

# Media Release

## 2020 Autumn Conferment of Imperial Decorations

**Mr David Harley Jacobs AM**

**Mr Manuel Panagiotopoulos**

Consulate-General of Japan, Sydney

4 November 2020

On 3 November 2020, the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2020 Autumn Imperial Decorations. Mr David Harley Jacobs AM, CEO of the Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee, and Mr Manuel Panagiotopoulos, Managing Director of Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence, both from New South Wales, will receive Decorations.

### **1 Mr David Harley Jacobs AM**

MAJOR TITLE: CEO of the Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee

Former President of the Australia-Japan Society of NSW

SERVICE: Contributed to the promotion of Japan-Australia business relations and mutual understanding

DECORATION: Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette

### **Summary of Contributions**

Mr David Harley Jacobs AM greatly contributed to fostering the relationship between Japan and Australia through regularly organising events to promote Japanese culture and Japanese-language learning during his tenure as the president of a non-profit organisation, the Australia Japan Society of NSW, from 2007. Since 2015, when he was appointed as the CEO of the Australia Japan Business Co-operation Committee (AJBCC), he has worked to raise the profile of Japan and Japanese companies in Australia, while promoting business between the two nations and strengthening the Japan-Australia relationship. In January 2020, Mr Jacobs was appointed a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) by the Australian Government for his achievement in the development of Japan-Australia business.

### **2 Mr Manuel Panagiotopoulos**

MAJOR TITLE: Managing Director of Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence

SERVICE: Contributed to the promotion of Japan-Australia business relations and mutual understanding

DECORATION: Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette

**Summary of Contributions**

Mr Manuel Panagiotopoulos has greatly contributed to the development of mutual understanding between Japanese and Australian business communities through organising economic seminars and providing them with relevant economic information and liaison services as the Managing Director of Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence, which he established in 1998. Australian and Japanese Economic Intelligence is the only organisation in Australia which specialises in the area of Japan-Australia business and economy, and provides information and business research services, as well as networking opportunities through the Australia-Japan Roundtable, to Japanese and Australian public and private organisations.