

2018 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

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



Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat



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Part I

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

In pursuant to the “Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat” (hereinafter referred to as the 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 drafts and submits progress report of the trilateral cooperation to the three Foreign Ministries for approval. The TCS presents the report titled “2018 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation”, covering the period from January to December 2018.

INTRODUCTION

In 2018, the trilateral cooperation among China, Japan and the ROK enjoyed robust development in politics and security, economy and trade and sustainable development, as well as social and cultural exchanges.

The 7th Trilateral Summit was successfully reconvened on May 9 in Tokyo, Japan. Emphasizing the 10th anniversary of the independent Trilateral Summit among the three countries, the three leaders reviewed the progress of the past decade and discussed the future direction of trilateral cooperation for the coming decade. The 7th Trilateral Summit enhanced the political trust among the three countries and accelerated the progress of trilateral cooperation in various fields.

With regard to economic and trade cooperation, the three countries concluded the 13th and 14th CJK FTA negotiations in the year. The three countries held a series of ministerial meetings including 7th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics, 18th TRIPO Heads Meeting, 18th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, 10th Tripartite Governors' Meeting among the People's Bank of China (PBC), the Bank of Japan (BOJ), and the Bank of Korea (BOK), 6th Trilateral ICT Ministerial Meeting and 18th Meeting of the Heads of the Supreme Audit Institutions in the year.

The three countries also cooperated closely in the area of sustainable development. The 20th Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting (TEMM20), 3rd Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting and 3rd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources, as well as relevant working consultations were held to further strengthen the policy communication and coordination.

Meanwhile, the three countries strived to reach the goal of 30 million people-to-people exchanges among the three countries by 2020. The 10th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting, 8th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting, 11th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting, 2nd Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting, 2nd Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting and a range of projects on trilateral people-to-people exchanges were held in the year.

Part II

COOPERATION PROGRESS

1. Trilateral Summit
2. Politics and Security
3. Economy
4. Sustainable Development
5. Social and Cultural Exchanges
6. TCS

01

Trilateral Summit

The 7th **Trilateral Summit** among Japan, China, and the ROK was held in Tokyo, Japan on May 9, 2018. Highlighting that it had been 10 years since the first independent Trilateral Summit was convened, the leaders reviewed the progress of the past decade and discussed the future direction of trilateral cooperation for the coming decade. The leaders also shared the view that it was significant to hold the Trilateral Summit on a regular basis to lend political impetus to trilateral cooperation in a wide variety of areas.

After the Summit, “Joint Declaration of the Seventh Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Summit” was adopted along with the Annex on the list of trilateral meetings since November 2015. Especially appreciating and welcoming the “Panmunjeom Declaration” agreed at the historic 2018 Inter-Korean Summit, which confirmed their common goal of the complete denuclearization of and the establishment of a permanent peace regime on the Korean Peninsula in accordance with relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, the leaders also adopted “Joint Statement on the ‘2018 Inter-Korean Summit’ by the Leaders of Japan, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea”.



7th Trilateral Summit

Nuclear Safety



11th Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety

The **11th Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety** among Nuclear Safety and Security Commission (NSSC) of the ROK, Ministry of Ecology and Environment/National Nuclear Safety Administration (MEE/NNSA) of China, and Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) of Japan was held on November 27, 2018 in Gyeongju, the ROK. The three authorities presented the updates of nuclear safety activities in each country, and reviewed the outcomes of the 5th Joint Emergency Drill (JED), as well as the three working groups established under the TRM framework: WGHRD (Working Group on Human Resources Development), WGOIS (Working Group on Online Information Sharing), and WGEPR (Working Group on Emergency Preparedness and Response). To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the TRM, the three sides also discussed the achievements, challenges and future direction of the cooperation.

The **6th Top Regulators' Meeting Plus (TRM+) on Nuclear Safety** was held on the following day. Addressing more technical issues related to nuclear safety, experts from the three countries exchanged views on topics including "Challenge and Response to the Joint Convention (JC) Review", "Cyber Security of Nuclear Facilities", and "Nuclear Power Plant Aging Management". The 12th TRM and 7th TRM+ was agreed to be held in China in the latter half of 2019.

The 5th **Joint Emergency Drill (JED)** was conducted on November 6, 2018 in Tokyo, Japan. It was implemented on the occasion of nuclear operator's radiological emergency exercise at Shimane NPP in Shimane, Japan. Japan invited liaisons for a realistic simulation on disseminating information in the event of radiation or nuclear accident. The dispatched liaisons conveyed necessary information to their respective headquarters upon receiving it from Japan. The 6th JED will be held in China in the latter half of 2019.

Arctic Affairs

The 3rd **Trilateral High-Level Dialogue on the Arctic** was held in Shanghai, China on 8 June 2018. Special Representative for Arctic Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, Ambassador for Arctic Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, and Ambassador in charge of Arctic Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan attended the Dialogue.

The three parties recognized the global challenges and international impacts brought by the changing Arctic, and expressed the willingness to continue to contribute to the peaceful, stable and sustainable development in the Arctic. The three parties agreed to further strengthen their policies in the Arctic and expressed their intention to promote scientific research in the Arctic as a priority for cooperation. They welcomed the conclusion of negotiations on the draft Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean, and expressed the willingness to further strengthen their respective contributions to the work of the Arctic Council.

The three parties issued a joint statement after the meeting.

Latin American and Caribbean Affairs

On March 7, 2018, the 11th **Consultation on Latin American affairs** of China, Japan and the ROK was held in Seoul. Director-General of the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, Director-General of the Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK and Director-General of the Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan participated in the consultation. The three sides exchanged views on Latin American situation, respective policies towards Latin America as well as other topics.

The 11th China-Japan Consultation and the 15th Japan-ROK Consultation on Latin American affairs were respectively held on the same day.

Police Authorities

The 4th **Trilateral Meeting on Police Cooperation** among China, Japan and the ROK was held in Kunming, China on December 18-20, 2018.

Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT)

The 3rd **Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT) National Focal Points Meeting & 2018 NTCT Conference** was held in Haikou, China on December 6, 2018. The event was co-hosted by China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR), Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA), the TCS, and supported by China Institute for Reform and Development (CIRD).

At the 3rd NTCT National Focal Points Meeting, representatives from the three national focal points and the TCS exchanged views on the work plan of NTCT in 2019 and the role of the TCS in further promoting NTCT and the trilateral cooperation. At the 2018 NTCT Conference, scholars from the three countries shared their insights on future trilateral cooperation in 3 Sessions under the themes of “Trilateral Cooperation in the New Security Context”, “Trilateral Cooperation in East Asian Economic Cooperation and Integration” and “Trilateral Cooperation in Fourth Market: ‘3+X’ as a New Approach”. Based on in-depth analyses and discussions on the current situation of trilateral cooperation as well as regional and international changes, participants proposed meaningful policy suggestions on future regional cooperation in Northeast Asia.



3rd NTCT National Focal Points Meeting

03 Economy

Trilateral Business Summit

The **6th Japan-China-Korea Business Summit** was held in Tokyo, Japan on May 9, 2018. It was convened by Keidanren (Japan), China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), and Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI). The meeting invited renowned business representatives to provide insights into two main themes “Inclusive Growth” and “Innovation”.

Economy and Trade

The **13th and 14th Rounds of CJK FTA Negotiations** were held, respectively in Seoul, the ROK on March 22-23, 2018 and in Beijing, China on December 6-7, 2018. The three parties discussed trade in goods, trade in services, investment and so on at both rounds of negotiations. The three parties agreed on the acceleration of negotiations on CJK FTA and discussed a wide range of areas based on the progress of RCEP at the 14th round of negotiations.

The **17th Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technology Conference** was held in Gunsan, the ROK on November 19-21, 2018, under the theme of “Promotion of Exchange between Regions” and “Creation of New Industries and New Markets through Innovation”. The conference brought together representatives from Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM), Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK (MOTIE), and Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan, as well as representatives from local level governments, business associations and companies in China, Japan and the ROK.

Transport and Logistics

The **7th China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics** among Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries of the ROK, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism of Japan, and Ministry of Transport of China was held in Seoul, the ROK, on July 18, 2018. The Director-General Preparatory Meeting was held back-to-back on July 17, 2018.

During the conference, the representatives of three countries reaffirmed their



7th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics

commitment to the three main goals of the trilateral transport and logistics cooperation which were 1) creation of seamless logistics system, 2) establishment of environmentally friendly logistics, and 3) achievement of balance between logistics security and efficiency. They also reviewed the newly arranged 11 Action Plans under the three main goals.

The **China-Japan-Korea Joint Workshop on Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships (MASS)** was held after the conference, and experts of both public and private sectors from the three countries delivered presentations on the current CJK policy trends and technical trends on MASS.

The **19th Northeast Asia Port Director-General Meeting** among Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, Ministry of Transport of China and Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries of the ROK was held in Shizuoka, Japan on November 13, 2018 to share the medium and long-term plan of the three countries. The 19th Northeast Asia Port Symposium was held on November 14, 2018 with the main theme of “Ocean Utilization for Area Planning and Development” and “Coexistence of Nature, Scenery and Culture”, gathering approximately 270 participants from the three countries.

Intellectual Property Rights

The **18th TRIPO Heads Meeting** among China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), Japan Patent Office (JPO) and Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), was held in Wuhan, China on December 13, 2018. At the meeting, the

three offices introduced each country's current status and had in-depth discussions on various topics for trilateral cooperation activities regarding the fields of trials and appeals, designs, and development of human resources. Moreover, the three offices shared a common view to emphasize and further strengthen trilateral cooperation among them. The 6th TRIPO User Symposium was held on the same day after the 18th TRIPO Heads Meeting.



18th TRIPO Heads Meeting

The 9th Japan-China-Korea Design Forum was held in Tokyo, Japan on May 24, 2018. Under the theme of “Future of Design Management and Design Protection System”, senior members in charge of designs at the IP offices of China, Japan, and the ROK and executive managers working at global companies of the three countries exchanged the view on the theme.

The 6th Joint Experts Group for Trial and Appeal (JEGTA) and the 4th International Administrative Judge Discussion was held in Beijing, China on September 19, 2018. At the meeting, the experts from the three countries shared the comparative study on trial and appeal practices of each country to exchange the information and deepen their mutual understanding on trial and appeal.

The 9th Heads Meeting of CIPTC, INPIT and IIPTI was held in Wuhan, China on December 12, 2018. At the meeting, the three organizations shared the information on the latest training activities and discussed for future cooperation.

Customs

In 2018, Tripartite Customs Working Groups' meetings of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), the Customs Enforcement and Intelligence (CEI), the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) and the Customs Procedures, which have been established under the framework of Tripartite Customs Heads' Meeting (TCHM), were held in China to discuss technical issues and exchange views on common challenges that the three Customs administrations were facing.

Finance

The 18th **Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting** was held in Manila, the Philippines on May 4, 2018. At the meeting, the finance ministers and central bank governors from the three countries discussed the current economic developments and potential risk factors in financial markets and underlying economic conditions. Moreover, the three countries agreed to cooperate ensuring the success of the 7th Trilateral Summit.

The 10th **Tripartite Governors' Meeting** among People's Bank of China (PBC), Bank of Japan (BOJ), and Bank of Korea (BOK) was held in Tianjin, China on November 24, 2018. At the meeting, the three governors exchanged views on recent economic and financial developments in the three countries.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The 6th **Trilateral ICT Ministerial Meeting** was held in Tokyo, Japan on May 28, 2018. Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, Ministry of



6th Trilateral ICT Ministerial Meeting

Industry and Information Technology of China, and Ministry of Science and ICT of the ROK introduced each country's ICT policies and shared the current situations as well as challenges on development of new technologies and the use of ICT for the next generation. The next meeting will be held in China.

The 17th **Northeast Asia Open Source Software (OSS) Forum** was held in Yokohama, Japan on November 15, 2018 among the Japan OSS Promotion Forum, China OSS Promotion Union and Korea OSS Promotion Forum, supported by Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI), Ministry of Science and ICT of the ROK (MSIT) and Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of China (MIIT). Participants shared outcomes of 4 working groups.

Standardization

The 17th **Northeast Asia Standards Cooperation (NEAS) Forum** was held in Hangzhou, China, on June 27-29, 2018, convening more than 100 participants representing from public and private standard organizations of the three countries, including Standardization Administration of China, Japanese Industrial Standards Committee, and Korean Agency for Technology and Standards. Participants shared information on each country's standardization policies, presented ongoing cooperative items led by each country, and provided 18 new cooperative item proposals. China, Japan, Korea-Standards Cooperation on IT and Electronics (CJK-SITE) plenary meeting and working group meetings were held in parallel with the Forum.

Audit

The 18th **Meeting of the Heads of the Supreme Audit Institutions of China, Japan and Korea** was held in Hanoi, Vietnam on September 18, 2018. National Audit Office of China, Board of Audit of Japan, and Board of Audit and Inspection of the ROK attended.

The 14th **Working Level Meeting of the Supreme Audit Institutions of China, Japan and Korea** was held in Tokyo, Japan from July 24 to 26, 2018. National Audit Office of China, Board of Audit of Japan, and Board of Audit and Inspection of the ROK attended and discussed topics on "Independence of Supreme Audit Institutions" and "Environmental Auditing".

Agriculture and Fisheries

The **3rd Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting** was held in Beijing, China on November 10, 2018 among Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of the ROK. The meeting reviewed achievements and discussed future collaboration in mutual learning in rural revitalization, green agricultural development, food security and nutrition, animal and plant disease control and livestock industries, and regional agricultural cooperation. The three ministers signed the “Joint Communiqué” of the meeting and the “Memorandum of Cooperation on Agricultural Cooperation in Rural Revitalization”. The 4th Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting will be held in the ROK.

The **13th Forum for Agricultural Policy Research in Northeast Asia** was held in Seogwipo, the ROK on May 31, 2018. The forum was co-hosted by Korea Rural Economic Institute (KREI), Institute of Agricultural Economics and Development of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IAED/CAAS) and Japan Policy Research Institute of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (PRIMAFF). The presentations and discussions covered topics of “Improving workforces for strengthening agricultural and rural competitiveness” and “Rural welfare”.



3rd Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting

The **2018 NIFS-CAFS-FRA Vice Presidential Meeting** was held in Gyeongju, Korea on July 16, 2018, among National Institute of Fisheries Science of the ROK (NIFS), Chinese Academy of Fishery Science (CAFS), and Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency (FRA). The vice presidents of the CJK fisheries research institutes attended the meeting. The three parties shared the progress and the evaluation of cooperative projects in 2018, and confirmed the organizer of the 11th NIFS-CAFS-FRA Presidential Meeting. As a supplementary of CAFS-FRA-NIFS Presidential Meeting, the Vice Presidential Meeting was held since 2016, which was designed as a stage summary of the presidential meeting and held every 2 years.

The **China-Japan-Korea Nongovernmental Fisheries Agreement Meeting** was held in Busan, the ROK on October 30, 2018. The meeting was co-hosted by Chinese Fishery Association, Japan's Fisheries Association and Korea's Fisheries Association. Issues including maintaining maritime operations order during 2017-2018, current situations on conserving and using of the marine fishery resources were discussed. The three parties all expressed that person to person communication and cooperation in fisheries should be strengthened.

The **15th China-Japan-Korea International Jellyfish Workshop** was held in Fukuoka, Japan on December 4-6, 2018 among FRA, NIFS and CAFS. The three parties discussed topics including quantity distribution characteristic, biology and ecology characteristic, modeling on moving prediction of jellyfish.

The **2018 Symposium on Prevention and Control of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in East Asia** was held in Seoul, the ROK on June 21, 2018. The symposium was hosted by Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of the ROK, and attended by veterinarians and experts from the ROK, China, Japan and other relevant agencies. The symposium focused on the status and control strategies for FMD and HPAI.

Forestry Cooperation

The **5th Trilateral Director-General Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation** among Korea Forest Service, Forestry Agency of Japan and State Forestry Administration of China, was held on May 31, 2018 at National Center for Forest Therapy in Yeongju, the ROK. Ongoing efforts to promote trilateral cooperation on forest areas including SDGs activity, national forest management and protection, seed conservation and forest therapy were reaffirmed.

Based on the agreement reached at the 3rd Trilateral Director-General Level Meeting

on Forestry Cooperation held in 2016, the **Forum on Promotion of Relaxation Activities in Forest** was held on October 16-18, 2018 in Nagano, Japan. During the forum, the current status of forest relaxation activities in the three countries was introduced.

On the basis of the agreement mentioned above, the **Symposium on Soil Conservation** was also held on November 28-29, 2018 in Tokyo and Tochigi, Japan. The efforts for disaster management in Japan and Korea and the efforts for desertification control in China were shared through the symposium.

Environmental Protection

The 20th **Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting (TEMM20)** was held among Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and Ministry of Environment of the ROK on June 23-24, 2018 in Suzhou, China. The three ministers introduced the latest developments of national environmental policies and shared key strategic goals of their countries to address regional and global environmental challenges. To commemorate the 20th anniversary of this longest-standing and well-established consultative mechanism, the ministers also reviewed the development and progress of tripartite environmental cooperation since the inception of the mechanism in 1999 and highlighted key lessons learned as well as the future outlook.

As side events of the Ministers' Meeting, the **Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business** themed "Environmentally Sustainable City for Promoting the Transition



20th Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting (TEMM20)

to Green Economy”, and the **Youth Forum** themed “Contributing to Our Common Future” were held among business and youth representatives from the three countries.

1) Air Quality Improvement

The 5th **Tripartite Dialogue on Air Pollution (TPDAP)** was held in Seoul, the ROK on February 7-8, 2018 and the three countries discussed policy measures to improve air quality in the region. **Working Group I & II on Air Pollution** were held back to back with the 5th TPDAP.

The 13th **Dust and Sandstorms (DSS) Director-General Meeting** and the 12th **DSS Steering Committee Meeting** were held in Suzhou, China in May 2018. The 3rd **Tripartite Joint Workshop between Working Group I & II** was held in Suzhou, China on June 23-24, 2018.

2) Biodiversity

The 5th **Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Biodiversity (TPDBD)** was held in Seoul, the ROK from May 30 to June 1, 2018. The three countries shared information on the policy measures of invasive alien species.

3) Chemical Management and Environmental Emergency Response

The 12th **Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemical Management (TPDCM)** was held in June 2018 in Suzhou, China during TEMM20. The 12th **Tripartite Expert Seminar on Chemical Management (TESCM)** was held back to back with the policy dialogue.

The 15th **Tripartite Presidents Meeting (TPM15)** among National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES, Japan), National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER, the ROK), and Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Science (CRAES, China) was held in Busan, the ROK from October 30 to November 1, 2018.

4) Circulative Management of Resources/ 3R/ Transboundary Movement of E-Waste

The 12th **Sound Material-Cycle Society/ Circular Economy/ 3R and Transboundary Movement of E-waste Seminar** was held in Seoul, the ROK in December 2018. The participants discussed how to build cooperative network for waste import and export.

5) Climate Change Response

China-Japan-Korea Joint Research Program towards decarbonization was launched

in 2018. The research aims to draw long-term strategies to establish decarbonized cities.

6) Conservation of Water and Marine Environment

The **4th TEMM-NOWPAP Joint Workshop and the annual Marine Litter Focal Point Meeting** were held in Busan, the ROK on June 4, 2018. Participants discussed policy updates and challenges of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear in fisheries and aquaculture. Regional and local actions were shared as well.

7) Environmental Education, Public Awareness and Corporate Social Responsibility

The **19th Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN) Symposium and Workshop** was held in Kitakyushu, Japan on October 6-8, 2018. Participants discussed the engagement of various actors towards the achievement of the SDGs. The **18th Environmental Training for Officials** was held in Hengshui, China on November 11, 2018.

8) Rural Environmental Management

The three countries agreed on the importance of dialogue in this field and continued discussion for implementation.

9) Transition to Green Economy

The **2nd Tripartite Environmental Industry & Technology Joint Exhibition and Tripartite Environmental Industry & Technology Forum** were held in Beijing, China on June 7-9, 2018. Information on tripartite pollution prevention and control technology was shared.

The **4th Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business (TREB)** was held in June 2018 in Suzhou, China during TEMM20.

Information Exchange on Evaluation, Certification and Verification of Environmental and Green Industry: CJK Working Level Meeting on Eco-labelling Common Criteria was held in Beijing, China in April 2018.



3rd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources

The **3rd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources** among Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, Ministry of Water Resources of China, and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the ROK was held on March 19, 2018 in Brasilia, Brazil on the occasion of the 8th World Water Forum. The three ministers presented each country's domestic and international efforts to achieve water-related Sustainable Development Goals and discussed measures to promote trilateral cooperation in the water sector.

Back to back with the Ministerial Meeting, **Expert Dialogue on Water Resources** was hosted by the TCS. Best practices of each country were shared, and the meeting served as the first step to promote further information exchange among relevant stakeholders towards the common goal of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

05

Social and Cultural Exchanges

Culture



10th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting

The **10th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting** was held in Harbin, China, on August 30, 2018. At the meeting, the three ministers reviewed the progress of the follow-ups of “Qingdao Action Plan”, “Jeju Declaration 2016” and “Kyoto Declaration 2017”, and acknowledged the achievements made in the field of trilateral cultural cooperation and exchange. Under the recognition of the need to consolidate the future-oriented trilateral relations by promoting cultural exchange in different levels, the ministers signed the “Harbin Action Plan”, which stipulated a series of decisions to facilitate cooperation in 1) Culture City of East Asia (CCEA) Program, 2) support and reinforcement for the cooperation of cultural and arts institutions among three countries, 3) joint cultural program during the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and 4) explore possible cooperation in other cultural fields. The ministers at the press conference also announced the designation of Xi’an of China, Toshima of Japan, and Incheon of the ROK as the CCEA 2019.

The **11th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum** was held in Tianjin, China on October 19-21, 2018. At the trilateral meeting, the three vice ministers discussed policy measures to facilitate trilateral culture content exchange and cooperation. The three parties signed the Joint Declaration of the 11th Trilateral Cultural Content

Industry Forum which stipulated 1) the promotion of international co-production, 2) establishment of the “Our IPOOL” plan, which focused on collecting high-quality IP content at home and abroad and constructing an official platform for project incubation and copyright trading endorsed by the government, and 3) signing of “Trilateral Collaborative Partnership on Cultural Content Industry”.

The **10th Trilateral Meeting of National Museums Directors** was held in Seoul, the ROK on January 25, 2018. The directors of the National Museum of China, the Tokyo National Museum and the National Museum of Korea introduced their museums’ recent developments and exchanged ideas for future cooperation.

Tourism

The **8th Trilateral Tourism Ministers’ Meeting** was held in Suzhou, China on October 27, 2018. Under the theme of “Promoting sound, stable and sustainable regional cooperation through tourism”, the three ministers exchanged their views on 1) improving the level of travel convenience, creating an economically open and integrated China-Japan-Korea cooperation, and strengthening cultural and people-to-people exchanges through expanding the trilateral tourism cooperation, 2) promoting the quality and standardization of regional tourism, actively strengthening youth tourism exchange, and further enhancing the importance of East Asian tourism in the world tourism industry surrounding the theme of “sustainable development”, and 3) further deepening the pragmatic cooperation among China, Japan and the ROK through Olympic Games, joint promotion on “Visit East Asia Campaign”, and improvement of tourism safety response system. “Suzhou Joint Statement” was adopted at the meeting.



8th Trilateral Tourism Ministers’ Meeting

Health

The 11th **Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting** was held in Kumamoto, Japan on November 24-25, 2018. The three ministers reviewed the achievements in the past 10 years under the Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting and exchanged their views toward future cooperation. At the meeting, an active discussion was conducted on three main agendas including 1) infectious disease preparedness and response, 2) healthy aging and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and 3) universal health coverage (UHC) and disaster health risk management. The meeting adopted the "Joint Statement of the Eleventh Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting" and was followed by the press conference.



11th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting

The 3rd **Trilateral Symposium on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases** was held in Tokyo, Japan on November 26, 2018, co-organized by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and the TCS. Governmental officials at Director-General level of the three countries and relevant experts participated in the symposium and engaged in the discussion on the two main agendas of 1) population approach to promoting healthy diet, and 2) legislation and policies for smoke-free mega-events: PyeongChang 2018, Tokyo 2020, and Beijing 2022.

The 12th **China-Japan-Korea Forum on Communicable Disease Control and Prevention** was held in Tokyo, Japan on December 5, 2018. Participants from National Institute of Infectious Diseases (NIID) of Japan, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Korean Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) attended the forum and discussed the agendas of 1) preparedness for imported infectious diseases, 2) preparedness for severe emerging infectious

diseases and rare parasitic diseases, and 3) one health approach to avian influenza (H7N9) and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

The **8th Population Policy Forum 2018** was held in Jeju, the ROK on July 12-13, 2018 hosted by Ministry of Health and Welfare of the ROK. Governmental officials from relevant ministries of the three countries and representatives of Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) attended the forum and had in-depth discussions on the agendas of 1) population policies focused on low fertility, and 2) healthy/active aging (re-employment).

Education

The **2nd Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting** was held in Tokyo, Japan on March 21, 2018. The meeting was presided by the Minister of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. The Minister of Ministry of Education of China and the Minister of Ministry of Education of the ROK joined the meeting. During the meeting, the ministers reviewed the progress made in line with the “Seoul Declaration for Trilateral Education Cooperation” from the 1st Education Ministers' Meeting held in 2016. Building upon this discussion, the ministers agreed to 1) promote and expand student exchanges among the three countries, 2) further cooperation in higher education through CAMPUS Asia Program and by developing a joint research project on mutual recognition of degrees, and 3) strengthen the network with multilateral partnerships through UNESCO, ASEAN+3, Trilateral Summit and ASEM.



2nd Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting



15th China-Japan-ROK Children's Story Exchange (CSE)

The 15th **China-Japan-ROK Children's Story Exchange (CSE)** was held in Tokyo and Yamagata, Japan on August 17-23, 2018 under the theme of “flower”. The TCS served as the co-organizer responsible for the alumni program for the second time. The TCS program developed for the alumni included guest lectures by CAMPUS Asia graduates from University of Tokyo, CSE alumni community strategy development workshop, hands-on activities, and presentations to the members of Parliamentary Association for the Future of Children. Selected primary school students participated in field trips and storybook making activities.

The 1st **CAMPUS Asia Alumni Workshop (Re-Generate CJK)** was held in Seoul, the ROK on August 25, 2018. Approximately 30 young professionals (CAMPUS Asia Program alumni) employed in governments, consulting and investment firms, corporations, and academia attended the event. All participants graduated from the programs run by Peking University School of International Studies, University of Tokyo GraSPP, and Seoul National University School of International Studies. The workshop focused on the participants' capacity building in social impact project entrepreneurship.

Youth

The **Trilateral Youth Summit 2018** was held on August 26-31, in Seoul, the ROK. The program was co-hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK and the TCS, organized by Asia Exchange Association (AEA). The agenda for 2018 was, Korea-Japan-China Trilateral Cooperation, and the 30 selected student delegates (10 from each country) were divided into the 1) Environmental Committee (TC to tackle fine



Trilateral Youth Summit 2018

dust and air pollution), 2) Economic Committee (TC towards Trilateral FTA), and 3) Cultural Committee (TC for successful Olympic Games in Northeast Asia). Through lectures, delegation meetings, and committee meetings, the students adopted a Joint Statement during the model summit.

Sports

The **2nd Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting** was held on September 13, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. The meeting was represented by Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, Vice Minister of the General Administration of Sport of China, and Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK. For the purpose of promoting concrete and systematic actions towards trilateral sports exchanges in accordance with the provisions of the "PyeongChang Declaration" adopted at the 1st Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting held in PyeongChang, the ROK in 2016, the "Tokyo Action Plan" was adopted at the 2nd trilateral meeting, in view of the joint declaration of the 7th Trilateral Summit.

The **26th Trilateral Junior Sports Exchange Meet** was held in Yeosu City, South Jeolla Province of the ROK from August 23 to 29, 2018. Athletes from the ROK (including Yeosu City), China, and Japan participated in the event. The athletes from the three countries engaged in joint training and friendly matches in 11 sports (track and field, soccer, tennis, volleyball, basketball, weightlifting, handball, soft tennis, table tennis, badminton, and rugby). The athletes participated in various cultural tour events as well, to promote mutual understanding.



2nd Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting

Personnel Management

The 11th Symposium on Personnel Administration of China-Japan-Korea was held in Japan, in June 2018. The theme was “The Ethics Systems in China, Japan and Korea”.

The 11th Joint Training Program for Young/Middle-level Public Employees among Three Personnel Authorities was held on December 4-6, 2018 in Beijing, China. In the program, officials from the personnel authorities of the three countries participated in training together and discussed each country’s personnel policies.

Local Government Exchanges

The 20th Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference was held in Kaifeng, China on October 17-20, 2018. Around 420 representatives of the three countries’ local governments and relevant organizations attended the event, shared best practices and exchanged cooperative ideas on various issues under the theme of “Establishing Northeast Asian Community of Common Destiny – Cooperation and Coexistence”. The conference consisted of keynote presentations and sessions on 1) traditional culture and transmission of civilization, 2) environmental protection and sustainable development, and 3) smart cities and scientific developments.

Commemorating the 20th consecutive holding of the conference, 45 cities from the three countries (15 cities each) were awarded the Best Local Government Award in Trilateral Friendship Cooperation. The Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), Japan’s Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) and Governors Association of Korea (GAOK) signed the MOU on Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation Network.

In 2018, the TCS witnessed a wide range of encouraging developments of the trilateral cooperation among China, Japan and the ROK. At the 7th Trilateral Summit, the leaders of the three countries appreciated and reaffirmed the TCS's role in advancing the trilateral cooperation and expressed support for the capacity-building of the TCS and its broader participation in the trilateral cooperation mechanisms.

In the year, the TCS was invited to and supported the 7th Trilateral Summit, 6th Trilateral ICT Ministerial Meeting, 7th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics, 18th TRIPO Heads Meeting, 3rd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources, 20th Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting, 3rd Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting, 2nd Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting, 10th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting, 8th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting, 11th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting and working-level consultations among the three countries. Moreover, the TCS Secretary-General LEE Jong-heon attended the 21st ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit in Singapore.

The TCS organized **2018 International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC)** on April 18 in Tokyo, Japan, under the main theme of "The Opening of a New Chapter for Trilateral Cooperation – The Past 10 years, the Coming 10 Years". The IFTC 2018 aimed to look back on the achievement of trilateral cooperation made in the past 10 years since the first independent Trilateral Summit and to prospect the future course of trilateral cooperation in the coming 10 years. The forum was held weeks before the 7th Trilateral Summit and aimed at providing a meaningful platform to discuss the implication and significance of the trilateral cooperation in building regional peace and stability to pull the collective wisdom for consolidating and advancing the trilateral cooperation with a long-term perspective.

The TCS held the **Inter-regional Dialogue on Regional Cooperation: '3+1' Modality and Trilateral Cooperation Outlook** in Seoul, the ROK on August 21, 2018, which is a follow-up event to the 7th Trilateral Summit. Speakers from China, Japan, the ROK, EU and APEC Secretariat shared their understandings and analyses regarding the meaning of '3+1' Modality, a new concept adopted by the 7th Trilateral Summit, as well as feasible approaches and areas to put it into practice. The Outcome Report of

the dialogue was submitted to the foreign ministries of the three countries.

The TCS organized the **6th Trilateral Business Seminar & Networking Reception** on July 3, 2018 in Tokyo Japan, under the theme of “Public-Private Networking for CJK Cross-country Startup”. The seminar & reception was sponsored by China Chamber of International Commerce, Keidanren, Federation of Korean Industries, SME Support Japan and SME Business Corporation of the ROK. The TCS has held this event annually since 2013 to bring together business sectors from the three countries to share national strategies for promoting trilateral business cooperation among the three countries.

The TCS organized **Publication Ceremony of Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (TCVD)** in Seoul, the ROK on August 16, 2018, followed by promotion activities in China and Japan respectively. The compilation of the TCVD, as one of promotion activities for 808 commonly used Chinese characters, is a project initiated by the TCS since the end of 2016 and with the cooperation of prominent experts and linguists from the three countries. The TCVD incorporates 658 common vocabularies with high frequency used among the three countries, aiming to deepen the mutual understanding and facilitate smooth communication among the three countries as well as to promote exchanges and research among the experts on Chinese characters and linguistics.

Part III

CONCLUSION

The year of 2018 marked the 10th anniversary of holding independent Trilateral Summit among China, Japan and the ROK. It was encouraging that the 7th Trilateral Summit was successfully held to overcome common challenges and inject great impetus to future cooperation among the three countries. It is important that the three countries cherish the hard-won opportunity and further strengthen practical cooperation in various fields to bring more concrete benefits to the people of the three countries and beyond.

With the strong and continuous support from the three countries, the TCS will keep enhancing capacity-building to better support the trilateral cooperation mechanisms and exploring more people-to-people exchange projects to promote public awareness and understanding.

ANNEXES

1. Joint Declaration of the Seventh Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Summit
2. Joint Statement on the '2018 Inter-Korean Summit' by the Leaders of Japan, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea
3. List of Trilateral Ministerial Meetings in 2018

Joint Declaration of the Seventh Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Summit

We, the leaders of Japan, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea met in Tokyo, Japan on May 9, 2018, on the occasion of the Seventh Trilateral Summit.

We appreciate the positive developments in various areas of trilateral cooperation as envisioned in the Joint Declaration adopted at the last Summit in November 2015 in Seoul. We also note that trilateral cooperation has contributed to building a regional platform for peace and cooperation in this region. In this regard, we renew our commitment to making further efforts towards deepening and broadening such cooperation. We acknowledge the responsibility we share in ensuring peace and stability in the region and the world, and as the three major economies with the total Gross Domestic Product amounting to more than 20% of that of the world, we recognize the important role we play in demonstrating a path for world prosperity. We therefore reiterate our commitment to working together to address both regional and global challenges.

Appreciating and reaffirming the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)'s role in advancing trilateral cooperation, we express support for the capacity-building of the TCS and its broader participation in the trilateral cooperation mechanisms. In addition, we reaffirm that the launching of the Trilateral Cooperation Fund will be instrumental for the development of trilateral cooperation projects.

Trilateral Cooperation

We concur on the significance of holding the Trilateral Summit on a regular basis to lend political impetus to trilateral cooperation and dialogue in a wide variety of areas, including political, economic, social, and sustainable development fields. Reaffirming that the three countries share everlasting history and infinite future, we will continue to cooperate according to the common recognition reached at the 2015 Trilateral Summit.

We highly value the holding of trilateral Ministerial meetings since the last Summit, including by the Ministers in charge of health, education, environment, finance, transport and logistics, culture, sports, economy and trade, and disaster management, which demonstrate the political will to coordinate our policies and collaborate in

these areas. We also welcome the Eighth Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in August 2016 in Tokyo to lay the groundwork for the Trilateral Summit by exchanging views on strategic issues of our common interest and concerns.

We will strengthen our cooperation by noting the importance of regularizing trilateral meetings between the Foreign Ministries of our three countries.

We recognize the importance of promoting people-to-people exchanges in broadening and consolidating the foundation of trilateral cooperation.

With this in mind and referring to the PyeongChang Declaration, we look forward to developing trilateral cooperation in various fields including cultural and sports exchanges on the occasion of the Olympic and Paralympic Games held in the three countries, namely the successful PyeongChang 2018 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, as well as the Olympic and Paralympic Games to be held in Tokyo in 2020 and the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games to be held in Beijing in 2022.

Reaffirming the importance of expanding tourism exchanges among our countries, we will continue to strive to reach the goal of 30 million people-to-people exchanges among the three countries by 2020 and will further disseminate the attractiveness of our countries through the Visit East Asia Campaign. We strongly support promotion of youth exchanges, and encourage further development of our programs including the Trilateral Youth Summit.

Acknowledging the importance of trilateral cultural exchanges through the East Asian Cultural Cities Program, we congratulate the designation of 2018 East Asia Cultural Cities and expect that cultural exchanges among the present and previous cultural cities will be promoted. Recognizing the significance of education cooperation in deepening mutual understanding, we also praise the trilateral commitment to promoting student exchanges in the field of higher education through the expansion of Collective Actions for Mobility Program of University Students in Asia (CAMPUS Asia), and expect the discussion would continue to further promote the program.

Considering the significance of public diplomacy in enhancing understanding and friendship among the people of the three countries, we welcome the continued consultations on the trilateral forum on public diplomacy.

We support the efforts to reinvigorate various personal and cultural exchange programs among the three countries, such as the Future Leaders Forum, and the Trilateral Cultural Shuttle.

Underlining the importance of cooperation among the three countries in the field of consular affairs, we will look into establishing the Trilateral Consular Consultation in order to strengthen the institutional framework for long-term cooperation by sharing best practices and exploring cooperative initiatives.

We are committed to building an open world economy. We recognize the importance of free and open trade and investment in achieving growth. We remain committed to liberalizing our economies, fighting all forms of protectionism, and improving business environment through our standstill and rollback commitment. We will work together to strengthen the rules-based, free and open, transparent, non-discriminatory and inclusive multilateral trading system underpinned by the WTO. We welcome discussions in the WTO on today's challenges of international trade including e-commerce, investment facilitation, and Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs). We emphasize the importance of bilateral, regional, and plurilateral trade agreements which complement and strengthen the multilateral trading system. We reaffirm that the Trilateral Free Trade Agreement is an important way to deepen our economic and trade cooperation and promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation in East Asia, and will serve the common interests of the three countries. We reaffirm that we will make greater efforts to accelerate the negotiations on the Trilateral Free Trade Agreement aiming at realizing a comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial FTA with its own value. We also reaffirm our strong commitment to making greater efforts to accelerate negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) towards swift conclusion in achieving of modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial agreement, noting that significant progress on market access and rules is necessary. We will work together to realize high-quality and commercially meaningful outcomes in all areas.

We recognize the need to build an intellectual property (IP) system which values creative ideas and enables fair competition with a view to achieving continued economic growth and prosperity. We also acknowledge the important role of the trilateral IP cooperation, including the Trilateral IP Office Heads Meeting, in improving the regional IP system, and look forward to further development of trilateral cooperation.

Recognizing the negative impacts of excess capacity in industrial sectors, we will work together to address this issue.

We recognize the importance for this region to be better connected and are

committed to pursuing trilateral dialogue and consultation in order to enhance regional connectivity and infrastructure cooperation to benefit the East Asian region as a whole. We will further strengthen economic and trade relations and deepen the convergence of interests. In this regard, we will enhance economic cooperation in areas such as supply chain connectivity, e-commerce, content industry, and standardization in order to boost competitiveness. We reaffirm the necessity of cooperation in energy between the three countries for the realization of sustainable development and shared prosperity in Northeast Asia. In this regard, we decide to conclude a LNG cooperation MOU between the three governments on an appropriate occasion in order to improve the transparency and liquidity of the Northeast Asian LNG market.

In light of the importance of e-commerce in the generation of new economic value, we share the view that the pragmatic cooperation on e-commerce on the basis of mutual benefit is in the interest of three countries.

We also acknowledge the value of the ongoing cooperation among the three countries in the fields of customs and transport for ensuring trade facilitation and security. In particular, being the host-countries of the large-scale international events in the coming years such as the Olympic and Paralympic Games, we reaffirm the significance of protecting the border, while facilitating the legitimate flow of goods and passengers, and welcome the decision at the Tripartite Customs Heads' Meeting held in Tokyo in November 2017 to continue to exchange relevant information and share experiences.

Against the background of uncertainty of global economy with risks posed by a retreat from cross-border integration and faster-than-expected tightening in global financial conditions, we will continue a high degree of communication and coordination among the three countries to cope with possible financial instability. We will strengthen the regional financial cooperation by increasing the readiness and effectiveness of Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), further enhancing ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO)'s surveillance and organizational capacity to fulfill its mandate as an independent, credible and professional international organization, and advancing the Asian Bond Market Initiative (ABMI). In this regard, we welcome the successful progress of the first CMIM Periodic Review and look forward to its successful completion, which contributes to stronger CMIM as a regional financial safety net by reinforcing the financing assistance including extended supporting periods in the case of IMF Linked Portion, establishing a better coordination process with the IMF to facilitate co-financing,

and enhancing communication with all relevant parties to secure market confidence when CMIM is activated. We commend AMRO for its continued efforts to support CMIM implementation and to establish and expand regional and global partnership, and its attainment of UN Permanent Observer status. We also welcome the decision on capital increase of the Credit Guarantee and Investment Facility (CGIF) by its contributors in December 2017.

We emphasize the importance of jointly addressing common challenges related to human security, such as health and ageing society. Recognizing the importance of strengthening public health emergency preparedness and response, tackling antimicrobial resistance, and of achieving Universal Health Coverage, we assert the importance of our continuous cooperation in these fields. We will also reinforce collaboration on quarantine at point of entry.

In addition, we will expand our cooperation in the health service industry and telemedicine, and promote the exchanges of relevant information and personnel with a view to reducing non-communicable diseases such as cancer, as well as infectious diseases, which pose a serious threat to human health. We will actively share information and policies to cope with an aging population and to promote healthy aging, while striving to host the Trilateral Policy Dialogue on Aging on an ongoing basis. We will promote exchange and resource sharing in the area of assistive devices, physical and ICT accessibility and explore ways to enable persons with disabilities to participate in the rapidly developing internet economy and upgrade significantly the level and quality of their participation in all aspects of regional, economic and social activities. We will strive to make maximum use of science as well as Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as brain science, technology for responding to climate change, technology for overcoming disability, Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to promote economic growth and social welfare, and to address global issues. In addition, we recognize the importance of collaboration in the field of communications, including 5G mobile communications and global roaming for promoting mutual exchanges and cooperation. We will facilitate joint research, technology cooperation, information sharing and human resources exchanges under Trilateral ICT Ministers' Meeting. We also welcome and further encourage cooperation among corporate sectors, academia, think-tanks and related entities in this field.

We are committed to further strengthening trilateral policy consultation on cyber affairs including countering cybercrime, as well as on countering terrorism and violent extremism. We are committed to ensuring a secure ICT environment in which

all sectors are able to enjoy its benefits and reaffirm the importance of collectively addressing issues of security in the use of ICTs. We welcome and support the cumulative reports of the UN Group of Governmental Experts (UNGGE) in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, which affirm that international law, in particular the UN Charter, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment. In light of security challenges in the region, we will improve trilateral communication and cooperation on disarmament and non-proliferation. We will also continue the nuclear safety cooperation in the framework of Top Regulators' Meeting.

In achieving sustainable development based on our commitment to the Agenda 2030, we will further enhance our cooperation in economic, social and environmental dimensions. We welcome the progress achieved in the on-going tripartite cooperative activities under the umbrella of the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) and, reaffirm our commitment to supporting and promoting the joint effort to tackle issues of common interest including prevention of air pollution and marine litter in the region as well as promotion of circular economy and resource efficiency. We look forward to the development of the Tripartite Cooperation Network for Environmental Pollution Prevention and Control Technologies.

We also underline the significance of cooperation in agriculture, transboundary animal diseases, forestry and biodiversity including invasive alien species management and sustainable use of living marine resources. We reaffirm our continuous efforts to strengthen our response to climate change, and reiterate our strong commitment to fully implementing the Paris Agreement. We endorse the Joint Statement of the Second Trilateral High-Level Dialogue on the Arctic held in Tokyo in June 2017, and reconfirm the importance of the trilateral cooperation on the Arctic, especially in the area of scientific research.

We also reaffirm our commitment to strengthening cooperation in disaster risk reduction, based on the principles and measures in the Cooperation on Disaster Management, adopted at the Fourth Trilateral Summit in 2011, recognizing the steady progress in such forums as the Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and the Trilateral Tabletop Exercise.

Acknowledging the importance of effective implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 for substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health, we will continue to make joint efforts in raising

public awareness. In particular, we welcome the Kuroshio Declaration which was adopted in the High School Students Summit on World Tsunami Awareness Day.

We share the intention to explore the “3+1” modality, including through strengthening trilateral dialogue and consultation, to promote sustainable development in the region and beyond by sharing our development experiences and deepening practical cooperation in various areas.

Regional and Global Situations

We are committed to the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We reaffirm that maintaining peace and stability on the Korean peninsula as well as in Northeast Asia is our common interest and responsibility. We stress that it is only the international cooperation on and the comprehensive resolution of concerns of the parties, in accordance with relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, that will pave the way for the bright future for the DPRK. The leaders of the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea hope that the abductions issue between Japan and the DPRK will be resolved through dialogue as soon as possible.

Recognizing the importance of cooperation in regional and international fora, we will work in line to bring concrete and successful outcomes in the frameworks such as ASEAN+3 (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and G20 including 2019 G20 Summit to be held in Osaka, Japan. We note the progress made in the follow-up to the East Asia Vision Group II selected recommendations, including the vision to realize an East Asia Economic Community by 2020, to promote APT cooperation.

We look forward to the next meeting under China’s Chairpersonship.

Joint Statement on the ‘2018 Inter-Korean Summit’ by the Leaders of Japan, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea

We, the leaders of Japan, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea, appreciate all the efforts to date by the international community toward the current positive development surrounding DPRK. The leaders of Japan and the People’s Republic of China especially appreciate and welcome the “Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula” agreed between President Moon Jae-in and Chairman Kim Jong Un on April 27 at the historic 2018 Inter-Korean Summit, which confirmed their common goal of the complete denuclearization of and the establishment of a permanent peace regime on the Korean Peninsula.

We, the leaders of Japan, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea, strongly hope that, building on the result of this Inter-Korean Summit, further efforts by relevant parties, in particular through the upcoming U.S.-DPRK Summit, will contribute to comprehensive resolution of concerns of the parties for peace and stability in the region.

We reaffirm that maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula as well as in Northeast Asia is our common interest and responsibility. We will strengthen our joint efforts toward this goal.

1 Regarding the joint documents adopted at trilateral ministerial meetings, please refer to TCS online database.

Trilateral Ministerial Meetings in 2018

	Date	Meeting	Venue
1	March 19	3 rd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources	Brasilia, Brazil
2	March 21	2 nd Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
3	May 4	18 th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting	Manila, Philippines
4	May 28	6 th Trilateral ICT Ministerial Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
5	June 23-24	20 th Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting (TEMM20)	Suzhou, China
6	July 18	7 th Trilateral Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics	Seoul, ROK
7	August 30	10 th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting	Harbin, China
8	September 13	2 nd Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
9	September 18	18 th Meeting of the Heads of the Supreme Audit Institutions	Hanoi, Vietnam
10	October 27	8 th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting	Suzhou, China
11	November 10	3 rd Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting	Beijing, China
12	November 24	10 th Tripartite Governors' Meeting among the People's Bank of China (PBC), the Bank of Japan (BOJ), and the Bank of Korea (BOK)	Tianjin, China
13	November 24-25	11 th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting	Kumamoto, Japan
14	December 13	18 th TRIPO Heads Meeting	Wuhan, China

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.

2018

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

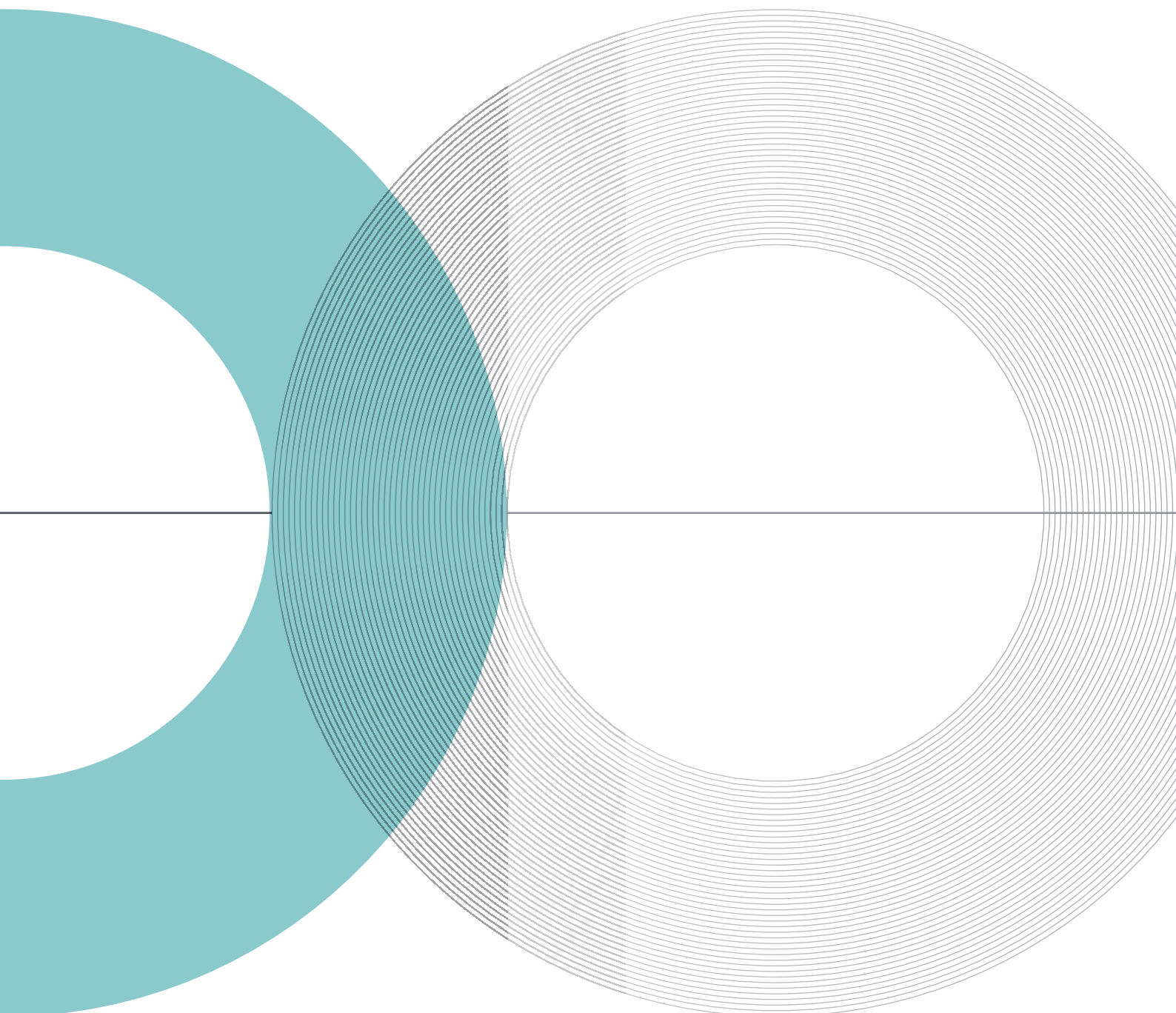


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