

alone event. The next summit meeting is scheduled to be held next year in China.

The trilateral summit discussed a broad range of issues, from the global financial crisis to the abduction of Japanese nationals by North Korea, and as a result of discussions a

foreign currency in exchange for won. The scope of the framework between Japan and South Korea was expanded 2.3 fold to US\$30 billion, and that between China and South Korea was increased 7.5 fold to the equivalent of US\$30 billion. In the same document the leaders

announced. With regard to the issue of the abduction of Japanese citizens by North Korea, Prime Minister Aso requested cooperation in finding a solution to the issue, to which the other leaders voiced their support.

The leaders also announced a

such as Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in a complementary and mutually reinforcing manner."

In the "Trilateral Joint Announcement on Disaster Management Cooperation," which calls for enhanced cooperation in the field of disaster manage-

six areas, including holding a trilateral summit of foreign ministers, the establishment of a "Cyber-Secretariat," strengthening environmental cooperation on regional air pollution reduction, measures to tackle marine litter, and measures to deal with avian influenza.

International symposium in commemoration of JETRO's 50th anniversary

East Asian integration and Japan: states, markets and movement of people

An international symposium was held at the Hotel New Otani on December 9 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the foundation of JETRO. Takashi Shiraishi, president of the Institute of Developing Economies

(IDE), JETRO, noted that, "This symposium will examine East Asian region-making from a wider perspective, looking at the changing distribution of power and wealth in the region."

During his keynote speech, Peter J. Katzenstein (Professor, Department of Government, Cornell University), stated that "The regional integration of East Asia has progressed through human interaction mainly around economic markets such as production networks. Asia has thereupon become more culturally similar to Japan, China, and the United States; however, in reverse, a bidirectional change may take place in the future where Japan, China, and the United States are influenced by Asia."

Vikram Nehru (Director in the East Asia Region of the World Bank for the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management and Private and Financial Sector Department)



Panel discussion at the international symposium to celebrate the 50th anniversary of JETRO

Correction:

In the article titled "Japan to donate US\$100 billion to IMF for support for emerging economies, pledges to boost

domestic demand" (December issue of The Japan Economic Review published on December 15, 2008), the word "donate" was mistakenly

used. The correct expression is "Japan to lend US\$100 billion to IMF for support for emerging economies, pledges to boost domestic demand."

also spoke, remarking that "The growth rate of intraregional trade in East Asia has been relatively high compared with other regions, at an average of 12%, over the past 20 years. However, the disparity in living standards in East Asia remains large. In order to achieve unified economic power throughout the region, efforts must be made to improve logistics and make trade policy transparent."

In addition, Surin Pitsuwan (ASEAN Secretary-General)

offered bold words, saying, "ASEAN was launched 41 years ago with the modest goals of achieving economic development and social and cultural cooperation. Nonetheless, ASEAN has joined hands to act as a unified community in the face of the current financial crisis. The Southeast Asian community will continue to deepen its alliance. The cooperation and dialogue conducted between ASEAN and Japan will serve as a survival strategy within a globalizing world."

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