





# China's WTO Accession – from an Investment Perspective









## **2 Key Aspects in the WTO Agreement**

- 1) Market liberalization and improved access for foreign direct investment
- 2) Tariff reduction and the phasing out of quotas



#### **Market Liberalization**



Source: US State Department, US Trade Representative



#### Improved Access for Foreign Direct Investment into China



Source :CEIC Sept. 2002



# **Tariff Reduction And Phasing Out Of Quotas**



Source: US State Department, US Trade Representative



## **4 Trends For Investment Consideration**

1) A more efficient allocation of production factors through increased specialization between China and other Asian countries 2) Clustering of manufacturing in China 3) Widening income disparity between China's coastal cities and inland cities 4) China transforming from a policy driven economy towards a more market driven economy



#### More Efficient Allocation of Production Factor Through Increased Specialization - China

### • China :

- Growing industries : apparel, textile, low end electronics, leather & shoes and other light manufacturing
- Declining industries : auto parts, petrochemicals and agricultural



#### More Efficient Allocation of Production Factor Through Increased Specialization – Asia Region

- Korea Taiwan and Singapore : net beneficiaries through increased export of intermediate and capital goods into China such as high end electronics, equipment, textile ...etc
- Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia : terms of trade to bias more towards primary goods, such as agricultural products and raw materials, while reducing manufactured goods
- Hong Kong : increased role in trade and financial intermediation for China



## **Clustering of Manufacturing in China**

- More than an assembly centre
- Development of a full supply chain within China
- Expect to see emergence of local suppliers
- Encourage vertical integration



#### Widening Income Disparity Between China's Coastal Cities and Inland Cities

	East	Central	West
Foreign trade and investment (2000)			
% of total exports	90.7	5.8	3.5
% of trade balance	82.1	13.7	4.3
% of all FDI	87.8	8.9	3.3
GDP (2000)			
% of GDP from agriculture	12.0	19.2	21.7
Operating surplus as % of GDP	22.0	15.0	14.2
Industrial output (2000)			
% of output from state sector	38.0	67.9	74.2
% of output from foreign-funded companies	35.1	9.3	7.1

East: Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Liaoning, Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Fujian, Shandong, Guangdong, Guangxi & Hainan. Central: Shanxi, Jilin, Heilongjiang, Anhui, Jiangxi, Henan, Hubei & Hunan

West: Chongqing, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan, Tibet, Shaanxi, Gansu, Qinghai, Ningxia and Xinjiang Source: China State Statistical Bureau

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#### **China Transforming to a Market Driven Economy**





## Conclusion

- China's WTO accession likely to facilitate the trade flow in the region notably the import of capital goods from the more developed peers and natural resources from the developing neighbours
- Foreign direct investment to accelerate inflow into China for building manufacturing base and tapping domestic consumption
- China to transform further into a market driven economy
- Hong Kong well placed to capitalize on the trade and financial intermediation role for China



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