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**G8 SUMMIT Koizumi
wants leaders to share
burden for global
economic recovery**

GENOA, Italy (AFX) - Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi wants other G8 countries to share the responsibility that Japan is assuming for an upturn in the global economy, a senior Japanese official said.

The official said Koizumi told reporters during his flight here to attend the G8 leaders summit opening on Friday that he will explain his ambitious reform programme to his counterparts.

"I would like to discuss how the G8 countries can share our responsibility for the world economy," the official quoted the recently elected Japanese leader as saying.

He also ruled out government action to reverse the fall in Japanese equity prices, the official said.

"We shouldn't react to every single move of share prices," the official quoted him as saying.

Koizumi is the first visiting G8 leader to arrive at the summit hosted by Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. The economic session of G7 leaders begins at 3.00 pm tomorrow and is set to culminate with an expected endorsement of the upbeat message on world economic prospects that finance ministers issued in Rome two weeks ago.

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Other stories in this section

- US weekly jobless claims down 35,000 to 414,000
- Swedish June unemployment 4.2 pct vs 4.1 in May
- Dutch May retail sales up 8.2 pct yr-on-yr
- Finnish Ministry of Finance proposed state budget at 206.3 bln fmk - report
- Belgian May industry orders down 6.8 pct yr-on-yr

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