

**Joint Statement of the Fifth Trilateral Tourism
Ministers' Meeting among the People's Republic of
China,
Japan and the Republic of Korea**

Hangzhou, China, August 22nd, 2010

We, Ministers for Tourism of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, held the 5th session of the Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting in Hangzhou city and Huzhou city, Zhejiang Province, China, on August 21-24, 2010. The theme of the meeting is "toward the future, comprehensive cooperation and common prosperity".

This session is an important move to put into effect the spirit of the Trilateral Cooperation Vision 2020 adopted at the 3rd Trilateral Summit Meeting among China, Japan and ROK held in ROK in May this year and to expand the fruits of exchanges. We are satisfied with the achievements in close and pragmatic trilateral cooperation at all levels of the tourism industry. We are happy to note that the number of tourists among the three countries will reach 17 million person-times in 2010, hitting the target set forth at the first session in 2006. We will continue to uphold and implement the various consensus reached at the previous four sessions of the Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meetings and enshrined in the 2006 Hokkaido Declaration, 2007 Qingdao Declaration, 2008 Pusan Declaration and 2009 Nagoya Joint Statement.

We will further strengthen trilateral exchanges and cooperation on

tourism and make unremitting efforts to promote good-neighborliness, mutual trust, comprehensive cooperation, mutual benefit and common development.

For the above-mentioned purpose, we have reached consensus as follows:

I. Give play to the comprehensive advantages in tourism industry and promote common development of the three countries

A. We recognize that the governments of the three countries attach great importance to the development of tourism industry, which has been gaining increasingly important status. China has set forth the strategy of “turning the tourism industry into a strategic pillar industry of the national economy and a modern service industry to the greater satisfaction of the people”. Japan has adopted “the tourism-oriented nation strategy” as an important pillar of the New Growth Strategy adopted by the Cabinet this June. ROK has released the strategy of “advancing the tourism industry”. Along with the higher demands raised by various countries on the development mode of tourism, we will be committed to uplifting the status of tourism industry in the national economic and social development strategy.

B. We will give full play to the strong points of modern tourism industry featuring extensive coverage, low consumption of resources, plentiful employment opportunities and comprehensive benefits. Against the backdrop of gradual recovery and stabilization of global economy at present, tourism industry boasts unique industrial advantages in promoting national consumption, stimulating economic growth, transforming development mode, expanding employment opportunities and eliminating poverty. It is a modern service industry that accords with future economic development trend. Meanwhile, tourism industry boasts outstanding cultural and social functions. International tourism exchanges can promote the mutual understanding of the people of different countries, ethnic groups,

religions and races, enhance mutual trust and promote world harmony and peace.

C. We recognize that, as each other's important source of tourists and tourist destination, the three countries, inter-dependent and complementing each other, share broad prospects for cooperation and exchanges. Making effort to promote tourism exchanges of mutual benefit and co-prosperity through the future-oriented and active cooperation is an immediate imperative to serve the trilateral relations, promote friendship and deepen understanding. We will make joint efforts to carry out continuous tourism exchanges, build up a greater tourism industry, give even better play to the comprehensive functions of tourism industry and steadily enrich the trilateral cooperation so as to inject new vigor into East Asia's harmony, stability and development and bring fruitful benefits to the people of the three countries through tourism exchanges and cooperation.

II. Continue to intensify tourism exchanges and cooperation mechanism

A. We are glad to note that the trilateral tourism ministers' meeting mechanism has won increasingly greater attention from the governments and the tourism sector of the three countries, to the welcome of vast numbers of tourists. We will, under the framework of the Trilateral Summit Meeting mechanism, put forward to boost the tourism exchanges and cooperation mechanism so as to further consolidate our coordination and enable our cooperation to bear more fruits.

B. We will, under various inter-governmental cooperation mechanisms of the three countries, actively promote the profound exchanges and cooperation in all areas of the tourism industry.

C. We will deepen the dialogue mechanism in the tourism sector and, on the basis of exchanges among associations at the national level of

the sector, broaden the exchanges and cooperation among associations at all levels of the sector.

D. We will endeavor to strengthen the tourism cooperation mechanism through multilateral organizations and exchange activities such as the Trilateral Summit Meeting, T20 Tourism Ministers' Meeting, the trilateral youth education and tourism committee and APEC Tourism Ministers' Meeting.

E. We encourage the establishment of trilateral regional tourism cooperation exchanges mechanisms.

III. Deepen East Asia tourism cooperation

A. We will work hard for the steady expansion of the scale of tourism exchanges among the three countries, aiming at reaching the target of 26 million person-times of tourists by the year 2015, thus contributing to East Asia' regional economic and social development and the people's friendly contacts.

B. We will be committed to the creation of new tourism service modes, improve service quality, urge tourism enterprises to offer services of even higher standards for tourists and promote tourism industry to become a modern service industry to the greater satisfaction of the people.

C. We will actively promote the cooperation of tourism markets and jointly cash in on various major international exhibition activities held in the three countries to boost the mutual offer of tourist sources and the development of East Asia tourism markets.

D. We will step up tourism security cooperation and improve tourism security management and emergency planning, so as to better guarantee the lawful rights and interests of overseas tourists.

E. We will strengthen cooperation on response to major events. When an event affecting international tourist environment takes place, such as a large-scale natural disaster or the outbreak of an epidemic, information will be shared for the sake of recovery and development of the market.

F. We will strengthen exchanges and cooperation on introduction and advertisement of scenic spots. We will probe into various cooperation modes in the planning of scenic spots, market promotion and information exchange.

G. We will promote exchanges and cooperation with tourism related industries such as machine and other products manufacturing industry.

H. We will continually work toward the goal of mutually prompt and smooth procedures of visa application and immigration control to meet the tourists' demands for convenient and comfortable travel.

I. We will promote cooperation on the development and use of medical, sport, culture (including film and TV, animated cartoon, fashion dress, catering) and other tourism resources.

J. We will cooperate on professional training and personnel exchanges related with tourism, increase the number of personnel of the tourism sector to carry out exchanges and study abroad, share related experience and train contingents of talented people for the cause of international tourism.

K. We will increase information exchanges between the tourism sector and the press circle to promote mutual publicity.

IV. Respond to global environmental problems

A. We are deeply aware that protection of global ecological environment has become a global challenge that mankind must face

with. Tourist products, such as low-carbon tourism and green tourism, are of great significance in terms of resources conservation, pollution reduction, environmental protection and promotion of harmony between men and nature. We will jointly study environmental problems in the development of tourism, correctly handle the relationship between the development of tourism and environmental protection, energetically raise the awareness of tourism operators and tourists for environmental protection and work hard to contribute to global environmental protection.

B. We will increase the exchanges of information related with climate change and prevention of natural calamities, so as to share our experience, seek relevant measures and jointly respond to changes.

V. Next session

We decide that the 6th session the Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting will be held in the Republic of Korea in 2011.

This statement is signed in Hangzhou city, Zhejiang Province, the People's Republic of China on August 22, 2010, with the official text in triplicate in the English language.

CNTA Chairman, PRC

Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, ROK

Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan