

Preamble

The two countries, Japan and China, celebrated the 45th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations in 2017 and will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People's Republic of China in 2018. Many memorial projects have been carried out. And in April 2018, Japan-China high-level economic dialogue, which was the first in eight years, resumed and in May of the same year, Prime Minister Li Keqiang's visit to Japan was realized thus momentum of friendship is being fostered. Against this backdrop, it is expected that enhanced mutual exchanges and further promotion of economic development of both countries will have positive influence on the trend of improving relations between Japan and China.

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China has been publishing this White Paper since 2010 in order to promote further dialogue with the central government and local governments in China. This White Paper is a summary of the proposals for analyzing and solving the issues faced by Japanese member Companies of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in China and other Chambers of Commerce and Industry organization throughout China (a total of 8,841 corporate members). It is divided into 4 sections: "Current Status of the Chinese Economy and Japanese Companies", "Common Issues and Proposals", "Current Status of Each Industry and Proposals" and "Current State of Each Region and Proposals" and consisting of 27 chapters and 54 proposal items. What is depicted in the White Paper is nothing but the current status of the Chinese economy seen through the eyes of Japanese companies and highlighted various issues encountered in pursuit of development in China by Japanese companies that have been engaging in business in China for a long period of time.

At the first meeting of the 13th National People's Congress held in March, 2018, based on the achievement status of the 13th five-year plan to date etc., the followings were highlighted: promotion of the supply-side structural reform, the business environment to be constantly improved by simplifying government administration, strengthening conformity with internationally accepted economic and trade rules and development of a world-class business environment. "Securing Fairness", which is the main request point of this White Paper, is the foundation for realizing above-mentioned goals and is indispensable for improving the quality of development. I am convinced that when the Chinese government seeks to intensify reforms, many points that are included in this White Paper will be beneficial.

In Chinese Economic Reform, the importance of foreign capital is immeasurable, and the roles played by Japanese companies are significantly large. Furthermore, as the uncertainty surrounding the world heightens today, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China will continue to be proactively proposing measures to the central and local governments of China in line with the footsteps of the predecessor, enhancing the economic cooperative relationship between Japan and China, to further improve the business environment in China.

This White Paper is made up with precious contributions that member companies of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China provided us while engaging in their own work. Upon compiling this White Paper, the research committee office (Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Beijing Office) played the central role. Furthermore, the secretariat office of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China and JETRO offices in Shanghai, Dalian, Guangzhou, Qingdao, Wuhan, and Chengdu played roles in collaborating with other Chambers of Commerce and Industry around China. I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for all those who have made a great contribution.

I sincerely hope that through this White Paper, it shall facilitate dialogues between Japan and China and strengthen the bond of the two countries, thus leading to further prosperity together.



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Chairman

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