

G20 Plans and Preparations

Jenilee Guebert

Director of Research, G20 Research Group

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIMA	Alternative Investment Management Association
APEC	Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
BCBS	Basel Committee on Banking Supervision
BIS	Bank for International Settlements
BRIC	Brazil, Russia, India and China
CDS	credit default swap
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
DTA	double taxation agreement
ECB	European Central Bank
FSB	Financial Stability Board
FSF	Financial Stability Forum
GDP	gross domestic product
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IASB	International Accounting Standards Board
IDA	International Development Association
IEA	International Energy Agency
IFIs	international financial institutions
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standard
IMFC	International Monetary and Finance Committee
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MEF	Major Economies Forum
MEM	Major Economies Meeting
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
ODA	official development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
SIFIs	systemically important financial institutions
UNCTAD	United Nations Convention on Trade and Development
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WTO	World Trade Organization

Preface

This report on the plans for the G20 is compiled by the G20 Research Group from public sources as an aid to researchers and other stakeholders interested in the G20 and its invited guests. The report is updated periodically. Note that this document refers to the meeting (summit) of Group of 20 (G20) leaders, which met for the first time on November 14-15, 2008, in Washington DC, the G20 finance ministers and central bank governors, which was founded in 1999 (as opposed to other groupings such as the G20 developing countries formed in response to the agricultural negotiations at the World Trade Organization or the G20 that met under the auspices of the Gleneagles Dialogue).

Background

The G20 is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union. The G20 finance ministers and central bank governors began meeting in 1999, in Berlin, at the suggestion of the G7 finance ministers in response to the global financial crisis of 1997-99. Since then, there has been a finance ministerial meeting every fall. On November 14-15, 2008, U.S. president George W. Bush invited the leaders of the G20 countries — creating the first ever G20 summit — to Washington DC to respond to the financial crisis that began in the United States in September. Subsequently, Prime Minister Gordon Brown of the United Kingdom hosted the second G20 summit in London on April 1-2, 2009, followed by the third G20 summit hosted by U.S. president Barack Obama in Pittsburgh on September 24-25, 2009. On June 26-27, 2010, immediately following the G8 Muskoka Summit, the fifth G20 summit was held in Toronto, co-chaired by Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper and Korean president Lee Myung-bak. On November 11-12, 2010, the G20 leaders will meet in Seoul under the Korean presidency. In 2011, the G20 leaders will begin meeting once annually, first under the French presidency and then, in 2012, under the Mexican presidency. To help prepare these summits and continue their own agenda, the G20 finance ministers and central bank governors continue to meet several times a year, including on the fringes of the annual spring meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. (For more information on the summits, see <www.g20.utoronto.ca/summits.html>; for more on the ministerials, see <www.g20.utoronto.ca/ministerials.html>).

The G20 members consist of systematically significant developing and emerging countries and developed countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union. Spain and the Netherlands have been invited to participate at the summits. The World Bank and International Monetary Fund are also invited, and, at the discretion of the host, other international organizations have been invited, including the United Nations, the Financial Stability Board, NEPAD, the World Trade Organization and ASEAN.

Agenda and Priorities

The Presidential Committee for the Seoul G20 Summit has been working closely with relevant government ministries and private institutions and experts at home and abroad to develop its agenda. The committee has also formed a close network with the IMF, World Bank, OECD and WTO. As many as 100 leading business figures from around the world are being invited to attend the G20 Business Summit, which will be held in Seoul one day prior to the summit. They will exchange views on what the private sector can contribute to bolstering global economic recovery, and achieving sustainable and balanced economic growth after the global financial crisis. Korea has been pushing for “global financial safety nets” and “development issues” to be included as top priority items for the Seoul Summit.¹ (August 2, 2010, *Korea Times*)

The main themes and agenda items for the Seoul Summit on November 11-12, 2010, are ensuring ongoing global economic recovery; supporting the Framework for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth; strengthening the international financial regulatory system; modernizing the international financial institutions; global financial safety nets; and development issues.² (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

“The G20 Seoul Summit will be an important venue to finalize the ongoing discussions regarding the development of a global financial safety net, talks that have continued since the onset of the financial crisis. Decisions made at the Summit will lay the groundwork for the development of a new paradigm for sustainable economic growth,” according to Korean president Lee. “In addition, the Summit will lend its weight to discussions regarding the widening development gap between developed and developing countries,” he added.³ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Establishing a global financial safety net will be a key agenda for the G20 summit in Seoul. Korean minister Yoon Jeung-hyun said that problems in the financial sector caused the latest global economic recession and that large piles of foreign reserves held by individual countries were not good enough to deal with the financial crisis on a global scale. The solution must be a safety net of a size that is proportional to the crisis. When asked what would be the main issues to be discussed at the G20 Seoul Summit, Yoon said concrete talks had not yet taken place. However, he said that measures would be discussed to avoid a repeat of the economic recession by assigning the financial businesses responsibilities. Another topic of the meeting will be how to deal with the market turbulence and difficulties that emerging countries face when there is a sudden outflow of funds. “Simply piling up foreign exchange reserves against the turbulent market is not a positive way of solving the problem when considering the global economy,” he said, stressing that a worldwide safety net should be set up. Yoon also said that addressing global imbalance remains an urgent problem. “A crucial point is how to

¹ *Korea Times* (August 2, 2010), “Korea ready to bridge gaps among G20 nations.”

² *Seoul Summit* (2010), “Agenda.” Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00059&return_url=TOP01_SUB03

³ *Seoul Summit* (2010), “Message from the President.” Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://www.seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00052&return_url=TOP01_SUB01

continue a strong economic recovery and ease global imbalances, considering the relations between countries in a current account surplus and those in deficit and between developed countries and emerging ones.” Initiating reforms of the IMF will also be centre-stage at the Seoul Summit.⁴ (May 3, 2010, *Korea Times*)

Korean president Lee Myung-bak promised to step up efforts to reach out to non-members at the November G20 summit to narrow the development gap. “I cannot emphasize enough the importance of ensuring that the fruits of strong and sustainable growth are shared evenly among all countries, including the poorest,” he said. “We will place on the agenda the establishment of what we call a ‘Global Financial Safety Net’ that can put in place a global mechanism for addressing such sudden reversals.” The new arrangement seeks to build on the successful implementation of bilateral arrangements between central banks for dealing with sudden reversals of capital flows. The establishment of such a financial safety net will greatly contribute to the balanced growth of the global economy, now stricken by sharp differences in the level of development between advanced, emerging and poorer countries. “We will consult our G20 partners in placing development issues firmly on the agenda for the Seoul G20 summit,” he said. “We will not limit our discussions to the G20 member countries, but instead will reach out to partners outside the G20. We will conduct extensive outreach efforts through consultations with the United Nations and regional bodies.” Lee said Korea will take advantage of its experience and expertise with emerging and developing countries in formulating strategies for development. The president also announced a plan for a “Business Summit” in Seoul just ahead of the G20 summit to encourage the private sector, especially the business community, to play a bigger role in maintaining momentum for a recovery spurred by government-led stimulus measures. He reiterated his cautious approach toward exit strategies for rolling back expansionary fiscal and monetary policies and spoke out against protectionism. “An important task of the G20 is to follow up on the initiatives taken at previous summits on reform of financial regulation toward a more resilient global financial system and the reform of international financial institutions such as the IMF and World Bank ... In particular, concluding the Doha Development Agenda before the end of the year should be given the highest priority,” he added. “It is time for the G20 to set the post-crisis agenda, and to build the platform that will ensure the sustained and balanced growth of the world economy in the months and years ahead ... The November summit of the G20 in Seoul can be seen as the first major test of this new global forum as it attempts to establish itself as a regular feature of the framework for international economic cooperation.”⁵ (January 28, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Global Financial Safety Nets

The Seoul G20 Summit will aim to establish a global system for preventing the spread of financial risks. One option is to have the IMF simultaneously provide a credit line to all countries showing signs of financial crisis, even when not asked. The measure, if

⁴ *Korea Times* (May 3, 2010), “Global safety net to be key G20 agenda.”

⁵ *Yonhap English News* (January 28, 2010), “S. Korean leader vows ‘outreach’ to non-G20 members.”

approved, would form a key component of a global financial safety net system. “We are actively holding talks with the IMF to create an effective financial safety net that overcomes the limitations of the current system of providing liquidity,” said SaKong Il, chair of the Presidential Committee for the G20 Summit. The Seoul Summit will produce a specific policy plan on the issue. The safety net is particularly important for smaller-sized open economies like Korea that are highly vulnerable to external shocks. A safety net will also help redress imbalances in the world economy. “Without a financial safety net, small open economies have no choice but to strive toward building large foreign reserves through accumulating a trade surplus. This goes against resolving the world’s trade imbalance,” he said. “Therefore, a global financial safety net will help the world economy achieve sustainable and balanced growth.”⁶ (August 1, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Korean finance minister Yoon Jeung-hyun and IMF managing director Dominique Strauss-Kahn put forth several of the options that are being studied to set up international financial safeguards at the G20 Seoul Summit. Yoon said the global financial safety net may include precautionary credit lines and regional-based multi-party credit lines. The measures are expected to minimize financial burden of advanced countries, which have been opposing the proposal. “Some of advanced countries oppose the idea of a global financial safety net because of high opportunity cost the reserve will bring. Some pick on the moral hazard problem,” Yoon said. “But we most definitely need a global financial safety net and we’re working to minimize its downsides with the IMF.” Strauss-Kahn further detailed the possible set up of a regional-based multi-party credit line. “The groupings can be done on a regional-basis among countries facing same financial problems. There is no reason why it [financial safety net] cannot be used regionally,” Kahn said. Yoon and Strauss-Kahn argued that such measures will be better than building huge individual reserves, which could be used on much needed infrastructure and education.⁷ (July 14, 2010, *The Korean Herald*)

The IMF should come up with a detailed and realistic plan for tackling the volatility that can arise from rapid international capital flows, thereby ensuring global financial stability, Korea’s finance minister said. “I believe the IMF has an important contribution to make, by proposing and enacting concrete and realistic measures to strengthen financial safety nets around the globe.”⁸ (July 11, 2010, *Dow Jones International News*)

Korea is pushing for the G20 to strengthen global financial safety nets to assist countries to deal with capital volatility. Without reliable financial safety nets, many countries have had to rely on self-insurance, giving them greater impetus to accumulate large foreign reserves. A credible global financial safety net could reduce pressure on governments to continue adding to those reserves. For financial safety nets to be effective, on-going efforts to replenish the IMF’s resources must be successfully completed and its lending

⁶ *Yonhap English News* (August 1, 2010), “Seoul committed to deliver on financial safety net, development at G20 summit: chairman.”

⁷ *The Korean Herald* (July 14, 2010), “Korea, IMF mapping out financial safety net options.”

⁸ *Dow Jones International News* (July 11, 2010), “S Korea Min: IMF Should Suggest, Enact Concrete Plan For Global Safety Net.”

facilities adjusted to meet the current needs of the global community.⁹ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Global Economic Recovery

China, India, Brazil, Turkey and Korea are expected to have the highest economic growth rate of the G20 in 2010, according to the IMF. Compared to 2009, China is expected to grow 10.5%, India at 9.4%, Brazil at 7.1%, Turkey at 7.3% and Korea at 6.1%. China, India, Indonesia and Korea are likely to post the four highest gains among the G20.¹⁰ (September 14, 2010, *Asia Pulse*)

More experience sharing and national policy coordination will help countries achieve more sustainable growth for all, said a senior economist at the OECD said. “There is a common interest among all major countries, including China, to share national policies in a way that the common goals are achieved ... if there is coordination of economic policies, macro economic structural and exchange rate policies, all countries would benefit in terms of higher growth, faster fiscal consolidation ... and therefore more sustainable growth over all.” The global economic recovery is happening more slowly than expected. The G7’s predicted growth could slow to an annual rate of 1.5% in the second half of this year. The OECD predicts that the U.S. will grow by 2.0% in the third quarter and 1.2% in the fourth quarter of 2010. Emerging countries, on the other hand, have “contributed very largely to the turnaround and the exit from the crisis.” Emerging economies’ growth “will continue to be significantly higher than advanced economies in foreseeable future.” Global imbalances are widening, although they remain below pre-crisis levels.¹¹ (September 10, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

There are rising fears that a double-dip recession is about to occur in both the U.S. and UK. Government debt in the G20 will reach 115% of GDP – approximately 40% above pre-crisis levels. Much of the current debt problems stem from mismanaged fiscal policies that were in place before the crisis. Advanced countries went into the crisis with some of the highest public debt ratios ever (in the absence of a major war). Now, the G20 is trying to get back to strong, sustainable and balanced growth. This will require a return to fiscal sustainability and medium-term fiscal plans.¹² (August 11, 2010, *Financial Times*)

IMF managing director Dominique Strauss-Kahn said that Asian economies need to be prepared for downside risks to the global economy, but ruled out the possibility of a double-dip recession. Policymakers “need to remain attuned to negative shocks,” Strauss-Kahn said, but he added: “I don’t believe there will be another dip. Our baseline is that there will be a recovery.” Asia is leading the global recovery, but the region’s

⁹ *Seoul Summit* (2010), “Agenda.” Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?return_url=TOP01_SUB03_02

¹⁰ *Asia Pulse* (September 14, 2010), “S. Korea’s 2010 Growth to Rank 5th Among G20 Nations: Report.”

¹¹ *Xinhua News Agency* (September 10, 2010), “Interview: Experience-sharing leads to more sustainable growth: OECD chief economist.”

¹² *Financial Times* (August 10, 2010), “The great false choice, stimulus or austerity.”

policymakers will have to find ways to manage the sharp rebound in capital inflows, as well as risks related to economic overheating and credit and asset bubbles. With lower growth rates in Europe and the U.S. liable to continue for an extended period, Asia needs to make an increase in its domestic investment and consumption a long-term policy goal, Strauss-Kahn said.¹³ (July 12, 2010, *Dow Jones Chinese Financial Wire*)

At the Toronto Summit, the leaders of the G20 agreed on the importance of safeguarding and strengthening the economic recovery, while laying the foundation for strong, sustainable and balanced growth, and strengthening financial systems. The G20 will continue to work towards those ends before they meet in Seoul.¹⁴ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth

At the Toronto Summit, the G20 reviewed the results of the IMF's mutual assessment process for the Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth and agreed on a set of policy options, which, if implemented, will bring the world economy closer to the G20's shared objectives. At the Seoul Summit, the G20 will agree on a comprehensive policy action plan designed to lead the world toward strong, sustainable and balanced growth. It will include policy commitments made by each country, based on the basket of options agreed to at the Toronto Summit.¹⁵ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Bank Capital and Liquidity

Basel III could save the G20 \$12.9 trillion, according to Canadian central bank governor Mark Carney. A calculation gave "average net benefits for G20 economies of 30 percent of GDP in present-value terms, or about 10 trillion euros," he said. "This estimate is conservative. The analysis understates the benefits of the new rules and errs on the side of overstating the costs." (September 14, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

The European Commission plans to put Basel III into law next year. "Once this agreement is confirmed by the G20 in November, the Commission will propose, in the first quarter of 2011, the necessary legislative texts to transpose into European law the principles agreed yesterday evening," said Michel Barnier, European commissioner for internal market and services. He said that the legislation would take the form of a revision of the directives on capital requirements and would be accompanied by an in-depth impact assessment. Barnier welcomed "the ambitious agreement on capital and liquidity

¹³ *Dow Jones Chinese Financial Wire* (July 12, 2010), "IMF: Asia Must Prepare For New Shocks, But Double-Dip Unlikely."

¹⁴ *Seoul Summit* (2010), "Agenda." Accessed 20 July 2010.
http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00059&return_url=TOP01_SUB03#

¹⁵ *Seoul Summit* (2010), "Agenda." Accessed 20 July 2010.
http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00059&return_url=TOP01_SUB03#

requirements for the banking sector,” and said that the new deal would help strengthen financial stability.¹⁶ (September 14, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

The new Basel III rules may make banks raise hundreds of billions in new capital over the next decade. Germany, for instance, has estimated that its 10 biggest banks may need €105 billion of additional capital. “The agreements reached today are a fundamental strengthening of global capital standards,” said European Central Bank president Jean-Claude Trichet. “Their contribution to long-term financial stability and growth will be substantial.” Regulators hope the changes will lead to less risky behavior by banks and help ensure that they have enough reserves to withstand any future financial shocks, and therefore would not need to be bailed out. But banks are arguing that the new requirements could reduce the amount of money they have available to lend out, leading to slower economic growth.¹⁷ (September 12, 2010, *Reuters News*)

A package was finalized on September 12 that will force banks to increase the amount of capital they hold to 7%. The G20 will give their final approval to the package at their November summit. Under the new Basel III accord, the tier 1 capital ratio is 6% and core tier 1 capital is 4.5%. Countries will have to implement the new standards, starting January 2013, when core tier 1 capital will rise from 2 to 3.5%. The new rules are to be fully completed by January 2015. Curbs on the use of deferred taxes and mortgage-servicing rights in tier 1 capital will take effect in January 2018. Existing state capital injections into banks can be kept until January 2018. The current tier 1 capital ratio is 4%. Core tier 1 capital is 2%. Basel III will introduce a capital conservation buffer of 2.5%, which will sit on top of tier 1 capital. It will be phased in between January 2016 and 2019. Any bank whose fails to stay above that buffer will face restrictions by supervisors on payouts. A new countercyclical capital buffer has also been introduced and has been set at 0-2.5% of common equity. This would force banks to build up extra buffers when there is excessive credit in the system. There is no current timeline for implementation.¹⁸ (September 12, 2010, *Reuters News*)

New bank rules will cut global output by a small fraction, but that is a small price to pay for greater stability, according to the BCBS. The newly established “Basel III” rules for bank capital and liquidity will tighten lending and reduce investment in a transition period, but to a much lower degree than was predicted by many. “Macroeconomic costs of implementing stronger standards are manageable ... while the longer-term benefits to financial stability and more stable economic growth are substantial,” said FSB chair Mario Draghi. If the rules are phased in over four years, as predicted, and banks’ capital levels rise by 2%, output would decline by approximately 0.38% compared to a baseline scenario. Once banks have implemented the new rules, they will help with avoiding boom-and-bust cycles. “Economic benefits of the proposed reforms are substantial and need to be considered alongside the analysis of the costs,” said BCBS chair Nout Wellink. “These benefits result not only from a stronger banking system in the long run, but also from greater confidence in the stability of the financial system as soon as

¹⁶ *Xinhua News Agency* (September 14, 2010), “EU to transpose new Basel rules into law next year.”

¹⁷ *Reuters News* (September 12, 2010), “Global regulators agree tougher Basel II bank rules.”

¹⁸ *Reuters News* (September 12, 2010), “FACTBOX-Finalised Basel III bank capital ratios.”

implementation starts.” The G20 is expected to endorse Basel II when it meets in November and will begin implementing it starting the end of 2012. An important question that remains to be answered on is what minimum level of capital banks will be required to hold, and what the new regulatory minimum will mean for markets. Some sources have suggested that Basel III is likely to require banks to hold between 6-8% of core Tier 1 capital, including a “capital conservation buffer,” and an additional 2% “countercyclical buffer.” The UK and U.S. have argued for a higher core Tier 1 ratio, while Japan, France and Germany have pushed for less stringent rules.¹⁹ (August 18, 2010, *Reuters News*)

The BCBS said it was on track to deliver a complete package of capital and liquidity reforms in time for the November G20 summit in Seoul. The buffer plan will be finalized by the end of the year and will form part of the main Basel III package, rather than be implemented separately. The buffer will normally be set at zero, but if a credit boom starts, banks will have to hoard extra cash in case the upswing turns. Basel III reforms will be phased in over several years, rather than implemented by the original 2012 deadline. The Basel Committee agreed a two-pronged approach on the role of contingent instruments. There will be a consultation shortly on ensuring that contingent capital has loss-absorbing capacity when an ailing bank is at the point where it can no longer survive without being restructured. There will be further talks at the end of the year about the use of contingent capital on a “going concern” basis.²⁰ (July 16, 2010, *Reuters News*)

The BCBS said that “significant progress” had been made on hammering out tougher rules on banks’ capital and the size of their liquidity buffers. The committee said it developed concrete recommendations for completing its reforms of these rules, which will be reviewed by its oversight body late in July. “The Committee made significant progress at its meeting and remains fully on track to deliver a complete package of capital and liquidity reforms, including design and calibration, in time for the November 2010 G20 Leaders Summit in Seoul,” said Nout Wellink, chairman of the Basel Committee. The committee also plans to introduce new rules governing the amount of capital banks need to hold against their trading activities and investment in securitization deals by the end of 2011. Regulators and central bankers reviewed the results of the committee’s comprehensive quantitative impact study and its economic impact assessment analyses, although they likely won’t be published until September or October. The committee reviewed feedback from banks and other financial institutions to increase the amount and quality of capital banks should hold. Bankers say the proposals will force them to reduce their lending, which could threaten the fragile global economic recovery. The regulators also issued worked on proposals for a counter-cyclical capital buffer, which would increase the amount of capital banks build up during economic booms so it can be used to cover losses during downturns. The new buffer would be imposed when regulators believe “excess aggregate credit growth is judged to be associated with a build-up of system-wide risk,” the committee said. The regulators will shortly issue a proposal on how “gone concern” contingent capital could be used by banks. The committee said it

¹⁹ *Reuters News* (August 18, 2010), “Basel says new bank rules growth impact “modest.”

²⁰ *Reuters News* (July 16, 2010), “Basel Committee says agrees bank buffer strategy.”

continues to assess proposals on contingent capital from a “going concern” perspective.²¹ (July 16, 2010, *Dow Jones Capital Markets Report*)

Derivatives, Credit Rating Agencies and Accounting Standards

The G20 will devote more time to derivatives markets and the “shadow banking” sectors at their Seoul Summit. Improving supervision and curbing the influence of credit rating agencies will also figure prominently. The issue of “too big to fail” is becoming a top priority. Basel III will not be enough to deal with internationally active banks, said FSB chair Mario Draghi. “We want systemically important financial institutions to have loss-absorbing capacity beyond these standards.” The FSB plans to make recommendations at the Seoul Summit on big banks, including imposing a capital surcharge. They are likely to propose a menu of options on the too-big-to-fail issue, ranging from surcharges and forcing banks to compile living wills to ensure speedy wind-ups if in trouble, to agreements between countries on dealing with an ailing cross-border bank. “The Basel Committee and the FSB are developing a well-integrated approach to systematically important financial institutions which could include combinations of capital surcharges, contingent capital and bail-in debt,” the two bodies said. The G20 will also turn its attention to other regulatory reforms, such making derivatives markets more transparent and safer through central clearing. “We also have to deal with the whole shadow banking system, which has not been addressed in a coherent manner,” a G20 source said. Regulators want to reduce the role of credit rating agencies in determining how much capital reserves banks must set aside. “Capital alone is not going to save us. We need more effective supervision and there is much in the way to be done by many national authorities,” the source said. The G20 also need to finalize existing pledges on global accounting rules.²² (September 13, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Levies on Banks

Korean finance minister Yoon Jeung-hyun said that the debate on a bank tax issue is still underway, dismissing reports that global cooperation might have been ditched over the scheme due to sharply-divided opinions among countries. “The issue is being discussed very actively among member countries,” Yoon said. “Five basic standards were proposed and agreed upon during the recent G20 summit in Toronto. Global cooperation can be kept alive if things are maintained within the standards ... Conclusions will be drawn from each nation in time for the Seoul talks to be held in November.” He added that for Korea, “it is quite reasonable to impose a certain rate of tax on non-deposit borrowings or debt issuance in order to secure money for the future. But it should not put excessive burden so that it could hamper its basic functioning of or serve as a minus for banks.”²³ (July 11, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

²¹ *Dow Jones Capital Markets Report* (July 16, 2010), “Basel Committee: On Course For Capital Package In November.”

²² *Reuters News* (September 13, 2010), “No let up in G20 reforms after Basel agreed.”

²³ *Yonhap English News* (July 11, 2010), “S. Korea’s recovery to remain strong with...”

Reforming and Strengthening International Financial Institutions

A draft G20 document shows that the EU is in support of shifting just over 5% of IMF quota shares to emerging and developing economies, but wants to keep the size of the executive board unchanged.²⁴ (August 28, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Korea is pushing to conclude reforming IMF quota shares at the upcoming G20 summit. Korean deputy finance minister Shin Je-yoon said that reforming quotas remains a sensitive issue, but expressed that it was possible to reach an understanding by the November meeting. “There are differences among G20 members although leaders attending the summit have kept their word so far, and we expect they will respect the deadline to agree to the quota reform during the Seoul gathering,” he said.²⁵ (August 24, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Korea is underrepresented in international financial institutions. According to a report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Seoul’s power ranking in financial institutions is about 20th at the IMF and its voting block is only 1.33% of the total. Shares at the World Bank and the International Development Association (IDA) are not high either. China is even more underrepresented. It is now the world’s second largest economy, but at the IMF, its voting power is 3.66% of the total. Redistribution of the voting quota and reform of governance at the IMF is one of the main issues on the agenda for the upcoming Seoul Summit. IMF members have already agreed to shift at least 5% of shares from overrepresented to underrepresented countries, on the basis of each country’s GDP in 2008.²⁶ (August 19, 2010, *Korea Times*)

The G20 committed to strengthening the financial regulatory system both to sustain global growth and to prevent future crises. More stringent international rules regarding bank capital and liquidity requirements will be created by the end of 2010. At the Toronto Summit, the G20 affirmed their intention to reach agreement on a new capital framework by the Seoul Summit and called on the FSB to consider and develop concrete policy recommendations to deal with systemically important financial institutions (SIFIs) by the Seoul Summit. In addition, the leaders called on the FSB, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and other relevant organizations to report on the progress made, and new reforms required, in the areas of supervision, hedge funds, credit rating agencies and over-the-counter derivatives to the finance ministers and central bank governors at their October meeting.²⁷ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit website*)

The G20 leaders have committed to reforming the IMF by the Seoul Summit. Those reforms entail a shift in quota share to dynamic emerging market and developing countries of at least 5%. In addition, the leaders committed to addressing the issue of the size of any increase in quotas, size and composition of the executive board; ways of

²⁴ *Reuters News* (August 28, 2010), “EU prods China for faster yuan rise – G20 draft.”

²⁵ *Yonhap English News* (August 24, 2010), “S. Korea pushing to complete IMF quota reform at Seoul G-20.”

²⁶ *Korea Times* (August 19, 2010), “Korea merits bigger say in IMF, World Bank.”

²⁷ *Seoul Summit* (2010), “Agenda.” Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00059&return_url=TOP01_SUB03

enhancing the board's effectiveness; the governor's involvement in the strategic oversight of the IMF; staff diversity; and a merit-based selection of heads and senior leadership of all international financial institutions. The IMF is expected to strengthen its ability to provide even-handed, candid and independent surveillance of the risks facing the global economy and the international financial system. Moreover, in collaboration with the FSB, it is expected to provide advance warning of macroeconomic and financial risks, and offer appropriate recommendations to head them off.²⁸ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Offshore Jurisdictions and Tax Havens

Eight Argentinean banks are under investigation for questionable transactions. Argentina has been working to avoid being added to a banking system grey list. If added to the list, which includes regional neighbors Paraguay and Bolivia, Argentine banks would face operational difficulties and credit could become more expensive in the country. Ahead of a decision by the Financial Action Task Force on Argentina's status, which is expected in October, authorities are providing the international body with information and working to crack down on possible weaknesses. Investigations are already underway against banks with weak control measures.²⁹ (July 14, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Trade

Korea has the highest trade dependence rate among the G20, with exports accounting for 43.4% and imports making up 38.8% of their GDP in 2009. Germany's dependence on exports is 33.6%, followed by Mexico at 26.6% and China at 24.5%. The U.S. is least dependent on exports, at just 7.5% of its GDP. Brazil and Japan have similar low dependence at 9.7% and 11.4%, respectively. Mexico's imports make up 28.1% of GDP and Germany's 28.0%. South Africa, Canada and Saudi Arabia are all high as well. Numbers for Brazil, Japan and the United States, however, stand between 8 to 11%. "Excessive reliance on overseas markets could cause serious problems if there is a sharp downturn in the global economy," a finance ministry official said.³⁰ (September 14, 2010, *Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies*)

International Currencies

U.S. treasury secretary Timothy Geithner will push China for trade and currency reforms at the G20. However, China has warned that pressures from Washington could have negative consequences. The U.S. will use the G20 Summit in November to try to mobilize others to get China to let the yuan strengthen faster. "This process of adjustment in their exchange rate is going to have to happen over time," said Geithner. "We are using

²⁸ *Seoul Summit* (2010), "Agenda." Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00059&return_url=TOP01_SUB03#

²⁹ *Reuters News* (July 14, 2010), "INTERVIEW-Argentina works to avoid 'grey list' designation."

³⁰ *Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies* (September 14, 2010), "S. Korea's trade dependence highest among G20 nations: reports."

every approach we can find.” Making China’s currency system a focal point of the G20 summit would help show that the Obama administration is serious about using “all tools available” to remedy the situation. But it could also cause more tensions among the countries. “We expect there to be a significant focus of attention ... on China’s exchange rate policy,” Geithner said. “It’s about the broad interests of all of China’s trading partners in a level playing field.” China’s foreign ministry said pressure over exchange rates “not only would fail to solve the problems; on the contrary, it could have the opposite effect.”³¹ (September 16, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Japan intervened in the currency markets in September to weaken the yen. The action could have an impact on the debate over China’s control over the renminbi. Japan’s intervention will likely heighten tension around China’s persistent intervention to hold down the renminbi, which has been one of the most contentious issues at the G20, and is likely to come up again at the summit in Seoul. Several G20 countries, particularly the U.S., feel that they are under competitive threat from China’s currency policy.³² (September 15, 2010, *Financial Times*)

Energy

Proposed rules clamping down on financial markets may create big unintended consequences for oil trading, the International Energy Agency warned. Costs for airlines, oil refiners and businesses using financial risk instruments could rise sharply. A crimping effect on investment funds may also reduce the ability of markets to absorb risk. The IEA said in its monthly review of energy markets that “governments are moving apace with new regulations on financial markets, including energy derivatives ... By way of example, the study reports that limiting participation of fund investors may unintentionally deprive futures markets of liquidity and risk-absorption capacity.”³³ (July 13, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

Green Growth and Climate Change

Korea will take up the issue of green growth at the G20 Seoul Summit and Business Summit in November. Young Soo-gil, chair of the Presidential Committee on Green Growth, said: “The agenda for the summit will be crowded with other issues of pressing priorities to allow much discussion on green growth. The Korean G20 Summit Preparatory Committee is aiming for mainstream advancement on the agenda for the summit, and so ‘development’ will be a prominent theme ... This will hopefully allow President Lee Myung-bak to bring the attention of the G20 Leaders to the value of the theme of green growth as a catalyst for global cooperation in many development dimensions.” Emissions reductions are being limited by developing countries. “Korea would like to help those developing countries harmonize their growth aspirations with the environmental ones by sharing its green growth tool kits and experiences, as well as by

³¹ *Reuters News* (September 16, 2010), “Geithner vows to take China currency dispute to G20.”

³² *Financial Times* (September 15, 2010), “Japan intervenes to weaken yen.”

³³ *Agence France Presse* (July 13, 2010), “New rules for securities pose big unintended risks: IEA.”

working together to undertake specific mitigation and adaptation projects in cost-effective and growth-friendly ways in individual countries,” Young said. “Korea is also willing to take leadership in the international efforts to help build physical infrastructures in the developing countries in climate-change resilient ways.” Korea, which has recently joined the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC), will thus make green growth partnership a leading component of its increased ODA.³⁴ (August 22, 2010, *Korea Times*)

Development

Korean president Lee Myung-bak and finance minister Yoon Jeung-hyun have said that as the chair of the G20 Summit in November, Korea will actively reflect African views to the leading economies of the world.³⁵ (September 15, 2010, *Yonhap English News*).

“The ultimate challenge for the G20 Summit is to show that it is possible to overcome the development gap between [advanced and emerging economies] and to mobilize international efforts to do so,” said Young Soo-gil, chairman of the Presidential Committee on Green Growth. Korea’s own experience of transforming from being among the poorest countries 50 years ago to becoming a newly industrialized country, shows that it is possible to overcome the challenge. “By reflecting on its own experiences, Korea can lead international efforts to close this gap, as a bridge country. This would help Korea become a constructive and influential force, a soft power as it were, in the international efforts to solve global problems,” Young said. “Korea’s hosting of the G20 Summit this year offers a unique opportunity to demonstrate to the world that we can make a change by ably brokering meaningful global cooperation to overcome the developmental gaps ... The experiences with the latest global economic crisis demonstrate that the thinking of policymakers from both the emerging countries and the advanced ones about good economic management have been flawed and that there is a need for re-thinking and thought innovation on each side, as well as for renewed efforts for reconciliation of such thoughts between the two,” he said. “From this perspective, the current global crisis presents a unique opportunity for a new global thinking. We now know that many of the old ‘international best practices’ are no longer valid. There is both a need and an opportunity for new global standards. In this sense Korea should try to introduce humility as well as flexibility into the thinking of all G20 players,” he added.³⁶ (August 22, 2010, *Korea Times*)

At the Toronto Summit, the leaders agreed to establish a Working Group on Development, tasked with exploring measures to promote economic growth and resilience, and outlining a development agenda and multi-year action plans to be adopted at the Seoul Summit. Korea and South Africa are co-chairing high-level G20 Development Working Group meetings to facilitate the formulation of multi-year action

³⁴ *Korea Times* (August 22, 2010), “Seoul to bring G20 leaders’ attention to ‘green growth.’”

³⁵ *Yonhap English News* (September 15, 2010), “S. Korea to increase support for African countries.”

³⁶ *Korea Times* (August 22, 2010), “Korea’s experience to help bridge G20 ‘development gap.’”

plans. The ultimate outcomes of these meetings will be reported to the G20 sherpas and leaders for their consideration and endorsement.³⁷ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Other

Korea may propose setting up an international cyber security body at the G20 summit in Seoul in November. “We are planning to propose organizing a comprehensive cyber security body with its headquarters possibly based in Seoul,” an official from the ministry of public administration and security said. The suggestion comes after a number of private and government websites in the U.S. and Korea encountered distributed denial-of-service attacks in July.³⁸ (February 22, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

Participants

Vietnam held a conference on ASEAN’s role in the G20 in August. ASEAN has participated in the past two G20 summits — in Pittsburgh in September 2009 and in Toronto in June 2010. Representatives agreed that ASEAN should play a more important and active role in the G20.³⁹ (August 20, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

In addition to leaders of the 20 member countries, central bankers and finance ministers, the heads of key international institutions, including the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Financial Stability Board, will participate in the November 11-12 summit.⁴⁰ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

Preparations

Preparatory Meetings

- July 19-20, 2010: G20 Development Working Group (Seoul, Korea)
- July 19-20, 2010: G20 Sherpas (Seoul, Korea)
- July 2010: G20 Workshop on Macro Framework (France)
- September 4-5, 2010: G20 Finance Deputies Meeting (Gwangju, Korea)
- October 9-11, 2010: G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (Washington, DC)
- October 21, 2010: G20 Finance Deputies Meeting (Korea)

³⁷ *Seoul Summit* (2010), “Agenda.” Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?return_url=TOP01_SUB03_02

³⁸ *Xinhua News Agency* (February 22, 2010), “Seoul to propose international cyber security body at G20 summit.”

³⁹ *Xinhua News Agency* (August 20, 2010), “ASEAN urged to play more important role in G20 process.”

⁴⁰ *Seoul Summit* (2010), “Introduction to the Seoul Summit.” Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://www.seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?menu_seq=G20MENU00058&return_url=TOP01_SUB02

- October 22-23, 2010: G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (Gyeongju, Korea)
- November 10-11, 2010: B20 Business Summit (Seoul, Korea)
- November 11-12, 2010: G20 Leaders Summit (Seoul, Korea)
- November 2011: G20 Leaders Summit (France)

Preparations

Korean finance minister Yoon Jeung-hyun will visit Russia, Germany, France, Brazil and the United States ahead of the November G20 summit. The trip is aimed at coordinating agendas on G20 issues, including financial safety nets and IMF reform. “The finance minister has been in contact with his counterparts in the U.S. and other countries on key issues in the past with the planned visit to help leaders reach tangible results at the upcoming summit, the ministry said. Yoon will hold talks with his counterparts and central bankers and meet heads of the European Central Bank and the IMF. Additional bilateral talks have been planned with finance ministers from Saudi Arabia, China, India and Switzerland.”⁴¹ (September 16, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

G20 finance ministers are not likely to meet on the sidelines of the IMF and World Bank meetings in Washington in October. Instead, the finance ministers from the UK, U.S., Canada, Korea and France (the past, present and future chairs of the G20) and the G20 deputy ministers will hold meetings.⁴² (September 9, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Finance ministers from the Commonwealth countries are planning to meet in Washington DC on October 8 to map out strategies to deal with continued the global economic crisis. The meeting will take place during the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank, and will be held at the IMF. Commonwealth Secretary General Kamalesh Sharma said that the ministers would discuss the potential relationship between the Commonwealth and the G20. “The G20 has been established at leaders’ level for almost two years now, as a framework of global governance. But it can only represent a part of global public opinion,” Sharma said. “Five of the Commonwealth members are in the G20, but 49 are not. There is a ‘G172’ of those countries which do not sit at its table. But in a Commonwealth meeting, we are able to bring together those inside it and outside it, to express and discuss mutual concerns.”⁴³ (September 8, 2010, *All Africa*)

The first G20 parliamentary summit meeting took place on September 3-4 in Ottawa, Canada. Korean national assembly speaker Park Hee-tae planned to attend. Participants were to discuss improving the regulation of the global financial system, coping with international food shortages and other outstanding issues facing the world. “The Korean speaker is scheduled to propose ways for countries to work together to promote better

⁴¹ *Yonhap English News* (September 15, 2010), “Finance minister to tour 5 nations to win support for G-20 summit.”

⁴² *Reuters News* (September 10, 2010), “G20 fin mins unlikely to meet in Washington – sources.”

⁴³ *All Africa* (September 8, 2010), “Finance Ministers to Meet in Washington DC.”

production and sharing of food,” a Korean official said.⁴⁴ (August 30, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Korea is hosting the 2010 Korea Africa Economic Cooperation Ministerial Conference on September 14-17. A meeting on “G20 African Outreach” has been planned on the sidelines to help table African voices at the G20 Seoul Summit. “The conference is expected to offer Korea an opportunity to upgrade its ODA policies in a way to reflect Africa’s voices and enhance economic cooperation with Africa,” the Korean finance ministry said.⁴⁵ (August 24, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

G20 deputy finance ministers and central bank governors meet in Gwangju, Korea on September 4-5. The meeting will focus on setting out the agenda for the G20 Seoul Summit. 200 officials from the IMF and World Bank will also attend the meeting. Participants will draw up a framework for sustainable growth and discuss the role and capability financial institutions.⁴⁶ (August 23, 2010, *KBS World News – English Edition*)

Korea is planning to host a conference for emerging countries to help boost their interest and participation in the November G20 summit. The meeting will be co-hosted by the FSB on September 2-3 in Seoul. Approximately 400 officials and scholars from Sweden, Hong Kong and Singapore, and the G20 are expected. Participants will discuss ways to encourage emerging markets to get onside with G20 regulatory measures and how the G20 can better reflect emerging economies’ interests. “We will discuss a broader spectrum of issues such as desirable roles the host country would play in the successful November summit and the future path the forum will take in a post-crisis world,” a G20 Seoul Summit committee official said.⁴⁷ (August 16, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

The G20 Presidential Committee released the official logo of the G20 Seoul Summit. The symbol incorporates an image of the sun rising over the East Sea and a traditional Korean lantern with a red-and-blue silk shade. It is based on “Seoul’s Lantern” (Chung-South Africa-cho-rong), an original design submitted by Jang Dae-young to a nationwide contest in April and May 2010.⁴⁸ (July 22, 2010, *Seoul Summit* official site)

Japan hopes there is a link made between the G20 Seoul Summit and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit that will take place immediately after. “It is important to connect APEC and G20 closely,” said Toshinori Shigeie, Japan’s ambassador to Korea. “I expect to see cooperation between Japan and the Republic of Korea, which is aimed at reflecting the voices of other Asia-Pacific countries that can not

⁴⁴ *Yonhap English News* (August 30, 2010), “S. Korea’s parliamentary speaker to take part in G20 gathering.”

⁴⁵ *Xinhua News Agency* (August 24, 2010), “S. Korea to host ministerial conference on economic cooperation with Africa.”

⁴⁶ *KBS World News – English Edition* (August 23, 2010), “G20 Vice Ministerial Meeting to Open Next Week.”

⁴⁷ *Yonhap English News* (August 16, 2010), “S. Korean G20 committee to host meeting for emerging economies.”

⁴⁸ Seoul Summit (2010), “Official Symbol and Website for the Seoul Summit.” Accessed 22 July 2010. <http://www.seoulsummit.kr/eng/boardDetailView.g20>.

participate in the G20 ... South Korea will show its leadership through the G20 by mediating the economic policies of developed and emerging nations.” Shigeie also expressed caution about whether the G20 could develop into an international governance system capable of dealing with political and diplomatic issues, including North Korea’s nuclear programs. “It is a difficult problem. The G20 summit was built as a ground for tackling the financial and economic crisis. As the global economy is still in an unpredictable situation, the priority lies with the problems we are now confronted with,” he said. “The issues that the G20 should be focused on are those of finance and the economy. The currently expected agenda of the G20 is not directed toward the North Korean issues.”⁴⁹ (February 18, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Implementation

Policy makers need to implement the Toronto G20 commitments, Canadian central bank governor Mark Carney said. They need to do better than their G7 counterparts, who have an “underwhelming track record” coordinating policy. “Without successful completion of the G20 reforms, the current recovery is at risk,” said Carney. “Faith is required, but not in a barbarous relic or a utopian global central bank. Rules on bank capital are set to dominate the November G20 summit.”⁵⁰ (September 11, 2010, *National Post*)

Site

Security

Movable security fences will be erected around the G20 summit venues in Seoul to protect visiting state leaders, Seoul police said. The fences, made with a concrete base and plastic on top, will be 2.2 metres high. The security wall will be set up near the Convention and Exhibition Center (COEX), located in the Gangnam district in southern Seoul. The barrier will run about 1.6 kilometres and can be moved to different locations if needed. After the summit, the fences will be used as road lane dividers. COEX houses Asia’s largest underground shopping mall. It will stay open during the weekend of the summit. Officials will divert traffic away from the secure zone. A provisional law has been put in place to limit demonstrations and gatherings and give the police greater authority to make arrest and allow the government to mobilize the military to help police in their security duties.⁵¹ (September 15, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

The Korean National Police Agency said it will mobilize a total of 400,000 police to tighten security against terrorism and illegal protests ahead of the G20 summit in November in Seoul. The agency will launch its operation headquarters on September 1 and a special squad that will consist of combat police. It will also run a monitoring office

⁴⁹ *Yonhap English News* (February 18, 2010), “Japan stresses importance of linkage between.”

⁵⁰ *National Post* (September 11, 2010), “Stay with G20 reforms: Carney; Global risk.”

⁵¹ *Yonhap English News* (September 15, 2010), “Seoul to set up fences around G20 summit venues for security.”

and keep all police officers on standby during the 20 days ahead of the summit.⁵² (August 3, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

The Republic of Korea launched a special police force to enhance security measures during the Seoul Summit in November. The security committee headed by Kang Hee-rak, chief of the National Police Agency, will be responsible for all safety measures, including airport security, traffic control and food safety, during the summit, which anticipates a presence of more than 10,000 people including 35 heads of state and international organizations. The committee consists of 25 government-related agencies, it added, which includes the Presidential Security Service, the National Intelligence Service, the Ministry of National Defence, the National Police Agency, as well as the National Emergency Management Agency. “The G20 summit is the largest international conference to be held in the Republic of Korea, and therefore, we need to be prepared to provide complete security measures for a successful hosting of the event.”⁵³ (March 5, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

Other

The Korean government started a three-month program for rural tourism. The government hopes it will attract 2,000 foreign guests, including those visiting the country during the G20 summit in November. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said that it will offer two-day trips to farming and fishing villages for foreigners. It is part of a “Rural 20 Project” to promote rural areas in the country as tourist destinations. The program consists of one- or two-day trips to rural areas and has four different themes: experience, nature, orientation and well-being. More information is available at <www.rural20.kr> in Korean, English, Chinese and Japanese.⁵⁴ (August 11, 2010, *Joins.com*)

The Republic of Korea has launched its G20 website. The opening of the site <www.seoulsummit.kr> came 250 days ahead of the start of the event scheduled for November 11-12, 2010. “The homepage will provide general information on the G20 summit, its significance, agenda, preparations for the conference, and related press releases.” The committee said it would open an official website, which will also include English and other language services, after June in consideration of the G20 summit to be held in Canada in that month. The committee added it will collect ideas and opinions from Internet users on the official website.⁵⁵ (March 5, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Next Summit

French president Nicolas Sarkozy will press for a global tax on financial transactions when he hosts the G8 and G20 in 2011. Sarkozy said major powers use the international

⁵² *Yonhap English News* (August 3, 2010), “Police beef up security ahead of G20 summit.”

⁵³ *Xinhua News Agency* (March 5, 2010), “South Korea launches security committee for G20 summit.”

⁵⁴ *Joins.com* (August 11, 2010), “Tours to focus on rural experiences.”

⁵⁵ *Yonhap English News* (March 5, 2010), “S. Korea partially opens Web site on G20.”

financial crisis as an excuse to avoid past commitments. “We have no right to shelter behind the economic crisis as supposed grounds for doing less,” he said. “Finance has globalized, so why should we not ask finance to participate in stabilizing the world by taking a tax on each financial transaction ... While all developed countries are in deficit, we must find new sources of financing for the struggle against poverty, for education and for the ending of the planet’s big pandemics.”⁵⁶ (September 20, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

France wants to reform commodities rules and is likely to use its G20 presidency to try and overhaul commodities markets. France is taking the lead in reforming commodities rules. In a letter to the European Commission, French finance minister Christine Lagarde said “We consider European regulation of trading in commodity derivatives to be insufficient ... the role played by financial investors in fuelling the volatility of commodity derivatives is not clearly understood.” She warned that there was “no real regulatory and supervisory regime” for physical markets. French president Nicolas Sarkozy has signalled that an international agreement on regulation of markets in commodities will be one of his main objectives for his G20 presidency. Much of the focus will be on improving transparency.⁵⁷ (September 8, 2010, *Financial Times*)

France is planning to get the G20 to examine ways to curb excessive exchange rates and commodity price volatility and to take up a financial transaction tax when it holds the G20 presidency in 2011. French president Nicolas Sarkozy has said that the G20 countries need to find ways to limit excessive exchange rate swings and the economic imbalances they create. “Who would challenge the fact that exchange rate instability poses a major threat to global economic growth?” asked Sarkozy. He said that China had to be included in such discussions. “What we surely need to do is go further and map out a new framework for consultation on exchange rate developments,” he said. “But how can we discuss exchange rates nowadays without China? We need to debate a better way of responding on this critical matter.” Sarkozy said that commodity price volatility, highlighted by the current increase in wheat prices, was also highly destructive and that the G20 should regulate commodity derivatives just as it is seeking to do so for other financial derivatives. “That way we will limit speculation,” he said.⁵⁸ (August 25, 2010, *Reuters News*)

When France takes over the presidency of the G8 and G20 in 2011, it plans to champion several key issues, including stronger financial and market regulations, discussions about the international monetary system, and measures to limit volatility in commodity markets.⁵⁹ (July 16, 2010, *Associated Press Newswires*)

⁵⁶ *Agence France Presse* (September 20, 2010), “Sarkozy says banks must help meet poverty goals.”

⁵⁷ *Financial Times* (September 8, 2010), “France leads charge on commodities rules reform.”

⁵⁸ *Reuters News* (August 25, 2010), “France to press G20 to curb currency swings – Sarkozy.”

⁵⁹ *Associated Press Newswires* (July 16, 2010), “Debt crisis will strengthen Europe, French PM says.”

Civil Society and Other G20 Related Activities

A group of 81 activist and union groups has launched a coalition to oppose the goals and principles of the G20 and plans to hold a series of protests before and during the Seoul Summit. The coalition includes the Korean Confederation of Trade Union (KCTU) — an umbrella labor group with about 700,000 members — and the People’s Solidarity for Participatory Democracy — one of Korea’s largest civic organizations. Under the slogan “Put People First, People’s G20 Action,” the anti-G20 body urged the Korean government to impose stricter regulations and more taxes on financial institutions whose risk-taking practices contributed to the economic crisis. The coalition also charged that officials have been violating the rights of the homeless, street vendors and migrant workers in advance of the summit, unjustifiably suggesting that they could be terrorists and a risk to public safety. The group plans to hold a mass rally in October in protest of a special law on G20 security that will go into effect on October 1.⁶⁰ (September 15, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Business representatives from the G20 gathered in Tianjin, China, on September 12 to prepare for the B20 Business Summit that will take place in Seoul in November. Representatives from the companies who will chair the summit’s 12 working groups gave briefings on their activities and work. The draft reports were to be reviewed by working-level financial officials’ in Washington in October. Representatives from Nestlé, Infosys, SK Corp., Hanjin Group, Hanwha Corp., Hyundai Heavy Industries, KT Corp. and Lotte planned to attend. More than 115 CEOs will attend the G20 Business Summit in Seoul to discuss post-crisis global growth, financial stability, green development and corporate social responsibility.⁶¹ (September 14, 2010, *The Korea Herald*)

Leading Asian pop stars will gather in Korea on October 23 for the Asia Song Festival, an annual pop music event. The date for this year’s celebration was chosen with the G20 summit in mind. All proceeds from the festival will be donated to UNICEF for children in Pakistan. “I’ve been trying to do this kind of peace concert for many years,” Hong Kong actor Jackie Chan said. “Every day I watch the news and read newspapers. I ask myself, ‘What’s wrong?’ Natural disasters we cannot stop, but people-created disasters we can stop,” he said. “It’s not only about a concert, it’s also about a message — love each other.”⁶² (August 23, 2010, *Yonhap English News*)

Fifteen Korean business leaders have been chosen to attend the G20 Business Summit in Korea in November. Twelve come from non-financial firms. The list includes Lee Kun-hee of Samsung Electronics, Chung Mong-koo of Hyundai Motor, Chey Tae-won of SK, Koo Bon-moo of LG, Sin Dong-bin of Lotte, Chung Joon-yang of POSCO, Hur Dong-soo of GS Caltex, Min Keh-sik of Hyundai Heavy Industries, Cho Yang-ho of Hanjin, Lee Suk-chae of KT, Park Yong-hyun of Doosan, Kim Seung-youn of Hanwha, Euh Yoon-dae of KB Financial Group, Shin Chang-jae of Kyobo Life Insurance and Im Kee-

⁶⁰ *Yonhap English News* (September 15, 2010), “Seoul to set up fences around G-20 summit venues for security.”

⁶¹ *The Korea Herald* (September 14, 2010), “G20 business leaders to discuss CEO meet.”

⁶² *Yonhap English News* (August 23, 2010), “Asian pop stars to add sparkle to G-20 summit.”

young of Daewoo Securities. The main themes for the B20 are international trade and investment, financial stability, green growth and corporate social responsibility. The participants will also look at the role of private businesses in keeping growth going as stimulus is withdrawn. Participants will form 12 working groups to discuss the subjects. Participants from other countries will include: Deutsche Bank's Josef Ackermann, HSBC's Stephen Green, Standard Chartered's Peter Sands, Blackstone Group's Stephen Schwarzman, Nomura Holdings' Kenichi Watanabe, ArcelorMittal's Lakshmi Mittal, Nestle's Peter Brabeck, Qualcomm's Paul Jacobs, Total's Christophe de Margerie, Bosch's Franz Fehrenbach, Infosys' S. Gopalakrishnan and Li & Fung's Victor Fung. The Korean government is pushing to make the business gathering a regular part of the G20 process.⁶³ (August 23, 2010, *The Korean Herald*)

A G20 Business Summit will be held on November 10-11 in Seoul, ahead of the G20 Summit. The CEOs will likely use the opportunity to discuss their concerns about protectionism and the possibility of "excessive" regulations on banks and other financial institutions. The meeting will take place at the COEX, a major business convention centre in southern Seoul. Approximately 100 people will be invited. The CEOs of America's Qualcomm, Switzerland's Nestlé, Britain's Standard Chartered, Germany's Deutsche Bank, France's Total, India's Infosys and Japan's Mitsubishi are among those who will attend. The delegates are to exchange views about the private sector's role in the global attempt for a job-rich recovery, while also looking to influence political leaders in their discussions for coordinating fiscal policies, financial sector reform, trade, development and innovation. The agenda of the Seoul Business Summit will be divided into four main topics: improving trade activity and investment, stabilizing financial systems, achieving green growth and encouraging corporate social responsibility. The roundtable discussions will be followed by direct exchanges between business leaders and G20 leaders. Also to be discussed is establishing the global business summit as a permanent part for future G20 summits. Forty-three CEOs participated in the Toronto Business Summit.⁶⁴ (August 2, 2010, *Korea Times*)

Korea is organizing a business summit in Seoul, gathering about 100 major corporate chairs and CEOs from around the world on November 10-11, 2010. The key goals are for the private sector to take the lead on stimulus; to engage CEOs and the business sector in the areas of trade and investment, finance, green growth and corporate social responsibility; and to enhance the sense of shared social responsibility.⁶⁵ (July 2010, *Seoul Summit* website)

The Korean summit will be held in Seoul on November 11-12, 2010. Just ahead of the summit, Korea will also be organizing a business summit on November 10-11 to establish

⁶³ *Korean Herald* (August 22, 2010), "Korean delegates chosen for G20 CEO summit."

⁶⁴ *Korea Times* (August 2, 2010), "Seoul attracts 'all-star' lineup of CEOs."

⁶⁵ *Seoul Summit* (2010), "Agenda." Accessed 20 July 2010.

http://seoulsummit.kr/eng/goPage.g20?return_url=TOP01_SUB03_02

networks among CEOs and provide an opportunity for dialogue between global CEOs and G20 leaders.⁶⁶ (February 11, 2010, *US Fed News*)

Appendices

List of Meetings

Leaders

- November 14-15, 2008: Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy, Washington, DC
- April 1-2, 2009: London Summit, London, United Kingdom
- September 24-25, 2009: Pittsburgh Summit, Pittsburgh, U.S.
- June 26-27, 2010: Canadian-Korean Summit, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- November 11-12, 2010: Korean Summit, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- November 2011: France
- 2012: Mexico

Ministerials

A list of past ministerial meetings is available from the G20 Information Centre website at <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/ministerials.html>.

- April 22-23, 2010: G20 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting, Washington, DC
- June 3-5, 2010: G20 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting, Busan, Korea
- October 9-11, 2010: G20 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting, Washington, DC
- October 22-23, 2010: G20 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting, Gyeongju, Korea

Deputies

- September 4-5, 2010: G20 Finance Deputies Meeting, Gwangju, Korea
- October 21, 2010: G20 Finance Deputies Meeting, Gyeongju, Korea

Workshops and Working Groups

- July 2010: G20 Workshop on Macro Framework, France
- July 19-20: G20 Working Group on Development, Seoul, Korea

Other

- November 2010: Meeting of G20 Tourism Ministers, Korea
- November 10-11, 2010: Business Summit, Seoul, Korea

⁶⁶ *US Fed News* (February 11, 2010), "Views of Association of Southeast Asian Nations Sought for G20 Agenda."

G20 Leaders' Experience

(as of September 23, 2010)

Country	Leader	Assumed Office	Next Election	# of G8 summits attended	# of G20 summit attended
Argentina	Cristina Fernández de Kirchner	Dec 10/07	2011	0	4
Australia	Julia Gillard	Jun 24/10	By 30 Nov 2013	0	0
Brazil	Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva	Jan 1/03	3 Oct 2010	6	3
Canada	Stephen Harper	Feb 6/06	By 15 Oct 2012	5	4
China	Hu Jintao	Nov 15/02	2013	6	4
France	Nicolas Sarkozy	May 16/07	2012	4	4
Germany	Angela Merkel	Nov 22/05	Fall 2013	5	4
India	Manmohan Singh	May 22/09	By 2014	5	4
Indonesia	Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono	Oct 20/04	2014	2	4
Italy	Silvio Berlusconi	May 8/08	Variable	9	4
Japan	Naoto Kan	June 8/10	By 2014	1	1
Korea	Lee Myung-bak	Feb 25/08	2012	2	4
Mexico	Felipe Calderón Hinjosa	Dec 1/06	2012	3	4
Russia	Dmitry Medvedev	May 7/08	2012	3	4
Saudi Arabia	Adbullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud	Aug 1/05	N/A	0	4
South Africa	Jacob Zuma	May 9/09	2014	1	2
Turkey	Recep Tayyip Erdoğan	Mar 14/03	Variable	1	4
UK	David Cameron	May 6/10	By June 11/15	1	1
U.S.	Barack Obama	Jan 20/08	Nov 2012	2	3
EU	José Manuel Barroso	Nov 22/04	June 2014	6	4
EC	Herman Van Rompuy	Dec /09	2012	1	1
Average				3.00	3.19

G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors

Country	Finance Minister	Start of Term	Central Banker	Start of Term
Argentina	Amado Boudou	July 8/09	Mercedes Marcó del Pont	Feb 3/10
Australia	Wayne Swan	Dec 3/07	Glenn Stevens	Sep 18/05
Brazil	Guido Mantega	Mar 27/06	Henrique Meirelles	Jan 1/03
Canada	James Flaherty	Feb 6/06	Mark Carney	Feb 1/08
China	Xie Xuren	Aug 31/07	Zhou Xiaochuan	Dec 2002
France	Christine Lagarde	June 19/07	Christian Noyer	Nov 1/03
Germany	Wolfgang Schäuble	Oct 28/09	Axel Weber	Apr 30/04
India	Pranab Mukherjee	Jan 24/09	Duvvuri Subbarao	Sep 5/08
Indonesia	Agus Martowardojo	May 20/10	Darmin Nasution	Sep 1/10
Italy	Giulio Tremonti	May 8/08	Mario Draghi	Jan 16/06
Japan	Yoshihiko Noda	June 8/10	Masaaki Shirakawa	Apr 9/08
Korea	Yoon Jeung-Hyun	Feb 10/09	Kim Choong-soo	Mar 31/10
Mexico	Ernesto J. Cordero	Dec 9/09	Agustín Carstens	Jan 1/10
Russia	Alexei Kudrin	May 7/00	Sergey Ignatyev	Mar 20/02
Saudi Arabia	Ibrahim Abdulaziz Al-Assaf	Jan/96	Muhammed Al-jasser	Feb 28/09
South Africa	Pravin Jammadas Gordhan	May 11/09	Gill Marcus	Nov 9/09
Turkey	Mehmet Şimşek	May 1/09	Durmuş Yılmaz	Apr 18/06
UK	George Osborne	May 12/10	Mervyn A. King	June 30/03
U.S.	Timothy Geithner	Jan 26/09	Ben Bernanke	Feb 1/06
EU	Didier Reynders (Belgium)	Dec 30/08	Jean-Claude Trichet	Nov 1/03

G20 Sherpas

Argentina	Hector Timerman
Australia	Andrew Charlton
Brazil	Pedro Luiz Carneiro de Mendonça
Canada	Louis Lévesque
China	Tiankai Cui
France	Xavier Musca
Germany	Jens Weidmann
India	Montek Singh Ahluwalia
Indonesia	Mahendra Siregar
Italy	Bruno Archi
Japan	Yoichi Otabe
Korea	Rhee Changyong
Mexico	Maria de Lourdes Aranda
Russia	Arkady Dvorkovich
Saudi Arabia	Hamad Al Bazai
South Africa	Mandisi Mpahlwa
Turkey	Hakkı Akil
United Kingdom	Jon Cunliffe
United States	Michael Froman
European Commission	Franciskus van Daele

G20 Leaders' Biographies

Argentina's Cristina Fernández de Kirchner became president of Argentina on December 10, 2007 after winning the general election in October. She replaced her husband, Néstor Kirchner, who was president from May 2003 to December 2007. She is Argentina's second female president, but the first to be elected. Prior to her current position, she was a senator for Buenos Aires province and Santa Cruz province. She was first elected to the Senate in 1995, and in 1997 to the Chamber of Deputies. In 2001 she won a seat in the Senate again. Born on February 19, 1954, in La Plata, Buenos Aires, she studied law at the National University of La Plata. She and her husband were married in March 1975 and have two children.

Australia's Julia Gillard became prime minister of Australia on June 24, 2010, replacing Kevin Rudd, who had held the position since 2007. Before entering into politics, Gillard worked as a lawyer. From 1996 to 1998, she served as chief of staff to Victorian opposition leader John Brumby. Gillard was first elected as a member of the House of Representatives in 1998. Since then she has served in various positions including shadow minister for population and immigration, shadow minister for health and deputy leader of the opposition. From 2007 to 2010, Gillard served as deputy prime minister. She was born in Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, Wales, on September 29, 1961. She moved to Australia in 1966. She earned a bachelor of arts and bachelor of law in 1986 from the University of Melbourne. She lives with her partner, Tim Mathieson.

Brazil's Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva first assumed the office of the president on January 1, 2003, after being successfully elected in October 2002. He was re-elected in October 2006, extending his term until January 2011. "Lula" first ran for office in 1982 in the

state of Sao Paulo, but it was not until 1986 that he was first elected to congress. He did not run for re-election in 1990. Instead, he became more involved in the Workers' Party, where he continued to run for the office of the president. He was born in Caetés, Pernambuco, Brazil, on October 27, 1945. He received no formal education and began working in a copper pressing factory at the age of 14. He became heavily involved in the workers unions at a young age. He is married to Marisa Leticia and has five children.

Canada's Stephen Harper was first elected prime minister of Canada in January 2006, assuming office from Paul Martin in February and leading a minority government. He later ran for re-election in October 2008 and returned to the House of Commons with a stronger minority. Before running for politics he served as a policy advisor for the Reform Party. Harper first ran for a seat in the House of Commons in 1988, but was not successfully elected until 1993. He served as leader of the opposition for a number of years before becoming prime minister. He was born in Toronto, Ontario, on April 30, 1959. He did studied economics at the University of Toronto and the University of Calgary, later returning to the University of Calgary to earn his master's degree in economics in 1991. He and his wife, Laureen Harper, have two children.

China's Hu Jintao has been president of the People's Republic of China since March 15, 2003. He replaced Jiang Zemin, who had held the position since 1989. Hu also serves as general secretary of the Communist Party of China's (CPC) Central Committee and chair of the Central Military Commission. Before entering into politics he worked as an engineer. He joined the CPC in April 1964, and began working with the party in 1968. In 1992, he was elected to the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and re-elected in 1997. He became vice-president of China in March 1998 and vice-chair of the Central Military Commission in 1999. In November 2002, Hu was elected general secretary of the CPC Central Committee. He was born in Jiangyan, Jiangsu, on December 21, 1942. In 1965 he received his engineering degree from Tsinghua University. He is married to Lui Yongqing and they have two children.

France's Nicolas Sarkozy became president of France on May 16, 2007, taking over from Jacques Chirac, who had held the position since 1995. He worked as a lawyer while he pursued politics. From 1983 to 2002, he was mayor of Neuilly-sur-Seine. He has been president of the Union pour un Mouvement Populaire, France's major right-wing party, since 2004. During his time in parliament he has held a number of cabinet portfolios including minister of state of economy, finance and industry, minister of the budget and minister of the interior. He was born in Paris on January 28, 1955. In 1978, he received his law degree from the Université de Paris. He is married to Carla Bruni and has three children from his two previous marriages.

Germany's Angela Merkel became the first female chancellor of Germany on November 22, 2005, replacing Gerhard Schröder who had been in power since 1998. Before entering into politics Merkel worked as a researcher and physicist. She was first elected to the Bundestag in 1990 and has held the cabinet portfolios of women and youth, environment, nature conservation and nuclear safety. She was born in Hamburg on July

17, 1956. In 1978, she received her doctorate in physics from the University of Leipzig. She is married to Joachim Sauer and has no children.

India's Manmohan Singh was re-elected prime minister of India in May 2009. He was first elected in 2004 when he replaced Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Before entering into politics, Singh worked as an economist, including for the International Monetary Fund. He was governor of the Reserve Bank of India from 1982 to 1985. Singh was first elected to the upper house of Indian parliament in 1995. He was re-elected in 2001 and 2007 and held cabinet positions including minister of finance and minister for external affairs. Singh also served as minister of finance from November 2008 to January 2009. He was born in Gah, Punjab (now known as Chakwal district, Pakistan), on September 26, 1932. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Punjab University in 1952 and 1954. He also received an additional undergraduate degree from Cambridge University in 1957 and a PhD from Oxford University in 1962. He and his wife, Gursharan Kaur, have three children.

Indonesia's Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono re-elected president in July 2008. He first became president on October 20, 2004, after winning the election in September, replacing the incumbent Megawato Sukarnoputri. Before entering into politics, he served as a lecturer and a military general. His first experience in politics came when he was appointed minister of mines and energy in 1999. He later served as co-ordinating minister for politics and security. He was born on September 9, 1949, in Pacitan, East Java. He received his doctorate in agricultural economics from the Bogor Institute of Agriculture in 2004. He and his wife, Kristiani Herawati, have two children.

Italy's Silvio Berlusconi became prime minister of Italy for the fourth time after winning the April 2008 election. Before entering politics, he started his career as a building contractor. In 1980, he established Canale 5, the first private national television network in Italy. He also became a leading Italian publisher with Mondadori. In 1994 he resigned from all his posts at Gruppo Fininvest in order to establish the political movement Forza Italia and, in the same year, he became president of the Council of Ministers for the first time. In June 2001 Berlusconi became premier again, an office he held until 2006. In 2009, for the third time, he chairs the presidency of the G8. Born in Milan on September 29, 1936, he received his law degree from the University of Milan. He is married to Veronica Lario and has five children.

Japan's Naoto Kan became prime minister of Japan in June 2010, replacing Yukio Hatoyama, who had held the position since September 2009. Kan was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1980. He served as minister of health and welfare, minister of state for science and technology, deputy prime minister and minister of finance during his time in politics. Kan was born in Ube City, Yamaguichi Prefecture on October 10, 1946. He graduated from the Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1970 and opened a patent office in 1974. Kan is married and has two children.

Korea's Lee Myung-bak became president on February 25, 2008, replacing Roh Moo-hyun, who had occupied the position since 2003. Lee joined the Hyundai Construction

company in 1965 and eventually became chief executive officer of the Hyundai Group before being elected to the Korean National Assembly in 1992. In 2002 he was elected mayor of Seoul, a position he held until 2006. He was born in Kirano, Osaka, Japan on December 19, 1941. He received a degree in business administration from Korea University in 1965. Lee and his wife, Kim Yun-ok, have four children.

Mexico's Felipe Calderón Hinojosa became president of Mexico on December 1, 2006, replacing Vicente Fox, who held the position from 2000 to 2006. In his early twenties Calderón was president of the youth movement of the National Action Party. He later served as a local representative in the legislative assembly in the federal chamber of deputies. In 1995 he ran for governor of Michoacán. He served as secretary of energy from 2003 to 2004. Born in Morelia, Michoacán, on August 18, 1962, he received his bachelor's degree in law from Escuela Libre de Derecho in Mexico City. He later received a master's degree in economics from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México as well as a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University. He and his wife, Margarita Zavala, have three children.

Russia's Dmitry Medvedev became president of Russia on May 7, 2008, after winning the presidential election in March, replacing Vladimir Putin, whose term in office had expired. Before entering politics, Medvedev worked as a legal expert and lawyer. He was officially endorsed as a presidential candidate on December 17, 2007, by Russia's largest political party, United Russia, as well as by Putin. Medvedev served as deputy prime minister from 2005 to 2008. He was born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) on September 14, 1965. He earned a degree in law in 1987 and a doctorate in private law in 1990 from Leningrad State University. He is married to Svetlana Medvedeva and they have one child.

Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud has been in power since August 2005. He replaced Fahd bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, who had reigned since June 1982. As crown prince since 1987, King Abdullah had previously acted as *de facto* regent and thus ruler since January 1, 1996, after Fahd had been debilitated by a stroke. He was formally enthroned on August 3, 2005. He also serves as prime minister of Saudi Arabia and commander of the National Guard. King Abdullah is chair of the supreme economic council, president of the High Council for Petroleum and Minerals, president of the King Abdulaziz Centre for National Dialogue, chair of the Council of Civil Service and head of the Military Service Council. He was born August 1, 1924, in Riyadh and has a number of wives and children.

South Africa's Jacob Zuma became president of South Africa on May 9, 2009, succeeding Petrus Kgalema Motlanthe, who had held the position since September 2008. Zuma joined the ANC in 1958 and started serving in the National Executive committee of the African National Congress (ANC) in 1977. In 1994, Zuma was elected National Chair of the ANC and chair of the ANC in KwaZulu-Natal. He was re-elected to the latter position in 1996 and selected as the deputy president of the ANC in December 1997. Zuma was appointed executive deputy president of South Africa in 1999. He held that

position until 2005 and was elected ANC president at the end of 2007. He was born April 12, 1949, in Inkandla, KwaZulu-Natal Province. He has three wives and several children.

Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdoğan became prime minister of Turkey on March 14, 2003, replacing Abdullah Gül, who had occupied the office since 2002. Before becoming prime minister, Erdoğan was mayor of Istanbul from 1994 to 1998. He was born on February 26, 1954, in Rize, Turkey, and studied management at Marmara University's faculty of economics and administrative sciences. He is married to Emine Erdoğan and has two children.

The **United Kingdom's David Cameron** became prime minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in May 2010. He was first elected to parliament in 2001 as representative for Witney. Before becoming a politician Cameron worked for the Conservative Research Department and served as a political strategist and advisor to the Conservative Party. He has served as party leader since December 2005. Born in London, England, on October 9, 1966, Cameron received a bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics and economics at the University of Oxford. He is married to Samantha Sheffield and had three children, one who passed away in 2009.

The **United States of America's Barack Obama** became president-elect on November 4, 2008, and was inaugurated January 20, 2009, replacing George W. Bush. In 2005 Obama was elected to the Senate, having previously worked as a community organizer, a civil rights lawyer and a state legislator for Illinois. The first black president of the United States, he was born on August 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii, to a Kenyan father and American mother. He received his bachelor's degree from Columbia University in 1983 and a law degree from Harvard University in 1991. He is married to Michelle Obama and they have two children.

The **European Union's José Manuel Barroso** became president of the European Commission on November 23, 2004. He was re-elected to the position on September 16, 2009. Previously he was prime minister of Portugal from 2002 to 2004. Before entering politics Barroso was an academic. Born in Lisbon, Portugal on March 23, 1956, he studied law at the University of Lisbon, holds a master's degree in economics and social sciences from the University of Geneva and received his doctorate from Georgetown University in 1998. He is married to Maria Margarida Pinto Ribeiro de Sousa Uva and has three children.

The **European Union's Herman Van Rompuy** was elected the first full-time president of the European Council on November 19, 2010. Previously he was prime minister of Belgium from 2008 to 2009. Before entering politics Rompuy was a lecturer. Born in Etterbeek, Belgium, on October 31, 1947, he holds a bachelor of philosophy and a master's degree in applied economics from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. He is married to Geertrui Windels and has four children.

International Organization Participants

United Nations secretary-general, Ban Ki-moon of the Republic of Korea, became the eighth UN secretary-general on January 1, 2007 succeeding Kofi Annan. At the time of his election, he served as the minister of foreign affairs and trade in Korea and was a diplomat to the UN. His involvement with the ministry included postings in New Delhi, Washington DC and Vienna. Born on June 13, 1944 in Eumseong County, at the end of the Japanese rule of Korea, Ban received his bachelors of International Relations from Seoul National University and a master's of public administration from the J.F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He is married to Yoo Soon-taek and has three children.

World Bank chief executive Robert Zoellick became the eleventh president of the World Bank Group on July 1, 2007. Prior to joining the World Bank, Zoellick served as chair of Goldman Sachs Board of International Advisors. He was also the deputy secretary of the U.S. State Department and the Department's chief operating officer and policy alternate for the secretary of state. From 2001 to January 2005, Zoellick served in the U.S. cabinet as the thirteenth U.S. trade representative. Born on July 25, 1953 in Naperville, Illinois, U.S., he graduated from Swarthmore College, earned a J.D. magna cum laude from Harvard Law School and a masters in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government. He is married to Sherry Zoellick.

Financial Stability Board chair Mario Draghi was elected in April 2006. He is an Italian economist and banker who has been the governor of the Banca d'Italia since January 16, 2006. He is a member of the governing and general councils of the European Central Bank and a member of the board of directors of the Bank of International Settlement. Born in Rome on September 3, 1947, Draghi graduated from La Sapienza University of Rome and earned a doctorate in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was also an executive director of the World Bank from 1984 to 1990.

International Monetary Fund managing director Dominique Strauss-Kahn assumed office as the tenth managing director on September 28, 2007. An economist, lawyer, and politician, Strauss-Kahn prior to taking up his position at the IMF was member of the French National Assembly and Professor of Economics at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris. He served as finance and economy minister and sought the nomination in the primaries to the Socialist presidential candidacy for the 2007 election, but was defeated. Born on April 25, 1949 in Paris, he studied political science at Sciences Po Paris and obtained a degree in public law as well as a doctorate. He is married to Anne Sinclair and they have four children.

Statistical Profiles⁶⁷

(as of 10 January 2010)

Argentina

Polity

Political party:	Frente para la Victoria (FV)/Justicialist Party
Head of State:	President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner
Most recent election:	28 Oct 2007
Government:	Lower House — Majority; Upper House — Majority
Political system:	Presidential
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Chamber of Deputies, elected Senate
Capital:	Buenos Aires
Official language:	Spanish

Economy

Currency:	Peso (P)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$324.8 billion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-2.5% (2009); 1.5% (2010)
Composition by sector:	9.2%-agriculture; 34.1%-industry; 56.7%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	NA
Official reserve assets:	\$48,908.23 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$43,752.38 (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$5,116.79 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$0.31 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$ 3,216.86 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$1,829.02 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$ -54.47 million (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$130.66 million (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets: (IMF)	\$33.48 million (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	28.00% (2009, 28 Nov. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$33.93 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Stock of quasi money:	\$45.92 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$72.55 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Household income or consumption by % share:	1.0%-lowest 10%; 35.0%-highest 10% (Jan.-Mar. 2007)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	22.0% (2008 est.) [based on non-official estimates]
Investment (gross fixed):	23.2% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$7.6 billion (latest year, Q4 2008)
Budget:	\$86.65 billion-revenues; \$82.85 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-0.8% of GDP (2009 forecast)
Public debt:	48.5% of GDP (Q4 2008) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	3.70 (6 May 2009); 3.18 (6 May 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$99.66 million (2005)
Debt-external:	\$135.5 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)

⁶⁷ Compiled by Harry Skinner, Senior Researcher, G20 Research Group, and Sophie Langlois, Researcher, G20 Research Group.

Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$69.1 billion-at home; \$26.81 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$52.31 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	49.0 (Jan-Mar. 2007)
Unemployment rate:	7.8% (Sep. 2008)
Labour force:	16.27 million (2008 est.) [urban areas only]
Oil production:	38 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	29 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	21 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	18 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	1.3% of GDP; 120 th in world rank (2005)
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Markets

MERV index:	2,352.760 (10 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+30.6 (local currency); +21.8 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$13.6 billion (last 12 months, May. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	45.2 (2006-2008)
Exports:	\$70.02 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	Brazil (18.9%); E.U. (18.8%); China (9.1%); United States (7.9%); Chile (6.7%) (2008)
Imports:	\$54.56 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	Brazil (31.3%); EU (15.7%); China (12.4%); U.S. (12.2%); Paraguay (3.1%) (2008)

Australia

Polity

Political party:	Australian Labour Party
Head of State:	Prime Minister Kevin Rudd
Most recent election:	24 Nov 2007
Government:	Lower House — Majority; Upper House — Minority
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected House of Representatives, elected Senate
Capital:	Canberra
Official language:	English

Economy

Currency:	Australian dollar (A\$)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$1.013 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-2.1% (Q1 2009); -0.7% (2009)
Composition by sector:	2.5%-agriculture; 26.4%-industry; 71.1%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	3.00% (7 Apr. 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$44,768.56 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$39,912.34 (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$34,500.12 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$1,143.96 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$ 4,680.67 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$2,661.04 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$-0.66 million (Oct. 2009)

Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$371.20 million (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	8.91% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$298.5 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Stock of quasi money:	\$667.2 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$1.312 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Household income or consumption by % share:	0.9%-lowest 10%; 38.2%-highest 10% (2004)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	4.4% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	27.6% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$44.1 billion (latest year, Q4 2008)
Budget:	\$350.3 billion-revenues; \$332.4 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-3.3% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	14.7% of GDP (2008 est.)
Exchange rates (per USD):	1.34 (6 May. 2009); 1.06 (6 May. 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$2.9899 billion (2006-2007 expected) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$799.8 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$366.5 billion-at home; \$197.2 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$1.298 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	30.5 (2006)
Unemployment rate:	4.2% (Dec. 2008)
Labour force:	11.25 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	30 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	21 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	20 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	26 th (world rank, 2008)
Military	
Military expenditures:	2.4% of GDP; 69 th in world rank (2006)
Markets	
All Ord. index:	4,981.400 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+4.9 (local currency); +11.2 (\$ terms)
Trade	
Trade balance:	+\$5.2 billion (latest year, Mar. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	46.1(2006-2008)
Exports:	\$189.9 billion (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	Japan (22.8%); China (14.6%); E.U. (10.5%); Korea, Republic of (8.3%); India (6.1%) (2008)
Imports:	\$194.2 billion (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	E.U (21%); China (15.6%); U.S. (12%); Japan (9%); Singapore (7.2%) (2008)
Brazil	
Polity	
Political party:	Workers' Party (PT)
Head of State:	President Luiz Lula de Silva
Most recent election:	29 Oct 2006

Government:	Lower House — Minority; Upper House — Minority
Political system:	Presidential
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Chamber of Deputies, elected Senate
Capital:	Brasilia
Official language:	Portuguese

Economy

Currency:	Real (R)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$1.573 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-13.6% (Q1 2009); -1.5% (2009)
Composition by sector:	6.7%-agriculture; 28%-industry; 65.3%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	10.25% (29 Apr. 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$231,122.62 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$220,508.37 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$211,853.59 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$645.14 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$4,590.38 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$1,123.69 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$1.12 million (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$65.55 million (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$4,188.38 million (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	47.25% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$95.03 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$724.5 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$1.249 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	0.9%-lowest 10%; 44.8%-highest 10% (2004)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	5.7% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	19% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$23.0 billion (latest year, Mar. 2009)
Budget:	NA
Budget balance:	-2.0% of GDP (2009 est.)
Public debt:	38.8% of GDP (2008 est.)
Exchange rates (per USD):	2.12 (6 May 2009); 1.67 (6 May 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$191.9 million (2005)
Debt-external:	\$262.9 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$294 billion-at home; \$127.5 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$589.4 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	56.7 (2005)
Unemployment rate:	8.5% (Feb. 2008)
Labour force:	100.9 million (2008 est.)

Military

Military expenditures:	2.6% of GDP; 62 nd in world rank (2006)
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Markets

BVSP index:	70,262.7031 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+37.1 (local currency); +50.7 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$27.0 billion (latest year, Apr. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	26.2 (2006-2008)
Exports:	\$197.9 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	E.U. (23.5%); U.S. (14%); Argentina (8.9%); China (8.3%); Japan (3.1%) (2008)
Imports:	\$173.1 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	E,U, (20.9%); U.S. (14.9%); China (11.6%); Argentina (7.7%); Japan (3.9%); (2008)
Oil production:	13 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	8 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	39 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	32 nd (world rank, 2008)

Canada

Polity

Political party:	Conservative Party of Canada
Head of government:	Prime Minister Stephen Harper
Most recent election:	14 Oct 2008
Government:	Lower House — Minority; Upper House — Minority
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected House of Commons, appointed Senate
Capital:	Ottawa
Official language:	English, French

Economy

Currency:	Canadian dollar (C\$)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$1.6 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-0.7% (Q4 2008); -2.3% (2009)
Composition by sector:	2.0%-agriculture; 28.4%-industry; 69.6%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	0.25% (21 April, 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$56,236.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$44,323.00 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$43,378.00 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$2,459.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$9,341.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$113.00 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	4.73% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$356.2 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$1.299 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$2.335 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	2.6%-lowest 10%; 24.8%-highest 10% (2000)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	1.0 % (Jan. 2009 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	22.6% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$11.3 billion (latest year, Q4 2008)
Budget:	\$608.3 billion-revenues; \$606.0 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-2.5% of GDP (2009)

Public debt:	62.3% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	1.18 (6 May 2009); 1.02 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$ 4. 079 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$781.1 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$433.4 billion-at home; \$520.7 billion-abroad (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$2.187 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	32.1 (2005)
Unemployment rate:	8.0% (Mar. 2009)
Labour force:	18.22 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	6 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	10 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	4 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	10 nd (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	1.1% of GDP; 132 nd in world rank (2005)
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Markets

S&P TSX index:	11, 953.83 (10 Jan. 20 10)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+12.9 (local currency); +18.5 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$37.1 billion (latest year, Feb. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	70.9 (2006-2008)
Exports:	\$459.1 billion (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	U.S. (77.6%); E.U. (7.5%); Japan (2.3%); China (2.2%); Mexico (1.2%) (2008)
Imports:	\$415.2 billion (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	U.S. (52.4%); E.U. (12.5%); China (9.8%); Mexico (4.1%); Japan (3.5%) (2008)

China

Polity

Political party:	Communist Party of China
Most recent election:	15 Mar 2008
Government:	Single House — Majority
Political system:	Presidential
Legislature:	Unicameral, elected National Congress
Capital:	Beijing
Official language:	Mandarin

Economy

Currency:	Yuan (¥)
GDP (real):	\$4. 327 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	6.1% (Q1 2009); 6.5% (2009)
Composition by sector:	11.3%-agriculture; 48.6%-industry; 40.1%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	5.31% (22 Dec. 2008)
Official reserve assets:	NA
Foreign currency reserves:	1, 953.7 billion (Mar. 2009)
Securities:	NA
IMF reserve position:	\$1,286.78 million (Feb. 2009)

Special Drawing Rights:	NA
Gold:	\$14,969.06 million (Nov. 2007)
Financial derivatives:	NA
Loans to nonbank residents:	NA
Other reserve assets:	NA
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	5.31% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$2.434 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$4.523 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$4.653 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	1.6%-lowest 10%; 34.9%-highest 10% (2004)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	6.0% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	40.2% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$400.7 billion (latest year, Q2 2008)
Budget:	\$847.8 billion-revenues; \$861.6 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-3.5% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	15.7% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	6.82 (May 2009); 6.99 (Mar. 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$1.331 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$420.8 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$758.9 billion-at home (2007 est.); \$149.33 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$2.794 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	47.0 (2007)
Unemployment rate:	4.0% (2008 est.)
Labour force:	807.3 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	5 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	3 rd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	11 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	12 th (world rank, 2008)
Military	
Military expenditures:	4.3% of GDP; 25 th in world rank (2006)
Markets	
SSEA index:	3,397.15 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+42.3 (local currency); +42.4 (\$ terms)
SSEB index (\$ terms):	255.75 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+52.0 (local currency); +52.0 (\$ terms)
Trade	
Trade balance:	\$316.9 billion (latest year, Mar. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	73.4 (2006-2008)
Exports:	\$1.435 trillion (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	E.U. (20.5%); U.S. (17.7%); Hong Kong, China (13.4%); Japan (8.4%); Japan (8.1%); Republic of Korea (5.2%) (2008)
Imports:	\$1.074 trillion (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	Japan (13.3%); E.U. (11.7%); Republic of Korea (9.9%); Taipei, Chinese (9.1%); China (8.2%) (2008)

France

Polity

Political party:	Union for a Popular Movement (UMP)
Head of Government:	President Nicolas Sarkozy
Most recent election:	22 Apr and 6 May 2007
Government:	Lower House — Majority; Upper House — Majority
Political system:	Semi-presidential
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected National Assembly, elected Senate
Capital:	Paris
Official language:	French

Economy

Currency:	Euro (€)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$2.867 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-1.0% (Q4 2008); -1.9% (2009)
Composition by sector:	2%-agriculture; 20.4%-industry; 77.6%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	1.0% (May. 2009) [European Monetary Union]
Official reserve assets:	\$126,421.60 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$26,256.68 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$19,330.28million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$3,668.92million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$ 15,403.84 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$81,092.16 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	8.13% (2008)
Stock of money:	NA
Stock of quasi money:	NA
Stock of domestic credit:	\$4.102 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	3.0%-lowest 10%; 24.8%-highest 10% (2004)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	2.8% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	21 .9% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$54.4 billion (latest year, Feb. 2009)
Budget:	\$1.407 trillion-revenues; \$1.506 trillion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-6.6% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	68.1% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	0.75 (6 May 2009); 0.65 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$9. 883 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$5.37 trillion (30 Sept. 2008)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$1.234 trillion-at home; \$1.889 trillion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$2.771 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	32.7 (2008)
Unemployment rate:	8.8% (Mar. 2009)
Labour force:	27.97 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	57 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	13 th (world rank, 2008)

Natural gas production: 64st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption: 16nd (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures: 2.6% of GDP; 61 in world rank (2005)

Markets

CAC 40 index: 4, 045.14 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008: +2.0 (local currency); -2.4 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance: \$-79.1 billion (latest year, Mar. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio: 55.2 (2006-2008)
Exports: \$601.9 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners: E.U. (63.6%); U.S. (5.9%); Switzerland (3.0%); China (2.2%); Russian Federation (1.7%); (2008)
Imports: \$692 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners: E.U. (60.3%); China (6.5%); United States (5.5%); Russian Federation (2.9%); Switzerland (2.3%) (2008)

Germany

Polity

Political party: Christian Democratic Union (CDU-CSU)
Most recent election: 23 May 2009
Head of Government: Chancellor Angela Merkel
Government: Lower House — Majority (coalition); Upper House — Majority (coalition)
Political system: Parliamentary
Legislature: Bicameral, elected Federal Assembly, elected Federal Council
Capital: Berlin
Official language: German

Economy

Currency: Euro (€)
GDP (official exchange rate): \$3.673 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change: -1.7% (Q4 2008); -5.2% (2009)
Composition by sector: 0.9%-agriculture; 30.1%-industry; 69.0%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate: 1.0% (May 2009) [European Monetary Union]
Official reserve assets: \$176,984.32 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves: \$38,629.48 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities: \$26,119.04 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position: \$4,552.48 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights: \$19,368.76 (Oct. 2009)
Gold: \$114,433.60 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives: \$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents: \$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets: \$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate: 5.97% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money: NA
Stock of quasi money: NA
Stock of domestic credit: \$5.019 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share: 3.2%-lowest 10%; 22.1%-highest 10% (2000)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):	2.7% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	19.2% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$206.2 billion (latest year, Feb. 2009)
Budget:	\$1.591 trillion-revenues; \$1.591 trillion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-4.4% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	66% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	0.75 (May 2009); 0.65 (May. 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$12. 290 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$4.489 trillion (30 Jun. 2007)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$924.7 billion-at home; 1.36 trillion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$2.106 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	27.0 (2006)
Unemployment rate:	8.1% (Mar. 2009)
Labour force:	43.62 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	6 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	10 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	4 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	10 nd (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	1.5% of GDP; 109 th in world rank (2005)
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Markets

DAX index:	6,037.61 (10 Jan. 2010) [total return index]
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+1.5 (local currency); -2.9 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$234.6 billion (latest year, Feb. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	87.4 (2006-2008)
Exports:	\$1.53 trillion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	E.U. (63.7%); U.S. (7.2%); Switzerland (4.0%); China (3.4%); Russia (3.2%) (2008)
Imports:	\$1.202 trillion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	E.U. (58.5%); China (7.2%); U.S. (5.6%); Russia (4.4%); Switzerland (3.8%) (2008)

India

Polity

Political party:	Indian National Congress
Head of Government:	Prime Minister Manmohan Singh
Most recent election:	July 2007
Government:	Lower House — Majority (coalition); Upper House — Majority
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Assembly, indirectly elected Council of States
Capital:	Delhi
Official language:	Hindi

Economy

Currency:	Indian rupee (Rs)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$1.207 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	5.3% (Q4 2008); 5.0% (2009)

Composition by sector:	17.2%-agriculture; 29.1%-industry; 53.7%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	4.75% (21 Apr. 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$284,391.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$266,768.00 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$150,662.00 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$1,581.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights	\$5,242.00 (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$10,800.00 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	8.5% (31 Jan. 2009)
Stock of money:	\$250.9 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Stock of quasi money:	\$647.3 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$769.3 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Household income or consumption by % share:	3.6%-lowest 10%; 31.1%-highest 10% (2004)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	7.8% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	39% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$37.5 billion (latest year, Q4 2008)
Budget:	\$126.7 billion-revenues; \$202.6 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-7.7% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	78.0% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	49.6 (7 May 2009); 41.4 (May. 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$903.19 million (2007)
Debt-external:	\$229.3 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$144.2 billion-at home; \$61.77 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$650 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	36.8 (2004)
Unemployment rate:	9.1% (2008 est.)
Labour force:	523.5 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	23 rd (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	5 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	26 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	19 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures: 2.5% of GDP; 66th in world rank (2006)

Markets

BSE index: 17,672.09 (6 May 2010)
 % change on 31 Dec. 2008: +23.9 (local currency); +21.7 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance: \$-109.0 billion (latest year, Mar. 2009)
 Trade to GDP ratio: 47.6 (2006-2008)
 Exports: \$187.9 billion (2008 est.)
 Top export partners: E.U. (21.6%); U.S. (11.8%); UAE (10.5%); China (5.6%); Singapore (4.9%) (2008)

Imports:	\$315.1 billion (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	E.U. (13.9%); China (10.0%); U.S. (7.8%); Saudi Arabia (7.3%); UAE (6.2%) (2008)

Indonesia

Polity

Political party:	Democratic Party
Head of Government:	President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono
Most recent election:	8 July 2009
Government:	Lower House — Minority; Upper House — None
Political system:	Presidential
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected House of People's Representatives, elected House of Regional Representatives
Capital:	Jakarta
Official language:	Indonesian

Economy

Currency:	Rupiah (Rp)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$511.8 billion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	5.2% (Q4 2008); -1.4% (2009)
Composition by sector:	13.5%-agriculture; 45.6%-industry; 40.8%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	7.25% (May 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$64,528.45 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$58,862.90 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$57,439.61 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$230.90 (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$2,797.78 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$2,442.10 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$194.77 million (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	13.6% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$41.71 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$131.5 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$166.2 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	3.0%-lowest 10%; 32.3%-highest 10% (2006)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	11.1% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	23.6% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$7.3 billion (latest year, Mar 2009)
Budget:	\$92.62 billion-revenues; \$98.88 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-2.9% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	29.3% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	10,410.0 (6 May 2009); 9,225.0 (May. 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$362.09 million (2007 est.) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$143.5 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$63.46 billion-at home; \$4.277 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$98.76 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family	

income-Gini index:	39.4 (2005)
Unemployment rate:	8.4% (Aug. 2008)
Labour force:	112.0 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	22 nd (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	17 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	13 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	24 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	3% of GDP; 50 th in world rank (2005)
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Markets

JSX index:	2,645.79 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+32.7 (local currency); +38.9 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$7.3 billion (latest year, Mar. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	60.4 (2005-2007)
Exports:	\$139.3 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	Japan (20.2%); E.U. (11.3%); U.S. (9.5%); Singapore (9.4%); China (8.5%); (2008)
Imports:	\$116 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	Singapore (16.9%); China (11.8%); Japan (11.7%); E.U. (8.2%); Malaysia (6.9%); (2008)

Italy

Polity

Political party:	People of Freedom (coalition)
Head of Government:	Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi
Most recent election:	13-14 Apr 2008
Government:	Lower House — Majority (coalition); Upper House — Majority (coalition)
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Chamber of Deputies, elected Senate
Capital:	Rome
Official language:	Italian

Economy

Currency:	Euro (€)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$2.314 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-2.9% (Q4 2008); -4.0% (2009)
Composition by sector:	2.0%-agriculture; 26.7%-industry; 71.3%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	1.0% (May 2009) [European Monetary Union]
Official reserve assets:	\$129,330.61 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$35,353.79 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$31,559.27 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$2,441.60 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$9,553.27 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$81,981.95 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)

Commercial bank prime lending rate:	11.34% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	NA
Stock of quasi money:	NA
Stock of domestic credit:	\$3.046 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	2.3%-lowest 10%; 26.8%-highest 10% (2000)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	3.4% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	20.9% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$72.9 billion (latest year, Feb. 2009)
Budget:	\$1.068 trillion-revenues; \$1.132 trillion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-4.3% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	103.7% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	0.75 (6 May 2009); 0.76 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$3.970 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$2.328 trillion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$374.8 billion-at home; \$547.7 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$1.073 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	32.0 (2006)
Unemployment rate:	6.9% (Q4 2008)
Labour force:	25.09 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	44 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	16 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	43 rd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	8 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	1.8% of GDP; 93 rd in world rank (2005)
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Markets

S&P/MIB index:	28,811.13 (10 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+3.3 (local currency); -1.2 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	-\$15.7 billion (latest year, Feb. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	57.9 (2006-2008)
Exports:	\$546.9 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	E.U. (57.9%); U.S. (6.3%); Switzerland (4.0%); Russia (2.9%); Turkey (2.0%) (2008)
Imports:	\$546.9 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	E.U. (53.1%); China (6.3%); Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (3.8%); U.S. (3.1%); Switzerland (3.0%) (2008)

Japan

Polity

Political party:	Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ)
Chief of state:	Emperor Akihito
Head of Government:	Prime Minister Yukio Haytoyama (since 16 Sept 2009)
Most recent election:	August 30, 2009

Government:	Lower House — Majority (coalition); Upper House — Minority (coalition)
Political system:	Parliamentary with Constitutional Monarchy
Legislature:	Bicameral Diet, elected House of Representatives, elected House of Councilors
Capital:	Tokyo
Official language:	Japanese
Population:	127, 078, 679; country comparison to the world: 10 th (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	-0.191%; country comparison to the world: 218 th (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Yen (¥)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$4.911 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-4.3% (Q4 2008); -6.4% (2009)
Composition by sector:	1.5%-agriculture; 26.3%-industry; 72.3%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	0.1% (7 Jan. 2010)
Official reserve assets:	\$1, 073, 712 million (Nov 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$1,018,414 million (Nov 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$962, 886 million (Nov 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$4,430 million (Nov 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$21, 536 million (Nov 2009)
Gold:	\$28, 926 million (Nov 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Nov 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Nov 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$406 million (Nov 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	1.91% (31 Dec 2008)
Stock of money:	\$5417 trillion (31 Dec 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$6.16 trillion (31 Dec 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$12.34 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	4.8%-lowest 10%; 21.7%-highest 10% (1993)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	1.8% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	23% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$126.5 billion (latest year, Oct. 2009)
Budget:	\$1.72 trillion – revenues; \$1.788 trillion – expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-7.7% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	172.1% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	92.15 (7 Jan 2010); 98.7 (6 May 2009); 105 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$7. 678 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$2.231 trillion (31 December 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$135.4 billion-at home; \$663.9 billion-abroad (2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$NA (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	38.1 (2002)
Unemployment rate:	5.2% (Nov. 2009)
Labour force:	66.5 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	47 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	4 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	49 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	5 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures: 0.8% of GDP (2006)

Markets

Nikkei 225 index: 10,681.83 (5 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008: +1.3 (local currency); -7.0 (\$ terms)
Topix index: 925.65 (4 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008: -1.4 (local currency); -9.5 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance: \$27.9 billion (latest year, Oct. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio: 31.5 (2005-2007)
Exports: \$746.5 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners: U.S. (17.8%); China (16%); Republic of Korea (7.6%); Hong Kong (5.1%) (2008)
Imports: \$708.3 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners: China (18.9%); U.S. (10.4%); Saudi Arabia (6.7%); Australia (6.2%); UAE (6.1%); Indonesia (4.3%) (2008)

Korea

Polity

Political party: Grand National Party
Chief of state: President LEE Myung-bak
Head of State: Prime Minister Chung Un-chan
Most recent election: 9 April 2008
Government: Single House — Majority
Political system: Presidential
Legislature: Unicameral, elected National Assembly
Capital: Seoul
Official language: Korean
Population: 48,508,972; country comparison to the world: 25th (July 2008 est.)
Population growth rate: 0.266%; country comparison to the world: 178th (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency: Won (W)
GDP (official exchange rate): \$929.1 billion (2008 est.)
Predicted change: -4.3% (Q4 2009); -5.9% (2009)
Composition by sector: 3%-agriculture; 39.5%-industry; 57.6%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate: 2.0% (7 Jan. 2010)
Official reserve assets: \$264,187.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves: \$259,436.00 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities: \$235,776.00 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position: \$997.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights: \$3,791.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold: \$78.00 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives: \$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents: \$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets: \$-116.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate: 7.17% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money: \$80.66 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money: \$478.0 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit: \$937 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or

consumption by % share:	2.7%-lowest 10%; 24.2%-highest 10% (2007 est.)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	4.7% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	27.1% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$+41.9 billion (latest year, Nov. 2009)
Budget:	\$227.5 billion-revenues; \$216.7 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-4.5% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	24.4% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	1,277.0 (May 2009); 1,026 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$699.06 million (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$381.1 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$124.2 billion-at home (31 Dec 2008 est.); \$74.6 billion-abroad (30 June 2008)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$494.6 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	31.3 (2006)
Unemployment rate:	3.5% (Nov. 2009)
Labour force:	24.35 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	69 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	11 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	68 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	25 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	2.7% of GDP; 58 th world rank (2006)
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Markets

KOSPI index:	1,705 (6 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+23.9 (local currency); +22.2 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$+41.0 (latest year, Dec. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	85.7 (2005-2007)
Exports:	\$433.5 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	China (22.4%); U.S. (10.9%); Japan (6.6%); Hong Kong (4.6%) (2008)
Imports:	\$427.4 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	China (17.7%); Japan (14%); U.S. (8.9%); Saudi Arabia (7.8%); UAE (4.4%); Australia (4.1%) (2008)

Mexico

Polity

Political party:	National Action Party
Chief of state:	President Felipe Calderon
Head of Government:	President Felipe Calderon
Most recent election:	2 Jul 2006
Government:	Lower House — Minority; Upper House — Minority
Political system:	Federal Republic
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Federal Chamber of Deputies, elected Senate
Capital:	Mexico City
Official language:	Spanish
Population:	111,211,789; country comparison to the world: 11 th (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	1.13%; country comparison to the world: 120 th (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Mexican peso (PS)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$1.088 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-1.6% (Q4 2008); -4.4% (2009)
Composition by sector:	3.8%-agriculture; 35.2%-industry; 61%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	6.0% (Apr. 2009)
Official reserve assets:	NA
Foreign currency reserves:	\$88,867 million (Mar. 2009)
Securities:	NA
IMF reserve position:	SDR503.06 million (Apr. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$496 million (Mar. 2009)
Gold:	175 million (Mar. 2009)
Financial derivatives:	NA
Loans to nonbank residents:	NA
Other reserve assets:	637 Million (Mar 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	8.71% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$92.34 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$147.4 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$287 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	1.8%-lowest 10%; 37.9%-highest 10% (2006)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	6.2% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	22.1% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$11.2 billion (latest year, Q3. 2009)
Budget:	\$257.1 billion-revenues; \$258.1 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-4.0% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	35.8% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	12.78 (7 Jan 2010);14.2 (Mar. 2009); 10.7 (Mar. 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$78.95 million (2007)
Debt-external:	\$200.4 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$289.8 billion-at home; 45.39 billion-abroad (Dec 31 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$232.6 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	47.9 (2006)
Unemployment rate:	5.3% (Nov. 2009 est.)
Labour force:	45.32 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	7 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	12 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	17 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	13 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	0.5% of GDP; 161 st in world rank (2006)
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Markets

IPC index:	32,952.82 (5 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+6.8 (local currency); +11.7 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	-\$6.5 billion (latest year, Nov. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	64.5 (2005-2007)

Exports:	\$291.3 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	U.S. (80.2%); Canada (2.4%); Germany (1.7%) (2008)
Imports:	\$308.6 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	U.S. (49.%); China (11.2%); Japan (5.3%); Republic of Korea (4.4%); Germany (4.1%) (2008)

Russia

Polity

Political party:	United Russia
Chief of state:	President Dimitriy Medvedev
Head of State:	Premier Vladimir Putin
Most recent election:	2 Mar 2008
Government:	Lower House — Majority; Upper House — None
Political system:	Semi-presidential
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Duma, appointed Federation Council
Capital:	Moscow
Official language:	Russian
Population:	140,041,247; country comparison to the world: 9 th (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	-0.467%; country comparison to the world: 226 th (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Rouble (Rb)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$1.677 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	1.2% (Q4 2008); -3.0% (2009)
Composition by sector:	4.7%-agriculture; 37.6%-industry; 57.7%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	12.0% (May 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$434,428.04million (Oct 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$378,228.93 million (Oct 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$348,868.66 million (Oct 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$1,954.34 million (Oct 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$9,021.90 million (Oct 2009)
Gold:	\$20,406.77 million (Oct 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$24,24,816.11 million (Oct 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	12.23% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$252.5 billion (31 Dec 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$318.4 billion (31 Dec 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$367.2 billion (31 Dec 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	1.9%-lowest 10%; 30.4%-highest 10% (Sep. 2007)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	14.1% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	22.1% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$40.8 billion (latest year, Q3 2009)
Budget:	\$364.6 billion-revenues; \$304.6 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-8.0% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	6.5% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	32.8 (6 May 2009); 23.8 (May 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$982.7 million (FY 2006) [from U.S.]
Debt-external:	\$438.5.1 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign	

investment:	\$491.2 billion-at home (2007); \$176.7 billion-abroad (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$397.2 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	41.5 (Sep. 2008)
Unemployment rate:	8.1% (Nov. 2009)
Labour force:	75.7 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	2 nd (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	6 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	1 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	3 rd (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	3.9% of GDP; 30 th in world rank (2005)
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Markets

RTS index (\$ terms):	1444.61 (31 Dec 2009)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+52.7 (local currency); +42.0 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$104.1 billion (latest year, Nov. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	54.1 (2005-2007)
Exports:	\$471.6 billion (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	Netherlands (11.2%); Italy (8.1%); Germany (8%); Turkey (6%); Ukraine (5.1%); Poland (4.5%); China (4.3%) (2008)
Imports:	\$291.9 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	Germany (13.5%); China (13.2%); Ukraine (6%); U.S. (4.5%); Italy (4.3%) (2008)

Saudi Arabia

Polity

Political party:	None
Chief of state:	King and Prime Minister Abdallah bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud
Head of State:	King and Prime Minister Abdallah bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud
Most recent election:	None
Government:	None
Political system:	Absolute monarchy
Legislature:	Monarchy
Capital:	Riyadh
Official language:	Arabic
Population:	28,686,633; country comparison to the world: 41 st (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	1.848%; country comparison to the world: 69 th (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Riyal (SR)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$469.4 billion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	4.2% (2008); -1.0% (2009)
Composition by sector:	3.1%-agriculture; 61.9%-industry; 35.0%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	NA
Official reserve assets:	NA
Foreign currency reserves:	NA
Securities:	NA
IMF reserve position:	SDR 1,136.61 million (Feb. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	NA

Gold:	NA
Financial derivatives:	NA
Loans to nonbank residents:	NA
Other reserve assets:	NA
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	NA
Stock of money:	\$113.2 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$134.3 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$66.94 billion (31 Dec. 2007)
Household income or consumption by % share:	NA
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	9.9% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	19.4% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$134.0 billion (2008 est.)
Budget:	\$293.7 billion-revenues; \$136.0 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-0.9% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	18.9% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	3.75 (May 2009); 3.75 (May 2008)
Economic aid:	NA
Debt-external:	\$82.13 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$108.5 billion – at home; 18.07 billion – abroad (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$246.3 billion (31 December 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	NA
Unemployment rate:	8.8 (local bank estimate 2008; other estimates vary significantly)
Labour force:	6.74 million (2008 est.) [about 1/3 of the population aged 15-64 is non-national]
Oil production:	1 st (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	9 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	9 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	11 th (world rank, 2008)
Military	
Military expenditures:	10% of GDP; 3 rd in world rank (2005)
Markets	
Tadawul index:	6,260.90 (6 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+20.8 (local currency); +20.9 (\$ terms)
Trade	
Trade balance:	\$212.0 billion (latest year, 2008)
Trade to GDP ratio:	86.7 (2005-2007)
Exports:	\$313.4 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	U.S. (17.1%); Japan (15.2%); Republic of Korea (10.1%); China (9.3%); India (7%); Singapore (4.4%) (2008)
Imports:	\$108.3 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	U.S. (12.2%); China (10.5%); Japan (7.7%); Germany (7.4%); Republic of Korea (5.1%); Italy (4.8%); India (4.2%); UK (4.1%) (2008)

South Africa

Polity

Political party:	African National Congress
Chief of state:	President Jacob Zuma
Head of State:	President Jacob Zuma
Most recent election:	22 Apr 2009
Government:	Lower House — Majority; Upper House — Majority
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected National Assembly, elected National Council of Provinces
Capital:	Pretoria
Official language:	Afrikaans, English
Population:	49,052,489; country comparison to the world: 24 th (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	0.281%; country comparison to the world: 173 rd (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Rand (R)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$276.8 billion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	1.0% (Q4 2008); -1.8% (2009)
Composition by sector:	3.3%-agriculture; 33.7%-industry; 63.0%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	7.0% (7 Jan. 2009)
Official reserve assets:	\$39,789.00 million (Oct. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$32,764.00 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$1,518.00 million (Oct. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$2,838.20 million (Oct. 2009)
Gold:	\$4,186.90 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	15.13% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$44.66 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$124.1 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$214.8 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	1.3%-lowest 10%; 44.7%-highest 10% (2000)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	11.3% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	23.2% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$12.0 billion (latest year, Q3 2009)
Budget:	\$77.43 billion-revenues; \$79.9 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-5.0% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	31.6% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	7.33 (7 Jan 2010); 8.47 (May 2009); 7.52 (May 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$597.18 million (2007)
Debt-external:	\$71.81 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$120 billion-at home; \$63.57 billion-abroad (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$491.3 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family	

income-Gini index:	65.0 (2005)
Unemployment rate:	24.5% (Sept 2009)
Labour force:	17.79 million (2008 est.) [economically active]
Oil production:	41 st (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	30 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	53 rd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	54 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditure:	1.7% of GDP; 98 th world rank (2006)
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Markets

JSE AS index:	27,998.87 (6 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+1.3 (local currency); -10.6 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$-2.5 billion (latest year, Nov. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	62.1 (2005-2007)
Exports:	\$86.12 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	U.S. (11.1%); Japan (11.1%); Germany (8.0%); UK (6.8%); China (6.6%); Netherlands (5.2%) (2008)
Imports:	\$90.57 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	Germany (11.2%); China (11.1%); U.S. (7.9%); Saudi Arabia (6.2%); Japan (5.5%); UK (4.0%) (2008)

Turkey

Polity

Political party:	Justice and Development Party (AKP)
Chief of state:	President Abdullah Gul
Head of State:	Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erddogan
Most recent election:	22 Jul 2007
Government:	Single House — Majority
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Unicameral, elected Grand National Assembly
Capital:	Ankara
Official language:	Turkish
Population:	76,805,524; country comparison to the world: 17 th (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	1.312; country comparison to the world: 102 nd (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Turkish lira (YTL)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$730.0 billion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-6.2.% (Q4 2008); -4.4% (2009)
Composition by sector:	8.8%-agriculture; 27.5%-industry; 63.8%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	6.50% (7 Jan 2010)
Official reserve assets:	\$75,905.47 million (Nov. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$69,750.01 million (Nov. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$65,330.62 million (Nov. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$181.00 million (Nov. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$1,559.00 million (Nov. 2009)
Gold:	\$4,415.46 million (Nov. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$0.00 (Nov. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Nov. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$0.00 (Nov. 2009)

Commercial bank prime lending rate:	NA
Stock of money:	\$53.25 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	\$248.4 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$326.4 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	1.9%-lowest 10%; 33.2%-highest 10% (2005)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	10.2% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	20.3% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$-11.4 billion (latest year, Oct. 2009)
Budget:	\$160.5 billion-revenues; \$173.6 billion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-6.3% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	40% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	1.57 (6 May 2009); 1.25 (May 2008)
Economic aid-recipient:	\$237.45 million (2007)
Debt-external:	\$278.1 billion (31 Dec. 2008 est.)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$128.7 billion-at home; \$14.8 billion-abroad (31 Dec 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$117.9 billion (31 Dec. 2008)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	43.6 (2003)
Unemployment rate:	13.4% (Sept. 2009)
Labour force:	24.06 million (2008 est.) [about 1.2 million Turks work abroad]
Oil production:	64 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	27 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	63 rd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	23 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures: 5.3% of GDP; 17th world rank (2005)

Markets

ISE index: 68,929.90 (6 Jan 2010)
 % change on 31 Dec. 2008: +25.5 (local currency); +23.6 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance: \$-37.0 billion (latest year, Nov. 2009)
 Trade to GDP ratio: 48.5 (2005-2007)
 Exports: \$140.7 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
 Top export partners: Germany (9.8%); UK (6.2%); Italy (5.9%); France (5%); Russia (4.9%)(2008)
 Imports: \$193.9 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
 Top import partners: Russia (15.5%); Germany (9.3%); China (7.8%); U.S. (5.9%) Italy (5.5%); France (4.5%); Iran (4.1%) (2008)

United Kingdom

Polity

Political party: Labour Party
 Chief of state: Queen Elizabeth II
 Head of Government: Prime Minister James Gordon Brown
 Most recent election: 5 Oct 2005
 Government: Lower House — Majority; Upper House — Majority
 Political system: Parliamentary

Legislature:	Bicameral, elected House of Commons, appointed House of Lords
Capital:	London
Official language:	English
Population:	61,133,205; country comparison to the world: 22 nd (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	0.279%; country comparison to the world: 175 th (July 2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	British pound (£)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$2.68 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-4.1% (Q1 2009); -3.7% (2009)
Composition by sector:	1.3%-agriculture; 24.2%-industry; 74.5%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	0.5% (7 Jan. 2010)
Official reserve assets:	\$21,868.00 million (Nov. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves:	\$7,730.00 million (Nov. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities:	\$6,715.00 million (Nov. 2009)
IMF reserve position:	\$0.00 million (Nov. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights:	\$0.00 million (Nov. 2009)
Gold:	\$0.00 million (Nov. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives:	\$-682.00 million (Nov. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Nov. 2009)
Other reserve assets:	\$14,499.00 million Nov. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	4.63% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	NA (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money:	NA (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit:	\$NA (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share:	2.1%-lowest 10%; 28.5%-highest 10% (1999)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	3.6% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	16.7% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	\$-28.2 billion (1Q3 2009)
Budget:	\$1.056 trillion-revenues; \$1.214 trillion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-14.5% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	47.2% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	0.63 (7 Jan 2010); 0.66 (7 May 2009); 0.51 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	\$9.848 billion (2007) [ODA]
Debt-external:	\$9.041 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$1.445 trillion-at home; \$1.567 trillion-abroad (31 Dec 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$5.277trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	34.0 (2005)
Unemployment rate:	7.9% (Oct. 2009)
Labour force:	31.23 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	19 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	15 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	14 th (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	6 th (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures:	2.4% of GDP; 70 th world rank (2005 est.)
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Markets

FTSE 100 index: 5,530.04 (6 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008: -0.8 (local currency); +3.8 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance: \$-126.8 billion (latest year, Oct. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio: 57.7 (2005-2007)
Exports: \$466.3 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners: U.S. (13.8%); Germany (11.5%); Netherlands (7.8%); France (7.6%); Ireland (7.5%); Belgium (5.3%); Spain (4.1 (2008)
Imports: \$639.3 billion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners: Germany (13.1%); U.S. (8.7%); China (7.5%); Netherlands (7.4%); France (6.8%); Norway (6%); Belgium (4.7%); Italy (4.1%) (2008)

United States

Polity

Political party: Democratic Party
Head of State: President Barack Obama
Most recent election: 4 Nov 2008
Government: Lower House — Minority; Upper House — Minority
Political system: Presidential
Legislature: Bicameral, elected House of Representatives, elected Senate
Capital: Washington DC
Official language: English
Population: 307,212,123; country comparison to the world: 3rd (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate: 0.975%; country comparison to the world: 129th (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency: Dollar (\$)
GDP (official exchange rate): \$14.44 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change: -2.6% (Q1 2009); -2.9% (2009)
Composition by sector: 1.2%-agriculture; 19.2%-industry; 79.6%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate: 0.25% (7 Jan Dec. 2010)
Official reserve assets: \$133,165.97 million (24 Dec. 2009)
Foreign currency reserves: \$46,143.87 million (24 Dec. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies]
Securities: \$24,431.00 million (24 Dec. 2009)
IMF reserve position: \$13,416.89 million (24 Dec. 2009)
Special Drawing Rights: \$57,370.15million (24 Dec. 2009)
Gold: \$11,041.06 million (24 Dec. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped]
Financial derivatives: \$0.00 (24 Dec. 2009)
Loans to nonbank residents: \$0.00 (24 Dec.2009)
Other reserve assets: \$5,194.00million (24 Dec. 2009)
Commercial bank prime lending rate: 5.09% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money: \$1.436 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of quasi money: \$10.99 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of domestic credit: \$15.06 trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Household income or consumption by % share: 2.0%-lowest 10%; 30.0%-highest 10% (2007 est.)
Inflation rate (consumer prices): 3.8% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed): 14.3% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance: \$-465.3 billion (latest year, Q3 2009)

Budget:	\$2.524 trillion-revenues; \$2.978 trillion-expenditures (2008 est.)
Budget balance:	-11.9% of GDP (2009)
Public debt:	37.5% of GDP (2008 est.) [cumulative debt of all government borrowing]
Exchange rates (per USD):	NA
Economic aid-donor:	\$21. 786.9 billion (2007)
Debt-external:	\$13.75trillion (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of direct foreign investment:	\$2.367 trillion-at home; \$3.162 trillion-abroad (31 Dec 2008 est.)
Market value of publicly traded shares:	\$19.95 trillion (31 Dec. 2007)
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	45.0 (2007)
Unemployment rate:	10.0% (Nov. 2009)
Labour force:	154.3 million (2008 est.) [includes unemployed]
Oil production:	3 rd (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	1 st (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	2 nd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	1 st (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures: 4.06% of GDP; 28th world rank (2005)

Markets

DJIA index:	10,578.44 (6 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	-3.0 (local currency); -3.0 (\$ terms)
S&P 500 index:	1,137.66 (6 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+1.8 (local currency); +1.8 (\$ terms)
NAScomp index:	2,300.21 (6 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008:	+11.5 (local currency); +11.5 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance:	\$-523.9 billion (latest year, Oct. 2009)
Trade to GDP ratio:	27.3 (2005-2007)
Exports:	\$1.277 trillion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top export partners:	Canada (20.1%); Mexico (11.7%); China (5.5%); Japan (5.1%); Germany (4.2%); UK (4.1%); (2008)
Imports:	\$2.117 trillion f.o.b. (2008 est.)
Top import partners:	China (16.5%); Canada (15.7%); Mexico (10.1%); Japan (6.6%); Germany (4.6%) (2008)

European Union

Polity

Chief of the Union:	President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Durao Barroso
Political party:	European People's Party — European Democrats
Most recent election:	4-7 June 2009
Government:	Lower House — Minority; Upper House — None
Political system:	Parliamentary
Legislature:	Bicameral, elected Parliament, indirectly elected council
Official language:	Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish, Swedish
Population:	491,582,852 (July 2009 est.)
Population growth rate:	0.108% (2009 est.)

Economy

Currency:	Euro (€)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$18.14 trillion (2008 est.)
Predicted change:	-1.5% (Q4 2008); -3.7% (2009) [Euro Area]
Composition by sector:	2.0%-agriculture; 27.1%-industry; 70.9%-services (2008 est.)
Central bank interest rate:	1.0% (7 Jan 2010) [European Monetary Union]
Official reserve assets:	\$67,886.12 million (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank]; \$648,055.00 million (Oct. 2009) [Eurosystem]
Foreign currency reserves:	\$50,618.96 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies, European Central Bank], \$196,171.04 million (Oct. 2009) [in convertible foreign currencies, Eurosystem]
Securities:	\$48,037.84 million (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank], \$165,342.64 million (Oct. 2009) [Eurosystem]
IMF reserve position:	\$0.0 million (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank], \$17,191.68 million [Eurosystem]
Special Drawing Rights:	\$506.16 million (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank], \$73,295.52 million (Oct. 2009) [Eurosystem]
Gold:	\$16,766 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped, European Central Bank], \$361,085.96 million (Oct. 2009) [including gold deposits and, if appropriate, gold swapped, Eurosystem]
Financial derivatives:	-\$5.92 million (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank], \$307.84 million (Oct. 2009) [Eurosystem]
Loans to nonbank residents:	\$0.00 (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank], \$0.00 (Oct. 2009) [Eurosystem]
Other reserve assets:	-\$5.92 (Oct. 2009) [European Central Bank], \$3.10 million (Oct. 2009) [Eurosystem]
Commercial bank prime lending rate:	8.6% (31 Dec. 2008)
Stock of money:	\$5.679 trillion (31 Dec. 2008) [Euro Area]
Stock of quasi money:	\$11.38 trillion (31 Dec. 2008) [Euro Area]
Stock of domestic credit:	\$21.17 trillion (31 Dec. 2008) [Euro Area]
Household income or consumption by % share:	2.8%-lowest 10%; 25.2%-highest 10% (2001 est.)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	3.0% (2008 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	21.0% of GDP (2008 est.)
Current account balance:	-\$109.6 billion (latest year, Oct. 2009) [Euro Area]
Budget:	NA
Budget balance:	-6.5% of GDP (2009) [Euro Area]
Public debt:	NA
Exchange rates (per USD):	0.7 (7 Jan 2010); 0.75 (6 May 2009); 0.65 (May 2008)
Economic aid-donor:	NA
Debt-external:	NA
Stock of direct foreign investment:	NA
Market value of publicly traded shares:	NA
Distribution of family income-Gini index:	31.0 (2005 est.)
Unemployment rate:	9.8% (Oct. 2009) [Euro Area]
Labour force:	224.4 million (2008 est.)
Oil production:	11 th (world rank, 2008)
Oil consumption:	2 nd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas production:	3 rd (world rank, 2008)
Natural gas consumption:	2 nd (world rank, 2008)

Military

Military expenditures: N/A

Markets

FTSE Euro 100 index: 2,260.37 (6 Jan 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008: +1.0 (local currency); -3.4 (\$ terms)
DJ STOXX 50 index: 2,617.35 (6 Jan. 2010)
% change on 31 Dec. 2008: -0.4 (local currency); -4.7 (\$ terms)

Trade

Trade balance: \$+14.5 billion (latest year, Oct 2009) [Euro Area]
Trade to GDP ratio: 26.4 (2004-2006)
Exports: \$1.952 trillion f.o.b. (2007) [external exports, excluding intra-EU trade]
Top export partners: NA
Imports: \$1.69 trillion f.o.b. (2007) [external imports, excluding intra-EU trade]
Top import partners: NA

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