

**The Resolution
of
the Northeast Asia Economic Conference 2001 in Niigata**

**9 February 2001
Niigata, Japan**

The Northeast Asia Economic Conference 2001 in Niigata was held on the 8th and 9th of February 2001, based on the experiences accumulated over 10 years of discussions focused on cooperation and exchanges in Northeast Asia at the previous conferences.

At this year's conference,

- a keynote address by Mr. Hisashi Owada titled "Multilateral Cooperation in Northeast Asia in the 21st Century,"
- a special address by Mr. Victor I. Ishaev titled "Emerging Northeast Asia: Progress and Problems of the 1990's,"

were delivered, and then discussions were conducted at the following sessions:

- "Transportation Network in Northeast Asia: Towards Dissolution of its Discontinuous Points,"
- "Promotion of the Environmental Industry in Northeast Asia: Towards Integration between Economic Growth and Climate Change Mitigation,"
- "The Promotion of Trade and the Reduction of Investment Risks in a Period of Transition for Northeast Asia" and
- "Existing Frameworks for Multilateral Cooperation in Northeast Asia and Prospects for a Network".

Throughout the conference, the recommendations listed in the attached are presented.

PARTICIPANTS, including a wide range of representatives from both the public and private sectors, and central and local governments, as well as practitioners and academics;

BELIEVE that the advent of the new millennium will open up new horizons for the Northeast Asia Economic Subregion,

RECOGNIZE that the constructive opinion exchanges and proposals at the conference contained many points that should be reflected in their own practical activities in the future,

ACKNOWLEDGE again the importance of enhancing both independent efforts and mutual cooperation for the development of the subregion,

ARE DETERMINED to undertake efforts for their realization, and

CALL for further understanding and cooperation to concerned parties in various sectors and at various levels.

Appendix

Major Recommendations

Presented at the Northeast Asia Economic Conference 2001 in Niigata

*the Northeast Asia Economic Conference Organizing Committee
9 February 2001*

1. For the purposes of maintaining the stability of the Northeast Asia region in the 21st Century, the countries concerned are required to make efforts towards the establishment of a cooperative structure with a wide viewpoint, beyond the narrow pursuit of their own interests.
2. Large-scale energy resource development projects in Siberia and the Russian Far East and transportation and communications infrastructure development projects in Northeast Asia should be bases for the establishment of cooperative relations.
3. The Transportation Subcommittee of the Northeast Asia Economic Conference Organizing Committee is to continue to collect, study and analyze information regarding the improvement of the Northeast Asia transportation corridors.
4. Members of the Transportation Subcommittee, in cooperation with other specialists, should form a common "Northeast Asia Transportation Corridor Vision" and suggest concrete projects for the realization of this vision.
5. Information on new or expanding transportation routes in Northeast Asia should be disseminated through various media channels to attract users.
6. Promoting environmental industries in Northeast Asia requires the establishment of a platform for an environmental industry and technology database and a zero-emission center.
7. We must take action to raise environmental eco-consciousness through broader cooperation in the establishment of a comprehensive network.
8. Studying the experiences of the China-Japan Investment Promotion Committee and the Japan-China Investment Promotion Organization, organizations dealing with troubles that foreign enterprises face, should be established in both the investing and recipient countries. The central and local governments concerned should actively make efforts to resolve the troubles.
9. Because IT is the core feature of current advanced technology, this sector must be assigned the highest priority if we are to strengthen regional economic cooperation, and one essential step may be establishment of a subcommittee to study the concrete actions deemed necessary for IT advancement.
10. Discussions about development finance schemes for infrastructural development, including the establishment of the proposed Northeast Asian Development Bank and the strengthening of the Asian Development Bank, should be accelerated.
11. Cooperation among existing multilateral frameworks should be promoted, following examples such as the 10th Northeast Asia Economic Forum, to be organized in cooperation with the People's Government of Jilin Province and the UNDP Tumen Secretariat in Changchun in April 2001, and in cooperation with the Institute of the North in Anchorage in September 2001.
12. Relations with both APEC and PECC should be strengthened, taking advantage of APEC's concepts of open regionalism to prevent East Asia from turning into an inward-looking bloc.