

# Preamble

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The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China has been publishing this White Paper since 2010 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 8,268 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 27 chapters and 557 proposals. What is depicted in the White Paper is nothing, but the 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.

In the reform and opening up of Chinese economy, the importance of foreign capital is immeasurable, and the role played by Japanese companies, in particular, has been immensely significant. In 2024, an extremely regrettable incident occurred involving Japanese nationals residing in China. We would like to express our gratitude to the governments of Japan and China for their swift and appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security of Japanese nationals residing in China. We will also continue to strongly urge the Chinese government to ensure the safety and security of all Japanese nationals in China, including those on short-term stays.

At the meeting between Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and President Xi Jinping in November 2024, the two leaders confirmed that they share the broad direction of continuing to promote “strategic mutually beneficial relations” and building “a constructive and stable relationship”. The two leaders also confirmed that they will uphold the principles and common understanding of the four basic documents between Japan and China and build a relationship in which they can engage in “frank dialogue”.

The week following the meeting, it was announced that visa exemptions for Japanese passport holders would be reinstated. We sincerely welcome this measure, which we have proposed on many occasions, including in this White Paper. We would like to express our deep gratitude to the governments of Japan and China, as well as all other parties involved, for their efforts in making this a reality. We strongly hope that this will lead to more active “people-to-people exchanges”, which are essential for strengthening economic exchanges between Japan and China.

In February 2025, a delegation of over 200 representatives from three major economic organizations visited Beijing, where they held a meeting with Vice Premier He Lifeng and exchanged opinions with Minister of Commerce Wang Wentao. In April 2025, the Osaka Kansai Expo opened, and the number of Chinese tourists visiting Japan has continued to increase. Against this backdrop, we hope that dialogue through mutual exchange between Japan and China will become even more active, leading to further economic development for both countries.

At the Third Session of the 14th National People’s Congress held in March 2025, it was indicated that efforts would be made to boost consumption and improve investment efficiency in order to comprehensively expand domestic demand, and to expand high-level opening up to the international community and actively work to stabilize trade and investment in China. “Securing Business Opportunities by Improving Non-Discriminatory Status, Predictability and Transparency”, 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 deepen reforms, many points that are included in this White Paper will be beneficial.

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. We hope that the Embassy of Japan in China and its diplomatic missions in various parts of China will deepen exchanges at various levels between Japan and China, including the Japan-China High-Level Economic Dialogue held in March 2025 for the first time in about six years, in light of various issues in the business environment faced by Japanese companies and promote strategic mutually beneficial relations.

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. This White Paper reflects the opinions gathered not only from the Chamber, but also from other chambers of commerce and industry throughout 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.



Tetsuro Homma

Chairman of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in China