



**Sir Graeme Harrison Awarded Japanese Order of the Rising Sun
Decoration for Promotion of Mutual Economic Relations**

Sir Graeme Thomas Harrison, Chairman of the ANZCO Foods, has been conferred the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, in recognition of his significant involvement in strengthening the economic relations between Japan and New Zealand.

His extensive engagement in business activities linking the two countries started when he established ANZCO Foods in Tokyo in 1984, the first foreign owned meat importing and distributing company in the country. In succeeding years, the company's operations further expanded when it forged joint investments with Itoham Foods Ltd and Nippon Suisan Kaisha Ltd, two leading Japanese businesses.

Sir Harrison was also instrumental in the joint venture between Nippon Suisan Kaisha Ltd and Sealord; which made the collaboration a global enterprise catering to the seafood industries of more than 30 countries across the globe.

In 2007, he became the inaugural Chairman of the New Zealand International Business Forum (NZIBF), and remains in this position to the present day. The Forum, comprised of New Zealand senior business leaders, holds the Japan-New Zealand Partnership Meeting once every one and a half years which, as it has been ongoing for several years now, and has become an arena for Japanese and New Zealand businessmen and politicians to further strengthen their relationships by exploring and maximizing economic opportunities.

In June 2011, on top of other accolades that he received, Sir Harrison was made a Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (KNZM), for his services to, and achievements within, the agribusiness sector.

Further details about these Japanese Decorations are available from the Embassy of Japan in Wellington.

For more information:

Order of the Rising Sun:

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/504465/Order-of-the-Rising-Sun>

<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shokun/en/orders-of-the-rising-sun.html>

New Zealand International Business Forum:

www.nzibf.co.nz

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