

MICHEL BARNIER

Membre de la Commission européenne

Brussels, 12 -04- 2010
GS/cb – A(10)576 D(10)368

Dear Mr Fukumoto,

I have received your letter of 18th February 2010. I sincerely would like to thank you for your words of congratulation. I apologize for this late reply, due to the delay of the new College coming into force.

I have paid much attention to the JCBE Statement on the issue of ESG Disclosure that you kindly sent to me. As Commissioner for Internal Market and Services, I have a strong mandate to ensure that the rules and principles which apply to our Single Market will be prolonged and coordinated adequately with the EU main partners, including Japan.

The external dimension of my portfolio is key to me when it comes to ensure the effectiveness of my action. In that sense, I will look attentively at the outcome of the Japan-EU Summit hosted in Tokyo at the end of April. Also, I plan to go to Japan in the year ahead. My services and I already work on a series of matters of interest to both parties. In this respect, I am glad to see JBCE's position vis-à-vis the directions adopted by the European Commission. I trust this will help strengthen the quality of our excellent relationships.

I would have been honoured to meet you; however, my schedule will not allow me to accept in the short term. I have requested my cabinet to remain at your disposal. You can contact Mr Grégoire Schöller, member of my cabinet (T : +32.(0)2.295 11 45 – email address : gregoire.scholler@ec.europa.eu) to arrange a meeting.

Yours sincerely, *et cordialement*

Michel BARNIER

Mr Takuya FUKUMOTO
Secretary General
Japan Business Council in European Commission
Rue Montoyer 40
B – 1000 BRUSSELS