



METI-RIETI APEC Symposium on Small and
Medium Enterprises:
**Strategy for Reinvigorating Economic Growth
with Dual Engine: SME and Asia-Pacific**

Panel Chair's Summary

October 1, 2010

Important role of SMEs in the global economy

- Participation in global division of labor and offshoring
- SME export and FDI bring about higher productivity, job creation, profitability and growth
- Creation of innovation and new business
- Creation of job opportunities in the local market
- Supplying diversified goods and services to a wide range of customers, from high income levels to BOP (Base of the Economic Pyramid)
- Driving force of agglomeration and growth in the local economy

Favorable conditions for encouraging SME/entrepreneurship

- Open and liberalized trading system among APEC members for encouraging the internationalization of SMEs
- Improvement of conditions for fair competition in the world market
- Support for information regarding the global market and matching between firms
- Seamless technical support - from knowledge creation to business start-up
- Financial support for SMEs' entrepreneurial spirit
- Timely support to create job opportunities
- Support for education and training of human resources from the long-term perspective