Recommendations to the Leaders of the EU and Japan

Working Party 3

Digital Innovation & Mobility

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Summary of the Recommendations

Reinforcing EU–Japan Strategic Collaboration and Autonomy in the Digital Era

Europe and Japan are entering a phase where collaboration, economic security, technological leadership and supply chain resilience are becoming critical priorities. Increasing protectionism and fragmentation challenge those goals. A coordinated EU–Japan approach is essential to safeguard open markets, accelerate innovation and position both regions as trusted leaders in the global digital economy

Working Party 3 is centered on turning this ambition into concrete action by:

- Unlocking the full value of digital technologies by removing regulatory bottlenecks and enabling faster industrial and societal adoption.
- Establishing a unified cybersecurity approach, aligning certification frameworks and advancing next-generation, quantum-resilient security capabilities.
- Driving the adoption of trustworthy AI by combining innovation with pragmatic, risk-based governance grounded in real use cases.
- Securing critical supply chains by strengthening capabilities in semiconductors and ensuring stable access to critical minerals within a trusted partner network.

Highlighted Recommendations

- **WP-3/#01*/EJ to EJ　Cooperation in Rulemaking on Digital Trade to realize DFFT**
  - With for the removal of reciprocal tariffs and non-tariff barriers, the EU and Japan, as countries sharing common values, should collaboratively counter protectionist moves to maintain and strengthen a free and fair trading system based on multilateralism as stipulated by the WTO and other frameworks.
  - The EU and Japan should explicitly respect WTO rules and contribute to the stabilisation of the global trading order, including digital trade.

- **WP-3/#02*/Support for Social Implementation of Digital technologies**
  - It is necessary to further accelerate technology deployment to enhance the competitiveness of Japanese and EU companies, and to address social issues such as global environmental issues. To achieve this, it is important to remove barriers to social implementation by deregulating, simplifying procedures, and developing environments.
  - Technology development should be approached by the EU and Japan from a strategic cooperation/trusted partner perspective without being overly restrictive.

Highlighted Recommendations

- **WP-3/#03*/EJ to EJ Cybersecurity for Safe, Secure and Trusted Society**
  - Pursue international harmonisation in the field of cybersecurity, in particular the alignment between the EU cybersecurity certification schemes and Japan's regulatory cybersecurity framework and the integration of international standards including on the certification and labelling of IoT devices and services.
  - In preparation for the arrival of the quantum computer age in the future, EU and Japan should cooperate without having barriers in the development of quantum-safe security technologies, products and services.

- **WP-3/#04*/EJ to EJ Deployment of human-centred AI Technology**
  - In order to achieve a balance between the reduction of social risks posed by AI technology and the maximization of benefits from innovation and utilization of AI technology, it is essential to engage in ongoing international discourse to clarify the nature, scope, and basis of regulations, as well as to establish methods for measuring and evaluating risks based on use cases.

Highlighted Recommendations

- **WP-3/#05*/EJ to EJ　Updating Connectivity for Digital Transformation for All**
  - Facilitate the sharing of practical and effective use cases for 5G network applications and deployments. In the development of 6G, it is necessary to promote the development of technologies and applications that will be realised on 6G in parallel.

- **WP-3/#06*/EJ to EJ　Cooperation on Supply Chain Resilience**
  - (Semiconductors)

  Become an “active player” as a provider of semiconductor within the trusted partners in the semiconductor value chain and build the whole ecosystem of capacities/ competences around semiconductors.
  - (Critical Minerals)

  Share learnings and build capacities for EU-Japan cooperation in the sourcing, refining, and trading of critical minerals.

Highlighted Recommendations

- **WP-3/#12*/EJ to EJ　R&D Cooperation**
  - BRT welcomes that Japan and EU have made an agreement in principal that Japan becomes Associate countries in Horizon Europe in EU. BRT expects that Japanese companies in Japan are able to participate in cybersecurity and dual-use projects after this agreement. After Japan becomes an Associate countries of the Horizon Europe, it should simplify the negotiations for Associate countries in the next program of the Horizon Europe.