

Joint Message

The 6th Trilateral (China, Japan and Korea) Finance Ministers' Meeting

May 4th, 2006, Hyderabad, India

1. We, the Finance Ministers of China, Japan and Korea, held our 6th meeting in Hyderabad, India, and exchanged views on the regional economic prospects, regional financial cooperation, and ways to improve our representation in the International Financial Institutions (IFIs).

2. Through meaningful and fruitful discussions, we have made considerable progress in the cooperation among the three countries as the following:

2-1. We noted that the prospects of three countries' economic growth for 2006 are positive because of the strong demand in the region and continued robust growth of the world economy although the continuous high oil price and an upward trend of the interest rates in the world may pose a major risk to the regional economy.

2-2. We agreed that the regional financial cooperation within the ASEAN+3 is going toward a favorable direction. We welcomed the completion of the CMI review, which started in the 2004 ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Meeting in Jeju. We also agreed to make continuous efforts to seek the possibility to further enhance the regional financial cooperation beyond the CMI, including exploring the ways of achieving multilateralisation of the CMI (a new framework or post-CMI). We also reaffirmed our strong commitment to promote other regional cooperation projects such as the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) etc. We noted the importance of sharing a long-term vision for financial integration in the region; we agreed on further study of related issues, including the usefulness of regional currency units, through the ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Process.

2-3. Furthermore, we recognized the need to strengthen our roles in achieving global as well as regional sustainable growth and financial market stability. We acknowledged the importance of addressing the issue of significant under-representation of the countries whose current economic strength and the relative position in the global economy are not properly reflected in the IFIs and ensuring its legitimacy. We also emphasized the importance of an ad hoc quota increase in IMF, and called upon its Managing Director to work with the IMFC and Executive Board to come forward with concrete proposals for agreement at the next IMF and World Bank Annual Meetings in Singapore. On our side, we will strengthen our participation in the IMF activities.

3. Based on our strenuous efforts thus far and the success of this meeting, we agreed to continue our meeting for closer policy dialogue among the three countries.