



**An ADB-OECD joint seminar:**

## **“Asia's Institutions for Regional Integration: Towards an Asian Economic Community”**

**Thursday, 24 June 2010**

**1:30 – 4:30pm**

**OECD Development Centre, Paris**

Over the past few decades, Asia has been increasingly successful in expanding its economies and integrating them both within the region and the rest of the world. But while Asian integration is gaining momentum, its progress remains uneven across geographical areas and thematic sectors. Although Asia has a dense web of institutions for regional integration, the powers these institutions receive from national agencies remain quite limited, especially when compared with Europe's.

This seminar will present the findings and recommendations of the Asian Development Bank's forthcoming flagship study, "Institutions for Regional Integration. Toward an Asian Economic Community" and discuss lessons Asia can learn from Europe in designing an institutional architecture conducive to the creation of a regional economic community. In addition, a panel of experts will discuss the need for enhanced regional macroeconomic surveillance to support regional economic and financial integration in Asia.

Does Asia need to create more institutions to support economic cooperation among its members? Is the political environment conducive to strengthening Asia's institution for regional integration? What type of governance structure should these institutions follow? Should Asia create a regional bureaucracy with a strong secretariat? What are the lessons Asia could learn from other regions? What are the benefits to Asian countries of participating in sub-regional, regional and global institutions? The ADB study attempts to answer these questions.



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**Agenda**

**13:30 – 13:45** **Opening remarks** by Mario Pezzini, Director *a.i.*, OECD Development Centre and Andrea Monari, Resident Director General, ADB European Resident Office

**13:45 – 15:15** **Session 1**

**Asia's Institutions for Regional Integration: Findings from the ADB Study**

- Background to the study 'Institutions for Regional Integration' – Srinivasa Madhur, Senior Director, Office of Regional Economic Integration, ADB (10')
- Presentation of the main findings and recommendations – Masahiro Kawai, Dean and CEO, Asian Development Bank Institute (20')
- 'What Asian opinion leaders think on regional integration' – Giovanni Capannelli, Principal Economist, Office of Regional Economic Integration, ADB (10')
- Discussants: Françoise Nicolas, IFRI; Michael Plummer, Head of Division, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate (10' each)
- Q&A (30')

*Moderator:* Mario Pezzini, OECD Development Centre

**15:15 – 16:30** **Session 2**

**Panel discussion on macroeconomic surveillance for regional integration**

- Panelists: Kyung Wook Hur, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Korea to the OECD; Andrew Dean, Director, OECD Economics Department; Masahiro Kawai, ADBI; Srinivasa Madhur, ADB
- Q&A

*Moderator:* Peter A. Petri, Professor of International Finance, Brandeis University

**Venue:** OECD Development Centre, Issy-les-Moulineaux, 7<sup>th</sup> floor conference room

**Date:** Thursday, 24 June 2010