



# CHANGE AND PROSPERITY: THE ASPEN INSTITUTE PROGRAM ON THE WORLD ECONOMY

## Conference Agenda

August 20 to August 23, 2011

### Saturday, August 20

#### **6:00 pm-9:30 pm**

Conference convenes over cocktails and dinner at the Aspen Meadows.

### Sunday, August 21: Session I

#### **8:00 am-9:30 am: Part One**

This segment will provide our customary overview of the global macroeconomic and financial outlook, setting the stage for ensuing discussions of the post-crisis landscape.

#### **9:30 am-11:00 am: Part Two**

During this segment, the natural disasters in Japan will be examined in terms of the damage to the Japanese and world economy.

#### **11:00 am-11:30 am: BREAK**

#### **11:30 am-1:30 pm: Part Three**

This segment will ask about the policy implications of continued high levels of unemployment in many countries in a setting where “structural” unemployment seems to be growing.

(This session will include a working lunch. The group will later reassemble for dinner).

### Monday, August 22: Session II:

In light of at least six major financial shocks over the last 30 years, which gave rise to extraordinary interventions by central banks and governments, this session will look at

three questions.

**8:00 am-9:30 am: Part One**

This segment will ask whether this implies that the financial system is *inherently* unstable.

**9:30 am-11:00 am: Part Two**

This segment will look ahead 5 years to August 2016 and ask whether the financial system is more stable AND efficient than witnessed over the preceding 30 years. If so, what are the necessary and sufficient elements of the financial reform agenda that will produce a more stable financial system?

**11:00 am-11:30 am: BREAK**

**11:30 am-1:00 pm: Part Three**

This segment will provide a comparison of alternative strategies being used by sovereign governments to achieve fiscal consolidation. Particular emphasis will be given to the US, including the related problems of very large deficits at some state and local governments.

(This session will include a working lunch. The group will later reassemble for dinner).

**Tuesday, August 23: Session III:**

This session will look at the profoundly important developments in the Middle East and North Africa.

**8:00 am-9:30 am Part One**

This segment will discuss the political and geopolitical consequences of these developments.

**9:30 am-10:30 am: Part Two**

This segment will discuss the medium to longer-term implications of these developments for global energy policies, including the implications of the nuclear power situation in Japan.

The Conference ends with lunch in the Aspen Meadows dining room.

June 2011