

Japan, a Major Player in APEC

December 2008

- Tackling the Global Financial Crisis at APEC: Japan actively contributes to the APEC efforts on the global financial crisis to provide strong support for the outcome of the G20 Summit in Washington, given the importance of close cooperation and coordination among APEC member economies in addressing the crisis. Japan emphasizes the necessity of pushing back against protectionist sentiments that may arise from the current economic situation, since they could threaten trade and investment flows in the region. Early conclusion of the WTO Doha Round is also emphasized.
- Japan, a Major Player in APEC: Japan has pledged to continue to working to implement APEC's agenda of strengthening regional economic integration, such as exploring the possibility of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) region and promoting trade and facilitating investment to achieve a better business environment.
- Financial Contributions: A founder of the APEC/TILF fund, a major financial resource for conducting APEC projects, Japan has contributed approximately 4.5 billion yen (over US\$38 million) since 1997.
- Hosting APEC: Japan hosted APEC 1995 in Osaka, and will host APEC again in 2010, the target year for reaching the Bogor Goal for developed economies in APEC.

Advancing Trade and Investment in a Changing World

- Regional Economic Integration Agenda: In 2007, the APEC Economic Leaders endorsed the report on Strengthening Regional Economic Integration. Significant progress on that agenda has been made in 2008, with implementation of a number of the 53 agreed action.
- RTAs/FTAs convergence/divergence study: Japan conducted a study on investment as part of a series of studies to identify convergences and divergences among existing RTAs/FTAs in the region. That series of studies was initiated by Peru, the APEC 2008 host economy, and conducted by several APEC member economies. The studies will provide a basis for further discussion of a Free Trade Area of Asia Pacific (FTAAP).
- Model Measures on RTAs/FTAs: Japan took the initiative in drafting the chapter on investment for the Model Measures on RTAs/FTAs. The Model Measures are examples of best practices to provide member economies with a useful reference in negotiating RTA/FTA chapters. They are a guide to the provisions that might be included in a free-trade agreement.

Advancement of Trade and Investment in a Changing World

- Trade Facilitation: Japan has helped simplify and harmonize border procedures by providing technical assistance on Time Release Surveys for importing cargos and has played an active role in the APEC Single Window Initiative.
- Investment Facilitation: Japan contributed to the development of the APEC Investment Facilitation Action Plan (IFAP) for 2008-2010. The IFAP provides a framework of principles for improving the investment environment in the region and for providing guidance to member economies on best practices in investment facilitation.
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR):
 - The APEC Cooperation Initiative on Patent Acquisition Procedures: With the aim of expediting patent application procedures and improving patent examination capability in the APEC economies, the Initiative lists among several specific actions the exploration of ways to exchange search reports and examination results. Japan is one of the leading economies for this Initiative.
 - ❖ Initiative on International Cooperation in Border Enforcement for IPR Protection among Enforcement Agencies: Japan is leading activities directed at
 - ❖ effectively stopping the proliferation of counterfeit and pirated goods through international cooperation and information sharing among IPR agencies, right-owners, enforcement authorities, and the private sector.

Fundamentals Ensuring Dynamism, Growth, and Sustainable Development in APEC

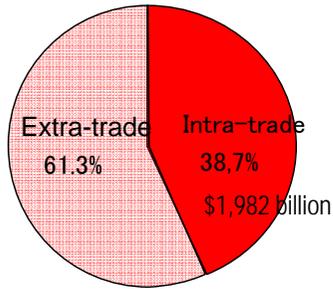
- Structural Reform: Japan has played a leading role in bringing a work plan for structural reform into the APEC agenda. Specific initiatives include the APEC Work Plan on Structural Reform towards 2010 (LAISR 2010), which has been adopted by APEC Leaders. This issue is being addressed by the at Economic Committee (EC). The committee will be chaired by Dr. Takashi OMORI, a policy adviser to the Japanese Cabinet Office, in the year 2009-2010.
- Influenza pandemic: Japan has pledged US\$315 million in assistance for measures against avian and pandemic influenza including providing a stockpile of 1,500,000 courses of Tamiflu. In March 2008, Japan compiled a Collection of Domestic Measures to Prevent, Control and Respond to Avian Influenza among APEC Member Economies as a follow up to the APEC Capacity Building Seminar on Avian Influenza co-hosted by Japan and the US in 2006.
- Tourism: Japan contributed in promoting cross-cultural communication within APEC through its Visit Japan Campaign and Visit World Campaign. In April 2008, APEC Tourism Ministers agreed that the 6th Meeting of the Ministers would be held in Japan in 2010.

Fundamentals Ensuring Dynamism, Growth, and Sustainable Development in APEC

- Human Resource Development: To contribute to improvement in the area of human resource development, Japan actively participates in projects implemented through the networks of the Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG).
- Energy Security: To enhance energy security in the APEC region and reduce greenhouse gases, Japan emphasizes the importance of promoting energy efficiency and conservation, energy source diversification, and oil stockpiling. APEC has launched the Peer Review mechanism on Energy Efficiency (PREE), at Japan's initiative this year.

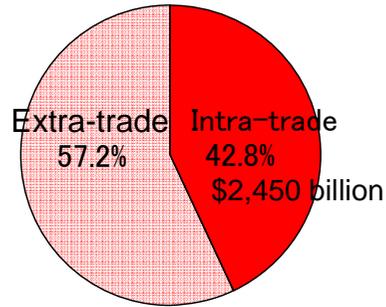
Intra-trade Ratios of Regional Cooperation Groupings

ASEAN+3



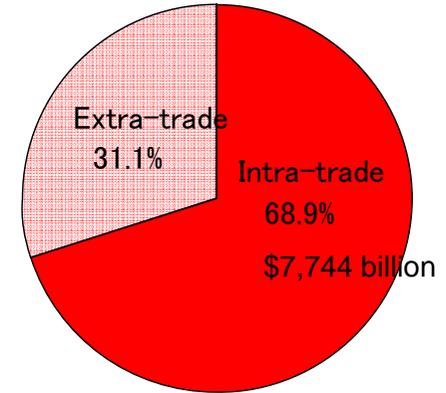
Total: \$5,116 billion

EAS



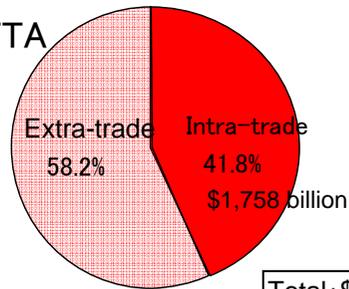
Total: \$5,730 billion

APEC



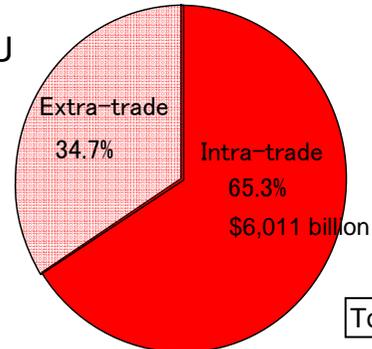
Total: \$11,242 billion

NAFTA
[For Comparison]



Total: \$4,200 billion

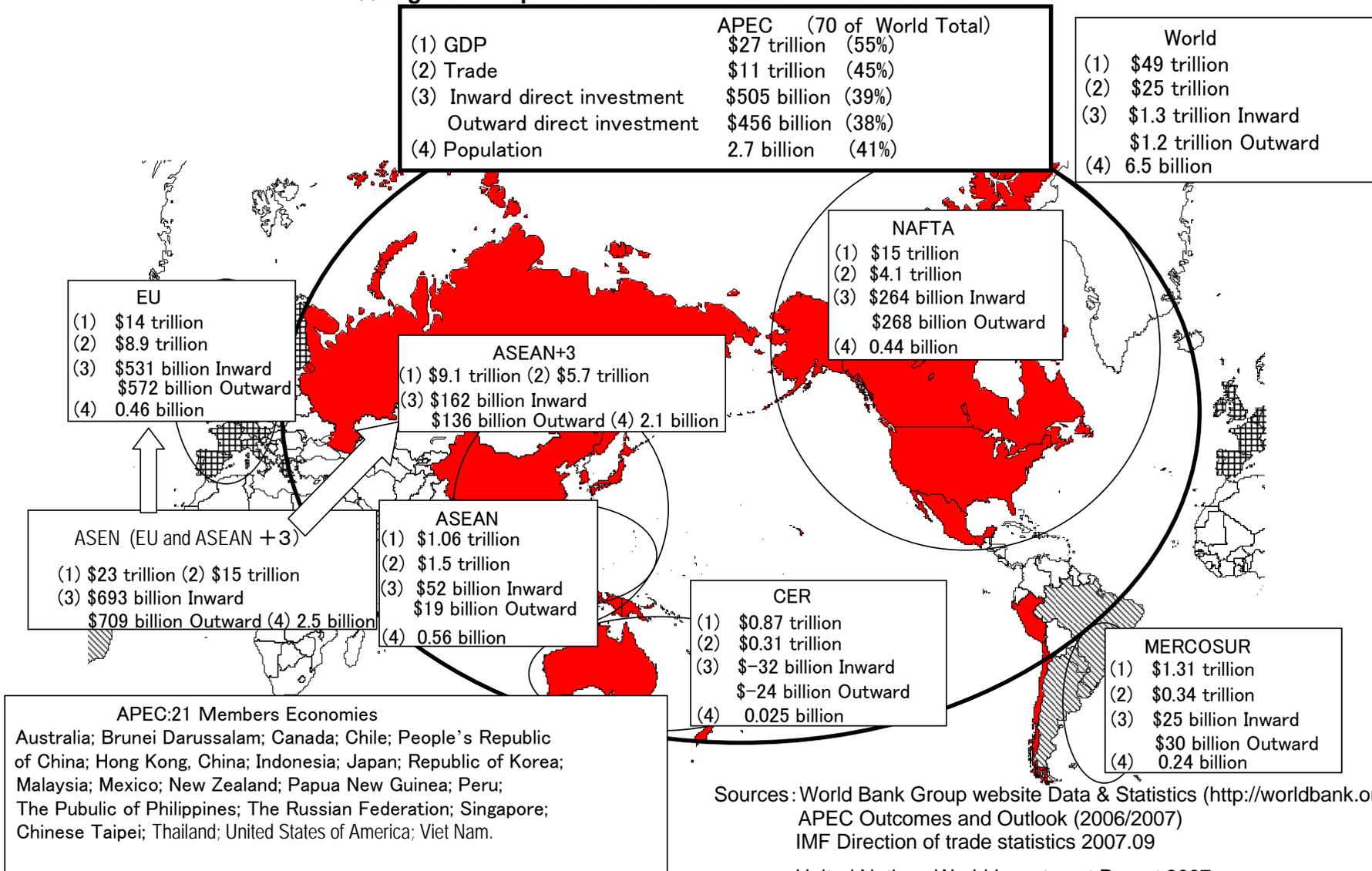
EU



Total: \$9,199 billion

★Largest regional cooperation grouping in the world

★Regional cooperation includes ASEAN+3* and NAFTA (* excluding Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia)



Sources: World Bank Group website Data & Statistics (<http://worldbank.org>)
 APEC Outcomes and Outlook (2006/2007)
 IMF Direction of trade statistics 2007.09

United Nations World Investment Report 2007