

Opening Remarks
By Wei YUAN
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President Sugiyama Takehiko, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am very pleased to meet you all. In this beautiful spring, we are now gathering here at Hitotsubashi to celebrate the commencement first Asian Policy Forum co-hosted by Renmin University of China and Hitotsubashi University. On behalf of Renmin University of China, I would like to extend the warmest welcome to all of the experts, scholars, distinguished guests and delegates present here today.

This is an international forum co-hosted by both of us two universities, which is a perfect manifestation of the friendly cooperation between China and Japan. In the year of 2009, the whole world is recovering from the negative impact of the international financial crisis. Under such circumstances, it is of highly significance for both of our countries to restart our cooperation in economy, finance trade and industry. It is quite important for Asia and the world as a whole.

Hitotsubashi University is a top university in Japan with a profound history of more than one hundred years. Renmin University of China serves as a crucial basis for higher education and research in humanities and social sciences in China. Therefore, both universities are playing a very indispensable role in the economic and social development of Japan and China respectively. In 2004, we have signed the intercollegiate agreement of cooperation. Ever since then, we have conducted multi-layered and diversified cooperation in terms of cooperative research, mutual visits of faculties and students exchange. In October 2009, the two universities co-hosted a successful forum themed as “the Global Economic Crisis& Roles of China and Japan” in Renmin University of China, gaining ideal influence in academic circle. This has laid a solid foundation for furthering the bilateral cooperation.

Currently, the whole world is entering into the post-crisis era, when all Asian countries are facing the great challenge as to how to realize economic recovery comprehensively. On the one hand, these countries have abundant capitals; on the other hand, they are blessed with great potentials to improve the per capita consumption level and to expand infrastructure construction. Given this, all countries in this region should carry out innovative cooperation in trade, finance, consumption and other sectors within and outside Asia. Only by doing so can we stimulate more demands to better motivate the economic growth of Asia

It is driven by such objective that we have themed this forum as “International Finance and Regional Integration”. We are firmly convinced that this forum will serve as a great exhibition of top academic achievements, exerting important influence upon the academic circle in all Asian countries. In conclusion, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our counterparts here. Thank you for your delicate organization and perfect arrangements. Let me wish this forum a great success, thank you!