

Mexico supports Japan to join the TPP negotiations

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(Tokyo, Japan). Mexico expressed his support for Japan's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership free-trade talks, signing a joint statement with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to further expand the bilateral relationship between the two countries. Mexico is the first country whose leader, President Peña Nieto, expressed support for Japan's joining the negotiations.

"Mexico is a strategic global partner that shares fundamental values, such as rule of law and free trade," Abe said. "We'd like to further deepen and expand the bilateral relationship."

Japan and Mexico enjoy close economic ties, having inked an Economic Partnership Agreement in 2005. The two leaders also agreed to further promote trade, investment and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Mexico, which has already inked free trade agreements with 44 countries, has a business environment advantageous for exports. For this reason, automakers have a number of manufacturing and exporting bases there.

Sources: *Notimex / The Japan News*