

A stylized, light-colored map of the Pacific region, showing the outlines of Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands. The map is rendered in a simple, minimalist style with thin blue lines on a light beige background.

太平洋經濟合作 學術研討會 論文集

委辦單位：外交部

主辦單位：台灣經濟研究院

協辦單位：太平洋經濟合作會議中華民國委員會
太平洋盆地經濟理事會中華民國總會

會議時間：中華民國七十九年六月二十日(星期三)

太平洋經濟合作學術研討會

議 程

9:00~9:15 報 到

■主題一：太平洋經濟合作及我國之地位

9:15~ 9:30

(一)「亞太經濟共同體」構想之可能發展及我國角色之研究

報告人：吳榮義／陳永福

9:30~ 9:40 評 論

9:40~ 9:55

(二)中華民國與太平洋經濟整合之效益分析

報告人：毛維凌

9:55~10:05 評 論

10:05~10:20

(三)如何應用經貿力量推展我國對南太平洋島嶼國家之關係

報告人：蔡政文

10:20~10:30 評 論

10:30~11:00 自由討論

11:00~11:20 咖啡時間

■主題二：太平洋經濟合作與其他國際組織之關係

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(一)亞太地區國家參與關稅暨貿易總協定(GATT)之比較研究

報告人：林聖忠／蔡宏明

11:35~11:45 評 論

11:45~12:00

(二)一九九二年歐洲單一市場成立後對我國及亞太地區之影響

報告人：林貴貞

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(三)美加自由貿易區成立後對我國產品輸之影響

報告人：張秀蓮

12:25~12:35 評 論

12:35~ 2:00 午 餐

2:00~ 2:30 自由討論



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■主題三：太平洋經濟合作之回顧與展望

2：30～ 2：45

(一)太平洋經濟合作之回顧與展望

報告人：林沁雄

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(二)日本對亞洲新興工業化國家產業科技輸出之比較
研究

報告人：莊朝榮

3：10～ 3：20 評 論

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(三)蘇聯在亞太地區貿易發展潛力之研究

報告人：歐陽承新

3：55～ 4：05 評 論

4：05～ 4：35 自由討論

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太平洋經濟合作及我國之地位

(一)

「亞太經濟共同體」構想之可能
發展及我國角色之研究

(THE "PACIFIC ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY" CONCEPT—
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND THE
ROLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA)

報告人

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太平洋經濟合作學術研討會

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THE 'PACIFIC ECONOMIC COMMUNITY' CONCEPT -
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
AND
THE ROLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

by
Rong-I Wu
and
Alexander C. Tan

I. Introduction

The 1980s closed out with a tremendous explosion that is to leave the world with an indelible mark. The collapse of socialist economies in Eastern Europe, perestroika and glasnost in the Soviet Union, attest to the desires of all peoples for better economic environment. In the past decade, economic growth and development has been the crux of many discussions such as the emergence of the Newly Industrializing Countries (NICs), the US-Canada Free Trade Agreement, the Closer Economic Relation of Australia and New Zealand and the European Single Market.

In the Pacific changes abound. The tremendous growth of the East Asian economies saw their status changed to Newly Industrializing Countries (NICs). Economies like Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan grew by leaps and bounds during the previous decade to transform their economies to powerful manufactured products exporters. The Southeast Asian economies have also fared well by world standards.

It was in this backdrop that the talk of Pacific economic cooperation has been conceived in order to integrate the diverse

economies spanning the Pacific Ocean.

II. The Pacific Economy

In the past several years there has been considerable discussion of proposals aimed at bringing about closer economic integration among the nations of the 'Pacific community'. This discussion has been generated by the strong rate of economic growth in the countries around the Pacific basin, especially in East Asia; by their rapidly expanding trade, investment and other commercial relations; in response to the entrenchment of the European Community; and in the context of a profound change in the international political environment.

Central in these developments has been the role of Japan. The initial impetus to growing Pacific economic interdependence came from Japan's postwar recovery, its rapid heavy industrialization, and its final emergence as a major world economic power. And in the past 15 years, vigorous economic development in the other market economies of East Asia, and the cohesion of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) into an important sub-regional force, have further strengthened regional economic relationships and the idea of 'Pacific economic cooperation'. At the heart of Pacific economic interdependence was a vast new trade in raw materials, reciprocal trade in manufactured goods, and the facilitation of investment flows. The exchange of manufactures between countries at different stages of economic development within the region was also an important but essentially secondary element in the structure of

regional interdependence until recent years.

The Pacific economy now ranks beside the Atlantic economy as a center of world economic activity. Its broad shape is outlined in Table 1. The Pacific economy (excluding mainland China) encompasses almost a quarter of the population of all market economies, produces over 50% of world GNP, accounts for around 37% of world trade. The Atlantic economy has a larger GNP, and its per capita GNP is less variegated than that of the Pacific, which includes a group of developing economies whose per capita GNP is on average just around one-seventh those of their advanced country partners. Importantly, the Pacific is by far the most dynamic element in the world. Including mainland China, the region contains about 40% of the world's population, and for some time now the East Asian countries as a whole has enjoyed a much faster trade and GNP growth than the Atlantic economy.

Three factors have stimulated the increased importance of the Pacific in the world economy and the growth of economic interdependence among East Asian and Pacific economies. One is the growth of Japan's industrial power. As recently as 1967, Japan's per capita income was only about half that of the OECD countries' average, but Japan currently has one of the highest per capita GNP in the world. Rapid growth leading to high per capita incomes, combined with a large population, has made Japan the second largest economy in the world after the United States. The impact of Japanese growth in the Pacific economy has been

Table 1: Pacific Economy in 1987

	GDP US\$Billion	GDP/CAPITA US\$	SHARE OF TRADE WITH PACIFIC(%)	
			EXPORT	IMPORT
Advanced Countries	7,719.5	---	64.9	67.6
Australia	169.1	10,406	69.5	66.3
Canada	387.5	15,106	81.3	82.3
Japan	2,352.9	19,271	65.6	66.6
New Zealand	26.9	8,209	64.4	70.7
U.S.	4,268.1	17,509	58.0	65.1
Asian NICs	225.9	---	68.6	67.9
Hong Kong	29.1	5,275		
Korea	113.9	2,706		
Taiwan	82.9	4,209		
ASEAN	191.9	---	69.1	70.8
Indonesia	62.1	365		
Malaysia	32.8	1,982		
Philippines	31.4	547		
Singapore	20.5	12,710		
Thailand	44.2	825		

Source: Japan Member Committee of PBEC, Pacific Economic Community
Statistics, 1990.

pronounced because of the high established intensity of trade with the region. This impact was felt through the huge growth of Japanese demand for minerals and foodstuffs, as well as through the flows of capital and technology that these demands generated throughout the region.

The second factor which has raised the importance of the Pacific economy is the trade and industrial growth of the developing countries of Northeast and Southeast Asia. This was stimulated by two external influences. The first was the effect of Japan's trade and economic growth on the growth of regional trade. Countries such as resource-rich group in Southeast Asia, alongside Australia, benefited from the opening up of these new trading opportunities. The second influence was the move towards the deliberate adoption of outward-looking, trade-oriented industrialization strategies to replace earlier protectionist strategies, first in the Northeast Asian market economies, and more recently in some Southeast Asian countries. The rapid industrial growth of South Korea and Taiwan dates from policy initiatives taken between the late 1950s and mid-1960s, and Singapore and Hong Kong has little choice but to follow the same course. What is really significant is the extent to which East Asian growth has been sustained despite the oil crisis in the 1970s and the recessions that followed. The developing countries of East Asia are, on the average, the fastest growing and most dynamic economies in the world.

A third factor giving prominence to the importance of the Pacific economy is the slide towards slower growth in Western Europe. In the 1950s and 1960s Western Europe enjoyed rapid economic growth and structural change. But since the oil crisis the Western European economies stagnated, and projections of their future forebode a preoccupation with stabilization of incomes and economic structures, slower GNP growth, and less relative importance in the world economy.

III. PACIFIC INTEGRATION?

Vigorous expansion of trade, investment and other economic ties within the East Asian and Pacific economy has taken place without the framework of formal regional institutional arrangements that fostered European integration in the form of the European Economic Community, or even of the type that fostered integration across the Atlantic among the original OECD countries. The growth of Pacific economic integration represents an impressive example of 'market integration' around institutional and legal barriers to trade, capital movements and other forms of economic interchange.

But institutional and market integration involves an important two-way interaction wherein close ties and common economic problems set the requirements for institutional arrangements which, once in place, influence the degree of economic and political cohesion among countries. Hence, the growth of the East Asian economy and of Pacific economic interdependence, the shift of world economic power away from Europe and the Atlantic towards Asia and the Pacific, and the changed status of Japan and the United States in world affairs have all encouraged suggestions of the need for a new focus in foreign economic policy and a new institutional framework for dealings among Pacific economies. Prominent in this discussion has been the notion of a developing Pacific community; but the debate about what forms of institution-building might best serve

the interests of Pacific countries in managing and further developing their already substantial economic interrelationship has notably eschewed the idea of European style integration.

The evolution of Pacific Economic Cooperation in the 1970s and 1980s was largely shaped by a greater frequency of meetings sponsored by non-governmental organization on an increasingly wider range of issues. There is no need here to discuss again the formation of the different organizations as it has been thoroughly studied elsewhere. The Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (PECC) which started in Canberra in 1980, deserves to be singled out among the different routes to institutionalization of cooperation among the Pacific countries. It has the widest participation in terms of countries participating in the process. It is also unique because of its tripartite structure, involving government officials, businessmen and academics in its activities. Through this tripartite mechanism, the findings of Task Forces and General Meetings, in the form of conclusions and policy recommendations, are directly transmitted to interested government agencies with the obvious aim of providing them with richer inputs while formulating economic policies.

PECC is also important to be singled out in terms of the issues it has so far addressed. They include agriculture, trade, mineral and energy, forestry, fishery, human resources, science and technology, transportation, telecommunication and tourism and many others. In each of the issue areas, the sharing of

information, promotion of investment and trade as well as functional forms of cooperation such as policy dialogue and possibility coordination and technical projects such as tuna tagging, are addressed simultaneously.

One of the most important contribution of PECC to the development of Pacific cooperation is the increased awareness among people all over the globe of the strong and rapidly strengthening interdependence among the economies of the Pacific. At the end of its first decade of existence, PECC was widely criticized of being too academic. It was accused of having offered too little to the business community and governments. This criticism led to institutional reform within the PECC. Following the recommendations of an ad-hoc Task Force on institutional reform, the Seventh General Meeting of PECC, convened in Auckland in November 1989, agreed to establish a Permanent Secretariat and to streamline the operation of the different elements of the PECC machinery. Outside PECC, however people have become impatient about the slow progress in the institutionalization of Pacific economic cooperation.

In January 1989, the Prime Minister of Australia, Bob Hawke, proposed in Seoul the formation of an inter-governmental forum with an open ended proposal on its formal structure. This demand for an inter-governmental forum is shared by many governments, though the terms of reference seem to differ from one government to the other. Mr. Hawke's reference to the OECD

model was interpreted as a proposal for the creation of a Pacific OECD, comprising Western Pacific countries. Suggestions were made that Hawke's idea of organizing a grouping of Western Pacific countries was largely in reaction and was meant to provide a counter to both the European Community and US trade policies. Subsequently, Mr. Hawke invited the US and Canada to participate in his proposed inter-governmental forum for regional cooperation. Indeed, any Pacific regional consultative arrangements would be meaningless without the participation of the US, whose economy is closely intertwined with other Pacific economies. This can also reduce the suspicion on the Japanese domination about Pacific economic cooperation.

In its preparation to organize the meeting, the Australian government sent an envoy around the region. It became clear however that preliminary discussion of the institutional aspect of inter-governmental cooperation in the Pacific is too premature. Asean governments agreed to participate in the proposed meeting but they were far from sure whether institutional issues should be put in the agenda.

Japan's position and the US position are similar in that they support any Pacific regional organization that has Asean's support. Agreement was therefore reached that the meeting be confined to the five advanced Pacific economies, the six Asean countries and South Korea. Thus the stage was set for a high level meeting that was held November 1989 in Canberra.