

The 15th Saudi Arabia – Japan Business Council Meeting

This year commemorates the 60th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Japan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Saudi Arabia – Japan Business Council held its 15th meeting in Tokyo on May 19, 2015, as part of the activities celebrating the anniversary.

The meeting gathered about 230 participants, 180 from the Japanese side and more than 50 from the Saudi Arabian side, reflecting their great interest in potential business opportunities in Saudi Arabia.

The inauguration speech by H.E. Eng. Adel M. Fakeih, Minister of Economy and Planning, and the following speech by H.E. Mr. Abdullatif bin Ahmed Al Othman, Governor of Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA), highlighted the Saudi Arabian government's increasing efforts to attract foreign direct investments into the Kingdom.

On the sidelines of the Council meeting, Hitachi and Toray announced the conclusion of their MOU with Saline Water Conversion Corporation regarding demonstration of innovative desalination technologies in Saudi Arabia. JCCME and SEHAI (Saudi Electronics and Home Appliances Institute) also exchanged their MOU, marking the 3rd phase Japanese cooperation for the latter's technical training program.

During the meeting, the Japanese side delivered presentations about technological response to various social challenges including the areas of medicine; and the Saudi side about potential business opportunities in the Kingdom, including rapid expansion of power generation and distribution systems in Saudi Arabia. The presentations and following discussions contributed to building closer relationships between the business people on both sides and their increased awareness of abundant opportunities at hand.

The exhibition simultaneously held by SAGIA helped the Japanese attendees understand various supports offered by SAGIA for their businesses in Saudi Arabia.

Pictures of the meeting:



Mr. Hiroshi Saito,
Co-Chairman of the Japan Side



Mr. Tariq Al-Qahtani,
Co-Chairman of the Saudi Side



H.E. Dr. Daishiro Yamagiwa,
State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry



H.E. Eng. Adel M. Fakeih
Minister of Economy and Planning



H.E. Mr. Abdullatif Al Othman
Governor, SAGIA



SAGIA Exhibition

Program of the meeting:

Opening Session

(1) Opening Speech

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) Mr. Hiroshi Saito | Co-Chairman of Japan Side |
| 2) Mr. Tariq Abdel Hadi Al-Qahtani | Co-Chairman of Saudi Side |

(2) Inauguration Address

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| 1) Japan side: | H.E. Dr. Daishiro Yamagiwa, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry |
| 2) Saudi Side : | H.E. Eng. Adel M. Fakeih, Minister of Economy and Planning |

Speech “Saudi Arabia: Your Launchpad to the Middle East”

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Abdullatif bin Ahmed Al Othman, Governor, Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA)

Announcement of newly concluded MOU and Exchange of MOU

- (1) Announcement of MOU newly concluded by and among SWCC, Hitachi, Toray and Abunayyan Trading for the saline water conversion

Speaker: Mr. Ryuichi Kitayama, Executive Vice President and Executive Officer, HITACHI ,Ltd.

Speaker : Mr. Akihiro Nikkaku, President, Toray Industries, Inc.

- (2) SEHAI MOU exchange ceremony for next collaboration

Speaker: Mr. Seiji Hirota, Representative Executive Director, Japan Cooperation Center for the Middle East (JCCME)

Speaker: Mr. Fahad S. Al Harbi, Executive Director, Saudi Electronics and Home Appliances Institute (SEHAI)

Activities Reports from JETRO / JCCME Joint Office in Riyadh

Speaker: Mr. Tomiyasu Nakamura, Executive Vice President, JETRO
Mr. Takashi Mitsuka, Chief Representative in KSA, JCCME

Economic Outlook

- (1) Economic Overview of the Japanese Economy
Speaker : Mr. Katsuyuki Hasegawa, Chief Market Economist, Mizuho Research Institute
- (2) Economic Outlook of Saudi Arabia
Speaker : Dr. John Sfakianakis, Economist, Ashmore Group

Promoting and Enhancing Investment Opportunities between Saudi Arabia and Japan Part-1

New Business Opportunities and Technologies:

- (1) Saudi Aramco Localization Programs & a Successful Case
Speaker : Mr. Mohammed A. Al Humaidi, Executive Officer, Deputy Managing Director, Strategic Procurement and Logistics Department, Aramco Asia Japan K.K.
Speaker : Mr. Tetsuya Kurasawa, Managing Director, Azbil Saudi Limited
- (2) Experiences in KSA
Speaker : Dr. Fadi Jabri, Executive Officer, Regional Director MENA | CIS | India, Nikken Sekkei Ltd.
- (3) CHIYODA Corporation's Non-Hydrocarbon Businesses
Speaker : Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura, General Manager, Solar Thermal Energy Business Development Team, Business Development Unit 3, Chiyoda Corporation
- (4) Electric Power Infrastructure in Saudi Arabia and Prospects for the Future
Speaker : Eng. Mahdi Aldosary, Executive Director, EHV Engineering & Projects, Saudi Electricity Company (SEC)
Speaker : Eng. Abudullah Al Sohibany, Executive Director, Contracting, Saudi Electricity Company (SEC)
- (5) Hitachi's Water Solutions for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Speaker : Mr. Mohamad Amin Osman, Middle East Regional Director & CEO, Infrastructure Systems Group, Middle East Regional Headquarter, HITACHI, Ltd.

Promoting and Enhancing Investment Opportunities between Saudi Arabia and Japan Part-2

Medical Services:

- (1) Healthcare Business
Speaker : Mr. Hideaki Aratani, Group Leader, Life Science Business Group, Life Science Business Department, No. 3 Business Division, JGC Corporation
- (2) Introduction of "Japan-method Dialysis" and our activities in KSA
Speaker: Ms. Michie Abe, Associate, Social Innovation Co-Creation Dept., Consulting & International Business Division, Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd.

Closing Session

(1) Mr. Hiroshi Saito

Co-Chairman of Japan Side

(2) Mr. Tariq Abdel Hadi Al-Qahtani

Co-Chairman of Saudi Arabia Side
