

03 Diplomacy for Expansion of the Global Network

Chapter 1 Asia-Pacific Region Diplomacy **112**

Chapter 2 Diplomacy with Europe **140**

Chapter 3 Diplomacy with Latin America
and the Caribbean **168**

Chapter 4 Diplomacy with Africa and
the Middle East **185**

Chapter 5 Inter-regional Diplomacy **223**

Chapter 1

Asia-Pacific Region Diplomacy



1. Southeast Asia Region

1) Korea-Philippines Summit

President Park Geun-hye and President Benigno Aquino III of the Republic of the Philippines held a summit on the sidelines of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Manila on November 18, 2015. They had in-depth discussions on a variety of issues, including foreign affairs and security, national defense and the defense industry, trade and investment, the protection of overseas citizens as well as the current situation on the Korean Peninsula.

The two leaders agreed to make mutual efforts to deepen economic cooperation, including the expansion of trade between the two countries, and to enhance cooperation in carrying out the projects of the Philippine government for building infrastructure, including an airport and roads. In addition, they appreciated that cooperation projects in the national defense sector and the defense industry have been implemented smoothly, including the conclusion of the Military Information

Protection Agreement in September, 2015 and the export of Korea's FA-50 light attack fighters to the Philippines.

President Aquino noted that the Korean government's policies toward North Korea, including its responses to North Korea's provocations in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), have contributed to easing tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Furthermore, President Aquino stated that the Philippine government will continue to support the Korean government's policies toward North Korea, including the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the Trust-Building Process on the Korean Peninsula.

In response, President Park expressed appreciation for the Philippine government's solid support for the ROK's North Korean policies, and explained the Korean government's effort to create favorable conditions at home and abroad for the unification of the Korean Peninsula. She also asked for the cooperation of the Philippine government in addressing North Korean issues noting that the Philippines is Korea's key ally in Southeast Asia and has continuously supported our North Korean policies.

Moreover, President Park urged the Philippine government to enhance its efforts to safeguard Korean people in the Philippines.

The Korea-Philippines Summit was the third of its kind since President Park took office in 2013. The meeting served as an opportunity to further consolidate the long-standing cooperative relations between the two countries and contribute to expanding the scope of bilateral cooperation.

2) President Park Attends the State Funeral for Former Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew



President Park Attends the State Funeral of
Former Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew
(Singapore, March 29, 2015)

President Park Geun-Hye attended the state funeral of former Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, which was held at the University Cultural Centre of the National University of Singapore on March 29, 2015. President Park expressed her condolences to the bereaved family members, including the current Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who is the eldest son of the deceased.

Before the funeral service began, President Park wrote the following message in the book of condolences:

"Lee Kuan Yew was a monumental leader of our time. His name will remain forever engraved in the pages of world history. The Korean people join all of Singapore in mourning his loss."

President Park met with a number of heads of state on the occasion of the state funeral. Before signing the condolence book, President Park exchanged greetings with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, Indonesian President Joko Widodo and Myanmar President Thein Sein. After entering the funeral hall, President Park exchanged views on current foreign affairs issues with Governor General David Johnston of Canada, Governor General Jerry Mateparae of New Zealand and Israeli President Reuven Rivlin.

3) Korea-Laos Prime Ministers' Meeting

As the first Korean Prime Minister to officially visit the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn met with Lao Prime Minister Thongsing

Thammavong on December 14, 2015.

At the meeting, Prime Minister Hwang noted that much progress has been made in advancing the amicable relations and cooperation between the two countries in a wide range of areas including trade, investment, official development assistance, and people-to-people exchanges in a short span of time since the two countries reopened bilateral ties in October 1995.

Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong was pleased to note that the visit by Prime Minister Hwang to Laos took place in the meaningful year that marks the reopening 20th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong also hoped for the continued development of bilateral relations through mutual high-level visits.

Notably, the two sides signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Grant Aid Programs for the year 2016 and the Framework Arrangement concerning Loans from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund for the years 2016 through 2019. In addition, the two Prime Ministers agreed to expedite the conclusion of the Project Development Agreement for the Xepon3 Hydropower Project.

Furthermore, the two Prime Ministers exchanged views on ASEAN-related issues as well as the situation on the Korean Peninsula and agreed to continue to work closely. Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong expressed his support for peace on the Korean Peninsula and the Korean government's policy toward North Korea.

4) Deputy Prime Minister Hwang Attends the Asian-African Commemorative Summit for the 60th Anniversary of the Bandung Conference

Deputy Prime Minister Hwang Woo-yea, in his capacity as the head of the

delegation representing the government of the Republic of Korea, attended the Asian-African Commemorative Summit for the 60th anniversary of the Bandung Conference, which took place in Jakarta, Indonesia on April 22 and 23.

Deputy Prime Minister Hwang delivered a keynote speech at the Summit to convey the will of the ROK to proactively contribute and cooperate for peace and prosperity in Asia and Africa. Moreover, at the Ministerial Conference held in the run up to the Summit, Second Vice Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul explained in detail the ROK's foreign policies toward Asia and Africa and emphasized the will of the ROK to enhance cooperation with Asian and African countries.

By attending the Asian-African Commemorative Summit for the 60th anniversary of the Bandung Conference, Deputy Prime Minister Hwang and Vice Foreign Minister Cho contributed greatly to the ROK government's efforts to step up its diplomacy with Asian and African countries, thereby, broadening its diplomatic horizons.

5) Korea-Malaysia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun held a bilateral meeting with Dato Sri Anifah bin Haji Aman,



Korea-Malaysia Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, June 15, 2015)

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, in New York on June 15. The two ministers agreed to strengthen bilateral relations as they celebrated the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Minister Yun explained in detail the position of the Republic of Korea with regard

to Japan's bid to have the Meiji Industrial Revolution sites inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List and asked for support from Malaysia, a member of the World Heritage Committee.

Taking into account that both the Republic of Korea and Malaysia are non-permanent members of the UN Security Council, the two ministers agreed to work together closely so that ASEAN and UNSC-related meetings can send out a strong and concerted message urging North Korea to give up its nuclear program.

6) Korea-Indonesia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral meeting with Retno Marsudi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, on August 5 on the occasion of his visit to Malaysia for the 2015 ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The two sides exchanged views on the bilateral relations, regional situation around the Korean Peninsula, and cooperation at the international level.



Korea-Indonesia Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Kuala Lumpur, August 5, 2015)

Minister Yun took note that Indonesia, as the country that has played the role of a Country Coordinator for the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations for the past three years, has contributed greatly to strengthening the ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership and expressed his gratitude for Indonesia's active cooperation.

Concerning the North Korean nuclear issue, Minister Yun stressed that ASEAN should send out a strong and concerted message calling on Pyongyang to stop its continuing violation of UNSC Resolutions through its nuclear and missile activities

and its provocative actions while refusing to engage in dialogue. In this connection, he urged Indonesia's active cooperation as the Country Coordinator for the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations.

The two ministers agreed to hold the second meeting of the ROK-Indonesia Joint Committee to prepare for future summit meetings and high-level exchanges and consult on the specifics.

7) Korea-Thailand Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun held a bilateral meeting with Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, on September 29 on the occasion of his visit to New York for the 2015 UN General Assembly. The two sides exchanged views on a wide range of issues including economic cooperation, defense cooperation and the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

The two Ministers noted that the two countries are working closely together in diverse areas as long-standing friends and strategic partners and agreed to increase high-level visits to draw on the momentum created for strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Minister Yun noted that a Korean company had recently won the bid for the export of T-50 trainer jets to Thailand and expressed his hope that such cooperation will continue. In response, Minister Don expressed his

hope that the bilateral cooperation between the two countries will expand to the economic area with the conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership



Korea-Thailand Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, September 29, 2015)

Agreement as a starting point.

In addition, expressing his deep concern over the possibility of a long-range missile launch by North Korea in the next month, Minister Yun expressed his hope that Thailand will play a constructive role.

8) Korea-Philippines Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with his Philippine counterpart Albert F. del Rosario on September 29 on the sidelines of his visit to New York to attend the UN General Assembly. They exchanged in-depth views on a range of issues, including the overall ROK-Philippines relations and international cooperation.

They appreciated that the two countries maintained a high level of cooperation on a variety of issues, including foreign affairs and security, trade and investment, and people-to-people exchanges as traditional allies. They expressed satisfaction that there is deepening friendship and cooperation between the two peoples thanks to growing people-to-people exchanges, the number of which amounted to over 160 million people in 2014.

The two ministers appreciated the continuous increase in bilateral trade and investment as well as the recent high economic growth rate of the Philippines, and agreed to redouble their efforts to expand bilateral trade and promote Korean companies' investment in the Philippines.

Expressing concern over the series of recent cases of Koreans killed in the Philippines, Minister Yun urged the Philippine government to enhance its efforts to safeguard Korean people in the country.

9) The Second Meeting of the ROK-Indonesia Joint Committee

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se and Foreign Minister Retno L. P. Marsudi of Indonesia held the second meeting of the Republic of Korea-Indonesia Joint Committee in Seoul on December 18.



The 2nd Meeting of the ROK-Indonesia Joint Committee (Seoul, December 18, 2015)

At the meeting, the two sides agreed that the region is undergoing a transition triggered by such factors as the shift in the balance of power, historical and territorial disputes and continued provocations by North Korea. They also shared the view that Korea and Indonesia,

as leading countries in East Asia, should strengthen strategic communication and work together more closely to achieve stability in the region.

The two sides also noted with satisfaction that, since the two countries forged a strategic partnership in 2006, much progress has been made in strategic communication and cooperation thanks to robust exchanges between high-level officials. In particular, they took note of the close bilateral cooperation in the defense industry and expressed the hope that cooperation in creative industries will be strengthened further.

Furthermore, the two sides agreed to step up cooperation in infrastructure construction, maritime affairs, forestry and development as well as social and cultural exchanges.

10) The Fourth Korea-Vietnam Strategic Dialogue

The fourth Korea-Vietnam Strategic Dialogue, which was headed by First Vice Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yong and Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Ho Xuan

Son, took place in Seoul on September 8, 2015. At the meeting, the two sides had in-depth discussions on how best to promote the bilateral cooperation in trade, investment, infrastructure, and finance. They also exchanged views on the regional situation around the Korean Peninsula and in East Asia as well as global issues such as climate change.

The two sides noted that the bilateral cooperation has deepened and expanded after the establishment of the Strategic Cooperative Partnership in 2009 and the signing of the Korea-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement in 2015. They expressed their hope that the two countries will further deepen cooperation not only in the economic sector but also in a wider range of areas including foreign affairs, security, and regional cooperation.

Vice Minister Cho explained the ROK's stance in dealings with North Korean issues, such as Pyongyang's landmine and artillery provocations in the Demilitarized Zone, and in holding inter-Korean high-level officials' meetings. He requested Vietnam's support in achieving peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula through dialogue. In response, Vice Minister Son expressed Vietnam's will to continue its effort to lead North Korea towards reform and openness.

2. Southwest Asia and the Pacific Region

1) Korea-India Summit

On May 18, President Park Geun-hye met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was paying a state visit to Korea from May 18 to 19. President Park and Prime Minister Modi noted with satisfaction that the relations between Korea and India



Korea-India Summit (Seoul, May 18, 2015)

have continuously developed for the past 42 years since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1973 and agreed to upgrade the relations into a Special Strategic Partnership to take the cooperative relationship between the two countries to the next level. This decision reflects the strong commitment of the two leaders to strengthening omnidirectional

cooperation for the peace and prosperity of the region and the world.

The two leaders adopted the Korea-India Joint Statement for Special Strategic Partnership to lay the groundwork for expanding the scope of strategic cooperation to include political and security areas in line with the newly upgraded bilateral relationship. Prime Minister Modi welcomed Korea's efforts to enhance cooperation and security among countries in the Asia-Pacific region by implementing the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) and the Eurasia Initiative. Also, the two leaders agreed to work together to find common ground between NAPCI and the Eurasia Initiative of Korea and India's Act East Policy and seek ways to work together. Furthermore, to advance the Special Strategic Partnership, the two leaders agreed to hold annual summit meetings, launch a joint vice-ministerial level dialogue on defense and foreign affairs in a 2+2 format, hold annual joint commissions led by the two foreign ministers, further strengthen the regular consultations between the National Security Councils of the two countries, seek ways to strengthen cyber security cooperation to better respond to transnational cyber threats, encourage greater cooperation for defense purposes between shipyards, and cooperate at an appropriate level for UN peacekeeping operations.

In addition, the two leaders agreed to start the negotiations on improving the

Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement in order to maximize trade and investment between the two countries and to expand the bilateral cooperation into new areas such as manufacturing, infrastructure, energy, shipbuilding, and public health. Prime Minister Modi introduced his Make In India policy, the goal of which is to make India a world manufacturing hub, and invited Korea to become a privileged partner. President Park conveyed her appreciation. In the presence of the two leaders, seven agreements and MOUs were signed including the Agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation, the Agreement on Cooperation in Audio-Visual Co-production, the MOU for Cooperation between the National Security Council structures, the MOU in the field of Electric Power Development and New Energy Industries, the MOU on Cooperation in Youth Matters, the Framework of Cooperation in the Field of Road Transport and Highways, and the MOU in the fields of Maritime Transport and Logistics.

Moreover, President Park and Prime Minister Modi participated in the launching ceremony of the Korea-India CEO Forum on May 19 to celebrate its establishment and presented the way forward for the economic cooperation between the two countries. President Park gave a speech in which she proposed to boost bilateral cooperation in manufacturing, the creative economy, and the new energy industry by utilizing India's Modi-nomics and Korea's Three-year Plan for Economic Innovation. Also, President Park suggested that the two countries should strengthen ICT cooperation by combining India's outstanding software workforce with Korea's hardware technology. She also asked for India's support for expanding bilateral cooperation in high value-added and creative industries, such as India's Bollywood. President Park also proposed to expand bilateral cooperation on new renewable energy, smart grids and energy storage systems.

Additionally, the two leaders held an informal summit meeting on November

16 in Antalya, Turkey on the sidelines of the G20 Summit. They noted with satisfaction that a mutual agreement on the expansion of direct flights has been signed recently. Prime Minister Modi expressed that he would like to see more participation from Korean companies in India's Make In India Initiative and invited Korea as a Partner Country to the Maritime India Summit, which will take place in Mumbai in April 2016.

2) Korea-Australia Summit

President Park Geun-hye and Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull held a summit on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit in Malaysia on November 22, 2015.



Korea-Australia Summit
(Kuala Lumpur, November 22, 2015)

They had in-depth discussions on a variety of issues, including foreign affairs, security, national defense, trade as well as the current situation on the Korean Peninsula.

As Korea and Australia are both middle powers with common values, the two leaders agreed to further strengthen cooperation on regional and international issues as well as on bilateral issues through the Foreign and

Defense Ministers' (2+2) Meeting, the Korea-Australia FTA, and MIKTA.

The two leaders shared the view that bilateral trade needs to be further expanded and noted with satisfaction the successful implementation of the Korea-Australia FTA. The two sides also decided to further strengthen cooperation in the areas of ICT and cyber security.

3) Korea-Pakistan Summit

On September 27, President Park Geun-hye held a bilateral summit with Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on the sidelines of the 70th United Nations General Assembly. They discussed substantial ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas, including politics, foreign affairs, the economy, trade, energy and development cooperation. They also exchanged views on the current situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.



Korea-Pakistan Summit
(New York, September 27, 2015)

The two leaders noted with satisfaction the launch of the Korea-Pakistan FTA feasibility study, which has been conducted by private research institutes of both nations. They also agreed to deepen bilateral economic cooperation in the areas of energy, port development, and urban transportation. Noting that he was pleased to see growing investments by Korean businesses, Prime Minister Sharif conveyed his will to create an exclusive industrial complex for Korean businesses to encourage more investment in Pakistan.

President Park promised to increase the use of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund in supporting the ICT sector and developing water resources in Pakistan in order to contribute to improving the country's capability for economic development. She also noted that Korea will share its experiences and knowhow in advancing the IT industry with Pakistan and strengthen cooperation in the textile sector by signing MOUs and dispatching market researchers.

President Park stressed that if North Korea's repeated nuclear and missile

threats led to actual provocations, it would not only result in heightened tension on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia but also represent a threat to the international community and asked for Pakistan's support and cooperation on that matter. Prime Minister Sharif expressed support for the existing United Nations Security Council sanctions against the North, making it clear that Pakistan would continue to oppose North Korea's nuclear weapons development as it had in the past.

4) Korea-New Zealand Summit

New Zealand Prime Minister John Phillip Key paid an official visit to Korea from March 22 to 24 at the invitation of President Park Geun-hye. President Park and



Korea-New Zealand Summit
(Seoul, March 23, 2015)

Prime Minister Key had a summit and a luncheon on March 23, in which the two leaders had discussions on substantial ways to strengthen cooperation in a wide range of areas including high-level exchanges, the economy, trade, culture, and people-to-people exchanges and shared views on the situation on the Korean Peninsula and cooperation on the regional and global stage.

During the Prime Minister's visit, the two leaders officially signed the Korea-New Zealand FTA, which was concluded in November 2014 on the occasion of the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia. The two sides also had in-depth discussions on ways to strengthen economic and trade cooperation in a wide range of areas including goods, services, and investment drawing on the complementary trade structures of

the two countries.

It was Prime Minister Key's fourth official visit to Korea since he took office. His visit provided an opportunity to bolster the friendship between Korea and New Zealand—one of its traditional allies that sent troops in the Korean War—and enhance the trust and bond between the two leaders. The signing of the FTA set a new milestone in the 53-year-long diplomatic history between the two sides and took the bilateral relations between Korea and New Zealand to the next level.

5) Korea-Australia 2+2 Foreign and Defense Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se and Defense Minister Han Min-koo met with Foreign Minister Julie Bishop and Defense Minister Kevin Andrews in Sydney, Australia on September 11 for the 2nd Korea-Australia Foreign and Defense Ministers' (2+2) Meeting. They discussed the regional situation, issues related to the Korean Peninsula, and ways to enhance defense and security cooperation between the two countries. The ministers of the two countries shared the view that the Korea-Australia partnership has developed into a quasi-alliance through Australia's participation in the Korean War, the 54-year-long diplomatic relations between the two countries, and the Korea-Australia FTA, which took effect in December 2014.

The two sides adopted a Joint Statement and a Blueprint, which set out concrete cooperation measures in the areas of diplomacy, defense and security. The Blueprint is one of the outcomes of the Vision Statement that was adopted by



Korea-Australia 2+2 Foreign and Defense Ministers'
Meeting (Sydney, September 11, 2015)

the heads of state of the two countries during Prime Minister Abbott's official visit to Korea in April 2014. The two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation not only between the diplomatic and defense authorities of the two countries but also at the governmental-wide level in a range of areas including public security, cyber security, border security, crisis management, and maritime safety and agreed to develop concrete measures.

Agreeing on the value of the Foreign and Defense Ministers' (2+2) Meeting, the two sides decided to continue to hold the Meeting every two years and hold the next 2+2 Meeting in Korea in 2017.

6) Korea-New Zealand Foreign Ministers' Meeting



Korea-New Zealand Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Auckland, September 13, 2015)

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se made an official visit to New Zealand from September 12 to 13 at the invitation of the government of New Zealand. Minister Yun had a meeting and a luncheon with Minister McCully, and they discussed ways to increase bilateral economic cooperation in the wake of the signing of the Korea-New Zealand FTA in March 2015; the situation in East Asia and on the Korean Peninsula; and ways to promote cooperation on the multilateral stage between Korea and New Zealand, a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Additionally, on September 12, Minister Yun paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister John Key, and they exchanged views on bilateral issues, including high-level exchanges and the ratification of the Korea-New Zealand FTA.

On September 13, Minister Yun visited and laid a wreath at the Korean War Memorial in Dove-Myer Robinson Park, Auckland. He also met New Zealand Korean War veterans and expressed his gratitude for the sacrifice and dedication they had made to safeguard the liberal democracy of Korea.

7) Korea-Sri Lanka Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On September 29, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera on the occasion of the 70th United Nations General Assembly. The two ministers exchanged in-depth views on the strategic cooperation between the two countries; substantive cooperation in such areas as national defense, the defense industry, trade and investment, and development; and the situation on the Korean Peninsula and cooperation on the global stage.



Korea-Sri Lanka Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, September 29, 2015)

This bilateral meeting was Minister Yun's first meeting with his Sri Lankan counterpart and the first high-level discussion between the two countries since the new Sri Lankan government took office in August 2015. It provided an opportunity to lay the groundwork for deepening the friendship and bond between the two ministers and for developing the relations between the two countries.

8) Korea-Fiji Foreign Ministers' Meeting



Korea-Fiji Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Suva (Fiji), September 14, 2015)

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held two bilateral meetings with Fijian Foreign Minister Inoke Kubuabola in 2015. On July 21, Foreign Minister Yun met with Foreign Minister Kubuabola in Seoul. On September 14, he visited Fiji, a key country in the South Pacific region. This was the very first visit by a Korean foreign minister since the two countries established diplomatic relations 44 years ago

in 1971. Foreign Minister Yun paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama and had a meeting and luncheon with Foreign Minister Kubuabola.

The two sides discussed measures to strengthen the relations between the two countries, the situation on the Korean Peninsula, global issues such as development cooperation and climate change, and cooperation in the international arena.

9) Korea-Australia Vice Ministers' Meeting

First Vice Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yong met with Secretary Peter Varghese of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Seoul on April 8. The two sides exchanged views on ways to promote the Korea-Australia relations, such as through high-level exchanges; the situation on the Korean Peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region; ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation on security and national defense; and key international issues.

The two sides exchanged views on the various types of bilateral, trilateral, and quadrilateral cooperation trends that are taking place in Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia while the Asia-Pacific region is drawing attention as an arena

of strategic competition and cooperation between the US and China. Recognizing that such cooperation trends should be geared towards improving regional stability and peace, the two sides agreed to step up strategic cooperation between their two countries.

Additionally, the two sides exchanged views on the way forward for key regional cooperation mechanisms such as the East Asia Summit, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, and the Asia-Europe Meeting as well as ways to bolster the Korea-Australia cooperation. They also discussed key international issues, including terrorism, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, violent extremism, global health security, and non-proliferation issues such as Iran's nuclear program.

10) Ninth Korea-Pakistan Policy Consultation

On November 26, First Vice Foreign Minister Lim Sung-nam and Special Secretary Mohammad Waheed-ul-Hasan met for the Ninth ROK-Pakistan Bilateral Policy Consultation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan. They discussed ways to promote bilateral exchanges and cooperation in various areas, including political affairs, the economy, trade, and development. They also exchanged views on regional issues, including the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in South Asia, and other international issues including terrorism and countering violent extremism.

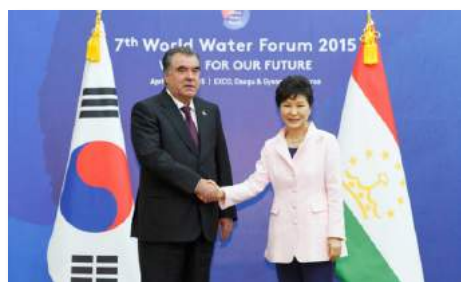
The two sides agreed to strengthen omnidirectional cooperation in various areas including implementing the follow-up measures to the ROK-Pakistan Summit, which was held in September 2015. The two sides also agreed to increase high-level exchanges, strengthen strategic communication, and seek ways to boost cooperation in national defense and the defense industry.

Vice Minister Lim explained the Korean government's efforts to achieve peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and emphasized that the international community should deliver a clear and consistent message to North Korea so that it stops developing nuclear weapons and makes the right choice. Special Secretary Waheed ul Hasan stated that he was well aware of the Korean government's policies for peaceful reunification as he had worked in Korea in the past and expressed his support for the various efforts by the Korean government, including the inter-Korean dialogue.

3. Mongolia·Central Asia Region

1) Korea-Tajikistan Summit

President Park Geun-hye hosted a summit meeting with Tajikistan President Emomali Rahmon on April 12, 2015. The Tajikistani leader was visiting Korea to attend the Seventh World Water Forum 2015.



Korea-Tajikistan Summit (Daegu, April 12, 2015)

The two leaders noted that the bilateral relations had been progressing since the establishment of diplomatic ties, and also agreed to expand bilateral cooperation across many fields such as establishing a fundamental basis for political and economic cooperation. The two leaders also welcomed

the signing of cooperative documents in various sectors including an aviation agreement, an agreement on cooperation in economy, science and technology, an

MOU on sports exchanges, an MOU on foreign affairs, and an MOU on cooperation in the cultural and artistic fields.

They also looked forward to the opening of the Tajikistani Embassy in Seoul on April 13, 2015, on the occasion of President Rahmon's visit leading to the strengthening of bilateral cooperation across many fields such as sports and culture, and also boosting of people-to-people exchanges and economic cooperation.

The two leaders agreed to further strengthen the bilateral relationship in international organizations such as lending mutual support for UN Security Council Non-Permanent Membership and also to cooperate with regard to Korea's plan to establish a cooperative body for Korea-Central Asian cooperation (Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Secretariat) in order to expand the role of the Korea-Central Asia Forum, which would be enhanced to a ministerial level meeting commemorating its tenth anniversary in 2016.

2) Korea-Turkmenistan Summit

President Park Geun-hye hosted a summit meeting on April 13, 2015, with President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov of Turkmenistan, which was nine months after the state visit to Turkmenistan in June 2014.

President Park requested that Turkmenistan play a constructive role with regard to the establishment of a foundation for peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula and a resolution of North Korea's nuclear program. The two countries concurred on the importance of the complete,



Korea-Turkmenistan Summit (Seoul, April 13, 2015)

verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of nuclear weapons in order to secure peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, and emphasized the significance of respecting international obligations pursuant to the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council.

The leaders of both countries decided to increase mutual cooperation in many areas such as science and technology, transportation infrastructure, and healthcare, as well as existing cooperation on energy and plant construction. Moreover, Korea planned to further develop the "Eurasia Initiative" project with Turkmenistan, which has great potential to emerge as an energy and logistics hub in the Eurasian region.

Through the summit meeting, various agreements were signed including an MOU for Steel Production Plant Construction, a Basic Agreement for Construction of Gas Liquefaction Plants (US \$4 billion), a Contract for the Modernization of the Turkmenbashi Refinery (US \$1 billion), an Agreement on Cooperation on Science and Technology, and an Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation.

The summit meeting was evaluated as an opportunity to strengthen ties and mutual understanding between Korea and Turkmenistan, by boosting people-to-people exchanges in education and sports, contributing to job creation and economic growth through promoting cooperation in new growth engine industries including science and technology and ICT as well as strengthening existing cooperation in traditional areas such as energy and plant construction.

3) Korea-Uzbekistan Summit

President Park Geun-hye hosted a summit meeting on May 28, 2015, with Islam Abduganievich Karimov, President of Uzbekistan, who selected Korea for his first overseas visit following his victory in the presidential elections in March 2015.

President Park asked for the continued support of the Uzbekistan government to prevent nuclear provocations by North Korea. President Islam Karimov stressed the importance of denuclearization and North Korea's obligation to comply with UN Security Council resolutions and of not recognizing North Korea as a nuclear weapons state.

The two leaders discussed ways to promote economic cooperation and people-to-people and cultural exchanges and to cooperate in the region and the international community, and committed to create a mutually beneficial environment to implement large-scale economic cooperation projects in Uzbekistan and closely cooperate in new areas such as the ICT, health, military, technology, and education fields.



Korea-Uzbekistan Summit (Seoul, May 28, 2015)

At the summit meeting, bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries was strengthened with the signing of several agreements: an exchange of notes amending the Agreement on Social Security, Agreement on the Mutual Recognition and Exchange of Driver's Licenses, MOU on police cooperation, Framework Agreement on financing investment projects in Uzbekistan, and MOU on the implementation of the Project on production of olefins from natural gas to produce polymers and other products through "Methanol to Olefins (MTO)" technology.

The two leaders adopted a Joint Declaration from the summit meeting, including the vision and will for mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries, developing the strategic partnership between the two countries and strengthening the comprehensive bilateral relationship.

4) Korea-Kyrgyzstan Foreign Ministerial Meeting



Korea-Kyrgyzstan Foreign Ministerial Meeting
(New York, September 30, 2015)

On September 30, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with his Kyrgyzstan counterpart, Yerlan Abdyldayev, in New York and exchanged views on ways to develop relations between the two countries as well as strengthen cooperation in international organizations.

The two ministers welcomed the increased high-level exchanges and cooperation in ODA, the economy, trade and various other

fields since President Atambaev's official visit to Korea in November 2013.

Furthermore, the two ministers shared the common understanding that Kyrgyzstan, as a country located in the center of the Eurasian continent with abundant natural tourism resources, was a significant partner in terms of implementing Korea's Eurasia Initiative Policy. The two ministers agreed to enhance the Tenth Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Forum 2016 to a ministerial level meeting in order to expand the role of the forum and to cooperate in establishing a cooperative body for Korea-Central Asian cooperation (the Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Secretariat).

5) Korea-Mongolia Relations

In 2015, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and Mongolia, the two countries reaffirmed their amicable bilateral relations through high-level exchanges such as the mutual visits by foreign ministers of both

countries.

President Park Geun-hye delivered a message of congratulations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Mongolia's democratization on July 29. Furthermore, Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-an of Korea paid an official visit to Mongolia on December 15-17 marking the first such visit for 14 years, Deputy Prime Minister Hwang Woo-yeo visited Mongolia on October 1-3, and the Chief Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission (ministerial level) visited on August 24-29. On the Mongolian side, the Secretary General of the National Security Council of Mongolia visited Korea on December 2-3, and Mongolia's Minister of Justice visited Korea on October 19-21.

Furthermore, there were also active exchanges between members of the legislative assemblies of Korea and Mongolia. From Korea's National Assembly Chairman of the Education, Culture, and Sports Committee visited Mongolia on July 6-9, Commissioners of the National Defense Committee visited on July 23-26, and the Chairman of the Environment and Labor Committee visited on October 21-23.

In 2011, the leaders of both sides had agreed to launch the Korea-Mongolia Joint Board, which was then established by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs in 2014 as a governmental group that would enhance substantial cooperation, and its first meeting was held on March 26.

Moreover, Mongolia expressed its support for Korea's major foreign policy initiatives such as the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative and the Eurasia Initiative.

4. Regional Cooperation Diplomacy

1) Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Forum

Korea has been holding the "Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Forum" at the vice foreign ministerial level since 2007 in order to discuss ways to enhance cooperation in the economy, culture, technology and all other fields with five Central Asian

countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Korea has also been making efforts to seek multilateral cooperative projects and to establish a network with Central Asian countries.

On October 5, 2015, the 9th Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Forum was held in Seoul under the theme "Eurasia Initiative: Enhancing connectivity among Korea-Central Asia." The forum was chaired by Korea's First Vice Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yong, inviting the heads of delegation from five Central Asian countries and over 200 participants from academia, industrial fields, and private

and public sectors, in order to evaluate the outcome of past forums, and further discuss cooperation projects in culture, healthcare, customs and national territorial information.

In particular, the "Seoul Declaration" was adopted at the forum in 2015, and the five Central Asian countries reaffirmed their support for the Eurasia Initiative. It was agreed that the 10th Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Forum would be enhanced to a ministerial level meeting and that the Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Secretariat would be established.



Korea-Central Asia Cooperation Forum
(Seoul, October 5, 2015)

Moreover, the Korea-Central Asia Trade and Tourism Road Show took place at the COEX, Seoul, on October 6, 2015. Various tourism resources of Central Asia were introduced to Koreans, and opportunities for trade between Korea and Central Asia were provided through a 1:1 business matching event and the establishment of a Trade-Tourism exhibition hall.

2) Korea-Central Asia Caravan

On November 9-13, 2015, the Fifth Korea-Central Asia Caravan event was held in Turkmenistan's¹⁾ capital of Ashgabat, Turkmenbashi, and Awaza in order to enhance comprehensive cooperation with Central Asian countries.

Over 80 people participated in the Caravan event, led by the Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Korea, and the delegation was comprised of business people, experts in the industrial and cultural fields as well as academia, and the Vice president of the Korea International Trade Association (KITA).

Many events were held under the Korea-Central Asia Caravan program, such as the Second Korea-Turkmenistan Policy Council, the First Korea-Turkmenistan Economic Cooperation Committee, Joint Academic Conference, and cultural events in order to strengthen relations and mutual understanding.

In particular, approximately 30 distinguished Korean business people with expertise in the local power plant construction field, including Hyundai Engineering, participated as economic delegations at the Economic Cooperation Committee, and took part in signing an MOU between the KITA-Turkmenistan Chamber of Commerce, B2B consultations and International Investment Forum of Turkmenistan.

Chapter 2

Diplomacy with Europe



1. Summit Diplomacy

1) Korea-Monaco Summit

President Park Geun-hye hosted a summit meeting with Prince Albert II, Sovereign Prince of Monaco, during his visit to attend the Seventh World Water Forum in Daegu, Korea, on April 12, 2015. The two leaders exchanged views on ways to strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries as well as environmental concerns such as water issues and climate change.



Korea-Monaco Summit (Daegu, April 12, 2015)

In addition, President Park expressed her appreciation for Monaco's continued support for Korea on the international stage, including Korea's bid to host the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, and discussed measures for mutual cooperation in dealing with international issues.

2) Korea-Hungary Summit

On April 14, 2015, President Park Geun-hye held a summit with President Janos Ader who was visiting Korea to attend the Seventh World Water Forum.

At the summit, the two leaders agreed to strengthen cooperation in pursuing various joint projects in new emerging industries such as information and communications technology, bio-pharmaceuticals and automotive components through collaboration between Hungary's advancement in basic science and Korea's manufacturing and production technology.

President Park held a summit in Prague on December 3, 2015, with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban on the margins of the Korean-Visegrad Group Summit Meeting. The two leaders discussed ways to develop cooperation in a wide range of areas, including trade and investment, the defense industry, and science and technology. On that occasion, President Park requested Hungary's continued cooperation for peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula as well as peace and security in Northeast Asia. She welcomed the signing of the Agreement on the Exchange and Mutual Protection of Classified Military Information between the two countries, which laid the legal framework for cooperation in defense industries and hoped for the early signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Logistics and Defense Industry Cooperation.



Korea-Hungary Summit (Seoul, April 14, 2015)

3) Korea-Bulgaria Summit

President Park Geun-hye held a summit on May 14, 2015 with President Rosen



Korea-Bulgaria Summit (Seoul, May 14, 2015)

Plevneliev, who paid an official visit to Korea on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and Bulgaria. The two leaders discussed ways to expand cooperation in areas such as trade and investment, energy, infrastructure, information and communications technology and defense industries.

The two leaders signed the Joint Declaration on the Comprehensive and Future-Oriented Partnership and the MOU on Science and Technology Cooperation, MOU on National Defense Cooperation as well as the Agreement on Education and Cultural Cooperation were signed in their presence.

4) Korea-EU Summit



Korea-EU Summit (Seoul, September 15, 2015)

President Park Geun-hye held the 8th Korea-EU Summit with Donald Tusk President of the European Council, who paid an official visit to Korea on September 14-16, 2015.

The talks were the first of the kind since the change of EU leadership in late 2014, and the two leaders agreed to make efforts for the effectuation, within the year, the Korea-

EU Free Trade Agreement that had been provisionally applied since July 2011 and to continue strengthening mutual consultations in developing concrete plans

for promoting balanced trade and expanding two-way investment. They agreed to hold the next meeting of the Korea-EU High-level Industrial Policy Dialogue in the near future in Seoul and expand areas of cooperation to include science and technology, information technology, and maritime affairs.

The two sides also decided to work in close cooperation on the international stage, such as the UN Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the G20. In particular, the EU, in the Joint Press Statement of the 8th Korea-EU Summit, issued its first statement supporting peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula while also reaffirming its support for the Korean government's Trust-Building Process on the Korean Peninsula.

5) Korea-Denmark Summit

On September 27, 2015, President Park Geun-hye held summit talks with Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen of Denmark on the sidelines of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly. The two leaders noted the continued development of bilateral cooperation and ties through the establishment of the Strategic Partnership and Green Growth Alliance in 2011 and discussed regional and international issues, including substantive cooperation, the North Korean nuclear issue, and green growth.

The two leaders agreed to develop a joint action plan to enhance cooperation in the area of high value-added industries such as healthcare, shipping, Arctic

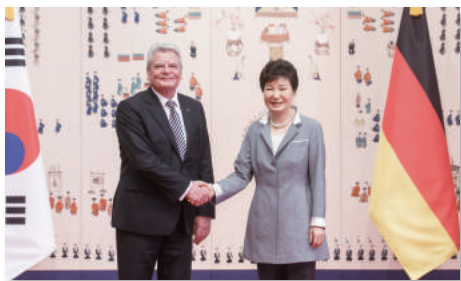


Korea-Denmark Summit
(New York, September 27, 2015)

development, design, and clean technology in an effort to enhance the strategic partnership.

Prime Minister Rasmussen invited the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Global Green Growth Forum (3GF) to be held in Copenhagen in 2016 and pledged Denmark's continued support for Korea's policy toward North Korea while expressing deep concern over North Korea's nuclear and human rights issues.

6) Korea-Germany Summit



Korea-Germany Summit (Seoul, October 12, 2015)

On October 12, 2015, President Park Geun-hye held a summit with President Joachim Wilhelm Gauck, who was on a state visit to Korea from October 11 to 14.

The two leaders expressed their satisfaction with the work of the three governmental committees for reunification, of which the framework was established in March

2014 during President Park's state visit to Germany. They agreed to continue to work closely together, while Germany remained a firm supporter of the Korean government's policy towards North Korea.

Furthermore, the two leaders agreed to develop the future-oriented partnership between the two countries and, in particular, discussed the importance of expanding cooperation in areas such as R&D by SMEs, innovation in manufacturing and Academic-Industry Partnerships for research.

7) Korea-France Summit

On November 4, 2015, President Park Geun-hye held summit talks with President François Hollande of France, who was on a state visit to Korea on November 3-4, and discussed ways to work together on bilateral, regional and international issues of common interest.

During the summit, the two leaders engaged in an extensive discussion on ways to promote substantial cooperation in the area of politics, economy and trade, the creative economy, culture and the arts, science and technology, as well as on regional and international issues such as the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in the Northeast Asian region. In particular, they adopted an action plan to advance the comprehensive partnership between the two countries into a future-oriented relationship in the 21st century and agreed to implement it in a systematic manner.



Korea-France Summit (Seoul, November 4, 2015)

8) Korea-Iceland Summit

On November 9, 2015, President Park Geun-hye met with President Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, who was the first Icelandic President to visit Korea, and held the first summit meeting between the two countries since the establishment of diplomatic relations. The two leaders exchanged views on a wide range of issues such as cooperation regarding Arctic development, climate change, and renewable energy as well as



Korea-Iceland Summit (Seoul, November 9, 2015)

matters relating to the Korean Peninsula.

Noting that the Arctic Route would reduce the distance between East Asia and Europe and thereby expand opportunities for inter-regional cooperation in the 21st century, like the Suez Canal that bridged Europe and Asia in the 19th century, President Park expressed her hope for the continued expansion of cooperation with Iceland, which has full potential as the future hub of the Arctic Route. President Grímsson stated that the Arctic Route would offer great opportunities for Korea as a leading nation in shipping and shipbuilding and that he hoped for Korea's constructive participation in Arctic cooperation. President Park also suggested that Iceland, with its strength in clean energy technology such as geothermal and hydropower energy, and Korea, with its energy demand management technology such as the Electric Energy Storage System (ESS), smart grids, and information technology, should work together in responding to global climate change by sharing each other's strengths.

9) Korea-UK Summit



Korea-UK Summit (Antalya, November 15, 2015)

President Park Geun-hye met with UK Prime Minister David Cameron on November 15, 2015, on the occasion of their attendance at the G20 Summit in Antalya, Turkey, and had in-depth discussions on ways to expand bilateral substantial cooperation, regional issues, terrorism and other international issues.

President Park conveyed her condolences and sympathies over the loss of a huge

number of UK citizens and other innocent lives during the terror attacks in Paris and expressed her commitment to join the anti-terrorism efforts led by the international community, including France and the UK.

The two leaders shared the understanding that the results of President Park's state visit to the UK in 2013 had led to further deepening of the relationship between the two countries in many areas and discussed concrete ways to take the substantial bilateral cooperation to the next level. They noted the progress in developing possibilities for cooperation in the framework of the bilateral nuclear energy dialogue in areas such as the construction and deconstruction of nuclear power plants as well as small nuclear power plants, and welcomed the implementation of the joint research financed by competent institutions of the two countries on the new energy industry, including the development of fuel cells and smart grids.

The two leaders noted the recent strengthening of cooperation in protecting overseas citizens against global crisis situations since the Libya evacuation and agreed to step up efforts to work together in enhancing crisis management capacities. Moreover, they also agreed to explore ways to work closely in peacekeeping operations in South Sudan and the African region at large and continue to maintain and develop the cooperative relationship between the two countries forged in the process of combating the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone.

10) Korea-Czech Republic Summit

On February 26, 2015, President Park Geun-hye held a summit with Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka, who was on an official visit to Korea on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Czech Republic. The

two leaders adopted a Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the Strategic Partnership.

They agreed to explore ways to boost bilateral cooperation in areas such as energy including nuclear power, science and technology, innovation, infrastructure and the defense industry. Furthermore, the two leaders exchanged views on matters relating to the Korean Peninsula and regional issues in Northeast Asia, and confirmed the Czech Republic's commitment to close coordination regarding the Korean Peninsula.

Ten months later in December 2015, President Park visited the Czech Republic,



Korea-Czech Republic Summit
(Prague, December 2, 2015)

which marked the first visit by a Korean Head of State, in 20 years and held a summit with Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka and President Miloš Zeman respectively. The leaders adopted an Action Plan, which included concrete measures to develop the strategic partnership. They discussed ways to expand and diversify areas of cooperation in trade and investment to include nuclear

energy and science and technology, among others.

After the summit, President Park and President Zeman attended the signing ceremonies for MOUs on Cooperation on ICT, healthcare, the creative industry and technical innovation.

11) Korea-Slovakia Summit

President Park Geun-hye held a summit with Prime Minister Robert Fico on December

3, 2015, in Prague on the margins of the Korea-Visegrad Group Summit. The two leaders discussed ways to expand cooperation in a variety of areas including trade and investment, the defense industry, science and technology, culture and education.

President Park recognized Slovakia as one of Korea's largest trading partners in Central Europe and noted the active economic cooperation through more than 90 Korean firms operating in Slovakia. The two leaders agreed to put in place measures such as signing of an agreement on economic cooperation, establishing a joint economic committee, and launching a committee on science and technology policies, in order to expand the horizons of bilateral cooperation to include science and technology, energy and infrastructure.



Korea-Slovakia Summit (Prague, December 3, 2015)

12) Korea-Poland Summit

President Park Geun-hye held a summit with Prime Minister Beata Szydło on December 3, 2015, in Prague on the margins of the Korea-Visegrad Group Summit Meeting and discussed measures for cooperation in security, trade and investment, infrastructure, science and technology, and culture. The two leaders also exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula.

They agreed to diversify the scope of



Korea-Poland Summit (Prague, December 3, 2015)

bilateral cooperation in science, innovation, environment and infrastructure by sharing experiences and know-how in SME support and R&D investment.

President Park requested Poland's continued support for the Korean government's policies on the Korean Peninsula, and both leaders agreed on the importance of strengthening bilateral cooperation in security and national defense.

2. High-Level Diplomacy

1) Prime Minister's Visit to France



Prime Minister's Official Visit to France
(Paris, September 16-19, 2015)

Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn made an official visit to France on September 16-19, 2015, on the occasion of the 130th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and France. During his visit to Paris, Prime Minister Hwang declared the official opening of the largest-ever event of its kind to be held the "2015-2016 Korea-France Year" and attended programs such as the courtesy visit to French President François

Hollande and the meeting with French Prime Minister Manuel Valls.

The visit to France served as an opportunity to take stock of the history of the bilateral relationship between Korea and France of which the diplomatic ties marked the 130th anniversary and to have in-depth discussions on ways to expand substantial cooperation in areas such as the creative economy, new industries, culture, education, and language exchange. Additionally, the two leaders agreed to

continue to strengthen cooperation on regional and international issues, including the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in the Northeast Asian region as well as climate change.

Above all, the adoption of the Korean language as one of the basic subjects of the baccalauréat, or the French university entrance exam, opened up new horizons for educational and language cooperation between the two countries. And the signing of a bilateral agreement to facilitate the mobility of professionals and trainees contributed to the promotion of the activities of the peoples and businesses of the two countries benefitting them.

The Korea-France Year event began with a performance of *Jongmyo Jeryeak*, traditional ritual dances and Confucian ceremonial music of Korea, at the Théâtre National de Chaillot, and the Eiffel Tower was illuminated with red, blue, white and black the colors of the Korean national flag.

2) Ministerial Meetings

(1) Korea-Georgia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister Tamar Beruchashvili on the margins of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on January 22, 2015, and discussed various areas of bilateral cooperation.

The two Ministers expressed their satisfaction regarding the close economic cooperation with bilateral trade volume having increased seventeen fold over the past five years. They agreed to increase investment, and to promote the participation of Korean firms in transportation and infrastructure modernization projects pursued by Georgia.

In addition, Minister Yun hoped that bilateral consultations between the two

ministries would be further boosted in order to promote bilateral relations in various areas and, in that context, both ministers welcomed that the opening of the Korean office in Tbilisi in December 2015 would serve as a foundation for the expansion of bilateral ties.

(2) Korea-France Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius in Davos and Paris on January 23 and July 17, respectively. The two Ministers reviewed the implementation of the follow-up measures taken since the two Korea-France summits in 2013 and 2014 and had comprehensive and in-depth discussions on the Iran nuclear deal, the North Korean nuclear issue, climate change, and regional issues.

The two sides noted the progress in expanding and developing the relationship between the two countries in many areas including state affairs, the economy, education, culture, and international issues, and, in an effort to implement the follow-up measures thereof in a systematic manner, agreed to work towards the prompt adoption of an action plan to strengthen the bilateral comprehensive partnership in the 21st century currently under discussion. The Ministers, in particular, agreed to pursue the possibility of launching a foreign ministerial strategic dialogue between the two countries in order to further realize strategic cooperation not just in terms of bilateral relations, but on a wide range of international issues.

In addition, the two sides agreed to actively work together to successfully prepare for the "2015-2016 Korea-France Year," an event slated to be launched in September 2015 to celebrate the 130th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

(3) Korea-Ukraine Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister Pavlo Klimkin on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on January 22, 2015, and discussed the situation in Ukraine as well as the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Minister Yun stressed the Korean government's consistent support for Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence and recognized Ukraine's constructive and constant efforts to peacefully resolve the conflict by implementing the Minsk agreements on the basis of close consultations with relevant countries.

Minister Yun held talks again on September 18 with Minister Klimkin, who was on an official visit to Korea from September 17 to 18. The talks centered on bilateral relations to increase reciprocal visits by high-ranking officials and to hold regular consultations as well as to boost cooperation in areas such as trade and investment, infrastructure, agriculture and ICT. They also exchanged views on issues relating to the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia and ways to develop cooperation on the international stage.



Korea-Ukraine Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, September 18, 2015)

(4) Korea-Germany Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Berlin on February 6, 2015, on his way to participate in the 51st Munich Security Conference. The Meeting focused on bilateral relations as well as strategic cooperation on regional and global agenda. The Ministers noted that the recent exchange of bilateral high-level visits since President Park's state visit to Germany in March 2014 provided important momentum for the development of bilateral relations.

The two Ministers met again in Berlin on June 12, 2015, to discuss, among others, issues concerning the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia, the 39th World Heritage Committee, violent extremism, the Syrian and Ukrainian crises, and Iran nuclear negotiations.

In particular, Minister Yun requested the active role and support of Germany as the chair country of the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee on the issue of

Japan's attempts to inscribe its industrial sites of the Meiji Revolution on the World Heritage List, and on June 25, the two Ministers also discussed the issue again by telephone.

Minister Yun met Minister Steinmeier in Luxembourg on November 5, 2015, on the margins of the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The two Ministers followed up on the summit between President Park and President

Gauck and promoted, in particular, the partnership for the creative economy.

(5) Korea-Italy Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On February 7, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference. During the meeting, they reviewed the progress in implementing the results of President Park Geun-hye's official visit to Italy in 2014 on the occasion of the 130th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries and discussed ways to develop reciprocal cooperation in a number of areas, including the creative economy, culture, and regional and international issues.

The two sides commended the establishment of a "Creative Economy

Partnership" that presented a blueprint for future cooperation between Korea and Italy as well as the successful implementation of MOUs signed in diverse fields, including design, SMEs, industrial technology, energy, and culture, as a follow-up to the bilateral summit meeting in 2014. The Ministers also agreed to continue to work together for the success of the Expo Milano 2015 and for peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula.

(6) Korea-Slovenia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On March 13, 2015, Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral meeting with Minister Karl Viktor Erjavec, who was on an official visit to Korea and had in-depth discussions on bilateral relations as well as regional matters involving the Korean Peninsula, Northeast Asia and the Balkan region. A Joint Press Statement was released following the meeting.

Minister Yun noted that Slovenia had become Korea's largest trading partner in the Balkan region since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1992. In particular, he welcomed the launch of the First Korea-Slovenia Joint Economic Committee, which took place on the occasion of Minister Erjavec's visit to Korea, and expected to continue to expand economic cooperation in various areas on the basis of strong performances in bilateral trade and investment.

(7) Korea-Serbia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral discussion with Minister Ivica Dacic on April



Korea-Germany Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Luxembourg, November 5, 2015)



Korea-Slovenia Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, March 13, 2015)

16, 2015, in Amsterdam on the margins of the Global Conference on Cyberspace and exchanged views on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.

Minister Yun noted that Serbia and Korea, which marked the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations in 2014, had continued to develop their cooperation in areas such as the economy and culture, and proposed to improve the institutional framework by signing various agreements such as on double tax avoidance, investment promotion and protection, and air services.

(8) Visit of EU High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Korea-EU Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On May 4, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held a foreign ministers' meeting between Korea and the EU with Federica Mogherini, EU High Representative for

Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, who visited Korea for the first time since she took office in November 2014. The two sides exchanged in-depth views on bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues, including issues relating to Northeast Asia, Ukraine and the Middle East, the Iran nuclear deal and the non-proliferation system, cyber security, the threat posed by ISIL, sustainable

development, and climate change, and agreed to enhance cooperation on a whole spectrum of issue in the UN and on the international stage. Minister Yun particularly elaborated on the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative as an effort to promote dialogue and cooperation in the Northeast Asian region and asked for support and cooperation from the EU. In response, High Representative Federica



**Korea-EU Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, May 4, 2015)**

Mogherini pledged that the EU would provide continued support and cooperation for the initiative, stating that the European experience of political and economic integration could well be applicable in Northeast Asia.

On August 5, 2015, Minister Yun met with High Representative Mogherini once again on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit held in Kuala Lumpur and discussed ways to strengthen the momentum for mutual cooperation and address nuclear issues, including the Iran nuclear deal and North Korean nuclear program. Minister Yun welcomed the final conclusion of the Iran nuclear deal on July 14, 2015, and commended High Representative Mogherini's successful role as mediator in the process. The two sides shared the view that, taking advantage of the momentum created by the Iran nuclear deal, the international community should step up its efforts to deal with the North Korean nuclear issue as one of the unresolved issues of the world's non-proliferation system. In this context, Minister Yun stressed the importance of the concerted efforts of the international community in preventing provocations by North Korea, and High Representative Mogherini affirmed the EU's commitment to offer its continued support for issues concerning the Korean Peninsula.

On November 5, 2015, Minister Yun met with High Representative Mogherini for the third time on the occasion of his attendance at the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Luxembourg. Minister Yun explained the key outcomes of the Korea-Japan-China Trilateral Summit and the Korea-Japan bilateral summit held in early November as well as the Korean government's plan to strengthen regional cooperation for peace and prosperity in Northeast Asia. High Representative Mogherini expressed her expectation that restoring the consultative forum between Korea, Japan, and China would greatly contribute to regional stability. The two sides exchanged in-depth views on the progress since the Iran nuclear deal and

the implications of the process of resolving the Iranian nuclear issue for the North Korean nuclear issue, and reaffirmed the need for joint efforts to bring real change into North Korea.

(9) Korea-Turkey Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On May 22, 2015, Minister Yun Byung-se held bilateral talks with Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, who visited Korea to attend the 5th MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The topics of the meeting included trade and investment, construction and the

defense industry, cultural and consular affairs, cooperation on the international stage as well as regional issues.

Minister Yun noted the substantial increase in trade and investment, cooperation in infrastructure and the defense industry, and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries. The two Ministers agreed to work together for the successful implementation

of various events to be held on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 2017, so that the anniversary could contribute to the enhancement of mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries and the expansion of cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

(10) Korea-Switzerland Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister Didier Burkhalter on the margins of the Munich Security Conference on February 7, 2015 and the OSCE Asian Conference in Seoul on June 1, 2015. Minister Burkhalter confirmed the support of the Swiss

government for the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI), and the two Ministers exchanged views regarding the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia as well as international issues such as human rights.

Minister Yun noted that President Park's successful visit to Switzerland in January 2014 had led to strengthened relations between the two countries, and expressed his hope to develop closer cooperation in the international arena, in particular on security matters concerning the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia.

Over the said two meetings, the two sides agreed that it was important to learn from and share the OSCE process as one of the best examples of a multilateral security cooperation framework, in order to develop NAPCI. Following the examples of the 2015 OSCE Asian Conference in Seoul, they decided to strengthen trilateral cooperation between Korea, Switzerland and the OSCE.

(11) Korea-Croatia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On June 13, 2015, Minister Yun Byung-se visited Croatia and met Minister Vesna Pusic in Zagreb. During the meeting, the two Ministers discussed bilateral cooperation, the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee, and the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

In addition, Minister Yun met Minister Pusic



Korea-Turkey Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, May 22, 2015)



Korea-Switzerland Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, June 1, 2015)



Korea-Croatia Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Zagreb, June 13, 2015)

once again in New York on September 26 on the margins of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly. Minister Yun expressed satisfaction regarding the significant increase in bilateral trade and welcomed the completion of negotiations on the aviation agreement with ever-increasing people-to-people exchanges. He also requested the Croatian government to provide assistance to Korean companies in fields such as infrastructure and the defense industry.

(12) Korea-Poland Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On July 29, 2015, Minister Yun Byung-se made an official visit to Poland and held a meeting with Minister Grzegorz Schetyna. At the meeting, the two Ministers



Korea-Poland Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Warsaw, July 29, 2015)

discussed a wide range of issues, including bilateral relations, regional cooperation between Korea and the Visegrad Group, the Eurasia Friendship Express, and the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

Minister Yun noted the expansion of the framework of bilateral cooperation between the two countries to the level of regional

cooperation and asked Poland to provide its support for Korea-Visegrad cooperation and the Eurasia Friendship Express. At the same time, he highly appreciated Poland's contribution to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula as a member of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and the Peace Club whose members have permanent diplomatic missions both in North and South Korea. In particular, he proposed to share Poland's successful experience of transition to support Korea's efforts towards reunification.

(13) Second Korea-UK Strategic Dialogue and Korea-UK Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On August 10, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with UK Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond, who made his first official visit to Korea, in the framework of the Second Korea-UK Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue, and had in-depth discussions on bilateral issues as well as international issues, including the regional dynamics on the Korean Peninsula, in Northeast Asia, and in Europe, climate change, health diplomacy, cyber security, and anti-terrorism.



Korea-UK Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue
(Seoul, August 10, 2015)

Minister Yun proposed that the UK, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council and one of the leading members of the EU, and Korea, as a middle power and responsible member of the international community, work closely together in resolving the challenges jointly faced by the international community. The Minister in particular proposed to enhance cooperation in the area of health diplomacy and development cooperation by placing a strategic focus on "humanitarian diplomacy," while Foreign Secretary Hammond highly commended Korea for being the only non-Western country that joined the efforts to fight the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone and expressed his hope to further promote cooperation between the two countries in providing development assistance to African countries.

Foreign Secretary Hammond stated his view that the resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue could also have a positive impact on dealing with the North Korean nuclear issue, and Minister Yun asked for the UK's constructive role in the process of resolving the North Korean nuclear issue.

On September 29, 2015, Minister Yun, upon the UK's request, met with Foreign

Secretary Hammond again on the sidelines of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly and consolidated the comprehensive and creative partnership between Korea and the UK. In the meeting, Minister Yun noted the agreement to hold the 1st Korea-UK Meeting of Directors-General for Consular Affairs in London in late October as part of the two countries' efforts to strengthen cooperation in consular crisis management and to observe a training session at a Crisis Management Centre located in the UK.

Minister Yun explained the current inter-Korean relationship since North Korea's land mine provocation in the DMZ in August, and Foreign Secretary Hammond expressed the UK's commitment to close cooperation while sharing its concern over North Korea's further provocation attempts. Moreover, Foreign Secretary Hammond emphasized the urgent need for efforts to resolve the challenges facing the international community. He also commended Korea's contribution to UN peacekeeping activities and enhancing capacity for fighting infectious diseases in developing countries, and proposed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in that field.

(14) Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Five Nordic Countries on the Occasion of the GLACIER Conference

During his attendance at the foreign ministerial Conference on Global Leadership in the Arctic: Cooperation, Innovation, Engagement and Resilience, or GLACIER, held in Anchorage, Alaska, on August 30-31, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held back-to-back bilateral meetings with foreign ministers of members of the Nordic Council of Ministers including Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Finland.

The foreign ministers of Korea and the Nordic countries reaffirmed the bilateral cooperative ties forged over the years. The bilateral meetings served as an

opportunity to strengthen defense industry cooperation with Norway, to discuss holding joint economic committee meetings with Sweden, and to promote substantial cooperation in developing e-navigation systems with Denmark as well as to reinforce cooperation with the Nordic countries on the international stage.

At the same time, the meetings offered a good opportunity to further cement the foundation for cooperation with Nordic countries as permanent members of the Arctic Council in preparation for the new Arctic age, in light of the importance of the Arctic region as one of the elements of the Eurasia Initiative, one of the three pillars of the Korean government's "Trustpolitik."

(15) Korea-Albania Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister Ditmir Bushati on September 29, 2015, on the margins of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly and discussed bilateral cooperation as well as international agenda.

The two Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the development of bilateral relations since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1991. They agreed to establish a joint economic committee based on the Agreement on Economic Cooperation concluded at the meeting, to promote exchanges between businesses. They also stressed common efforts to establish a policy consultation between the two foreign ministries and to promote cultural cooperation and people-to-people exchanges.



Korea-Albania Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, September 29, 2015)

(16) Korea-Cyprus Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister Ioannis Kasoulidis on September 30, 2015, on the margins of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly and discussed a wide range of issues including bilateral relations, regional issues and ways to promote cooperation on the international stage.



Korea-Cyprus Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, September 30, 2015)

Minister Yun noted the continuous development of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1995. He expressed his hope to foster mutual understanding among the two peoples through various events celebrating the 20th anniversary of diplomatic relations in 2015 and proposed to continue close cooperation with Cyprus in the fields of shipbuilding and shipping as well as to develop successful cooperative projects in many other fields such as natural resources development, communication and infrastructure.

(17) Korea-Iceland Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On November 9, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with Icelandic Foreign Minister Gunnar Bragi Sveinsson, who visited Korea on November 8-10, accompanying the President of Iceland. Minister Yun explained the Eurasia Initiative pursued by the Korean government aimed at promoting connectivity between Asia and Europe and expressed his hope to strengthen cooperation with Iceland, a country with great potential as a logistics hub in the event of the commercialization of the Arctic Route. Moreover, Minister Sveinsson expressed his hope to explore possibilities for cooperation with Korea in many fields including the shipping

and service industries, in addition to areas that Iceland has strength in such as geothermal energy, renewable energy, and fisheries.

In addition, the two Ministers agreed to cooperate in successfully developing a new climate regime at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change slated for late November in Paris, and Minister Yun expressed his hope to expand cooperation in responding to climate change in the framework of the GCF and GGGI located in Korea. Minister Yun stressed the need for concerted joint efforts by the international community to resolve North Korean human rights and nuclear issues, while Minister Sveinsson pledged the Icelandic government's continued support and cooperation for the Korean government's North Korea policy.



Korea-Iceland Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, November 9, 2015)

3. Regional Cooperation Diplomacy

In order to promote substantive cooperation with European countries and to expand the basis for cooperation in the international arena, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is active in various regional organizations, playing a valuable part in the international efforts to resolve global issues, including financial crisis, climate change, and security matters, as well as boosting cooperation with European countries in a wide range of areas such as economy and trade, culture, and energy.

1) OSCE: Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

As an OSCE Asian Partner for Cooperation since 1994, Korea has actively participated in various meetings held by the OSCE, through which the Korean government acquired experience related to multilateral cooperation in security matters and confidence-building. Korea has also enhanced the OSCE member states' understanding of the situation on the Korean Peninsula, including the North Korean nuclear issue.

From 2 to 3 June, Korea hosted the 2015 OSCE Asian Conference focusing on the changing global security environment and vision for multilateral security cooperation in Asia. During the Conference, the participating countries discussed possible areas of cooperation between the OSCE and the Asian Partners on evolving security issues such as counter-terrorism, crisis management and cyber security. It was the first time the Asian Conference was held at ministerial level, which reflected the shared understanding of the importance of cooperation between the OSCE and the Asian Partners in the changing security environment, and which Minister Yun, Swiss Foreign Minister Didier Burkhalter, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Tanasak Patimapragorn attended. Also, during the conference, Korea convened a special session on the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative (NAPCI) to raise the awareness of the OSCE participating States and Partners on the Initiative.

Furthermore, Korea participated in the 1st OSCE Asian Contact Group Meeting in Vienna, Austria, in March, the 2nd OSCE-ACG Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, in April, and the 22nd OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, in December. Taking part in various conferences, the Korean government explained its policy on the Korean Peninsula, the Northeast Asian region, and NAPCI, and emphasized the

value of cooperation in responding to new security threats such as cyber attacks, terrorism, and climate change.

2) NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was originally founded as a military alliance in 1949. Since the end of the Cold War, however, NATO has contributed to security in areas of conflict outside the region such as Afghanistan and Libya. It has also taken counter-measures against emerging security threats including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, piracy and cyber attacks. In particular, the Ukraine crisis in 2014 made NATO focus more on its original mission: collective defense.

Korea became one of NATO's 'Partners across the Globe' in 2006, and has been gradually strengthening its cooperation with the alliance by joining the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan in 2010 and contributing considerable financial support to the Afghanistan military forces and police.

Upon such cooperative relations with Korea, NATO has been actively supporting Korea's stance on agenda concerning the Korean Peninsula, including the North Korean nuclear issue, and is sharing its experience in discussions regarding NAPCI.

This year specifically, the Korean government participated in the NATO Crisis Management Exercise 2015 (CMX-2015) in March and co-hosted the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme Information Day in November, enhancing the mutual understanding on global security threats and sharing the experience of regional cooperation. In the future, the two sides will seek common measures to counter global security threats such as cyber attacks and terrorism and strengthen military cooperation through the interoperability platform meetings.

Chapter 3

Diplomacy with Latin America
and the Caribbean

1. Summit Diplomacy

1) President Park's Visit to Four Latin American Countries
(Colombia, Peru, Chile, Brazil)

President Park made a visit to four Latin American countries—Colombia, Peru, Chile, and Brazil—from April 16 to 27, 2015 the first visit to Latin America since the current administration took office. Accompanied by the largest-ever delegation comprised of 126 business leaders, President Park signed 78 agreements or MOUs, the biggest number of agreements signed during a visit, and her visit is expected to generate an outcome of around ₩700 billion. President Park's visit laid the foundation for building an institutional framework for strengthening cooperation in new areas such as health and medical treatment, e-government, e-commerce, and the new energy industry.

Colombia President Park Geun-hye paid an official visit to Colombia from April 16 to 18 and met with Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos Calderón. During the summit and dinner, President Park and President Juan Manuel Santos Calderón discussed ways to advance and deepen the strategic cooperative partnership between the two countries in such areas as infrastructure, the defense industry, public security, health and development. The two presidents also exchanged views on the situation on the Korean Peninsula and the progress in Colombian Peace Talks.



Korea-Colombia Summit (Bogota, April 17, 2015)

Peru President Park paid a state visit to Peru after Colombia from April 18 to 21. She held a bilateral summit with Peruvian President Ollanta Humala and discussed ways to promote bilateral cooperation in various areas including health, security, infrastructure, and science and technology. The two heads of state acknowledged that the reciprocal relationship between the two countries is at its best since the establishment of diplomatic relations thanks to the effectuation of the Korea-Peru FTA in 2011. They agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation, which is currently focused around trade and investment, and expand its scope to include higher value-added businesses such as the defense industry, e-government, and security. They also agreed to share knowledge and experience in creating new growth engines. During President Park's



Korea-Peru Summit (Lima, April 20, 2015)

visit, a total of 20 MOUs were signed, and the government of Peru designated Korea as a "hygiene advanced country" by a presidential executive order immediately after the summit meeting.

Chile President Park paid a state visit to Chile on April 21-23 and met with Chilean President Michelle Bachelet. The two heads of state noted with satisfaction that, after the effectuation of the Korea-Chile FTA in 2004, bilateral trade has increased



Korea-Chile Summit (Santiago, April 22, 2015)

significantly. Given the changes that have taken place in the global trade environment since then, the presidents agreed to discuss ways to upgrade the FTA by holding an FTA commission to review the implementation of the FTA. Recognizing that the two countries are key partners, the two heads of state agreed to expand the scope of bilateral

cooperation, which is currently focused around trade and investment, to include higher value-added industries such as the defense industry and science and technology. Furthermore, they signed a working holiday agreement and an MOU for nurturing SMEs and global start-ups, which laid the groundwork for the two countries to achieve future-oriented shared growth.

Brazil On the last leg of her trip, President Park Geun-hye paid a state visit to Brazil on April 23-25. She held a bilateral summit with Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff, and they discussed ways to build on the progress currently being made by the two countries in working together in various areas including the economy, education, and culture. The two heads of state also recognized that the two countries are ideal

partners and agreed to expand the scope of bilateral cooperation to include high value-added areas such as infrastructure, nuclear energy, and new and renewable energy. In particular, noting that *Hangul* is very scientific and original, President Rousseff expressed her strong will to strengthen the partnership between the two countries in education and innovation. Furthermore, she reaffirmed her commitment to cooperating in implementing the program of 'Science Without Borders,' which paved the way for strengthening the cooperation between future generations of the two countries.



Korea-Brazil Summit (Brasilia, April 24, 2015)

2) Official Visit by President of the Republic of Honduras to Korea

President Juan Orlando Hernández of the Republic of Honduras made an official visit to Korea on July 19-22 and met with President Park Geun-hye on July 20. They discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas, including politics, trade, infrastructure, development, education, science and technology, and on the international stage. The two presidents also exchanged views regarding the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Central America.

3) Summit Meeting on the Sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit

President Park Geun-hye held a summit meeting with Peruvian President Ollanta Humala on November 18, 2015 on the sidelines of the APEC Summit Economic

Leaders' Meeting in Manila, the Philippines. President Park noted that the Korean government has dispatched a delegation to Peru to identify new projects for cooperation in diverse areas such as infrastructure, health, and education and to review the progress in the follow-up measures to the summit meeting in April. She also asked President Humala to take an active interest in faithfully implementing the matters agreed upon at the summit.

2. High-Level Diplomacy

1) Ministerial Diplomacy

(1) Korea-Mexico High-Level Bilateral Meeting on the Occasion of the MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On May 22, Minister of Foreign Affairs Yun Byung-se held the 6th High-level Policy Consultation with Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs José Antonio Meade Kuribreña, who visited Korea to attend the Fifth MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The two ministers discussed ways to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in a broad range of areas and ways to make it more substantial and mutually beneficial.

(2) Korea-Panama Bilateral Meeting on Occasion of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation Ministerial Meeting

On August 19, Minister Yun held a bilateral meeting with Panama's Minister of Foreign Affairs Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado on the occasion of the 7th Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation Ministerial Meeting. Minister Yun

acknowledged that much progress has been made in bilateral relations since the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1962. The two ministers agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas such as climate change response, disaster prevention, and tourism. Furthermore, Minister Yun met with Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela, and they discussed various global issues and ways to encourage more Korean companies to take part in Panama's infrastructure projects.

(3) Bilateral Meeting with Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs on the Occasion of the United Nations General Assembly

On September 29, Minister Yun met with Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs Claudia Ruiz Massieu on the occasion of the United Nations General Assembly. The two ministers exchanged views on the current issues in bilateral cooperation in various fields and discussed ways to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries.

(4) Korea-Mexico Bilateral Meeting on the Occasion of the APEC Summit

On November 19, Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral meeting with Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs Claudia Ruiz Massieu on the occasion of the APEC Summit. The two ministers exchanged views on current issues and matters of common interest, such as ways to promote trade and investment between the two countries, encouraging Korean companies to advance into Mexico, and working together in the global arena.

(5) Korea-Costa Rica Bilateral Meeting on the Occasion of COP21

On November 30, Minister of Foreign Affairs Yun Byung-se met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, Manuel González Sanz, while he was accompanying

the President to the COP21 held in France. The two ministers exchanged views on ways to advance bilateral cooperation in a variety of areas such as bilateral trade, investment, infrastructure, climate change, and environment. They agreed to work together closely on the international stage, such as in regional organizations.

2) Presidential Envoy Diplomacy

In 2015, the government of Korea dispatched presidential envoys to attend presidential inauguration ceremonies in three Latin American countries: Bolivia in January, Uruguay in March, and Argentina in December. By dispatching envoys, the Korean government was able to forge friendly ties with the new governments of these countries. Such occasions also served as opportunities for Korean dignitaries to visit Latin American countries, which have been less frequent compared with its Latin American counterparts.

3) Bilateral Consultations

First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yong met with Alejandro Solano, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, who visited Korea to take part in the FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop. The two vice ministers exchanged views on the bilateral relations, the regional situation, and cooperation on the international stage such as the UN and regional dialogues.

First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yong visited Guatemala to hold the 12th Meeting on Dialogue and Cooperation with SICA and held the 3rd Korea-Guatemala High-Level Policy Consultation with his Guatemalan counterpart, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Carlos Martinez on May 14, 2015. The two vice ministers

had in-depth discussions on the progress in bilateral cooperation in various fields and discussed ways to make it more substantial.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Lee Kyung-soo visited Ecuador and met Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Leonardo Arizaga, on February 9. They exchanged views on the current state of bilateral cooperation in areas such as governmental affairs, the economy, and development cooperation and discussed ways to boost cooperation between the two countries.

Additionally, Director-General Bahk Sahng-hoon of the Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau visited Jamaica and El Salvador as Head of Delegation and discussed ongoing bilateral issues and ways to enhance bilateral cooperation with his counterparts. The 2nd Korea-Jamaica Policy Consultation took place on October 27 in Kingston, and the 2nd Korea-El Salvador Policy Consultation followed on October 29 in San Salvador.

4) Congressional Diplomacy

National Assembly Speaker Chung Eui-hwa visited Panama on September 13-15, Costa Rica on September 15-17 and El Salvador on September 17-19 and met with President of each nation and their respective Speakers of Parliament. They discussed ways to promote friendly relations and strengthen parliamentary exchange.

3. Regional Cooperation

The Korean government has strengthened the Korea-LAC ties by expanding cooperation with regional organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean,

such as the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), the Central American Integration System (SICA), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

1) Cooperation with FEALAC

The Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) is the sole inter-governmental and multilateral forum between East Asia and Latin America. Korea participates actively in FEALAC to promote mutual understanding and substantial cooperation between the two regions.

The Fifth FEALAC Cyber Secretariat Workshop, which was held in Seoul on March 12, 2015, brought together delegates from 33 FEALAC member states. The participants reviewed the current status of FEALAC projects and discussed the possibility of launching new projects under the theme of "Strengthening solidarity through expanding FEALAC-wide projects."

Meanwhile, as a FEALAC national project, Korea hosted the LINC-FEALAC Joint International Seminar on Industry-University Cooperation in Seoul on October 30, 2015. About 370 participants, including government officials, scholars, and experts from Peru, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Thailand, shared their experience on industry-university cooperation and discussed ways to promote cooperation between industry and academia, which helps to create job opportunities.

In addition, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se attended the Seventh Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM) of FEALAC in San Jose, Costa Rica, on August 21, 2015. At the meeting, he highlighted that member countries should muster the political will to enhance FEALAC's visibility and profile, take up FEALAC-wide projects to cement solidarity among members, and strengthen the connectivity to overcome

the geographic distance between the two regions. Furthermore, he expressed Korea's will to contribute to the further development of FEALAC. Declaration of San José was adopted at the FMM, and it lays out the following objectives: a new FEALAC action plan will be presented at the FMM held in Korea in 2017 to mark the 20th anniversary of FEALAC; Korea will serve as Regional Coordinator for East Asia for the term 2015-17; and Korea will host a seminar on inter-regional trade in 2016. Moreover, ministers recognized that the Cyber Secretariat, hosted by Korea, contributed greatly to the advancement of FEALAC and the systematization of member countries' initiatives through its 'FEALAC Project Review Survey.'

2) Cooperation with the Central American Integration System (SICA)

First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yong visited Guatemala to take part in the 12th Korea-SICA Dialogue, which took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala on May 15, 2015. Vice Minister Cho met with Victoria Velásquez de Avilés (Secretary General of SICA), Carlos Alfredo Castaneda Magaña (Vice Minister of El Salvador), Gilda Maria Bolt Gonzalez (Vice Minister of Nicaragua) and Luis Miguel Hincapié (Vice Minister of Panama). They discussed ways to advance cooperation in a wide range of areas such as public security, energy and infrastructure and on the international stage. Delegates adopted a joint communique as the official document of the 12th Korea-SICA Dialogue, which was held for the first time in three years after the 11th Korea-SICA Dialogue. In the document, Korea and member states of SICA assessed the current state of the Korea-SICA relations, concurred on the importance of the Korea-Central America FTA, and reaffirmed their commitment to working together in seeking a future-oriented direction in a whole range of areas such as public security.

3) The Fourth Seminar on Public Security Cooperation between Korea and Latin American Countries

As improving public security and order is one of the most urgent tasks of Latin American countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has hosted annual seminars and invited public security officials from Latin American countries to share policy experience since 2012. The fourth seminar took place in Seoul on June 23-26, 2015. Participants included heads of Bureau of Immigration from Honduras, Nicaragua, and Paraguay. The seminar provided a venue to introduce Korea's advanced ICT-based immigration administration system.

4) The Fourth Ministerial Meeting with the CELAC Quartet

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se attended on September 29, 2015 the Fourth Ministerial Meeting between Korea and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) Quartet, which was held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. CELAC is the largest body for regional cooperation in the region that has all 33 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean as members. Acting Foreign Minister of Ecuador Xavier Lasso representing the incumbent president of CELAC, representatives from the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica—the former and incoming chairs of CELAC, and a representative from Barbados—the chair of the Caribbean Community—also took part in the Fourth Ministerial Meeting.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed ways to strengthen cooperation between Korea and CELAC in areas of interest such as development, eradication of poverty, ICT, education, science, technology, and financing for development. They also agreed to work together closely to address global issues such as climate

change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In addition, noting that CELAC selected Korea, China, India, Russia, and Turkey as extra-regional Partners in August 2015, the two sides reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing mutual understanding and promoting the cooperative relations through various activities such as the ROK-CELAC Academic Seminar.

5) The Fifth High-Level Forum on the Korea-Caribbean Partnership

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been organizing the High-Level Forum on the Korea-Caribbean Partnership annually since 2011 to strengthen its diplomatic base in the Caribbean region and to enhance cooperation. The fifth forum took place in Seoul on October 20, 2015. Participants included ten high-ranking officials including the Minister of Environment and Housing of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Minister of Governance, Natural Resources and Environment of the Co-Operative Republic of Guyana, Minister of Natural Resources of the Republic of Suriname, and the Deputy Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community. They discussed effective ways to enhance the Korea-Caribbean Partnership in the field of new and renewable energy.



The 5th High-Level Forum on the Korea-Caribbean Partnership (Seoul, October 20, 2015)

6) Public Security Delegations Composed of Representatives of the Private Sector and the Government

Since 2012, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has annually dispatched delegations comprised of public and private sector representatives to identify new cooperation projects in the field of security and share knowledge and experience. On November 1-6, 2015, Korea dispatched a delegation headed by the Director of the Changwon District Prosecutors' Office to enhance the safety of overseas Koreans and expand business opportunities for Korean companies by strengthening cooperation in the field of public security. The delegation was comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Supreme Prosecutors' Office, KOICA and the private sector.

7) The Eighth High-Level Forum on the Korea-LAC Partnership

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the 2015 High-Level Forum on the Korea-LAC (Latin American Countries) Partnership under the theme of "Strengthening Partnership, Enhancing Friendship" on November 25. The forum was attended by about 600 people from the Korean government, the business community and academia as well as high-ranking Latin American officials. The participants discussed issues concerning the cooperation between Korea and Latin America in the fields of development cooperation, infrastructure, and health and medical treatment. The forum provided an opportunity to deepen the general understanding of Korean companies interested in advancing into Latin America of the Latin American market as well as a chance for academia and the public to learn more about Latin America. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosts the High-level Forum on the Korea-LAC Partnership on an annual basis to seek ways to enhance cooperation between Korea and its Latin American partners. Since its initiation in 2008, the Forum has established itself as an important cooperation channel between the governments of Korea and Latin America.

8) Cooperation with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) was established in 1948 as a regional United Nations body. Its mandate is to promote economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean and to help forge stronger economic ties among member states and with other nations. Korea has been implementing various cooperation projects since its accession to ECLAC in July 2007.

In May 2012, Korea and ECLAC signed a memorandum of understanding to boost cooperation in a wide range of areas, including information sharing, joint research, expert exchanges, dispatching of interns, and seminars.

Pursuant to the MOU, Korea sent an economics expert to the ECLAC Secretariat in March 2015 and hosted a seminar under the theme of "Expanding the role of SMEs in value chains between Asia and Latin America" in April 2015 to broaden the scope of its cooperation with ECLAC.

9) The Korea-Latin America Cultural Content Caravan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism jointly dispatched the "Korea-Latin America Cultural Content Caravan" to Latin American countries on November 18-28, 2015. The delegation, which was headed by the Deputy Minister Yoon Tae-yong of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, paved the way for strengthening cultural exchange and cooperation between Korea and Latin American countries, which have become newly emerging markets in the cultural field.

The Caravan consisted of experts from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Culture Sports and Tourism; the Korea Creative Content Agency; the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency; the Korea International Broadcasting Foundation (Arirang TV); and other public institutions as well as representatives from 16 related private companies. The delegation introduced Korean cultural contents to Latin American people and supported the advancement of Korean companies and cultural contents into the Latin American market by holding *hallyu* (Korean Wave) concerts and one-on-one business meetings. By promoting *hallyu*, the Caravan laid the foundation for culture business companies and companies in the plant, construction, and power equipment industry to enter the Latin American market.

10) Center for Energy, Natural Resources and Infrastructure on Latin America

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched the Center for Energy, Natural Resources and Infrastructure on Latin America in 2008 to support Korean companies interested in conducting business in Latin America in areas such as energy, natural resources and infrastructure. The Center offers a wide range of information by publishing a weekly summary of reports and a web-magazine titled "Latin Energy & Resources" on its website (<http://energia.mofa.go.kr>). It also provides support for Korean companies that are interested in expanding their business into Latin America by organizing seminars and symposiums and offering consultations. The 2015 Symposium on Access to Latin America's Infrastructure and Plant Markets drew about 180 participants from the government, business, and academia. It served as a venue to share information about the current status of Latin America's infrastructure and plant market, financing methods for infrastructure projects, and overseas project management.

11) Internship Program in Latin American International Organizations

Seeking to generate greater interest in Latin America and to increase the number of Latin America experts within Korea, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been offering internships in Latin American international organizations since 2009. The program involves sending young trainees to work for regional organizations.

A total of 150 interns were selected and dispatched to Latin American regional organizations between 2009 and 2015. In 2015 alone, the Ministry sent 26 interns to 12 organizations including the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Labor Organization, the Organization of American States, and the Central American Integration System.

12) Reinforcing Strategic Ties with Major Partner Countries in Latin America

Since 2011, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been dispatching delegations comprised of government officials and business leaders to key partner countries in Latin America including Brazil, Peru, Mexico, Colombia and Ecuador. The goal is to strengthen cooperation with Latin American countries and facilitate the entry of Korean companies into the Latin American market in the areas of e-government, public health, defense, agriculture, and science and technology.

In October 2015, the Ministry dispatched a delegation to Panama and Mexico to promote e-government cooperation. The delegation included representatives from the Ministry of Interior and the Korean National Police Agency. They held the Forum for E-government Cooperation and participated in the Latin America E-government

Network Conference and the Open Government Partnership Conference, in which they shared their experience in building and operating the e-government system and promoted Korea's advanced system to Latin American countries.

In November, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health and Welfare dispatched a joint delegation to Peru, Ecuador, and Chile and held consultations that resulted in US \$14.85 million in exports and signed six MOUs.

13) Cartagena Dialogue: the Trans-Pacific Summit

Vice Minister Cho Tae-yul participated in "Cartagena Dialogue: the Trans-Pacific Summit," organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) from



Cartagena Dialogue (Cartagena, March 8, 2015)

March 6 to 8, 2015. Cartagena Dialogue is a regional policy conference in Latin America and the Caribbean organized for the first time last year by the IISS, which has organized "Shangri-La Dialogue" in Asia and "Manama Dialogue" in the Middle East in the past.

The Dialogue, held under the theme of "Pacific Alliance and Asia" was attended by the presidents of Colombia and Panama, the Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Mexico and Peru, the Financial Minister of Philippines, and IMF Vice President, and others.

Vice Minister Cho participated as panelist in the session titled "Asian Perspectives on Pacific Alliance," and spoke about the Korean perspective regarding the Pacific Alliance. On this occasion, Korea expressed its interest and willingness to enhance cooperation with the Pacific Alliance, the most dynamic consultative mechanism in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Chapter 4

Diplomacy with Africa and the Middle East



Africa and the Middle East are regions facing challenges, threats and opportunities. Amid elevated tensions from Islamic extremists including the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Al Qaeda, Boko Haram and Al Shabab, prolonged political instability in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, and Nigeria and the Israel-Palestine conflict have been exacerbated. Under the circumstances where Middle East oil producers are seeking to diversify their sources of income in order to be better prepared for the post-oil era, the Iran nuclear agreement was concluded on July 14, 2015, and African countries, with their social stability, have been achieving steady economic growth. Therefore, the Korean government has greater opportunities to further enhance its relations with Africa and the Middle East.

In the year 2015, the Korean government actively managed the elements of threat. Moreover, it exerted full efforts to strengthen and expand Korea's diplomacy towards the Middle East and Africa. During this year, President Park Geun-hye visited four Gulf Cooperation Council countries in this region—Kuwait, Saudi Arabia,

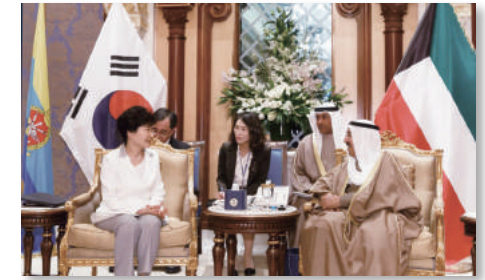
the United Arab Emirates and Qatar—and held summit meetings with leaders of various countries including Jordan, Senegal, Botswana, and Nigeria. The Korean government also had foreign ministerial talks with countries such as Algeria, Iraq, Iran and Egypt in 2015. It fostered its relations with these countries by holding high-level bilateral consultations and strengthened its cooperation with regional organizations such as the League of Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council. Furthermore, the Korean government exerted efforts to further strengthen its interaction with experts on Africa and the Middle East; for instance, it held the first Korea-EU international meeting on the Middle East in 2015.

1. Summit Diplomacy

1) Korea-Kuwait Summit

On the first leg of her trip to four Middle Eastern countries, President Park Geun-hye held a summit with the Emir of the State of Kuwait and engaged in in-depth discussions on ways to develop practical cooperation in Kuwait on March 2, 2015. President Park Geun-hye said that the Kuwait Vision 2035 and the Korean Government's Three Year Plans for Economic Innovation are similar, as they are both designed to create new growth engines and to nurture high value-added industries through creativity and innovation, and expressed her hope that the two nations would expand existing cooperation in areas such as energy and construction and foster new cooperation in high value added sectors, such as information and communications technology, railroads and transportation, and medical and health services.

The Emir said he hoped that the Kuwait government and people are ready to forge even more solid ties of cooperation with Korea and that President Park's visit would generate momentum to boost cooperation with the Korean government, the Korean National Assembly and Korean companies. In addition, the two leaders exchanged opinions about the situation on the Korean Peninsula and peace and stability in the Middle East. The summit represented a meaningful opportunity to strengthen the cooperation in traditional fields such as energy and construction & plants, to lead the two nations' economic growth and create jobs by expanding cooperation in seeking new growth engines such as medical and health services, information and communications technology and defense, and to enhance the lives of our peoples in tangible ways.



Korea-Kuwait Summit (Kuwait, March 2, 2015)

2) Korea-Saudi Arabia Summit

On March 3 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, President Park Geun-hye held a summit with Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and they exchanged opinions on ways to develop the partnership between the two countries. President Park referred to Saudi Arabia, the biggest oil exporter to Korea and a country that places the greatest number of orders for overseas Korean projects, as a "rafiq," which means a companion. She also expressed her hope that the scope of cooperation between the two countries would be expanded to various fields such as nuclear power plants, ICT, renewable energy, health care,



Korea-Saudi Summit (Riyadh, March 3, 2015)

investment, and security, in addition to the traditional fields of cooperation such as oil and construction.

King Salman also expressed his hope to achieve win-win cooperation for the optimum mutual benefit of both sides, while mentioning the expectations of the Saudi people with regard to the advanced

technology of Korea. Moreover, the two leaders agreed to commercialize System-integrated Modular Advanced Reactor (SMART) in Saudi Arabia for the first time in the world based on the MOU for Cooperation in SMART Technology Sharing Partnership and its Commercialization and expand the scope of cooperation by signing various agreements including maritime transport agreements and the Framework on Cooperation in the Field of Creative Economy on the basis of firm trust between the two countries.

3) Korea-UAE Summit

On March 5, 2015, President Park Geun-hye met in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates and the third destination on her tour to the Gulf region, with His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. The two leaders reaffirmed the "strategic partnership" between the two countries and exchanged views on how best to deepen bilateral cooperation in various fields, such as energy, nuclear power plants, construction, health care, joint projects in other countries, agriculture and halal food, cyber security, water resources and defense and cooperation on global issues. The leaders also engaged in an in-depth

exchange of views on the political landscape of the Middle East and Northeast Asia.

President Park stressed the importance of cooperation between the two countries, as strategic partners both in name and reality, noting that the UAE is one of the three countries she has visited twice following her inauguration. President Park also stated that she believed it is very meaningful that the two countries are developing relations not only in the traditional fields of cooperation but also in high value-added fields.

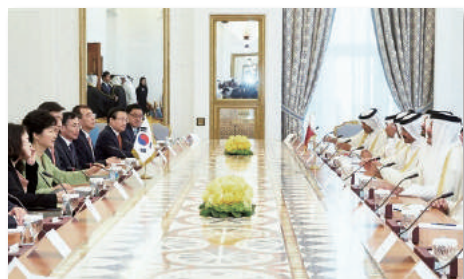
Sheikh Mohammed expressed his great pride with regard to the UAE-Korea relationship, which is considered to be very important and has a great potential to be further developed in the future, and his commitment to enhancing the strategic partnership between the two countries. After the summit meeting, the two leaders attended the signing ceremony of six MOUs regarding the establishment of a Korean Cultural Center in the UAE, jointly entering into nuclear energy projects for peaceful purposes in other countries, cooperation in agriculture and halal food, joint trade projects in other countries, and assistance in customs matters between the two countries.

4) Korea-Qatar Summit

President Park paid an official visit to the State of Qatar on March 6-8, 2015 and held



Korea-UAE Summit (Abu Dhabi, March 5, 2015)



Korea-Qatar Summit (Doha, March 8, 2015)

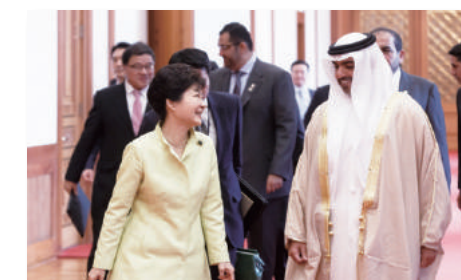
a summit with Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. The two leaders greatly valued the development of the bilateral relations between the two countries and exchanged views on how best to improve cooperation in traditional fields such as energy and construction as well as new growth engines such as bilateral investment,

nuclear power and health care. President Park emphasized that the State of Qatar is not only Korea's close partner in the field of energy and infrastructure but indeed a key companion in new growth engine fields. She expressed her hope that the cooperation between the two countries would be deepened in high value-added fields such as new technology and ICT by merging the creative economy policy of Korea and the Vision 2030 of Qatar. Emir Sheikh Tamim explained that Qatar is seeking to diversify its industry and economy and expressed his readiness to develop bilateral cooperation with Korea, which he believed represents a valuable model for economic growth and is one of the closest countries to Qatar.

The two leaders agreed to strengthen cooperation in the international arena, and President Park expressed special appreciation to the Qatari government for supporting Korea's policy and position regarding North Korea. Following the meeting, the two sides, with both leaders in attendance, signed the MOU for mutual cooperation on diplomatic training between the Korea National Diplomatic Academy and the Diplomatic Institute of Qatar, an MOU for cooperation on training of nuclear experts on the construction of research reactors, an MOU for cooperation in the field of tourism and an MOU for cooperation in the field of education.

5) Meeting with Sheikh Hamed

On April 14, 2015, President Park met with Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court, who was visiting Korea to attend the 7th World Water Forum, and they exchanged views on ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the field of water, investment and joint infrastructure projects in other countries.



Meeting with Sheikh Hamed (Seoul, April 14, 2015)

President Park noted with satisfaction that the fields of cooperation has been broadened dramatically especially following the Korea-UAE Summit held in March this year and expressed her strong hope that the two countries would move ahead with various projects on desalination and mutual investment and jointly participate in infrastructure projects in other countries. Chairman Sheikh Hamed reaffirmed that he would earnestly strive to achieve the vision of Sheikh Mohammed, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, to make the partnership between Korea and the UAE a valuable role model for other countries in the Middle East.

6) Korea-Ethiopia Summit

On April 14, 2015, President Park Geun-hye met Ethiopia's President Mulatu Teshome Wirtu, who visited Korea on the occasion of the 7th World Water Forum, and the two leaders exchanged views on ways to advance bilateral relations and promote substantial cooperation. President Park noted that the relations between the two countries, which are forged in blood as Ethiopia was the only

African country to dispatch ground troops to fight in the Korean War, have steadily progressed. President Mulatu said that Korea was like a blood brother to his country and highlighted Korea's importance as a role model for Ethiopia in its pursuit of economic development. He expressed his hope that bilateral cooperation would be further stepped up.

The two heads of state agreed that, despite the close ties between the two countries and potential for cooperation, bilateral economic cooperation is still lacking and that a well thought out link between Ethiopia's resources and Korea's development know-how and experience would bring about mutually beneficial gains. President Mulatu hoped that Korea's assistance for the successful development of the region where the pilot project of the *Saemaul Undong* is being carried out would continue so that the movement can spread across the country. This summit affirmed the longstanding friendly relations between the two countries and confirmed the need for forward-looking economic cooperation between the two countries.

7) Korea-Senegal Summit

On June 4, 2015, President Park Geun-hye held summit talks with President Macky Sall of the Republic of Senegal, who made an official visit to Korea. The two presidents discussed measures to forge more solid ties of cooperation between the two countries and had in-depth discussions on a broad range of issues including the current situation on the Korean Peninsula and in the African region.

President Park welcomed President Sall's first visit to Korea and noted that the scope of bilateral cooperation has been expanded to include areas such as oceans and fisheries, agriculture, health, education, culture and the international stage

and expressed her hope that they would continue to promote cooperation on regional and global issues. President Sall expressed his willingness to learn from Korea's experience as a development model and looked forward to strengthening bilateral cooperation in a whole range of fields including agriculture, education, trade and investment, ICT, infrastructure, construction, oceans and fisheries.

President Park commented that there is a tremendous potential for the two countries to enhance bilateral cooperation as Korea's economic development experience and technology can be used in the process of implementing Senegal's economic development strategy, Plan Senegal Emergent, and she hoped to see further cooperation in a wide range of areas including trade, investment, infrastructure and construction.

Following the summit, the two presidents attended a signing ceremony for three MOUs; an MOU on establishing a consultative mechanism; an MOU on cooperation in trade, industry and investment; and an MOU on cooperation in marine affairs and fisheries. Both leaders agreed that the MOUs would provide a foundation for the development of bilateral relations and new opportunities for cooperation between the peoples of the two countries.

8) Korea-Jordan Summit

President Park Geun-hye held a summit on September 11 with King Abdullah II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, who made an official visit to Korea. The two



Korea-Senegal Summit (Seoul, June 4, 2015)



Korea and Jordan Sign Agreement and MOU
(Seoul, September 11, 2015)

leaders discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in various fields such as trade, medical services, development cooperation, education, culture and consular affairs. Furthermore, they exchanged views on various issues on the Korean Peninsula and in the Middle East such as the North Korea nuclear issue, human rights, providing assistance to Syrian refugees and countering violent

extremism in the Middle East.

After the meeting, the two sides, with both leaders in attendance, signed the Korea-Jordan agreement on exemption from visa requirements for holders of diplomatic passports and an MOU on cooperation in electric power development and new renewable energy.

President Park also expressed her hope that the two countries, which have much in common, would forge more solid ties of cooperation. King Abdullah II expressed his gratitude for the assistance from the ROK and his hope to promote the friendship between the two countries.

9) Korea-Nigeria Summit

President Park Geun-hye and Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari held a summit meeting on the sidelines of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 27, 2015 in New York. The two heads of state discussed regional issues as well as measures to boost bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas, including counterterrorism efforts, the eradication of corruption, the

economy, consular affairs and cooperation in the international arena.

Noting that Nigeria has emerged as Korea's largest trading partner in the African region, President Park said that she hoped to see expanded bilateral cooperation in political, security and economic fields. In order to improve economic cooperation, she asked for her counterpart's support in swiftly completing the domestic procedure for the effectuation of the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and settling the dispute concerning the development of maritime oil reserves as early as possible.

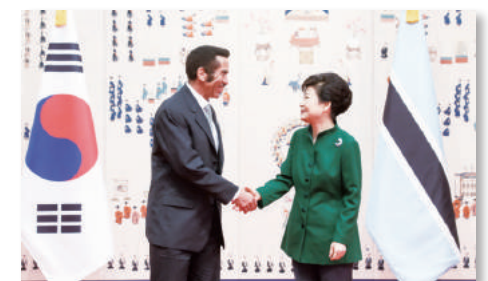


Korea-Nigeria Summit
(New York, September 27, 2015)

10) Korea-Botswana Summit

President Park Geun-hye held a summit on October 23, 2015 with President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of Botswana on the occasion of his official visit to Korea. The two leaders discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in such areas as the economy and trade, infrastructure and energy, the defense and military industry, education, culture, and consular affairs and to promote cooperation in the international arena.

The two heads of state agreed that the two countries need to take a firm and consistent stance with regard to provocations by



Korea-Botswana Summit
(Seoul, October 23, 2015)

North Korea and human rights abuses and work together to tackle North Korean threats. In addition, President Park requested Botswana's support for Korean companies that wish to participate in energy and infrastructure construction, including in building steam power plants, and in replacing jet fighters in the defense industry. Following the meeting, the two sides, with both leaders in attendance, signed the ROK-Botswana Cooperation MOU between the Foreign Ministries, the E-government Cooperation MOU, and the MOU on Cooperation in the Field of Electricity and Renewable Energy.

2. Ministerial Diplomacy

1) Korea-Palestine Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral meeting on February 13 with his counterpart from Palestine, Foreign Minister Riad Malki. This was a return visit following Minister Yun's visit to Palestine in December 2014. The two ministers exchanged views on a wide range of bilateral issues, including policy consultations, development cooperation, and the training program in Korea for Palestinian foreign ministry officials. The two ministers also exchanged views on the political situations on the Korean Peninsula as well as in the Middle East, including the Israel-Palestine issue.

2) Korea-Senegal Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held a working luncheon on June 2, 2015 with

Foreign Minister Mankeur Ndiaye from Senegal, who was visiting Korea to prepare for Senegalese President Macky Sall's official visit to Korea, and discussed with him ways to promote bilateral relations and cooperation on the international stage.

Minister Yun noted the thriving exchange between the high-level officials of the two countries, in view of the fact that the Policy Dialogue between Korea and Senegal in 2014 was upgraded to vice minister level and Special Envoy of the ROK Foreign Minister attended the Francophonie Summit in Dakar in November 2014, and expressed his hope to see further development of bilateral relations on the occasion of the Senegalese President and Foreign Minister's visit to Korea. Minister Ndiaye noted with satisfaction the development cooperation projects pursued by the ROK in agriculture, health, education, oceans and fisheries and hoped to expand and strengthen cooperation to include areas of infrastructure and ICT. The two ministers also exchanged views and agreed to continue bilateral cooperation on regional issues and on the international stage.



Korea-Senegal Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, June 2, 2015)

3) Courtesy Call on Prime Minister of Ethiopia

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, who participated in the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, July 13-16), paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister of Ethiopia Hailemariam Desalegn on July 11, and they engaged in an extensive exchange of views on bilateral relations and regional situations. Both sides noted that the two countries are witnessing thriving high-

level exchanges, including President Mulatu's visit to Korea in April, and expressed the hope that, against this background, economic cooperation, development experience sharing and cooperation on the global stage would be further promoted. Prime Minister Hailemariam reminded Minister Yun that he invited President Park to visit Ethiopia at the G20 Summit in 2013 and expressed his hope that he will meet with President Park in Ethiopia in the near future and discuss ways to strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

4) Foreign Minister meets AU Chairperson Zuma

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, who participated in the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, Jul. 13-16), met with Chairperson of the African Union Commission Dlamini Zuma on July 13, and they engaged in in-depth discussions on a range of issues, including the rise of Africa and the AU's role, the Republic of Korea's Africa policy and ROK-Africa cooperation, and the Fourth Korea-Africa Forum. At this meeting with the head of the AU, which represents Africa, Minister Yun explained the ROK's foreign policy toward Africa and contribution to this region, and they engaged in extensive discussions on ways to enhance cooperation between the two sides. This was an important opportunity to expand Korea's diplomatic horizon in Africa.

5) Korea-Ethiopia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met his Ethiopian counterpart Tedros Adhanom on July 14 on the sidelines of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, Jul. 13-16). They had an extensive exchange of views

on a range of issues, including the progress in the ROK-Ethiopia relations, ways to enhance economic cooperation between the two countries, the Fourth Korea-Africa Forum, and cooperation in the global arena. Minister Tedros hoped to see more investment from Korean companies, pointing to the relatively low level of investment in the industrial sector. In response, highlighting the importance of establishing legal and institutional frameworks to further increase economic cooperation and investment between the two countries, Minister Yun expressed his hope that the investment protection and promotion agreement and the agreement on avoidance of double taxation, which is under discussion by the two countries, would be concluded as soon as possible. The two Ministers agreed to work together closely for the success of the Fourth Korea-Africa Forum and to continue cooperation on the global stage.

6) Korea-Algeria Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, on the occasion of his visit to Algeria from July 15-16, had a bilateral meeting with his Algerian counterpart Ramtane Lamamra. At their meeting, the top diplomats engaged in an extensive exchange of views on the Republic of Korea-Algeria relations across the board; ways to boost substantial cooperation on economic and development issues as well as on the international stage; and situations in various regions of the world.

Minister Lamamra, welcoming Minister Yun to Algeria, noted that the ROK-Algeria



Joint Press Release for a Briefing on the Outcome of the Korea-Algeria Foreign Ministers' Meeting (Algiers, July 16, 2015)

strategic partnership, forged in 2006, has continued to develop on the firm basis of their friendship, shared values, and mutual understanding.

Minister Yun placed great value on the relations between the ROK and Algeria, the ROK's only strategic partner in Africa. In this regard, he underscored the need to upgrade the relations to a higher level and diversify the bilateral economic cooperation to include high value-added sectors; boost cooperation between enterprises of the two countries; and increase exchanges between their peoples.

Minister Yun also met with President Abdelaziz Bouteflika and Prime Minister Abdelmalek Sellal. During their meeting, the two sides engaged in an in-depth exchange of views on ways to enhance bilateral ties as well as on the situations on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

7) Korea-Iran Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral meeting on September 30 and November 7, 2015 with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. Minister Yun had his first meeting with Minister Zarif this year on the sidelines of the 70th

UN General Assembly, and they discussed a wide range of issues including the Iranian nuclear agreement and sanctions, exchanges between high-level officials, economic cooperation, health and cultural cooperation, and cooperation on global issues. As a follow-up to the invitation from Minister Zarif, Minister Yun made a visit to Iran marking the first visit by a foreign minister of the



Korea-Iran Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Tehran, November 7, 2015)

Republic of Korea in 14 years. The two ministers held a meeting and exchanged views on the progress of the implementation of the Iranian nuclear agreement and discussed its implications for the North Korean nuclear issue, bilateral relations, and the situations in the Middle East and on the Korean Peninsula. The two sides agreed that the nuclear deal reached on July 14, 2015 paved the way for enhancing cooperation between Korea and Iran and concurred on the need to expand bilateral cooperation to a broad range of fields such as health, culture, tourism, development and academic exchange on top of traditional areas of cooperation such as energy and infrastructure.

8) Korea-Iraq Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On September 29, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, on the occasion of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly, had a bilateral meeting with Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari. The two sides noted that the two countries have developed ties of cooperation focusing on economic exchanges and explored ways to deepen high-level people-to-people exchanges, to counter violent extremism, to continue humanitarian assistance and to protect Korean nationals in Iraq.

The two ministers shared the view that Korea would be an ideal partner for Iraq considering its experience of nation-building after the Korean War. Minister Yun emphasized that around 1,000 Koreans are making efforts to rebuild Iraq in areas such as upgrading infrastructure despite



Korea-Iraq Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, September 29, 2015)

difficult security conditions and asked for the Iraqi government's interest and support in protecting Korean nationals in Iraq. Minister Al-Jaafari expressed his gratitude for the part played by Korean nationals in the process of rebuilding Iraq and promised to provide protection and support for Korean nationals in Iraq.

9) Korea-UAE Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On September 29, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se had a bilateral meeting in New York on the occasion of the 70th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations with his counterpart from the United Arab Emirates, Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The two ministers exchanged views on how best to deepen the bilateral cooperation as well as on follow-up actions to President Park's visit to the UAE in March 2015.

The two ministers welcomed the progress made in the Barakah nuclear power plant project and agreed to work together to help Korean hospitals enter the UAE health care market, expand direct flights between Incheon and Abu Dhabi, establish a Korean Cultural Center in the UAE, sign an agreement on visa exemptions for both nationals of the two countries and strengthen Korea-UAE cooperation in the international arena.

10) Korea-Angola Foreign Ministers' Meeting

On September 30, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se and Angolan Foreign Minister Georges Rebelo Chikoti held a bilateral meeting in New York on the sidelines of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The two ministers discussed political and economic cooperation, development and

education cooperation and cooperation in the international arena including the United Nations Security Council. Minister Yun and Minister Chikoti agreed to expand senior-level exchange including Minister Chikoti's visit to Korea in 2016 and hold the Third Vice Minister-level Joint Economic Committee. In addition, the two ministers agreed to continue cooperation in the international arena to address Northeast Asian and African issues drawing on the shared experience of serving as non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.



Korea-Angola Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(New York, September 30, 2015)

11) Foreign Minister Meets the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Trade of Botswana

On October 22, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi and Minister of Trade and Industry Vincent Seretse of Botswana, who accompanied their President Ian Khama on his official visit to the ROK from October 21 to 24. At the meeting, the two sides engaged in in-depth discussions on ways to step up substantive cooperation between their two countries in political affairs, the economy, education and culture. Foreign



Meeting between Foreign Minister Yun and
the Foreign Minister of Botswana and
the Trade Minister of Botswana
(Seoul, October 22, 2015)

Minister Venson-Moitai of Botswana, who previously served as the country's Minister of Education and Skills Development for ten years, underscored the need to combine strategies for economic development with those for education. Stating that Botswana considers the ROK, which has made outstanding progress in the field as a role model, the Minister expressed his hope that the ROK would further share its knowhow on vocational and technical education. The two ministers agreed to work more closely together in power plants and other infrastructure areas as well as new and renewable energy, such as solar energy.

12) Korea-Egypt Foreign Ministers' Meeting



Korea-Egypt Foreign Ministers' Meeting
(Seoul, November 24, 2015)

On November 24, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se held a bilateral meeting in Seoul with Sameh Shoukry, Foreign Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, who was on an official visit to Korea on November 22-24. They highly valued the progress made in the two countries' relations during the past 20 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations. In particular, they appreciated the

success of the cultural programs launched to deepen mutual understanding and to promote people-to-people exchange between the two countries on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of diplomatic ties.

Furthermore, the two ministers exchanged views on ways to boost cooperation between the two countries primarily in the area of investment promotion, economic and development cooperation, culture and tourism, counter-terrorism as

well as cooperation on global issues. They also exchanged views on a wide range of issues of common interest, including issues of the Middle East, the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia.

13) Foreign Minister Meets the Vice President of Sierra Leone

On December 14, 2015, Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se met with Vice President of Sierra Leone Victor Foh and they exchanged views on a range of issues, including the Korean government's support for Sierra Leone's fight against Ebola, as well as other issues of mutual interest, in politics, the economy and development cooperation. Minister Yun said that he was pleased that the ROK government contributed to Sierra Leone's efforts to overcome the Ebola crisis by sending its overseas emergency relief team to Sierra Leone and providing financial support. Minister Yun also said that the ROK will continue to expand its contributions through a project to support drinking water facilities, the goal of which is to prevent the outbreak of infectious diseases in Sierra Leone. Vice President Foh requested that the ROK actively participate in post-Ebola reconstruction projects, including hospital and housing construction projects, in addition to the project to build a Freetown city hall, which has been launched thanks to the ROK government's concessional loans. At the meeting, the two sides agreed to further enhance bilateral cooperation, which has been deepened by humanitarian cooperation.



Meeting between Foreign Minister Yun
and the Vice President of Sierra Leone
(Seoul, December 14, 2015)

3. Inter-Governmental Consultations

1) Joint Committees

(1) The Second Meeting of the Korea-Seychelles Joint Committee

The Second Meeting of the Korea-Seychelles Joint Committee, headed by Director-General Kwon Hee-seog of MOFA's African and Middle Eastern Affairs Bureau and Vice Minister Michel Loustau-Lalanne of Seychelles' Foreign Ministry, was held in Seoul on May 15. The two sides discussed projects to celebrate the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 2016 as well as ways to enhance economic cooperation in renewable energy, oil exploration and fisheries to step up peace and security cooperation in areas such as counter-piracy activities and ways to strengthen cooperation on the global stage. As the Seychelles was willing to increase cooperation with Korea in tourism, education and health care, the two sides agreed to engage in active discussions on such areas.

(2) The Sixth Korea-Israel Joint Economic Committee

The Sixth Korea-Israel Joint Economic Committee, headed by the ROK Foreign Ministry's Deputy Minister for Economic Affairs Lee Tae-ho and Deputy Director-General of the Israeli Ministry of Economy Ohad Cohen, took place in Seoul on June 24, 2015. At the meeting, the two sides noted with satisfaction the progress made in the economic relations between the two countries and discussed ways to work together to increase the trade volume and strengthen cooperation on sustainable development in areas such as climate change, water, and energy as well as in the field of science and technology R&D and joint research programs. Recognizing that active people-to-people exchange is the foundation for economic cooperation,

the ROK side asked the Israeli side to resolve difficulties in the issuance of visas; and to bring the agreement on the mutual recognition of driver's licenses and the working holiday agreement into effect at an early date. The Israeli side expressed its willingness to cooperate on this matter.

(3) The Third Korea-Kenya Joint Economic Committee

Korean Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Affairs Lee Tae-ho met Political and Diplomatic Secretary of Kenya's Foreign Ministry Mr. Benson H.O. Ogutu in Seoul on November 24, 2015 for the Third Meeting of the Korea-Kenya Joint Economic Committee. The two sides exchanged views on ways to strengthen economic cooperation with an emphasis on trade, investment, energy, infrastructure, tourism, development, climate change and e-government. Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Affairs requested the provision of investment information to support the activities of Korean enterprises in the energy and infrastructure field and the signing of an MOU between nuclear cooperation agencies, an MOU between private companies such as KEPCO, and an e-government cooperation MOU. He also requested the expansion of cooperation in the field of climate change and environment through the Global Green Growth Institute.

2) Policy Consultations

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea held nineteen policy consultations in 2015. Deputy Minister for Political Affairs and Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs exchanged views with their counterparts from African and Middle Eastern countries on a wide range of matters including exchanges between high-level officials and cooperation on trade and investment,

development and regional affairs. They also discussed ways to strengthen cooperation on the international stage.

Policy Consultations in 2015

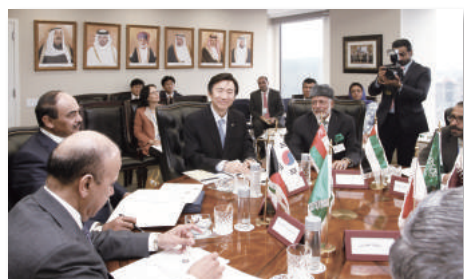
Policy Consultation	Date and Place	Heads of Delegations
The 1 st Korea-Equatorial Guinea Policy Consultation	Seoul, Jan. 30, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Carmelo Micha Nguema Misi, Equatorial Guinea's Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
The 1 st Korea-DR Congo Policy Consultation	Seoul, Feb. 16, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Chief Louis Nkulufa Montomba Lokosu of America, Asia and Oceania Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
The 1 st Korea-Iraq Policy Consultation	Seoul, Mar. 16, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Jawad al-Hindawi, Director of the Asia and Australia Department
The 1 st Korea-Angola Policy Consultation	Luanda, Mar. 25, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Andre Panzo, Director-General for Asia and Australia
The 1 st Korea-Namibia Policy Consultation	Windhoek, Mar. 26, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Parduleni-Kaino Singenge, Assistant Secretary of Bilateral Affairs
The 1 st Korea-Zambia Policy Consultation	Lusaka, Mar. 27, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs George Zulu, Permanent Secretary of the Zambian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The 3 rd Korea-Tanzania Policy Consultation	Seoul, May 12, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Mbelwa Brighton Kairuki, Director of the Department of Asia and Australia
The 1 st Korea-Cote d'Ivoire Policy Consultation	Seoul, May 13, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Fana Koffi, Director-General for Bilateral Cooperation
The 1 st Korea-Zimbabwe High-level Policy Consultation	Seoul, May 26, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Joey Bimha, Permanent Secretary of Zimbabwe's Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The 2 nd Korea-Iran Policy Consultation	Seoul, Jun. 11, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Abdolrassoul Mohajer Hejazi, Director-General for East Asia and Pacific Affairs
The 3 rd Korea-Lebanon Policy Consultation	Beirut, Jun. 17, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Charbel Wehbe, Director-General for Political and Consular Affairs of the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants
The 1 st Korea-Republic of Congo Policy Consultation	Brazzaville, Jun. 19, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Albert NKOUA, Minister Counsellor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Congo
The 1 st Korea-Ghana Policy Consultation	Accra, Aug. 27, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Muhammed Fuseini Inusah, Director for Asia and Pacific Affairs of Ghana's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration
Korea-Iran High-Level Policy Consultation	Tehran, Sept. 12, 2015	Kim Hong-kyun, Deputy Minister for Political Affairs Ibrahim Rahimpour, Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia and Oceania Affairs
The 5 th Korea-Sudan Policy Consultation	Seoul, Oct. 20, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Daffalla El Haj-Ali, Director-General for Bilateral Relations of Sudan's Foreign Ministry
The 1 st Korea-Palestine Policy Consultation	Seoul, Oct. 22, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Mazen Shamiyah, Assistant to the Minister for Asia, Africa and Australia
The 1 st Korea-Rwanda Policy Consultation	Seoul, Oct. 26, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Olivier Nduhungirehe, Director-General in charge of Multilateral Affairs of Rwanda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
The 3 rd Korea-Cameroon Policy Consultation	Seoul, Nov. 11, 2015	Kim Hong-kyun, Deputy Minister for Political Affairs Felix Mbayu, Secretary General of the Ministry of External Relations of Cameroon
The 1 st Korea-Madagascar Policy Consultation	Antananarivo, Dec. 11, 2015	Kwon Hee-seog, Director-General for African and Middle Eastern Affairs Hellinoro Tianamahefa, Director-General for Asian Affairs

3) Middle East Policy Consultation

(1) The First Korea-GCC Strategic Dialogue

On September 30, 2015, Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se had the first Korea-GCC Strategic Dialogue with representatives from GCC countries, including



Korea-GCC Strategic Dialogue
(New York, September 30, 2015)

the Secretary General of the GCC, foreign ministers from Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman, Vice Foreign Minister from Saudi Arabia, and Director General from the UAE. The dialogue took place in New York City on the sidelines of the 70th UN General Assembly. The parties noted that the cooperation between Korea and GCC countries has been expanded since the official visit of President

Park Geun-hye to GCC countries in March 2015. Furthermore, all participants agreed to strengthen the cooperation in various fields, and Minister Yun requested support from GCC countries so that Korea can contribute to the development policies of GCC countries in the post-oil era.

Moreover, the parties also exchanged views on Middle Eastern issues that has risen in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Libya and concurred that the international community needs to seek political solutions in cooperation with the UN and major countries. The participants also agreed that the North Korean nuclear issue should be resolved immediately considering the grave threat posed to Northeast Asia by its development of nuclear missiles.

(2) Middle East Policy Consultation

The Foreign Ministry's Director-General of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau Kwon Hee-seog participated in four Middle East Policy Consultation Meetings in 2015. The Middle East Policy Consultation meetings with China (Jan. 6), the EU (Mar. 18), Japan (Apr. 24), and Turkey (Jun. 15) served as valuable opportunities to exchange views on various issues including measures to address ISIL; the Iranian issue; the Israel-Palestine issue; and the political situations in Yemen and Libya.

(3) The First Korea-EU International Conference on Middle Eastern and North African Affairs

The First Korea-EU International Conference on Middle Eastern and North African Affairs was held at Shilla Hotel in Seoul on March 19-20. At the Conference, First Vice Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yong made an opening address and Richard Howitt, a member of the European Parliament, and Nabil Fahmy, former Foreign Minister of Egypt, delivered welcoming and keynote speeches respectively. The Conference was a track-1.5 meeting attended by government officials and experts from the private sector. Some 30 domestic and foreign experts on the Middle East and government officials including the Brookings Institution's senior fellow Robert Einhorn, Director of the Institute for Political and International Studies of the Iranian Foreign Ministry Mostafa Zahrani, and former Deputy Prime Minister of Libya Mustafa Abu Shagour attended the Conference.

The participants held in-depth discussions on major issues relating to the Middle East and North Africa region such as: reform and democratization in North Africa; Syria, Iraq and ISIL; security in Iran and the Gulf region; the Israel-Palestine conflict; and prospects for a new Middle East. The Conference took place as a follow-up to President Park Geun-hye's successful Middle East tour on March 1-9. The International Conference helped Korea to gain an insightful analysis of the situation in the Middle East, build networks with Middle East experts from major countries,

and upgrade the Korea-Middle East partnership for co-prosperity.

4) Policy Consultations on Africa

(1) The Fifth Korea-Japan-China Policy Dialogue on African Affairs

Director-General Kwon Hee-seog of the African and Middle Eastern Affairs Bureau of MOFA (ROK), Director-General Maruyama of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau of MOFA (Japan), and Director-General Lin Songtian of the African Affairs Bureau of MOFA (China) held the fifth meeting of the Trilateral Policy Dialogue in Beijing on September 15, 2015. The Trilateral Policy Dialogue was launched in 2008 for the three countries to share their information and experience in African affairs and to enhance sustainable development and peace and security in the African region. However, it had been on a hiatus for years since the fourth meeting in 2008. The foreign ministers of Korea, Japan, and China decided to resume the Dialogue at a meeting in March 2015. At the Dialogue, the three participants discussed their African policies, cooperation with Africa and possible areas for cooperation among the three countries on African affairs.

(2) The Second ROK-UK Policy Consultations on African Affairs

On October 12, 2015, the Foreign Ministry's Director-General of the African and Middle Eastern Affairs Bureau Kwon Hee-seog met with his UK counterpart Neil Wigan, the Director-General of Africa Bureau. The ROK-UK Policy Consultation on African Affairs was held for the first time in London in November 2014 in order to share information on Africa and the two countries' experience related to Africa and to explore ways for the ROK and the UK to work together to promote sustainable development and peace and security in Africa. At the first ROK-UK Ministerial-

level Strategic Dialogue held in December 2014, the foreign ministers of the two countries agreed to hold the Policy Consultations on African Affairs on a regular basis. As a result, the second meeting took place in Seoul. At the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on the overall situation of Africa and discussed the two countries' African policies and areas in which the two countries can cooperate.

4. Promoting Friendship and Cooperation with the Middle East and Africa

1) Korea-Africa Investment Forum on the Occasion of Africa Day

The Korea-Africa Investment Forum, co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) to mark the Africa Day, was held on May 27, 2015. The Forum brought together some 150 people, including the African diplomatic corps in the ROK and representatives from major Korean companies. They participated in the business networking luncheon, the Africa project fair which introduced development projects in major African countries, and the one-on-one business counseling session. This event was held to commemorate the Africa Day and to contribute to strengthening economic and trade cooperation and attract investment by providing practical support for Korean businesses to enter the African market.



Korea-Africa Investment Forum on the Occasion of Africa Day (Seoul, May 27, 2015)

2) The 8th Arab Cultural Festival



The Eighth Arab Cultural Festival
(Seoul and Busan, June 4 to 10, 2015)

The eighth Arab Cultural Festival was held simultaneously in Seoul and Busan from June 4 to 10, 2015 and was warmly received by local participants. The festival, which has been held annually since 2008 in an effort to boost cultural exchange between Korea and the Arab world, has contributed to increasing people-to-people exchange and mutual communication by introducing various

programs on Arab culture, which are rare. In this year's Arab film festival, 10 films from 10 Arab countries including the UAE, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt were played.

Furthermore, public lectures and special lectures for healthcare professionals were held to nurture diverse perspectives on Arab culture as well as to provide accurate information so that misperceptions caused by cultural differences can be prevented. Korean Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs, Shin Dong-ik and members of the Arab Diplomatic Corps attended the opening ceremony.

3) Iftar Dinner

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, marking the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, hosted an Iftar dinner for some 130 people related to Islam and the Middle East on July 10, 2015. While the Foreign Ministry has held an Iftar dinner for Ambassadors to the Republic of Korea from member countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) annually since 2004, the 2015 Iftar dinner

was particularly meaningful in that it was co-hosted by the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS), which celebrated the 40th anniversary of the launch of its Arabic services in 2015. Various figures including KBS President and CEO Cho Dae-hyun, Representative Director of Aramco Asia-Korea Mohammed Al-Hassnah, President of Daejeon Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) and a former Gulf War reporter Lee Jin-sook, Senior Vice President of S-Oil Kim Dong-chul, and Arabs studying in the ROK attended the event. The Iftar dinner served as an opportunity to deepen the Korean people's understanding of Islam and as a chance to communicate and interact with the Muslim community in Korea.

4) Korea-Arab Youth Exchange Program

Students from Korean language departments at universities in Egypt visited Korea from August 24 to 30, 2015 and had the chance to experience Korean culture through various programs. Korean students accompanied them throughout the week-long program, which provided a valuable opportunity for students from the two countries to bridge the cultural gap and get to know each other's

cultures. In addition, a selected number of students from the Training Program of the Korean International Trade Association (KITA) visited the UAE and Qatar from November 22 to 27, 2015. These students were able to explore overseas career opportunities through seminars and meetings with local recruitment agencies. In addition to experiencing the local culture, these students were able to



Korea-Arab Youth Exchange Program
(Korea, August 24 to 30, 2015)

explore overseas career opportunities through seminars and meetings with local recruitment agencies.

5) The 8th Korea-Arab Friendship Caravan

The Eighth Korea-Arab Friendship Caravan took place in Qatar, the UAE, Lebanon and Bahrain from October 9 to November 22, 2015 with the participation of high-



The Eighth Korea-Arab Friendship Caravan
(Qatar, UAE, Lebanon, Bahrain, October 9
to November 22, 2015)

level government officials and was warmly received by the people of Arab countries. This annual event, which was first held in 2008, plays an important role in increasing the understanding of Korean culture by introducing it to the people of Arab countries. This year, the Gyeonggi Provincial Dance Company's performance exhibited the beauty of the Korean traditional dance and the Korean B-boy team "Expression

Crew" performed a creative non-verbal show by fusing dance with puppetry to demonstrate the creativity and diversity of the contemporary Korean culture.

6) The 12th Korea-Middle East Cooperation Forum

The 12th Korea-Middle East Cooperation Forum; which was co-hosted by the Korea-Arab Society, the Jeju Peace Institute, and Arab Thought Forum and sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was held at Lotte Hotel in Seoul on October 26, 2015. Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se has been attending this Forum since

its 10th Forum in 2013 and presenting the Korean government's policy on the Middle East. Minister Yun suggested three "i"s—"involved," "innovative" and "interactive"—for strengthening the cooperative partnership between Korea and the Middle East in his keynote speech.

At the 12th Forum held under the theme of "Partnership for Peace, Prosperity and People," active discussions were held on three keywords—Regional Challenges, Economic Cooperation, and Future Society. Some 250 people participated in the Forum including government officials, diplomats, scholars, business people, and journalists.



The 12th Korea-Middle East Cooperation
Forum (Seoul, October 26, 2015)

Korean Government's Basic Position and Activities Concerning Major Middle Eastern Issues in 2015

1) Countering the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL)

Based on the understanding that the anti-government armed group ISIL constitutes a threat to international security and that there is a need to eradicate extreme poverty as part of efforts to fundamentally resolve the problem of violent extremism, which can be the result of the combination of political instability and social insecurity, the ROK government has joined in the international efforts to counter ISIL. In the year 2015, the ROK government provided humanitarian assistance of US \$6 million to Iraq in the form of contributions to international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). Furthermore, the ROK government announced that it will provide US \$10 million of humanitarian assistance to Syria at the Third International Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syria, which was held on March 31, 2015 in Kuwait. This pledge was part of Korea's efforts to join the UN-led international concerted efforts to tackle the severe humanitarian crisis in Syria that started five years ago.

2) The Iranian Nuclear Agreement

The Korean government has participated in imposing sanctions to resolve the Iranian nuclear issue whilst seeking to minimize its impact on the Korean economy and contributing to the signing of the Nuclear Agreement between the P5+1 countries and Iran.

Vice Minister Cho Tae-yong visited Iran on June 27, 2015 before the Nuclear Agreement was finalized. This visit was followed by a visit by Deputy Minister for Political Affairs Kim Hong-kyun to Iran on September 12, 2015 and a visit by the Foreign Minister, which was the first visit to the country by a Korean foreign minister in fourteen years. These consecutive visits by high-ranking officials to Iran laid a foundation for Korea-Iran bilateral relations to prepare for the lifting of sanctions following the Iran Nuclear Agreement. In 2015, Foreign Minister Yun met with his counterpart from Iran, Minister Zarif, on three occasions, including the high-level open panel discussion on "Geopolitical Risk" at the World Economic Forum and the ministerial meeting held on the sidelines of the 70th UN General Assembly.

The ROK government invited the US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State to give briefings whenever important progress, such as the finalizing of the Iran Nuclear Agreement on July 14, 2015, was made. In addition, briefing sessions on sanctions against Iran were held co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other ministries in April, August and December 2015, providing Korean companies with up-to-date information. Furthermore, in order to build a cooperative network

among relevant ministries and to support Korean companies' entry into the Iranian market, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs took the initiative to hold a joint ministerial task force meeting and established the Director-General-Level Task Force for Cooperation with Iran after the Iran Nuclear Deal. Moreover, the Foreign Ministry cooperated with relevant ministries on various issues including technical matters with regard to the lifting of sanctions of the US, and the EU, and consultations with Iran.

Around the time of the nuclear deal, the two countries continued to engage in consultations on bilateral issues and held director general-level policy consultations in June 2015 and the Deputy-Ministerial level Policy Dialogue with Iran in September 2015. The Korean government exerted efforts to strengthen exchanges between the two countries through various projects, such as the Korea-Iran Junior Diplomats Exchange Programme, which was launched in 2015, and invited eight junior Iranian diplomats to Korea in order to build a pro-Korean opinion-leading group within the Foreign Ministry of Iran.

3) The Israel-Palestine Conflict

The Korean government's position regarding the Israel-Palestine issue is that the resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict is crucial for lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and that a "two-state solution" that is built on dialogue and compromise between both sides

is imperative for the peaceful coexistence of Israel and Palestine. Based on this understanding, the ROK government has joined the international community's efforts to resolve the Israel-Palestine issue and is increasing high-level exchanges and consultation meetings to enhance its bilateral relations with both parties.

The Korean government is providing development assistance to Palestine especially in the fields of education, health, and public administration with a view to enhancing Palestine's rebuilding and governance capacities. The ROK government provided four million dollars in the years 2014-2015 to help address the situation in the Gaza Strip, and the ROK government is faithfully implementing its pledge to provide 12 million dollars to Palestine in the years 2014-2016.

4) Reconstruction of Libya

The Korean government supports Libya's stabilization, successful political transition, and establishment of democracy and hopes that as conflicts come to an end, through dialogue and negotiation, peace will soon return to Libya. Furthermore, the Korean government has joined the international efforts for reconstruction in Libya. For example, the Korean delegation attended the Senior Officials' Meeting on Assistance to the Libyan government of National Accord held in October 2015 in London and the Libyan Political Agreement Signing Ceremony held in December

2015 in Skhirat, Morocco, actively participating in discussions on finding a resolution to the Libyan crisis. Meanwhile, the Korean government has been providing humanitarian assistance to Libya since 2011 and donated 2.03 million dollars in 2015. The Korean government plans to support the reconstruction of Libya through specific projects for sharing Korea's experience and know-how in economic development, the recovery and identification of the remains of missing people, job training programs, healthcare and medical cooperation.

5) Yemen Crisis

The Korean government expresses concern that the crisis in Yemen continues to deteriorate as armed conflicts spread, after the capital Sanaa was taken over by armed forces and President Hadi fled to Aden. The Korean government supports the Yemen's political transition in accordance with the UN Security council's resolution and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) initiative and has urged that all parties in Yemen resume the dialogue in the near future and make efforts to restore peace and stability in Yemen. The Korean government has also attended the meetings of Friends of Yemen since 2012 and provided US \$5.35 million worth of humanitarian aid to Yemen and provided US \$1 million in humanitarian aid through the World Food Program (WFP) to address the severe humanitarian crisis in Yemen.

Chapter 5

Inter-regional Diplomacy



1. ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se attended the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Luxembourg on November 5-6, 2015 and presented a plan to strengthen the connectivity between Asia and Europe along with an initiative on future directions for the development of ASEM, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2016.

In his remarks at the second plenary session of the meeting on "Connectivity and the Future of ASEM," Minister Yun elaborated on the outcomes of the projects implemented as a follow-up to the proposal made by President Park Geun-hye at the 10th ASEM Summit in 2014 in Milan, Italy with regard to the three contributions Korea would make in realizing ASEM's vision: physical connectivity, digital connectivity, and cultural and educational connectivity. In addition, Minister Yun presented ways that ASEM, which stood at a critical juncture celebrating the 20th anniversary of its inception in 2016, could enhance its visibility and evolve into a more efficient and mature consultative mechanism. His remarks were

warmly received by the EU and other member countries of ASEM. His suggestions included continuously expanding and deepening physical and soft connectivities, strengthening ASEM's role in boosting economic cooperation between Asia and Europe, and promoting innovation. In particular, Minister Yun proposed resuming the Senior Officials' Meeting on Trade and Investment (SOMTI) with China as the first step to activate cooperation in the economy, one of ASEM's three major pillars and an area in which progress had been relatively slow thus far.

In the Retreat Session, Minister Yun talked about the situation on the Korean Peninsula, including North Korea's nuclear and human rights issue, the ROK-Japan-China summit talks, recent developments in Northeast Asia, and the South China Sea issue. He pointed out that the North Korean nuclear issue has become the biggest threat to the international nuclear non-proliferation regime since the conclusion of the agreement on the Iranian nuclear program and emphasized the need for a firm and unified message from the international community that shows zero tolerance for North Korea's nuclear armament and calls for its denuclearization. He also explained in detail the Korean government's efforts to ease tensions and build trust in Northeast Asia as well as the significance of the ROK-Japan-China summit talks, which was highly appreciated by the EU and other members of ASEM.

2. ASEAN-ROK, ASEAN+3, EAS

President Park Geun-hye attended the ASEAN+3 Summit (the meeting between the leaders of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations and Korea, China, and Japan), the East Asia Summit (EAS), and the ASEAN-ROK Summit, which were held back to back in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on November 21 and 22, 2015. At the three

meetings, she conveyed the Korean government's will to forge stronger ties with ASEAN and contribute to strengthening regional cooperation.

The meetings were convened at a critical juncture when a strong momentum for East Asia regional cooperation was being generated thanks to the establishment of the ASEAN Community and the 10th anniversary of the inception of the EAS. President Park sought to increase Korea's strategic leverage in the Asia-Pacific region and focused on laying the foundation for creating future growth engines by strengthening cooperation with ASEAN.

At the 17th ASEAN-ROK Summit held on November 22, President Park and the ten leaders of the ASEAN countries shared the view that the establishment of the ASEAN Community presented a new opportunity for the strategic partnership between Korea and ASEAN to take a new leap. In addition, the leaders agreed to strengthen cooperation, especially in the political security, economic, and socio-culture pillars stated in the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. President Park announced that Korea will continue to share with ASEAN member countries its experience of achieving rural development through *Saemaul Undong* to help strengthen connectivity and narrow the development gap within ASEAN, and in turn, contribute to completing the ASEAN Community.

At the 18th ASEAN+3 Summit held on November 21, leaders from the ten ASEAN member states as well as Korea, China, and Japan expressed satisfaction with the progress made in the fields of finance, agriculture, healthcare, and education since the establishment of ASEAN+3 in 1997. At the same time, the leaders agreed on the



Korea-ASEAN Summit
(Kuala Lumpur, November 22, 2015)



Korea-ASEAN +3 Summit
(Kuala Lumpur, November 21, 2015)

need to strengthen international cooperation in order to respond effectively to challenges such as economic instability, food security, climate change, and the spread of infectious diseases.

President Park presented future directions for ASEAN+3 in working together for the establishment of the East Asia Community. She suggested that ASEAN+3 should

strengthen functional cooperation, faithfully implement the ROK-led EAVG Group II Work Plan, and increase cooperation between East Asia and ASEAN in line with the restored trilateral cooperation among Korea, China, and Japan. Leaders of ASEAN member countries welcomed the convening of the Trilateral Summit and expressed their hope that the trilateral cooperation and ASEAN+3 cooperation would become mutually reinforcing.

President Park attended the 10th East Asia Summit held on November 22 and discussed traditional security issues such as North Korea's nuclear weapons

program and the South China Sea dispute with the leaders of EAS member countries. They shared the view that the East Asia region still faces challenging and complex security environment due to traditional security issues.

As non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism, violent extremism, cyber security and healthcare pose new threats to the international community, the leaders of



EAS Summit
(Kuala Lumpur, November 22, 2015)

EAS member states adopted the following statements to jointly respond to these challenges: the East Asia Summit Statement on Countering Violent Extremism; the East Asia Summit Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates; the Statement on Issues Related to Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies; and the East Asia Summit Statement on Enhancing Regional Health Security Relating to Infectious Disease with Epidemic and Pandemic Potential. Leaders also adopted a statement on health security under Korea's initiative and praised Korea's ability to respond to infectious diseases and its contribution to the international community through sharing of its experiences.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the EAS, leaders held discussions on the direction of future cooperation, ways to develop functional cooperation, and traditional and non-traditional security issues. Such discussions provided a new momentum for strengthening of the role of the EAS in the future.

The ASEAN-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and the EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting were held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in August to make preparations for the three ASEAN-related summits in November.

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se attended the 18th ASEAN-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting and emphasized the importance of strengthening the strategic partnership between Korea and ASEAN. Ministers exchanged views on the current status of cooperation between ASEAN and Korea and its future direction, the North Korean nuclear weapons program, and other regional state of affairs.

Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se attended the 16th ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Ministers assessed the progress of cooperation at the ASEAN+3 level, which is well into its 18th year, and discussed its future direction. They also discussed regional issues, including issues on the Korean Peninsula, and trilateral cooperation among Korea, Japan and China.

The 5th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting provided a venue for the participants to discuss the future direction of the EAS, issues on the Korean Peninsula, and the situation in and out of East Asia.

At the 5th Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting, which was held in Malaysia on August 5, 2015, ministers assessed the current status of the Mekong-ROK cooperation and adopted a joint statement to show their will to faithfully implement the Mekong-ROK Plan of Action, increase effectiveness in the operation of the Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund, and further strengthen the Mekong-ROK cooperation. Also, in order to ensure transparency and effectiveness in the operation of the Mekong-ROK Cooperation Fund, ministers tasked the Mekong Institute to act as the coordinator of the fund. By doing so, Korea expressed its will to actively share its development experiences and knowhow with Mekong countries to contribute to the narrowing of the development gap within the Mekong region in the run up to the launch of the ASEAN Community. Ministers also considered holding the 3rd Mekong-ROK Business Forum in Cambodia in 2015 to assess the overall business environment of the Mekong region and explore ways to create more trade and investment opportunities for the SMEs of Korea and the Mekong region.

3. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established in December 1985 to promote economic, social, and cultural exchange among countries in Southwest Asia. It has India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives,

Bangladesh, and Afghanistan as members and Korea, China, Japan, the United States, the European Union, Iran, Mauritius, Myanmar, and Australia as observers.

Korea joined the SAARC as an observer in 2007, and since then, it has been providing special training courses for SAARC member states. In 2015, more than 30 trainees participated in the special courses on transport infrastructure, national territory management, and water resource infrastructure. Moreover, the Korea-SAARC Partnership Seminar has been held regularly since 2010. The 6th Seminar was held in October 2015 in Seoul under the theme of "Development Cooperation in Public Health."

4. Visegrad Group (V4)

The Visegrad Group is a regional cooperative body that was established on February 15, 1991 under the initiative of Hungary on the occasion of the summit meeting among the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. The Group worked together to achieve the goals of establishing national independence, democracy, human rights and liberty, overcoming the legacy of injustices created by authoritarianism in social and economic areas, introducing parliamentary democracy and a market-based economy, and joining the European political, security and economic systems such as the EU and NATO. Even after all four members of the Visegrad Group became members of NATO in 1999 and the EU in 2004 respectively, the Group has maintained the momentum of cooperation, re-setting its goals and pursuing cooperation within the V4 framework and the EU, as well as supporting eastern European countries in joining the EU.

Korea launched the Korea-V4 cooperation framework on July 17, 2014 at the

first Foreign Ministers' Meeting between the two sides to pursue diversification of bilateral cooperation and cooperation on inter-Korean policies with V4 countries, which represented a good example of successful socio-economic transformations and served as a main manufacturing base for Korean companies in Europe. The two sides, with the aim of building a firm bilateral relationship, upgraded the level of

Korea-V4 cooperation in stages within a short period of time.

Korea held the second Korea-V4 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on November 5, 2015 in Luxembourg and the inaugural Korea-V4 Summit on December 3, 2015 in Prague to build on the momentum for cooperation created by the Korea-V4 cooperation channel, which was officially established on the

occasion of the first Korea-V4 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in July 2014.

At the first-ever summit meeting between Korea and the V4 countries, the two sides reaffirmed their commitment to continuing mutual cooperation and discussed concrete measures to expand cooperation in areas such as trade and

investment, science and technology including innovation and R&D, the defense industry, and cultural and youth exchanges. They also exchanged views on regional issues such as the North Korean nuclear issue, the situation on the Korean Peninsula and the Ukrainian crisis, as well as global issues such as terrorism, refugees and climate change.



Korea-V4 Foreign Minister's Meeting
(Luxembourg, November 5, 2015)



Korea-V4 Summit (Prague, December 3, 2015)

In particular, they adopted a joint statement that reflects the vision for cooperation between Korea and the V4, various and concrete cooperation projects to achieve that vision, and ways for cooperation as well as the joint position of the two sides on key regional and international issues.

5. Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation, or the BSEC, is a regional economic organization that was launched under Turkey's initiative in 1992 with the purpose of boosting trade and economic cooperation in the Black Sea region. The BSEC has provided a platform for dialogue on economic cooperation in areas such as energy and transportation by, among others, regularly holding the Foreign Ministers' Meeting. It has also contributed to enhancing regional cooperation in the Black Sea by promoting projects for environmental protection and border protection.

Korea joined the BSEC as a Sectoral Dialogue Partner in 2011 to bolster its cooperation with the Black Sea region, which has served as a main energy transport route and possesses abundant natural resources.

Korea has been carrying out the Korea-BSEC ICT cooperation program, through which Korea-BSEC ICT workshops have been held every year. The main purpose of these workshops is to share experiences in e-government and to increase the efficiency of government services in BSEC member states. In 2015, the Korean Foreign Ministry and the National Society Agency co-hosted a workshop titled "Information Leadership" in Seoul and Daejeon from November 23 to 27. The workshop was comprised of field-based seminars in which participants could gain hands-on experience.

6. Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)

The Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, or CICA, is a regional security forum that was launched under Kazakhstan's initiative in 1992 with the purpose of building trust among Asian countries and preventing potential conflicts in the region for peace and security in Asia. CICA is comprised of 26 member states, including Korea and 11 observers, including the US, Japan, the UN and the OSCE.

Korea has been making voluntary financial contributions since it became an official member of CICA in 2006, and since April 2010, has served as a coordinator in the areas of energy security and IT cooperation.

Korea attended the CICA SOC (Senior Officials Committee)/SWG (Special Working Group) in 2015 (Mar. 25-26 in Guangzhou and Aug. 25-26 in Beijing, respectively) and actively participated in the discussions to facilitate the smooth implementation of CBMs (confidence-building measures) by the member states of CICA.

7. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

The ASEAN Regional Forum is a regional consultative body that was established in 1994 to foster constructive dialogue on issues of common interest and concern in politics and security as well as to achieve peace and security in the region. It is attended by nations in the Asia-Pacific region and the EU. It is the only regional security cooperation mechanism that North Korea participate. On August 6, 2015, the 22nd ARF Foreign Ministers' Meeting took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. All

the foreign ministers from 27 member countries were present at the Meeting, and they exchanged views on traditional and non-traditional issues including North Korea's nuclear weapons program, the South China Sea dispute, violent extremism, irregular migrants on sea, and transnational crime. In particular, on the issue of the North Korea's nuclear weapons program and inter-Korean issues, ministers called for the full implementation of UNSC resolutions in the ARF Chairman's Statement. The Statement also included a paragraph in which the ministers expressed their support for achieving the unification of the Korean Peninsula through inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation. The ARF meeting provided an opportunity to strengthen international support for the denuclearization of the North and deterrence against its provocations and to build international consensus on Korea's policies towards North Korea.

8. Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)

Established in June 2002, the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) is a pan-Asian body covering East, South and Central Asia as well as the Middle East. It consists of 34 member countries including Korea, China, Japan, all ASEAN member countries, India, Russia, and Saudi Arabia. Representatives of member countries gather to discuss political issues as well as ways to enhance cooperation in 20 diverse fields including energy, agriculture, and finance. Korea is the prime mover of IT cooperation among ACD members.

9. Korea-Pacific Islands Senior Officials' Meeting

The Korea-Pacific Islands Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held every three years to seek ways to promote cooperation between Korea and Pacific Island countries. In between terms, senior officials' meetings are held to discuss ways to implement the decisions made at the previous Foreign Ministers' Meeting and measures to strengthen cooperation between Korea and Pacific Island countries.

On October 6, 2015, the 3rd Korea-Pacific Islands Senior Officials' Meeting was held in Seoul, and it was participated by high-ranking officials from Korea, 14 Pacific Island countries, and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat as well as officials from related agencies including the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries and the Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology. At the meeting, participants assessed the progress made in cooperation projects and exchanged wide-ranging opinions on measures to strengthen future cooperation.

10. MIKTA

Entering its second year in 2015 and with Korea as the chair country, MIKTA evolved into a more systemized consultative mechanism of middle powers with enhanced utility and visibility on the international stage. MIKTA is a partnership among Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey and Australia. These countries are middle powers which have the will and the capacity to contribute to advancing the global interest. The First MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held on September 25 on the sidelines of the 68th UN General Assembly in 2013.

As the chair country from September 2014 to August 2015, Korea initiated the

1st Senior Officials' Meeting on February 27 and hosted the 5th Foreign Ministers' Meeting on May 22, both of which were held in Seoul. At the Ministerial meeting, the five ministers launched the official MIKTA website (www.mikta.org) and adopted the MIKTA Vision Statement, which laid out the background, identity and future direction of MIKTA. During the 6th MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Meeting held on the margins of the 70th UN General Assembly on September 26, MIKTA foreign ministers adopted a joint statement underscoring MIKTA's active leadership and commitment to exploring concrete ways to help finalize negotiations on the post-2020 climate change regime.

The five countries also acted in concert and spoke with one voice at major multilateral fora. MIKTA delivered a joint statement regarding gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at the 28th Session of the Human Rights Council on March 9 in Geneva to commemorate International Women's Day. It also made joint remarks calling on the Fifth Committee of the UN General Assembly to improve its method of operation. Following the terrorist bombings in Ankara, Turkey, the four ministers of the other MIKTA countries condemned the attacks in the strongest terms and declared that they stood alongside Turkey in solidarity.

As cooperation among MIKTA countries gained traction, a range of consultation channels were also established in addition to the Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The 1st MIKTA Speakers' Consultation was held in Seoul on July 2, strengthening the political foundation for MIKTA, and the speakers agreed to continue inter-parliamentary cooperation among the five countries. Experts and scholars from MIKTA countries increased their interactions through the establishment of the MIKTA Academic Network among think tanks designated by each country as well as the 2nd Development Cooperation Workshop, both of which were held in Seoul in May. MIKTA also expanded the scope of its cooperation through the MIKTA Defence

Dialogue held in September on the sidelines of the Seoul Defence Dialogue and the MIKTA Trade Dialogue, which was held in December on the margins of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi.