

1 June 2011

JEITA welcomes the Agreement to Launch Economic Partnership Negotiations at Japan-EU Summit

Japan Electronics & Information Technology Industries Association

JEITA welcomes the agreement reached by leaders at the 28 May Japan-EU Summit to begin negotiations toward a Japan-EU free trade agreement (FTA)/economic partnership agreement (EPA).

JEITA has been calling for some time for the early conclusion of a Japan-EU economic integration agreement (EIA) as an instrument that would promote economic exchange between Japan and the EU and contribute to the sustained development of both economies, to which end we have lobbied the relevant institutions at home and abroad. The 28 May decision is the fruit of close cooperation between government and related industries, and represents major progress toward conclusion of an agreement.

Discussions will now take place to define agreement coverage and scope, and JEITA looks forward to continuing to cooperate in that process toward the conclusion of an EU-Japan EIA aimed at achieving comprehensive economic partnership between Japan and the EU.