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FOREWORD

The 44th edition of *THE FAR EAST AND AUSTRALASIA* comprises a comprehensive survey of the countries of East Asia, South-East Asia, Australia and New Zealand and 22 Pacific islands. Part One comprises introductory essays by acknowledged experts providing incisive analysis of regional issues, including the USA's increasing strategic focus on the Pacific region, the ascendance of the People's Republic of China as a global power, and an examination of relations on the Korean peninsula. Other topics covered are the significant security challenges confronting East and South-East Asia, and the diverse environmental concerns and human rights issues encountered in the Asia-Pacific region.

Part Two contains an individual chapter on each country, providing authoritative essays on political and economic development, fully revised directory material covering the fields of government and politics, society and media and business and commerce, and the latest economic, financial and demographic statistical data. There is a dedicated section on the Pacific islands, which includes detailed essays on the contemporary politics of the islands, an analysis of current economic trends in the area, an examination of security issues and the specific environmental challenges experienced by the islands, as well as a locally focused bibliography. In addition, each of the Pacific islands is covered by an introductory essay and comprehensive directory and statistical information.

A calendar of the principal political events in the region between October 2011 and September 2012 provides a convenient reference guide to the year's main developments. Part Three features a comprehensive listing of the international organizations active in the Asia-Pacific area, with extensive coverage of their recent activities. A survey of the region's major commodities is also provided, as well as a directory of research institutes and extensive bibliographies covering books and periodicals relevant to the region.

The entire content of the print edition of *THE FAR EAST AND AUSTRALASIA* is available online at www.europaworld.com. This prestigious resource incorporates sophisticated search and browse functions as well as specially commissioned visual and statistical content. An ongoing programme of updates of key areas of information ensures currency of content, and enhances the richness of the coverage.

During the year under review the unexpected death in December 2011 of Kim Jong Il, who had ruled the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) since his father's demise in 1994, created potential instability in the region. Efforts to establish his youthful third son, Kim Jong Un, as a credible successor appeared to have succeeded, however, although a further deterioration in relations with the Republic of Korea (South Korea) was apparent in an increase in threats and invective. Another political transition took place in Mongolia, where the general election in June 2012 led to the removal from power of the Mongolian People's Party, which had long been the dominant political force in the country. There was a resurgence of nationalist sentiment in China and Japan focused on the re-emergence of tensions over the disputed sovereignty of a group of uninhabited islands in the East China Sea, also claimed by Taiwan. In Taiwan popular support for the policy of economic engagement with China was confirmed with the re-election of the incumbent President Ma Ying-jeou. Elsewhere in the region the Myanmar President Thein Sein's reformist agenda provided for the conduct of free and fair parliamentary by-elections in April, at which the opposition National League for Democracy led by the pro-democracy activist Aung San Suu Kyi won a comprehensive victory. Myanmar's progress towards international acceptance continued with the promotion of reformist ministers in August, while pre-publication press censorship was abolished.

The editors are grateful to all the contributors for their articles and advice, and to the numerous governments and organizations that have provided statistical and other information.

October 2012

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The editors gratefully acknowledge the co-operation, interest and advice of all the authors who have contributed to the volume. We are also indebted to the many organizations that have provided information, particularly national statistical offices.

We are especially grateful for permission to reproduce material from the following sources: the United Nations' statistical databases and *Demographic Yearbook*, *Statistical Yearbook*, *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific*, *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, *Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook* and *International Trade Statistics Yearbook*; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's *Statistical Yearbook* and Institute for Statistics database; the *Human Development Report* of the United Nations Development Programme; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' statistical database; the statistical databases of UNCTAD/WTO International Trade Centre; the statistical databases of the World Health Organization; the International Labour Office's statistical database and *Yearbook of Labour Statistics*; the World Bank's *World Bank Atlas*, *Global Development Finance*, *World Development Report* and World Development Indicators database; the International Monetary Fund's statistical database, *International Financial Statistics* and *Government Finance Statistics Yearbook*; the World Tourism Organization's *Compendium* and *Yearbook of Tourism Statistics*; the Asian Development Bank's *Asian Development Outlook* and *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific*; the US Geological Survey; and the International Telecommunication Union. We are also grateful to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, Arundel House, 13–15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX, for the use of defence statistics from *The Military Balance 2012*.

HEALTH AND WELFARE STATISTICS: SOURCES AND DEFINITIONS

Total fertility rate Source: WHO Statistical Information System (part of the Global Health Observatory). The number of children that would be born per woman, assuming no female mortality at child-bearing ages and the age-specific fertility rates of a specified country and reference period.

Under-5 mortality rate Source: WHO Statistical Information System. Defined by WHO as the probability of a child born in a specific year or period dying before reaching the age of five, if subject to the age-specific mortality rates of that year or period.

HIV/AIDS Source: UNAIDS. Estimated percentage of adults aged 15 to 49 years living with HIV/AIDS. < indicates 'fewer than'.

Health expenditure Source: WHO Statistical Information System.

US \$ per head (PPP)

International dollar estimates, derived by dividing local currency units by an estimate of their purchasing-power parity (PPP) compared with the US dollar. PPPs are the rates of currency conversion that equalize the purchasing power of different currencies by eliminating the differences in price levels between countries.

% of GDP

GDP levels for OECD countries follow the most recent UN System of National Accounts. For non-OECD countries a value was estimated by utilizing existing UN, IMF and World Bank data.

Public expenditure

Government health-related outlays plus expenditure by social schemes compulsorily affiliated with a sizeable share of the population, and extrabudgetary funds allocated to health services. Figures include grants or loans provided by international agencies, other national authorities, and sometimes commercial banks.

Access to water and sanitation Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme on Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) (Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2012 Update). Defined in terms of the percentage of the population using improved facilities in terms of the type of technology and levels of service afforded. For water, this includes house connections, public standpipes, boreholes with handpumps, protected dug wells, protected spring and rainwater collection; allowance is also made for other locally defined technologies. Sanitation is defined to include connection to a sewer or septic tank system, pour-flush latrine, simple pit or ventilated improved pit latrine, again with allowance for acceptable local technologies. Access to water and sanitation does not imply that the level of service or quality of water is 'adequate' or 'safe'.

Carbon dioxide emissions Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators database, citing the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (sponsored by the US Department of Energy). Emissions comprise those resulting from the burning of fossil fuels (including those produced during consumption of solid, liquid and gas fuels and from gas flaring) and from the manufacture of cement.

Human Development Index (HDI) Source: UNDP, *Human Development Report* (2011). A summary of human development measured by three basic dimensions: prospects for a long and healthy life, measured by life expectancy at birth; knowledge, measured by a combination of mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling; and standard of living, measured by GNI per head (PPP US \$). The index value obtained lies between zero and one. A value above 0.8 indicates very high human development, between 0.7 and 0.8 high human development, between 0.5 and 0.7 medium human development, and below 0.5 low human development. A centralized data source for all three dimensions was not available for all countries. In some cases other data sources were used to calculate a substitute value; however, this was excluded from the ranking. Other countries, including non-UNDP members, were excluded from the HDI altogether. In total, 187 countries were ranked for 2011.

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ABBREVIATIONS

Acad.	Academician; Academy	cres.	crescent
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific (States)	Cttee	Committee
ACT	Australian Capital Territory	cu	cubic
AD	Anno Domini	cwt	hundredweight
ADB	Asian Development Bank	Dec.	December
Adm.	Admiral	Dem.	Democratic
Admin.	Administration, Administrative, Administrator	Dep.	Deputy
AFTA	ASEAN Free Trade Area	dep.	deposit(s)
AG	Aktiengesellschaft (limited company)	Dept	Department
a.i.	ad interim	Devt	Development
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	Dir	Director
Alt.	Alternate	Div.	Division
AM	Amplitude Modulation	DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
ANZUS	Australia, New Zealand and the United States	DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Apdo	Apartado (Post Box)	Dr	Doctor
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation	Dr.	Drive
approx.	approximately	Dra	Doutora (Doctor)
Apt	Apartment	DRAM	dynamic random access memory
AR	Autonomous Region	Drs	Doctorandus (Netherlands doctor's degree)
ARF	ASEAN Regional Forum	DVD	digital versatile disc
ARV	advanced retroviral	dwt	dead weight tons
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations	E	East, Eastern
Asscn	Association	EAEC	East Asia Economic Caucus
Assoc.	Associate	EAGA	East ASEAN Growth Area
Asst	Assistant	EC	European Community
ATM	automated teller machine	ECF	Extended Credit Facility
Aug.	August	Econ.	Economic
auth.	authorized	ECU	European Currency Unit(s)
Av.	Avenida (Avenue)	Ed.(s)	Editor(s)
Ave	Avenue	Edif.	Edificio (Building)
BC	Before Christ	edn	edition
Bd	Board	e.g.	exempli gratia (for example)
b/d	barrels per day	Eng.	Engineer; Engineering
Bhd	Berhad (public limited company)	EPZ	Export Processing Zone
BIS	Bank for International Settlements	ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Bldg(s)	Building(s)	ESPO	Eastern Siberia–Pacific Ocean
Blk	Block	est.	established; estimate, estimated
Blvd	Boulevard	etc.	etcetera
BOT	build-operate-transfer	EU	European Union
BP	Boîte Postale (Post Box)	excl.	excluding
br.(s)	branch(es)	Exec.	Executive
Brig.	Brigadier	exhbn(s)	exhibition(s)
BSE	bovine spongiform encephalopathy	Ext.	Extension
Btu	British thermal unit	F	Floor
C	Centigrade	f.	founded
c.	circa	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
cap.	capital	FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
Capt.	Captain	FDI	foreign direct investment
CCP	Chinese Communist Party	Feb.	February
Cdre	Commodore	Fed.	Federal, Federation
Cent.	Central	Feds	Federations
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	Flt	Flight
cf.	confer (compare)	FM	Frequency Modulation
CFC	chlorofluorocarbon	fmr(ly)	former(ly)
CFP	Communauté française du Pacifique	f.o.b.	free on board
Chair.	Chairman/Chairwoman	Fr	Father
CIA	(US) Central Intelligence Agency	Fri.	Friday
Cie	Compagnie	ft	foot (feet)
c.i.f.	cost, insurance and freight	FTA	free trade agreement/area
C-in-C	Commander-in-Chief	g	gram(s)
circ.	circulation	gall(s)	gallon(s)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States	GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
cm	centimetre(s)	GDP	gross domestic product
CMAG	Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group on the Harare Declaration	GEF	Global Environment Facility
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON)	Gen.	General
cnr	corner	GMO	genetically modified organism(s)
c/o	care of	GNI	gross national income
Co	Company	GNP	gross national product
Col	Colonel	Gov.	Governor
Comm.	Commission	Govt	Government
Commndr	Commander	GPO	General Post Office
Commndt	Commandant	GPOB	General Post Office Box
Commr	Commissioner	grt	gross registered tons
Conf.	Conference	GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
Confed.	Confederation	GSP	gross state product
COO	Chief Operating Officer	GWh	gigawatt hour(s)
Corpn	Corporation	ha	hectare(s)
CP	Case Postale, Caixa Postal (Post Box)	HD	high-definition
CPO	Central Post Office	HDI	Human Development Index
CPOB	Central Post Office Box	HDTV	high-definition television

ABBREVIATIONS

HE	His (or Her) Excellency; His Eminence	MW	megawatt(s)
HH	His (or Her) Highness; His Holiness	MWh	megawatt hour(s)
HI	Hawaii	N	North, Northern
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus	n.a.	not available
hl	hectolitre(s)	NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
HLTF	High Level Task Force	Nat.	National
HM	His (or Her) Majesty	NCD	National Capital District
HMS	His (or Her) Majesty's Ship	NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office	n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified
Hon.	Honorary	NGO	non-governmental organization
HPAI	highly pathogenic avian influenza	No.	number
HQ	Headquarters	Nov.	November
hr(s)	hour(s)	NPL	non-performing loan(s)
HRH	His (or Her) Royal Highness	NPT	Non-Proliferation Treaty
HS	harmonized system	nr	near
HSC	harmonized system classification	nrt	net registered tons
Hwy	Highway	NSW	New South Wales
HYV	high-yielding variety	NT	Northern Territory
ibid.	ibidem (from the same source)	NV	Naamloze Vennootschap (limited company)
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)	NZ	New Zealand
ICT	information and communication technology	Oct.	October
IDPs	internally displaced persons	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
i.e.	id est (that is to say)	OER	official exchange rate
ILO	International Labour Organization	OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
IMF	International Monetary Fund	opp.	opposite
in	inch(es)	ORB	OPEC Reference Basket
Inc	Incorporated	Ord.	ordinary
incl.	include(s); including	Org.(s)	Organization(s)
Ind.	Independent	oz	ounce(s)
Inst.	Institute	p(p).	page(s)
Int.	International	p.a.	per annum
IP	intellectual property	Parl.	Parliament(ary)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	PB	Private Bag
IPO	initial public offering	PC	personal computer
Ir	Insinyur (Engineer)	PCL	Public Company Limited
IRF	International Road Federation	Perm.	Permanent
Is	Islands	PICTA	Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification	PICTs	Pacific Island countries and territories
IT	information technology	PLC	Public Limited Company
ITC	information and communication technology	PMB	Private Mail Bag
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation	PNG	Papua New Guinea
IUU	illegal,unreported and unregulated	PO	Post Office
Jan.	January	POB	Post Office Box
Jr	Junior	PPP	purchasing-power parity
Jt	Joint	PR	proportional representation
Jtly	Jointly	Pres.	President
K	kina (Papua New Guinea currency)	Prin.	Principal
Kav.	Kaveling (Plot)	Prof.	Professor
kg	kilogram(s)	Propr	Proprietor
kHz	kilohertz	Prov.	Province, Provincial
KK	Kaiaen Kaisha (limited company)	PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
kl	kilolitre	PSI	Policy Support Instrument, Poverty Strategies Initiative
km	kilometre(s)	PT	Perseroan Terbatas (limited company)
kW	kilowatt(s)	Pt	Point
kWh	kilowatt hour(s)	Pte	Private
lb	pound(s)	Pty	Proprietary
LCD	liquid crystal display	p.u.	paid up
LDC	less-developed country	publ.(s)	publication(s); published
LED	light-emitting diode	Publr	Publisher
LNG	liquefied natural gas	Pvt	Private
LPG	liquefied petroleum gas	QIP	Quick Impact Project
Lt	Lieutenant	Qld	Queensland
Ltd	Limited	q.v.	quod vide (to which refer)
m	metre(s)	R & D	research and development
m.	million	Rd	Road
M & A	mergers and acquisitions	regd	registered
Maj.	Major	Rep.	Representative
Man.	Manager, Managing	Repub.	Republic
MCPO	Manila Central Post Office	res	reserves
MDG	Millennium Development Goal	retd	retired
mem.	member	Rev.	Reverend
mfg	manufacturing	Rm	Room
mfr(s)	manufacturer(s)	RM	Ringgit Malaysia
mg	milligram	RMB	renminbi
Mgr	Monseigneur, Monsignor	ro-ro	roll-on roll-off
MHz	megahertz	Rp.	Rupiah (Indonesian currency)
MIA	Missing in Action	Rt	Right
Mil.	Military	S	South, Southern
Mlle	Mademoiselle	SA	South Australia; Société anonyme, Sociedad Anónima (limited company)
mm	millimetre(s)	SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
Mme	Madame	SAR	Special Administrative Region
Mon.	Monday	SARL	Sociedade Anónima de Responsabilidade Limitada (limited company)
MOU	memorandum of understanding	SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
MP	Member of Parliament	Sat.	Saturday
Mt	Mount	Sdn Bhd	Sendirian Berhad (private limited company)
MV	Motor Vessel		

INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE CODES

SDR	Special Drawing Right(s)	UK	United Kingdom
SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organization	UN	United Nations
SEATO	South-East Asia Treaty Organization	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
Sec.	Secretary; Section	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
Secr.	Secretariat	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
Sept.	September	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
SEZ	Special Economic Zone	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
SIM	Subscriber Identification Module	UNHCHR	United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights
SIS	Small(er) Island States	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises	UNMISCT	United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor
SMS	short message service	UNMIT	United Nations Integrated Mission in East Timor
Soc.	Society	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
SOE	State-Owned Enterprise	UNTAC	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
SPR	strategic petroleum reserve	UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
Sq.	Square	UNWTO	World Tourism Organization
sq	square (in measurements)	US	United States
Sr	Senior	USA	United States of America
SRSG	Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
St	Street; Saint, San, Santo	USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
STI(s)	sexually transmitted infection(s)	VAT	value-added tax
subs.	subscribed	Ven.	Venerable
Sun.	Sunday	VHF	very high frequency
Supt	Superintendent	Vic	Victoria
SUV	sports utility vehicle	Vol(s)	Volume(s)
Tas	Tasmania	W	West, Western
tech.	technical	WA	Western Australia
tel.	telephone	Wed.	Wednesday
TEU	20-foot equivalent unit	WHO	World Health Organization
Thur.	Thursday	WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
trans.	translator, translated	WTO	World Trade Organization
Treas.	Treasurer	yd	yard
Tue.	Tuesday	yr(s)	year(s)
TV	television		
UHF	ultra-high frequency		

INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE CODES

To make international calls to telephone and fax numbers listed in *The Far East and Australasia*, dial the international code of the country from which you are calling, followed by the appropriate country code for the organization you wish to call (listed below), followed by the area code (if applicable) and telephone or fax number listed in the entry.

	Country code	+ or – GMT*		Country code	+ or – GMT*
American Samoa	1 684	–11	Niue	683	–11
Australia	61	+8 to +10	Norfolk Island	672	+11½
Brunei	673	+8	Northern Mariana Islands	1 670	+10
Cambodia	855	+7	Palau	680	+9
China, People’s Republic	86	+8	Papua New Guinea	675	+10
Christmas Island	61	+7	Philippines	63	+8
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	61	+6½	Pitcairn Islands	872	–8
Cook Islands	682	–10	Samoa	685	+13
Fiji	679	+12	Singapore	65	+8
French Polynesia	689	–9 to –10	Solomon Islands	677	+11
Guam	1 671	+10	Taiwan	886	+8
Hong Kong	852	+8	Thailand	66	+7
Indonesia	62	+7 to +9	Timor-Leste (East Timor)	670	+9
Japan	81	+9	Tokelau	690	+13
Kiribati	686	+12 to +13	Tonga	676	+13
Korea, Democratic People’s Republic (North Korea)	850	+9	Tuvalu	688	+12
Korea, Republic (South Korea)	82	+9	Vanuatu	678	+11
Laos	856	+7	Viet Nam	84	+7
Macao	853	+8	Wallis and Futuna Islands	681	+12
Marshall Islands	692	+12			
Malaysia	60	+8			
Micronesia, Federated States	691	+10 to +11			
Mongolia	976	+7 to +9			
Myanmar	95	+6½			
Nauru	674	+12			
New Caledonia	687	+11			
New Zealand	64	+12			

* Time difference in hours + or – Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). The times listed compare the standard (winter) times. Some countries may adopt Summer (Daylight Saving) Times—i.e. + 1 hour—for part of the year.

Note: Telephone and fax numbers using the Inmarsat ocean region code 870 are listed in full. No country or area code is required, but it is necessary to precede the number with the international access code of the country from which the call is made.

EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE DIRECTORY SECTION

The Directory section of each chapter is arranged under the following headings, where they apply:

THE CONSTITUTION

THE GOVERNMENT

HEAD OF STATE

CABINET/COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MINISTRIES

LEGISLATURE

ELECTION COMMISSION

STATE GOVERNMENTS

POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

RELIGION

THE PRESS

PUBLISHERS

BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RADIO

TELEVISION

FINANCE

CENTRAL BANK

STATE BANKS

COMMERCIAL BANKS

DEVELOPMENT BANKS

INVESTMENT BANKS

SAVINGS BANKS

FOREIGN BANKS

STOCK EXCHANGE

INSURANCE

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

UTILITIES

MAJOR COMPANIES

CO-OPERATIVES

TRADE UNIONS

TRANSPORT

RAILWAYS

ROADS

INLAND WATERWAYS

SHIPPING

CIVIL AVIATION

TOURISM

DEFENCE

EDUCATION