
Korea-Japan-China Trilateral Ministerial Meeting Joint Statement

Korea- Japan-China Trilateral Ministerial Meeting at the 7th World Water Forum - Joint Ministerial Statement on Collaborative Actions for Water Policy Innovation

April 13th 2015, Gyeongju, Korea

We, the Ministers of Water Resources from the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, met in Gyeongju, Korea on April 13th 2015 on the occasion of the 7th World Water Forum held in Daegu and Gyeongbuk, Korea under the theme of Water for Our Future. We assembled to further develop the spirit of the *Memorandum of Cooperation on the Mechanism of Ministerial Meeting among the Ministry Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, and the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea* signed in France on March 13th 2012 and reaffirmed the importance of trilateral cooperation for resolving water problems in the Asia and Pacific region as well as around the globe.

This Ministerial Meeting, in line with Paragraph III of the aforementioned Memorandum of Cooperation, decided upon its topic for “Water Policy Innovation in Response to Persistent and Emerging Water Challenges”, discussed as follows and decided to strengthen trilateral cooperation therein:

1. We share the recognition that water policy innovation and reform should be promoted by each country in order to strengthen the core role of water resource in sustainable development, improve synergy among relevant government agencies and relevant stakeholders, enhance the resilience of water infrastructure and attract more financial investment into the water sector.
2. Recognizing the importance of science and technologies in realizing international and national water development goals, we support the timely creation of Science & Technology Process at the 7th World Water Forum and respect the deliberations and outcomes made at the Science & Technology Process.
3. We recognize that China has launched a series of major water policy reforms in recent years, especially, the most stringent water resources management system, with the aim of establishing three red lines for the control of total quantity of water use, the efficiency of water use and total pollution load in water function zones.
4. We recognize that Japan has introduced a water cycle legislation, under which air-borne water, surface water and underground water will be managed in a holistic manner to ensure sound water cycle at all levels, and that all stakeholders will take collaborative actions under national water cycle master plan.

5. We recognize that Korea, by the concept of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) to effectively respond to water challenges, has promoted water policies such as the Smart Water Grid which combines ICT and water management technology, water circulation system applied with Low Impact Development, multi-agency cooperation in flood control and the improved procedure for local community-led conflict management.

6. We decide to share the knowledge and experience learned in above water policy innovation initiatives for improved water security in three countries. In addition, we welcome trilateral cooperation to share and spread our achievements and success to other countries, in particular, the developing world.

7. We endorse the necessity and significance of the Implementation Roadmap and Action Monitoring, a key value of the 7th World Water Forum, and decide to make joint contribution to the Implementation Roadmap and Action Monitoring system in the field of “water policy innovation”.

8. We welcome the valuable efforts made by Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) in hosting the Trilateral Forum on Water Resources under the framework of trilateral cooperation mechanism and support TCS to continue its role as a hub for trilateral cooperation in the water sector.

Gyeongju, Korea
April 13th 2015

Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea

Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

Vice-Minister of Water Resources of the People’s Republic of China
