

To my friends, companions and partners in Japan

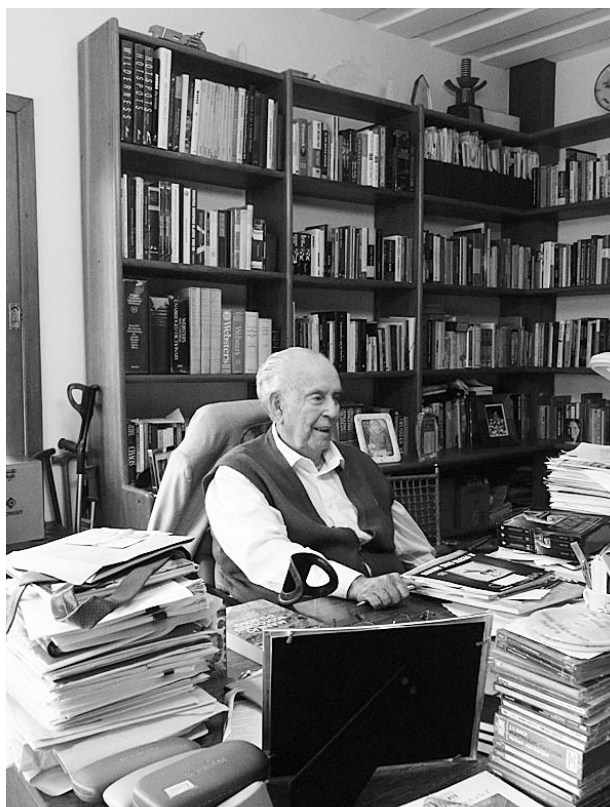
As we all know, Brazil and Japan underwent a period of intense interaction in the 60's and 70's as well as in the early 80's. During this time bilateral interests led to joint ventures in mining, steel, pulp, aluminum, shipbuilding and numerous other activities, all helped by the efforts of the Vale do Rio Doce Company, nowadays Vale, of which I had the honor of being President.

In the 1980's, economic events in Brazil, and then later in Japan, resulted in changes in the dynamics of these bilateral transac-

tions, with a shift towards Southeast Asia for Japan and towards the USA and Europe in the case of Brazil.

In this second decade of the 21st century, we find ourselves yet again in a changing situation, where Brazil, an emerging power and part of BRIC group, needs investments in infrastructure, along with research, science, technology and innovation, and these are where Japan demonstrates its comparative advantage.

Through the offices of the Japan-Brazil Wise Men Group, I have been able to follow recent Japanese activity in relation to opportunities in Brazil.



At his den



Mr. Batista and his wife, Mrs. Inguelore Scheunemann




With his secretary, Ms. Anastasie Eleftheriou

For our part we have sought to promote this evolving situation with support, information and advice, all with a view to recreating the conditions that, in the past, have been so beneficial for both countries.

I am convinced that now all the necessary pre-conditions exist for us to resume that fertile and fruitful relationship.

Sincerely Yours,


Eliezer Batista



Relaxing at home

