
(DG SANCO), (DG TAXUD),
(EEAS), (DG ΗΟΜΕ), (DG ΗΟΜΕ),
(ENTR).

Subject: EU-Japan Business Round Table (BRT) Progress report from the Commission to reply to the BRT’s Recommendations

Please find enclosed the 2013 recommendations of the BRT which have been delivered to Messrs Barroso, Van Rompuy and the Japanese Prime Minister, soon after they were adopted by the BRT in April 2013.

The BRT is composed of about 50 European and Japanese large companies operating in EU and Japan. The BRT issues every year a comprehensive set of recommendations, established jointly by the BRT’s members. Their objective is to bring to the attention of the authorities on both sides, the expectations and difficulties of the EU-Japan business community with a view to alert them and to seek for possible short or long term remedies. In the light of on-going FTA negotiations with Japan this exercise is considered as relevant and certainly useful for the Commission and the Japanese authorities.

The purpose of this note is to kindly request your services to consider the recommendations addressed to the EU side and to provide us with replies which, once collected, will form the 2013 Commission’s progress report. It will then be given to the BRT members as well as the Japanese authorities. On their side, the Japanese are currently doing the same exercise for the recommendations addressed to them.

The replies should be addressed to ENTR-A-2 no later than 19 March 2014.

Please note that while fully understanding the circumstances of the FTA negotiations and the heavy administrative agenda, since Japanese MOFA and METI unilaterally decided to continue the practice of Progress Report this year, they would appreciate at least some general feedback from the Commission on the 2013 BRT Recommendations. The same feedback is also expected by the EU side BRT Co-Chair (Airbus) in order to better calibrate their activity focus”. 
I would like to thank you in advance for your support.

Enclosures:  
- Recommendations of Working parties A, B, C, D, E
- Table matching "Working Party Recommendations" with competent DG

c.c.: (TRADE); (MARKT), (ENTR); (CNECT), (TAXUD); (JUST); (HOME); (EEAS)