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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tokyo, January 30, 2014

**Notice Concerning Change in Accounting Period**

Japan Tobacco Inc. (JT) (TSE: 2914) has announced the Board of Directors' resolution today to change the Company's accounting period, with the closing date moving from March 31 to December 31. The change is subject to approval of an amendment to the Company's Articles of Incorporation at the 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held in late June 2014, and approval by the Minister of Finance, pursuant to the Japan Tobacco Inc. Act.

1. Reasons for the change

The JT Group has been steadily growing as a global company, with operations currently in more than 120 countries and territories. In harmonizing the accounting period with international consolidated subsidiaries, the Company will enhance the efficiency of its financial reporting and management systems across the Group, as well as ensuring timely disclosure of management information to further increase transparency.

2. Change of the accounting period

Current closing date : March 31 of every year

New closing date : December 31 of every year

FY2014, a transitional period for the change in accounting period, will cover nine months from April 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. The same change in the accounting period will be applied to those of the Company's consolidated subsidiaries whose current closing date is other than December 31. For its consolidated subsidiaries whose current closing date is December 31, their accounting period will remain unchanged, covering the twelve months from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

From 2015, the accounting period of the Company and all its consolidated subsidiaries will cover the twelve months from January 1 to December 31.

3. Forecast

The Company will announce its FY2014 forecast in the FY2013 Consolidated Financial Results to be announced in April 2014.

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*Japan Tobacco Inc. is a leading international tobacco product company. Its products are sold in over 120 countries and its internationally recognized brands include Winston, Camel, Mevius/Mild Seven and Benson & Hedges. With diversified operations, JT is also actively present in pharmaceuticals, beverages and processed foods. The company's revenue was ¥2.120 trillion (US\$22,543 million(\*)) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2013.*

*\*Translated at the rate of ¥94.05 per \$1, as of March 29, 2013*

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