



BCCJ 2020-2021

Executive Committee Booklet



Overview

For 72 years, the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan (BCCJ) has been at the heart of the UKJapan business relationship. Thanks to the efforts of countless companies and individuals the Chamber has developed into an exceptionally active not-for-profit private membership organization representing over 220 firms.

This year, the UK-Japan partnership will navigate unprecedented challenges in the face of COVID-19. The BCCJ will continue to work closely with regional and global partners to provide access to trusted resources and new platforms for knowledge sharing, while supporting a diligent response by our members and community. Our purpose is that BCCJ members make great connections with people that matter. By providing members with insights and shared experience on the priority themes of the BCCJ 5.0 vision project (digital & technology, responsible business, diversity & inclusion) we aim to amplify trust and opportunities within the breadth and depth of the UK-Japan business relationship.

Meanwhile, our nimble BCCJ office team commits to enhancing all aspects of our services with the aim of providing even-greater value for all BCCJ members. This will all be achieved with direction from the Executive Committee (Excom).

What is the Excom?

The Excom consists of a minimum of twelve (12) and a maximum of fifteen (15) members. The role of Excom is primarily a strategic one. The Excom decides the purpose and the overall goals of the BCCJ and sets a framework for their implementation and achievement. The key responsibilities of Excom are to:

- Set suitable organisational aims and objectives
- Set a budget which allows the BCCJ to fulfil its purpose
- Agree policies, targets and priorities
- Monitor and review the performance of the BCCJ and the executive team

The Excom seeks an appropriate balance of members of the business community with specific skills and experiences that will benefit the BCCJ and its membership at large. Excom members serve for a 1 year term (April to March). This can be reviewed annually.

The Excom meets 11 times during the year, excluding the month of August. Excom members are expected to attend the regular Excom meetings and our Annual General Meeting held in April.

What skills make you a good candidate for a BCCJ Excom role, and what specific value will you bring to BCCJ members?



ALISON BEALE
Director, University of Oxford Japan Office

I have been on Excom for five years, the last three as Vice-President. I have been active in the Events TF, and more recently the Digi-Tech Innovation taskforces. My career to date has principally involved building long-term and mutually beneficial partnerships between the UK and Japan. Through Excom, I hope to continue contributing to ensure the UK is at the heart of the business, cultural and educational relationship with Japan and to ensure the BCCJ provides excellent value and opportunities to all members.



DAVID BICKLE [Presidential candidate]
Partner, Deloitte Tohmatsu Tax Co

Twenty years experience tackling business and sporting challenges as part of teams in Japan - as an employee of Deloitte and Kobe Steel, and a rugby player capped for Japan. With a chartered accountant's professionalism, I want to ensure the BCCJ offers greater opportunities to members at a vitally important time for UK/ Japan business relations. In particular, to create a more effective platform for business exchange and networking through a vibrant events program, and by helping our members to make great connections with the people who matter to them in business.



HARUHIKO TSUYUKUBO
President, Rolls-Royce Japan Co., Ltd.

During my 30 years in a number of senior management and leadership roles in industrial sectors such as automotive and aerospace, I have acquired a deep and cross-cultural awareness. I am confident that I can contribute my experience and knowledge in the areas of business development and strategy to the BCCJ, especially with any future activities that promote technology & industrial partnerships between the UK and Japan.

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HEATHER MCLEISH
Director, EY Japan

This year has started far differently than anyone could have expected. Uncertain times to be sure. However, new challenges also mean new opportunities. Strengthening our BCPs, embracing flexible work technologies, increasing focus on corporate sustainability and redefining our purpose is important in difficult times. The BCCJ plays a vital role in the business community. Including in relation to the above mentioned areas, which is part of why I wish to continue as an Excom member in 2020-2021. I hope to continue making a positive difference by helping us be more digitally embedded and focusing on agile, creative leadership.



IAIN FERGUSON
President & Chief Operating Officer,
Lloyd's Japan KK

Living in Japan for 23 years, I have gathered considerable experience of building strong relationships with Japanese businesses. I also have several years experience promoting cultural and social interaction between British and Japanese nationals as a board member of the Japan British Society. If elected, I would look to build on the contribution I have made with the BCCJ membership task force over recent years. Lloyd's is a strong contributor to UK financial services "invisibles" and provides significant reinsurance to the Japan insurance market. Several prominent Japanese insurance companies are also investors in Lloyd's.



JAMES DODDS
Partner, KPMG

Since joining the Excom in 2012, I have provided advice on financial issues and acted as Treasurer for the BCCJ, and will continue to do so if re-elected. I have also worked on the Membership, Communications and Digital task forces in the past. I will work with the other Excom members to help the BCCJ continue to grow, and to remain relevant and valuable for members.

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JUNKO KUBOKAWA
Representative Director, President - Country
MD, Croda Japan K.K.

Since the first exposure to British education at the age of ten in a European country, Britain has had a special place in my heart. I now lead a Japanese subsidiary of a British speciality chemicals company, Croda. Leadership, facilitation in bridging different cultures, optimism in juggling work, travel and family are some of the roles I have actively taken. I hope to contribute to the continued relationship of Britain and Japan, and to the diversity and sustainability activities of the BCCJ in today's Japan.



KEN KATAYAMA
Individual Member (Director of Digital Policy,
Microsoft Japan Co., Ltd.)

I have been an individual member of the BCCJ for over four years. With my bi-cultural background and career in both Japanese govt, as well as the technology sector, this will enable me to contribute further to the goals of the BCCJ and strengthen ties between the UK and Japan and members of the Chamber. I hope to evangelise to other former Japanese expats to the UK like myself, the value of being an Individual member of the BCCJ, and to expand the membership base and deepen the networking value proposition at the BCCJ.



KENTARO KISO
President and Representative Director,
Barclays Securities Japan

It will be my second year to sit at the BCCJ Excom. I have enjoyed contributing to the monthly meetings and engaging with a number of talented representatives as part of the task force I joined. The year passed with gathering momentum, until abruptly faced with a new challenge in the form of the coronavirus outbreak. We have together handled the situation with care over the past weeks, with each member of Excom contributing in a way tied to their professional fields. Looking ahead, I will offer unique perspectives and intelligence backed by over 3 decades of experience in Finance, across Japan, Asia, and the UK

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PAUL LIRETTE
President and Representative Director,
GlaxoSmithKline K.K

As a leader of the British based world-leading healthcare company, I would like to keep bringing my experience and passion to Excom. I have especially been keen in creating and supporting inclusive culture where diverse opinions are shaped and respected. I would like to contribute to enhancing D&I in Japan based on my experience. Other areas that I can contribute are fostering more partnerships between British and Japanese businesses, life sciences, innovation and technology.



REIKO SAKIMURA
Partner, Clifford Chance Law Office

I am the Co-Managing Partner of Clifford Chance Tokyo, offering both English and Japanese law services on a cross-border basis primarily to Japanese and overseas corporations. I am very committed to serving British and overseas businesses accessing the Japanese market, as well as Japanese companies accessing the overseas market, and would like to support the BCCJ through leveraging on my own and my firm's global expertise and experience, from both legal and business perspectives. I also have a keen interest in diversity and inclusion, especially the promotion of women in the workplace.



RICHARD LYLE
VP Trade & Investment, Intralink KK

I have spent much of my career in environmental roles, so understand the challenges facing businesses to act responsibly. I can drive the BCCJ's objectives by leveraging my knowledge and contacts to help the Chamber achieve its goals for the responsible business agenda. I have worked in senior leadership roles, so I understand how to influence and motivate relevant stakeholders to get the most impact from them. I have been a long-term member of the BCCJ taking an ever-increasingly active role. I look forward to the chance to better serve the Chamber and its membership on the Excom.

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RICHARD THORNLEY
Individual Member

As one of the longest serving Excom members, it has been a distinct honour and pleasure to have contributed towards the vibrancy, diversity and use of technology of APAC's International Chamber of the Year 2019. I wish to use my experience to provide even more value and opportunities to grow the businesses of members' companies of all sizes and sectors in a post-BREXIT and coronavirus era. I pledge to serve the Chamber to the best of my ability in any role to which I am assigned and would be humbled to be re-elected.



SVEN PALYS
Co-Founder & CEO, Yuzu Kyodai

A young entrepreneur, ten years in Japan, I pledge to be energetic, creative and collegiate if offered this role. My market research and branding agency is entirely predicated on understanding what is happening in Japan, and I would welcome sharing this knowledge productively and generously. Many foreigners continue to feel outsiders here, however long their residence: as a gay man married to a Japanese national, I hope this is where I can also add a valuable perspective. As a BCCJ member, I have always appreciated its support, diversity and dynamism; and I would welcome being given the chance to reciprocate.



TOVE KINOOKA
Director, Global Perspectives K.K.

As a small business owner that partners with major Japanese and multinational corporations to embed responsible business mindsets and behaviours into organizational culture, I am passionate about creating positive change. During my second year on Excom I led the BCCJ's Responsible Business taskforce to design and deliver a number of sustainability-focused events that provided our membership with opportunities to share and discuss challenges, solutions and best practices. I would be honoured and delighted to continue this work in close collaboration with Excom colleagues and BCCJ members as well as with other chambers and external organisations over the year ahead.



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