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Trilateral
Cooperation
Secretariat

2022 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

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



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Part I

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (hereinafter referred to as the TCS) signed by the governments of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as China), Japan, and the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as the ROK) in 2011, the TCS drafts and submits progress report of the Trilateral Cooperation to the three Foreign Ministries for approval. The TCS presents the report titled "2022 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation," covering the period from January to December 2022.

INTRODUCTION

Stepping into the third year with COVID-19, the Trilateral Cooperation among China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) has adapted itself to the post-COVID-19 era, steadily continuing to strengthen the cooperation for a sustained monument in various fields.

In the field of political affairs, the three countries deepened cooperation through **the 7th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management** in July, and **the 14th Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety** in December, both convened virtually.

The economic cooperation between the three countries was also prosperous this year, with various meetings with substantial outcomes. **The 22nd Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting** was held in a virtual format in May. Later in November, **the 22nd Northeast Asia Port Director-General Meeting** took place, followed by **the 22nd TRIPO Heads Meeting**.

Discussions on sustainable development also continued, and numerous meetings were organized to exchange information on environmental policies and researches throughout the year. In December, **the 23rd Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM23)** was held online.

With regards to the socio-cultural cooperation, **the 13th Trilateral Culture Ministers Meeting** was convened in August. In addition, to enhance cooperation in the field of public health, the **15th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting** was virtually organized in December.

Part II

COOPERATION PROGRESS

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

01 Politics and Security

Disaster Management

The 7th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management was held via video conference on July 14, 2022. The meeting was presided by Minister of State for Disaster Management and Ocean Policy, the Cabinet Office of Japan, with the participation of Vice Minister of the Ministry of Emergency Management of China, and Vice Minister for Disaster and Safety Management, Ministry of the Interior and Safety of the ROK.

The three sides introduced key disaster prevention policies and experiences in response to increasingly frequent and intense natural disasters and reaffirmed to further promote trilateral cooperation on disaster management. The three sides adopted the Joint Statement in which they decided to actively promote cooperation 1) to ensure steady implementation of the Sendai Framework with its midterm review to be conducted in 2023, 2) to strengthen the capacities and measures of each side to respond to various natural disasters, and 3) to further enhance capacity building on disaster management through CJK education and training institutions.



Nuclear Safety

The 14th Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety among the Nuclear Safety and Security Commission (NSSC) of the ROK, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment/National Nuclear Safety Administration (MEE/NNSA) of China and the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) of Japan was held via video conference on December 9, 2022. In the meeting, the three authorities presented the current status and progress of nuclear safety activities in each country.



02 Economy

Economy and Trade

The 20th Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technological Conference took place on November 25, 2022, in Busan, the ROK in an online-offline hybrid format hosted by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK, the Ministry of Commerce of China, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Kyushu Bureau) of Japan, Kyushu Economy International (KEI), co-organized by the Korea-Japan Economy Association and Korea-Japan Cooperation Foundation for Industry and Technology. Marking its 20th anniversary, the Conference brought together central and local government officials, business leaders and scholars of the three countries to share their insights on boosting regional economy and people-to-people exchanges in the Yellow Sea Rim and to put forward trilateral cooperation in the areas of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), supply chains, e-commerce, green economy and ICT, etc.

Transport and Logistics

The first Directorial Meeting for the 9th China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics was held online on November 15, 2022. The delegations from Ministry of Transport of China, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the ROK, and the TCS participated in the meeting. The participants discussed the development of transport and logistics areas in the three countries and the preparation for the 9th Ministerial Conference as well as reaffirmed their close collaboration in this regard.



The 22nd Northeast Asia Port Director-General Meeting took place virtually on November 24, 2022, under the theme of “Development and Promotion of Cruise Industry”. Representatives of the three countries made presentations on the development of ports and promotion of cruise industry in each country and exchanged views on the measures of promoting trilateral cooperation in this area. **The 22nd Northeast Asia Port Symposium** was held on the same day. Experts from the three countries delivered presentations on the themes of regional development with cruise industry at the core, the efforts & challenges of environmental measures at ports and trends in the cruise market in Northeast Asia.



The 29th NEAL-NET Technical Meeting was held online on June 9-10, 2022. Government officials and technical experts from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, China Transport Telecommunications & Information Center, and the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the ROK attended the meeting. The discussion focused on the standards and service capabilities of data interconnection and sharing among the three countries. The participants also exchanged views on the information sharing and interconnection of sea-rail intermodal transportation, information sharing of maritime transshipment, and the post-epidemic situation of international shipping.



Intellectual Property Rights

The 22nd TRIPO Heads Meeting was held on November 29, 2022, hosted by the Japan Patent Office (JPO), with the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) participating. The three Intellectual Property (IP) offices discussed each country's recent trends in IP development and reviewed the major cooperation projects between the three countries.



The 10th TRIPO User Symposium was held on the same day as the TRIPO Heads Meeting, under the theme of “Contribution of Intellectual Property to Achieving a Decarbonized Society”. The symposium introduced initiatives for diffusion and promotion of carbon neutral technologies by each country’s IP offices and case studies regarding the development and diffusion of carbon neutral technologies through strategic use of the patent system, and discussed the role of IP toward achieving carbon neutrality.

The 11th Japan-China-Korea Design Forum was held in August 2022 in an online format under the theme of “Design protection in the global economy and Web 3.0”. At the Forum, the three Offices introduced the latest trends, design laws and regulations, and relevant practices. Speakers from private sectors and experts presented the legal issues of the metaverse, the operation of designs in images and digital space.

TRIPO Trademark User Symposium was hosted by CNIPA, inviting the representatives from three countries to introduce the latest amendments to the Trademark Law and the measures of change reasons for trademark refusal and offer practical information to the users. A total of 130 user representatives joined the symposium online. In addition, the 4th Trademark Experts Meeting reviewed the latest system, statistics, and policies for the regulation of bad-faith trademark registration at the Trademark Experts Meeting. The working level agreed on jointly creating the 2023 version of the China-Japan-Korea Concordance List of Similar Group Codes, which corresponds with the Nice Classification.

The 9th Joint Expert Group for Trial and Appeal (JEGTA) was held on November 24, 2022, to discuss comparative studies on legal matters of IP trials. Experts from the three countries exchanged views on topics such as fast-track trial/appeal proceedings, and supplementary experimental data. As a result of the Expert Group meeting, the comparative study on the legal effect of the invalidation decision has been completed and will be published.

The 13th Heads Meeting of Intellectual Property Training Institutes was also held online with the Heads of each training institutes sharing the recent developments and trends of each country and discussed new training programs for enterprises that are seeking overseas expansion. The meeting also included topics such as e-learning and joint trilateral project opportunities in the future.

The Chinese Intellectual Property Society (CIPS), the Intellectual Property Association of Japan (IPAJ) and the Korea Intellectual Property Society (KIPS) jointly held the **2022 International Symposium on Intellectual Property** via both online and offline on December 28, 2022. Around 15 IP experts from the three countries made presentations on rules for IP protection of data, IP issues related to metaverse, healthcare and patent licensing linkage systems and IP's role in the post-pandemic economic recovery.

Finance

The 22nd Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting was held virtually on May 12, 2022 under the chairmanship of H.E. LIU Kun, Minister of Finance of China. The Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors from the three countries exchanged views on the recent global and regional economic developments, and policy efforts to support the economic recovery.

The three countries expressed commitment to enhance communication and coordination and collaborate with ASEAN countries in the ASEAN+3 Finance Process. They also acknowledged the importance of enhancing CMIM's operational readiness, commended further improvements in AMRO's surveillance capacity and review of Strategic Direction at AMRO's 10th anniversary, and welcomed ABMI's continued progress toward implementing the ABMI Medium-Term Road Map 2019-2022. In addition, the three countries welcomed the substantial progress made in deepening and broadening ASEAN+3 financial cooperation, including those made by the Working Groups and new initiatives of Financial Digitalization and Transition Finance.

Audit

The 17th Working Level Meeting of the Supreme Audit Institutions of China, Japan and Korea was held virtually on June 23, 2022. The National Audit Office of China, the Board of Audit of Japan, and the Board of Audit and Inspection of the ROK attended. The three parties discussed topics on "Remote Audit and Related Issues to be Addressed" and "Audit on Government Spending for the Mid-and-Long-term Fiscal Soundness."

03

Sustainable Development

Environment Protection

The 23rd Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM23) was held virtually on December 1, 2022, hosted by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China with the participation of the Ministry of Environment of Japan and the Ministry of Environment of the ROK. At the meeting, the three parties exchanged information on the recent progress in environmental policies in each country since TEMM22 and shared the view that such efforts will contribute to achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia as well as to solving national, regional, and global environmental problems. They also reviewed the progress in the implementation of Tripartite Joint Action Plan (TJAP) 2021-2025 and are committed to continuing efforts to promote trilateral cooperation.



The 9th Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Air Pollution (TPDAP) was held on September 27, 2022. The meeting was hosted by Japan online. The policy and technology information on the prevention and control of atmospheric pollutants including PM2.5 and ozone was shared.

The 15th Annual Meeting of Working Group II was held on November 15, 2022, online hosted by China where the participants shared the latest information of the research conducted by the respective countries.

The 15th Tripartite Online Seminar on 3R/Circular Economy/Zero Waste City was held on December 20, 2022, online hosted by the ROK. The meeting was hosted to share the latest policy development on 3R/Circular Economy/Zero Waste City and discuss the future cooperation plan.

The 17th Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) was held on April 22, 2022, by online meeting. The meeting shared the information on the issue of “Current Status and Challenges of Domestic Wastewater Governance” and “Current Status and Challenges of Introduction of Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems”.

Three countries exchanged information on their domestic policies on climate change and sustainable recovery at **the Trilateral Symposium on Environmental Education and Public Awareness** held on August 19, 2022.

The 16th Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemical Management (TPDCM) was held on November 30, 2022, hosted by Japan. The meeting shared the information and technology on investigation, monitoring, screening, and evaluation of emerging contaminants.

The Working level meeting on Tripartite Environmental Pollution Prevention Cooperation Network was held in May 2022 by online meeting. It promoted the development and operation of the web platform of the Tripartite Cooperation Network for Environmental Pollution Prevention and Control Technologies.

The Tripartite Working-level Meeting on Eco-Labeling was held on September 26-27, 2022, by Japan, online. It reached consensus on comparison results of Wallpaper common core criteria, and revised the agreement of the common core criteria for Multifunctional Devices.

The TEEN (Tripartite Environmental Education Network) joint projects made progress. The project on the Comparative Research Report on Environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Training for teachers in China, Japan, and the ROK was completed in April 2022. The project on the Case study on Nature-based Environment Education of China, Japan, and Korea was completed in December 2022.

The 23rd TEEN open symposium was held on November 17-18, 2022, by online meeting. It was hosted by China with the theme of “Nature-based Environmental Education Innovation: Connection, Integration and Creation”.

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Social and Cultural Exchanges

Culture

The 13th Trilateral Culture Ministers Meeting was held on August 26, 2022. Mr. HU Heping, Minister of Culture and Tourism of China led the virtual meeting, with Ms. NAGAOKA Keiko, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and Mr. PARK Bo-gyoon, Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK in attendance.

In the ‘Qufu Declaration’, the three ministers agreed to promote cultural exchange in the following six aspects: 1) Practical cooperation among cultural and art sectors, 2) Strengthening cooperation for protecting cultural heritage, 3) Deepening cooperation for the development of cultural industries, 4) Promoting youth exchange and cooperation in various fields, 5) Promoting the merge of culture and tourism, and culture and sports, 6) Branding of the Cultural Cities of East Asia (CCEA). The meeting was followed by CCEA Award Ceremony where Chengdu City and Meizhou City (China), Shizuoka Prefecture (Japan) and Jeonju City (ROK) were designated as the 2023 CCEAs.



The 15th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum was held in hybrid format in Jeju, ROK, on October 27-28, 2022. The forum was hosted by the ROK Ministry of

Culture, Sports and Tourism, and was participated by Director-Generals of Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MCT) of China, and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan. The three sides adopted the Joint Statement which includes 1) expanding cooperation in the cultural content industry, 2) promoting exchanges among the relevant enterprises, 3) sharing information utilizing the online platform, and 4) supporting companies to create business opportunities.

Health

The 15th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting was held via video conference on December 16, 2022. The meeting was chaired by Minister CHO Kyoo Hong of the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the ROK. Vice Minister ZENG Yixin on behalf of Minister MA Xiaowei of the National Health Commission of China, Minister KATO Katsunobu of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, and Dr. Zsuzsanna JAKAB, Deputy Director-General of World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the meeting.

The three parties stressed the importance of cooperation in response to the regional public health crisis and revitalization of both online and offline cooperation. In addition, the ministers also exchanged their national policy measures for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and efforts to increase healthcare access through digital health. As one of the urgent tasks facing the three countries in common, each country's experiences and solutions to an aging society were also shared. The meeting concluded with the adoption of a Joint Statement containing the three countries' endeavors to strengthen cooperation on the agenda discussed at the meeting, such as Pandemic Prevention Preparedness and Response (PPR), Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and Healthy Aging.



The 10th Trilateral Dialogue on Population Policy was held via video conference on November 10, 2022. The seminar was organized by China Population and Development Research Center (CPDRC), with the support of National Health Commission of China (NHC), Cabinet Office of Japan, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and Ministry of Health and Welfare of the ROK. Population policy-related officials and experts from the three countries attended the seminar to discuss the 1) impacts of gender equality and family changes on fertility, and 2) application of smart and digital technology for the care service management for the elderly.

Personnel

The 14th Joint Symposium concerning Personnel Administration was held online on June 17, 2022. The symposium was hosted by the National Personnel Authority (NPA) of Japan on the theme of “Equity Process and Complaint Counseling System”. Representatives from the National Civil Service Administration (NCSA) of the People’s Republic of China and the Ministry of Personnel Management (MPM) of the ROK attended.



The 10th Director-General Level Meeting on China-Japan-Korea Personnel Policy Network was held on September 5, 2022. The parties discussed and agreed on the 10th Cooperation Plan, which includes cooperation agendas for promoting information exchange and personnel exchange.

The 13th Joint Training Program for Young/Middle-Level Public Employees was held online on January 18-19, 2022. The National Personnel Authority (NPA) of Japan hosted the Program.

The 14th Joint Training Program for Young/Middle-Level Public Employees was held online on September 27-28, 2022. The National Civil Service Administration (NCSA) of the People's Republic of China hosted the Program.

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Local Government Exchanges

The 23rd Local Government Exchange Conference was held in hybrid format in Nanchang, China, on 4 November 2022. The conference was hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and attended by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) of Japan, and the Governors Association of Korea (GAOK). Under the theme of "Establishment of a Northeast Asian community with a shared future through win-win cooperation and mutual development," the three sides shared best policies and practices, discussed common challenges, and promoted their local regions.

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Kicking off into a new decade, the TCS spared no effort to further promote public awareness and the importance of Trilateral Cooperation. The year 2022 was the year that TCS took large steps and inaugurated numerous initiatives, hosting new projects and supporting existing trilateral mechanisms.

In the year, the TCS was invited to and supported the 7th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management, the 13th Trilateral Culture Ministers Meeting, the 23rd Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting (TEMM 23) Director-General Meeting, First Directorial Meeting for the 9th CJK Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics, the 22nd TRIPO Heads Meeting, the 23rd Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM23), the 14th Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety, and the 15th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting (THMM). Moreover, the TCS Secretary-General OU Boqian attended the 25th ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The TCS' annual flagship event, the **International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2022**, was successfully held in June in an online-offline hybrid format in Seoul, under the theme of "Future-oriented Trilateral Cooperation: Lasting Peace, Common Prosperity, Shared Culture". Prior to the IFTC, TCS also hosted a pre-event press briefing and publications/project launch event under the theme of "Trilateral Cooperation in the New Decade".

H.E. HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, H.E. WANG Yi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China, and H.E. PARK Jin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of ROK delivered written congratulatory messages on the opening of IFTC 2022. They highlighted the significance of trilateral cooperation and reaffirmed continuous support for the TCS' activities.

With the focus on the exchange among the youth of the three countries, in February the TCS organized a series of youth programs including the **2021 Young Ambassador Program (YAP)** which invited 24 qualified students from China, Japan, and the ROK for a two-week long program consisting of lectures, discussions, tours, and team projects online. As a new youth initiative, the TCS also held the very first **Trilateral**

Youth Speech Contest to generate positive perceptions among the youth of the three countries by shedding light on the common cultural assets of Northeast Asia.

In May, the TCS hosted its first sports event, the **China-Japan-Korea (CJK) Marathon 2022 Virtual Run** to create a platform for the people of the three countries to communicate and expand mutual understanding through running. In celebration of the new project, the Launching Ceremony was also held in Seoul, with guests from the Chinese Embassy, Japanese Embassy, and the ROK MOFA.

The 7th **Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program (TJEP)** was organized fully offline from late July to early August under the theme of “Solutions Journalism for a Sustainable Future-Building.” As the first offline event TCS hosted since the outbreak of the pandemic, the TCS invited 12 journalists and 10 speakers from China, Japan, and the ROK to Seoul to join the program.

In August, the TCS organized the **Trilateral Symposium on Environmental Education and Public Awareness** to raise public awareness of trilateral environmental policies and cooperation, and to enhance communications and mutual learning among environmental teachers and educators. In the same month, **the Trilateral Entrepreneurs Forum (TEF) 2022** was held under the theme of “Co-creating the Future: Women’s Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth”, attracting more than 300 general public from governmental agencies, business sectors, media and academia from the three countries and beyond.

In October, the 6th Consultative Board paid a courtesy visit to Tokyo, Japan, and had meetings with 23 counterparts including the ministries, economic and cultural associations, universities, and political circles. The Board utilized the visit to extend appreciation and further strengthen cooperation with stakeholders on key TCS agendas.

Furthermore, the TCS published several booklets to promote further understanding of Trilateral Cooperation in various fields including the **Trilateral Economic Report (TER) 2011-2020**, a report containing the development of economic cooperation among the three countries between 2011 and 2020, **An Evolving Trilateral Cooperation: Reality and Outlook** reviewing the progress of the objectives set in the previous report *Trilateral Cooperation Vision 2020*.

Part III

CONCLUSION

The year 2022 witnessed Trilateral Cooperation carrying out its momentum in various areas among China, Japan, and the ROK. Despite the prevalent remaining challenges and changes brought by COVID-19, the three countries' efforts and dedication to trilateral cooperation remained evident.

Under the guidance of the three governments, the TCS also vigorously fulfilled its mandate as it stepped foot into the second decade. With the continuous support from the three countries, the TCS will further strengthen its framework and enhance capacity-building to better promote the public understanding of and support towards the trilateral cooperation among China, Japan, and the ROK.

ANNEXES

1. The Trilateral Joint Statement on Disaster Management Cooperation
2. Joint Statement of the 15th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum
3. Joint Statement of The Fifteenth Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting (THMM)
4. List of Trilateral Ministerial Meetings in 2022

01

The Trilateral Joint Statement on Disaster Management Cooperation

July 14, 2022, via virtual conference

We, the heads of government agencies on disaster management of Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea, participated in the 7th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management on July 14, 2022 via virtual conference.

We expressed our heartfelt condolences to the victims for the loss of lives and damages to property caused by natural disasters including typhoons, floods, earthquakes, and landslides, large scale accidents, and the COVID-19 pandemic that took place not only in Japan, China, and Korea but also around the world.

Recognizing that the three countries are experiencing more frequent and catastrophic natural disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons, and floods, we reconfirmed the importance and significance of trilateral cooperation on disaster management, due to our geographical proximity, and called for pursuing sustainable development and protecting people's lives as top priorities.

We reviewed the outcomes of the 6th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and shared the recent disasters and countermeasures against them, and the progress of effective and practical measures towards disaster risk reduction in the three countries.

With the aim to improve disaster prevention capacity of Japan, China, and Korea by sharing prevention policies on disasters, we decided to actively promote cooperation among the three countries as follows:

1. Recognizing that the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 will be conducted in 2023, ensure the steady implementation of the Framework. Enhance the capacity in disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and promote information and experience sharing among the three countries on the implementation of “Build Back Better”, stipulated in the Sendai Framework. In addition, enhance communication regarding future concrete working objectives, increasing input, and improving measures to achieve the global targets and monitor the progress in line with the priorities for action of the Sendai Framework.
2. Taking into account the fact that natural disasters are increasing in intensity and frequency due to climate change, strengthen capacities to respond to various natural disasters such as promoting both structural and non-structural measures for disaster risk prevention and reduction, enhancing early warning systems and public awareness to ensure prompt and effective evacuation, and strengthening response measures to meet the basic subsistence needs of disaster-affected people.
3. Give full play to the existing international and regional education and training institutions located in the three countries, including the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), the National Disaster Reduction Center of China (NDRCC), and the Global Education and Training Institute (GETI), to carry out the trilateral cooperation on training such as capacity building on disaster management and risk reduction.

We appreciate the efforts made by the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) to promote our joint cooperation on disaster management. We will involve the TCS in the follow-up process of the Joint Statement to the maximum extent. The host country will be responsible for follow-up procedures of determined agendas of the meeting until the next meeting.

Based on the principle of the biennial hosting of the meeting, we reached a consensus on the People’s Republic of China’s hosting of the 8th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management. We confirmed this Joint Statement written in English via virtual conference on July 14, 2022.

Joint Statement of the 15th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum

1. Summary of the 15th Forum

- 1.1. The 15th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum was held from October 27 to 28, 2022 in Jeju-do. This forum was hosted and chaired by the Republic of Korea and was attended by Kim Jae Hyun, Director General of Content Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, Fujita Seitaro, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, and Miao Muyang, Director General of the Department of Industry Development of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China as well as other related agencies of the three countries, the Republic of Korea, China, and Japan.
 - 1.2. In this Forum, the three countries discussed exchanges and cooperation in the cultural content industries. In particular, they focused on discussing the current state of the market of immersive content and measures on mutual exchanges and cooperation in the field. The three countries agreed to keep discussing such agendas in the future editions of the Forum for the continued collaboration of not only the government but also the related agencies and industries, and to pursue cooperative measures for the co-development and co-prosperity of their respective cultural content industries.
 - 1.3. The three countries reaffirmed the need for continuous growth and exchanges in the field of cultural content industry and shared the thought that this Forum played an essential role in exchanging information of the cultural content industry and in generating opportunities for creative cooperation among the three countries. The three countries agreed to continue organizing the Forums on a regular basis by hosting it in turn.
-

2. Reinforcement of exchanges and cooperation in the cultural content industry among the three countries

- 2.1. The three countries agreed to devise cooperation measures for continuous development and prosperity of the cultural content industry. They shall strive to create an environment where ideas can be generated and content development can be discussed through mutual exchanges among content producers and creators of the three countries.
- 2.2. The three countries agreed to expand the sharing of policies and information in the cultural content industry and to implement various collaboration projects. The three countries shall share information concerning the industry's general policies, systems, market trends and the like based on the online platforms of cultural content such as the websites of Korea's Korea Creative Content Agency (KOCCA), Japan's Visual Industry Promotion Organization (VIPO), China's China Culture and Entertainment Industry Association (CCEA) and shall play the role of supporting the generation of business opportunities for companies.

3. Strengthening cooperation in immersive content industry among the three countries

- 3.1. The three countries agreed to support the participation of related companies in the respective countries in international events related to immersive content in each country, to expand networking among companies and to collaborate for the successful hosting of related events.
 - 3.2. The three countries shall endeavor to promote exchanges among companies in the field of immersive content. Furthermore, they agreed to expand the provision of human resource exchanges such as business matching among companies and project pitching, including the utilization of IP and cooperation in the field of other cultural content that act as the source for the production of immersive content.
-

4. Next Forum

4.1. The three countries agreed that Japan will host the next Forum. The Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China agreed to positively support Japan vis-a-vis the participation of related government agencies and industries in the Forum.

4.2. The three countries agreed to host the 16th Forum in 2023.

This joint statement was adopted at the 15th Forum, on October 27, 2022 in Korean, Japanese, Chinese and English, each text being equally valid. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Ministry of Culture,
Sports and Tourism,
Republic of Korea

Ministry of Economy,
Trade and Industry,
Japan

Ministry of Culture and
Tourism,
People's Republic of
China

Director General

Deputy Director General

Director General

KIM, Jaehyun

FUJITA, Seitaro

MIAO, Muyang

Joint Statement of the Fifteenth Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting (THMM)

December 16th, 2022 (Video Conference)

We, the Health Ministers of the Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China and Japan, on December 16th, 2022, held the Fifteenth Tripartite Health Ministers’ Meeting (THMM) via video conference.

We acknowledged our all efforts to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, which is one of the most common public health challenges of the three countries, and reaffirmed our commitment to cooperate closely in prevention, preparedness and response to infectious diseases with pandemic or high consequence potential of common concern and to share relevant information, knowledge and experiences at the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Tripartite Health Ministers’ Meetings via video conference. The meeting agenda included Cooperation in Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response (PPR), Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Healthy Aging.

1. Improving Global Health Security; Cooperation in Pandemic PPR

Considering the geographical proximity of the three countries and the frequency of international travel and transportation, we reaffirmed the importance of regional and global cooperation and global health security for strengthened pandemic PPR against infectious diseases such as COVID-19.

Based on the “Joint Action Plan among the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the Republic of Korea and the National Health Commission of the People’s Republic of China on Preparedness and Response against Infectious Diseases with Pandemic or High Consequence Potential of Common Concern” (hereinafter referred to as “Joint Action Plan”), the three countries have been working together not only to effectively protect public health in each country but also to contribute to improving global health security. Likewise, we acknowledged the importance of continuous cooperation to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic together, and united efforts and actions to reduce risks and the impact of future pandemic and epidemic threats.

We also reaffirmed the importance of swift mobilization of essential healthcare resources during pandemic in order to bolster health security in the Asian Pacific region. We showed our determination to cooperate to improve equitable access

to pandemic countermeasures such as vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, to collaborate with global efforts made through international organizations and relevant funds, and to conduct training and protection of healthcare workforce.

Additionally, we reaffirmed our cooperation to strengthen global surveillance of pandemics. We underscore the importance of collaborative discussions and measures to promote a One Health approach, which is a good tool to prevent and curb zoonotic pathogens and their pandemics having potential for global public health emergencies. With regards to a One Health approach, we already recognized antimicrobial resistance (AMR) as a health threat. Accordingly, we propose that the three countries discuss national and regional strategies integrated with a One Health approach to ensure the promotion of health of the humans, animals and the environment.

2. Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

The achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is fundamental to sustainable development and is the core principle linking all health related issues, enabling global healthcare system to preemptively respond to various environmental changes, ensuring access to basic health care for all and mitigating the impact from emergencies. It is imperative to demonstrate and raise awareness about the significant value of investing in UHC as it will contribute enormously to PPR to possible future health emergencies. As we went through the COVID-19 pandemic, we reaffirmed the importance of resilient healthcare system and concurred in the need of cooperation in strengthening UHC. We, three countries, will continue sharing of our experiences and expertise and strengthen cooperation so as to better prepare for various challenges in achieving UHC.

With increasing social demands for healthcare services due to demographic change and healthcare technology development, we reaffirmed the importance of use of digital health technology in pursuit of national health promotion. We suggest utilization of digital health technology not only for healthcare service development but also for improving access to healthcare services tailored to personal needs. Building on such experiences to be accumulated, we will continuously strive to UHC globally using digital health. We will share experiences and cooperate with each other so as to contribute to improving the health of patients while enhancing access to health services and dealing with social issues such as aging society by implementing digital health policies.

Based on the knowledge and expertise required for UHC achievement, the three countries will work together and closely cooperate with the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) and WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WRPO). We will spare no effort to establish a resilient healthcare system in the region by conducting workforce training and sharing best practices and models. The recent global public health emergency has demonstrated the growing importance of comprehensive healthcare services, which also bear in mind the vulnerable population. Recognizing this, we will cooperate to realize sustainable UHC in the three countries and Asia-Pacific countries including ASEAN Member States.

3. Healthy Aging

We will promote cooperation in achieving healthy aging, active aging society and the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) so as to meet the needs of the three countries.

WHO defines healthy aging as “the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age”. We acknowledged that achieving healthy aging requires preventive approach and the establishment of an integrated health and long-term care system. We emphasize the importance of service provision in consideration of personal health and social care needs, and will work together to build integrated health and social care models including primary (preventive) care, professional treatment and community care.

Aging in Place (AIP) is one of the important policy directions to deal with in rapidly aging societies to realize healthy aging. We acknowledged that living in their own homes with a familiar immediate environment enables older persons to fully demonstrate independence and maintain functional ability. We will cooperate to bolster community-centered health and long-term care infrastructure, and to establish social care systems to provide complicated care and meet the needs of older persons.

Also, in preparation of a super-aged society, we promise to work together for the prevention and response of NCDs such as cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and chronic respiratory diseases. While focusing on the COVID-19 pandemic response, the international community has been less interested and invested in addressing NCDs. We, three countries, will continue to cooperate in prevention and control of NCDs, sharing policies and experiences.

4. Next Meeting

We reaffirmed the common recognition that the Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting will be held regularly with the cooperation of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) and that we will conduct relevant activities based on equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit.

The next Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting will be held in China in 2023.

List of Trilateral Ministerial Meetings in 2022

Trilateral Ministerial Meetings in 2022

	Date	Meeting	Venue
1	May 12	22 nd Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting	Online
2	July 14	7 th Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management	Online
3	August 26	13 th Trilateral Culture Ministers Meeting	Online
4	December 1	23 rd Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM23)	Online
5	December 9	14 th Top Regulators' Meeting on Nuclear Safety	Online
6	December 16	15 th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting	Online

Pursuant to the “Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)” signed by the governments of the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea in December 2010, the TCS was established as an international organization in September 2011 in Seoul. The TCS aims to serve as a hub for Trilateral Cooperation that encompasses a broad spectrum of sectors and actors.

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