When I was thinking how to talk about the future structure in East Asia, it's a big challenge. Finally, I have three key terms for my thinking. The first is the mutual understanding of the context. The second is the mutual inclusion of the regional institution. Last but not least is the mutual agenda, mutual support of the agendas. I hope these three key words, mutuals, will give us a little bit enlightening on how to build up the regional peace, cooperation, and development.

First, the mutual understanding of the context. In China, where we are talking about the situation, the current and the future one, we say only three topics. One is how China looks at the world. Second, how the world looks at China. The third topic is how China looks at China per se.

So, we think the general and overall context of the region is the common desire and aspiration for peace, development, and cooperation, not for arms race, competition, and military conflict.

If we want to know the context then we should look back on decades after World War II in East Asia. I think at that time, for quite a couple of decades, East Asia is illogically oriented and the two blocs first and then the so-called Three World. But then later on there is one cohesion among us; that is, economic development.

We remember very clearly the Japanese advocacy of “flying geese.” And in these atriums the whole East Asian countries and territories are proceeding fairly well. We changed this region in economic terms by only a generation's time, and in the close and nearest decade that is already in place institution building of the regional structure.

In Chinese we say 10 plus one, 10 plus three, but our ASEAN friends don't like 10, they say it should be ASEAN plus, so ASEAN plus one, ASEAN plus three, ASEAN plus six, and now ASEAN plus eight. Maybe we call it ASEAN Plus formula.

Now let's come to my second mutual, that is, mutual inclusion of institution building and
improving. First of all, we think that the current already existing institutions should be taken into full play. The reason is very obvious. It's easier to use the current ones to develop rather than scrap that out and build another new one which will call for more time, energy, or even controversies.

So, in Chinese terms we still prefer political and economic regionalism. However, because since the end of World War II we have another set of security and military structure led by the United States, the so-called hub-and-spoke, and in the recent decades it's going to be strengthened rather than weakened.

In addition to that, we also have other overlapping organizations like APEC, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, or even some more subregional structures like Great Mekong organizations, so on and so forth.

Then how to make these things, first of all, peacefully coexist, and secondly, how to make them tolerate each other and include each other. Here we have the strength. The European Union recognizes European countries only. The African Union recognizes African countries only, and so does the Western Hemisphere Organization. But the East Asian structure at the very beginning, it has been open, inclusive partially thanks to the United States, but more than that.

And the second track like us is of great help and facilitation to use our imagination and far-sightedness to create, to merge, to create in the coming decades, not years, to have a structure or structures fitting to the real conditions of East Asia.

Now, let's come to the last mutual. That's mutual support of tackling major issues, or key issues in the region.

No matter what beautifully sounding or well thought organizations, if they cannot tackle this and solve the issues of the times it will not have the survivability, let alone development. So, we must single out the agendas that we should tackle. Nowadays, first things first.

Economic dynamism is still the key to and focus of the desires of the region. We are in a world which is still slow or sometimes faces reverse trends of a world recovery after the financial crisis. And this region also needs to have the social progress and social security and safety.

In Japanese and in Chinese we have only the one word for security and safety, “An-Quan.” But in English you have two, so like nuclear security and nuclear safety, and this is why we spent so much time this morning on nuclear safety and, also, the hard issues like North Korea nuclear issue.

The sudden death of Mr. Kim Jong Il caught us by surprise, but the Chinese hurriedly and timely made a lot of diplomatic efforts to stabilize the situation.

As we know, the first few days are the most important days. If not correctly and rightly handled, there might be the possibilities of exploding out of control. If we can view as the most immediate and urgent agendas, then we should think about the mid-term and the long-term issues.

Confucius said if people do not have the long-term concerns they will invite immediate troubles. So, we need to think about the security cooperation, how to seek mutually constructive interaction between
China and the United States, the established power and emerging power, and how to seek the constructive relations between China and Japan.

The past 100 years and more was the case either China was strong or Japan was strong, but now the two countries are big powers at the same time, plus India is coming, so this multilateral handling of road mapping is very important. And what is more, we need to pay more attention to the elevation of quality of life.

In China people like a better life, higher payment, and many, many more fresh air, and almost every government now is more inward looking than outward looking; that is to say they have to spend most of their energy and political resources and other resources in domestic agendas while having restricted and limited maneuverabilities and compromise to their foreign relations. So, I think Tadashi left a very important task to us. We need to work together. Let's think more about the cooperation rather than conflict for a better and more effective future structure in the region. Thank you.