ABBREVIATIONS

ADB Asian Development Bank

AFTA ASEAN Free Trade Area

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

BIS Bank for International Settlements

c.i.f. cost, insurance, freight

CD-ROM compact disk read-only memory

CIS Commonwealth of Independent States

CPI consumer price index

ECE Economic Commission for Europe

ECO Economic Cooperation Organization

EIU Economist Intelligence Unit

EU European Union

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FDI foreign direct investment

f.o.b. free on board

FTAs free trade agreements

GATS General Agreement on Trade Services

GATT General Agreement on Tariff and Trade

GDP gross domestic product

GSP generalized system of preferences

HIPC heavily indebted poor countries

ICT information and communication technology

ILO International Labour Organization

IMF International Monetary Fund

IT information technology

M1 currency in circulation

ABBREVIATIONS (continued)

M2 broad money supply

M3 total money supply

MFA Multifibre Arrangement

NGO non-governmental organization

NPL non-performing loan

ODA official development assistance

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OPEC Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

PRSP Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

PPP purchasing power parity

R&D research and development

RTA regional trade agreement

SAARC South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

SAFTA South Asian Free Trade Area

SME small and medium-sized enterprise

SOE State-owned enterprise

SPARTECA South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement

UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

VAT value added tax

WTO World Trade Organization