

No. 26977

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
JAPAN**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement to accelerate
tariff reductions in the field of semiconductors (with
annexes). Washington, 30 September 1981**

Authentic text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 19 December 1989.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
JAPON**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord en vue d'accélérer
les réductions de tarifs douaniers en matière de semicon-
ducteurs (avec annexes). Washington, 30 septembre 1981**

Texte authentique : anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 19 décembre 1989.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN TO ACCELERATE TARIFF REDUCTIONS IN THE FIELD OF SEMI-CONDUCTORS

I

THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1981

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I would like to express my satisfaction that the trade between the United States of America and Japan in semiconductors has been steadily expanding.

In order to further facilitate such trade, I have the honor to inform you that, as a result of recent discussions between the representatives of our two governments, the Government of the United States of America will accelerate the reduction of its tariffs on semiconductors to the final concession rates of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) in two stages. The details and timing of these reductions are described in the Annex to this letter. The Government of the United States of America also will reduce tariffs on two non-semiconductor articles, as described in the Annex.

The acceleration of the semiconductor tariff reductions described in the Annex is undertaken upon the understanding that the Government of Japan, subject to necessary domestic procedures, including Diet approval, similarly will accelerate its tariff reductions on semiconductors to the final concession rates of the MTN.

It is my firm belief that this mutual reduction of tariffs will serve not only to promote further our trade in semiconductors in a mutually beneficial manner but also to demonstrate our common commitment to further the principle of free trade. In particular, I appreciate the fact that the magnitude of the tariff reduction referred to above will be greater on the Japanese side and that as a result U.S. exporters will benefit. This reduction of Japanese tariffs on semiconductors to the final concession rates of the MTN will serve as further evidence of the increasing openness of the Japanese market.

¹ Came into force on 30 September 1981 by the exchange of the said letters.

I would also like to reiterate that the Government of the United States of America is firmly committed to the principle of open markets in semiconductors. The Government of the United States of America will continue to urge third countries to join in this commitment and to take steps for the liberalization of their markets. We welcome the support of the Government of Japan in this endeavor.

I have further the honor to request you to confirm my understanding that the Government of Japan will, subject to necessary domestic procedures, including Diet approval, similarly accelerate the reduction of its tariffs on semiconductors to the final concession rates of the MTN.

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Very truly yours,

[Signed]

WILLIAM E. BROCK

The Honorable Yoshio Okawara
Japanese Ambassador to the United States
Embassy of Japan
Washington, D.C.