

Preamble

The two countries, Japan and China, will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations in 2017 and will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the conclusion of the Japan-China Treaty of Peace and Friendship in 2018. A number of commemorative projects have been implemented so far, and commemorative projects will be planned and implemented to promote exchanges across a wide range of interregional fields in both countries such as youth, culture, tourism, sports and economy. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China has registered the “2017 Japanese Business in China White Paper” which will be the 8th edition as a memorable project commemorating these special 2 years.

This white paper has been published since 2010 to promote dialogue with the central government and local governments of China. This particular white paper summarizes proposals to analyze and solve issues that Japanese companies are facing. A total of 8,852 corporate members of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China and other chambers of commerce and industry around China participated in the analysis. Consisting of 27 chapters with 53 proposal items, the 2017 White Paper is divided in 4 sections; “Current Status of the Chinese Economy and Japanese Companies”, “Common Issues and Proposals”, “Current Status of Each Industries and Proposals” and “Current Status of Each Areas and Proposals”. This white paper describes nothing but the current status of the economy in China from the viewpoint of Japanese Companies. It reveals various issues that Japanese companies, who have been engaged in business across China over a long period of time, have been facing as they are pursuing growth in China.

In the National People’s Congress held in March 2017, based on the 13th 5-year plan, the importance of development by “innovation” was further emphasized and at the same time it revealed to intensify the reform such as “simplification of administration and delegation of authority”, “combination of mitigation and management” etc. “Non-Discrimination”. This was a main request point in the proposal of the 2017 White Paper, and is precisely the foundation of innovation and is brought about by intensifying the reform. In the proposal of this White Paper, we believe that it contains many tips for the Chinese government to intensify these reforms and to promote the development of innovation.

The importance of foreign investment in Chinese economy reform is immeasurable, and especially Japanese companies have been playing a tremendous role. In recent years, as the uncertainty surrounding the world increases, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China will take over our predecessors’ achievement, further strengthening and making the economic cooperation relationship between Japan and China firmer, and actively make suggestions continuously to the Central Government and local governments in China to enhance the business environment in China.

This White Paper is made up with precious contributions that member companies of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China provided us while engaging in their own work. Upon compiling this White Paper, the research committee office (Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Beijing Office) played the central role. Furthermore, the Secretariat office of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China and JETRO offices in Shanghai, Dalian, Guangzhou, Qingdao, Wuhan and Chengdu played roles in collaborating with local chambers of commerce and industry around China. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for all those who have made a great contribution.

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China sincerely hopes that the 2017 White Paper will facilitate dialogue between Japan and China and strengthen the bond of the two countries, thus lead to further prosperity together.

Akihiro Ueda

Chairman

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China