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## Joint Media Release

Fédération Française de Tennis  
Japan Tennis Association

### Conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between France and Japan

1. The Fédération Française de Tennis (FFT) and the Japan Tennis Association (JTA) initialed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation (MOU) in September last year with a view to build a framework of continuous cooperation between FFT and JTA and thereby to contribute to the promotion of friendly relations between the France and Japan.
2. Under the MOU, a special reference is made to the enhancement of players' competitiveness in the international scene, the promotion and development of tennis, event organizing efforts, research and information exchange, as areas of prospective cooperation.
3. Today, FFT and JTA have just reached agreement, based on the MOU, on the following two cooperation projects, and FFT President Jan Gachassin now visiting Japan for the Davis Cup World Group tie with Japan and JTA President Nobuo Kuroyanagi have signed the MOU.
  - ① JTA's cooperation with FFT in the latter's holding "Rendez-Vous à Roland-Garros" (French Open Junior Wildcard Competition) in Japan.
  - ② FFT's cooperation with JTA in joint training for French and Japanese junior players at FFT's training centers and use of the FFT facilities by Japanese national team members.
4. It is the sixth cooperation agreement FFT has concluded with a foreign counterpart, although this MOU with JTA is much more comprehensive than any other existing memorandums. Meanwhile, it is the first bilateral cooperation agreement JTA has concluded with a foreign counterpart.
5. This MOU will be in effect until August 2019 and its term may be extended for a further period by a written agreement between the two parties. The state of cooperation under the MOU will be jointly evaluated each year for the following year's planning.
6. In the meantime, the French Open Junior Wildcard Competition in Japan, one of the two specific cooperation projects under the MOU, is scheduled to take place February 27 through March 3 this year at the Yokohama Country and Athletic Club in Yokohama. Use of the FFT facilities by members of Japan's national team will begin when this year's clay court season in Europe kicks off in mid-April, although FFT's cooperation in joint training for French and Japanese junior players at the FFT training centers is yet to be worked out by the two tennis organizations.

#### For further information

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