

Shanghai's global aim is theme of summit

Zhang Fengming

THE chairmen and chief executives of the world's leading corporations will gather in Shanghai tomorrow to brainstorm on how the city can push forward in its globalization efforts to build itself up into a leading-edge international hub.

They will give their views and share their experiences with Shanghai Mayor Han Zheng at the 20th International Business Leaders's Advisory Council tomorrow, whose theme this year is "Retrospect and outlook — Shanghai in globalization." The theme is apt against the background of the ongoing global financial turmoil which has rocked several economies.

About 370 foreign delegates will participate in the meeting while about 80 Chinese delegates, including heads of big state-owned companies in Shanghai, will also be present tomorrow. Topics for discussions will include the impact of the financial tsunami on the world.

Samuel A. DiPiazza Jr, chief executive officer of PricewaterhouseCoopers, will chair the council this year.

Stable economy

Yesterday, Han met with three council members — Orit Gadiesh, chairwoman of Bain & Co, Laurent Beaudoin, chairman of Bombardier Inc, and David Reid, non-executive chairman of Tesco Plc. He said he welcomed their views and contributions to the development of Shanghai.

The city's economy is growing in a stable manner this year and Shanghai is open to advice and suggestions on how it could develop better, Han said.

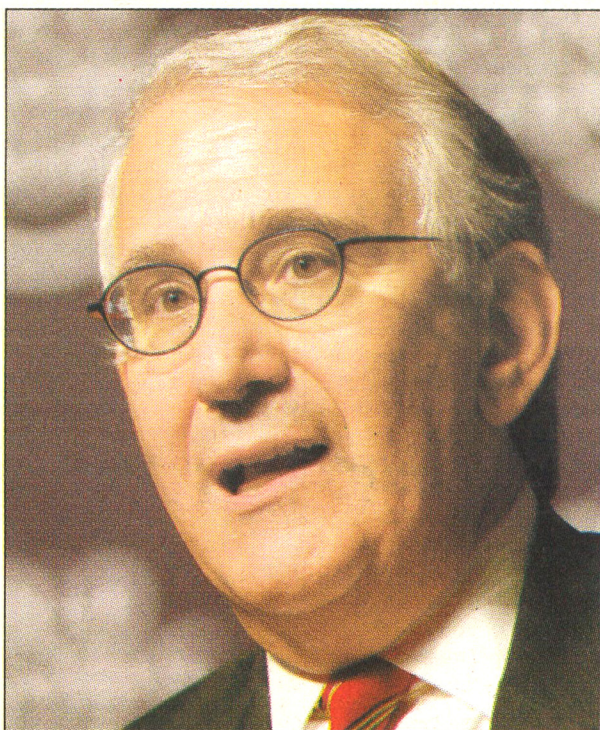
The city's economy grew by double digits in the first three quarters and inflation has eased. The ongoing global financial crisis didn't impact Shanghai's economy hard but the turmoil has

brought more uncertainties amid the trend towards globalization.

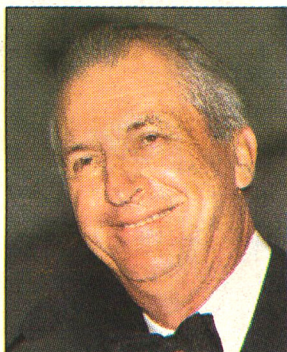
The IBLAC annual meeting was initiated in 1989 by Zhu Rongji, then Shanghai mayor who later became Chinese premier. He envisaged it as a platform for the world's top business leaders to provide strategic advice on Shanghai's development and the challenges it is facing.

The council has grown into a international think-tank for Shanghai's mayor. The council, which started with 12 members from seven countries, has grown to 39 members from 14 countries. They come from various industries including financial, manufacturing, pharmaceutical and retail.

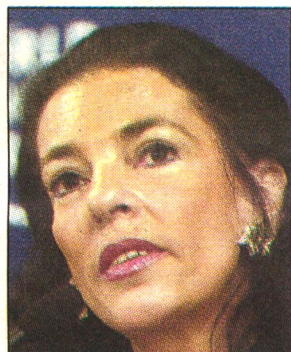
The annual meeting to gather together the members' global wisdom will take place at Pudong Shangri-La hotel.



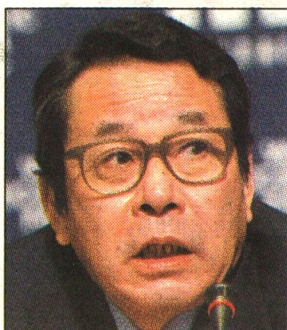
Samuel A. DiPiazza Jr
Chief Executive Officer
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chairman of 20th IBLAC for the Mayor of Shanghai



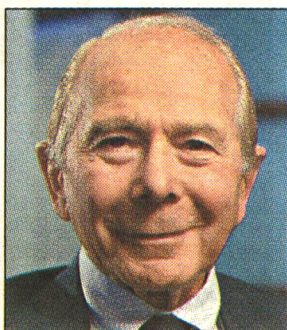
Laurent Beaudoin
Chairman, Bombardier Inc
Vice chairman of 20th IBLAC
for the Mayor of Shanghai



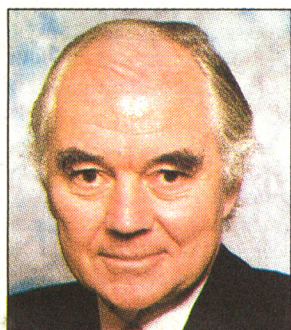
Orit Gadiesh
Chairman, Bain & Company
Member of 20th IBLAC for
the Mayor of Shanghai



Junichi Ujiie
Chairman, Nomura Holdings
Former vice chairman of
IBLAC for the Mayor of
Shanghai



Maurice R. Greenberg
Chairman/Chief Executive
Officer, C.V. Starr and Co Inc
Former chairman of IBLAC
for the Mayor of Shanghai



Sir John Bond
Chairman, Vodafone
Group Plc
Former chairman of IBLAC
for the Mayor of Shanghai

Themes of the IBLAC for the Mayor of Shanghai

- 2008** Retrospect and Outlook — Shanghai in Globalization
- 2007** Building a Resource-Conserving and Environmentally Friendly City
- 2006** Enhancing the City's Innovation Capacity
- 2005** Speeding up the Development of a Modern Service Industry
- 2004** Heightening Shanghai's International Competitiveness
- 2003** How to Host a Successful World Exposition
- 2002** How to Develop Shanghai into a World-Class City
- 2001** Shanghai's Opportunities and Challenges after China's Entry into the WTO
- 2000** Management
- 1999** Innovation and Development of New Industries