

Mazars and SCS Global are pleased to announce a plan to join forces in Japan for the creation of a new Assurance Alternative.

Mazars, an international group specialising in audit and advisory services, is pleased to announce a major upgrade to its offering in Japan by means of a tie-up in the assurance service sector with SCS Global. Most importantly, this will result in Mazars being able to offer local statutory audit services. This will open the door to doing business with listed companies in Japan as well as with banks, insurance companies and other large companies.

For SCS Global, a unique global partnership of Japanese professionals, which focuses on helping Japanese companies to establish themselves overseas, particularly in Asia where it has an impressive network of offices, the tie-up will underpin a significant strengthening of its audit capabilities.

As from today, SCS Global Audit Corporation is to be renamed Mazars SCS Global Audit Corporation, reflecting the signing of a Technical Cooperation Agreement which will ensure that the firm adheres to the full international standards of Mazars and which will allow it to fully participate in Mazars' global audits.

In due course, the practice in Japan is to be expanded and it is the intention of both parties to take advantage of the latest regulations to make the practice in Japan as international as possible.

John Mellows, Senior Advisor of Mazars Asia Pacific says: "This is the third occasion that I have been pleased to announce a collaboration with SCS. We already have a great working relationship with SCS in Thailand and Indonesia. In these countries, SCS personnel sit inside the Mazars entity and we jointly provide high quality services to Japanese clients. So, we are very familiar with each other, have enjoyed working together immensely, and look for further opportunities to assist each other around the world.

Japan is a very important country for Mazars. Today, we have nearly 12,500 professionals employed globally. Logically, Japan, as the second or third largest economy in the world, should represent a significant part of our overall business. Even more so than in almost all other developed countries, a substantial proportion of Japanese companies' activity is in overseas markets, which gives both Mazars and SCS unparalleled advantages. This is not just because we both operate in many countries, but also because of the unique and integrated way in which we do business across borders. As a result of both this Joint Venture and other initiatives Mazars is taking in tax and accounting services, we hope and expect that our Japan business will become a very significant part of our global picture in the future."

Kenichi Shohtoku, Managing Partner of the SCS Global Group says: "We really welcome the tie up of our audit firm with Mazars. We have a completely international vision for our clients and, in the future, being able to utilise Mazars' sophisticated audit software and to have the experience of working on large multinational audits, will ensure that our practice is globally compliant with the highest level of standards in the world. It will also differentiate us from other practices in Japan.

We will, we believe, also be the only genuinely bi-lingual practice. SCS Global personnel in Japan and around the world are all completely fluent in English and in this venture with Mazars, our staff will have equal capability to perform work in either Japanese or English. In this regard, we believe we will be different from the competition in Japan and this unique English capability will be very helpful, not just in completing work for foreign owned companies, but also in completing work for international Japanese companies.

More than anything else, it will, we believe, be Japanese companies that will most be able to take advantage of the tie up between SCS and Mazars in Japan. This is particularly the case in IFRS consulting, an area in which the practice will have a particular focus.. In the past, Japanese companies with significant overseas operations perhaps have not had too many choices for quality statutory audit services and we believe that we will now be offering something unique and important."

For more information, please visit www.mazars.jp and www.scsglobal.co.jp

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