

October 7, 2019

His Excellency  
Ambassador Robert E. Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative

Excellency,

In connection with the signing of the Trade Agreement between Japan and the United States of America (the Agreement), I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between representatives of the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America regarding the operation of the Simultaneous Buy-Sell (SBS) mechanism under the tariff rate quota set out in Japan's Schedule to the WTO Agreement for rice:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF), or its successor, shall continue to publish, immediately after the results of each SBS tender become final, on an official government website the following information for each of two subtypes (brown and milled) of each type of rice (short-grain rice, medium-grain rice, and long-grain rice):

- (a) the number of bids submitted and the total quantity represented by those bids;
- (b) the number of successful bids and the total quantity represented by those bids;
- (c) the weighted average purchase price paid by MAFF, or its successor, pursuant to bids that were successful; and
- (d) the weighted average purchase price paid to MAFF or its successor, pursuant to bids that were successful.

I have the honor to propose that this letter, equally valid in Japanese and English, and your letter in reply, equally valid in English and Japanese, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force on the date of entry into force of the Agreement.

Sincerely,

SUGIYAMA Shinsuke  
Ambassador of Japan to the United States of America

October 7, 2019

His Excellency  
Mr. SUGIYAMA Shinsuke  
Ambassador of Japan to the United States of America

Excellency,

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of October 7, 2019, which reads as follows:

“In connection with the signing of the Trade Agreement between Japan and the United States of America (the Agreement), I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between representatives of the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America regarding the operation of the Simultaneous Buy-Sell (SBS) mechanism under the tariff rate quota set out in Japan’s Schedule to the WTO Agreement for rice:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF), or its successor, shall continue to publish, immediately after the results of each SBS tender become final, on an official government website the following information for each of two subtypes (brown and milled) of each type of rice (short-grain rice, medium-grain rice, and long-grain rice):

- (a) the number of bids submitted and the total quantity represented by those bids;
- (b) the number of successful bids and the total quantity represented by those bids;
- (c) the weighted average purchase price paid by MAFF, or its successor, pursuant to bids that were successful; and
- (d) the weighted average purchase price paid to MAFF or its successor, pursuant to bids that were successful.

I have the honor to propose that this letter, equally valid in Japanese and English, and your letter in reply, equally valid in English and Japanese, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force on the date of entry into force of the Agreement.”

I have the further honor to confirm that my Government shares this understanding and to agree that your letter, equally valid in Japanese and English, and this letter in reply, equally valid in English and Japanese, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall

enter into force on the date of entry into force of the Trade Agreement between the United States of America and Japan.

Sincerely,

Ambassador Robert E. Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative