Belgian King's Day

Princess to lead multifaceted mission in Dec.



be several bilateral contacts with the authorities.

The composition of the delegation is a good reflection of the dispation is a good reflection of the diversity and richness of our bilateral relations: companies from a wide range of sectors, as well as business federations, universities, cultural actors and official representatives from the Belgian federal government and the three regions (Flanders, Brussels and Wallonia), all under the leadership of the Princess. This mission could not come at a better time: Japan recently reopened its borders and the international context has highlighted, more than ever, how much we need to work together and find common solutions to address fundamental challenges in our societies, such as the fight against climate change, the need to secure sustainable and reliable sources of energy, and the absolute necessity to develop resilient supply chains and ensure our economic security, while enabling our populations to live in a healthy, peaceful, secure and stimulating environment.

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we have the ambition to raise
the bar even a little higher by fo-



Beigian King Philippe and Queen Mathild Cusing on the areas, where we can do more together. An entire day will be dedicated to the decarbonization of our economy, looking at investments and recent developments in hydrogen and offshore wind energy as well as the role of artificial intelligence. Joint research and innovation in life sciences and the chemical industry for a sustainable and healthy future will also figure very highly on the agenda, as this is an increasingly important sector in our bilateral economic relations. There will be discussions on how to digitalize public services while maintaining a high level of reliability and security, how to innovate in our automotive sector to respond to the challenges of smart mobility, and how to increase our academic cooperation and look for new perspectives and funding in the internationalization of higher education in the post-COVID context. An aca-

with their four children

the historical significance of the
1920s donation of books by the
Japanese Emperor to a Belgian
university.

Many events will provide an excellent opportunity for interlocutors from both countries to meet
and exchange experiences, projects, and ideas, such as highjevel lunches focused on investments and a meeting between
the two major business federations from each country. Moreover, success-story testimonies
will be shared and some agreements will be signed between
Belgian and Japanese companies or institutions. Several company visits will also be organized,
showcasing their innovation or
highlighting their Japan-Belgium
partnership. A seminar will be
dedicated to the expectations of
young students towards the gender equality situation in the business world.

Finally, there will be several
cultural events, such as the
opening of a beautiful exhibition

of the sculptures of renowned Belgian artist Jean-Michel Folon and the traditional Belgian Beer Weekend in Shinjukul At the opening of this festival, Belgian jazz musicians Jef Neve and Teus Nobel will be giving a special performance dedicated to Toots Thielemans, the famous Belgian harmonica player who would have been 100 years old this year. It will be one of the various events in which the excellent



food and drink culture from Bedgium will be showcased Last but not least, video gaming will have its share with an exciting and collaborative Game Jam, where Belgian-Japanese teams will compete to create the best video game. It is easily understandable that this mission will represent a fan-tastic opportunity to highlight the various sectors that make Belgium-Japan relations so rich

Congratulations on the Belgian King's Day



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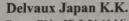
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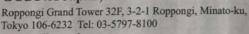
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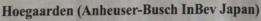
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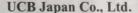
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