

The Progress of East Asia Regional Economic Cooperation & Tropism of Policy in China

Shuanghua Chen
Shanghai Finance University
May 12, 2006

Abstract

Since the end of world war II , the economy of East Asia has been developed rapidly, and the world economic pattern has been formed with East Asia, North America & Europe as three dominant economic zones. However, the development of regional economic cooperation in these three regions is rather imbalanced. EU continuously deepens its integration, North America Free Trade Area advances quickly, yet the development of East Asia economic cooperation is lagged far behind. The East Asian financial crisis resulted from currency devaluation of Thailand in 1997 has far-reaching influence. Economy fluctuation of East Asia after the financial crisis has made Asian countries realize the importance of deepening regional economic cooperation and fending off external risks. Therefore, they need to set up a systematic organization, set out the overall goal for cooperation and major cooperation fields, choose suitable paths to achieve the goal, further develop regional economy and strengthen risk-defending capabilities. At present, relevant countries in this region have reached consensus on establishing East Asia Free Trade Zone. Therefore, China should take appropriate measures to actively promote the economic cooperation in East Asia.

JEL classification codes: F15

Key words: East Asia Cooperation Mechanism, Cooperation Goal, Cooperation Fields, Selected Paths, Policies of China

Address for correspondence:

Shuanghua Chen
995 Shangchuan Road, Shanghai, China
Shanghai Finance University
Zip: 201209
Tel: 8621-38860665
Fax: 8621-38860665
E-mail: cs1506@sina.com