



League of Arab States
General Secretariat

**Memorandum of Co-operation (MOC)
between the Government of Japan and the League of Arab States
regarding the Establishment of the Japan-Arab Economic Forum**

The Government of Japan and the League of Arab States (LAS) (hereinafter referred to as "both sides"),

Believing in the importance of enhancing and developing the economic, trade and financial co-operation between both sides; and

Out of their mutual desire to encourage joint and reciprocal investments by, for example, organizing events to promote policies, opportunities and the environment conducive to investment, exchanging information concerning investment policies, proposing specific projects for investment, and providing means to protect them;

Have decided to establish the "Japan-Arab Economic Forum" (hereinafter referred to as "the Forum") to mobilize and enhance economic co-operation between both sides through co-operation in the fields of trade, investment, energy, water, environment and sustainable development, scientific research and technology, human resource development, tourism, infrastructure development, statistics, and intellectual property.

First: Mechanism of the Forum

- The Forum will be set on a high governmental level as follows:

The Japanese side:

- Ministerial-level representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA).
- Ministerial/Deputy Ministerial-level representative of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI).

The Arab side:

- Ministerial/Deputy Ministerial-level Chair of the Economic and Social Council of the LAS (ECOSOC).
- The Secretary General/Assistant Secretary General of the LAS.
- The Head of the Arab Ambassadors Council (AAC) in Japan.



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Additional participants:

- High-level representatives of economic and business organizations from both sides.
- High-level representatives of companies from the private sector in Japan and the members of the LAS.
- The Forum will have an overall theme for each round that will be decided through consultations between both sides.
- The session of the Forum will be co-chaired in principle as follows:

The Japanese side:

- Ministerial-level representative of MOFA and Ministerial/Deputy Ministerial-level representative of METI.

The Arab side:

- Ministerial/Deputy Ministerial-level Chair of ECOSOC.
- The Secretary General/Assistant Secretary General of the LAS.
- The Forum will be held annually until 2010. After 2010, the sessions will be held regularly every two years. Each session will be hosted alternately by the Government of Japan and one of the Governments of the members of the LAS.
- As side events, the sessions of the Forum may be accompanied by such events as trade fairs, exhibitions or meetings for investors and business sector representatives from both sides, in addition to site visits to the important industrial and investment facilities.
- The Forum will aim at fully enhancing the mechanisms of the joint bilateral economic and trade committees existing between the Government of Japan and the Governments of the members of the LAS to enhance their roles.

Second: The Schedule of the Meetings of the Forum until 2012

- The first meeting of the Forum is due to be held in December 2009 in Japan.
- The second meeting of the Forum is due to be held in 2010 in Tunisia.
- The third meeting of the Forum is due to be held in 2012 in Japan.



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Third: Fields of Co-operation

- Specific fields of co-operation and programs will be developed through discussions in the sessions of the Forum.
- Furthermore, both sides share the view that they should include such fields as trade, investment, energy, water, environment and sustainable development, scientific research and technology, human resource development, tourism, infrastructure development, statistics, and intellectual property.
- Both sides will consult with each other in a spirit of co-operation to address issues of mutual concern.

This Memorandum was signed on December 6th, 2009 in Tokyo in English.

For the Japanese side,

H.E. Katsuya Okada
Minister for Foreign Affairs

H.E. Masayuki Naoshima
Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry

For the Arab side,

H.E. Amre Moussa
Secretary General
of the League of Arab States