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## **IMF Chief: Asia, China Must Play Key Role in Recovery** ***Dominique Strauss-Kahn Speaks to HKTDC Ahead of Asian Financial Forum***

**13 January 2010** – Asia and China in particular must take a proactive role in stabilising the world's economy as the region becomes more prominent amid global economic turmoil, according to International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

“The more you become a big player, and now you have in Asia a lot of big players, including China, the more you have [a] responsibility on the way the whole system is working,” said Mr Strauss-Kahn, speaking in advance of the Asian Financial Forum (AFF) 2010.

In an exclusive interview with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Mr Strauss-Kahn said the 20-21 January forum is “one of the moments where it will be possible to discuss how Asia [will] take into account its new role in the global economy.” Mr Strauss-Kahn also said China and India are heading in the right direction in terms of opening their markets.

“The transition is a difficult one and it takes time. And so, more open markets [in] China and India, a higher value of the currency – especially for China and other countries which are related to the renminbi – [this] goes in the right direction,” said Mr Strauss-Kahn.

The interview with Mr Strauss-Kahn is available now at [www.youtube.com/HKTDC](http://www.youtube.com/HKTDC).

Mr Strauss-Kahn will be a keynote speaker at next week's AFF, held under the theme “Asia in the New Economic Order.” AFF 2010 will take place at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, and is organised by the Hong Kong SAR Government and the HKTDC.

Global investment opportunities, regional infrastructure issues and energy and natural resources concerns will also find the spotlight in January. In addition to Mr Strauss-Kahn, other major AFF speakers include Richard Sandor, founder of the Chicago Climate Exchange; Gerald Corrigan, former President, Federal Reserve Bank of New York and Managing Director, Goldman Sachs; Liu Mingkang, Chairman, China Banking Regulatory Commission; and Lou Jiwei, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, China Investment Corporation.

Interviews featuring Mr Strauss-Kahn and other AFF 2010 speakers are available on the HKTDC webcast service at [www.youtube.com/HKTDC](http://www.youtube.com/HKTDC). Interviews on the website also include: Morgan Stanley Asia Pacific Chairman Stephen Roach; US economist, Professor Nouriel Roubini; Peter Wong, Executive Director of HSBC; and Sir David Brewer, Chairman of the China-Britain Business Council.

## Media Enquiries

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## About the Asian Financial Forum 2010

The Asian Financial Forum (AFF) gathers some of the world's most influential economic experts and dynamic business leaders for groundbreaking discussions about the opportunities and challenges now facing Asia. AFF offers bankers, institutional investors, fund managers, business leaders, senior executives of high-growth corporations and other key financial players a place to build new contacts and gather the latest intelligence, as well as explore business opportunities with a focus on China and the rest of Asia. Visit <http://www.asianfinancialforum.com> for more information about AFF 2010.

## About the HKTDC

Established in 1966, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) is the international marketing arm for Hong Kong-based traders, manufacturers and service providers. With 40 offices worldwide, including 11 on the Chinese mainland, the HKTDC promotes Hong Kong as a platform for doing business with China and Asia. The HKTDC also organises trade fairs and business missions to connect companies with opportunities in Hong Kong and the mainland, while providing information via trade publications, research reports and online. Visit [www.hktdc.com](http://www.hktdc.com) for more information.

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