
Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2009

Fact Sheet

Dalian, People's Republic of China 10-12 September

General Background on the World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum is an independent, international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging leaders in partnerships to shape global, regional and industry agendas. Incorporated as a foundation in 1971 and based in Geneva, Switzerland, the World Economic Forum is impartial and not-for-profit; it is tied to no political, partisan or national interests (<http://www.weforum.org>).

Business Members and Partners are at the heart of the World Economic Forum. Members include 1,000 of the world's foremost companies, encompassing regional market leaders and organizations shaping the future of their industries. Partners are a small group of companies selected from among the most engaged Forum Members who commit to a higher level of ongoing involvement in the Forum and its activities.

Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2009 – “Summer Davos” in Asia: Relaunching Growth

Reviving economic growth remains the priority for policy-makers and business leaders in 2009. While government stimulus programmes are critical in the near term, entrepreneurship, innovation and technology will drive a transformational recovery for the long term.

This recovery will be directed by a new generation of leaders – the New Champions – and the World Economic Forum is bringing them together at the “Summer Davos”. In addition, China will be a significant driver in bringing the world economy out of its present recession and into recovery. The Meeting in Dalian, People's Republic of China, will bring together over 1,300 industry, government and thought leaders to debate and define the course needed to relaunch growth.

The programme has been developed in close collaboration with World Economic Forum Partners and Members and leading experts from centres of excellence around the world. It takes a comprehensive approach to those issues most relevant to getting business back on a track of growth and identifying opportunities for development.

An Agenda to Drive Future Growth

An intensive and interactive three-day programme will provide a systemic and global overview of major economic, regional and industry developments in the following programmatic tracks:

- **Opportunities in a Green Economy**
Every major stimulus plan from among the G7 assumes that green investments addressing global environmental challenges will create new technologies, businesses and jobs to improve national competitiveness over the long run – but what are the most critical investments to be made and what will they deliver in the near term?
- **Driving Economic Growth through Science and Technology**
Much of the economic growth over the last two decades, particularly among industrialized economies, was attributed to the creativity and innovation of the financial industry, but most of those gains have now proved ephemeral. Yet, creativity and innovation are needed more than ever, particularly in the fields of science and technology. How can government and business work with the science and technology community to jump-start economic growth?
- **Addressing Societal Needs through Innovation**
Society expects that the extraordinary amount of public funds deployed to address the economic crisis will not result in the neglect of important social and development programmes. Instead, expectations are that fiscal stimulus will be directed towards addressing societal concerns related to healthcare, water

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scarcity, ageing and food/energy security in a way that creates economic growth. What are the opportunities for business and government? What are the risks if expectations are not met?

- New Business Models in a Deleveraging World**
 If economic recovery is based on avoiding the creation of new “bubbles”, reducing macroeconomic imbalances and promoting sustainable consumption, what will emerge to stimulate and sustain future growth? How will businesses operate in a new financial era? How will tax policies, educational priorities and incentive models change to create a new competitive environment?
- Rethinking Asia’s Development Model**
 The global financial crisis of 1997-1998 taught the region a number of hard economic lessons, among them the importance of foreign currency reserves. However, the accumulation of nearly US\$ 3 trillion in reserves a decade later did little to protect Asia’s economies from the collapse in consumer demand in the United States and Europe. With decoupling proven a myth, how will the current crisis transform Asia’s export-driven model of growth and those industries that have relied on it for so long? The Annual Meeting of the New Champions will provide the strategic insights, ideas, initiatives and solutions to confront the global, economic and, above all, business challenges in 2009.

The Forum foresees that the Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2009 will once again bring together in Dalian the world’s most influential and relevant decision-makers.

Who Will Participate?

A select group of business leaders from the World Economic Forum’s Partners and Members with extensive international experience in building global businesses will act as Mentors: **Timothy P. Flynn**, Chairman, KPMG International, USA; **Klaus Kleinfeld**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Alcoa, USA; **James T. Riady**, Chief Executive Officer, Lippo Group, Indonesia; **James J. Schiro**, Group Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Group Management Board, Zurich Financial Services, Switzerland; **Sir Martin Sorrell**, Group Chief Executive, WPP, United Kingdom; **Tarek Sultan Al Essa**, Chairman and Managing Director, Agility, Kuwait; **Ben Verwaayen**, Chief Executive Officer, Alcatel-Lucent, France; and **John Zhao**, Chief Executive Officer, Hony Capital, People’s Republic of China.

In addition there will be:

- 400 Global Growth Companies** – businesses that have demonstrated the potential to become leaders in the global economy
- 300 chief executives, chief technology officers**, chief economists and corporate strategists from the Forum’s Members and Partners
- 150 Young Global Leaders** – a unique multistakeholder community with a commitment to improve the state of the world and to provide insight to the priorities and expectations of future generations
- 100 Public Figures** – including heads of government and ministers of energy, science and industry
- 100 Media Leaders** – publishers and editors-in-chief, top columnists and economic editors
- 60 Technology Pioneers** – companies that develop life-changing technology innovations that potentially have a long-term effect on business and society
- 60 Young Scientists** – scientists from around the world that have produced groundbreaking research in different fields
- 50 Members of the Global Agenda Councils** – thought leaders on the foremost challenges on the global agenda

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Davos Debates

The World Economic Forum has launched the Davos Debates in China to coincide with its Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2009, held in Dalian, People's Republic of China, on 10-12 September. The Davos Debates is a video channel on YouTube dedicated to public debate and discussion with global leaders about key issues affecting our planet.

The Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2009, also called the "Summer Davos" in Asia, will focus on reviving economic growth. While government stimulus programmes are critical in the near term, entrepreneurship, innovation and technology will drive a transformational recovery in the long term.

The Forum invites the general public to share their thoughts on how China can be a significant driver in bringing the world economy out of its present recession. YouTubers should answer the following question: **Will China pull us out of the economic crisis?**

http://www.weforum.org/en/media/Latest%20Press%20Releases/PR_DDD

About Previous Annual Meeting of the New Champions

This is the third Annual Meeting of the New Champions. Previous Meetings were held in Tianjin (2008) and in Dalian (2007).

Useful links to keep you updated during the Annual Meeting of the New Champions

1. Everything about this year's Annual Meeting of the New Champions: <http://www.weforum.org/newchampions>
2. In-depth interviews with key participants: <http://www.weforum.org/newchampions/interviews>
3. Summaries from the Annual Meeting of the New Champions: <http://www.weforum.org/newchampions/summaries>
4. Photos for the media: <http://www.weforum.org/newchampions/photos>
5. Davos Debates in China - http://www.weforum.org/en/media/Latest%20Press%20Releases/PR_DDD
6. Befriend the Forum on MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/worldeconomicforum>
7. Become a fan of the Forum on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/worldeconomicforum>
8. Webcasts of plenary sessions: <http://www.weforum.org/newchampions/webcasts>
9. Key quotes from the meeting on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/davos>
Twitter users: Please use the hashtag **#Dalian09** for all tweets about the event
The short URL to our website is <http://tr.im/Dalian09>. The official tag is **Dalian09**
10. Subscribe to the Forum's Press Releases: <http://www.weforum.org/pressreleases>