The world is going through an exceptional commodity boom triggered by a global demand shock largely caused by the sudden emergence of China and India as sizeable raw material importers. Prices of numerous commodities tripled between 2003 and 2006, resulting in huge windfalls for producers and a financial squeeze on consumers. A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy is a guide to the ins and outs of this increasingly crucial part of the world economy. Assuming nothing more from readers than a basic understanding of economics, Marian Radetzki introduces and explains pertinent issues surrounding international commodity markets such as the global geography of raw materials, price formation, price trends, the role of commodity exchanges, the threat of depletion, cartel action, state ownership and the new commodity nationalism.

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A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy

MARIAN RADETZKI
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While the work went on, between June 2006 and May 2007, I often cursed those who had persuaded me to undertake it, and wondered if my decision to go ahead was right. Now that the project has been completed, I am grateful to them all.

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