

Tokyo, 18 March 2010

7th Meeting of the EU-Japan Dialogue on Intellectual Property Rights

The 7th Meeting of the EU-Japan Dialogue on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was held in Tokyo, Japan, hosted by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The European Commission and the Japanese Government had fruitful discussions about a broad range of IPR related topics, including piracy and counterfeiting in China, Russia and the ASEAN region; customs cooperation; patent law harmonisation; IPR awareness and implementation of enforcement projects in the EU and in Japan; copyright and trademark protection in the internet and cooperation in multilateral venues regarding IPR related issues of common interest, such as ACTA.

The parties took stock of the progress achieved in the last year and agreed to strengthen their joint efforts towards a more effective protection and enforcement of IPR, particularly in certain third countries. They also agreed to exchange information about relevant projects in fields like patent harmonisation, copyright of digital works and the protection of geographical indications.

The meeting was co-chaired by Ms Ewa Synowiec, Director, DG Trade and Mr. Yasue Tanabe, Deputy Director-General of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who lead the their respective delegations of experts from the DGs/Ministries concerned.

The EU-Japan Dialogue on Intellectual Property Rights has been annually held since its first meeting in 2003, in the framework of the EU-Japan Action Plan on IPR Protection and Enforcement. The next meeting should take place in the spring of 2011, in Brussels.