

## STATEMENT

### EU agri-food chain organisations call for an ambitious trade deal between EU and Japan

**Brussels, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

As negotiators met today for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Bilateral EU-Japan Summit in Tokyo, Copa-Cogeca, FoodDrinkEurope and CELCAA called for an ambitious trade deal to be struck between the EU and Japan.

The agri-food chain partners believe a comprehensive trade deal would have a significant positive impact on both economies by further opening markets and improving regulatory coherence. Changing Japanese eating habits presents a major opportunity for EU agri-food producers. Improving access for EU agri-food products would not only help EU operators take advantage of this market potential, but also strengthen the EU's position vis-à-vis other major agri-food competitors.

Opening the Japanese market would benefit in particular the European meat and dairy products sectors, as well as high value added processed products. Food chain actors also give priority in the negotiations to tackling non-tariff-barriers, including the slow approval process for food additives. Finally, agri-food chain actors ask for further recognition and protection of European geographical indications (GIs) against imitations.

#### **For information:**

Joint Statements of the EU food chain organisations on this issue are available here:

[http://www.fooddrinkeurope.eu/uploads/statements\\_documents/Joint\\_statement.pdf](http://www.fooddrinkeurope.eu/uploads/statements_documents/Joint_statement.pdf)  
[http://www.fooddrinkeurope.eu/uploads/statements\\_documents/Joint\\_statement\\_EU-Japan\\_Summit\\_%28agri-food%29\\_%28FINAL%29.pdf](http://www.fooddrinkeurope.eu/uploads/statements_documents/Joint_statement_EU-Japan_Summit_%28agri-food%29_%28FINAL%29.pdf)

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#### **For further information:**

Copa-Cogeca  
Amanda Cheesley  
Press Officer  
Tel. + 32 2 2872790  
[amanda.cheesley@copa-cogeca.eu](mailto:amanda.cheesley@copa-cogeca.eu)

FoodDrinkEurope  
Florence Ranson  
Director of Communications  
Tel. +32 2 2141111  
[f.ranson@fooddrinkeurope.eu](mailto:f.ranson@fooddrinkeurope.eu)

CELCAA  
Pascale Rouhier  
Secretary General  
Tel. +32 2 5373711  
[p.rouhier@celcaa.eu](mailto:p.rouhier@celcaa.eu)