

White Paper International Trade 2011

A Path Towards Restoration of Global Eco

Featured Cover Story: METI's International Trade Research Office published the 2011 White Paper on International Economy & Trade in July. It provides us with a brief summary of the detailed assessment on the Japanese economy as it recovers from the disaster on March 11 and in particular outlines a restoration of the global economic network through trade and investment.

METI highlights the importance of FTA and WTO as a necessary infrastructure to consolidate this network, which is a key to restoring the world economy as well as Japan's. Free trade thus plays a key role for restoration of the global network. The White Paper also refers to Japan's new trading partners such as Mercosur countries in Latin America. Also, it describes how globalization today naturally makes Japan open to any country in the world.

After this summary of the White Paper, we introduce a number of highly intellectual and distinguished experts' views on the topics covered by the White Paper. Namely, Dr. Madsen, MIT Research Fellow and a leading economist in the US, gives us an extremely elaborate analysis on the future impact of the natural disaster upon the Japanese economy and the world economy and mentions the need for Japan to take responsibility in avoiding a worldwide recession that could possibly happen depending upon Japan's debt management policy or energy policy.

In commemorating the first detailed highlight of Latin American countries as new trading partners for Japan in the history of METI's White Paper, we introduce an interview with the ambassador of Brazil, Mr. Marcos Galvao, on the future of Brazil-Japan foreign relations.

Former ambassador of Japan to Nicaragua, and currently executive director of JEF, Mr. Shinichi Saito, also introduces his views on the future relations between Japan and Central America. A young expert on the Brazilian economy, Mr. Konta, gives a vivid description of the potential of the Brazilian economy. Mr. Oshima, a specialist on BOP in the poor countries, talks about the potential Japanese business contribution to the development of poor South American countries. Finally, Prof. Watanabe, a distinguished expert on the rules of international trade, talks about the role of FTA and WTO in restoration of the global network in the post-disaster period, a key question of the 2011 White Paper.

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conomic Network Beyond the Tsunami

- 1 Overcoming the Disaster, Working towards Revitalization & Strengthening of Global Economic Network** ----- 10
By Policy Planning & Research Division, Trade Policy Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI)
- 2 What the Tohoku Earthquake Means for Japan & the World** ----- 18
By Robert MADSEN
- 3 Brazil Enhances its Sustainability of Development, & Future of Japan-Brazil Relations** ----- 22
By Ryohei KONTA
- 4 Interview with Marcos Bezerra Abbot GALVAO, Ambassador of Brazil in Japan
Looking to Future of Japan-Brazil Relations** ----- 26
By Reviewing Historic, Cultural & Economic Ties
Interviewer: Naoyuki HARAOKA
- 5 BOP Technology Mission to Peru & Bolivia** ----- 30
By Seiji OSHIMA
- 6 The Challenge for Economic Development in Central America:
How to Attract Foreign Direct Investment** ----- 32
By Shinichi SAITO
- 7 The Rules of WTO & EPAs: Legal Infrastructure of the Global Supply Chain** ----- 34
By Yorizumi WATANABE

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