

# Seventh Roundtable with the Government of Japan

Industry and government in partnership towards a revitalised Japan

November 18th, 2003 , Hotel New Otani

## Preliminary programme with confirmed speakers

- 7.45am Registration
- 8.30am **Introductory remarks** by Conference Chair and sponsor introductions:  
*Conference Chair*  
**Bill Emmott, Editor in Chief, *The Economist* (confirmed)**
- 8.45am **Panel Discussion: The role of the bank in the economic revitalisation of Japan**  
Hironari Nozaki, Senior Analyst, HSBC Securities (confirmed)  
*Others to be confirmed*
- 9:45am **Is Japan firmly on the path to decentralisation and deregulation?**  
In an attempt to generate fresh demand and spur economic activity plans are afoot to transfer more power from central to local government. The creation of more than 100 deregulation zones in key areas such as healthcare, telecommunications, information technology and energy is considered one of the most important planks, together with privatisation, in the prime minister's drive to deregulate some of Japan's key industries. How are these initiatives progressing and what more could be done to remove obstacles that block reform?  
Mr Masuda Hiroya, Governor, Iwate Prefecture (confirmed)  
Yoshihiro Katayama – Governor, Tottori Prefecture (confirmed)
- 10.45am Coffee break
- 11.00am **Driving industry: challenges and opportunities in the next decade**  
High taxes, intricate regulations and expensive infrastructure have made the business environment in Japan costly and difficult to navigate. Low labour mobility and inadequate access to capital have also combined to hamper progress for dynamic entrepreneurs. What is being done now to encourage this group to flourish? What are the major sectors targeted for growth? What companies are prospering despite the difficult conditions and why?  
Michio Matsui, President, Matsui Securities Co (confirmed)  
*Others to be confirmed*
- 12:00pm **Luncheon**  
Takenaka Heizo. Minister for Economic and Fiscal Policy and for Financial Services, Japan (to be confirmed)

- 1:00pm **Measures to revitalise underperforming Japanese companies**  
2003 saw the establishment of the IRCJ– a five-year plan to restructure and revive ailing companies. What role can the IRCJ play and what progress has been made so far? Before the establishment of the IRCJ the Resolution and Collection Corporation was also established with a similar mandate of resuscitating troubled firms that showed potential. How successful have they been in doing so and what other plans does the government have to remove the obstacles that stand in the way of a vibrant corporate sector.  
Saito Atsushi, President, IRCJ (confirmed)  
Akio Kioi, Representative Director and President (confirmed)  
Resolution and Collection Corporation (RCC)  
Louis Forester, President, Cerberus Japan KK (to be confirmed)
- 2:15pm **Keynote address to be followed by panel discussion:  
Driving foreign direct investment into Japan**  
Shoichi Nakagawa, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry  
(to be confirmed)  
Mark Norbom, President, GE Japan (confirmed)  
Minoru Makihara, Chairman, Mitsubishi Corporation (to be confirmed)
- 3:15pm Coffee break
- 3:30pm **The potential of e-Government**  
E-Government promises to transform not only the way in which most public services are delivered, but also the fundamental relationship between government and citizen. In Japan the case for e-government is compelling for both stakeholders: the government is under increasing pressure to modernise, increase transparency / accountability and reduce costs against deteriorating public finances. Citizens are also well placed to benefit too with 73% of households expected to have access through the Internet by the end of this year. The bottleneck however, is the issues surrounding security and privacy. This session will assess the real potential of e-Government in Japan and how the government plans to safeguard its citizens.  
Taro Aso, Minister of Public Management, Home Affairs, Post and Telecommunications (to be confirmed)  
Kiyotaka Fujii, President & CEO, SAP Japan (confirmed)
- 4:45pm **Keynote address:**  
Mr Steve Ballmer, Chief Executive Officer, Microsoft Corporation (confirmed)
- 5:30pm **Closing Keynote address: Revitalising Japan.**  
Is the gap closing between talk of comprehensive reform and its realisation?  
  
It is well known that Japan's economy has been mired in stagnation for over a decade with reforms being hampered by the delicate balance of political and economic interests. However, 2003 brought some significant new initiatives designed to increase competition and make Japan a more attractive environment for domestic and foreign firms. This closing keynote address will give the Government of Japan the opportunity to address specifics of the reform agenda, with opportunity for discussion from the conference chair and participants.  
Koizumi Junichiro, Prime Minister, Japan (to be confirmed)
- 6.00pm **Interview and closing remarks**  
Professor Haruo Shimada, Special advisor to the Cabinet Office, Keio University (confirmed)  
Bill Emmott, Editor in Chief, *The Economist*

6.15pm      Conference Reception  
Welcome from Jardine Wines & Spirits Japan KK