

# **Future Shape of Regional Architecture in the Asia- Pacific**

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# Issues at Stake

- Increasing Complexities in Regional Architecture of the Asia-Pacific
  - APEC at a Crossroads
  - East Asia Now Most Dynamic in Regionalism
  - Old and New Initiatives Competing Against Each Other
- New Impetus for the APEC Process, but Outlook Still Uncertain
  - Trade Facilitation
  - FTAAP Initiative

# Complexities in Regional Architecture Intensified

- APEC in Crises
- Increasing Bilateral FTAs
  - Sometimes Overlapping Membership
- Minilaterals also on the Rise
  - TPP-4, TPP-8, ASEAN+1's, ASEAN+3(?)
- A Number of New Region-wide Initiatives
  - East Asia Summit (EAS)
  - Asia-Pacific Community (APC)
  - East Asia Community (EAC)

# Critical Evaluation

- Membership Issue
  - Often Overlapping
  - No Clear-cut Boundaries for Region-wide Initiatives
- Sequencing Issue
  - Not Enough Elaborated
    - TPP-4 → TPP-8 → ?
    - ASEAN+1 → ASEAN+3 → ASEAN+6 → ?
- Division-of-Labor Issue
  - ASEAN+3 vs. East Asia Summit

# Critical Issues for a Successful EAC

- Common Values and Vision to be Agreed Upon
  - Differentiation and Division of Labor Needed
- Membership Issue to be Clarified
  - Open Membership Leads to too High Diversity
- Feasible Roadmap to be Adopted
  - Membership: Two- or Three-speed Approach Desirable?
  - Scope: What Areas to be Included?
    - Economics Only? Security? Cultural Cooperation?

# Critical Issues for a Successful EAC

- Leadership Issue to be Resolved
  - EU Integration: KBR
  - East Asian and/or Asia-Pacific Regionalism: KTR (Key Trilateral Relationship) More Appropriate
    - ASEAN-Centrality?
- Making KTR Impactful through
  - Functioning Bilaterals (C-J, J-K, K-C)
  - Reconciliation

Thank you very Much!!