



**EBC Press Release
March 22, 2007**

EBC Joins in Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the European Union

The European Business Council in Japan (EBC) is delighted to join the celebrations on 25th March 2007 of the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Treaties of Rome.

These Treaties established the “European Economic Community” and paved the way for a new era of peace and stability in the region. The six founding Member States set out to boost prosperity through competition in an internal market without borders, enabling the free movement of people, services, capital and goods. Ultimately this led to the creation of the European Union we have today, whose 491 million people in 27 Member States together share the benefits of increased economic integration and security, growth and jobs.

European business has long been a strong supporter of the European project and contributor to its goals. It has greatly gained from the creation of the internal market, from the size of that market, from the common currency and from the uniform rules that the European Union now offers to all companies operating within its borders. While many challenges remain in ensuring the continuing vigour and strength of the Union, companies in Europe, from both home and abroad, today have much to celebrate.

About the EBC:

The European Business Council (EBC) is the trade policy arm of the 18 European national chambers of commerce and business associations in Japan. Established in 1972, the EBC works to improve the trade and investment environment for European companies in Japan. The EBC currently represents more than 3,000 local European companies and individuals who are members of their national chambers of commerce. Some 350 of these companies participate directly in the EBC's 29 sector-based committees.

For more information, please contact:

European Business Council (EBC)

Tel: +81-3-3263-6222 E-mail: ebc@gol.com



EBC Press Release
March 22, 2007

EBC、欧州連合 50 周年記念式典に参加

欧州ビジネス協会（EBC）は、2007年3月25日に開かれるローマ条約の調印50周年記念式典に参加することを喜ばしく思います。ローマ条約は「欧州経済共同体」を設立し、欧州の平和と安定の新時代への道を開きました。6カ国の原加盟国は、人やサービス、資本、モノの自由な移動を可能にする、国境のない域内市場における競争を通じ繁栄を後押しすることを目指しました。これはやがて現在の欧州連合の創設へとつながり、今では27の加盟国の4億9100万人の人々が、経済統合・安全保障・経済成長・雇用の拡大の恩恵に共に与っています。欧州企業はかねてから、この欧州プロジェクトの強力なサポーターであり、その目標への貢献者となってきました。欧州企業は、域内市場の創設、域内市場の規模、共通の通貨、そして、欧州連合が現在、域内で活動するすべての企業に適用する統一規則から恩恵をこうむってきました。欧州連合の継続的な活力と強みを確保する面で依然多くの課題が残っているとはいえ、欧州で活動する企業は、欧州企業・外国企業を問わず、この記念すべき日を大いに祝うべきです。

EBCについて：

欧州ビジネス協会（EBC）は欧州18ヶ国の在日商工会議所・ビジネス協会にとっての通商政策部門であり、1972年に設立されて以来、在日欧州企業にとっての通商・投資環境の改善を目指し、活動を続けている。EBCの会員は法人と個人を合わせ現在3000を超しているが、会員はすべて各国の商工会議所に所属し、日本で活動している。会員企業の中で約350社が、EBCの29の産業別委員会に直接参加している。

詳細についてのお問い合わせ先：

欧州ビジネス協会（EBC）

電話: +81-3-3263-6222 Eメール: ebc@gol.com



Background notes:

The Rome Treaties were ratified by six founding Member States: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and The Netherlands.

Today the 27 Member States of the European Union are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom.

There are currently three official candidate countries: Croatia, FYROM (the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and Turkey.

Main Indicators for EU-27

Population 2007	491.2 million
GDP 2006	10,895 billion euro
GDP per capita 2006	22,153 euro
FDI Inflows 2005* excluding intra EU-25 flows	69,789 million euro
FDI Outflows 2005* excluding intra EU-25 flows	152,541 million euro

* data for EU-25 only (excludes Romania and Bulgaria)

Source: Eurostat, European Commission

EU's real GDP growth

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006
Real GDP (% growth)	1.3%	1.3%	2.5%	1.8%

Source: Source: Eurostat, European Commission