

2024

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

Among the People's Republic of China, Japan
and the Republic of Korea



Trilateral
Cooperation
Secretariat



2024

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Part I

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (hereinafter refer to as TCS) signed by the governments of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as China), Japan, and the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as the ROK) in 2010, the TCS was established as an international organization in September 2011 in Seoul, ROK. The TCS drafts and submits progress of the Trilateral Cooperation to the three Foreign Ministries for approval. The TCS presents the report titled "2024 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation," covering the period from January to December 2024.

INTRODUCTION

In 2024, trilateral cooperation reached new heights as a series of high-level meetings and events underscored the enduring commitment to deepening mutual trust and expanding collaboration across diverse sectors.

Political cooperation was reinforced by two key events. In May, **the 9th Trilateral Summit** set an ambitious strategic agenda by adopting a *Joint Declaration* that identified six key areas for future cooperation. This was further consolidated in October, when **the Trilateral Senior Officials' Meeting** deepened high-level dialogue and ensured the effective institutionalization of our shared commitments.

Economic cooperation advanced through a sequence of pivotal initiatives. The year began in February, with **the 9th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics**, which addressed critical infrastructural challenges. In May, **the 24th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting** underscored our commitment to regional economic recovery amid global challenges. Further advancing economic cooperation, **the 8th Trilateral Business Summit** was held on May, providing a forum for crafting constructive economic proposals. In December, **the 24th TRIPO Heads Meeting** focused on intellectual property matters, reinforcing our collective resolve to meet shared economic objectives.

Sustainable development emerged as a cornerstone of our joint agenda. In May, **the 4th Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources** set the stage for robust environmental dialogue. This was further advanced by **the 7th Trilateral Director General Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation** and **the 25th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting** in September.

Socio-cultural exchanges were also significantly enhanced. **The 4th Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting** in June laid the foundation for enhanced educational collaboration, while the **10th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting** in September further strengthened people-to-people connections. These efforts were reinforced by **the 15th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting** in September, which emphasized cultural exchange and heritage preservation. The year concluded with **the 5th Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting** and **the 17th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting** in December, both addressing societal well-being and public health imperatives.

Collectively, these carefully sequenced engagements reflect our unwavering dedication to fostering a prosperous, secure, and sustainable future for the region.



Part II

COOPERATION PROGRESS

- 1. Politics and Security**
- 2. Economy**
- 3. Sustainable Development**
- 4. Social and Cultural Exchanges**
- 5. TCS**

1. Politics and Security

Politics

The 9th **Trilateral Summit** among the ROK, Japan, and China was held in Seoul, ROK on May 27, 2024. The Summit was chaired by the President of the ROK YOON Suk Yeol, and attended by the Prime Minister of Japan KISHIDA Fumio, and Premier of China LI Qiang.

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of trilateral cooperation, the leaders reaffirmed the importance of trilateral cooperation and acknowledged that trilateral cooperation has deepened in various areas and benefited the three countries and the peoples. Concurring on institutionalizing trilateral cooperation and carrying out beneficial cooperation for the peoples of the three countries, the leaders identified mutually beneficial cooperation projects centered on six key areas: people-to-people exchanges; sustainable development including through climate change response; economic cooperation and trade; public health and ageing society; science and technology cooperation, digital transformation; and disaster relief and safety. On regional and international peace and prosperity matters, the leaders reaffirmed that maintaining peace, stability and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia serves as the common interest and is the common responsibility of the three countries. The leaders also concurred on expanding the ‘Trilateral + X’ cooperation in the context of ASEAN and other related multilateral frameworks. The *Joint Declaration of the Ninth ROK-Japan-China Trilateral Summit* was adopted after the Summit. The 10th Trilateral Summit will be held in Japan.



The **Trilateral Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM)** among Japan, China, and the ROK was held in Tokyo Japan, on October 28, 2024. The meeting was presided over by Mr. FUNAKOSHI Takehiro, Senior Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, with the participation of Mr. SUN Weidong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of China, and Mr. CHUNG Byung-won, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the ROK.

The three heads of delegations commended the progress of trilateral cooperation, including the holding of several ministerial meetings since the revitalization of the trilateral process at the Trilateral Summit in May 2024, which was the first Summit in four-and-a-half years. They reaffirmed that deepening trilateral cooperation is in the common interest of the three countries. They also discussed future-oriented and practical cooperation in various fields among the three countries. Additionally, the heads of delegations reaffirmed the importance of maintaining the momentum of cooperation and concurred on preparing for holding the Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the Trilateral Summit at the earliest convenient time.



2. Economy

Economy and Trade

The 8th Trilateral Business Summit was held in Seoul, ROK on May 27, 2024. The Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) co-convened the Business Summit in conjunction with the 9th Trilateral Summit. Around 280 government, business, and industry representatives from the three countries attended. President of the ROK YOON Suk Yeol, Prime Minister of Japan KISHIDA Fumio and Premier of China LI Qiang attended the special session and delivered remarks. The three leaders presented constructive proposals for future economic cooperation among the three countries based on the discussions at the 9th Trilateral Summit held earlier on the same day.

As a result of the meeting, the three business associations adopted the *Joint Statement of the 8th Trilateral Business Summit* to support the implementation of the 9th Trilateral Summit and the deliverables from the Business Summit. The Joint Statement calls for the economic community's commitment to cooperate in digital transition, trade stimulation, supply chain stabilization to revitalize the economy, and to actively promote cooperation in green transformation, response to aging, and medical care for sustainable development.



Transport and Logistics

The 22nd Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technology Exchange Conference was held in Beppu City, Oita Prefecture of Japan on November 12-15, 2024. The conference was hosted by the Kyushu Economy International (KEI) (Secretariat: Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI-KYUSHU) and Kyushu Economic Federation) in collaboration with Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) of the ROK and Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) of China.

This year's conference was held under the theme "Formation of a Sustainable Yellow Sea Rim Economic Zone," and focused on two key areas: "carbon neutrality" and "highly skilled foreign human resources". Approximately 300 participants including representatives from the governments of the three countries, as well as local governments, economic organizations, companies and universities took part in the conference.

The 9th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics was held in Tianjin, China, on February 29, 2024. The meeting was presided by Mr. LI Yang, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Transport (MOT) of China, Mr. UEHARA Atsushi, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan, Mr. SONG, Myeong-dal, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) of the ROK, and Mr. XIE Yuan, Vice Mayor of Tianjin Municipal People's Government.

The meeting had an exchange of information and exchanged information and ideas on the recent progress and future direction in Transport and Logistics in the post-pandemic era. The Ministers reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Action Plan and highlighted 11 priority areas. The three Ministers signed the *Joint Statement* and reaffirmed the view that efforts under the Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics would contribute to the economic recovery and shared prosperity of the three countries.

The 24th Trilateral Intellectual Property Offices (TRIPO) Heads Meeting was held in Shanghai, China on December 4, 2024. The meeting was chaired by Mr. SHEN Changyu, Commissioner of China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), and attended by Mr. ONO Yota, Commissioner of Japan Patent Office (JPO), Mr. KIM Wan Ki, Commissioner of Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO).

During the meeting, the three Commissioners spoke highly of the productive collaboration among CNIPA, JPO, and KIPO through both trilateral and bilateral efforts. They expressed optimism in advancing the shared vision outlined at the Trilateral Summit, enhancing cooperation, and fostering regional innovation and openness. As an outcome of this meeting, the three Commissioners expressed support for the measures for the implementation of the *Joint Statement on a 10 Year Vision for Trilateral IP Cooperation* and confirmed the *Record of Discussion*, which outlined the future plans for cooperation.

The 12th TRIPO User Symposium was held in Shanghai, China on December 5, 2024, under the theme “Building a Better Business Environment through IP Public Service.” The event brought together the representatives of CNIPA, JPO, and KIPO, alongside the TCS delegation and over 100 IP professionals from the three countries. The participants engaged in meaningful discussions on optimizing IP services to foster a robust business environment. The TRIPO Offices agreed that the next TRIPO User Symposium would be held in tandem with the next TRIPO Heads Meeting in Japan.



Finance

The 24th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting was held in Tbilisi, Georgia on May 3, 2024. The Ministers and Governors of the three countries exchanged views on current developments and the outlook for the global and regional economies and the direction of economic policies being pursued in each country. They also discussed the economic forecast for 2024, expecting a rapid recovery in the region, but also warned of remaining risk factors such as increasing global commodity prices, geopolitical tensions, slowdown in the growth of major trading partners, and the rise of foreign exchange market volatility.

Regarding the ASEAN+3 financial cooperation, they agreed that it is pivotal to continuously develop the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) to reinforce the regional financial safety net. In the same context, they reaffirmed their support for establishing the Rapid Financing Facility (RFF), which aims to enhance the effectiveness of the CMIM, and agreed on the benefits of transitioning its financing system to a paid-in capital structure.

The 13th Tripartite Governors' Meeting among the People's Bank of China (PBOC), the Bank of Japan (BOJ), and the Bank of Korea (BOK) was held in Beijing, China on October 17, 2024, chaired by PBOC. The Governors exchanged views on recent economic and financial developments.

Science and Technology

The 19th Trilateral Science and Technology Policy Seminar was held in Tokyo, Japan on November 13-14, 2024. Organized by Japan's National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP), the seminar brought together five science and technology policy think tanks from the three countries, namely the Korea Institute of S&T Evaluation and Planning (KISTEP), Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI) of the ROK, Institutes of Science and Development of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CASISD), Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development (CASTED), and NISTEP.

Held under the theme of "STI for Our Future," this year's seminar featured six sessions: i) Highlights of Research Activities, ii) Measuring the Current Developments of STI Activities, iii) R&D and Human Resource Developments, iv) STI and Economic Growth, v) STI Foresight and Future Societal Vision, and vi) Open Science and Digital Transformation.

Consumer Policy

The 10th Consultative Meeting on Consumer Policy among Korea, China and Japan took place in Seoul, ROK, on September 4, 2024. The meeting was hosted by the Korea Fair Trade Commission (KFTC) and Korea Consumer Agency (KCA), with the participation of representatives from the State Administration of Market Regulation (SAMR) of China, the China Consumers Association (CCA), Japan's Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA) and the National Consumer Affairs Center (NCAC).

This year's meeting focused on strengthening cooperation in consumer policy, addressing cross-border consumer harms, and sharing updates on the collective consumer redress systems in the three countries. Sessions included discussions on the ways to strengthen cooperation on consumer policy, consumption market trend and global cooperation, and the implementation status and challenges faced in implementing collective redress systems. The event underlined the ongoing commitment of the three nations to enhance consumer protection and foster collaboration in tackling emerging consumer issues in the region.



Standardization

The 22nd Northeast Asia Standards Cooperation (NEAS) Forum was held in Seoul, the ROK on July 15-17, 2024. Approximately 120 government representatives and experts from private sector attended the Forum to discuss the progress of 9 ongoing working groups and proposed 18 new working groups to be adopted at the Forum.

The participants emphasized the importance of cooperation through the NEAS Forum to facilitate international standardization activities as stated in the *Joint Declaration for Peace and Cooperation in Northeast Asia* adopted at the Trilateral Summit in November 2015.

3. Sustainable Development

Environment

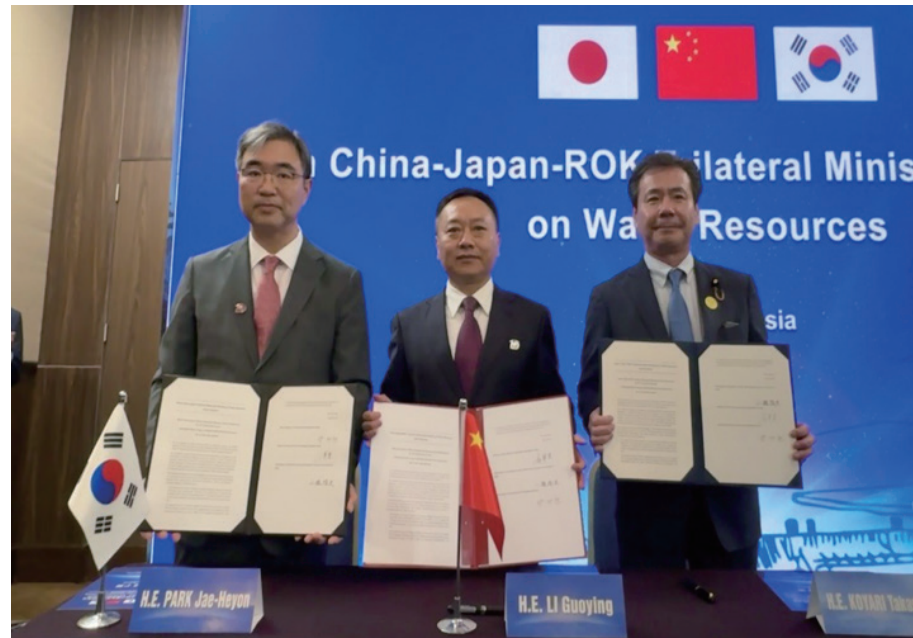
The 25th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM25) was held in Jeju, the ROK on September 29, 2024, hosted by the Ministry of Environment of the ROK. Environment Ministers of the three countries exchanged views and knowledge on key environmental policies of each country, and also reviewed the progress in implementing the Tripartite Joint Action Plan (TJAP). In addition, the Ministers agreed to include new priority areas for the next term of TJAP, including “Improving Environmental Qualities”; “Promoting Carbon Neutrality and Green Economy”; and “Enhancing Environmental Welfare”, which will be adopted at TEMM26. Based on the discussions, the *Joint Communiqué* was adopted and signed by the Ministers of the three countries.



Water Resources

The 4th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources was held in Bali, Indonesia on May 20, 2024, on the occasion of the 10th World Water Forum. Mr. LI Guoying, Minister of Water Resources of China (MWR), Mr. KOYARI Takashi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan (MLIT), and Mr. PARK Jae-Heyon, Deputy Minister of Environment of the ROK (MOE), attended the meeting and signed the *Joint Statement*.

After the Ministerial Meeting, TCS co-hosted the **Trilateral Expert Dialogue on Water Resources**. During the Dialogue, experts from the three countries shared best practices on the theme of “Addressing Climate Change and Building Resilient Water Infrastructure”.



Forestry

The 7th **Trilateral Director General Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation** was held in Hangzhou, China on September 11, 2024. The meeting was presided by Mr. XIA Jun, Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China, and attended by Mr. NAM Song Hee, Director General of International Affairs Bureau, Korea Forest Service, and Mr. NAGASAKIYA Keita, Director General of the Private Forest Department, Forestry Agency of Japan.

The meeting consisted of 6 sessions, including forestry policy, land degradation and desertification control, forestry disaster reduction, timber industry development, forestry area utilization, and forestry management. The three Director Generals and other representatives exchanged information and ideas on the recent progress and future direction in forestry development and cooperation.

4. Social and Cultural Exchanges

Culture

The 15th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting was held in Kyoto, Japan on September 12, 2024. The meeting was chaired by H.E. MORIYAMA Masahito, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, with H.E. ZHANG Zheng, Vice Minister of the Culture and Tourism of China, and H.E. YONG Ho-seong, the first Vice Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of the ROK.

The three ministers discussed key cultural agendas, including deepening cultural exchanges especially among future generations to strengthen friendship and solidarity, promoting sustainable urban development through the Culture City of East Asia (CCEA) initiative, and recognize culture as a global public good to address global challenges. They also emphasized protecting cultural heritage from climate change and natural disasters, supporting digital transformation in the cultural sector, and enhancing cultural appeal through tourism and sports collaboration. Following the discussions, they signed the *2024 Kyoto Declaration* and an MOC for the “2025-2026 Year of Cultural Exchange”.

The 17th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum was held in Hangzhou, China from September 24 to 26, 2024. Mr. MIAO Muyang, Director-General of the Industrial Development Department of China's Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Mr. KIM Jae-Hyun, Director-General of the International Cultural Policy Bureau of the ROK's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, and Mr. EZAWA Masana, Deputy Director-General of the Commerce and Service Industry Policy Bureau of Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry participated in the forum.

The 17th Trilateral Cultural Industry Forum Cooperation Initiative was signed under the theme “Integrating Digital and Physical Technologies to Empower New Cultural and Tourism Experiences”. It highlighted the role of digital technology in advancing the cultural industry and strengthening IP licensing and protection. The three countries committed to fostering collaboration among businesses, creators, and tech practitioners to develop new models and industries.



Tourism

The 10th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting was held in Kobe, Japan on September 11, 2024. The meeting was presided over by H.E. SAITO Tetsuo, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism of Japan, with the participation of H.E. ZHANG Zheng, Vice Minister of Culture and Tourism of China, and H.E. YU In-chon, Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of the ROK.

The three ministers discussed revitalizing tourism exchanges, promoting sustainable tourism with Japan, China, and the ROK as a regional hub, and enhancing high-quality tourism by attracting visitors to diverse areas. They signed the **Joint Statement of the 10th Meeting**, committing to strengthening cooperation with the TCS to further boost tourism collaboration.

Education

The 4th Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting took place in Seoul, the ROK on June 15, 2024. The meeting was chaired by Mr. LEE Joo-ho, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Education of the ROK, and attended by Mr. MASAHIRO Moriyama, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology of Japan, and Mr. HUAI Jinpeng, Minister of Education of China.

The three ministers discussed on strengthening cooperation in future education in the digital transformation era, revitalizing youth exchanges, and developing the CAMPUS Asia Program. They issued the *2024 ROK-Japan-China Education Innovation Statement*, committing to sharing digital education policies, promoting student exchanges through cultural and sports activities, and increasing CAMPUS Asia participation to 30,000 university students by 2030. Emphasizing the significance of educational collaboration in regional and global contexts, they reaffirmed their dedication to multilateral cooperation within ASEAN+3, the East Asia Summit (EAS), and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).



Sports

The 5th Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting (TSM24) was held in Tokyo, Japan on December 15, 2024. Ms. ABE Toshiko, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan led the meeting with Mr. ZHANG Jiasheng, Vice Minister of General Administration of Sport of China and Mr. CHOI Bo-keun, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK in attendance.?

The 2024 Tokyo *Joint Statement* was signed to strengthen sports-related cooperation among the three countries, focusing on two key objectives. First, it promotes sports exchange through collaboration on international games, anti-doping efforts, athlete protection, and high-performance sports exchanges, while also supporting youth programs like the Trilateral Junior Exchange Meet and the Trilateral Youth Winter Sports Exchange. Second, it aims to enhance the socio-economic value of sports by promoting health, para-sports inclusion, and the development of the sports industry and tourism. The three countries reaffirmed their commitment to fostering sports cooperation for peace and sustainable development in Asia.



Health

The 17th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting was held in Tokyo, Japan on December 15, 2024. The meeting was chaired by Minister FUKUOKA Takamaro of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, and attended by Vice Minister PARK Minsoo of Ministry of Health and Welfare of the ROK, Minister LEI Haichao of National Health Commissioner of China, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific Saia Ma'u Piukala, and Secretary-General LEE Hee-sup of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat.

The meeting focused on three key themes: ensuring public health security, promoting healthy ageing, and building more resilient, equitable, and sustainable health systems to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC). The ministers shared policy experiences on global health challenges, emphasizing the need for strengthened regional cooperation. The meeting concluded with the adoption of the *Joint Statement of the 17th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting* and the signing of an updated *Memorandum of Cooperation and Joint Action Plan*, reinforcing their commitment to pandemic preparedness and response.



The 18th Japan-China-Korea Forum on Communicable Disease Control and Prevention and Plenary Joint Session with Japan-China-Korea CDC Forum were held in a hybrid format in Tokyo, Japan on December 10-12, 2024.

The 18th Japan-China-Korea Forum on Communicable Disease Control and Prevention brought together key figures from all three countries, including Commissioner JEE Youngmee of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA); Director-General TAKAJI Wakita of Japan's National Institute of Infectious Diseases; and

Deputy Director-General LI Qun of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Representatives from each organization participated both online and in person, engaging in discussions on pressing public health concerns. Topics included the prevalence of infectious diseases in the post-COVID-19 era, the impact of climate change on public health—particularly in relation to vector-borne diseases such as dengue fever and Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome—sexually transmitted infections like HIV/AIDS, Mpox, and syphilis, as well as hepatitis. Additionally, the forum addressed each country’s efforts in international cooperation.

Alongside the forum, the Plenary Joint Session with Japan-China-Korea CDC Forum provided an opportunity for clinical institutions, such as China’s China-Japan Friendship Hospital, Japan’s National Center for Global Health and Medicine, and Korea’s National Medical Center, and infectious disease control organizations from all three countries to come together. Experts exchanged insights on crisis management frameworks and structural changes in the wake of the pandemic, while also delivering presentations and holding discussions on avian influenza, long-term effect of acute infectious disease, and multidisciplinary treatment in patients with severe infections.

The 12th Seminar on Policy on Declining and Ageing Population, formerly known as the “Population Policy Forum”, was held in Tokyo, Japan on October 31, 2024. The seminar, hosted by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and the Children and Families Agency of Japan brought together government officials from China Population and Development Research Center and the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the ROK, as well as experts from the three countries. Participants shared insights on the current situation and solutions under the two themes: “Measures to address declining birthrate and marriage rate” and “Community-based integrated care — cooperation between medical and long-term care and health promotion for elderly.”

The first session addressed declining birthrate and marriage rate, and participants emphasized the importance of creating supportive environments for families through employment reforms, improved childcare services, comprehensive population policies, and the use of technology to mitigate workforce shortages. The second session focused on the growing need for integrated care systems amid aging populations. Experts discussed key strategies including developing community-based systems to help the elderly live with dignity and authenticity, enhancing long-term care infrastructure, utilizing digital technologies for service delivery, and strengthening coordination between medical and care services.

Personnel

The 16th Symposium on Personnel Administration of China-Japan-ROK was held in Busan, Korea on June 20, 2024. Hosted by Director-General PARK Yong-su of Planning and Coordination Bureau at the Ministry of Personnel Management (MPM) of the ROK, the Symposium was attended by delegations from National Personnel Authority of Japan, led by Director-General SUZUKI Hideo, and National Civil Service Administration of China, led by Deputy Director-General LIU Yufei.

Under the theme “How to Attract Young Talented People to Public Service”, each delegation shared their public sector challenges and strategies for improving working environments. They discussed issues such as excessive workloads, long working hours, low salaries, and hierarchical structures, aiming to find solutions through mutual case studies. Prior to the symposium, the delegations met with Minister KIM Seung-ho of MPM, who highlighted the importance of this year’s topic and emphasized the renewed momentum in trilateral cooperation following the 9th Trilateral Summit. Minister KIM also called for support from China and Japan for next year’s Heads Meeting to be hosted by MPM in celebration of the 20th anniversary.

The 16th China-Japan-ROK Joint Training Program for Young/Middle-level Public Employees was held in Tokyo, Japan from December 9 to 13, 2024 by the National Personnel Authority. Nine trainees (three each from the NPA, the National Civil Service Administration of China, and the Korean Ministry of Personnel Management of the ROK) participated in the program.

First introduced in 2007, the Joint Training Program aims to foster mutual understanding of national civil service systems and provide international perspectives to young and mid-level officials from the three countries. The 16th program includes an opening ceremony, lectures, networking sessions, a study tour, and individual presentations, all designed to deepen friendships and enhance exchanges on government personnel management among the three countries.



Local Government Exchange

The 25th Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference took place in Gwangju, Korea from October 21 to 24, 2024. Co-hosted by the Governors Association of the ROK and the Gwangju Metropolitan Government, the event was supported by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and The Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, with over 400 representatives from local governments and related organizations in attendance.

The conference opened with a keynote address by Vice Chairman JOO Hyung-hwan of the Presidential Committee on Ageing Society and Population Policy, who discussed the ROK's low birth rates and proposed future responses. Representatives from Henan Province of China, Wako City of Japan, and Gwangju Metropolitan City of the ROK shared insights on the theme "Strengthening Trust among Local Governments of China, Japan, and the ROK for Solving Complex Issues," followed by case studies from nine local governments on topics like sustainable cities, urban exchanges, and revitalizing local economies, including smart cities. The event also featured the "Exchange Plaza" for one-on-one consultations between local governments.



Under the agreement made at the 4th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting in 2012, the three countries have been designating a city from each nation as the “Culture City of East Asia (CCEA)” every year since 2014 to promote cultural exchange among them. In 2024, Weifang and Dalian cities from China, Ishikawa Prefecture from Japan, and Gimhae City from Korea were selected as CCEAs and hosted various cultural exchange events throughout the year. However, Ishikawa Prefecture had to suspend its participation due to earthquake recovery efforts that began earlier in 2024.

For 2025, the CCEAs will include the Macau Special Administrative Region and Huzhou City from China, Kamakura City from Japan, and Anseong City from Korea, all of which are preparing a variety of cultural and artistic exchange events.

5. TCS

The year 2024 marks the 25th anniversary of trilateral cooperation since 1999. The eight Trilateral Summits held since 2008, and the establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) in 2011, have laid a solid foundation for institutionalizing the cooperation. As a result, the three countries and their peoples have advanced the trilateral cooperation in various fields as a key platform for regional cooperation. This momentum underscores a shared commitment to peace, stability, and prosperity, while deepening trust and collaboration among three nations and beyond.

TCS played a key role in supporting major initiatives, including the 9th Trilateral Summit in May and the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) in October. TCS Secretary-General Lee Hee-sup also represented the organization at the 27th ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit on October, in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

The 2024 International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC), held in Seoul, ROK, celebrated the 25th anniversary of trilateral cooperation under the theme “Institutionalizing Cooperation and Promoting Exchanges for a Brighter Future.” The forum, organized at a crucial juncture, attracted over 200 participants on-site, with many more joining virtually. In congratulatory messages, H.E. CHO Tae-yul (ROK), H.E. KAMIKAWA Yoko (Japan), and H.E. WANG Yi (China) emphasized the importance of ongoing trilateral collaboration and reaffirmed their support for TCS initiatives that foster peace and cooperation.

The year began with the selection of the Chinese character “交流” (jiāoliú, こうりゅう, 교류), meaning “exchange/communication,” as the **CJK Spirit Word of the Year for 2024**.

In February, the **CJK+ASEAN Young Ambassador Program 2024** took place in Nanning, China. Brought together 50 students from China, Japan, the ROK, and ASEAN for an immersive 10-day cultural exchange.

March featured the 3rd **Forum on Carbon Neutrality Goals of China, Japan, and the ROK**, held in-person for the first time in Seoul, ROK. The forum illuminated the integration of global commitments into national policies, showcased digital innovations driving sectoral transitions, and presented best practices of policies and stakeholder engagement for a just transition. Additionally, the 3rd **Trilateral**

Youth Speech Contest (TYSC) in Xi'an, China, challenged participants to present speeches in a combination of CJK languages, showcasing their linguistic skills and understanding of regional issues.

May was a month of significant events. TCS hosted the **Inter-Regional Dialogue 2024** in Incheon, ROK, which focused on multi-hazard risk assessment and early warning systems attracted TCS also facilitated the **CAMPUS Asia Alumni Workshop** on the occasion of Jeju Forum in Jeju, ROK, where 30 alumni and students participated in dynamic learning sessions. On May 30th, TCS commemorated the **TCS Day** with a public celebration at Cheonggye Plaza in Seoul, drawing nearly 4,000 audiences. At the event, TCS also introduced digital booklet titled “**A Glance at the History of Trilateral Summit Meetings: Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Trilateral Cooperation**” to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Trilateral Cooperation.

In July, the **2nd Trilateral Young Rural Leaders' Exchange Program (TREP)** took place in Jeonbuk, ROK, under the theme “Agriculture Meets Modern Needs: Future Innovation Cooperation.” In the same month, the **2024 Regional Economic Cooperation Seminar** in Tokyo, Japan, focused on “Celebrating 25 Years of Trilateral Cooperation: Exploring Regional Economic Integration and the Future of Trilateral Cooperation.”

August saw TCS organize the **Trilateral Young Scholars Forum (YSF)**, bringing together 12 scholars from the three countries to explore potential areas of collaboration. Furthermore, the **Trilateral Youth Summit (TYS) 2024** in Seoul, ROK, brought together approximately 50 students for a Model Trilateral Summit, attended by officials from the three Foreign Ministries and Trilateral Youth Exchange Network (TYEN) members who acted as advisors and judges. The **TYEN Wrap-up Meeting**, also held in Seoul, reflected on the year's progress of trilateral youth exchange programs. Additionally, the **Trilateral Entrepreneurs Forum 2024** in Yiwu, China, focused on “Charting New Frontiers in Trilateral E-Commerce Cooperation: Technological Innovation and Green Logistics.” Furthermore, the **Trilateral Statistics Hub Expert Meeting** brought together six experts from three countries to exchange insights. The engaging discussions at the meeting highlighted a shared vision for a more integrated and accessible statistical platform across East Asian societies.

In November, **the 2024 Trilateral Visionary Group (TVG)** meeting in Seoul, ROK, a flagship project following up on the outcomes of the 9th Trilateral Summit, gathered key figures to discuss proposals for advancing trilateral cooperation across political, economic, and socio-cultural spheres.

Throughout the year, TCS also published several reports, including the **2023 Progress Report**, which detailed the activities of CJK mechanisms, and the **Annual Report FY2022**, summarizing TCS's initiatives during the fiscal year. In collaboration with UNDRR ONEA&GETI, TCS co-published the **Trilateral Best Practices Report: Tools and Technologies for Earthquake Risk Management**. Additionally, **the 2024 Trilateral Economic Report** was announced during the Regional Economic Cooperation Seminar.



Part III

CONCLUSION

In 2024, trilateral cooperation among China, Japan, and the ROK reached new heights, with the 9th Trilateral Summit and a series of decisive in-person engagements further reinforcing our commitment to mutual progress. In a year marked by strategic high-level dialogue and robust initiatives across diverse sectors, TCS has fulfilled its mandate of promoting and strengthening the trilateral framework, buoyed by the unwavering support of the three governments. Guided by our enduring vision of promoting lasting peace, common prosperity, and shared culture among our nations, TCS remain resolute in our pursuit to accelerate and expand trilateral cooperation in the years ahead.

ANNEXES

1. Joint Declaration of the Ninth ROK-Japan-China Trilateral Summit
2. Joint Statement on Future Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response
3. Joint Statement on a 10 Year Vision for Trilateral IP Cooperation
4. Joint Statement of the 9th China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics
5. Joint Message of the 24th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting
6. China-Japan-ROK Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources Joint Statement
7. The Fourth Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting-2024 ROK-Japan-China Education Innovation Statement
8. 第10回日中韓観光大臣会合 共同宣言
9. 第15回日中韓文化大臣会合 2024京都宣言
10. Joint Communique The 25th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting Among Korea, China, and Japan
11. Joint Statement of The 17th Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting (THMM)
Among Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea
12. The Fifth Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting 2024 Tokyo Joint Statement

1. Joint Declaration of the Ninth ROK-Japan-China Trilateral Summit

27 May 2024, Seoul, Korea

1. President of the Republic of Korea Yoon Suk Yeol, Prime Minister of Japan Kishida Fumio, and Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Li Qiang convened in Seoul, Republic of Korea on May 27, 2024, on the occasion of the Ninth Trilateral Summit.
2. Recalling that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the trilateral cooperation, we shared the view that the previous eight Trilateral Summits held since 2008 and the establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) in 2011 have laid a solid foundation for institutionalizing the trilateral cooperation. We reaffirmed our commitment to implementation of the Trilateral Cooperation Vision for the Next Decade adopted at the Eighth Trilateral Summit. We appreciated that the trilateral cooperation has deepened in various areas, benefiting the three countries and peoples and positioning itself as a meaningful platform for regional cooperation.
3. We reaffirmed our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to an international order based on the rule of law and international law. In this context, we shared the importance for states to abide by their commitments under the international law and agreements among states.
4. We shared the view that the Ninth Trilateral Summit carries valuable meaning for revitalizing the trilateral cooperation. Japan and the People's Republic of China expressed appreciation for the Republic of Korea's efforts as the chair country to bring the trilateral cooperation on track in close collaboration with Japan and the People's Republic of China.
5. Recognizing that the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China are neighboring countries sharing everlasting history and infinite future with significant potentials for cooperation across multiple domains, we concurred on the following, but not limited to, three directions in developing the trilateral cooperation:
 6. First, we will strive to institutionalize the trilateral cooperation by holding the Trilateral Summit and Ministerial meetings on a regular basis, and continue to promote the capacity-building of the TCS.
 7. Second, recognizing that the support of the peoples of the three countries constitutes an important driving force for deepening the trilateral cooperation, we will make efforts to ensure that peoples of the three countries can enjoy substantive benefits emanating from this cooperation.
 8. To this end, we will identify and implement mutually-beneficial cooperation projects centered on six key areas closely related to the everyday lives of the peoples: people-to-people exchanges; sustainable development including through climate change response; economic cooperation and trade; public health and ageing society; science and technology cooperation, digital transformation; and disaster relief and safety. In particular, we will seek to deepen the bonds of cooperation in the field of exchanges between future generations, as we share the

view that such exchanges are crucial in consolidating a long-term basis for the trilateral cooperation.

9. Third, we will promote ‘Trilateral+X Cooperation’ to ensure that the benefits of the trilateral cooperation extend to other countries so that the three countries can prosper together with other regions.
10. With this in mind, we decided the following:

Institutionalization of the Trilateral Cooperation

11. Recalling that the three countries decided to hold the Trilateral Summit on a regular basis through the Joint Statement for Tripartite Partnership adopted at the First Trilateral Summit and reaffirmed this through the Joint Declaration for Peace and Cooperation in Northeast Asia adopted at the Sixth Trilateral Summit, we reaffirm the need to hold the Trilateral Summit and the Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting on a regular basis without hiatus in order to further advance the trilateral cooperation. We reiterate that promoting the institutionalization of the trilateral cooperation enhances the respective bilateral relations and fosters peace, stability, and prosperity in the Northeast Asian region and helps to promote a world in which countries, big or small, could be universally benefited.
12. Furthermore, we will strengthen substantive trilateral cooperation through inter-governmental consultative mechanisms such as high-level meetings and Ministerial Meetings in areas including education, culture, tourism, sports, trade, public health and agriculture. In doing so, we commit to working closely together to ensure that our peoples enjoy the tangible benefits of the trilateral cooperation.

Trilateral Cooperation Projects for the Peoples of the Three Countries

13. **(People-to-People Exchanges)** Noting the need to revitalize people-to-people exchanges so as to foster mutual understanding and trust, we concur on the importance of enhancing amity and friendship by facilitating exchanges between peoples from all walks of life, especially future generations, thereby paving the way to strengthen the foundation of future trilateral cooperation. Also, we strive to increase the number of people-to-people exchanges among the three countries to 40 million by 2030 through promoting exchange including culture, tourism and education.
14. Recognizing the importance of cooperation in the education sector in promoting exchanges between future generations, we appreciate the exemplary role of CAMPUS Asia, an inter-university exchange program initiated in 2011, which has expanded to encompass universities in ASEAN member states. We note that the program has garnered the participation of 15,000 university students, and will actively support this project with the goal of having 30,000 students by the end of 2030.

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15. We share the view that fostering exchanges and friendship among teenagers and youths of the three countries will serve as an important initial step towards shaping a brighter future for the trilateral cooperation. To this end, we will continue various exchange programs, including the ROK-Japan-China Children's Story Exchange Programme, the Junior Sports Exchange Meet, the Trilateral Youth Camp, and the Joint Training Program for Young Public Servants. Furthermore, we value the efforts of the TCS in conducting various youth exchange projects, including the Trilateral Youth Summit, the Young Ambassador Program, and the Trilateral Rural Young Leaders' Exchange Program.
 16. Recognizing that culture plays a bridging role in connecting the peoples of the three countries, we will continue to expand platforms through which our peoples can cultivate a sense of shared understanding and interact with each other through such initiatives as the Culture City of East Asia, the Trilateral Arts Festival, and the Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum. We will also designate 2025-2026 as the Year of Cultural Exchange among the three countries.
 17. Welcoming the launch of the Trilateral Visionary Group initiated by the TCS bringing together eminent figures from the three countries, we look forward to the constructive work and proposal to be issued for further improving the trilateral process. We support the Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks to upgrade its relevance in trilateral cooperation. We also share the view that public diplomacy plays an important role in enhancing mutual understanding and deepening friendship among the peoples of the three countries.
 18. **(Sustainable Development including through Climate Change Response)** We reaffirm our commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the importance of building a future of peace and prosperity where people live in harmony with the planet. We recognize the need to work together in transitioning toward a net zero greenhouse gases emissions/carbon neutrality, green economy and society. Welcoming that the 24th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting in November 2023 adopted a Joint Communiqué, we will continue our cooperation on eight priority areas. We also welcome that the 4th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources in May 2024 adopted a Joint Statement, which reaffirms the commitment of trilateral water cooperation to address climate change and build a resilient water infrastructure.
 19. We will take solid action and support efforts to achieve the Paris Agreement temperature goal to address the climate crisis in this critical decade, and we will come forward with ambitious next Nationally Determined Contributions, reflecting the outcome of the first global stocktake. We will also contribute to global efforts toward clean, sustainable and affordable energy transitions through various pathways.
 20. Through the 'Trilateral+X Cooperation' framework, we will collaborate with Mongolia on reducing dust and sandstorms in East Asia. We will promote collaboration on marine environmental conservation to achieve sustainability of the ocean for future generations. We will work together towards the ambition to complete the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution at its fifth session (INC-5) which will be held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in November 2024.

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21. Recognizing our commitment to end illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, which is one of the most serious threats to the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources, we will carry out robust and effective measures to prevent, deter, and eliminate IUU fishing through various tools. We commit to the swift, full and effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
 22. **(Economic Cooperation and Trade)** We share the recognition that joint efforts in the economic and trade field among the three countries play a significant role for the prosperity and stability of the regional and global economy. We will endeavor to narrow the regional development gap and achieve common development.
 23. We reaffirm our support for the open, transparent, inclusive, non-discriminatory and rules-based multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core. We commit to reforming and strengthening all WTO functions, including having a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement system by 2024. We call on all WTO members to support the Joint Statement Initiative (JSI) on the Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement to be incorporated into the legal framework and commit to working towards the prompt conclusion of negotiations on the JSI on E-commerce.
 24. Affirming the importance of ensuring implementation in a transparent, smooth and effective manner of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement as the basis of a Trilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA), we will keep discussions for speeding up negotiations for a Trilateral FTA, aiming at realizing a free, fair, comprehensive, high-quality, and mutually beneficial FTA with its own value. Reaffirming that RCEP is an open and inclusive regional engagement, we encourage the RCEP Joint Committee to accelerate the discussion on the accession procedures of new membership to RCEP.
 25. We will continue to work to ensure a global level playing field to foster a free, open, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, inclusive, and predictable trade and investment environment. We also reaffirm our commitment to keeping markets open and strengthening supply chain cooperation and avoiding supply chain disruptions. We share the need to continue communication in the field of export control. We welcome the Trilateral Entrepreneurs Forum to be held in 2024. We will continue to encourage local-level cooperation and enhance cooperative platforms including the Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technology Exchange Conference.
 26. Acknowledging the importance of promoting the regional financial cooperation, we welcome the progress made in ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meetings, in particular the endorsement of the establishment of the Rapid Financing Facility with the incorporation of eligible freely usable currencies as its currencies of choice, under the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM). We also welcome the progress on other initiatives under the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office, the Asian Bond Markets Initiative and the Disaster Risk Financing. We reaffirm our commitment and support to enhance the effectiveness of the CMIM for the regional financial safety net and task our Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to explore more robust financing structures and actively discuss various financing structure options with each other as well as with the ASEAN countries.

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27. We plan to leverage the ASEAN+3 Cooperation Fund to support startups, such as by hosting an information exchange symposium for startups from the three countries and the ASEAN member states. We recognize the importance of the implementation of the ASEAN +3 Leaders' Statement on Developing of Electric Vehicle Ecosystem.
28. Noting that, at the 23rd Trilateral Intellectual Property Offices (TRIPO) Heads Meeting among the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), the three countries concurred on expanding the scope of cooperation to encompass new technology sectors and extending our cooperation in pursuit of 'Trilateral+X IP Cooperation', we adopted the Joint Statement on a 10 Year Vision for Trilateral IP Cooperation on the occasion of this summit.
29. **(Public Health and Ageing Society)** Recognizing the critical role of trilateral cooperation in the health field, including cooperation in response to emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, we adopted the Joint Statement on Future Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response on the occasion of this summit. In line with the outcome reached at the 16th Trilateral Health Ministers' Meeting in December 2023, we are determined to enhance our collaboration in managing health emergencies including infectious diseases, among the national public health agencies for disease control in the three countries, such as through the Korea-Japan-China Communicable Disease Control and Prevention Forum and Joint Symposium.
30. Furthermore, we will jointly tackle our common challenges facing low birth rate, and the ageing society. Through the exchange between the governments and experts of the three countries, we concur on sharing policy expertise in promoting healthy ageing, including regarding our experience in the fields of technological development, personnel training, medical and long-term care, and income security, with a view to achieving and sustaining universal health coverage.
31. **(Science and Technology Cooperation, Digital Transformation)** Recognizing the growing importance of cooperation in science and technology, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), we will strive to resume the Trilateral Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting and the Trilateral ICT Ministers' Meeting.
32. We note the need to promptly address the possible impacts of AI on the daily lives of humanity, and the importance of mutual communication on AI. We also note the government of the Republic of Korea's contribution to establishing global governance aimed at ensuring safe, secure, trustworthy, innovative, inclusive, and responsible AI by hosting the AI Seoul Summit in May.
33. Sharing the importance of the cooperation in science and innovation to improve our research capacity and the competitiveness of the industrial technology, we recognize the importance of academic exchanges among researchers from the three countries as well as joint research and development in areas such as green and low-carbon society.

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34. **(Disaster Relief and Safety)** We will foster a safer environment for the peoples of the three countries through the resumption of the Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and the Trilateral Counter-Terrorism Consultation mechanism in due course. Acknowledging the importance of women's participation and leadership in disaster response and damage mitigation, we will enhance the trilateral cooperation related to the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda, including through dialogue with ASEAN member states. Furthermore, we will strengthen cooperation through the Trilateral Meeting on Police Cooperation to prevent and crack down on transboundary crimes, including fraud and drug-related crimes.

Regional and International Peace, and Prosperity

35. We reaffirmed that maintaining peace, stability and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia serves our common interest and is our common responsibility. We reiterated positions on regional peace and stability, denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the abductions issue, respectively. We agree to continue to make positive efforts for the political settlement of the Korean Peninsula issue.
36. Recognizing that the trilateral cooperation has developed in close partnership with the ASEAN, we concur on the need to continue to expand the trilateral cooperation in the context of ASEAN frameworks such as the ASEAN+3 (APT), the East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). We also express our strong support for ASEAN centrality and unity. We appreciate the Lao People's Democratic Republic's efforts as the ASEAN Chair of 2024.
37. As important countries responsible for peace, stability and prosperity in Asia, we renew our determination to engage in close communication not only within the trilateral framework but also in the multilateral frameworks where all three countries participate, such as the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), given that the three countries are serving as members of the UNSC in 2024. In this context, we will work together for the successful hosting of the 2025 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting in the Republic of Korea. We also support the hosting of the Expo 2025, Osaka, Kansai, Japan, and the 9th Asian Winter Games Harbin 2025 in China.
38. We look forward to the hosting of the Tenth Trilateral Summit by Japan.

2. Joint Statement on Future Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response

27 May 2024, Seoul, Korea

We, the leaders of the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China, convened in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on May 27, 2024, on the occasion of the Ninth Trilateral Summit, and decided as follows:

Reaffirming our commitment to prevention of, preparedness for and response to future pandemics through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), International Health Regulations (IHR) and General Programme of Work (GPW) of the World Health Organization (WHO);

Recalling that WHA resolution 74.7 (2021) on the global strategy and action plan for infectious disease prevention and control highlights the importance of national roles in leading efforts to address infectious disease outbreaks;

Acknowledging the achievements made with collaboration and exchanges for a collective response to infectious disease outbreaks, and the commitment to the Joint Action Plan on Preparedness and Response against Infectious Diseases with Pandemic or High Consequence Potential of Common Concern, which was based on the original Joint Action Plan adopted in 2008 and revised in 2016, and adopted at the Fourteenth Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting in December 2021;

Acknowledging the efforts for establishing an international cooperation system to respond to the global pandemic through the special ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit on COVID-19, the ROK-Japan-China Foreign Ministers' special video conference on COVID-19, and the Special Video Conference of the Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting on COVID-19 Response held in 2020;

Acknowledging the benefits arising from sharing national policies, strategies, experiences, best practices and lessons through the platform established by the three countries with a view to promoting the effective prevention of, preparedness for and response to future pandemics; Noting the need for an effective response to the adverse impacts of new health emergencies on economic and social development such as the outbreak of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, as COVID-19 remains a persistent threat including the possibility of the emergence of a new variant of concern, despite the official announcement of the end of the COVID-19 PHEIC (Public Health Emergency of International Concern) in May 2023;

Emphasizing that the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China need to actively address future pandemics and public health emergencies through the implementation of relevant national strategies and activities to enhance international cooperation;

1. We will prioritize future pandemic prevention, preparedness and response as part of our national strategies with the commitment that achieving universal health coverage (UHC) is essential in our efforts to strengthen the global health architecture, and encourage and support related government policies and action plans—such as on mid- and long-term national economic development, public health, healthcare service delivery system

and healthcare reform—to incorporate future pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.

2. We reaffirm the importance of equitable access to essential healthcare resources with a view to enhancing global health security, and we will improve equity in access to medical countermeasures (MCM) against infectious diseases including vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics based on public health risks and needs. In this regard, we will also acknowledge the importance of end-to-end approach to MCM from priority settings, R&D, regulatory approval and manufacturing to last-mile deliveries and global collaboration, and endeavor to strengthen health workforce capabilities to reduce the capacity gap in infectious disease response among and within countries. Also, we will join global efforts through international organizations and related funding, thereby contributing to making the world safer from infectious diseases.
3. We emphasize the need to clarify the goals and responsibilities of each sector when implementing measures related to pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, and stress the importance of enhancing multi-sectoral approach in dealing with infectious disease outbreaks.
4. We note that the One-Health approach, an integrated and unified approach that aims to balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems, is an important concept in preventing, preparing for and responding to future pandemics and public health emergencies, such as emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases caused by pathogens including the emergence of a new SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern, as well as antimicrobial resistance. We encourage active multisectoral participation, through the One-Health approach to enhance national, regional and global health security.
5. We will pursue strategic cooperation in the area of health security to promote peace and prosperity in the region. To this end, we will work together to strengthen regional health security through bilateral and multilateral initiatives and partnerships with international organizations of which the three countries are members; encourage relevant joint research, policy dialogue and sharing of experiences; and seek to build long-term cooperation mechanisms, including by strengthening cooperation among the national public health institutes for disease control in the three countries, such as through the Korea-Japan- China Communicable Disease Control and Prevention Forum and Joint Symposium. We will also work together to build a successful model to collectively tackle health emergencies, and foster international and regional cooperation through various activities including the sharing of best practices.

3. Joint Statement on a 10 Year Vision for Trilateral IP Cooperation

27 May 2024, Seoul, Korea

We, the leaders of the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China, convened in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on May 27, 2024, on the occasion of the Ninth Trilateral Summit.

Recalling that on the occasion of the 23rd anniversary of the trilateral cooperation among the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the Japan Patent Office (JPO), and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) (hereinafter collectively referred to as “the three offices”), the heads of the three offices held the trilateral meeting on November 30, 2023, in Busan, Republic of Korea, to review the course of the trilateral cooperation and charted a new direction in response to the needs of a new era;

Recalling that the three offices launched the trilateral Intellectual Property (IP) cooperation back in 2001 with the goal of facilitating exchanges and utilization of patent examination information, harmonizing patent examination practices, and establishing international norms;

Acknowledging that over the past twenty-three years, based on geographical proximity and cultural similarities, the three offices have continuously enhanced mutual trust, deepened cooperation in six areas—IP automation, patents, designs, human resources development, trials and appeals, and trademarks—and strengthened patent protection to ensure patentees fully enjoy the exclusive rights in return for their invention and disclosure;

Recognizing that the volume of patent applications handled by the three offices has increased from 40 percent of the world total to over 60 percent while the trademark filing activities of the three offices have increased from 20 percent of the world total to more than 50 percent over the last two decades, which represents the significant role the three offices have played in promoting technological advances and economic growth not just in Northeast Asia but also around the world;

Sharing the view that the next decade will witness more intensive convergence between different industries and technologies and rapid advances in science and technology;

Acknowledging that technological progress and innovation are key to overcoming global crises such as COVID-19, and IP is a catalyzing factor for achieving them, we need to continue to cooperate with each other to promote the creation and utilization of IP by innovators in the three countries, and actively protect IP rights;

Reaffirming that this is the time for us to make concerted efforts to share our accumulated IP experience with more countries to narrow the global IP disparity;

We instructed that over the next decade:

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1. The three offices establish an IP system that can accommodate and embrace fast-changing technologies. With the expectation that universities, enterprises and research institutions in the three countries will develop and release innovative goods, services and solutions in the sector of fourth industrial revolution technologies such as AI and IoT, the three offices will work together to improve relevant rules, examination practices and systems to ensure that an appropriate type of IP right is issued to those creations in a timely manner and they are properly protected by law.
 2. The three offices make joint efforts to enhance public accessibility and encourage utilization of patent information by the private sector. The three offices recognize that an analysis of patent information may provide an excellent guidance to academia, research groups and industry in setting the direction for their R&D and investment activities as well as developing market entry strategies. In this spirit, the three offices are committed to exchanging patent information with each other, disclosing shared information to the public gratis and supporting the private sector in making the most of the disclosed patent information, thereby supporting other countries' endeavors to achieve technological development and innovation-driven growth.
 3. The three offices strive to expand IP cooperation beyond the three countries to include other countries or regions in order to share the valuable achievements which the three offices have made together in pursuit of "Trilateral+X IP Cooperation." As the three offices wish to find partners for IP cooperation, the three offices will primarily consider countries or regional organizations (e.g. ASEAN) with which there is a need for collaboration or scope to generate a synergy. The three offices believe this will mark the first step toward balanced growth in the world by narrowing the global IP disparity.

4. Joint Statement of the 9th China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics

29 February 2024, Tianjin, China

1. We, the Transport and Logistics Ministers of China, Japan and Korea, met in Tianjin on February 29, 2024 for the 9th Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics.
2. In the opening remarks, we highlighted ChinaJapan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics mechanism played a critical role in promoting the trilateral cooperation of transport and logistics, appreciated the progress of the Action Plans since the last Ministerial Conference, and encouraged more concrete cooperation and achievements in the future.
3. The Three Countries will continue to work together to play an important role in contributing to international economic and trade development by strengthening cooperation of transport and logistics.
4. We updated the Action Plans according to the major goals at this Ministerial Conference, thereby further facilitating the trilateral cooperation.
5. The Joint Action Plans will be “Cooperation and Coordination among the Three Countries toward a Resilient Logistics Network” and “Promoting Digital Transformation (DX) in Logistics.” The rest of Action Plans will be respectively led by China, Japan and Korea.
6. China will continue to lead “Efforts to Establish and Expand an InterConnected Logistics Information Network”, “Best Practice Sharing and Cooperative Development of the Intermodal Transport in Northeast Asia” and “Promoting Close Cooperative Relations for Ports Sector.”
7. Japan will continue to lead “Standardization of Transport Items”, “Efforts to Realize the Seamless Logistics System” and “Introducing Environmentally Friendly Logistics Policies.”
8. Korea will continue to lead “Measures to Balance Between Security and Efficiency of Transport and Logistics,” “Promoting Information Sharing and Cooperation on Sustainable Arctic Shipping and Logistics” and “Facilitating Trilateral Cold Chain Network”.

9. Promotion of a Resilient Logistics Network

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of logistics for global supply chains. We present our sincerest appreciation and respect to the logistics workers at the forefront who have been making dedicated efforts to secure the supply chain and to support people’s lives and economic activities.

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- 9.1 We will strive to secure a resilient logistics network by strengthening cooperation among the three countries. We recognize the importance of the coordination in international logistics policies to address challenges that hinder the achievement of this goal and encourage our officials to continue to share experiences and best practices in international and domestic logistics policies with each other.
- 9.2 We seek to balance between security and efficiency in logistics system. To that end, we share information, conduct technology research and exchange experience regarding relevant fields.

10. Creation of a Seamless Logistics System

With the progress of technological innovation and the spread of new lifestyles triggered by COVID-19, the seamless logistics that we have been working on since the 1st Ministerial Conference has become increasingly important, and there is benefit in the continued promotion of such efforts.

- 10.1 Recognizing the importance of Digital Transformation (DX) in Logistics that will dramatically change the nature of logistics through automation and digitalization, we will promote the development of the transport and logistics sectors and ensure that the three countries can play a leading role in this field.
- 10.2 We recognized that mutual access of trailer chassis plays a key role in linking land and maritime transportation and thus increasing logistics efficiency and speed. Accordingly, the three countries will endeavor to realize trilateral access of sea-land inter-modal trailer chassis in the future.
- 10.3 We will continually improve and promote NEAL-NET logistics information-sharing service, increase the number of information-sharing ports and explore more information-sharing service areas, promote the popularization of NEAL-NET in Northeast Asia, start joint study on transnational inter-modal transport, and steadily advance international exchange and cooperation.
- 10.4 In order to determine the future direction of cooperation in the field of sea-land intermodal transport of containers, the three countries will research the current status and issues of sea-land intermodal transport and share information.
- 10.5 We will constantly promote standardized pallets to contribute to the realization of seamless logistics system in Northeast Asia, and maintain cooperation toward these efforts. We will make efforts for promoting standardized pallets with Asia Pallet System Federation (APSF) and encourage research on the possibility of standardizing returnable container.
- 10.6 Noting that global cold chain logistics network is expanding and trilateral trade on fresh food is on the rise, we recognize the need to facilitate cold chain network to ensure fresh food safety and quality. We recognize that this will contribute to the achievement of UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reducing food waste. To that end, we will share relevant information, and encourage to carry out joint research.

11. Establishment of Environmentally Friendly Logistics

In light of growing need for SDGs, we are seeking ways to build environmentally friendly logistics. We recognize that global warming is a common challenge. In this regard, various projects conducted under this Ministerial Conference have an important meaning for establishment of environmentally friendly logistics. We will strengthen our cooperation between the governments and sectors to move forward such projects related to environmentally friendly logistics.

- 11.1 We will be looking for ways to establish environmentally friendly logistics. We will work to ensure the sustainability of environment by further improving the efficiency of logistics through promoting modal shifts, and by promoting low-carbon and decarbonization in transport and logistics.
- 11.2 Recognizing that the use of Returnable Transport Items (RTI) would greatly contribute to an eco-friendly logistics system, and we will cooperate in addressing the issues that hinder the expansion of RTI use.

12. Other Related Areas

- 12.1 We reaffirmed the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)'s role in advancing trilateral cooperation and expressed support for the broader participation of TCS in the trilateral transport and logistics mechanism.
 - 12.2 We appreciated TCS's support for the successful operation and maintenance of our website since 2021, which helps to exchange the three countries' relevant policies and research, and enables the people of the three countries to better access the information of the Ministerial Conference.
 - 12.3 We expected TCS to continue to contribute to the trilateral transport and logistic mechanism and the Action Plans by its relevant trilateral projects and activities that facilitates cooperation and coordination among the three countries.
- 13. The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan and the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of Korea expressed their appreciation to the Ministry of Transport of China for hosting this Ministerial Conference.
 - 14. The next Ministerial Conference will be hosted by the Republic of Korea in 2025.

Ministry of Transport of the People's Republic of China

H.E. Mr. LI Yang

Vice Minister of Transport of the People's Republic of China

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

H.E. Mr. UEHARA Atsushi

Vice Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea

H.E. Mr. SONG Myeong-dal

Vice Minister of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea

5. Joint Message of the 24th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting

3 May 2024, Tbilisi, Georgia

1. We, Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of China, Japan, and Korea, held the 24th Trilateral Meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia, under the chairmanship of H.E. Suzuki Shunichi, Minister of Finance of Japan.
2. We exchanged views on current developments and the outlook for the global and regional economies, and policy responses to risks and challenges, as well as the progress of the ASEAN+3 financial cooperation. The regional growth strengthened in 2023, driven by robust domestic demand. The region is expected to grow at a faster pace in 2024, supported by domestic demand, the recovering investment and export, and firm consumer spending. Risks could affect ASEAN+3 prospects in the near term, including geopolitical tensions, a spike in global commodity prices and transportation costs, and a slowdown in the growth of major trading partners, as well as heightened foreign exchange market volatility driven by negative spillovers from external factors; in the medium to long term, these risks could include climate change and aging population. Against this background, we remain committed to rebuilding policy space lost during the pandemic and strengthening fiscal sustainability, while providing targeted support for the economy. We reaffirm our strong commitment to the open, free, fair, inclusive, equitable, transparent, and non-discriminatory rules-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, and fully support the implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement. China, Japan and Korea will demonstrate our leadership in the ASEAN+3 Finance Process by further enhancing our cooperation and communication with each other as well as with ASEAN countries in the ASEAN+3 Finance Process to work towards robust recovery and sustainable growth in our region.
3. Reform of the ASEAN+3 RFA, including the CMIM, represents crucial efforts to reinforce the regional financial safety net. In this regard, we support the establishment of the Rapid Financing Facility (RFF) with the incorporation of eligible freely usable currencies (FUCs) as its currencies of choice, as a new facility under the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM) and its modalities. We are confident that the establishment of this new facility under the CMIM will significantly bolster the regional resilience of ASEAN+3. We also agree on the benefits of a paid-in capital structure which would enhance the effectiveness of the regional financial safety net while recognizing the costs and challenges, including the need for clarity on (a) foreign reserve recognition and (b) governance and the required capabilities for managing such structure. We also discussed various financing structure options, together with their objectives, with the aim of transitioning the CMIM to include a new paid-in capital structure, which would further complement the Global Financial Safety Net, based on the study on possible new financing structures.
4. We also agree to further implement the RFA roadmap, including exploring new facilities such as Policy Adjustment Instrument to improve the function of RFA.

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5. We welcome the adoption of the new CMIM margin structure, which would improve CMIM's accessibility as an effective financing option for members in times of need. We acknowledge the progress in discussions on the review of the CMIM US dollar (USD) reference rate and local currency (LCY) margin structure, which will continue to align CMIM interest rates with global financial market conventions. We are pleased with the progress made on the 2nd Periodic Review of the CMIM Agreement. Additionally, we welcome the successful completion of the 14th Test Run and look forward to the 15th Test Run. We acknowledge the progress made on the opening of LCY accounts.
 6. We commend AMRO's effort in implementing its Strategic Direction 2030 (SD2030), which provides guidance for its strategic planning, operations, and management. As our regional financial cooperation continues to expand, it is important to have stronger and more dedicated support in both administrative and policy fronts to ensure systematic and professional support for promoting the interests and voice of the ASEAN+3 Finance Process. We value and look forward to AMRO's intellectual and operational support to strengthening the CMIM and the RFA future direction, especially the establishment of the RFF, and studying on the paid-in capital structure. We look forward to the arrival of the newly established Deputy Director (Functional Surveillance and Research) in July 2024, as well as the review of the handover schedule of AMRO's senior management. Furthermore, we reaffirm our appreciation of AMRO's efforts to continuously strengthen its surveillance capacity and research work, especially the launch of its second flagship report, the ASEAN+3 Financial Stability Report.
 7. We welcome the progress made under the Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) Medium-Term Road Map 2023-2026. We also acknowledge the ABMI's contribution to the issuance of sustainable bonds to create the local market as well as the development of a sustainable finance ecosystem. We convey our appreciation of ADB for its contributions to date and look forward to further enhancing the development of the ABMI's initiative.
 8. We welcome the establishment of the ASEAN+3 Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) Initiative Secretariat and confirm the agreement to review it in two years. We also welcome Mr. Yoshihiro Kawai as the Secretary General of the ASEAN+3 DRF Initiative secretariat. We also welcome the update of the Action Plan of the ASEAN+3 Disaster Risk Financing Initiative.
 9. We welcome the substantial progress made in deepening and broadening the ASEAN+3 financial cooperation, including those made by the Working Groups (WGs). We acknowledge AMRO's report "IMF Policy Coordination Instrument and implication for the ASEAN+3 RFA toolkit", which serves as a good reference for members to discuss and develop the ASEAN+3 Policy Adjustment Instrument going forward. We welcome the "Regional Fintech Regulatory Framework", and the activities and future detailed work plans of the Open Banking System, initiated to enhance financial inclusion through the spread of fintech in the region. We encourage the WGs to make further progress.
 10. We appreciate the Republic of Korea and Lao People's Democratic Republic's leadership as the Co-chairs of ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting in 2024. In addition, we agree to support China and Malaysia to chair the 28th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting next year.

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11. We believe that the Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting will continue to serve as an effective platform for enhanced policy dialogue and coordination, and we decided to meet again in Milan, Italy in 2025.

6. China-Japan-ROK Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources Joint Statement

20 May 2024, Bali, Indonesia

We, the Ministers of Water Resources from the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, met in Bali, Indonesia on May 20, 2024 on the occasion of the 10th World Water Forum under the theme of “Water for Shared Prosperity”.

We assembled to further develop the spirit of the Memorandum of Cooperation on the Mechanism of Ministerial Meeting among the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, and the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea signed in France on March 13, 2012, and reaffirmed the importance of trilateral cooperation for resolving water problems in China, Japan and ROK.

This Ministerial Meeting, in line with Paragraph 3 of the aforementioned Memorandum of Cooperation, decided upon its topic for “Addressing Climate Change and Building Resilient Water Infrastructure” (the theme), discussed as follows and decided to strengthen trilateral cooperation therein:

1. We recognize that climate change is a common challenge facing the world and improving water infrastructure resilience is an effective way to address the challenge, and we share the recognition that it is extremely important to further expand and strengthen the practical cooperation among our three countries in this area.
2. We recognize that the UN Water Conference, held in New York, USA, in March 2023, completed a midterm review of the implementation of the objectives of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, and adopted the Water Action Agenda, a milestone document containing more than 840 commitments to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs and protect “humanity’s most precious global common good.” The fruitful interactive dialogues on topics such as “Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment” at the conference provided useful reference for this Ministerial Meeting.
3. We recognize that the theme of this ministerial meeting is closely related to the Kumamoto Declaration released at the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS) in Kumamoto, Japan in April 2022, and will contribute to the enhancement of water infrastructure resilience in our three countries so that we can better meet the challenge of climate change.
4. We recognize that the *Beijing Declaration* released at the XVIII World Water Congress, held in Beijing, China in September 2023, hands over the international cooperation on climate change to the next generation, providing useful reference for this Ministerial Meeting in promoting cooperation among the younger generation. The active participation of the younger generation in tackling the water challenges posed by climate change will put new strength into this great endeavor.

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5. We recognize that China thoroughly follows the water governance principles of “prioritizing water conservation, spatial balance, systematic governance, and the dual efforts of market allocation and government regulation” to enhance the country’s capacity to ensure water security on all fronts. In order to address the water security challenges amid climate change, China has adopted a systematic approach to planning the construction of reservoirs, river channels and embankments, and flood storage areas, enhanced the capabilities to make forecasts, issue early warnings, conduct simulations and draft contingency plans, and implemented unified command and coordination of water projects within a river basin. China is accelerating the construction of a national water grid to build a network of modern, high-quality water infrastructure. China is working to build a digital twin system for river basins, water supply networks and water projects, and develop a “three-fold defence line” composed of meteorological satellites and rain radars, precipitation stations, and hydrological stations for rainfall monitoring and forecasting to support forward-looking, scientific and safety-oriented decisions. China is willing to exchange and share China’s water management concepts and successful experiences with countries around the world, including Japan and ROK, especially the publication of *Water Governance in China: Perspectives of Xi Jinping* and *River Ethics and China’s Practices* in the 10th World Water Forum.
6. We recognize that Japan stresses the “by ALL” approach to enhance resilience in water infrastructure against climate change impacts. Japan commits to three key areas: a. For water-related disaster management, Japan promotes “River Basin Disaster Resilience and Sustainability by All,” involving all stakeholders across river basins. b. In water resource management, Japan aims to advance risk management-based policies for comprehensive water management, engaging by ALL basin stakeholders in flood control, water use, environment, and energy. c. Japan also focuses on maintaining and restoring a sound water cycle, including groundwater management, as per the updated “Basic Act on Water Cycle” (2021) and “Basic Plan on Water Cycle” (2022), emphasizing “Water Cycle Management at Watershed” by ALL stakeholders.
7. We recognize that ROK has developed solutions for climate change-induced water-related disasters and set goals for the future water management based on the “Master Plan for National Water Management” (2021) and the “Master Plan for Basin Water Management” (2023). It will be the foundation on which ROK builds deep underground rainwater tunnels and flood-control dams to address large-scale floods as well as developing alternative water resources to strengthen its capability of water supply in response to extreme droughts. ROK is committed to adopting science-based digital technologies for water management, such as AI-based flood early-warning system, GIS-based data on flood risk areas, and Digital Twin forecasting for river inundation. Furthermore, ROK aims to share its discharge measurement system and technologies, promote exchanges among relevant institutions in our three countries, and support relevant activities for advanced water management in Asia.
8. We believe that the Joint Statement on Implementing Water-related SDGs and Sharing Applicable Experience at the 3rd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting, held in Brasilia, in March 2018, is essential. Our three countries are ready to make important contributions in the area of climate change impacts on water resources and adaptation strategies.

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9. We believe that the 3rd Asia International Water Week is a good platform and opportunity to deepen regional water cooperation, improve water governance in Asia and address water issues in Asia and the world at large. We are willing to make use of this platform to actively carry out water cooperation and exchanges and build an Asian family of win-win cooperation.
10. Based on this statement, we welcome the opportunity to exchange information among our three countries, which will be held to share applicable experience in our activities and to prepare brief reports of it in collaboration with the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) as follow-up process.
11. We appreciate the valuable contributions made by the TCS to the preparation of the 4th Ministerial Meeting and the Trilateral Expert Dialogue and support the TCS to continue its role as a hub for trilateral cooperation in the water sector.

Bali, Indonesia
May 20, 2024

Minister of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China

Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

Deputy Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea

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7. The Fourth Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting - 2024 ROK-Japan-China Education Innovation Statement

15 June 2024, Seoul, Korea

We, the Ministers of Education of the Republic of Korea, Japan, and the People's Republic of China, gathered in Seoul, Korea on June 15, 2024, for the Fourth Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting.

The Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting was launched by the decision of the three Leaders of Korea, Japan, and China at the Sixth Trilateral Summit Meeting on November 1, 2015, in Seoul, Korea, during which the three Leaders reaffirmed the importance of education for promoting mutual understanding and shared development among the three countries.

The Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and the Minister of Education of the People's Republic of China welcomed the resumption of the meeting, which had been suspended for four years due to the COVID-19 situation, and voiced their appreciation for the efforts made by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education of the Republic of Korea, the Chair country, in hosting the meeting.

We welcomed the continued participation of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) in the meeting, reaffirmed the role of TCS in enhancing education cooperation, and expressed our hope to advance our cooperative relations.

We reiterated the importance of people-to-people exchanges recognized at the Ninth ROK-Japan-China Trilateral Summit in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on May 27, 2024.

We recognized the importance of exchanges among the young people of future generations to foster mutual understanding and trust, and cultivate innovative talents amidst rapid technological and environmental changes. In this respect, we reiterated the need to continuously strengthen education cooperation and exchanges among the three countries based on past accomplishments.

Taking the aforementioned into account, we discussed the following joint agenda and decided on the directions for future cooperation as follows.

1. Enhancing Trilateral Cooperation on Future Education in the Age of Digital Transformation

- 1.1. We reached the common recognition that educational transformation and innovation are imperative in adapting to the era of digital transformation, and affirmed the importance of cooperation to address the challenges faced by the three countries in the field of digital education, including enhancement of teachers' digital capabilities, classroom innovation, and digital education tools.
- 1.2. We concurred on sharing the digital education policies and best practices to systematically promote digital transformation in all areas of education, and acknowledged the need to hold teacher seminars and forums to discuss cooperation avenues on digital education innovation among the three countries, including securing digital infrastructure and content, improving education systems and environments, and enhancing the digital capabilities of teachers and students.
- 1.3. We decided to share fundamental principles that should be applied to digital education, and work together to explore various solutions to collaborate on addressing concerns related to the utilization of technology, such as digital disparities, cyber security and stability.

2. Promoting Trilateral Cooperation for the Exchange of Future Generations

- 2.1. We commented positively on the essential role of the ROK-Japan-China Children's Story Exchange Programme, which has been held continuously since 2002, in promoting the understanding of East Asian cultures among the youth of the three countries, and welcomed the resumption of the program in Korea in 2023 after its temporary suspension due to COVID-19 in recent years. We concurred on continuing to promote active interest in and support for the success of the program, which will be held in Japan in August this year.
- 2.2. We reaffirmed the achievements made through the meetings for the trilateral university students exchange program, which was initiated at the First Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting, including addressing joint solutions to global issues. We also welcomed China's hosting of the third trilateral university student exchange program.
- 2.3. We encouraged exchange, mutual visit and cultural experience among the primary and secondary school students among the three countries and support various activities including youth sports and cultural events to enhance understanding and friendship among the future generation.

3. Sharing Achievements of CAMPUS Asia and the Way Forward

- 3.1. We highly commended the positive role of CAMPUS Asia, which has developed into a pan-Asian student exchange program by expanding the scope and number of consortia and participating countries such as ASEAN, and increasing the number of students, thus contributing to the expansion of opportunities for mutual understanding as the Program enters its Mode 3. We appreciated the accomplishment of CAMPUS Asia, which has garnered the participation of 15,000 university students, and will actively support this project with the goal of having 30,000 students by the end of 2030.
- 3.2. We positively assessed that the CAMPUS Asia has laid the foundation for fostering innovative talents needed in Asia and promoting mutual understanding among the three countries through university student exchange program in Korea, Japan, China as well as ASEAN countries.
- 3.3. Hoping to see the advancement of the CAMPUS Asia Program into an internationally renowned exchange program, not only within Asia but also on a globe scale, we will continue to cooperate in developing joint curricula, credit exchange programs, and joint/dual-degree programs among universities across Asia; facilitating exchanges, including both in-person and virtual activities; and promoting quality assurance standards among the three countries.
- 3.4. Looking ahead to the Mode 4 of CAMPUS Asia, we reaffirmed our mutual commitment to trilateral cooperation among the three countries, and decided to continue working to actively support the Program's further development. In this regard, we welcomed the holding of the Eighth Meeting of the China-Korea-Japan Committee for Promoting Exchange and Cooperation among Universities, which will be convened in China.
- 3.5. We welcomed the decision to launch the Second Trilateral Rectors' Forum during the Fifth Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting in Japan, aimed at strengthening higher education cooperation and network building among universities of the three countries.

4. Strengthening Trilateral Education Cooperation for the Advancement of Global Education

- 4.1. Recognizing the essential role of the trilateral education cooperation in advancing Asian and global education, we reaffirmed our commitment to strengthening multilateral partnerships, especially including ASEAN+3, the East Asia Summit and ASEM.
- 4.2. We committed to working closely together to ensure the success of the APEC Leaders' Meeting to be held in Korea in 2025.
- 4.3. We welcomed the convening of the Fifth Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting to be held in Japan.

第 10 回日中韓観光大臣会合 共同宣言

日本国、中華人民共和国及び大韓民国の観光担当大臣は、2024年9月11日、日本国・兵庫県神戸市において、第10回日中韓観光大臣会合を開催した。

これまでに9回開催した「日中韓観光大臣会合」での合意に基づき、日中韓3国は、相互交流の拡大や3国間での観光協力の強化に取り組んできたところであり、観光交流の促進を通じて、東アジア地域の平和的な経済社会の発展や、文化・伝統に関する相互理解の促進に大きく貢献してきた。

本会合は、2019年の第9回日中韓観光大臣会合以降、COVID-19のパンデミック後初の大臣会合であり、我々は、過去3年間に世界中で流行したパンデミックが、日中韓3国の観光分野や急成長する経済に悪影響を及ぼしたとの理解を共有する。

その上で、我々は、改めて観光が3国の共栄や相互理解等に資することの重要性に鑑み、ポスト・パンデミックにおける3国の観光の迅速な回復及び更なる発展を目指すことを確認し、域内観光交流及び域外観光市場誘致を促進するため、旅行者の安全確保や往来手段、広報活動等の観光に関わる様々な分野において包括的に3国間で協力することを始め、具体的方策について、以下のとおり意見が一致した。

1. ポスト・パンデミックにおける観光交流の迅速な回復と更なる連携・協力体制の確認・強化

- (1) 3国は、経済的なメリットにとどまらず観光を通じた住民の地域に対する誇りや愛着の醸成、学習・地域交流の機会の増進をもたらし、相互の文化への尊重、国際相互理解や国際交流・国際平和にも重要な役割を果たすことについて、共通認識を堅持する。
- (2) 3国は、2025年までに、3国間の交流人口についてコロナ前水準への迅速な回復の達成に向けて連携・協力するとともに、「第9回日中韓サミット共同宣言」の趣旨を踏まえ、2030年までに3国間の交流人口を4,000万人に増やすよう努める。

また、3国は、更なる活発な往来の実現に向け、域内観光交流及び域外観光市場誘致を促進するための協力ネットワークの構築、互いの国における旅行博への出席、2025年大阪・関西万博や2027年国際園芸博覧会、2025年第9回アジア冬季競技大会、2025年ワールドゲームズ、

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2027年夏季ワールドユニバーシティゲームズを始めとする国際博覧会や国際スポーツ大会などの国際的なイベントの機会活用も含めた広報活動等における協力を推進する。

3国は、互いの観光関係の業界や民間企業などの交流・協力の発展を促進する。

- (3) 3国は、旅行者の安全の重要性について認識を確認し、旅行者の安全確保に資する正確かつ適切な情報を発信・共有し、パンデミックなどの危機的状況に3国で連携して対応するため、緊急時における情報共有のための連絡体制を構築する。あわせて、公共交通機関や宿泊施設の安全対策の推進等に引き続き取り組んでいく。

加えて、3国は、国際航空・海上交通ネットワークの回復に向けた協力を行い、円滑な往来を促進する。

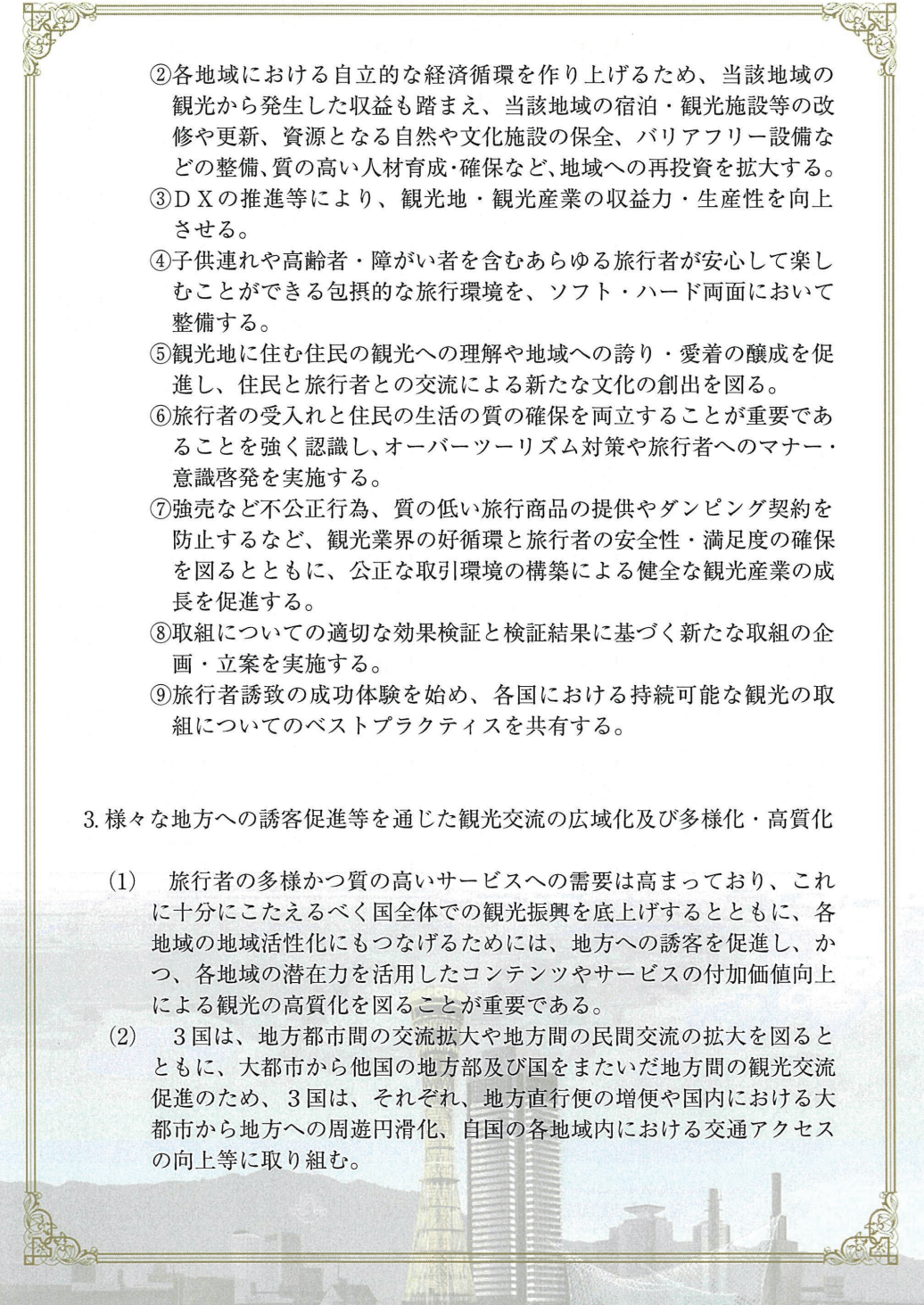
3国は、それぞれ、出入国における利便性の向上、多言語表記の案内板・標識の整備、無料 Wi-Fi の整備、決済の利便性の向上、モバイル観光案内情報の提供を始めとした ICT の利活用の推進など、旅行者にとって快適な旅を実現するための環境の整備に努める。

- (4) 3国は、それぞれ、自国の観光に関するデータ・情報を共有する。
また、3国は、協力して域内・域外の新たな市場の開拓に関する商談会やセミナーなどの協力事業を施行する。あわせて、3国は、それぞれ、在外公館や政府観光局などの海外拠点における情報の発信を推進する。
- (5) 3国は、相互理解の増進や将来に渡る協力関係を構築するため、次世代を担う青少年の交流の拡大を図る。

2. 日中韓3国をアジアの核とした未来に向けた持続可能な観光の推進

- (1) 3国は、環境、経済、社会の3要素を一体とした持続可能な観光が重要であることを共通認識とし、各国にてそれぞれこの認識に基づく観光振興策を実施するとともに、3国がアジアにおける持続可能な観光についてのイニシアチブを発揮する牽引役であることを理解し、単独及び連携して他のアジアの国々に向けて持続可能な観光の重要性について積極的な発信を行う。
- (2) 3国は、環境、経済、社会の3要素を踏まえた持続可能な観光の推進に向けて、以下を例とする取組を協力・連携して進めるよう努力する。
- ①低炭素型の観光商品の造成をはじめ、豊かな自然や文化、伝統などの地域資源の保全や次世代への継承と、観光利用とを両立させるコンテンツを造成する。

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- ②各地域における自立的な経済循環を作り上げるため、当該地域の観光から発生した収益も踏まえ、当該地域の宿泊・観光施設等の改修や更新、資源となる自然や文化施設の保全、バリアフリー設備などの整備、質の高い人材育成・確保など、地域への再投資を拡大する。
 - ③D Xの推進等により、観光地・観光産業の収益力・生産性を向上させる。
 - ④子供連れや高齢者・障がい者を含むあらゆる旅行者が安心して楽しむことができる包摂的な旅行環境を、ソフト・ハード両面において整備する。
 - ⑤観光地に住む住民の観光への理解や地域への誇り・愛着の醸成を促進し、住民と旅行者との交流による新たな文化の創出を図る。
 - ⑥旅行者の受入れと住民の生活の質の確保を両立することが重要であることを強く認識し、オーバーツーリズム対策や旅行者へのマナー・意識啓発を実施する。
 - ⑦強売など不公正行為、質の低い旅行商品の提供やダンピング契約を防止するなど、観光業界の好循環と旅行者の安全性・満足度の確保を図るとともに、公正な取引環境の構築による健全な観光産業の成長を促進する。
 - ⑧取組についての適切な効果検証と検証結果に基づく新たな取組の企画・立案を実施する。
 - ⑨旅行者誘致の成功体験を始め、各国における持続可能な観光の取組についてのベストプラクティスを共有する。

3. 様々な地方への誘客促進等を通じた観光交流の広域化及び多様化・高質化

- (1) 旅行者の多様かつ質の高いサービスへの需要は高まっており、これに十分にこたえるべく国全体での観光振興を底上げするとともに、各地域の地域活性化にもつなげるためには、地方への誘客を促進し、かつ、各地域の潜在力を活用したコンテンツやサービスの付加価値向上による観光の高質化を図ることが重要である。
- (2) 3国は、地方都市間の交流拡大や地方間の民間交流の拡大を図るとともに、大都市から他国の地方部及び国をまたいだ地方間の観光交流促進のため、3国は、それぞれ、地方直行便の増便や国内における大都市から地方への周遊円滑化、自国の各地域内における交通アクセスの向上等に取り組む。

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- (3) 3国は、それぞれ、その地域固有の自然、文化、スポーツ、歴史的資源等を活用した地方誘客に効果の高い観光コンテンツの造成、アウトドアアクティビティを始め多様な体験を中心とする国際的需要動向を的確にとらえた新しい観光コンテンツや、国際的な文化芸術などのイベントを活用した観光コンテンツの造成、各地の多様な食文化や伝統、歴史等に触れる特別なイベントによる観光コンテンツの高付加価値化等に取り組む。

あわせて、質の高いガイドや接遇人材の十分な育成・確保を図るとともに効果的な情報発信に取り組む。3国は、地方誘客促進等の取組についてのベストプラクティスを共有する。

- (4) 3国は、これまでに日中韓文化大臣会合において選定された東アジア文化都市の歴史・文化資源等を活用して文化・観光交流を推進し、文化芸術資源を活用した高付加価値な観光コンテンツ開発や観光地域づくりの経験や知見の共有を奨励するとともに、何度も訪れたい魅力的な東アジア地域のイメージを強化するために相互に協力する。

4. その他

- (1) 3国は、更なる観光協力の促進に向けて、日中韓協力事務局（TCS）との連携を強化する。
- (2) 3国は、2025年中国において、「第11回日中韓観光大臣会合」を開催することで一致した。

本共同宣言は、2024年9月11日、日本国・兵庫県神戸市にて日本語、中国語及び韓国語で作成され、3種とも同等の価値を有する。

日本国
国土交通大臣

中華人民共和国
文化・旅游部副部長

大韓民国
文化体育観光部長官

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第15回日中韓文化大臣会合 2024京都宣言

2024年9月12日、第15回日中韓文化大臣会合が日本国京都市で開催された。今回の会合では、盛山正仁日本国文部科学大臣、張政中華人民共和国文化・観光部副部長、龍昊聲大韓民国文化体育観光部第1次官（以下「三者」という。）が出席した。

三者は、2024年1月1日の日本国石川県における能登半島地震をはじめ、自然災害の影響が続く中においても、三か国が連携しながら多彩な文化芸術活動を行い、文化交流・協力が力強く行われていることを高く評価した。三者は、北九州宣言、曲阜行動計画、全州宣言が、三か国間における文化交流・協力の深化、東アジア地域の友好親善や平和と安定、文化芸術の海外への発信・展開において重要な役割を果たしていることを確認し、歴代文化大臣会合の精神を継承・発展させることで一致した。

また、三者は、コロナ禍を経て、文化芸術が人間にとって必要不可欠なものであり、人と人との心の繋がりを強め、人の心を豊かにし、多様性と活力のある社会を形成する源泉となるものであることに共感した。同時に、文化芸術は、経済成長やイノベーション創出の原動力であり、少子高齢化や地域活性化といった社会課題を解決して、平和な社会の構築に資するものであって、三者は、文化への投資を持続的に増加させていくことが必要との認識で一致した。

上記の認識に基づき、三者は、東アジア地域の平和と発展に向けて、以下のとおり、三か国間の相互連携と未来志向の文化交流・協力をより一層充実、発展させていくことで一致した。

1. 文化交流・協力の深化と友好・連帯の強化 - 将来世代交流及び機関間交流の促進 -

(1) 三者は、三か国の未来志向の関係強化、持続可能な社会の構築に向けて、文化交流・協力を通じた相互理解の促進が極めて重要であることを確信し、三か国の文化芸術関係者や市民間の文化交流・協力、特に将来世代間の文化交流・協力を積極的に奨励することとした。また、三者は、2024年5月に開催された第9回日中韓サミットにおいて発出された共同宣言を踏まえ、文化が三か国の国民を繋ぐ架け橋の役割を果たすことを深く認識し、2025年から2026年の三か国における文化交流年に向けて、文化交流・協力をより一層充実させていくこととした。

(2) 三者は、「日中韓芸術祭」、「日中韓文化芸術教育フォーラム」等の主要な文化交流・協力事業が、三か国の相互理解の促進、文化芸術の発展、文化芸術教育の充実に重要な役割を果たしていることを高く評価し、今後も着実に推進していくこととした。また、三者は、文化交流・協力事業の実施に当たって、将来世代の参加及び交流を積極的

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に奨励することとした。

(3) 三者は、博物館、美術館、劇場、図書館等の文化芸術機関間の緊密な連携が三か国の文化交流・協力を支え、三か国間の友好・連帯において重要な役割を果たしていることを再度明確にした。また、三者は、三か国の文化芸術機関間における展覧会や公演の開催、芸術家や専門家、実務者間の交流・協力といった具体的な取組を通じて、パートナーシップの更なる強化を図り、東アジア地域の文化芸術の質を向上させ、そのグローバルなプレゼンスを向上させることとした。

2. 「東アジア文化都市」の交流・協力の強化 - 文化による持続可能な都市の発展 -

(1) 三者は、2025年「東アジア文化都市」として、日本の鎌倉市、中国のマカオ特別行政区、湖州市、韓国の安城市を選定した。三者は、「東アジア文化都市」の開始から2024年で10周年を迎えたことを心から祝福し、この10年間、「東アジア文化都市」が三か国の文化交流・協力事業の最も重要な取組として、相互理解の促進、友好親善関係の強化、東アジア地域の文化的発展及びブランド力の向上に大きく貢献していることを認め、「東アジア文化都市」事業の充実強化を力強く推進していくこととした。

(2) 三者は、歴代「東アジア文化都市」の交流を奨励するとともに、各「東アジア文化都市」の文化的・歴史的特色の発信、文化を通じた持続可能な都市の発展に向けた取組を促進することとした。また、三者は、「東アジア文化都市」における芸術家の交流を歓迎するだけでなく、将来世代が自らの住む地域の文化への理解を深め、誇りを持つことができるよう、将来世代間の交流・協力を促進することとした。

(3) 三者は、東アジア地域の魅力を世界に発信し、文化多様性の増進に寄与するために、「東アジア文化都市」と「欧州文化首都」、「ASEAN文化都市」、「ユネスコ創造都市」等、世界の都市ネットワークを活用した交流・協力を促進することとした。

(4) 三者は、「東アジア文化都市」の国際的なブランド価値を持続的に向上させる必要があるという点で見解を一にした。このため、三者は、三か国の若い世代の芸術家など将来世代の若者が一堂に会して共同ロゴを制作する取組を推進することを再確認した。

3. グローバルな公共財としての文化の重要性 - 文化を通じた課題解決への貢献 -

(1) 三者は、文化があらゆる分野の基礎的な役割を果たすこと、「グローバルな公共財」としての文化が持続可能な社会の構築に貢献することを確認した。また、三者は、人口減少、少子高齢化、気候変動・自然災害、地域活性化、ウェルビーイングの向上など地球規模の課題に対応するため、文化の社会的・経済的価値や役割の重要性を共有し、文化の価値の向上に向け、文化を通じた諸課題の解決について情報を共有して連携することとした。

(2) 三者は、文化多様性が持続可能な社会の発展の基盤を成すものであり、気候変動・自然災害・感染症・紛争などの国際的な危機への対応にも寄与することを確認した。三者は、三か国の文化交流・協力において、文化多様性を増進させるために努力することとした。

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(3) 三者は、障害者による文化芸術活動を奨励し、文化を通じた共生社会の実現に努力することの重要性を確認し、障害者が文化芸術を創造し、享受する機会の確保を促進することとした。また、三者は、障害の有無を含め社会のあらゆる人々が経済的な背景や地理的な事情、年齢等によって文化へのアクセスが制限されないことがないよう、それぞれの取組の良例を共有すること等を通じて連携し、文化を通じた共生社会の実現を推進することとした。

4. 文化遺産分野の保護及び協力の強化 - 気候変動や自然災害への対応 -

(1) 三者は、気候変動・自然災害から有形・無形の文化遺産を守り、適切な活用を図りながら将来世代へ継承していくため、三か国で連携・協力し、専門家間の交流・協力を推進していくこととした。

(2) 三者は、無形文化遺産の保護における相互協力や情報共有を引き続き強化し、人材養成などの交流・協力を奨励することとした。また、三者は、自国に設立された無形文化遺産分野のユネスコカテゴリー2センターがその役割を十全に果たし、協力を強化して、アジア太平洋地域の無形文化遺産の保護を促進するため、引き続き支援することとした。

5. 文化におけるDXと創造活動の支援 - クリエイター、文化産業の発展強化 -

(1) 三者は、世界的なDXの進展に伴い、クリエイター・アーティストによる文化芸術、コンテンツの創造が各国の新たな成長力の源泉になっていることを認識し、クリエイター・アーティストによる自由な創造活動を支援すること、クリエイター・アーティストが安心・安全に活動できる環境を整備していくことの重要性を認識し、それらの効果的な方策と情報の共有を図ることとした。また、三者は、文化芸術におけるデジタル技術の活用が、これまでにない創造活動や文化芸術の享受に重要な役割を果たすと考え、文化芸術分野におけるデジタル化に関して情報共有を図り、引き続き協力していくこととした。

(2) 三者は、文化産業が各国の経済成長やイノベーションの促進に重要な役割を果たしていることを認識し、その発展を促進することとした。また、三者は、日中韓文化コンテンツ産業フォーラムを通じて三か国間の文化産業の共同発展と繁栄を模索していくことで一致した。

(3) 三者は、クリエイター・アーティストによる創造活動の支援に関し、著作権保護の重要性を再確認し、正規版コンテンツの流通促進、権利侵害・海賊版の取締り、著作権保護意識の向上に向けた協力・交流を持続的に強化していくこととした。

6. 他分野連携による文化の魅力向上 - 文化観光の促進とスポーツ大会との連携 -

(1) 三者は、文化と観光の融合が、文化の魅力を生み出し、また、その創造・発展・継承を図っていく上で、非常に有効であることを確認した。そして、三者は、観光を通じて文化への理解を深めることを推進するとともに、文化資源を活用した高付加価値

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値な観光コンテンツの開発や魅力的な文化観光の地域づくりに関する良例を共有することとした。また、今回の日中韓文化大臣会合と日中韓観光大臣会合との連携のための三者による努力を評価した。

(2) 三者は、三か国で開催されたオリンピック・パラリンピックにおける文化活動や交流の重要性を再確認し、その経験や精神を継承することとした。そして、三者は、三か国で開催される国際的なスポーツ大会を契機に三か国の文化交流を充実させ、東アジア地域の文化の魅力を世界に発信するために引き続き相互に連携・協力することとした。

7. その他

(1) 三者は、日中韓三国協力事務局が三か国の文化交流・協力に参加することを歓迎し、事務局の積極的で持続的な役割を支持することとした。

(2) 三者は、第16回日中韓文化大臣会合を2025年に中国で開催することを決定した。

(3) 本宣言文は日本語、中国語、韓国語で作成され、1式3部で、3種類は同等の価値を持つ。

日本国
文部科学大臣

中華人民共和国
文化・観光部副部長

大韓民国
文化体育観光部第1次官

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10. Joint Communiqué The 25th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting Among Korea, China, and Japan

28-29 September 2024, Jeju, Korea

Preamble

1. Minister KIM Wansup of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister HUANG Runqiu of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China, and Minister ITO Shintaro of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan convened in Jeju, Korea on 28-29 September 2024 to hold the 25th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM25).

Leaders' Commitment to trilateral cooperation on sustainable development and environment

2. The Ministers noted the commitment of the leaders of Korea, China, and Japan at the 9th ROK-Japan-China Summit on 27 May 2024 in Seoul, Korea to the cooperation on sustainable development including through climate change response. In light of the Joint Declaration, they reaffirmed their willingness to continue and further strengthen the tripartite environmental cooperation within the framework of TEMM.
3. In light of the Joint Declaration, the Ministers agreed to continue collaborating with Mongolia on reducing dust and sandstorms in East Asia through “Trilateral+X Cooperation” framework. They also shared their willingness to strengthen cooperation on global environmental challenges such as marine environmental conservation and plastic pollution.

Latest Development of Environmental Policies in Three Countries

4. The Ministers shared recent progress in environmental policies in each country since TEMM24. Minister KIM Wansup presented “Climate and Environmental Solutions: Opening Up a Sustainable Future”, Minister HUANG Runqiu presented “Promoting Harmonious Co-existence between Humanity and Nature, Building a Clean and Beautiful World Together”, and Minister ITO Shintaro presented “Review and Outlook of Major Environmental Policies in Japan”. They shared the view that such efforts of the three countries will contribute to achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia as well as to solving national, regional, and global environmental problems.

Recent Progress in Tripartite Environmental Cooperation

5. The Ministers reviewed the progress in implementing the Tripartite Joint Action Plan 2021-2025 (TJAP 2021-2025) since TEMM24. They expressed satisfaction with the progress of cooperation projects under the eight priority areas of the TJAP 2021-2025 and are committed to continuing efforts to promote trilateral cooperation.

Air Quality Improvement

6. The Ministers welcomed the 11th Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Air Pollution (TPDAP) hosted by Korea in July 2024 that shared the latest expertise and technologies on Ozone and PM2.5 co-control management and policies on air pollution. They recognized that the TPDAP shared common understanding for the need of collaborative area further expanded to co-control of air pollution and climate change. They appreciated the progress achieved in the TPDAP and other joint activities in line with the implementation of the Action Plan of the Second Phase of TPDAP among China, Japan and Korea (2021-2025) and expressed the expectation for the Third Phase (2026-2030). They shared the recognition that such joint efforts including through TPDAP substantially contributed to improving air quality in the three countries.
7. The Ministers welcomed the cooperation outcomes produced by the Dust and Sand Storms (DSS) Working Groups (WGs) in implementing the Mid-Term Action Plans of Working Group I & II for Joint Research on DSS (2020-2024), and noted the 17th meeting of DSS WG I to be hosted by Japan in October 2024, and the 17th meeting of DSS WG II to be hosted by Korea in November 2024. The Ministers noted that the both working groups will extend their mid-term action plans for 2020-2024 to the end of 2025 in line with the implementation period of the TJAP 2021-2025.

3R/Circular Economy/Zero Waste City

8. The Ministers welcomed the 16th Tripartite 3R/Circular Economy/Zero Waste City Seminar hosted by China in December 2023 which shared and discussed the policies, practices, and progress on plastic waste management, circular economy and zero waste city.

Marine and Water Environment Management

9. The Ministers welcomed that the three countries participated in the 19th Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) Annual Meeting and International Workshop held in Japan in January 2024 which shared the updates of water environmental governance and discussed water-related issues including TMDL in Korea, the introduction of bottom DO to water quality standards in Japan, and key river basins of water ecological environmental protection plan of China.

Climate Change

10. The Ministers noted that the 9th Forum of Carbon Pricing Mechanism in China, Japan, and Korea will be held in October to November 2024 in Japan to exchange latest progress in net-zero policies, operation results of carbon markets and development and challenges of international carbon market under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. They noted that the 5th Korea-China-Japan Carbon Neutral Cities Forum will be hosted by Korea in October 2024. They expressed the willingness to continue developing cooperation in the field of climate change, including synergy between pollution control and carbon emissions reduction.

Biodiversity

11. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 10th Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Biodiversity (TPDBD) hosted by Japan in July 2024, which discussed the matters related to the monitoring framework and the review mechanism of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), possible synergies among measures for climate change and biodiversity loss, progress of the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), resource mobilization, digital sequence information on genetic resources, invasive alien species and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). The Ministers also welcomed the outcome of the Tripartite Invasive Alien Species Expert Meeting held with TPDBD. The Ministers noted the discussion on DSI on genetic resources at the 10th TPDBD and recognized the importance of the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of DSI on genetic resources.

Chemical Management and Environmental Emergency Response

12. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the 17th Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemical Management (TPDCM) and the Tripartite Expert Seminar on Chemical Management (TESCM) hosted by Korea in November 2023 which shared national policies and response to global trend in chemical management and discussed the result of joint research on eco-toxicity test.

Transition to Green Economy

13. The Ministers welcomed the progress in the tripartite cooperation on eco-labelling and noted that the Tripartite Working-level Meeting on Eco-Labelling held in September 2024 in Beijing which discussed the trilateral standards for indoor floor decoration materials with a view to signing a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) in December 2024.

Environmental Education, Public Awareness and Engagement

14. The Ministers noted the 25th Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN) Symposium to be hosted by Japan in October 2024 which addresses “Bridging the Past, the Present, and the Future”. The Ministers welcomed that the results of the TEEN joint project named “Case Study Report on Environment Education for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation among China, Japan and Korea” which was completed in December 2023 and led by Korea. They also welcomed the 21st Tripartite Joint Environmental Training Program which was held in China in December 2023 themed at promoting low carbon development at local level where environmental officials of the three countries exchanged best practices and discussed how to promote further cooperation. They noted that the 22nd Tripartite Joint Environmental Training Program will be held in Japan in November 2024.

Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)

15. The Ministers welcomed the outcome of the 3rd Forum on Carbon Neutrality Goals of China, Japan, and Korea held in March 2024 hosted by TCS. The Ministers acknowledged the contribution of TCS under the framework of TEMM and welcomed continued collaboration with TCS in implementing TJAP 2021-2025.

Tripartite President Meeting (TPM)

16. The Ministers welcomed that the 21st Tripartite President Meeting among the National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER) of Korea, the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES) of China, and the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) of Japan will be held in November 2024 in Incheon, Korea and encouraged further strengthening the tripartite research cooperation which would provide scientific reference for policy cooperation within the TEMM framework.

Promoting Cooperation on Regional and Global Environmental Issues

17. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitments to strengthen measures to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental pollution in light of their respective national circumstances; accelerate the transformation towards green and low-carbon development / the net-zero economy and society / the carbon-free society; promote harmony between humanity and nature; and pursue efforts to improve global environmental governance, so as to facilitate green recovery and sustainable, inclusive development.

Air Pollution in the region

18. The Ministers took note of the progress of the cooperative activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and the North East Asia Clean Air Partnership (NEACAP) which have contributed to addressing air pollution in the region.

Climate Change

19. The Ministers reaffirmed the Joint Declaration of the 9th ROK-Japan-China Trilateral Summit, which decided that the three countries will take solid action and support efforts to achieve the Paris Agreement temperature goal to address the climate crisis in this critical decade, and the three countries will come forward with ambitious next Nationally Determined Contributions, reflecting the outcome of the first global stocktake.
20. The Ministers confirmed that they will prepare and submit their first Biennial Transparency Reports by the end of 2024.
21. Recognizing the urgent need for the actions for climate change adaptation to minimize the damage caused by climate crisis, the Ministers agreed to promote tripartite cooperation and exchange of policies and best practices on adaptation.
22. The Ministers expected that substantial progress will be made at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP29) including in the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG) and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Biodiversity

23. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the swift, full, and effective implementation of all goals and targets of KMGBF, by taking urgent actions, through the implementation of their revised and updated National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), in order to achieve its 2030 mission to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, and its 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature. The Ministers also committed to continuing the three countries' international contributions to the global conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including through resource mobilization, capacity building, and technical and scientific cooperation.
24. The Ministers shared the recognition that invasive alien species pose an urgent issue in East Asia, and confirmed to continue cooperation and share information on the countermeasures and the best practices. They also confirmed to cooperate to share the domestic progress regarding DSI on genetic resources.

Plastic Pollution

25. The Ministers committed to playing a constructive role in the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, with the ambition of completing its work at its fifth session (INC-5) which will be held in Busan, Korea, in November 2024.
26. The Ministers also expressed willingness to continue and strengthen the policy and information exchange regarding circular economy and plastic waste management through seminars and other activities. They acknowledged the significance of strengthening scientific, technical and technological knowledge with regard to plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, inter alia, on methodologies for monitoring.

Trilateral+X

27. Ministers noted the progress in the cooperation among three countries and Mongolia to reduce DSS and expected to further develop the collaboration to address regional environmental issues. They also shared the willingness to continue to explore possible “Trilateral+X” cooperation in such areas as climate change and marine environmental conservation to support accelerated implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to multilateralism and expected close cooperation among the three countries at upcoming major regional and global environmental conferences, including the UNFCCC COP29, CBD COP16, INC-5 and relevant G20 meetings in 2024.

Marine Environment

28. The Ministers strongly supported the adoption of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Convention and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) and agreed to endeavor to ratify and implement the agreement. They also committed to promoting collaborative activities to address marine debris problem in Northeast Asia including through policy and information sharing.

Priority Areas for the Next Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation 2026-2030

29. The Ministers discussed the new priority areas with which the next Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation for the period from 2026 to 2030 (TJAP 2026-2030) will be shaped.
30. The Ministers agreed on the following goals, under which new priority areas will be categorized for the purpose of defining and demonstrating the objectives and direction of the future cooperation in the TEMM framework:
- (1) Improving Environmental Qualities;
 - (2) Promoting Carbon Neutrality and Green Economy; and
 - (3) Enhancing Environmental Welfare
31. In developing the next TJAP and setting the new priority areas, the Ministers agreed to bear in mind the following principles:
- (1) The actions of the current TJAP which have been proven active and successful with productive and consistent progress will continue to be promoted and developed further.
 - (2) The actions of the current TJAP will be streamlined and reorganized in terms of resource efficiency and common interest of the three countries.
 - (3) Major changes in domestic and international environmental policies and processes will be taken into account to reflect new and growing cooperation demands.
 - (4) The actions are to be developed on the basis of mutual respects, mutual benefits, each country's available resources and respect one another's difference in the stage of development.

32. Reviewing the implementation of the TJAP 2021-2025 and in line with the goals and principles, the Ministers adopted the new TEMM priority cooperation areas for the period from 2026 to 2030 as following:

Improving Environmental Qualities

- (1) Air Pollution & DSS
- (2) Biodiversity
- (3) 3R/Circular Economy/Zero Waste City & Plastic Pollution

Promoting Carbon Neutrality and Green Economy

- (4) Climate Change
- (5) Transition to Green Economy

Enhancing Environmental Welfare

- (6) Environmental Education & Awareness
- (7) Environmental Management of Chemicals
- (8) Living Environment

33. The Ministers agreed that the three countries will work together to build on the priority areas to develop the TJAP 2026-2030 with a view to adopting it at TEMM26.

TEMM Youth Forum & Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business

34. The TEMM Youth Forum and the Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Businesses (TREB) took place as the side events of TEMM25 and the results of the discussions were reported to the Ministers. The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the Youth Forum which discussed “Accelerating transition to a circular economy on plastics: Youth transformative action” and of the TREB which shared information on the efforts of the three governments and industries to achieve carbon neutrality under the three sub-themes of green hydrogen, circular economy, and the digital transformation of green industries.

TEMM25 Environment Awards

35. The Ministers congratulated and commended the winners of the TEMM Environment Awards. Ms. CHOI Jaeyeon from Korea, Ms. ZHENG Zhirong from China, Dr. CHATANI Satoru from Japan were awarded for their contributions to the tripartite environment cooperation.

TEMM26

36. The Ministers decided that TEMM26 will be hosted by China in 2025. The date and venue will be proposed by the host country and confirmed by Japan and Korea.

Closing

37. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the fruitful outcome of TEMM25. Minister HUANG Runqiu and Minister ITO Shintaro expressed their deep appreciation to Minister KIM Wansup, the Korean Government, and the Jeju Province for hosting the meeting and extending the great hospitality accorded to all participants.

29 September 2024, Jeju, Korea

ITO Shintaro
Minister
Ministry of the Environment
Japan

KIM Wansup
Minister
Ministry of Environment
Republic of Korea

HUANG Runqiu
Minister
Ministry of Ecology and Environment
People's Republic of China

11. Joint Statement of The 17th Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting (THMM) Among Japan, the People’s Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea

15 December 2024, Tokyo, Japan

We, the Health Ministers of Japan, the People’s Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea, held the 17th Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting (THMM) in Tokyo, Japan on December 15th, 2024.

We reaffirmed our trilateral partnership grounded in geographical proximity, shared public health concerns, culture, lifestyle, and responsibility for creating a safe, healthy, and prosperous future for the region and the international community.

We had the following discussions:

Enhancing Public Health Security

Regarding the global health architecture, we will continue to support the World Health Organization (WHO) Headquarters and the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, which play essential roles in global health governance during global health emergencies, including pandemics. We welcome the amendments to the International Health Regulations and remain committed to constructive participation in discussions for an international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR).

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most immense and critical international health issues that poses long-term concerns to global health security as a “silent pandemic” and requires immediate global actions. We recognize the importance of addressing AMR and welcome the outcome of the UN High-level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance in September 2024.

We acknowledge the importance of “the Joint Statement on Future Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response”, which was successfully released in May 2024, at the Ninth Trilateral Summit. Based on the consensus of this Summit, we successfully updated “the Memorandum of Cooperation on Prevention, Preparedness and Response against Infectious Disease with Pandemic and High Consequence Potential of Common Concern” and “the Joint Action Plan on Prevention, Preparedness and Response against Infectious Disease with Pandemic and High Consequence Potential of Common Concern” at this THMM. Drawing upon these documents, we will accelerate PPR through cooperation among our three countries.

We acknowledge the importance of promoting the implementation of international joint clinical trials in Asia and the harmonization of pharmaceutical regulations and medical device regulations in Asian countries to support their rapid practical application of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. In this way, we will accelerate healthcare innovation in the region and contribute to improving patient access to treatment.

We reaffirm the need to invest in developing, training, recruiting, and retaining a skilled health workforce, which is fundamental to strong and resilient health systems to prevent, prepare for, and respond to pandemics, and to improve working conditions.

We will seek to expand collaboration among the national public health institutes for disease control in our three countries, such as the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency, and the Japan Institute for Health Security, which is to be established in April 2025, in order to continue and further strengthen technical cooperation to jointly tackle future global health emergencies.

Promoting Healthy Ageing

We will further strengthen policy dialogue and exchange experiences on promoting preventive approaches and maintaining sustainable healthcare systems with population ageing through platforms such as the Seminar on Policy on Declining and Ageing Population.

We emphasize the importance of cooperation in areas of common interest among our three countries, including creating age-friendly environments, promoting social participation, providing integrated care and securing access to high-quality health and long-term care for the elderly.

We will share knowledge and skills through human resource exchanges to respond to various needs of the elderly, such as care for cognitive decline, limited mobility, declined sensory function, oral diseases, and malnutrition.

We will jointly explore ways to reduce the burden on healthcare providers and caregivers and to ensure the quality of care by utilizing technologies such as care robots and ICT that will contribute to our efforts regarding other agenda items as well.

Given the similarities in healthcare challenges, family structures, cultures, and lifestyles among our three countries, we acknowledge the importance of encouraging cooperative research on issues related to healthy ageing. We will encourage scientific research institutions to conduct joint research projects to establish evidence on efficient preventive approaches and effective care for the elderly.

Building More Resilient, Equitable, and Sustainable Health Systems to Achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

We acknowledge that the strengthening of health care systems through the achievement of universal health coverage (UHC) leads to better preparedness for various health challenges caused by epidemics and pandemic of infectious diseases, increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and population ageing. We will exchange experiences on maintaining high-quality UHC in response to population ageing and share our lessons learnt with our Asian neighbors who will face similar challenges in the near future.

As highlighted at the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on UHC in September 2023, capacity building for health workers and national and local government authorities is a common challenge for global health systems to achieve UHC. Recognizing our role as a leading advocate for the global agenda on UHC, we will make more efforts to support the enhancement of knowledge for national and local government authorities in low-and middle-income countries and the lifelong capacity building for health workers through various initiatives, such as the UHC Knowledge Hub to be established in 2025 in Japan and the WHO Global Bio Workforce Training Hub in Korea.

We acknowledge that digital transformation is essential to achieve and promote more equitable, efficient, and resilient healthcare systems. We will cooperate in sharing knowledge on digital technologies to effectively utilize medical information, including healthcare demands, access to healthcare, and health spending.

The next Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting will be held in the Republic of Korea in 2025.

12. The Fifth Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting 2024 Tokyo Joint Statement

15 December 2024, Tokyo, Japan

We, Abe Toshiko, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, Zhang Jiasheng, Vice Minister of General Administration of Sports of the People's Republic of China (China), and Choi Bo keun, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea (ROK), (hereinafter, "the Three Sides") attended the 5th Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting held on 15 December 2024 in Tokyo, Japan.

The Three Sides:

Welcomed the first in-person meeting in six years due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

Congratulated all the athletes and teams of the three countries on their achievements at Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games;

Reaffirmed the value and power of sports to inspire people and give them dreams and hopes across countries, generations, and, at times, difficulties;

Reviewed the common goals set forth in the 2016 PyeongChang Declaration, 2018 Tokyo Action Plan, 2020 Beijing Joint Statement, and 2023 Seoul Joint Declaration and based on the Joint Declaration of the Ninth ROK-Japan-China Trilateral Summit in May 2024; and

Consented, as representatives of the leading sports nations in Asia, to further enhance and develop sports promotion, exchanges, and cooperation through mutual cooperation among the three countries that will lead to peace and sustainable development among the three countries and in the Asian region, as follows.

I. Promotion of trilateral sports exchanges and cooperation

1. Mutual collaboration and knowledge sharing

① Mutual cooperation for the success of large-scale international sports competitions and events

The Three Sides expressed their congratulations on the success of Hangzhou 2022 Asian and Asian Para Games and Gangwon 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games held after the Fourth Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting, and consented to share and promote the legacy of these Games and the past Olympic and Paralympic Games

held in the three countries, and mutually cooperate and share knowledge to ensure the success and sustainable event management of future major sports events hosted by each country, including the following events:

- 2025 Summer Deaflympics
- 2025 World Athletics Championship
- 2025 Asian Winter Games
- 2025 World Games
- 2026 Asian Games and Asian Para Games
- 2027 Summer World University Games

② Continued cooperation in the field of anti-doping

As representative countries in Asia in the field of anti-doping, the Three Sides will promote mutual cooperation to achieve clean sports.

③ People-to-people exchanges in high performance sports

The Three Sides will aim to further promote high performance sports through expanded people-to-people exchanges in this area among the three countries and will support closer collaboration among sports-related organizations at the national level in each country, particularly through the Asian Conference on Sport Science (ACSS) and other opportunities.

④ Preventing harassment and defamation directed at athletes

The Three Sides will share policies and best practices to prevent harassment and defamation including on social media directed at athletes so that all athletes can devote themselves to sports and demonstrate their abilities in a safe environment.

2. Youth exchanges through sports

Recognizing the achievements of the various sports exchanges carried out among the three countries up to now, the Three Sides will support their continued implementation and initiatives to produce further outcomes.

In particular, as youth exchanges contribute to the healthy development of young people with an international perspective and the qualities to lead the future while deepening their mutual understanding, the Three Sides will support the continued holding of the Trilateral Junior Sports Exchange Meet and the Trilateral Youth Winter Sports Exchange, which will be held for the first time in ROK in January 2025.

In addition, the Three Sides will promote the assessment of the outcomes of bilateral sports exchanges and discussion on their future direction to ensure effective implementation of these exchanges.

II. Enhancement of the socio-economic value of sports among the three countries and throughout the Asian region

Based on the fact that the potential power of sports to bring about social change and resolve various social issues is attracting greater international attention than ever before, the Three Sides consented to further bolster exchanges and cooperation in the following areas in particular, believing that collaboration among the three countries in various fields related to sports and social change will have a positive impact on each other's policy formulation and project implementation, which will not only contribute to solving social issues in their own countries but also serving as a role model for the Asian region and the world.

1. Promoting health and improving well-being through sports

With the aging of their populations and rising medical expenditures, promoting health and improving well-being through sports is a common theme for the three countries and one of the most important pillars in each country's sports policy. In light of this, the Three Sides consented to share policies and leading-edge practices that meet the mutual needs of each country. The Three Sides also consented to share policy measures and good practices with regard to the development of regular physical exercise habits and the improvement of physical fitness, which are the cornerstones of lifelong physical fitness and athletic ability.

2. Realizing an inclusive society through the promotion of parasports

Recognizing that the promotion of parasports including through the holding of major parasports events should be leveraged to advance the social inclusion of people with disabilities, the Three Sides will support the sharing of information and the implementation of joint projects through mutual collaboration among the relevant organizations in the three countries.

3. Promoting the sports industry and sports tourism

The growth and the international expansion of the sports industry is another common interest of the three countries and one of the fundamental policies that aim for creating the socio-economic value of sports. Accordingly, the Three Sides will encourage and support exchanges and cooperation for expanding the sports market, including through friendly matches in professional sports leagues, and for sharing policy measures and best practices that meet the mutual needs of the three countries.

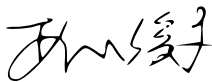
The Three Sides will also promote inbound and outbound sports tourism and encourage and support exchanges and cooperation for expanding each other's markets.

III. Others

The Three Sides decided to hold the Sixth Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting in China in 2026.

This Declaration was signed on 15 December 2024 as a non-legally binding document in the Japanese, Korean, Chinese and English languages, all texts having equal value. In the case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text will prevail.

Japan
Minister of Education, Culture,
Sports, Science and Technology



Abe Toshiko

People's Republic of China
Vice Minister of General
Administration of Sports



Zhang Jiasheng

Republic of Korea
Deputy Minister of Culture,
Sports and Tourism



Choi Bo keun

List of Summit and Trilateral Ministerial Meetings in 2024

Date	Meeting	Venue
February 29	9 th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics	Tianjin, China
May 3	24 th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting	Tbilisi, Georgia
May 20	4 th Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources	Bali, Indonesia
May 27	9 th Trilateral Summit	Seoul, Korea
June 15	4 th Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting	Seoul, Korea
September 11	10 th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting	Kobe, Japan
September 12	15 th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting	Kyoto, Japan
September 29	25 th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting	Jeju, Korea
December 4	24 th TRIPO Heads Meeting	Shanghai, China
December 15	17 th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
December 15	5 th Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting	Tokyo, Japan

Pursuant to the “Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)” signed by the governments of the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea in December 2010, the TCS was established as an international organization in September 2011 in Seoul. The TCS aims to serve as a hub for Trilateral Cooperation that encompasses a broad spectrum of sectors and actors.

2024

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

Among the People's Republic of China, Japan
and the Republic of Korea



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