| ***Individual Action Plan Update for Japan for 2020*** |
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| ***Highlights of recent policy developments which indicate how Japan is progressing towards the Bogor Goals and key challenges it faces in its efforts to meet the Goals.***  |
| *- Investment**Japan has signed Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) with the Republic of Armenia, the United Arab Emirates, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the Argentine Republic since 2018. Furthermore, BITs with Iran, Kenya, Israel, and Armenia as well as EPAs with investment chapters (TPP11 and EU) have entered into force since 2018. Japan will work on negotiations aiming to sign and/or achieve entry into force of investment-related agreements including economic partnership agreements with investment chapters covering 100 countries/economies and regions by 2020.**On 1 February 2019, the Asia Region Funds Passport (ARFP) goes live with Japan, Thailand and Australia and Japan FSA is ready to receive registration applications from local prospective Passport funds and entry applications from foreign Passport funds.* *- Standards and Conformance**Japan hosted the 41st Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) annual meeting in Okayama, May 2018. The theme of the Meeting was “Standard for Human Centered Society”, and about 150 participants from 20 economies attended the Meeting.**In order to respond to the expansion of the scope of international standardizations activities determined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), Japanese government amended the Industrial Standardization Act, which was enacted in July 2019 to cover standardization in data and service sectors.**- Customs Procedures**Japan signed the Mutual Recognition Arrangement of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) with China, Chinese Taipei and Australia since 2018.**- Intellectual Property Rights**For the purpose of support startups, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) commenced programs including: dispatching mentoring teams of experts in the field of IP and business, easing conditions for Super-Accelerated Examination/Accelerated Examination Using Interviews to include patent applications for startups, and opening the Website for offering fruitful information.**The JPO disseminated “the Case Examples for AI-related Technologies” including viewpoints of inventive step and description requirements in domestic and international explanatory meeting and in international conferences with the intention of proper protection of AI-related inventions.**With the aim of facilitating negotiations between rights holders and implementers and of quickly resolving disputes concerning the licensing of standard essential patents (SEPs), the JPO released “The Guide to Licensing Negotiations involving Standard Essential Patents” in June 2018.**The JPO launched PPH pilot programs with the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI), the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TURKPATENT), the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP), and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) of India. Additionally, the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI) and the National Institute for the Defense of Free Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOPI) joined the Global PPH.**- Competition Policy**The Bill to amend the system for surcharges (leniency program, calculation methods, etc.) was passed into a law in June 2019.**The Japan Fair Trade Commission signed the MOU with the State Administration for Market Regulation, the integrated and reorganized Chinese competition authority in May 2019.**-Mobility of Business People**Between 2018 and 2019, Japan relaxed short term visa requirements for passport holders from China, Russia and the Philippines, as well as from other economies outside the APEC region. In December 2018, Japan introduced “Start-up Visa”.*  *In April 2019, the current system for acceptance of foreign nationals in specialized and technical fields was expanded in order to accept foreign nationals with a certain degree of expertise and skills belonging to industrial fields where it is difficult to secure human resources, and the statuses of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specified Skilled Worker (ii)” pertaining to foreign nationals with such skills were established.**Japan commenced online residence application procedures (the acceptance of requests for use commenced in March 2019, and the acceptance of applications commenced in July of the same year).**In December 2018, Japan amended the public notice of the Ministry of Justice to allow foreign residents who receive support for entrepreneurship from local governments in accordance with the public notice of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Indsutry to enter and reside in Japan with the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for a period not exceeding one year in terms of the immigration and residence management procedures.**In October 2016, devices to acquire Biometric information (finger prints and a facial photograph) making best use of the waiting time for a landing examination so-called Bio Carts,were introduced at kansai, Takamatsu and Naha airports. After that from April 2017, they were introduced at 12 other airports including Narita Airport, and from May 2018, were brought in at Kitakyusyu and Oita Airport, and were brought in at Haneda Airport on December 2019 to promote smoother examinations.**During 2018, the facial recognition automated gates were introduced on a full-scall in the landing and departure examination areas of Narita, Haneda, Chubu, Kansai and Fukuoka Airport, and are being operated in the departure and return procedures for Japanese nationals. The automated gates have started to operate in the departure procedure for foreign nationals at Haneda on July 2019, and since then, also at Narita, Kansai, Fukuoka, Chubu and New Chitose Airport.**- RTAs/FTAs**TPP11 and Japan-EU EPA have entered into frorce in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Japan will continue striving for the steady implementation and expansion of TPP11 as well as the steady implementation of Japan-EU EPA. At the same time, Japan will promote economic partnership negotiations strategically and promptly including the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Japan-China-Republic of Korea FTA.* |

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| IAP Chapter (and Sub-Chapter and Section Heading, if any) | **Improvements made since 2018 IAP**  | **Further Improvements Planned** |
| Tariffs | No further action taken. | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  |  |  |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel: +81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| ***Non-Tariff Measures***Non-tariff measures include but are not restricted to quantitative import/export restrictions/prohibitions, import/export levies, minimum import prices, discretionary import/export licensing, voluntary export restraints and export subsidies | No further action taken  | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  |  |  |
| Contact point for further details:  | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel: +81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| ***Services*** | -During 2018 and 2019, Japan participated in the negotiations of Joint initiative on Services Domestic Regulation, aiming to make substantial progress by the 12th Ministerial Meeting (MC12). Joint Statement on Services Domestic Regulation proposed by co-sponsors including Japan was issued in May 2019.  |  |
| *Website for further information:*  | <http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/st/page24_000474.html> (Only in Japanese) | [*https://www.wto.org/english/thewto\_e/minist\_e/mc11\_e/documents\_e.htm*](https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc11_e/documents_e.htm) |
| *Contact point for further details:* | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel: +81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| ***Investment*** | (1) Japan has signed the Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) with the following 4 countries since 2018.1) The Republic of Armenia (February 2018)2) The United Arab Emirates (April 2018)3) The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (November 2018)4) The Argentine Republic (December 2018)4 BITs (Iran (2017), Kenya (2017), Israel (2017) and Armenia (2019)) as well as 2 EPAs with investment chapters (TPP11 (2018) and EU (2019)) have entered into force.(2) On 1 February 2019, the ARFP goes live with Japan, Thailand and Australia and Japan FSA is ready to receive registration applications from local prospective Passport funds and entry applications from foreign Passport funds.  | *(1) As mentioned in the “Action Plan for improvement of investment climate through conclusion of investment-related agreements”, announced in May 2016, Japan has worked on negotiations aiming to sign and/or achieve entry into force of investment-related agreements (investment agreements and economic partnership agreements with investment chapters) covering 100 countries/economies, and regions by 2020.**(2) In order to start exporting and/or importing funds based on ARFP scheme, Japan FSA, together with the other participants, will continue to engage with several domestic and overseas management firms to raise awareness of the framework.* |
| Website for further information:  | <https://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ep/index.html>https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/index.html<https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001910.html><https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ae/page4e_000811.html><https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002256.html>[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press1\_000298.html (Only in Japanese)](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press1_000298.html)<https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/faq/others/others_d.html> | <http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/ec/page24_000606.html> (Only in Japanese)[*http://www.fsa.go.jp/en/news/2016/20160428-1.html*](http://www.fsa.go.jp/en/news/2016/20160428-1.html) |
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| ***Standards and Conformance*** | (1) Japan has actively participated in the international standardization activities in international standardization organizatins such as the International organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). As of March 2019, there are 10,773 Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS), 6,062 of which correspond with international standards, and 97% of 6,062 JIS has been harmonized with the corresponding international standards as either identical or modified standards.(2) Japan has reported on alignment situation whether domestic standards align with the target international standards for the Voluntary Action Plan (VAP).(3) Japan has collaborated with APEC economies’ officers to further enhance collaborations in the field of standards and conformity assessment through the various meetings.(4) Japan hosted the 41st Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) annual meeting in Okayama, May 2018. The theme of the Meeting was “Standard for Human Centered Society”, and about 150 participants from 20 economies attended the Meeting.(5) In order to respond to the expansion of the scope of international standardizations activities determined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), Japanese government amended the Industrial Standardization Act, which was enacted in July 2019 to cover standardization in data and service sectors. (6) Japan conducted the APEC project “Capacity Building on Testing Methods for Functionality Finishing on Textile Products and Certification Methods within the APEC Region” from August 2018 to December 2019. | *(1) Japan will work to align its standards with international standards, where appropriate, in regulated and voluntary sectors, and will participate actively in the international standardization activities for developing international standards.**(2) Japan will conduct 2 APEC projects, namely, “Capacity Building on the Development of Climate Actions for Sustainable Growth by use of ISO 14080” and “Capacity Building on Testing and Conformity Assessment of Fine Bubble Technologies for use in Agro-/Aqua- Culture and Water Treatment in the APEC Region” in 2020.* |
| Website for further information:  | <http://www.jisc.go.jp/eng/jis-act/index.html><http://mddb.apec.org/Documents/2019/SCSC/SCSC2/19_scsc2_006.pdf>https://pascnet.org/event/pasc-agm-2018-okayama-city-japan/<https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/economy/hyojun-kijun/jisho/jis.html> (Only in Japanese)https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=2228 | https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=2423 https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=2424 |
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| ***Customs Procedures*** | (1) In 2018, Japan and China signed Mutual Recognition Arrangement of Authorized Economic Operator(AEO). In 2018, Japan and ChineseTaipei signed Mutual Recognition Arrangement of Authorized Economic Operator(AEO). In 2019 , Japan and Australia signed Mutual Recognition Arrangement of Authorized Economic Operator(AEO).These three agreements have already been implemented.(2)Japan’s Single Window system, Nippon Automated Cargo and Port Consolidated System (NACCS), has achieved necessary programme developments for the sake of efficacy and usability in accordance with new government measures and request from users. | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  | <http://www.customs.go.jp/english/aeo/pamphlet.pdf> |  |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| ***Intellectual Property Rights*** | (1) For the purpose of support startups, the JPO commenced programs incluing: dispatching mentoring teams of experts in the filed of IP and business, easing conditions for Super-Accelerated Examination/Accelerated Examination Using Interviews to include patent applications for startups, and opening the Website for offering fruitful information.(2) The JPO disseminated “the Case Examples for AI-related Technologies” including viewpoints of inventive step and description requirements in domestic and international explanatory meeting and in international conferences with the intention of proper protection of AI-related inventions.(3) With the aim of facilitating negotiations between rights holders and implementers and of quickly resolving disputes concerning the licensing of standard essential patents (SEPs), the JPO released “The Guide to Licensing Negotiations involving Standard Essential Patents” in June 2018. (4) The JPO launched PPH pilot programs with the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI), the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TURKPATENT), the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP), and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) of India. Additionally, the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI) and the National Institute for the Defense of Free Competition and the Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOPI) joined the Global PPH.(5) In addition to APACE Program, JCO is carrying out, under a variety of formats such as holding training seminars and events, programs of technical cooperation between the Japan Copyright Office and APEC copyright agencies.  | *Japan will continue to work for further improvement the global IP environment under the “Intellectual Property Policy Vision” established in June 2013, and the “Intellectual Property Strategic Program 2019” established in June 2019 at the Intellectual Property Policy Headquarters led by the Prime Minister.* *(1) The Bill for the Act of Partial Revision of the Patent Act etc. will become partially operative in 2020. This revision is expected to fully protect the important technologies under the patent rights and other intellectual property rights in case of legal disputes*.*(2) The Bill to revise the Design Act will become partially operative on April 1, 2020. This revised Design Act is expected to enhance the design system for protecting designs using digital technologies and to encourage right holders to establish new brands.* |
| Website for further information:  | [*https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0405\_004.html*](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0405_004.html)[*https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/laws/rule/guideline/patent/ai\_jirei\_e.html*](https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/laws/rule/guideline/patent/ai_jirei_e.html)[*https://www.jpo.go.jp/support/general/sep\_portal/document/index/guide-seps-en.pdf*](https://www.jpo.go.jp/support/general/sep_portal/document/index/guide-seps-en.pdf)[*https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/soki/pph/japan\_visegrad\_highway.html*](https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/soki/pph/japan_visegrad_highway.html)*https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/soki/pph/japan\_turkish\_highway.html**https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/soki/pph/japan\_saudiarabia\_highway.html*https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/soki/pph/japan\_india\_highway.html | *https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/titeki2/kettei/chizaikeikaku20190621.pdf (Only in Japanese)*[*https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1101\_002.html*](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1101_002.html)*https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/laws/rule/hokaisei/tokkyohoutou\_kaiei\_20190517.html*<https://www.jpo.go.jp> |
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| ***Competition Policy*** | (1) The Bill to amend the system for surgarges (leniency program, calculation methods, etc.) was passed into a law on 19 June in 2019.(2) Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) established the “Policies concerning Commitment Procedures” and revised the “Guidelines to Application of the Antimonopoly Act Concerning Review of Business Combination” on 26 September 2018 in order to respond to the Commitment Procedure introduced by the the Act for Partial Amentment of the Act on the Development of Related Legislation Following the Conclusion of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement, which was enacted on 29 June 2018.(3) The JFTC formulated a policy paper titled “Fundamental Principles for Rule Making to Address the Rise of Platform Businesses” together with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on 18 December 2018 in response to the rise of the platform businesses based on the Future Investment Strategy 2018, which was approved by the Cabinet in June 2018.(4) The JFTC established “Guidelines Concerning Abuse of a Superior Bargaining Position in Transactions between Digital Platform Operators and Consumers that Provide Personal Information, etc.” and revised the “Guidelines to Application of the Antimonopoly Act Concerning Review of Business Combination” and the “Policies Concerning Procedures of Review of Business Combination” on 17 December 2019 in response to the Future Investment Strategy and the Fundamental Principles mentioned in (3) above.(5) The JFTC published the “Report of Study Group on Human Resource and Competition Policy” to facilitate pleasant environment for individual workers based on the six meetings of the Study Group to organize the views on applications of the Antimonopoly Act to competition for human resources on 15 February 2018.(6) The JFTC signed the MOU with the State Administration for Market Regulation, the integrated and reorganized Chinese competition authority, in May 2019.(7) Japan organized FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on Competition Policy under the 3rd REI CBNI in August 2018,identified the desirable and optional elements in competition chapter for FTAs/EPAs.(8) Japan organized FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on Competition Policy under the 3rd REI CBNI: Sharing Good Examples of FTAs/EPAs in August 2019. Good practices and concrete examples of desirable elements as well as optional elements of Competition Chapter in FTAs/EPAs are shared.  | *The JFTC will prepare/revise/amend the AMA, the Cabinet Ordinances , the JFTC Rules and Guidelines as necessary.* |
| Website for further information: | https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/June/19061907.html<https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2018/June/180629><https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h30/dec/181218.html><https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/December/191217.html><https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/December/191217_DP.html>https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2018/February/180215.html | <http://www.jftc.go.jp/en/index.html> |
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| ***Government Procurement*** | No further action taken | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  | <http://www.mofa.go.jp/index.html> |  |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| ***Deregulation/Regulatory Review*** | No further action taken |  |
| Website for further information:  |  |  |
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| ***Implementation of WTO Obligations/ROOs*** | No further action taken | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  | <https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tradfa_e/tradfa_e.htm><https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tradfa_e/tradfa_agreeacc_e.htm> |  |
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| ***Dispute Resolution*** | The government of Japan set up the Liaison Council for relevant ministries to vitalize international arbitration in Japan in September 2017. As the result of the deliberation, the possible policy measures towards vitalization of international arbitration were developed and publicized in April 2018. | *The Ministry of Justice is promoting wide-ranging of efforts for human resource development as well as awareness-raising and advertisement through symposiums, seminars and other means with a view to vitalizing the international arbitration in Japan.* |
| Website for further information:  | http://www.mofa.go.jp/index.htmlhttps://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/kokusai\_chusai/index.html |  |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jpInternational Affairs DivisionMinister’s SecretariatMinistry of Justice1-1-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8977 JAPANTel :+81-3-3592-8113Fax :+82-3-3592-7011Trade Promotion DivisionTrade and Economic Coorperation BereauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel :+81-3-3501-6759Fax :+81-3-3501-5912 |  |
| *Mobility of Business People* | -Between 2018 and 2019, Japan relaxed short term visa requirements for passport holders from China, Russia and the Philippines, as well as from other economies outside the APEC region. In December 2018, Japan introduced “Start-up Visa” to attract foreign entrepreneurs, granting permission to stay for up to 1 year. -In April 2019, the current system for acceptance of foreign nationals in specialized and technical fields was expanded in order to accept foreign nationals with a certain degree of expertise and skills belonging to industrial fields where it is difficult to secure human resources, and the statuses of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specified Skilled Worker (ii)” pertaining to foreign nationals with such skills were established-Japan commenced online residence application procedures (the acceptance of requests for use commenced in March 2019, and the acceptance of applications commenced in July of the same year).-In December 2018, Japan amended the public notice of the Ministry of Justice to allow foreign residents who receive support for entrepreneurship from local governments in accordance with the public notice of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry to enter and reside in Japan with the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for a period not exceeding one year in terms of the immigration and residence management procedures.-In October 2016, devices to acquire Biometric information (finger prints and a facial photograph) making best use of the waiting time for a landing examination so-called Bio Carts,were introduced at kansai, Takamatsu and Naha airports. After that from April 2017, they were introduced at 12 other airports including Narita Airport, and from May 2018, were brought in at Kitakyusyu and Oita Airport, and were brought in at Haneda Airport on December 2019 to promote smoother examinations.-During 2018, the facial recognition automated gates were introduced on a full-scall in the landing and departure examination areas of Narita, Haneda, Chubu, Kansai and Fukuoka Airport, and are being operated in the departure and return procedures for Japanese nationals. The automated gates have started to operate in the departure procedure for foreign nationals at Haneda on July 2019, and since then, also at Narita, Kansai, Fukuoka, Chubu and New Chitose Airport.-Japan Customs has set up passport reader devices in almost all the airports so as to make a balance between the security and facilitation of movement of people including business people.-In April 2019, the Electronic Customs Declaration Gate System (e-Gate) was introduced at the Narita Airport. With the e-Gate, passengers are able to submit the "Declaration of Personal Effects and Unaccompanied Articles" (the Declaration) electronically while waiting for checked baggage, and after retrieving their baggage, the passenger may simply walk through the gate for clearance, with no need to stop or wait. | ---Japan Customs plans to deploy and operate the e-Gate at the other airports. |
| *Website for further information:*  | <http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html><http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001010.html><http://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/qa/page4e_000534.html><http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001638.html><http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri06_01122.html><https://www.customs.go.jp/english/passenger/egate.htm>) | [*http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/keizaisaisei/miraitoshikaigi/suishinkaigo2018/koyou/dai2/siryou5.pdf*](http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/keizaisaisei/miraitoshikaigi/suishinkaigo2018/koyou/dai2/siryou5.pdf) *(Only in Japanese)* |
| *Contact point for further details:* | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| *Official websites that gather economies’ information* | No further action taken | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  | http://www.mofa.go.jp/index.htmlhttp://www.meti.go.jp/english/index.html |  |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
| ***Transparency*** | No further action taken | *Provide brief points only* |
| Website for further information:  | http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/?re=02 |  |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |

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| **RTAs/FTAs**  |
| ***-*** ***Description of current agreements*** | *Please use Part 1 of the RTA/FTA reporting template to provide a short description or hyperlinks to any new agreements and to report improvements to existing agreements.* Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Singapore for a New-Age Economic Partnership <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/singapore.html>Agreement between Japan and the United Mexican States for the Strengthening of the Economic Partnership <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/mexico.html>Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Chile for a Strategic Economic Partnership <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/chile.html>Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of Malaysia for an Economic Partnership<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/malaysia.html>Agreement between Japan and Thailand for an Economic Partnership<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/thailand.html>Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Indonesia for an Economic Partnership<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/indonesia/epa0708/index.html>Agreement Between Japan and Brunei Darussalam for an Economic Partnership <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/brunei.html>Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Partnership among JAPAN and Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/asean/agreement.html>The First Protocol to Amend the Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Partnership among Japan and Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (signing)<https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002348.html>Agreement between Japan and the Republic of the Philippines for an Economic Partnership <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/philippine/joint0411.html>Agreement on Free Trade and Economic Partnership between Japan and the Swiss Confederation <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/switzerland.html>Agreement between Japan and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for an Economic Partnership <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/vietnam.html>Comprehensive Economic Agreement between Japan and the Republic of India<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/india.html>Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Peru for an Economic Partnership<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/peru.html>Agreement between Japan and Australia for an Economic Partnership<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/australia.html>Agreement between Japan and Mongolia for an Economic partnership<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/mongolia.html>Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) (Signing)<http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_000877.html>Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific partnership<https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002101.html>Japan- EU Economic Partnership Agreement<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/page6e_000013.html>Trade Agreement between Japan and the United States of America<https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002719.html> |
| ***- Agreements under negotiation*** | *Please provide information on agreements that are currently under negotiation eg issues being covered in the negotiation and the status of the negotiation.*  |
|  | ***Agreement #1*** | Regional Comprehensivr Economic Partnership (RCEP)See the information on RCEP at<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/page2e_000001.html> |
|  | ***Agreement #2*** | Japan-Turkey Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)See the information between Japan and Turkey for an EPA athttp://www.mofa.go.jp/region/middle\_e/turkey/index.html |
|  | ***Agreement #3*** | Free Trade Agreement among China, Japan and Korea (CJK FTA)See the information on CJK FTA athttp://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ep/page23e\_000337.html |
|  | ***Agreement #4*** | Japan- Colombia Economic partnership Agreement (EPA)See the information between Japan and Colombia for an EPA at<http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/latin/colombia/epa.html> |
|  | ***Agreement #5*** | Japan- the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) (Negotiation suspended)See the Press release on the Second Round of the Negotiations for the FTA with GCC at<http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2007/1/0117-3.html> |
|  | ***Agreement #6*** | Japan- Korea Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) (Negotiation suspended)See the information between Japan and Korea for an EPA at<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/rok.html> |
|  | ***Agreement #7*** | Japan- Canada Economic partnership Agreement (EPA) (Negotiation suspended)See the information between Japan and Canada for an EPA at<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/canada.html> |
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| ***-*** ***Future plans*** | In order to ensure the sustainable growth of the Japanese economy, it is essential to take in the demand of growing overseas markets. In particular, it is no exaggeration to say that success in the remarkably growing Asian markets will be the key to success in the world market. At the same time, it is important to develop a win-win relationship with other countries, by not only exporting goods and services overseas but also making high-quality investments, etc. With many countries mutually strengthening economic ties with the progress of globalization, Japan sees the increased importance of economic partnership agreements which promote movement beyond borders of goods, capital, technology and others. Accordingly, the Government of Japan will continue striving for the steady implementation and expansion of TPP11 as well as strategically promoting economic partnerships aiming for the signing of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) by 16 countries in 2020 and realization of a comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial FTA with China and Republic of Korea with its own value. |
| Website for further information:  | [*http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/index.html*](http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/fta/index.html) |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |

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| ***Other voluntary reporting areas*** | **Improvements made since 2018 IAP** | **Futher Improvements planned** |
| *Digital Trade* | So far, Japan, Australia, and Singapore have co-chaired 16 meetings at the WTO under the Joint Statement Initiative on electronic commerce. | *4 meetings are scheduled in the first half of 2020.* |
| Website for further information: | https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/it/page25\_001989.html | https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ecm/it/page25\_001989.html |
| Contact point for further details: | APEC DivisionEconomic Affairs BureauMinistry of Foreign Affairs2-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8919 JAPANTel: +81-3-5501-8342Fax: +81-3-5501-8430apec.japan@mofa.go.jpAPEC OfficeTrade Policy BureauMinistry of Economy, Trade and Industry1-3-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8901 JAPANTel:+81-3-3501-1407Fax: +81-3-3501-5909apec-meti@meti.go.jp |  |
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