

**Question for written answer E-000068/2011
to the Commission
Rule 117
John Attard-Montalto (S&D)**

Subject: 19th Japan-EU Summit

At the 19th Japan-EU Summit (April 2010) in Tokyo, the two sides decided to establish a joint High Level Group to identify ways to strength Japan-EU relations. The recommendations of this group will be included in the new Action Plan (2011-2020) that will presumably be approved at the next Summit in Brussels Spring 2011. At the same time the Commission has just concluded a Public Consultation on the future of EU-Japan trade and economic relations.

Can the Commission comment on the current status of the work of the High Level Group?

Does the Commission consider it time to establish joint EU-Japan studies on the possible benefits of an EU-Japan FTA or Economic Integration Agreement?

Will the Commission inform the Parliament of its thinking on these issues and seek its views prior to formally adopting a position?