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Dear BLMC Members,

I hope this message finds you well and in good health.

In this issue of our newsletter, we are pleased to share highlights from the event on European market expansion strategies for startups, which was held in early July with the support of JETRO and co-hosted by the Luxembourg Trade & Investment Office.

We hope you will find the information both informative and useful.

Luxembourg: Unlocking New Business Opportunities

— Growth Opportunities for Expansion into Europe and Africa

As more companies expand globally, Luxembourg is attracting growing attention as a gateway not only Europe but also to broader international markets. Located in the heart of Europe, the country has built a strong reputation in finance, space, and technology, making it an attractive destination for Japanese companies and startups.

On July10, BLMC hosted an event at JETRO Innovation Garden in Akasaka to explore business opportunities and startup growth through Luxembourg. Around 80 participants attended the event.

The program opened with welcome remarks by Mr.Matsuno, Exective Director of the Luxembourg Trade & Investment Office (LTIO), and Mr.Imoto, the BLMC Vice Chairman. Through four sessions, participants learned about Luxembourg's business environment, government support programs, and the experiences of companies already operating in the country.



<Mr.Imoto, the BLMC Vice Chairman>



Part1 : Discovering Luxembourg as a Strategic Option



<Ms. Matsuno of LTIO>

Part 1 introduced Luxembourg's strategic geographical advantages, its role as an international business hub, and the supportive environment it offers companies expanding overseas.

It provided an opportunity to understand that, for companies looking to enter the European market, Luxembourg is more than just a small country—it can serve as a strategic gateway to markets across Europe and neighboring regions.

Part2: Real Experiences from Companies in Luxembourg

Part 2 featured companies and startups using Luxembourg as a base for international expansion. CEOs from Japan and Korea shared their experiences, including the challenges of entering overseas markets, building businesses locally, and finding opportunities for growth.



<Mr. Kim of Korean AI startup>



<Ms. Hällen Hedberg of Luxembourg Gov. >

A representative from a Luxembourg government agency also introduced the support available to foreign companies and startups, along with examples of how the government helps businesses take on new challenges.

In addition, a Japanese startup shared their efforts to expand into Africa, highlighting the potential of the African market. The session

showed how Luxembourg can provide access not only to European markets, but also to new markets and business opportunities, including Africa.



<Mr. Muto of DFP, an expert on African markets>

Part 3: Discussion with Startups in the NEXUS Program

Part 3 featured four Japanese startups that participated in NEXUS, a Luxembourg startup support program. The discussion focused on their experiences and challenges in expanding into overseas markets.



Mr. Uddin of Gigalogy



Mr. Kinoshita of Jikantechno



Mr. Fukuoka of Archilys



Mr. Nakayama of TIER IV

Each company openly shared its experience, including why they decided to join NEXUS, their impressions of Luxembourg's startup environment, and what they learned and achieved through the program.

They also shared advice for startups looking to expand overseas, highlighting the importance of connecting with the local ecosystem and gaining a better understanding of the market. The discussion offered valuable insights based on their real-world experiences.

Part 4: The Potential of Luxembourg's Space Agency

In the final part, a representative from Luxembourg Space Agency introduced Luxembourg's activities in the space sector and the future potential of the international space business.

Luxembourg's active efforts in emerging fields such as space resources and satellite-related businesses provided an interesting perspective on new business opportunities in growing industries.



<Mr. Aly of Luxembourg Space Agency>



<Ms. Moes, Minister-Counsellor>

After the event, Ms. Moes from the Embassy of Luxembourg gave a toast, followed by a networking session. Participants enjoyed Luxembourg cuisine and wine while exchanging ideas with speakers and fellow participants in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Through this event, participants gained a better understanding of Luxembourg's potential as a gateway to Europe, as well as its opportunities to access new markets, including Africa.

We will continue to provide information and networking opportunities to support our members' international expansion and the creation of new business opportunities.

Finally, we would like to sincerely thank all the speakers, everyone who supported the event, and all our members who joined us.



<Member Information>



• Sumitomo Chemical's materials and solutions for "the future of cars," introduced at the exhibition, are now available on YouTube's *Sumika no Mikata*. You can discover ideas for making winter driving more comfortable through their products. If you missed the exhibition, please take this opportunity to watch the video.

• CargoLux has strengthened its partnership with JAL since this April, creating an air cargo network by leveraging both airlines' networks.



• TDK has supported the film *Look Back* to help raise awareness of Nikaho City, Akita Prefecture, the hometown of its founder, and to showcase the region's appeal. The film is based on the manga by Tatsuki Fujimoto, creator of *Chainsaw Man*, who is also from Nikaho City. This film is directed by internationally acclaimed filmmaker Hirokazu Kore-eda. It will be released in theaters on September 11.



We wish you all continued success in the future.

<From Partner Organizations and Institutions>

~Events and News from July to October~

*Embassy of Belgium

- July 3-5 • 160th Anniversary - Special Public Opening of the Belgian Embassy Villa
To mark the 160th anniversary of Japan-Belgium friendship, the Belgian Embassy Villa on Lake Chuzenji, Tochigi, was opened to the public. The event welcomed 960 visitors selected by lottery.



• Oct. 28–Nov. 4 • **160th Anniversary - Belgian National Orchestra Japan Tour**

To celebrate the 160th anniversary of Japan-Belgium friendship, the Belgian National Orchestra will return to Japan for the first time in approximately 20 years. For concert details, please visit the website below.

Oct. 28 (Wed) Oita <https://emo.or.jp/event/12410/>

Oct. 30 (Fri) Aichi <https://hicbc.com/event/belgium-masayakamei/>

Nov. 1 (Sun) Kurashiki <https://arsk.jp/shimin/event/22805/>

Nov. 2 (Mon) Tokyo <https://tempoprime.co.jp/stage/y2026/bno>

Nov. 3 (Tue) Mie <https://www.center-mie.or.jp/bunka/event/detail/56999>

Nov. 4 (Wed) Tokyo <https://tempoprime.co.jp/stage/y2026/bno>

***Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office, Tokyo**

【News】 • Japanese Space Startup ElevationSpace Signs MoU with Space Cargo Unlimited



On July 7, ElevationSpace and Luxembourg-based Space Cargo Unlimited signed an MoU on in-orbit demonstrations and experiments. The signing ceremony was held at the Embassy of Luxembourg in Japan, strengthening cooperation between Japan and Luxembourg in the space sector.

• Luxinnovation Visits Tsukuba City to Strengthen Innovation Cooperation



Luxinnovation's Director of International Business, Jenny Hallen Hedberg, visited Tsukuba City. She met with the Mayor and exchanged views with JETRO Ibaraki, research institutions, and startups to strengthen cooperation, particularly in deep tech. Tsukuba City and Luxinnovation have continued their collaboration in the startup and innovation fields since signing an MOU in 2022.

【Events】 • “Startup Strategies for Expanding into Europe: Insights from Luxembourg and NEXUS Companies” Successfully Concluded



On July 10, the event “Startup Strategies for Expanding into Europe: Insights from Luxembourg and NEXUS Companies”, co-hosted by the Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office and the Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan, was held at JETRO Innovation Garden. More than 80 participants attended, where participating companies in NEXUS shared their firsthand experiences, along with various insights from

Japanese companies based locally. A lively networking session followed the seminar.

Event videos are available on the Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office's official YouTube channel. Please take a look.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHi9i-pDzfVEJ>



• **Luxembourg Space Experts Speak at SPACETIDE 2026**

Ahmed Ali of the Luxembourg Space Agency (LSA) and Lari Kushko of the European Space Resources Innovation Centre (ESRIC) spoke at SPACETIDE 2026, held in Tokyo from July 6-9. They introduced Luxembourg's space resources development, startup support, government programs, and efforts to promote international open innovation.

• **Naoya Nakamaru, Deputy Director of the LTIO, Speaks at a Venture Café Tokyo Session**



On July 23, Naoya Nakamaru, Deputy Director of the Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office, joined a Venture Café Tokyo session at CIC Tokyo as a panelist. Speakers from various backgrounds, including companies, CVCs, consultants, and support organizations, discussed the successes and challenges of open innovation.

[Event Announcement]

• **OQ Technology, a Luxembourg-based startup, will exhibit at Global Startup Expo 2026**

Global Startup Expo 2026, a deep-tech exhibition, will be held in Osaka from October 5-7. Luxembourg-based satellite communications startup OQ Technology will exhibit at the event. The company provides IoT connectivity services using low Earth orbit (LEO) satellites. If you are attending, please stop by their booth.

• **Our representatives, Matsuno and Nakamaru, to Speak at CEATEC 2026 on October 16 at 2:00 p.m.**



CEATEC 2026, a major digital innovation exhibition, will be held at Makuhari Messe from October 13-16. Matsuno and Nakamaru of the Luxembourg Trade and Investment Office will speak in a session titled "Luxembourg as a Strategic Base for EU Business." They will introduce Luxembourg's stable business environment, tax and regulatory framework, and advanced financial and ICT infrastructure. Please join us if you are attending CEATEC.

***Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT)**

Sep. 15 (Tue) 16:00~17:00

Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT) Japan, in cooperation with the Japan Bioindustry Association (JBA), will host a webinar introducing the life sciences ecosystem in Flanders. Seven Flanders-based biotech companies will present at the event. Please register via the JBA website.

***Registration**

JBA: <https://www.jba.or.jp/>



Oct.5-9 FIT will host “Flanders Life Sciences Week” in Japan, featuring the following events:

- **BioJapan** (Yokohama, October 7-9)

FIT will exhibit at a joint pavilion with AWEX, the Walloon Export-Investment Agency.

- **TechBIZKON X** (October 9, afternoon)

FIT will co-host a startup event focused on **LifeTech+** with the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan, Advantage Austria, Swissnex, and Plug and Play Japan.

***Registration**

BioJapan: <https://jcd-expo.jp/jp/>

Flanders Companies Exhibiting at BioJapan 2026

FIT website: <https://source.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/7ba05b30-8f15-4e3b-8735-44af2b59a498/Flanders--BioJapan-2026>

TechBIZKON: <https://www.b2match.com/e/techbizkon-x-lifetech>



BioJapan 2025



TechBIZKON 2025

***hub. brussels invest & export**

Aug. 18 Matthias Debrouwer to Succeed William After 12 Years in Shanghai

A Message from William to BLMC Members

As I leave Japan for a new position in Montreal, Canada, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to BLMC and its wonderful network. My time in Japan as the representative of the Brussels-Capital Region was both professionally and personally rewarding, especially the many opportunities to strengthen ties between Japan, Luxembourg, and Brussels.

I am also pleased to hand over the Tokyo office to my successor, Matthias Debrouwer.

I am confident that he will build on our work with great enthusiasm and expertise. I look forward to maintaining the connections I have made in Japan and exploring new opportunities for cooperation through our international network.



<Mr.Delsemme>



Thank you once again for your continued efforts to promote dialogue and partnerships among our countries.

William DELSEMME

Representative To Japan hub.brussels invest & export

***Wallonia Export-Investment Agency (AWEX)**

July.11 The 38th edition of the lecture series “From the World’ s Bookshelves” , co-hosted by the Itabashi Art Museum and Itabashi Central Library, was held. Belgian lecturer, bookseller, and curator Juliette Romero spoke about Belgian picture books and children’ s literature.

July.18. A lecture titled “Reading Belgian Women’ s Comics” was held at the Embassy of Belgium, highlighting the diversity of contemporary Belgian women’ s comics and their growing presence in Japan.



I attended the event and found it very interesting. Each speaker introduced one recommended comic, and their unique presentations made the three-hour event enjoyable and engaging.



〈Ms. Inoue & Ms. Ghyselen〉

July.25 We participated again in the JASSO Study Abroad Fair 2026, held at Ochanomizu Sola City Conference Center in Chiyoda, Tokyo. Through individual consultations and a study abroad seminar, we introduced the appeal of studying in French-speaking Belgium and its higher education institutions.

Oct.7-9 We will exhibit at BioJapan 2026 at Pacifico Yokohama. Our booth is C-35.

Three companies from Wallonia will participate:

- it4ip - Track-etched membrane filters
- Kaneka Eurogentec S.A. - Biopharmaceutical contract development and manufacturing (CDMO)
- Cellistic - Development and manufacturing of cell therapies using iPSC technology



Individual meetings and business discussions will be available through the official partnering system, with online meetings also planned.

Free admission with prior registration (The partnering system requires separate registration and a fee)

****BLCCJ (Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan)***

****JULY****



July 1: BLCCJ Flagship Seminar #22 -

“Delighting Customers in Japan”

July 21: Belgian National Day Beer Gathering

@ L’ abreuvoir Torafu

July 29: Inter-Chamber Networking Event -

“Summer Cocktail 2026”

****AUGUST****

August 19: Pairing Event - “Godiva x Bernard-Massard: Sparkling Romance”

****SEPTEMBER****



September 2: Belgian Beer & Food Academy in Osaka

September 4: Deadline for applications - Export Award 2026-2027

September 9: BJA x BLCCJ Webinar - “Japan Government Growth Strategy 2026”

September 14: Beer Gathering @ Hoegaarden White Beer Stand (Shibuya Cast)

September 18: Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber Network Webinar in Asia - “Market Outlook: Navigating Fast-Moving Global Trends and Persistent Geopolitical Tensions”

September 29: Online Event - “BLCCJ Members Say Hello”

****OCTOBER****

October 13: Beer Gathering

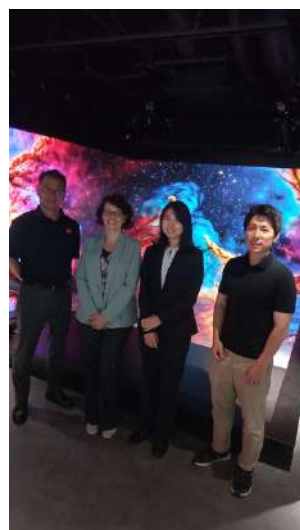
October 19: Inter-Chamber Networking Event - “EU Cocktail 2026”

October 24: 5K Fun Run & Networking



<Photos from the AGM and Other Events>





Best regards,
Saori IMIYA
Office Manager, BLMC

