

Press Release 091/2017

Mexico City, August 10 2017

## Mexico and Japan signed a Customs Cooperation Agreement

- *Japan is Mexico's third trade partner in the world*

Within the framework of the Mexican strategy “Towards the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Customs”, the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, through the Tax Administration Service, signed an Agreement with Japan on Mutual Assistance and Cooperation in Customs Matters to strengthen the information exchange schemes and closer the cooperation amongst Customs authorities.

The signature of this Agreement will allow both countries to coordinate for the combat and detection of foreign trade illegal practices such as undervaluation, since authorities will be able to corroborate the authenticity of the provided documents, exchange information regarding foreign trade operations and seizures of goods, detection and concealment methods, among other actions.

The agreement was signed by the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Japan to the United Mexican States, Akira Yamada, and by Ricardo Treviño, Mexican Administrator General of Customs.

The bilateral relationship amid these both nations has been fortified through time, to the extent that Japan is Mexico's third trade partner in world, and on the last 5 years, the trade balance between both countries has increased its total trade approximately 15%.

Additionally, both countries currently have a high level of cooperation in Customs assistance and capacity building, with the collaboration of their respective agencies on international cooperation: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Mexican Agency of International Cooperation for the Development (AMEXCID, for its Spanish acronym). Proof of this is the upcoming workshop in September of this year that Mexican Customs will provide to four officials from Japan Customs.

One of the main pillars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Customs is collaboration, and in this sense, Mexico will continue carrying out coordinating actions and working with its main partners to increase international trade and furnish dynamism to the national economy.

--0--