

## Special Feature 1: ERINA 25th Anniversary Symposium

### Overview of ERINA's 25th Anniversary Symposium

#### **NAKAMURA Toshihiko**

Director, Planning & PR Division, ERINA

This past October 1, ERINA marked the 25th anniversary of its establishment by holding an anniversary symposium and party. In October, *ERINA 25th Anniversary*, a publication outlining the background to ERINA's establishment and its achievements over the last 25 years, was sent to readers of *ERINA Report (Plus)*. In this edition, we present a special feature focused on the 25th Anniversary Symposium<sup>1</sup>.

Time and date: 14:00-17:30, Monday, October 1, 2018

Venue: Marine Hall, 4th Floor, Toki Messe

Agenda

Welcoming Address

KAWAI Masahiro Representative Director and Director-General, ERINA

Congratulatory Addresses

HANAZUMI Hideyo Governor of Niigata Prefecture

SHINODA Akira Mayor, City of Niigata

SHIMA Keiichi Director, Japan-Russia Economic Affairs Division, European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

IJUIN Takeo Director, Korea Office, Trade Policy Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Commemorative Address

*Japan in Northeast Asia*

AKASHI Yasushi Chairman, International House of Japan

Panel Discussion

*The Prospects for Northeast Asia*

Panelists

FUKAGAWA Yukiko Professor, Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University

SUZUKI Masanori Director, JGC Corporation

KOBAYASHI Masaaki Senior Managing Director, Tohoku Economic Federation

NOZAKI Shigeru Chancellor, Niigata University of International and Information Studies

KAWAI Masahiro Representative Director and Director-General, ERINA

Moderator

IJUIN Atsushi Lead Economist, Japan Center for Economic Research

In his keynote address, Mr. Akashi commented on the remarkable coincidence that 1993, the year of ERINA's establishment, was also the year in which the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), a major UN peacekeeping operation, opened the door to peace and democracy in Cambodia. Noting Northeast Asia's complex history and present, he expressed the hope that trade and investment in the region would intensify in the future and that human resource development and interpersonal exchange would take place.

The panel discussion featured two rounds: the first was focused on the current state of the Northeast Asian economy and the challenges that it faces, while the second addressed prospects and expectations regarding future international economic cooperation. Panelists discussed the topics the perspectives of specialist fields (international economics, economic cooperation with Russia, regional economic exchange, and the perspectives of Niigata Prefecture and of ERINA).

ERINA intends to pursue its activities as an international hub for Northeast Asian economic research in even greater depth, while responding flexibly to the changing face of Northeast Asia. We would be more than delighted if the project to mark the 25th anniversary of our establishment proved to be a catalyst for further strengthening partnership and exchange with relevant institutions, both within Northeast Asia and elsewhere.

<sup>1</sup> This special feature has been compiled on the basis of recordings of the event and responsibility for the wording lies with ERINA. The term "Sea of Japan" is used where the speaker actually used this term in their remarks.