JOINT STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE FOR A STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

1. We, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Taro Aso, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chile, Alejandro Foxley, recalling the longstanding friendship between our two peoples that has developed into an enduring cooperative relationship, had a candid discussion on how our two nations should work closely in order to contribute to their mutual stability, security and prosperity, and those of the international community as a whole.

2. To this end, we affirmed our determination to work together to further promote and deepen the economic and political relations between our two countries.

3. Today, welcoming the expeditious conclusion of the negotiations which was achieved under the guidance of our Leaders, we signed the Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Chile for a Strategic Economic Partnership (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”). By signing this Agreement, we started a new chapter of our partnership.

4. The Agreement will increase the cross-border flows of goods, persons, investment and services and strengthen the strategic economic partnership between the two countries. Furthermore, it provides for the protection of intellectual property, competition policy and the improvement of business environment. Statements on anti-dumping and technical barriers to trade (TBT) are attached to this Joint Statement.

5. We also stressed the importance of appropriately taking into account environment and labor issues in strengthening our economic relationship. Statements on these issues are also attached to this Joint Statement.

6. We hope that, by signing the Agreement, Japan and Chile will make the most of our respective competitiveness and promote the development of our economies, thereby bringing about more prosperity and stability to our peoples.
7. We share the view that enhanced economic ties between Japan and Chile will promote Japan’s economic relationship with South America, and Chile’s economic relationship with Asia, thereby giving a new impetus to trade and investment flows across the Pacific. We are convinced that our two nations will contribute together to the prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region by invigorating economic exchanges.

8. Recalling that this year we are welcoming the 110th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Chile, we, on behalf of the governments and peoples of both countries, celebrate the signing of the Agreement, which will elevate the bilateral economic relations to a higher plane.

Tokyo, March 27, 2007

Taro Aso                Alejandro Foxley
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan      Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile
Anti-dumping

1. The two ministers recognize the inclination in the world to resort to anti-dumping measures, and share the view that such measures should not be used to obstruct trade and afford unfair protection to domestic industries. The two ministers note that such measures produce trade restrictive effects.

2. The two ministers affirm the pressing need to establish robust and clear rules to ensure not only fairness and consistency in the application of anti-dumping measures but also transparency in anti-dumping proceedings. The two ministers are determined that, in the context of the JCEPA, the two governments should only use anti-dumping measures to the extent really necessary to remedy the injurious effects of dumping.

3. The two ministers are convinced of the necessity for the two governments to continue and strengthen the cooperation between them, particularly in the framework of the WTO, to clarify, improve and strengthen rules governing anti-dumping measures.
Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

The two ministers, recognizing the importance of the decision of the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade set out in G/TBT/1/Rev.8, 23 May 2002, “IX. Decision of the Committee on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations with relation to Articles 2, 5 and Annex 3 of the Agreement”, confirm that each government will make its best efforts to ensure that, when international standards, guides and recommendations are elaborated, its standardizing body will observe principles in the aforementioned document of the WTO TBT committee.
ENVIRONMENT

The two ministers,

Committed to the pursuit of sustainable development as well as recognizing its interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars – economic development, social development and environmental protection;

Recognizing that environment and trade policies should be mutually supportive, with a view to achieving sustainable development;

Convinced of the need to create capacity to protect the environment together with strengthening trade and investment relationship;

Noting the existence of differences in the countries’ respective natural endowments, climate, geographical, social, cultural and legal conditions and economic, technological and infrastructural capabilities, as well as the need to develop such capabilities;

Aware of the importance of cooperation for the protection of the environment, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in support of sustainable development;

Stressing the importance of civil society participation;

Convinced of the need to promote environmental education and culture;

Have confirmed as follows:

1. Both governments reaffirm their intention to continue to pursue high level of environmental protection and to fulfill their respective countries’ commitments under applicable international environment agreements.

2. Both governments are ready to have environment laws, regulations, policies and practices in harmony with their respective countries’ commitments under
applicable international environment agreements.

3. Both governments share the view that it is inappropriate to set or use environment laws, regulations, policies and practices for the purposes of disguised restriction on international trade.

4. Both governments also share the view that it is inappropriate to relax, or fail to enforce or administer environment laws and regulations solely to encourage trade and investment.

5. Both governments will promote public awareness of environment laws, regulations, policies and practices in their respective countries.

6. Both governments will encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, cooperative activities in the field of environment such as promotion of projects under Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and exchange of information on environmental impact assessment of economic partnership agreements.
LABOR

The two ministers,

Recognizing that labor and trade policies should be mutually supportive, with a view to achieving development with social justice;

Acknowledging that sustainable economic growth and prosperity largely depend on people’s knowledge and skills to raise productivity and competitiveness of each country;

Sharing the common aspiration that free trade and investments should lead to job creation, decent work and meaningful jobs for workers, with terms and conditions of employment which adhere to the fundamental principles established by the International Labor Organization (ILO);

Convinced of the need to protect labor rights together with strengthening trade and investment relationship;

Noting the existence of differences in the countries’ social, cultural, economic, technological and legal conditions;

Convinced of the need to increase employability by developing human capital through vocational education and training;

Stressing the importance of the participation of worker and employer representatives, as well as other members of civil society;

Aware of the importance of dealing with labor issues based on cooperation, consultation and dialogue;

Have confirmed as follows:

1. Both governments reaffirm their respective countries’ obligations as members of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and their commitment to the principles of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights

2. Both governments share the views on the importance of having their respective countries’ labor laws, regulations, policies and practices in harmony with their countries’ commitments under applicable international labor agreements.

3. Both governments share the view that it is inappropriate to set or use labor laws, regulations, policies and practices for the purposes of disguised restriction on international trade.

4. Both governments also share the view that it is inappropriate to weaken, reduce or fail to enforce or administer the protections afforded in domestic labor laws solely to encourage trade or investment.

5. Both governments will promote public awareness of labor laws and regulations in their respective countries.