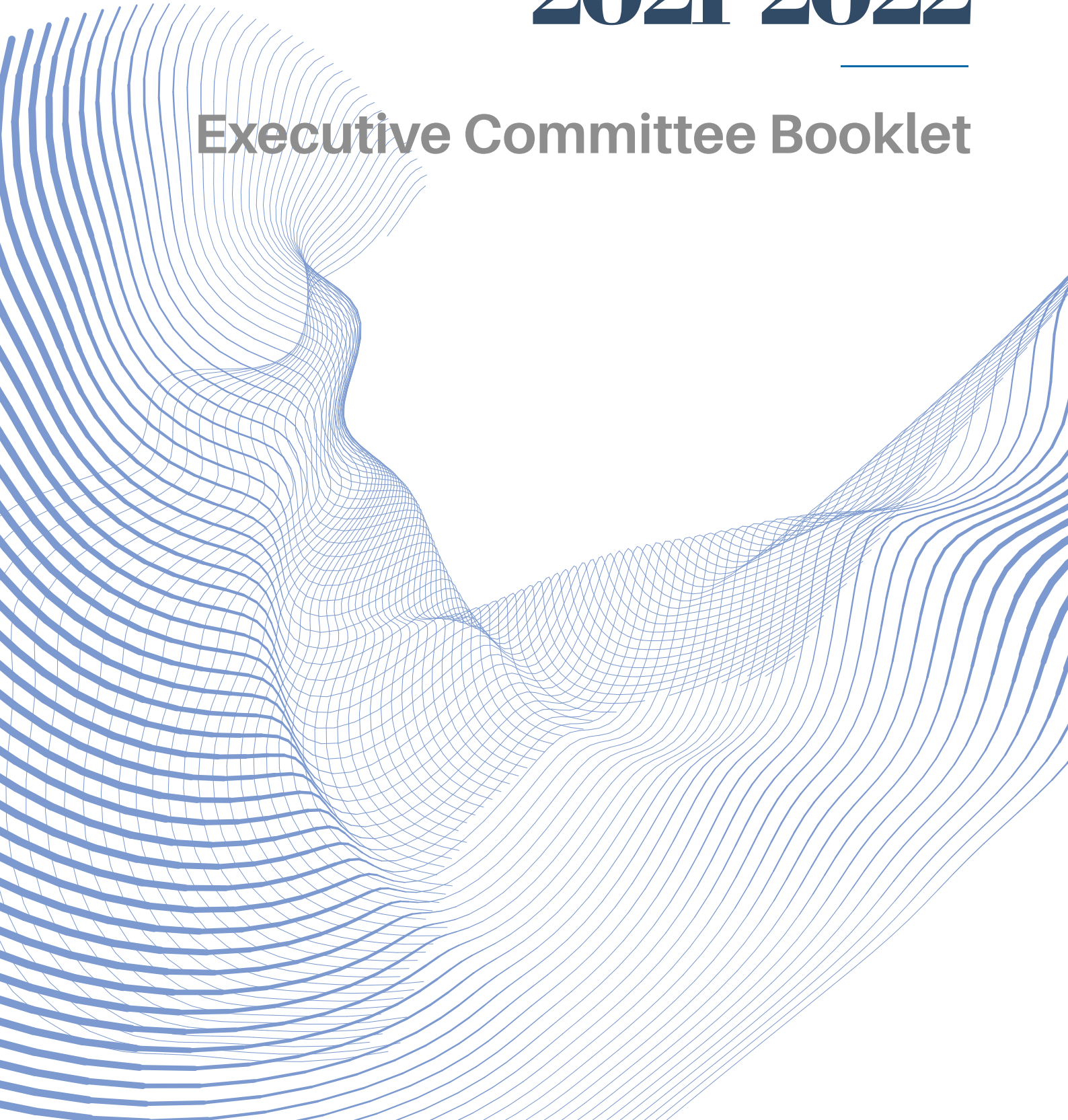


# BCCJ

## 2021-2022

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### Executive Committee Booklet



# Overview

For 73 years, the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan (BCCJ) has been at the heart of UK-Japan business. Thanks to the efforts of countless companies and individuals, the Chamber has developed into an exceptionally active, not-for-profit private membership organisation comprising almost 200 firms.

This year marks a new era for UK-Japan Relations. With the signing of an historic bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) last October, Britain's relationship with Japan has entered exciting territory. This combined with the UK's drive to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership provides an opportunity for the BCCJ and BCCJ members to work ever more closely with regional and global partners.

As a 21st century business development hub, the Chamber has been facilitating access to new connections, clients and customers, and developing platforms for knowledge sharing, while delivering traditional member services including events, promotion, business concierge and consultancy. Our nimble BCCJ executive team commits to further enhancing our membership value proposition with the aim of providing even-greater influence, exposure and connectivity for all BCCJ members through enhanced digital services.

All of the above will be achieved with strategic direction from the BCCJ 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.

## Pledge to Excom

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 six years, the last four as Vice-President. I have been active in the Events, and more recently the Digi-Tech Innovation taskforce. 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**

More than twenty years experience tackling business and sporting challenges as part of teams in Japan - as an employee of Deloitte and Kobe Steel, and as a rugby player capped for Japan. With a chartered accountant's professionalism, I want to ensure that 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.



**EDWARD WEEKS**  
**President & Chief Executive Officer Japan, HSBC**

At HSBC we pride ourselves on opening up a world of opportunity. We have facilitated relationships and trade between Japan, the UK and the rest of the world since 1866. I want to bring that connectivity and insight to BCCJ members as an Excom member. Professionally and personally I am a strong advocate of D&I and corporate sustainability. I pledge to provide enthusiasm and a fresh perspective on all business-related issues, based on over 25 years of experience in the UK, Australia, Hong Kong and Japan in client facing, management, strategy and leadership roles.

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**HEATHER MCLEISH**  
Director, EY Japan

I am very proud to have been part of the British Chamber of Commerce in the 2020-2021 term. Working with Excom members to reinvent events plus bring relevant topics and speakers to the membership during unprecedented times has been inspirational. We worked to redefine our value to the business community – you – and rose to the challenge. The 2021-2022 term looks to be no less challenging, though perhaps with more light at the end of the tunnel. I hope to continue working with Excom on expanding our value proposition and deliver high-quality events that drive thought-provoking conversations in the coming term.



**IAIN FERGUSON**  
President, Lloyd's Japan KK

Having lived in Japan for 25 years, I have experience of building strong relationships with Japanese business. 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. In recent years I have made contributions through both the membership and responsible business task forces, Finally, Lloyd's is a strong contributor to UK financial services "invisibles", providing significant reinsurance cover to the Japan insurance market. Prominent Japanese insurance companies are investors at Lloyd's.



**JAMES DODDS**  
Partner, KPMG

Since joining Excom in 2012, I have provided advice on financial matters 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 Digi-Tech taskforces in the past. I will work with the other Excom members to help the BCCJ to continue to grow and remain valuable and relevant for the members.

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**JAMES NEPAULSINGH**  
Senior Associate (Corporate and M&A),  
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

I am passionate about promoting Britain's rich cultural and racial diversity. If elected, I believe I may be Excom's first person of colour. As such, I can offer unique insight surrounding topical issues and guidance if required. One of my goals will be to increase the representation of minority groups in the BCCJ, and indeed in Japan. I am a corporate lawyer and I have worked in Japan for over 14 years. I am proud to promote the benefits of English law and I look forward to further encouraging business links between Japan and Britain through the law.



**JUNKO KUBOKAWA**  
Representative Director & President,  
Croda Japan K.K.

I have served my first year as an Excom member under this unusual COVID-19 situation, not being able to meet in-person even once. In the coming term, I would like to contribute more in bringing in views from a UK manufacturing company in Japan. In addition, within the D&I Task Force, I would like to add value to the BCCJ members by addressing some of the challenges our Japanese society has in embracing D&I and to move forward using my experience in previous decades, building a career while raising a family and bridging UK Japan relations.



**KEN KATAYAMA**  
Individual Member

I hope to continue my contribution to Excom. In FY20, being able to physically "make great connections with people who matter" has been a challenge. However, FY20 has been a rewarding year personally in being able to work with a diverse and inclusive Excom and I will continue to support that in FY 21. At the same time, assuming at some stage we will be able to go back to physical events, I hope to be able to evangelize to former Japanese expats to the UK the value of the BCCJ.

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**KENTARO KISO**  
President and Chief Representative,  
Barclays Securities Japan Limited

I had the honour to run as a BCCJ Excom member for the past 2 years and truly enjoyed engaging with various talents. Having spent more than half of my 30+ year financial career working and living in London, I believe I can make an important contribution helping to promote, develop, build, and strengthen the excellent partnership that Japan enjoys with the United Kingdom. 2020 has been a crucial year for the Anglo-Japanese relationship, particularly post Brexit, COP25 and the new working style under pandemic lockdown. Going forward, the resurgence of "office" and physical engagement, the fate of Olympics and Paralympics will test our resilience and flexibility which I'm keen to help support and develop as part of Excom.



**RICHARD LYLE**  
VP Trade & FDI, Intralink KK

It has been an honour serving on the BCCJ Excom this past year. I have been a proactive member of the Responsible Business group feeding in ideas for activity and helping to deliver a varied programme of events during the year. I have also actively participated in other events, speaking at a couple of webinars and giving insights on business in Japan. I would like to continue to serve on the Excom for another year to continue the work and do even more this coming year to deepen the relationship between the UK and Japan.



**SARAH EVERITT FURUYA**  
Executive Coach and Life Coach,  
Sarah Furuya Coaching

I will bring my knowledge of the public sector, private sector and small businesses to serve BCCJ member companies. Having worked at every level of companies I understand the challenges businesses face inside and out, from strategy to personal. On the DEI committee, I will bring a truly global perspective, and stay updated on the latest DEI intel beyond inclusion of women. We are doing OK with female inclusion and are on track with LGBTQIA, yet there is so much underrepresentation in other areas. This in turn means our members and our stakeholders are also getting a narrow view of the rich breadth of experience of British culture. I will bring radical ideas to serve our stakeholders a full view of what British culture has.

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**SVEN PALYS**  
Co-Founder & CEO, Yuzu Kyodai

A young entrepreneur, ten years in Japan, I pledge to be energetic, creative and collegiate if offered the opportunity to continue my role for a second term. I want to use this coming term to concentrate on sharpening the BCCJ's D&I initiatives. One aspect is to run a nationwide survey to understand what D&I means to Japan so that the BCCJ can build a framework of engagement that serves the needs of the community best. I want this year to be one of driving change with the BCCJ at the helm.



**TAKUJI OKUBO**  
Director, Economist Corporate Network

Having worked as macro-economist for 20 years, I believe I can foster a better understanding of Japan through my insights into its economy, politics and society. I have accumulated an extensive network of friends through my career as an investment bank economist, a business founder in Tokyo and Bangalore, as the ECN director for North Asia. It will be my joy to make use of these skills at the BCCJ to enhance business relations between the UK and Japan.



**TOVE KINOOKA**  
Director, Global Perspectives K.K.

Being part of Excom through the COVID crisis this past year has brought many valuable learnings, and it has been an honour to be involved in designing and delivering some innovative and engaging online events. Looking forward, I hope to continue serving on the Responsible Business taskforce, where my sustainability knowledge and organisational change background can help accelerate progress in this important area. In particular, I want to ensure that all our members – from solo entrepreneurs through to global corporations – have the opportunity to be actively involved in and find relevant and valuable learnings from our events and activities.



The British Chamber of Commerce in Japan

 Email

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[info@bccjapan.com](mailto:info@bccjapan.com)  
[www.bccjapan.com](http://www.bccjapan.com)

 Phone

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P : +81 (0) 3 6426-5739  
F : +81 (0) 3 6426-5749

 Address

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Ark Hills Front Tower RoP  
2-23-1 Akasaka  
Minato-ku  
Tokyo, Japan 107-0052