Session 1

Role of regional integration in ensuring stable supply of resources (energy, minerals, food, etc.), parts and industrial materials.

DR. THOMAS G. AQUINO

Senior Fellow Center for Research and Communications University of Asia and the Pacific

former Senior Undersecretary Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines

International Symposium "Seeking a new balance in the regional integration of the Asia-Pacific region"

> 11 - 13 October 2011, Taiwan hosted by
> Japan Economic Foundation (JEF)
> & Taiwan Institute of Economic Research (TIER)

A. Historical background: revolutions leading the global value-chain

- Revolution in transportation and travel
- Revolution in industrial production
- Revolution in management systems

B. Responding to supply disruptions

- Traditional options:
 - Consolidate production in a single location
 - Maintain dispersed sourcing locations, but have higher inventory levels

C. Nuances of regional integration and stability of supply

- Regional integration should also encompass cooperation (government, business and communities)
- Stability of supply should also consider situations of excess supply
- Discussion of resources should also include human resources
- Definition of disasters should be updated and plans of action should be upgraded.

C. Four main points for consideration

- Globalize business outlooks and appreciation of risks
- Regional approach to disaster recovery plans
- Cooperation in learning more about disasters
- Regional business-to-business and business-to-community cooperation

Important lesson

- Supply disruptions occur NOT because economic systems have been integrated; BUT because . . .
 - economic systems have not integrated enough
 - governments, business and communities do not have a regional disaster recovery plan of action.