

Joint Statement
of the First Trilateral Korea-Japan-China Ministerial Meeting
on Science and Technology Cooperation

Seoul, 12 January 2007

The First Trilateral Korea-Japan-China Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology Cooperation was held in Seoul, Korea among the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China on January 12, 2007.

Mr. Kim Woo-Sik, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Science and Technology of the ROK; Mr. Ibuki Bunmei, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and Mr. Xu Guanhua, Minister of Science and Technology of the PRC attended the meeting as heads of their respective delegations. A complete list of delegation is set out in Annex 1.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Science and Technology, Kim Woo-Sik chaired the meeting.

On the basis of the common understanding that scientific progress and innovation have underpinned economic development and the three countries represent a great part of the world economy, the Three Ministers held, in the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation, practical talks concerning the trilateral cooperation in science and technology, and reached a consensus, in this context, on the following:

1. The Three Ministers shared the view on establishing a future-oriented trilateral S&T cooperation system that will help the three parties find solutions to common regional issues while making a contribution to Asia and the world through such cooperation. Common regional issues that need to be addressed trilaterally include environment and energy technology, disaster prevention and mitigation technology and so on.
2. The Three Ministers unanimously affirmed that trilateral S&T cooperation should be pursued for peaceful purpose only and the three countries cooperate through sharing responsibilities conforming to such international standards as protection of intellectual property.
3. The Three Ministers commended the efforts hitherto made to promote trilateral S&T cooperation such as the trilateral Director General meetings (hereinafter DG Meeting), Heads

of Research Councils in Asia (A-HORCs) Meetings, Science and Technology Policy Research Seminars, etc.

4. The Three Ministers were of the same opinion on establishing and operating institutional mechanism such as Ministerial Meetings, DG Meetings and coordinating meetings to promote trilateral S&T cooperation.

5. The Three Ministers undertook to hold trilateral workshop of experts to effectively promote trilateral S&T cooperation with the 1st workshop to be held in March 2007 in Fukuoka with a focus on the environment and energy technology.

6. The Three Ministers undertook to further develop and expand the trilateral joint research projects hitherto made to initiate expert meetings for the discussion of means to develop new S&T capability in the field of traditional medicine, traditional technology, and others to commence talks for the holding of an atomic energy R&D cooperation forum for the peaceful use of atomic energy among nuclear research institutions of the three countries within the framework of the existing international agreements and to take notes of importance on R&D cooperation in the field of new energy as a means to address future energy issues.

7. The Three Ministers shared the view on the importance of exchange of young scientists among the three countries based on the understanding that young scientists will be the key knowledge creators of the future.

8. The Three Ministers stated their willingness to promote exchange of information and personnel in connection with the evaluation of R&D programs and performance-based management techniques among relevant institutions, and exchange of information on legal and institutional systems with respect to the issue of scientific integrity.

9. The Three Ministers shared the view on the important role played by the technology intensive SMEs and venture firms for the economic growth, and reached a consensus on strengthening cooperation at the innovation clusters such as technoparks where these firms, research institutions and universities are clustered.

10. The Three Ministers undertook to strengthen cooperation within the broader framework of S&T-related multilateral organizations for the benefit of the three countries and the rest of the world.

11. The Three Ministers agreed to hold the Second and Third Ministerial Meeting in 2009 in Japan and in 2011 in the PRC, respectively, and next DG Meetings in 2008 in the PRC and in 2010 in the ROK. While Ministerial Meetings and DG Meetings will be held biennially in principle, specific dates of the meetings may be determined through consultations among the three countries.

For the Ministry of Science and Technology
of the Republic of Korea -----

Kim Woo-Sik
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Science and Technology

For the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology of Japan -----

Ibuki Bunmei
Minister of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology

For the Ministry of Science and Technology
of the People's Republic of China -----

Xu Guanhua
Minister of Science and Technology

(Annex 1) List of participants

< Republic of Korea >

KIM Woo-Sik,
Deputy Prime Minister
Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

KIM Cha-Dong
Director General
S&T Promotion Bureau
MOST

YOON Dai-Sang
Director
Asia, Africa & Multilateral Cooperation Division
MOST

PARK Jin-Hee
Deputy Director

Asia, Africa & Multilateral Cooperation Division
MOST

KIM Chan-Woo
Senior Coordinator for Environment and Scientific Affairs
International Economic Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT)

MOON Hai-Joo
First Secretary
Korean Embassy in Beijing

CHUNG Kyung-Tack
First Secretary
Korean Embassy in Tokyo

< Japan >

IBUKI Bunmei
Minister
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)

ODA Kimihiko
Director General
Science and Technology Policy Bureau
MEXT

YOSHIKAWA Akira
Deputy Director General
Science and Technology Policy Bureau
MEXT

KATO Takashi
Director
International Science and Technology Division
Science and Technology Policy Bureau
MEXT

OKAMURA Naoko
Secretary to the Minister
MEXT

IWABUCHI Hideki
Deputy Director
International Science and Technology Division
Science and Technology Policy Bureau
MEXT

YUHARA Asako
Chief
International Science and Technology Division
Science and Technology Policy Bureau
MEXT

TOMI Yoshiyuki
First Secretary
Embassy of Japan in Korea

< People's Republic of China >

XU Guanhua
Minister
Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

LI Xiong
Secretary to Minister XU
MOST

JIN Xiaoming
Director General of International Cooperation
MOST

XU Jie
Director of Asian and African Affairs
MOST

TANG Shu
Counselor for Science and Technology
Chinese Embassy in Korea

RUAN Xiangping
Counselor for Science and Technology

Chinese Embassy in Japan

ZHANG Nan

Third Secretary

Chinese Embassy in Korea

(Annex 2) List of major efforts hitherto made on trilateral S&T cooperation

1) Trilateral Director General Meetings

- 1st meeting: Aug. 2002 Beijing
- 2nd meeting: Mar. 2004 Tokyo
- 3rd meeting: Aug. 2006 Seoul

At the 3rd DG Meeting, for example, the following trilateral joint research projects were discussed.

- Trilateral development of certified reference materials
- Development of ultra-short high-intensity laser and research of its applications
- Establishment of a Korea-China-Japan Trilateral Bioinformatics Network
- Generation of ENU mutant mice and studies of in vivo function of the mice

2) Trilateral Director Meetings

- 1st meeting: Jan. 2005 Beijing
- 2nd meeting: Apr. 2005 Seoul
- 3rd meeting: Sep. 2005 Tokyo

3) Heads of Research Councils in Asia (A-HORCs) Meetings

- 1st meeting: Nov. 2003 Tokyo
- 2nd meeting: Dec. 2004 Shanghai
- 3rd meeting: Nov. 2005 Gyeongju
- 4th meeting: Nov. 2006 Kyushu

* Member research councils of the three countries

- Korea: Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF)
- Japan: Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
- China: National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

The meetings have created significant outcomes such as the establishment of A3 Foresight Program.

4) The Science and Technology Policy Research Seminar

- 1st meeting: Jan. 2006 Tokyo

* Member research policy institutes of the three countries

- Korea: Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI)

- Korea: Korea Institute S&T Evaluation and Planning (KISTEP)

- Japan: National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP)

- China: National Research Center for Science and Technology for Development (NRCSTD)

(Annex 3) Exchange of information on the scientific integrity

Concerning with the paragraph 8, OECD workshop on scientific integrity, which will be held in Tokyo on 22-23 February, 2007, could be utilized as a good occasion to exchange the information of the three countries' policies for enhancing the scientific integrity.