

Preamble

In recent years, Japan and China have had high-level economic dialogues, and in 2019, several summit meetings were held. In 2020, there were instances of cooperation between the two countries, such as donations of masks and other supplies between Japan and China in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

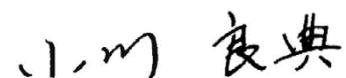
The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China has been publishing this White Paper since 2010 in order to promote further dialogue with the central government and local governments in China. This White Paper is a summary of the proposals for analyzing and solving the issues faced by Japanese member companies of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China and other chambers of commerce and industry throughout China (a total of 8,678 corporate members). It is divided into 4 sections: “Current Status of the Chinese Economy and Japanese Companies”, “Common Issues and Proposals”, “Current Status of Each Industry and Proposals” and “Current State of Each Region and Proposals” and consisting of 28 chapters and 55 proposal items. What is depicted in the White Paper is nothing but the current status of the Chinese economy seen through the eyes of Japanese companies and highlighted various issues encountered in the process of doing business in China by Japanese companies that have been engaging in business in China for a long period of time.

At the 3rd meeting of the 13th National People’s Congress held in May 2020, based on the achievement status of the 13th Five-Year Plan so far, it was demonstrated that the reforms will draw out the vitality of market players, strengthen new dynamics of development, promote a higher level of opening up to the international community, and stabilize the base of trade and foreign capital. Securing “Non-Discriminatory Status”, which is the main request point of this White Paper, is the foundation for realizing above-mentioned goals and is indispensable for China to improve the quality of development. I am convinced that when the Chinese government seeks to intensify reforms, many points that are included in this White Paper will be beneficial.

In the reform and opening up of Chinese economy, the importance of foreign capital is immeasurable, and in particular, the roles played by Japanese companies are extremely important. In recent years, with the increasing uncertainty about the circumstances surrounding the world, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China will take over the achievement of its predecessors, further strengthening the economic cooperation relationship between Japan and China, and will continue to actively propose to the China’s central government and local governments to further improve 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. In particular, regarding this 2020 White Paper, they produced manuscripts in a very difficult situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon compiling this White Paper, the research committee office of the Chamber (Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Beijing Office) played the central role. In addition, JETRO offices in Shanghai, Dalian, Guangzhou, Qingdao, Wuhan and Chengdu offered great supports in cooperation with other chambers of commerce and industry in various places in China. I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for all those who have made a great contribution.

I sincerely hope that through this White Paper, it shall facilitate dialogues between Japan and China and strengthen the bond of the two countries, thus leading to further prosperity together.



Yoshinori Ogawa

Chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China