

Swiss-Japanese Chamber of Commerce

39th AGM

2024: 160 Years of Diplomatic Relations between Switzerland and Japan

Guest Speaker Dinner:
Christoph Mäder, Chairman economiesuisse
H.E. Yoshinori Fujiyama, Ambassador of Japan

May 15, 2024, 16:30 – 17.30
Zunfthaus zur Waag, Münsterhof 8, 8001 Zürich

1. Welcome Address by the President

The President welcomes the members.

This year Switzerland and Japan are celebrating 160 years of diplomatic relations.

SJCC had a successful year 2023 with many highly interesting events. The number of members is stable and the finances are sound.

Relevant documents for the AGM were made available in advance online and copies are available at the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last AGM

The Meeting minutes of AGM 2023 are approved unanimously.

3. Annual Reports 2023 (General Report, Report Parliamentary Group Switzerland-Japan)

General Report SJCC

The President reminds that 2023 was the first year without any restrictive Covid measures since the pandemic outbreak.

The Chamber had a successful year 2023. Many highly attractive events could be organized. The membership basis is stable and the finances are sound.

Events and activities 2023

January 9, 2023
SJCC Shinnenkai 2023
Welcome by Martin Herb, President SJCC
Speakers: Heinrich Schellenberg, Ambassador, Head of the Asia and Pacific Division at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in Bern

H.E. Yoshinori Fujiyama, Ambassador of Japan
Chikako Thomsen, Calligraphy Demonstration
Zunfthaus zur Meisen, Zurich

February 1, 2023
Luncheon Board with H.E. Yoshinori Fujiyama, Ambassador of Japan
Haus zum Rüden, Zurich

March 22, 2023
Company Visit: JTI – Japan Tobacco International
Welcome by Martin Herb, President SJCC
Kevin Suter, Corporate Affairs JTI, Andrea Hausmann, Corporate Affairs Manager JTI
Dagmersellen, JT International

May 23, 2023
38th AGM 23 May 2023
Welcome by Martin Herb, President SJCC
Guest Speaker: H.E. Yoshinori Fujiyama, Ambassador of Japan
Haus zum Rüden, Zurich

June 7, 2023 - SR
Company Visit: Nippon Express
Welcome Dr. Wieland Noetzold, Vice-president SJCC
Speaker: Patrick Kreis, Geneva Branch Manager, Nippon Express (Suisse) SA
Restaurant Le Chef / Airport Geneva Building 3rd floor

June 12, 2023
Navigating Japan's Geopolitical and Economic Landscape
Speaker: Dr. Sachio Semmoto, Chairman and CEO of eAccess and eMobile
Organiser: Europa Institut
University of Zurich, Aula Magna

September 12, 2023
«In the service of art and art education» – Conversation with H.I.H. Princess Akiko of Mikasa
Speaker: Princess Akiko of Mikasa
University of Zurich - Aula Magna
Organiser: Europa Institut

September 13, 2023
Presentation / Conversation: H.I.H. Princess Akiko of Mikasa
Moderator Rafael von Matt, SRF
Villa Bleuler, Swiss Institute for Art Research
Welcome addresses by
- SJCC President Martin Herb
- Prof. Dr. Roger Fayet, Director of the Swiss Institute for Art Research
- H.E. Yoshinori Fujiyama, Ambassador of Japan
- Government Councillor Carmen Walker Späh, Head of the Department for Economic Affairs, Canton of Zurich

September 13, 2023
Honorary Dinner for H.I.H. Princess Akiko of Mikasa, given by of the Government Councillor Carmen Walker Späh, Head of the Department for Economic Affairs, Canton of Zurich, Haus zum Rechberg, Zurich
Welcome by Government Councillor Carmen Walker Späh and SJCC President Martin Herb

November 28, 2023
WTO Trade Policy Review of Japan 2023
Speaker: Masahiro Hayafuji, Head Asia and Pacific Region – Trade Policies Review Division WTO
Welcome by Martin Herb, President SJCC
Zunfthaus zur Meisen

December 4, 2023

Reception SJCC/Parliamentary Group Switzerland-Japan

Welcome by

Martin Herb, President SJCC

Elisabeth Schneider-Schneiter, National Councillor, President Parliamentary Group Switzerland-Japan

Presentations by

Swiss Advanced Mobile Robots for Japan, Satschin Bansal, VP Partnerships, ANYbotics AG

The Role of Japan for the Swiss MEM industry, Christoph Blättler, Secretary General SMTM, Swissmem

Switzerland at the World Expo 2025 in Osaka, Manuel Salchli, Commissioner General Swiss Pavilion Expo 2025, Presence Switzerland

Toast by H.E. Yoshinori Fujiyama, Ambassador of Japan to Switzerland

Grande Société de Berne, 3011 Bern

December 7, 2023

Webinar: Visa Application in Japan: Work and Dependent Visa Application

Speaker: Hiroshi Misu, Administrative Lawyer

online

Welcome by President SCCIJ Thomas Brodbeck and SJCC President Martin Herb

Organiser: Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (SCCIJ)

Project Matterhorn

Working committee installed: Attracting Japanese investments in Switzerland. Markus Schweizer, board member, is in charge and presents the project.

Report Parliamentary Group Switzerland-Japan

Domique Ursprung, SJCC secretary of the group, reports.

The annual report 2023 is approved unanimously.

4. Annual Accounts 2023 and Auditors Report 2023

The Treasurer reports: finances are sound. Annual profit CHF 26'347, total assets CHF 125'967.

PwC performed a limited statutory examination on the annual accounts.

The annual accounts are approved unanimously.

The President thanks PwC for auditing the accounts pro bono.

5. Budget 2024

Treasurer Wieland Noetzold reported on the budget.

6. Scholarship Fund 2023: Annual Report, Annual Accounts

The Chairperson of the Scholarship Fund, Jacqueline Tschumi, presents the annual report and accounts: assets of CHF 207'782, with deficit of the year CHF 33'391. Donations CHF 0. Scholarships paid to 6 persons CHF 33'299.

PwC performed a limited statutory examination on the annual accounts.

The report and annual accounts are approved unanimously.

The President thanks PwC for auditing the accounts pro bono.

7. Discharge of the Board and the Executive Committee

Discharge to the Board and Executive Committee members is granted unanimously.

8. Elections (Board, Statutory Auditors)

Board members

<p>new</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Sandra Hedinger, Takeda Pharma AG - Susumu Tanaka*, GM JETRO Geneva - Christian Seider, General Manager NTT Data - Christoph Blättler, General Secretary Swissmem - Markus T. Schweizer, Managing Partner, EMEA Japan Business Services, Ernst & Young. <p>by function</p> <p>Scholarship Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jacqueline Tschumi*, Chairperson SJCC Scholarship Fund, S-GE <p>SJCC Young Professionals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fabien Antonatos*, AICA SA, Lausanne. <p>President Young Professionals</p>	<p>resigned or replaced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Claudio Ammann, Hammer Group, resigned December 2023 (retirement) - Dr. Andreas Uttenweiler, Takeda, resigned in 2022 changing to Idorsia - Shiro Takegami*, GM JETRO Geneva, returned to Japan <p>- Philipp Saurer*, Chairman SJCC Scholarship Fund</p> <p>- Kevin Frey*, Sonova AG, President SJCC Young Professionals</p>
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** Members of the Executive Committee*

The coopted board members are confirmed.

The president thanks all leaving board members for their support, commitment and good work,

Election Statutory Auditors

PwC is elected unanimously as statutory auditors for a term of office of 1 year.

9. SJCC Young Professionals

Kevin Frey reports on the activities.

10. Any Other Business

The president thanks all persons involved in the activities of the Chamber. He thanks all board and executive committee members and all members for their continuous support.

He thanks the Chamber's sponsors in 2023: