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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **FOURTH ASIA DEVELOPMENT FORUM TO FOCUS ON TRADE AND POVERTY**

**MANILA, PHILIPPINES (24 October 2002)** - The Fourth Asia Development Forum, to be held from 3 to 5 November 2002 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, is bringing together senior policymakers, academics, and members of nongovernment organizations and civil society to debate on an issue crucial to Asia's future – trade and poverty. Specifically, the forum will focus on three key issues:

- how international trade and investment will be affected by the launch of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations, the entry of the People's Republic of China in the World Trade Organization, and the proliferation of bilateral and regional trade agreements;
- how Asia's economies can maximize the development potential from addressing behind-the-border issues such as innovation and intellectual property rights, services sector liberalization, and investment policy; and
- how the benefits of globalization and regional integration can be shared more widely by the poor and how vulnerability can be better managed.

The Asia Development Forum, which began in 1998 as a partnership initiative among the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank (WB), and host country policy research institutes focusing on topics of key importance to Asia's policymakers, has evolved into a premier regional forum for engaging in dialogue on emerging policy issues in East Asia.

This year's forum, which will be held at Shilla Hotel, Seoul, is sponsored by the ADB, Korea Development Institute (KDI), Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), and the WB. The Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent Minister of Finance and Economy, Republic of Korea, Jeon Yun-churl, will speak at the plenary session.

Attached is the tentative schedule. All events are open to the press, upon registration. A pre-conference briefing for interested press will be held on 24 October 2002 at 11 am, at the Ministry of Finance and Economy, Republic of Korea. During the forum, a press conference featuring principals from all four organizations will be held on 5 November from 12:45 pm until 1:30 pm.

**AGENDA\*\***

**Monday, 4 November 2002**

**Opening Ceremony and Plenary: 0830 – 0930**

**Welcome Remarks:** ADB Vice-President; WB, KDI, KIEP Presidents

**Plenary:** Asian Integration Beyond the Border

**Keynote:** Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent Minister of Finance and Economy, Republic of Korea

**Seminars: 1000 – 1130**

PRC's WTO Entry: Impact on PRC  
Innovation and Intellectual Property Rights  
Trade & Labor Market Vulnerability

**Seminars: 1330 – 1500**

PRC's WTO Entry: Impact on Rest of the Region  
Transport & Logistics  
Effects of Trade on Poverty Reduction

**Seminars: 1530 – 1700**

Doha Round: What is Critical for Asia  
Energy & Telecommunications  
Assuring Benefits for the Poor in Liberalizing Developing Economies

**Tuesday, 5 November 2002**

**Seminars: 0900 – 1030**

Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements: Implications for Asia  
Financial Services  
Agricultural Trade & Rural Poverty Reduction: Market Access

**Seminars: 1100 – 1230**

Regional Cooperation and Integration: Issues and Prospects for Asia  
Trade and Investment  
Agricultural Trade & Rural Poverty Reduction: Domestic Geography

**PRESS CONFERENCE**

Time: **1245 - 1330**  
Venue: **Maple Room, Level 3, Shilla Hotel**  
Panelists: **KIEP, KDI Presidents**  
**ADB, WB Vice-Presidents**

**Closing Ceremony: 1400 – 1530**

Observations on Seminars: Trade-Related Events  
Behind-the-Border Issues  
Trade and Poverty

Closing Remarks: Ifzal Ali, Chief Economist, ADB  
Homi Kharas, Chief Economist and Director, East Asia and Pacific  
Region, WB

For details of the Fourth Asia Development Forum, see

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2002/ADF/default.asp>

\*\* (There may be further revisions to the agenda. Please refer to the web site for the latest version.)

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From November 2, 2002  
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