

Preface

The industrial network of the world economy underwent dramatic changes in the last decade or so. The large-scale opening of markets in Asian countries (e.g. China's entry into the WTO in 2001) has promoted the relocation of production bases of multinational firms through an expansion of the mobility of labour, goods and services in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, due to the emergence of new market economies such as the BRICs (Brazil, Russia, India, China), the production networks in the region have become increasingly complex.

On this account, Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization and collaborating institutions: State Information Center of China, Badan Pusat Statistik - Statistics Indonesia, The Bank of Korea, Department of Statistics of Malaysia, National Statistics Office of the Philippines, Business Research Consultants LLP of Singapore, Taiwan Research Institute, National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand, University of Maryland of the United States and Applied Research Institute of Japan, launched in 2007 a joint research project on construction of the 2005 Asian international input-output table. Since the Table has almost the same sector classification and format as its predecessors does, it is possible to capture the dynamic changes in the technology, industrial structure, and interdependences in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is our pleasure here to release *the 2005 Asian International Input-Output Table*, to be widely used as a powerful analytical tool serving the public interest. Also in this occasion, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the collaborating organizations for their laborious and invaluable cooperation to the completion of the project.

