

Chairmen's Message

The American Chamber of Commerce in the People's Republic of China, the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai and the American Chamber of Commerce in South China are pleased to present the 2008 White Paper on American Business in China. This year's edition—AmCham's tenth—continues our annual tradition of presenting the views and insights of our collective membership on trade and commercial issues affecting the U.S. business community in China, as well as our views on the PRC's overall business environment and recommendations for enhancements.

This 2008 White Paper reflects the broadest-ever collaborative effort of our members, thanks to the cooperative efforts of our three organizations. Synthesizing a diverse range of industries and issues, this publication offers a cohesive and unified snapshot of the state of the American business community in China. Our goal is to promote cooperation and offer constructive solutions to the problems that remain in the overall excellent U.S.-China economic relationship.

This year also marks the 30th anniversary of China's Third Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee, which launched the start of a new era of reform, opening and unprecedented economic development. Of course, 2008 also brings the Summer Olympic Games to Beijing. China is home to many of our members and we warmly welcome athletes from around the globe who will arrive in the country to participate in this year's Games. For these reasons, this year's White Paper holds particular significance.

We at AmCham are pleased to offer this opportunity to address the important issues that are central to our economic relationship with China. Trade between the U.S. and China is growing in importance and complexity. AmCham recognizes that disputes will arise from time to time and encourages both governments to take all possible steps to resolve bilateral issues amicably. We note that instances of cooperation between China and the U.S. far exceed instances of dispute. Defending and preserving the openness of the trade relationship should remain a core commitment of both the U.S. and Chinese governments.

In this year's White Paper, there are three broad issues that we have made a particular effort to highlight. They reflect the current mood of the U.S. business community in China as the country moves past its WTO-entry phase and toward a new and exciting period of continued global economic integration. These issues include (1) the importance of continuing to open markets to trade and truly fair competition for foreign investment; (2) the significance of the rule of law and transparency in regulations and standards; and (3) specific trends we see taking shape here that may hamper China's potential as an affluent and far-reaching market economy. In the spirit of cooperation, this document outlines a number of recommendations about how to address these issues.

主席致辞

中国美国商会、上海美国商会和华南美国商会非常荣幸地推出《2008年度美国在华企业白皮书》，以秉承传统，继续陈述中国经济环境不断改善、影响美国在华企业经贸发展的因素以及潜在商业机会。中美商会已是第十年发布该年度报告。

基于三方的共同努力，2008年度白皮书凝聚了我们会员之间迄今为止最广泛的合作结晶。报告综述了不同行业的问题，浓缩了美国在华企业的发展状况。我们的目的是推动合作，并就发展良好的美中经济关系中依然存在的问题，提出建设性的建议。

2008年白皮书具有特别的意义。今年是中国改革开放三十周年，中国共产党十一届三中全会的胜利召开，标志性的开创了中国的改革、开放和空前的经济发展的新纪元。同时，2008年还将在北京举行夏季奥运会，我们热情欢迎世界各地的运动员来参加今年的奥运会，因为我们许多会员已经把中国作为自己的家。

对中美商会而言，我们很高兴在报告中阐述涉及美中两国经济发展关系的核心问题。美中贸易日趋重要，同时也日趋复杂。中美商会认识到，出现争议是难免的，但美中两国合作远远超过争端，因此鼓励双方政府采取一切可能，友好地解决双边问题。维护和保护开放的经贸关系应该继续成为美国和中国政府的核心承诺。

在今年的白皮书中，我们强调了三方面内容。这些内容反映了中国在从后WTO时代迈向令人振奋的全球经济一体化新时期的过渡阶段，美国在华企业的发展状况。包括：(1)继续开放贸易市场并给予外资真正公平竞争机会的重要性；(2)法治及制订法规和标准的透明度的重要性；及(3)业已存在或潜在的某些倾向，这些倾向可能会影响中国成为富裕的市场经济国家的发展进程。本着合作的精神，该报告就上述问题提呈了相关的建议。

我们的主张不仅符合中国的发展规划和愿望，同时对中国保持长期竞争优势，发展创新经济而言也至关重要。贸易保护主义倾向必须受到抵制，对外开放应予以加强。

What we urge is not only consistent with China's development plans and aspirations, but also vital for China's long-term success as a competitive, innovative economy. Protectionist tendencies must be resisted and openness reinforced.

AmCham's emphasis on open markets applies not only to China. With slowing growth in the U.S., the focus needs to be on enhancing America's overall competitiveness, rather than seeking defensive protectionist solutions. The future of the U.S. economy is linked to the competitiveness of American companies globally. The U.S. Executive Branch and Congress should ensure that American companies of all sizes have the support and resources necessary to compete effectively in China.

In short, we are very pleased to be both participants in and witnesses to the evolution of China's economic and legal systems. We are honored that over the years the leadership of both the Chinese and U.S. governments have been receptive to the messages and analyses offered through our many interactions, and particularly to our annual White Papers. On behalf of our more than 7,000 cumulative members in China, we are confident that the 2008 White Paper will be an important policy tool for U.S.-China trade and commercial relations, as past editions have been.

We thank our many members as well as their companies and organizations who contributed their resources, time and insights to the development and authorship of the 2008 White Paper. The publication of the 2008 White Paper, in itself, is a defining effort, and represents the spirit of cooperation and values of AmCham.



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中美商会强调市场开放，并不只针对中国。由于美国经济增长趋缓，美国应将重点转向提升美国的总体竞争力，而不是寻求防御性的贸易主义保护。美国经济的未来是与美国企业在全球的竞争力紧密相联。美国政府和国会应当确保所有美国公司都能获得在华开展有效竞争所必需的支持和资源。

总而言之，我们非常欣慰在中国经济和法律体系的变化发展中，我们既是亲身参与者，又是亲历的见证者。多年来，中国和美国政府的领导层都与我们保持了各种形式的交流，聆听和分享了我们年度白皮书中的建议和意见，我们为此感到十分荣幸。作为7,000多名商会会员的代表，我们相信，2008年白皮书将会像以前一样，成为推动美中经贸关系的重要政策工具。

感谢我们众多的会员及其公司和机构，他们为2008年白皮书的编著贡献了资源、时间和深刻的见解。2008年白皮书的出版本身就是一个最好的诠释，它代表了中美商会的合作精神和价值观。



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