

April 17, 2002

PRESS RELEASE

Invitation to

RIETI Symposium “Asian Economic Integration*”

In recent years, various policy initiatives have been undertaken in East Asia to create free trade areas and form economic partnership agreements between different economies. Cooperation in the area of monetary policy has also been accelerated. Will such initiatives lead to prosperity and stability in Asia and eventually serve as a building block toward a global regime for free movement of goods, services, capital and people across the border? At this symposium, world's leading experts will explore future prospects of the Asian economic integration, first by analyzing the state-of-play of the ongoing economic integration in the region and clarifying their policy implications. The symposium will focus on the future of the Asian economic integration and how the intended policy goals can be achieved.

* The symposium, which follows the one titled "Asian Networking in Economic Policy Research" held in January 2001, is organized by the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI) in cooperation with a network of Asia's economic policy researchers and Asia specialists in Japan, the United States and Europe.

Date : **April 22 9:00-17:15, April 23 9:00-18:30** (Agenda attached)
Venue : Elizabeth Rose Hall, United Nations University (Shibuya-ku, Tokyo)
<http://www.unu.edu/hq/ginfo/contact.html>
Language : English (English□Chinese translation available. No Japanese translation)
Speakers : Joseph STIGLITZ (Professor, Colombia University, 2001 Nobel Economic Prize Winner)
CHEN Qingtai (Vice President, Development Research Center, State Council of PRC)
Francois GIPOULOUX (Senior Research Fellow, CNRS, Paris)
LEE Chang Jae (Director, Northeast Asia Research & Information Center, KIEP)
Peter DRISDALE (Professor, Australia National University)
CHIA Siow Yue (Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies)
AOKI Masahiko (CRO, RIETI, Professor, Stanford University) and others

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The Symposium is not open to public, but we welcome journalists.