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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMON MARKET PRESIDENT VIEWS EUROPE-JAPAN RELATIONS IN WORLDWIDE CONTEXT

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 16 -- Franco Maria Malfatti, President of the Commission of the European Communities, urged today that the European Community and Japan view their relationship in terms of worldwide responsibilities rather than simply in terms of mutual benefit.

In a speech before the Japan Press Club in Tokyo, Malfatti said: "Our relations, our links, are not and cannot be solely bilateral, even if we attach quite special importance to this aspect. Our relations must also be seen in a wider context, that is of the growing responsibility that Japan and the Community have on the world scene for aid to the developing countries, for reform of the international monetary system, and for future multilateral negotiations on economic and trade problems."

President Malfatti arrived in Tokyo on February 12 for a six-day visit at the invitation of the Japanese government to discuss Community-Japanese relations with leading Japanese officials.

On February 7, the Common Market and Japan signed an agreement whereby Community member states agreed to suspend quotas on cotton textile products in return for a Japanese limitation of cotton textile exports to the Six. Negotiations leading to a general trade agreement between the Community and

Japan recessed in July, 1971.

In his speech, Malfatti noted that: "As regards the question of our relations in the broader context of Japan's and the Community's growing world responsibilities, I would like to say that we already have multiple contacts in the various international settings -- the Group of Ten, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and others."

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