No. 48932

Japan and Canada

Agreement between Japan and Canada on social security. Tokyo, 15 February 2006

Entry into force: 1 March 2008 by notification, in accordance with article 19

Authentic texts: English, French and Japanese

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: Japan, 30 August 2011

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Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies: Japon, 30 août 2011

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

Agreement between Japan and Canada on Social Security

JAPAN and CANADA,

BEING DESIROUS of regulating the relationship between them in the field of social security,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 Objectives

- 1. The objectives of this Agreement are to achieve the appropriate application of the relevant social security schemes in place in Japan and in Canada and to establish, where appropriate, entitlement to benefits, in order to facilitate the mobility of persons between the two countries.
- 2. Both Parties are committed to maximizing the effect of these objectives.

Article 2 Definitions

- 1. For the purpose of this Agreement:
 - (a) "territory" means:

as regards Japan, the territory of Japan;

as regards Canada, the territory of Canada;

(b) "national" means:

as regards Japan, a Japanese national within the meaning of the law on nationality of Japan;

as regards Canada, a Canadian citizen within the meaning of the Citizenship Act;

(c) "legislation" means:

as regards Japan, the laws and regulations of Japan concerning the Japanese pension systems specified in subparagraph 1(a) of Article 3;

however, the laws and regulations of Japan promulgated for the implementation of other agreements on social security comparable with this Agreement shall not be included;

as regards Canada, the acts and regulations of Canada specified in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 3;

(d) "competent authority" means:

as regards Japan, any of the Governmental organizations competent for the Japanese pension systems specified in subparagraph 1(a) of Article 3;

as regards Canada, the Minister or Ministers responsible for the application of the acts and regulations of Canada specified in subparagraph 1(b) of Article 3;

(e) "competent institution" means:

as regards Japan, any of the insurance institutions, or any association thereof, responsible for the implementation of the Japanese pension systems specified in subparagraph 1(a) of Article 3;

as regards Canada, the competent authority;

(f) "period of coverage" means:

as regards Japan, a period of contribution under the legislation of Japan and any other period taken into account under that legislation for establishing entitlement to benefits;

as regards Canada, a period of contribution used to acquire the right to a benefit under the Canada Pension Plan and a period during which a disability pension is payable under that Plan; (g) "period of residence in Canada" means:

as regards Canada, a period used to acquire the right to a benefit under the Old Age Security Act;

- (h) "benefit" means a pension or any other cash benefit under the legislation of either Party.
- 2. For the purpose of this Agreement, any term not defined in this Agreement shall have the meaning assigned to it under the respective legislation of either Party.

Article 3 Scope of Application

- This Agreement shall apply:
 - (a) as regards Japan:

to the following Japanese pension systems:

- (i) the National Pension (except the National Pension Fund);
- (ii) the Employees' Pension Insurance (except the Employees' Pension Fund);
- (iii) the Mutual Aid Pension for National Public Officials;
 - (iv) the Mutual Aid Pension for Local Public Officials and Personnel of Similar Status (except the pension system for members of local assemblies); and
 - (v) the Mutual Aid Pension for Private School Personnel;

(the Japanese pension systems specified in (ii)
to (v) shall hereinafter be referred to as the
"Japanese pension systems for employees");

however, for the purpose of this Agreement, the National Pension shall not include the Old Age Welfare Pension or any other pensions which are granted on a transitional or complementary basis for the purpose of welfare and which are payable wholly or mainly out of national budgetary resources;

(b) as regards Canada:

to the following acts and regulations of Canada:

- (i) the Old Age Security Act, and the regulations made thereunder; and
- (ii) the Canada Pension Plan, and the regulations made thereunder.
- 2. As regards Canada, this Agreement shall also apply to acts and regulations which amend, supplement, consolidate or supersede the acts and regulations specified in subparagraph 1(b) of this Article.

Article 4 Equality of Treatment and Payment of Benefits Abroad

- 1. Persons who are or have been subject to the legislation of one Party, as well as other persons who derive rights from such persons, who ordinarily reside in the territory of the other Party, shall receive equal treatment with nationals of that other Party in the application of the legislation of that other Party. However, the foregoing shall not affect the provisions on complementary periods for Japanese nationals on the basis of ordinary residence outside the territory of Japan under the legislation of Japan.
- 2. Any provision of the legislation of one Party which restricts entitlement to or payment of benefits solely because the person ordinarily resides outside or is absent from the territory of that Party shall not be applicable to persons who ordinarily reside in the territory of the other Party. However, the foregoing shall not affect:
 - (a) the provisions of the legislation of Japan which require a person who is aged 60 or over but under 65 on the date of the first medical examination or of death to reside ordinarily in the territory of Japan for the acquisition of entitlement to the Disability Basic Pension or the Survivors' Basic Pension;