

**APEC Architect Bi-lateral Agreement
Between Japan and Australia Concluded**

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Building Guidance Division

MLIT

On July 1, 2008 APEC Architect Bi-lateral Agreement between Japan and Australia was concluded that is a mutual recognition agreement of architects in two economies.

This is the first Agreement for Japan signed with one of the 14 participating economies of APEC Architect Project.

This agreement streamlines the certification and licensing /registration process for Japanese APEC Architects who wish to practice in Australia as well as for Australian APEC Architects who wish to practice in Japan.

APEC Architect Project is to give a common title of APEC Architect that is recognized throughout the APEC region to architects who have fulfilled certain requirements concerning practical experiences and such, which enables a standardized management of its registration. The aim of the APEC Architect framework is to establish a mechanism to facilitate the mobility of architects and to support international activities of those architects.

Participating economies to the APEC Architect Project shall have bi-lateral discussions to reach mutual recognition agreement of architects in two economies. Once a bi-lateral agreement has been concluded, APEC Architect in two economies can move on to the registration/certification process. (APEC Architects in the signed two economies should be exempted from the normal architect registration/certification process in the host economy via streamlined screening process.)

The requirements to be registered as the APEC Architect in Japan are: 1) Education of university level for at least four years of full time study, or as well or better education; 2) Licensed as 1st-class Kenchikushi; 3) Certain practical experiences before and after licensed as 1st-class Kenchikushi. Since the start of APEC Architect Registration in 2005, number of APEC Architects registered in Japan has reached 411.

This Bi-lateral Agreement with Australia enables Japanese APEC Architects to be exempted from the ordinary architect examination operated in Australia, and 1st-class Kenchikushi who has successfully passed an oral test regarding the Australian domain specific issues from technical or legal aspects can apply for registration as an architect in all States and Territories in Australia.