

I'll just note that financial stability remains a fundamental international public good. Everything else is built on it, just as our own economic well-being depends on a strong domestic financial sector. It is difficult for us to address other problems successfully if the international financial system is under stress.

Let me begin by providing you with a bit of an overview on the preparations for the Genova Summit this July. The Summit is of course a political event involving Leaders and their interests shape its agenda. There will be three new faces around the table this year. Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi; Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi; and of course US President George W. Bush.