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Special Report
Secretary Clinton at APEC
Saturday, September 17, 2011 900 EDT

International outlets are extensively focusing on Secretary Clinton's remarks about the importance of woman's role in the economy, while reporting on APEC meetings. Several papers carried reprints of wire coverage summarized here for reference.

Wires

APF headlines "Clinton declares 'Participation Age' for women," and reports Clinton, who has made women's rights a top priority throughout her career, made an impassioned call as she led a special meeting of the 21-member APEC Asia-Pacific bloc dedicated to the role of women in the economy. Pointing to the anemic growth and debt woes afflicting many major economies, Clinton described women as a great untapped resource. Women, she said, tend to save better and can provide new markets when they are empowered.

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AP headlines: "Clinton: Women the key to economic growth," and says Clinton and diplomats from 20 Asia-Pacific nations pledged to try to improve women's economic participation, a task Clinton said will take a generation and will mark one of the most profound transformations of the world economy. The agreement is a run-up to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Hawaii later this year, which President Barack Obama will attend. "With economic models straining in every corner of the world, none of us can afford to perpetuate the barriers facing women in the workforce," Clinton said.

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Reuters headlines: "Clinton pushes free, fair trade agenda for APEC." It reports the United States will step up efforts for free, open and transparent trade across the Asia Pacific region as it seeks to double U.S. exports in five years, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Wednesday. It explains Clinton did not mention the China trade dispute specifically but did outline a set of U.S. priorities for the region that underscore Washington's concerns over unfair treatment. "The United States is looking for a level playing field, an environment in which businesses rise and fall based on honest competition, rather than government manipulation," Clinton said.

[Full article](#)

East Asia and the Pacific:

China

China Daily highlights: "Women Entrepreneurs play Big Role in the Economy," and reports Meng Xiaosi, vice president of the All-China Women's Federation, made the remarks at a major Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) conference focusing on finding ways to increase women's economic participation in the region.

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Xinhua headlines "Clinton unveils major steps to boost women's participation in economic growth." It says Clinton, who chaired the meeting, made the evidence-based case for the inclusion of women as a vital source of economic growth. The outlet also notes that Clinton articulated important steps in a path toward the Participation Age -- where every individual has the opportunity to be a contributing and valued member of the global marketplace -- including strategies to remove barriers that have prevented women from being full participants in the economy and unlock their potential as drivers of economic growth.

Indonesia

Kompas reports Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu is currently undertaking a visit to the United States to attend the meeting of APEC Women and the Economy Summit (WES) in the city of San Francisco. The meeting which took place on September 13 to 16 was chaired by Hillary Clinton.

Japan

Japan News carries the *AP* article.

The Philippines

Inquirer says Clinton, who has made women's rights a top priority throughout her career, made an impassioned call as she led a special meeting of the 21-member APEC Asia-Pacific bloc dedicated to the role of women in the economy. Pointing to the anemic growth and debt woes afflicting many major economies, Clinton described women as a great untapped resource. Women, she said, tend to save better and can provide new markets when they are empowered.

Taiwan

Taiwan News carries the *AP* article.

South Central Asia:**India**

India Times carries the *Reuters* article

WHA**Canada**

The *Chronicle Herald* carries an AP article under the headline: "Clinton: Tear down barriers to women." It reports Clinton and diplomats from 20 Asia-Pacific nations pledged to try to improve women's economic participation, a task Clinton said will take a generation and will mark one of the most profound transformations of the world economy. The agreement is a run-up to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Hawaii.