

Concept note on establishment of the Japan-Nigeria Business  
Facilitation Council (JNBFC)

As of 18 November, 2019

1. The mandate and the objectives of the Japan-Nigeria Business Facilitation Council

1.1 The Japan-Nigeria Business Facilitation Council is established with the objective of promoting and strengthening business relationship between the two countries under the consensus between Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President Muhammadu Buhari at the summit meeting on 29 August, 2019 in Yokohama. President Buhari was visiting Japan to participate in the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) held from August 28 to 30.

1.2 The Embassy of Japan in the Federal Republic of Nigeria together with JETRO and NIPC take the initiative to establish “Japan-Nigeria Business Promotion Council” that will identify issues, discuss and find possible measures to resolve the issues, and follow up on the implementation of the measures, involving all relevant Japanese investors and Nigerian Ministries, Government departments and agencies(MDAs), institutional lenders and other authorities concerned with business.

1.3 The Council will have following objectives

1.3.1 Practical all-of-government approach to Japanese business facilitation.

1.3.2 Provide transparent platform for speedy resolution of Japanese business- related challenges.

1.3.3 Promote effective public-private collaboration and buy- in to improve understanding of the issues with the hope of achieving more informed decision-making.

1.3.4 Can drive practical policy reforms.

1.3.5 Protect existing and prospective Japanese private companies by proactive facilitation; and

1.3.6 Encourage Japanese private companies’ commercial activities.

## 2 Organization

2.1 Name: “Japan-Nigeria Business Facilitation Council”

2.2 Co-chairs:

H.E. Ambassador of Japan,  
Executive Secretary of NIPC or representative

2.3 Members:

2.3.1 Japan:

Officials of Embassy of Japan,  
Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO),  
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA),  
Japanese Business Community

2.3.2 Nigeria:

Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment,  
Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning  
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) Japan Desk.  
\*Relevant Nigerian MDAs.

2.4 Secretariat

2.4.1 Japan:

Embassy of Japan,  
JETRO Lagos Office.

2.4.2 Nigeria:

NIPC Japan Desk.

3. Function (Management and Operation)

3.1 It is envisaged that under the umbrella of heads level, working level meeting would take place as appropriate.

3.2 The working level meeting will be held regularly, in principle, once a quarter and can be held at a request of Japanese and/or Nigerian Secretariat. Meeting venues will be either at NIPC in Abuja or at JETRO Lagos office. Chair of the meeting will be Embassy of Japan and Japan Desk of NIPC. Japan Desk of NIPC will be responsible for ensuring the appropriate representative from Nigerian MDAs.

3.3 The council shall produce its Annual Report once a year.

\*Note: The Council can extend invitation to relevant MDAs subject to the issue under discussion.