

To whom it may concern,

We are a group of people in Japan concerned about Japan's participation in the negotiation of Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. More than 240 members of the Diet from Liberal Democratic Party of Japan are determined to refuse approving the ratification unless the national interests are protected as LDP's campaign policy, and most of the Oppositions are clearly against TPP. Please refer to LDP's official website.

<http://www.jimin.jp/english/news/120422.html>

http://www.jimin.jp/policy/policy_topics/120315.html

If Obama Administration would force Abe administration to join TPP disregarding his promise with people in Japan, it will cause this anti-U.S. sentiment which would lead us to avoid American products. Actually, we can already see some sign of avoiding American food, namely beef or fruits for safety reasons, through this controversial discussion during past couple of years. As you might have well known, Japanese people would not speak too loud. We would not organize a boycott campaign or movement, however, we simply quit buying things from the producers we do not trust.

We would strongly recommend you and the Senators to read the attached translation and consider LDP's promise to Japanese people before approving Japan's participation in TPP.

Thank you.

Faithfully yours,

Facebook group "What is TPP?" in Japan

Resolution on Japan's participation in the negotiations of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)

Translation provided by Nobuhiro Suzuki
Professor of International Environmental Economics
Department of Global Agricultural Sciences
The University of Tokyo

February 27, 2013

The Liberal Democratic Party Policy Research Council and Research Commission on Foreign Affairs and Economic Partnership have made the following resolution.

After the Japan-U.S. summit meeting, many members of the Liberal Democratic Party are still calling for more careful approach toward Japan's participation in the TPP negotiations.

Before deciding whether or not to join the negotiations, the Government should give serious consideration to views expressed in the party's discussions.

Upon the decision, the government should identify national interests to be protected, and should present a clear strategy of how it ensures the national interests in the TPP negotiations if it makes decision on the participation in the negotiations.

We confirm, in the paper attached, what are national interests to be protected with respect to the TPP.

National interests to be protected with respect to the TPP

Six issues identified in LDP's election campaign promise.

- 1. Tariffs on products of agriculture, forestry and fisheries:** Sensitive products of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, such as rice, wheat and barley, beef, dairy products, and sugar, must be excluded from negotiation or subject to renegotiation for the purpose of maintaining their sustainable domestic production.
- 2. Standards on safety and environment and numerical targets on automobiles and other industrial products:** Japan's own safety and environment standards of automobiles, including regulation on emissions, conformity assessment of safety standards, tax code, preferences to "Kei" (small size) vehicles, must not be weakened. Any numerical targets on automobiles, which are against the principle of free trade, are unacceptable.

3. Universal health-care insurance and its public program on drug price reimbursement: The current coverage of public health-care insurance must be maintained. Commercial company's entry into medical service must not be permitted, and the ban on mixed medical services must not be lifted. Public program on drug price reimbursement must not be jeopardized.

4. Standards on food safety: Compromise must not be made on food safety regulations, especially for limits for pesticide residues and food additives, mandatory labeling for genetically modified foods, country of origin labeling for imported materials and regulations for BSE.

5. ISD provision: ISD provision, which could undermine national sovereignty, is not acceptable.

6. Government procurement and financial service: The government procurement and financial service, such as Japan Post's insurance (Kanko), Japan Post's banking (Yūcho), fraternal insurance (Kyōsai), must maintain their functions as suited to Japanese society.

—The following points were raised with particular emphasis in the party's discussion—

Patent on pharmaceuticals and copyright

Protection of patent on pharmaceuticals must not be strengthened in such a way as to hamper medical policies. Protection of copyright must not be enhanced in such a way as to worsen international balance of payments.

Regulation on opening office and mutual recognition of licentiates

Regulation on opening office for lawyers, as well as licensing system of doctor, nurse, care worker, engineer, architect, chartered accountant, tax accountant must maintain their functions as suited to Japanese society.

Fishery subsidies

Each government must retain discretion in policy making with regard to fishery subsidies.

Media

Restrictions on foreign investment in broadcasting industry, as well as resale price maintenance system of newspapers, magazines and books and their home delivery, must maintain their functions as suited to Japanese society.

Level playing field between state-owned enterprises and private entities

Japan Tobacco, Inc. (JT), Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT), Japan Broadcasting Corporation (Nippon Hoso Kyōkai; NHK) and Japan Railways (JR) must maintain their functions as suited to Japanese society.

Appendix

Number of tariff lines of agriculture, forestry and fishery products whose tariffs have not been eliminated in Japan's existing EPAs and must be excluded from the TPP negotiation

Name of product ^{*1}	Number of tariff lines ^{*2}
Beef	51
Wheat and Barley	109
Rice	58
Tubers of <i>Konnyaku</i>	3
Peas / Beans	16
Sugar	81
Starch	50
Dairy products	188
Pigmeat	49
Fish and Fish Products	91
Plywood	34
Other ^{*3}	104
Number of Tariff Lines (Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries' Products)	834
Total Number of Tariff Lines	9,018
*1: Each category includes not only raw materials but processed products and preparations.	
*2: 9-digit statistical code (HS2007)	
*3: Silk and raw silk, poultry, processed meat products, processed products of pineapples/tomatos and vegetable oil etc. are included.	