

EMBASSY OF JAPAN

4th June 2012

MEDIA RELEASE

1. Mr. Yutaka Yoshizawa, Ambassador of Japan and Mr. Pravin Jamnadas Gordhan, Minister of Finance of the Republic of South Africa signed **the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of South Africa regarding Mutual Assistance and Cooperation between their Customs Administrations** at Pretoria on 2 July 2012.
2. The purpose of this Agreement is to enable the two administrations to exchange information, provide each other with technical assistance, undertake surveillance and investigations together with, and on behalf of, each other and generally to co-operate with each other in order to enhance the efficiency of their operations and to upgrade expertise with regard to the techniques necessary for such operations.

The Agreement is based on the international standard model which is established by the World Customs Organisation for agreements of this nature.

3. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature, with immediate effect. The Ministry of Finance in Japan and the South African Revenue Service (SARS) in the Republic of South Africa will benefit from this Agreement.
4. Both countries expect that this Agreement will strengthen their strategic bilateral relations.

For further information, contact Ms. Yuka Hananogi, at the Embassy of Japan in Pretoria, Tel: 012 452 1500 or Fax: 012 460 1631.

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