

# TRILATERAL COOPERATION SECRETARIAT

ANNUAL REPORT  
FY2012-2013



Trilateral  
Cooperation  
Secretariat

한중일3국협력사무국

日中韓三國協力事務局

中日韓三國合作秘书处

# **TCS ANNUAL REPORT**

## **FY2012-2013**

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# 1

## OVERVIEW



## FOREWORD



**“Looking back on the past two years since our launch in 2011, I am proud of the progress that we have made as a new inter-governmental organization in the Northeast Asian region.”**

Like flying an airplane, ensuring a successful take-off is often the hardest part of building a new organization. Even in the face of increasing difficulties in bilateral ties among the three countries, the TCS took off on a solid footing and has since remained a powerful symbol of regional cooperation and unity. In fact, it is fair to say that our very *raison d'être* has been reaffirmed, not in spite of, but because of the challenges we have faced since our launch. It is exactly in times like this, that the TCS, as an impartial international organization, can play a unique role in maintaining dialogue and cooperation among our three countries.

As the inaugural Secretary-General, it has been a privilege for me to see the TCS grow from its humble beginnings to the professional, vibrant, and reputable organization it is now. In just a short time, the TCS has established itself as a vital hub for trilateral cooperation with a portfolio of projects that range from disaster management to FTA promotion. The TCS has also attended all the key trilateral meetings including the Summits and Foreign Ministers Meetings. We have consistently delivered on our mandate to support trilateral mechanisms, undertake new initiatives and projects, promote public awareness, and engage diverse partners and stakeholders. In all of our efforts, we have strived to foster a shared vision in which our three countries work together to promote the peace and prosperity of the region and the world at large.

This Annual Report FY2012-13 illustrates the progress that the TCS has made in making that shared vision a reality. In the pages that follow, you will learn about various initiatives and projects that we have undertaken in the last fiscal year. Although I am proud of all the accomplishments that my deputies and I have achieved together, I know our work is far from complete. It is my sincere hope that my successor will continue to build upon the solid foundation that has been established. I wish the next leadership much success in the future endeavors that lie ahead for the TCS.

Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat

**Shin Bong-kil**

## FY2012-13 HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE TCS



(from left to right) Secretary-General of the TCS, *Shin Bong-kil*; Former Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, *Nakagawa Masaharu*, Then Foreign Minister of the ROK, *Kim Sung-hwan*, Party Secretary and Vice President of Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, *Lu Shumin*; President of Chosun Ilbo, *Bang Sang-hoon*



### International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation 2012 (Oct, 2012)

On the occasion of the 1st anniversary of its establishment, the TCS held the International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation with the theme of "2012: Year of Transition and the Trilateral Cooperation" at the Shilla Hotel, Seoul, ROK on October 15, 2012.



### Trilateral Business Networking Reception (January, 2013)

To commemorate the official announcement of launch of the CJK FTA negotiations and to facilitate closer ties among business groups of the three countries, the TCS hosted the Trilateral Business Networking Reception in Seoul, ROK in January 2013, bringing together more than 200 business people from the three countries.



### Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil's Visit to ASEAN (January, 2013)

Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil travelled to Indonesia and Brunei from January 30 to February 2, 2013 and met His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam (2013 ASEAN Chair Country); Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Le Luong Minh.



#### The first Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management (March, 2013)

The TCS organized and facilitated the first Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management, with participation of disaster management officials from the relevant ministries of the three countries.



#### CJK FTA Seminar (June, 2013)

Following the 1st round of FTA negotiations among the three countries in March, 2013, the TCS hosted the CJK FTA Seminar on June 18, 2013 in Weihai, China in collaboration with the Weihai Municipal Government and with media support from China Daily.



#### Trilateral Video/Multimedia Contest (March-July, 2013)

From March to July 2013, the TCS organized the Trilateral New Wave: University Student Short Video and Multimedia Presentation Contest among students in the three countries with its final round held in Seoul, ROK on July 5, 2013. Through the contest, participating teams, composed of three nationalities, showcased their original and creative productions on trilateral cooperation.



#### Young Ambassador Program (July-August, 2013)

The TCS launched the Young Ambassador Program to promote young generations' understanding of the objectives and operation of the TCS in facilitating cooperation efforts.

## FY 2012-13 SPOTLIGHTS FOR THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION



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FY 2012-13 (September 2012 – August 2013) was far from smooth sailing for the three countries due to a range of security and political challenges in the region. Nevertheless, efforts continued to sustain the momentum of trilateral cooperation and to maintain peace and stability in the region. Despite numerous challenges, the three countries managed to make progress on a number of key areas as follows.

(from left to right)  
 · Vice Minister *Li Ganjie*  
 of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China  
 · Minister *Yoon Seongkyu*  
 of the Ministry of Environment of the ROK  
 · Minister *Ishihara Nobuteru*  
 of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan



© ROK Ministry of Environment

**TEMM 15**

The three countries have strengthened efforts in forging a deeper partnership in the area of environmental protection to jointly cope with climate change in the region and the world. The 15th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM15) was held in Kitakyushu, Japan in May, 2013. The Ministers shared information on the progress made in each country regarding their respective environmental policies after TEMM14 and signed the Joint Communiqué of the 15th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting among China, Japan and Korea. They also welcomed the award ceremony held to commend individuals who contributed to environmental cooperation among the three countries, based on the agreement at TEMM14, and expressed their appreciation to the awardees.



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1. The 15th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM15)
2. Industry and Youth Representatives participate in the TEMM15
3. Joint Press Conference



© ROK Ministry of Environment



1

**CJK FTA**

One major progress was witnessed with the CJK FTA. After seven years of joint academic study (2003-2009) and two years of joint study among government officials, business representatives and academia (2010-2011), the three countries announced the launch of the CJK FTA negotiations on the occasion of the 21st ASEAN summit and related summits held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in November, 2012.

Following the official announcement, the three countries conducted the first and second round of the CJK FTA negotiations in Seoul, March 2013 and Shanghai, August 2013 respectively, setting up the foundation for a series of negotiations to follow in the future.



2

1. Representatives from China, Japan and the Republic of Korea gather in Seoul to start the first round of talks on the CJK FTA
2. Representatives Yu Jianhua (China, left), Choi Kyong-lim (ROK, middle), and Koji Tsuruoka (Japan, right) pose prior to their inaugural talks on the CJK FTA in Seoul on March 26, 2013



# 2

## PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR TRILATERAL CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS



## PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR TRILATERAL CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS



TCS Board Members meet with the Deputy Directors-General of the three foreign ministries

“Provide administrative and technical support for the operation and management of such trilateral consultative mechanisms among the Parties as the Trilateral Summit Meeting, the Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting and other ministerial meetings, and the Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials’ Consultation and to attend major consultative mechanisms”

*Article 3 of ‘the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS’*

During FY 2012-2013, providing support for trilateral mechanisms has remained a top priority for the TCS. In this regard, the TCS’ role is largely divided into two categories: the provision of logistical support (set-up of a meeting venue) and substantive support (preparation of summary records). On the logistical side, the TCS assists in protocol arrangements of a meeting venue and registration of participants. Alongside such administrative duties, the TCS assists in more substantive aspects of meetings by drafting and disseminating minutes or preparing relevant cooperation proposals. Going forward, the TCS will continue to expand its efforts to serve as the focal point for coordinating of key trilateral meetings and consultations, thereby ensuring timely and effective communication amongst the Three Parties.

*\* The following is the list of meetings that the TCS helped to organize or participated in during FY 2012-13.*

1. TRILATERAL DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL MEETING1. TRILATERAL  
DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR-  
GENERAL  
MEETING

The Trilateral Deputy Director-General Meeting, held throughout the year in times of need, aims to follow up on initiatives agreed at the Trilateral Summit of the previous year and to prepare for the Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the Trilateral Senior Official Consultation as well as relevant side events. For the DDG meetings that took place during FY2012-2013, the TCS assisted in the provision of a meeting venue as well as preparation and circulation of summary records and other documents as required. Both during and in between meetings, the TCS maintained regular, close communication with three foreign ministries in order to ensure follow-ups and continuity. After the meetings, the TCS maintained an archive of all related documents.

DATE	Throughout the year
VENUE	Beijing, China / Buyeou, ROK / TCS
MAIN PARTICIPANTS	<p><b>ROK</b>   Deputy Director-General Lee Sang-deok, Northeast Asian Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea</p> <p><b>Japan</b>   Deputy Director-General Yamanouchi Kanji, Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan</p> <p><b>China</b>   Deputy Director-General Hong Liang, Asian Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China</p> <p><b>TCS</b>   Deputy Secretary-Generals Rui Matsukawa and Mao Ning</p>

2. DIRECTOR'S MEETING FOR  
TRILATERAL CULTURAL MINISTERS MEETING

1. The Trilateral Deputy Director-General Meeting
2. Mr. Lee Sang-deok, Deputy Director-General of the Northeast Asian Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the ROK
3. Mr. Yamanouchi Kanji, Deputy Director-General of Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
4. Mr. Hong Liang, Deputy Director-General of Asian Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

2. DIRECTORS'  
MEETING FOR  
TRILATERAL  
CULTURAL  
MINISTERS  
MEETING

Directors' Meeting for Preparation of the 5th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting was held in Jeju, ROK, on January 24, 2013. The TCS attended the Meeting and submitted the summary record to the three countries.

DATE	January 24, 2013
VENUE	Jeju, ROK
MAIN PARTICIPANTS	<p><b>ROK</b>   (Chair) Director/ International Cultural Affairs Division/ Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism</p> <p><b>Japan</b>   Director/ Office for International Cultural Exchange/ Agency for Cultural Affairs</p> <p><b>China</b>   Director, Asian Affairs Division, Bureau for External Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture</p> <p><b>TCS</b>   Chief Social-Cultural Official Yoshiyuki Sato</p>

3. EXPERT MEETING FOR PREPARATION OF  
THE 2ND TRILATERAL AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS' MEETING**3. EXPERT  
MEETING FOR  
PREPARATION OF  
THE 2ND  
TRILATERAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
MINISTERS'  
MEETING**

Following the 1st Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting (TAMM) in April 2012, the three countries held the Expert Meeting for Preparation of the 2nd TAMM in Tokyo, Japan in December 2012. At the request of the three delegations, the TCS participated in the discussion and helped to update the TAMM agenda items such as food security, responding to plant and animal infectious disease, natural disasters, researcher exchange, economic partnership, and global and regional cooperation. The TCS drafted the minutes which were endorsed by the Meeting and then circulated to the three Ministries. The three Ministries expressed expectation for the TCS's engagement in the future development of trilateral agricultural cooperation.

DATE	December 11-12, 2012
VENUE	Tokyo, Japan
MAIN PARTICIPANTS	<p>ROK   Director of General Division of International Cooperation, Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</p> <p>Japan   (Chair) Deputy Director-General of International Affairs Department / Director of International Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</p> <p>China   Acting Director of Division of Asia and Africa / Project Officer of Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>TCS   Chief Economic Official Zhang Haiying</p>



The First Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting, April 14-15, 2012

## 4. EAST-ASIA EARTHQUAKE SEMINAR 2012

**4. EAST-ASIA  
EARTHQUAKE  
SEMINAR 2012**

The East-Asia Earthquake Seminar 2012 was held from October 29 to 31, 2012 in Jeju, ROK, hosted by the Korea Meteorological Administration and participated by Japan Meteorological Agency and China Earthquake Administration.

Deputy Secretary-General Mao Ning participated in the seminar on October 29, 2012 and gave congratulatory remarks during the opening ceremony, emphasizing that strengthening cooperation in the disaster management field plays a significant role in constructing a more solid and fundamental cooperation structure among the three countries. Approximately 80 researchers and scientists from the three countries as well as other countries participated in the seminar. During the seminar, the participants presented their research results and discussed issues related to disasters induced by earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions from a scientific perspective.

DATE	October 29-31, 2012
VENUE	Jeju, ROK
MAIN PARTICIPANTS	<p>ROK   (Chair) Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA)</p> <p>Japan   Japan Meteorological Administration (JMA)</p> <p>China   China Earthquake Administration (CEA)</p> <p>TCS   Deputy Secretary-General Mao Ning</p>

# EXPLORING AND FACILITATING COOPERATIVE PROJECTS

# 3



## EXPLORING AND FACILITATING COOPERATIVE PROJECTS

“Explore and identify potential cooperative projects among the three countries, and report those projects to the relevant consultative mechanisms for adoption”

*Article 3 of ‘the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS’*



The First Trilateral Table Top Exercise on Disaster Management, March 14, 2013

FY 2012-13 has been an exciting and productive year for the TCS as the initiatives planned in the previous year have borne fruit. One such example is the Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX), which was successfully organized by the TCS as a follow up to the three leaders' commitment made at the 4th Trilateral Summit in 2011. The TCS also contributed to one of the major cooperative agendas for the three countries— Trilateral FTA promotion — by hosting the Trilateral Business Networking Reception in Seoul and CJK FTA Seminar in China. Another significant development marking FY 2012-13 was the launch of a series of youth-oriented projects such as the Trilateral Video/Presentation Contest and the Young Ambassador Program. Through such youth programs, the TCS created unique opportunities for the next generation of leaders in the three countries to foster mutual understanding while developing leadership skills.



### 1. TTX ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

In response to the leaders' commitment at the 4th Trilateral Summit held in Japan 2011, the TCS organized and facilitated this one-day exercise on March 14, 2013. This exercise brought together disaster management officials from the relevant ministries of the three countries including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the Republic of Korea, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA); Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Cabinet Office of Japan, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

The participants of the three countries shared the view that the TTX provided a meaningful and useful platform to increase mutual understanding of the procedures and mechanisms with respect to humanitarian assistance on disaster relief in the three countries. They also agreed to hold another Trilateral TTX next year, with a vision to continue strengthening trilateral cooperation in the field of disaster management.

The conclusions and recommendations from the exercise were summarized in the Report of the First Trilateral Table Top Exercise, which was then submitted to the three governments and distributed to relevant agencies and ministries.



1. Participants of the TTX 2. Opening session of the TTX 3. Mr. Kim Kye-jo, Director General, National Emergency Management Agency, ROK  
4. Mr. Kobayashi Masahiko, Special Coordinator for Overseas Disaster Assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan  
5. Ms. Yuan Yi, Director / Ms. Bi Ying, Ministry of Civil Affairs 6. Deputy Secretary-General Rui Matsukawa facilitates the TTX session

### 3. CJK FTA SEMINAR

Following the 1st round of FTA negotiations among China, Japan and the ROK in March 2013, and by the directives of the three governments, the TCS hosted the CJK FTA Seminar on June 18, 2013 in Weihai, China in collaboration with Weihai Municipal Government and with media support from China Daily. The event gathered over 100 government officials, scholars and business representatives of the three countries. The participants reflected on the progress of the CJK FTA, explored its significance with trilateral cooperation as well as regional implications, and shared views on prospects and challenges for its future establishment. Mr. Yu Jianhua, Vice Minister of Commerce of China delivered the keynote speech. Mr. Woo Taehee, Assistant Minister for Trade, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK gave the congratulatory remarks. Mr. Sun Shutao, the Secretary of the Weihai Municipal CPC Committee spoke on behalf of the local government. In his opening remarks, Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil expressed belief in the resilience of the trilateral cooperation to



1. Opening Session of the CJK FTA Seminar

transcend difficulties in bilateral relations and affirmed the TCS's full support for the establishment of the CJK FTA. The seminar served as an appropriate platform to promote the CJK FTA and to facilitate the on-going negotiations. It received support and participation by the negotiation teams of the three countries. Consolidating the discussions at the seminar, the TCS submitted a summary record of the seminar to the three governments.



2. Mr. Yu Jianhua, Vice Minister of Commerce of China 3. Mr. Woo Taehee, Assistant Minister for Trade, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK  
4. Mr. Sun Shutao, the Secretary of the Weihai Municipal CPC Committee 5. Amb. Shin Bong-kil, Secretary-General of the TCS 6. Participants of the CJK FTA Seminar



## 2. TRILATERAL BUSINESS NETWORKING RECEPTION

In November 2012, trade ministers of the three countries announced the launch of the CJK FTA negotiations. To commemorate this official announcement and to facilitate closer ties among business groups of the three countries, the TCS hosted the Trilateral Business Networking Reception in Seoul, ROK on January 17, 2013. The reception was co-sponsored by the Korea International Trade Association (KITA), Seoul Japan Club (SJC) and Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Korea (CCCK). Mr. Bark Tae-ho, the then ROK Trade Minister highlighted in his remarks that the presence of the TCS had shown the feasibility of the vision towards economic integration in Northeast Asia. Mr. Ahn Hong-joon, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Unification Committee of the ROK National Assembly, emphasized in his congratulatory remarks that 'friendship' and 'compromise' among the three countries are the key to the early establishment of the CJK FTA. The representatives of the three business groups, Mr. Moon Hi-chung, Vice Chairman of KITA; Mr. Kobayashi Tadashi, Chairman of SJC; and Mr. Huang De, President of CCCK attended the reception and affirmed their expectations for the CJK FTA. Over 200 business people from the three countries participated in the reception.

Upon successful conclusion of the reception, the TCS has been bent on the creation of trilateral business networks among the three countries, and plans to hold similar events in Beijing and Tokyo in the future.



1. Mr. Bark Tae-ho, then ROK Trade Minister    2. Mr. Kobayashi Tadashi, Chairman of SJC  
3. Mr. Huang De, President of CCCK



4. Mr. Lee Won-tae, Vice-President of the Korea-China Friendship Association  
5. Mr. Nakajima Toru, President & CEO of Mitsui Co. Korea Ltd. / Mr. Lee Sei-kee, President of the Korea-China Friendship Association  
6. Mr. Ahn Hong-joon, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Unification Committee of the ROK National Assembly

4. TRILATERAL NEW WAVE: UNIVERSITY STUDENT SHORT VIDEO  
AND MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION CONTEST4. TRILATERAL NEW WAVE: UNIVERSITY STUDENT  
SHORT VIDEO AND MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION CONTEST

The TCS organized the “Trilateral New Wave: University Student Short Video and Multimedia Presentation Contest” from March to July 2013 with the aim to enlarge the network of friendship among the youth of the three countries as well as to disseminate positive images about the future of the trilateral cooperation. About 40 teams consisting of more than 170 students participated in the Contest. Each team was composed of 3 to 5 full-time university students of all the three nationals. Beijing and Tokyo rounds were organized by the TCS and were held in June 2013 in China and Japan, respectively, and the Seoul round was held as “Trilateral Campus Harmony” on May 2013 by Korea-China Friendship Association. The Final Round was held on July 5, 2013 in Seoul, ROK. The event brought together more than 150 participants including students, professors, and government officials from the three countries. The TCS will continue to hold this event every year and develop it into a prominent and widely-recognized video and multimedia festival among the youth of the three countries.

4. TRILATERAL NEW WAVE: UNIVERSITY STUDENT SHORT VIDEO  
AND MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION CONTEST

1. Participants of the Beijing Contest, June 8, 2013 2. Participants of the Tokyo Contest, June 16, 2013

3. Deputy Secretary-General Rui Matsukawa gives opening remarks 4. Participants of the Final Round, Seoul, July 5, 2013

## 5. YOUNG AMBASSADOR PROGRAM(YAP)

The TCS hosted the 1st Trilateral Young Ambassador Summer Internship Program (YAP) in Seoul from July 8 to August 16, 2013. The YAP is a six-week summer internship program that offers professional training and on-site visits for young people from the three countries to develop the understanding of the trilateral cooperation. The YAP interns are involved in on-job trainings and various projects and assist TCS's functional departments.

This year, the YAP has received more than 600 applications from Korea, China and Japan, and selected 27 students from the three countries to join the program. The TCS intends to hold the YAP on a regular basis in the future in order to promote the trilateral cooperation and foster the sense of friendship among the youth of the three countries.



1. Meeting with Busan city officials
2. Visit to the China Culture Center of the Chinese Embassy
3. Visit to the Graduate School of International Studies in Seoul National University
4. Field trip to Haeundae beach, Busan
5. Visit to the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs
6. Young Ambassadors working on group assignments
7. Meeting with Mr. Han Sang-kook, Director of the Northeast Cooperation Team, ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs
8. Young Ambassadors working on group assignments

# 4

## PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION



## PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

“... and promote understanding of  
the trilateral cooperation”

*Article 3 of ‘the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS’*

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In an effort to further raise its profile and visibility, the TCS has undertaken a series of promotional activities throughout the year. In particular, following the success of the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2011, IFTC 2012 was held with active participation of leading opinion and policy makers of the three countries. Outreach has also been central to TCS activities. Whether through face-to-face meetings /on-site visits or conference participation or interviews/speeches, the TCS has endeavored to engage a diverse spectrum of individuals and organizations with a view to spreading the vision of trilateral cooperation. In the same vein, the TCS has welcomed many visitors to its office, where they learned about the mission and activities of the TCS.

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## 1. INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION 2012

On the occasion of the 1st anniversary of its establishment, the TCS held the International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation under the theme of “2012: Year of Transition and the Trilateral Cooperation” at the Shilla Hotel, Seoul, ROK on October 15, 2012.

Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil announced the opening of the forum and introduced the TCS’s efforts for the promotion of the cooperative relationship among the three countries in the past year. The forum featured key dignitaries from the three countries such as Mr. Kim Sung-hwan, then Foreign Minister of the ROK; Mr. Nakagawa Masaharu, Former Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, and Mr. Lu Shumin, Vice President of Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs. All the dignitaries, recognizing complex and fluid situation in Northeast Asia, stressed the increasing importance of strengthening the trilateral cooperation. They expressed expectation for the TCS to play professional and creative roles for the promotion of the trilateral cooperation.



1. Opening Session of IFTC 2012

In the following four sessions, i.e., “Northeast Asia in Times of Transition”, “Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Integration”, “Specific Proposals-Expanding the Horizon of the Trilateral Cooperation” and “The Role of the TCS”, 15 speakers from academic, business, media and civil society sectors of the three countries gave presentations and shared wisdoms on a variety of topics, such as political strategic thoughts for the future Northeast Asia, CJK FTA, finance and industry cooperation, cyber-nationalism and people-to-people exchange and the role of the civil society. They also offered suggestions on the future development of the TCS.

Mr. Halldór Ásgrímsson, the Secretary-General of the Nordic Council of Ministers and Former Prime Minister of Iceland, delivered a luncheon speech and shared the five Nordic countries’ experience of co-prosperity.

After the Forum, the TCS held its 1st Anniversary Reception, in which then ROK presidential candidates Ms. Park Geun-hye and Mr. Ahn Cheol-soo delivered congratulatory remarks.



2. ROK President (then presidential candidate) *Park Geun Hye* gives her congratulatory remarks at the 1st Anniversary Reception of the TCS



3. Former ROK Prime Minister, *Lee Hong Koo* 4. Former ROK Ambassador to China, *Jeong Jong-Wook*/Former ROK Minister of Environment, *Kim Myung Ja*



5. Foreign Minister of the ROK, *Yun Byung-se*, attends the 1st Anniversary Reception of the TCS

## 2. CJK FTA EXHIBITION

For the promotion of the CJK FTA among the general public, the TCS staged the “Trilateral FTA: Win-Win-Win” exhibition on the occasions of the Trilateral Business Networking Reception in Seoul, ROK, and the CJK FTA Seminar in Weihai, China. The exhibition came in English-Korean then English-Chinese versions. It was the first time to give a comprehensive, concise and systematic narration on the CJK FTA. The chapters of the exhibition included “Close Economic Partners”, “Solid Foundation”, “Great Potential”, “FTA Research and Preparation”, “Possible Contents of Trilateral FTA”, “Bright Future” and “Roles of the TCS”. The exhibition specified that the CJK FTA would facilitate further economic integration, increase competitiveness of the manufacturing industries, and expand trade in services as well as trilateral investment flows among the three countries. It spelled out challenges in sensitive sectors of agriculture and fishery, manufacturing and services industries. It emphasized that the CJK FTA would cover 21.8% of the world’s population and 20.4% of world’s GDP, and constitute a building block of further economic integration in East Asia. On each of the occasions, the exhibition received wide applause from over 100 audience from the government, business, academia and media sectors.



1. Trilateral FTA "Win-Win-Win" Exhibition in Weihai, China 2. Trilateral FTA "Win-Win-Win" Exhibition in Seoul, ROK

## 3. TCS OPEN HOUSE 2013

The “TCS Open House 2013” was convened on May 16, 2013, with the aim of introducing the office and promoting trilateral cooperation to the general public. Alongside traditional tea ceremonies of the three countries, a photo exhibition was held to showcase the progress of TCS throughout the year and videos on the three countries’ culture and tradition. More than 100 participants enjoyed the tea ceremonies of the three countries carried out by Korean Tea Culture Association, Japanese Urasenke Seoul Branch and Chinese Tae Tea Group respectively. While tasting three different kinds of tea, they also actively participated in quiz sessions related to the TCS and trilateral cooperation, as well as in a lucky draw. For the past two years, the TCS Open House has drawn much attention and received positive feedback from the media and public of the three countries. Through interactive sessions featuring the colorful culture of the three countries, it has helped the TCS and trilateral cooperation gain wider recognition among the general public and provided a platform that encourages the sharing of knowledge regarding the future of trilateral cooperation and the TCS. It has become a flagship cultural event organized by the TCS.



1. Korean Tea Ceremony 2. Chinese Tea Ceremony 3. Japanese Tea Ceremony 4. Participants of the TCS Open House 2013

## 4. DIGNITARIES AND DELEGATIONS

Since its establishment, the TCS has played host to a number of high-level and prominent delegations from overseas and home. Some of these visitors include, Ambassador of Japan in ROK, prominent Chinese journalists, and ASEAN delegation.



1. H. E. Mr. *Bessho Koro*, Ambassador of Japan in ROK  
3. ASEAN Delegation

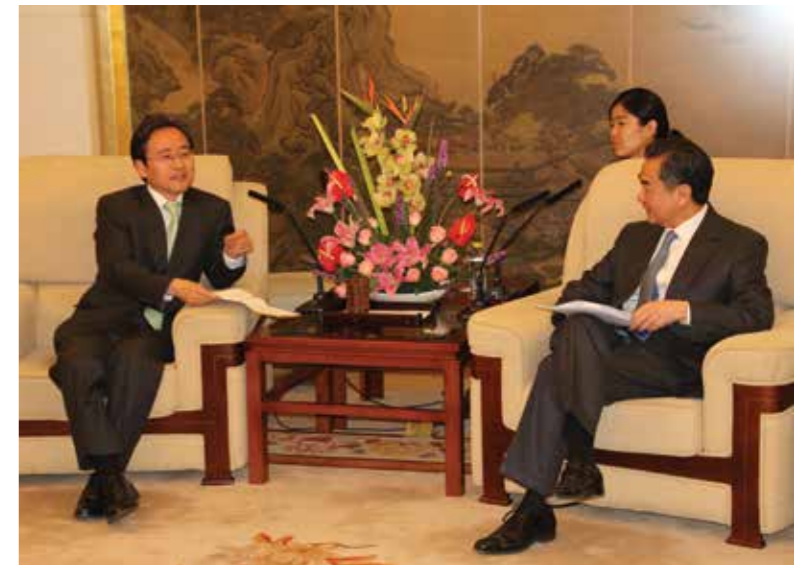
2. Mr. *Yasuhisa Shiozaki*, Chairman, Policy Research Council, LDP,  
Former Chief Cabinet Secretary  
4. 10 Chinese Celebrities of "Tencent Weibo"

## 5. OUTREACH

### SELECTED MEETINGS AND ON-SITE VISITS BY TCS SG AND DSGS

#### Secretary-General Shin Bong-Kil Visited China (Beijing and Yangzhou, April 24-26, 2013)

Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil visited Beijing and Yangzhou, China, from April 24 to 26, 2013. The purpose of this visit was to discuss the direction of the trilateral cooperation and activities of the TCS in the future. During the visit in Beijing, Secretary-General Shin met with Foreign Minister Wang Yi of China, Mr. Lu Shumin, Vice President of Chinese People's Institute Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), Mr. Feng Zuoku, Vice President of Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (AFFC), and Mr. Hu Xijin, Editor-in-Chief of the Global Times. In Yangzhou, Secretary-General Shin participated in ASEM symposium on "Towards Peace and Prosperity in Asia and Europe: The Need of a Dynamic ASEM."



Meeting with Foreign Minister *Wang Yi* of China

#### Deputy Secretary-General Rui Matsukawa Visited China (Beijing, December 3-5, 2012)

Deputy Secretary-General Rui Matsukawa visited Beijing, China, from December 3 to 5, 2012. The purpose of this visit was to report the progress of the TCS in 2012 and to discuss the future direction of the trilateral cooperation and activities of the TCS in the coming year. During the visit, Deputy Secretary-General Rui Matsukawa met with officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Commerce, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, as well as scholars and media people.



Meeting with China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT)  
Vice Chairman Mr. *Yu Ping*



**Deputy Secretary-General Mao Ning Visited Japan (Tokyo, November 26 - 28 2012)**

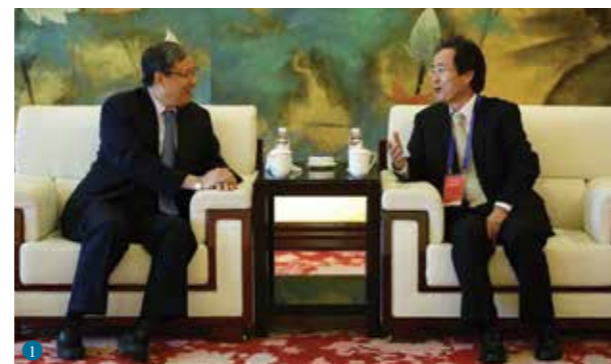
Deputy Secretary-General Mao Ning visited Japan from November 26 to 28, 2012, to meet governmental officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, as well as scholars and media people from the Mainichi Newspapers and Asahi Shimbun. The purpose of this trip was to report the progress of the trilateral cooperation in 2012 to relevant ministries and to exchange ideas about the future direction of the trilateral cooperation and activities of the TCS in the coming year.



Meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials

**SELECTED CONFERENCE / SEMINAR / FORUM PARTICIPATION****Secretary-General Shin Bong-Kil Participated in the Asia FTA Forum 2013**

Secretary-General Shin participated in the Asia FTA Forum 2013 - a forum hosted by the Boao Forum for Asia - in Qingdao, China in June 2013 and delivered a speech "Paving a way for Peace and Co-Prosperity in East Asia". Secretary-General Shin elaborated on the implications of the CJK FTA to the economic integration in East Asia, i.e., 1) the three countries are major stake-holders in shaping the regional production network; 2) they could be path-finders for the regional economic integration; and 3) they might showcase the complementary development of multi-integration frameworks in the region. During the Forum, Secretary-General Shin met with Secretary-General of the Boao Forum for Asia Zhou Wenzhong, and Mr. Stanley Loh, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to China. He also received interviews from Chinese media including Xinhua News Agency, People's Daily, CCTV and China Radio International. At these meetings and interviews, Secretary-General Shin introduced the progress of the trilateral cooperation as well as the CJK FTA, and shared his vision for peace and co-prosperity in East Asia through deeper economic integration.



1. Meeting with Secretary-General of the Boao Forum for Asia Zhou Wenzhong

2. Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil gives his speech at the Asia FTA Forum

**TCS SG'S INTERVIEWS AND SPEECHES**

DATE	VENUE
2012.09.19	Congratulatory address at the International Seminar on Trilateral FTA co-organized with KIEP
2012.09.20	Presentation at a breakfast meeting held by National Academy of Engineering of Korea
2012.10.10	Interview with Chosun Ilbo
2012.10.11	Interview with TV Chosun
2012.10.15	Opening remarks at the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) organized by the TCS
2012.10.15	Remarks at the TCS 1st Anniversary Reception
2012.11.01	Interview with English JoongAng Daily
2012.11.08	Keynote speech at the Asia Economic Community Forum
2012.11.12	Congratulatory remarks at the 2012 Korea-China-Japan Women Leaders Forum for Science and Technology
2012.11.20	Participation as a panelist at the International Conference on "East Asian Economic Integration" organized by KDI
2012.11.22	Participation as a chair of panel session at Korea University-EU Asia Integration Forum
2012.11.27	Participation as a panelist at the Boao Forum for Economic Integration held in Mumbai, India
2012.11.29	Interview with Bloomberg
2012.12.04	Presentation at the 3rd KOPEC Asia-Pacific Strategic Forum on "Trilateral FTA and Economic Cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region" held by KIEP
2012.12.05	Remarks at a session on "China and East Asia's Regional Integration" at Salzburg Global Seminar
2012.12.11	Participation in Asan-China Forum 2012: China in Transition as a panelist of Session 1: China and the ROK-US-Japan "Virtual Alliance"
2012.12.14	Keynote Speech at the International Conference on Northeast Asian Cooperation and Integration held by Zhejiang University ("Power Transitions in Northeast Asia and Efforts in Shaping Common Values in Cultural Perspective")
2012.12.17	Speech on "Northeast Asian Power Transition and the Trilateral Cooperation at School of International Studies, Peking University
2013.01.02	Interview with YTN (live on TV)
2013.02.26	Interview with Korea Today
2013.01.30 - 02.04	Outreach Visit to ASEAN Countries (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam, ASEAN Secretariat, APEC Secretariat and ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO))
2013.03.18-03.20	Outreach Visit to Europe (Main organizations of the European Union, including European Commission, the Council of European Union and European External Action Service (EEAS))
2013.04.25-04.26	1. Outreach Visit to Beijing/Yangzhou, China (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, People's Institute Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (AFFC)) 2. Participation in ASEM symposium on "Towards Peace and Prosperity in Asia and Europe: The Need of a Dynamic ASEM."
2013.06.18	Opening remarks at the CJK FTA Seminar held by the TCS in Weihai, China
2013.06.20	Speech at the Asia FTA Forum 2013 held in Qingdao, China ("Paving a way for Peace and Co-Prosperity in East Asia")
2013.07.07-07.08	Participated in the 8th North Asia Trilateral Forum held in Hokkaido, Japan
2013.07.16	Guest appearance on Arirang TV Talk Show "Heart-to-Heart"

TCS IN THE MEDIA

JoongAng Daily



Korea Today



China Daily



Bloomberg



Xinhua News Agency



Weekly Economist



# 5

## NETWORKING WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



Deputy Secretary-General *Mao Ning* attends the TCS First Anniversary Reception

## NETWORKING WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

“Communicate and coordinate with the three countries and, if necessary, with other international organizations, particularly with other East Asian cooperation mechanisms”

*Article 3 of ‘the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS’*

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In accordance with its mandate, the TCS has continued its efforts in strengthening networks with key regional and international organizations ranging from the ASEAN to the UN. It is especially noteworthy that during FY 2012-13, the TCS has entered a new phase of strengthened partnership with the UN by delivering concrete projects in collaboration with the UNESCAP and UNOCHA.

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Meeting with Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. *Le Luong Minh*

1. ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST  
ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)1. ASSOCIATION  
OF SOUTHEAST  
ASIAN NATIONS  
(ASEAN)

From January 30 to February 2, 2013, Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil travelled to Indonesia and Brunei and met His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam (2013 ASEAN Chair Country); Secretary-General of ASEAN, H.E. Le Luong Minh; as well as the three countries' ambassadors to ASEAN - Amb. Kimihiro Ishikane, Amb. Baek Seong-taek and Amb. Yang Xiuping. This visit aimed at establishing cooperative partnerships with ASEAN. Secretary-General Shin introduced the achievement of the TCS for the year, and discussed possible ways to jointly promote cooperation in East Asia.



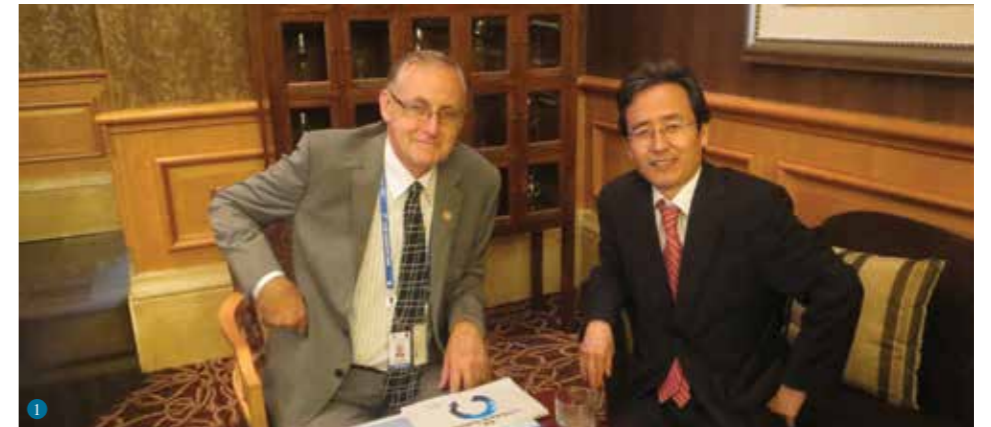
1. Meeting with H.E. Le Luong Minh,  
Secretary-General of ASEAN



2. Courtesy call to H.R.H.  
Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of  
Foreign Affairs and Trade of  
Brunei Darussalam

2. ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC)/  
ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION (ASEF)/  
ASEAN+3 MACROECONOMIC AND RESEARCH OFFICE (AMRO)2. ASIA-PACIFIC  
ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION  
(APEC)/  
ASIA-EUROPE  
FOUNDATION  
(ASEF)/  
ASEAN+3  
MACROECONOMIC  
AND RESEARCH  
OFFICE  
(AMRO)

On February 4, 2013, Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil travelled to Singapore and met Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat, Dr. Alan Bollard; Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) Dr. Yoichi Nemoto; and Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) Amb. Zhang Yan. All of the dignitaries welcomed the progress of the trilateral cooperation and expressed their expectations for closer cooperative relationships with the TCS.



1. Meeting with Dr. Alan Bollard,  
Executive Director of the APEC  
Secretariat  
2. Meeting with Amb. Zhang Yan,  
Executive Director of Asia-Europe  
Foundation (ASEF)  
3. Meeting with Dr. Nemoto Yoichi,  
AMRO Director

### 3. UNITED NATIONS (UNESCAP, UNOCHA, UNISDR)



#### UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (UNESCAP)

In 2013, the TCS collaborated with the UN ESCAP-ENEA (East and North-East Asia Office) on a regional cooperation monitoring project by contributing the outcome of TCS's 2013 Trilateral Economic Research. This constituted the TCS's first successful case of concrete collaboration with other international organizations. The TCS and the UN ESCAP taskforces consulted and made necessary alignment on the agenda, tasking, scheduling and financing of the researches. The TCS team participated in the Expert Group Meeting on Regional Indicators for Monitoring Regional Cooperation and Integration in East and North-East Asia held in Incheon, ROK in July 2013, and shared research data as well as findings.

#### UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (UNOCHA)

In the months leading up to the Trilateral TTX on March 14, 2013, the TCS worked closely with the UNOCHA on organizing the exercise by leveraging their expertise in humanitarian assistance on disaster management. Mr. Romano Lasker, Humanitarian Affairs Officer of UNOCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, gave a presentation on the work of UNOCHA as well as provided useful input throughout the exercise sessions.

#### UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION (UNISDR)

On July 11, 2013, the UNISDR delegation headed by Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction made a special visit to the TCS office to discuss ways to foster cooperation in the field of disaster management between the two organizations.



1. Participants and staff of ENEA Office of ESCAP pose during the Expert Group Meeting on Regional Indicators for Monitoring Regional Cooperation and Integration in East and North-East Asia at I-Tower, Incheon, ROK.

2. Mr. *Romano Lasker*, Humanitarian Affairs Officer of the UNOCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, gives a presentation during the Trilateral TTX

3. Ms. *Margareta Wahlstrom*, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction meets with the TCS staff

## 4. EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

4. EUROPEAN  
UNION (EU)

From March 17 to 21, 2013, the TCS delegation visited the EU's main bodies, European Commission, Council of the EU, and European External Action Service (EEAS). Secretary-General Shin Bong-kil met high-level officials including Mr. Uwe Corsepius, Secretary-General of the Council and Mrs. Helga Schmid, Deputy Secretary-General of EEAS, to understand the experience of the EU integration process as well as to strengthen relationship between the two regional communities. The EU officials expressed great interest in the trilateral cooperation and showed expectations for establishing a cooperative network with the TCS.



1. Meeting with Mr. David O'Sullivan, Chief Operating Officer of European External Action Service  
2. Meeting Mr. Uwe Corsepius, Secretary-General of the Council



3. Visiting the Directorate-General for Interpretation of the European Commission

## 5. NORDIC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (NCM)

5. NORDIC COUNCIL  
OF MINISTERS  
(NCM)

\* The Nordic Council of Ministers is the forum for Nordic governmental co-operation, which represents Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland.

1. Secretary-General Shin shares information on trilateral cooperation and Nordic cooperation with the NCM Secretary-General Halldór Ásgrímsson, former prime minister of Iceland

On October 16, 2012, the delegation of the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM), headed by the NCM Secretary-General H.E. Mr. Halldór Ásgrímsson, former Prime Minister of Iceland, visited the TCS during their trip to Seoul. On this occasion, the delegation participated in the 2012 International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation on October 15, 2012.

The TCS and the NCM delegation shared information on trilateral cooperation and Nordic cooperation, respectively. Both sides agreed to continue to explore issues of common interests and possible ways to develop future cooperation.



2. NCM Secretary-General Halldór Ásgrímsson gives a luncheon speech at the IFTC 2012

# COMPILING DATABASE AND CONDUCTING RESEARCH

# 6





## COMPILING DATABASE AND CONDUCTING RESEARCH



Inside the TCS Office

“ Evaluate the cooperative projects and draft reports on them, compile necessary documents into database, and submit annual progress reports to the Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting for approval; Conduct research on important issues related to the trilateral cooperation, manage the TCS’ website, and promote understanding of the trilateral cooperation”

*Article 3 of ‘the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS’*

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During FY 2012-13, the TCS has continued to expand its efforts to become an “information hub” by producing a range of publications and reports including the 2012-13 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation. Alongside the various publications, the TCS has continued to support a series of economic research projects.

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### 1. 2012-2013 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION

With cooperation and support from the relevant ministries and agencies, the TCS compiled the 2012-2013 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation. The report contains an overview of ongoing cooperation efforts across the board.



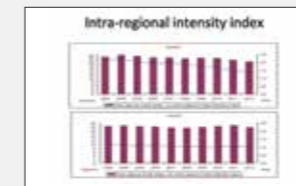
### 2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO TRILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The TCS is tasked to conduct research on and promote understanding of the trilateral cooperation. As a token of such efforts, the TCS compiled a concise and easy-to-read booklet on the economic relations among the three countries on basis of the TCS' trilateral economic research project in 2011-2012. The booklet provides a quick reference to the basic economic features of the three countries in areas such as international trade, investment, finance, people-to-people exchange and future economic integration. Readers will take a glance of the strong economic ties among the three countries as well as the great potential trilateral economic cooperation. The booklet has been circulated to the three governments as well as the general public.



### 3. TRILATERAL STATISTICS BOOKLET

The TCS published the 2012 Trilateral Statistics in November 2012, with the aim of giving a neutral and comprehensive insight into the current economic outlook and interrelations of the three countries. It carries major economic indicators including trade and investment, finance, natural resources, transport and logistics, information technology as well as demography, which have been sourced from national and international agencies. This 182-page booklet has received welcome especially among the government and academia sectors.



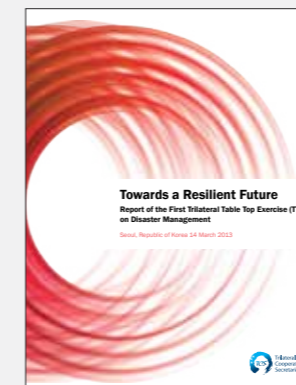
### 4. TRILATERAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH PROJECT IN 2013

The TCS conducted the Trilateral Economic Research Project to follow up on the economic development and integration among the three countries on a yearly basis. This annual research project explores timely subjects in terms of regional perspective and accumulates chronological overview of economic performance in the three countries. Prof. Abe Kazutomo of Tokyo Denki University, who participated in the Joint Academic Research on Trilateral FTA, took charge of the project under the sponsorship of the TCS. While the 2012 research covered the decade span, this year's research focused on short-term description and analysis in order to capture the current status of trilateral economic relations. The outcome of the research has also been incorporated into the regional cooperation monitoring project of the UNESCAP.



### 5. INTO THE THREE COUNTRIES: A HANDBOOK ABOUT CHINA, JAPAN, AND KOREA

The TCS produced its very first handbook, "Into the Three Countries: A Handbook about China, Japan, and Korea" to promote the public's understanding regarding the three countries. The book consists of "General Information" and "Life Style"; it was created for people who want to learn unique facts as well as general information about the three countries, while also highlighting beautiful pictures and statistic information. It provides the reader with the similarities and differences of each country, in both traditional and modern contexts.



### 6. TRILATERAL TTX REPORT

The TCS published the Report of the Trilateral TTX, which contains a set of conclusions and recommendations from the exercise. Copies of the Report were distributed to relevant disaster management agencies as well as the public of the three countries, with an aim to promote mutual understanding of disaster management practices and policies of each of the three countries.

## ABOUT THE TCS



# ABOUT THE TCS

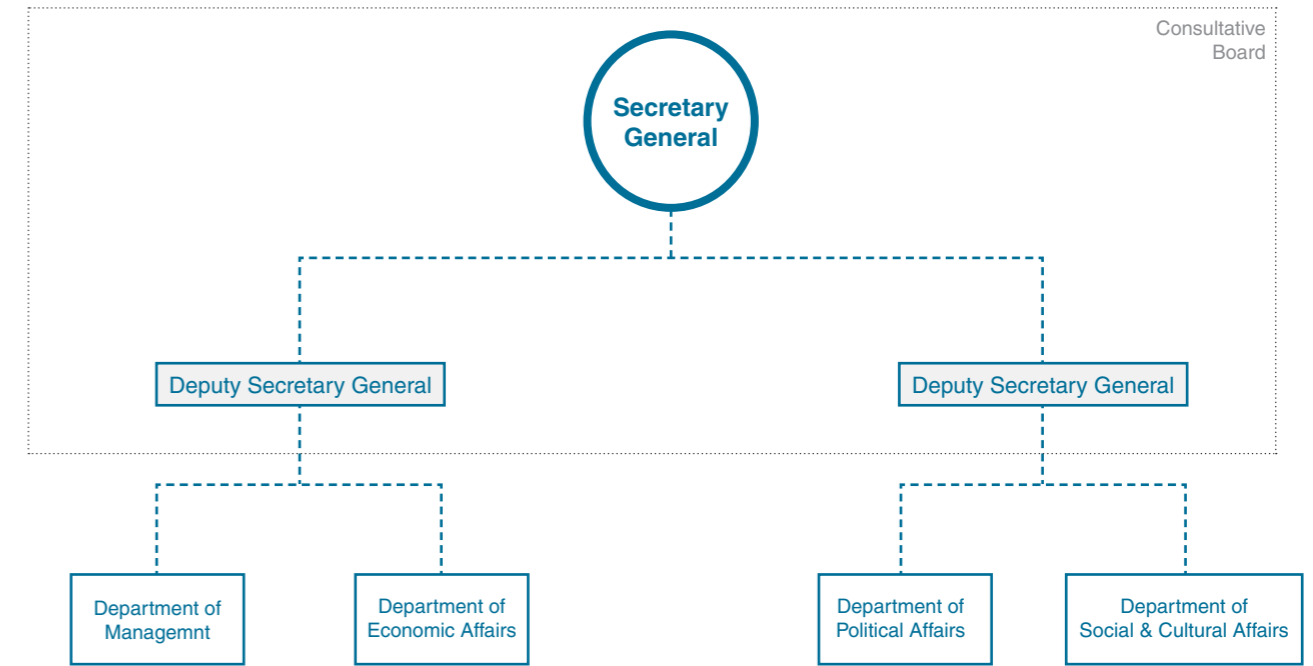


TCS staff

## 1. ORGANIZATION

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) was established as an international organization in September, 2011 in Seoul. The vision of the TCS is to promote peace and common prosperity among China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. The TCS consists of a Consultative Board and four Departments. The Consultative Board, the executive decision-making body of the organization, is comprised of a Secretary-General and two Deputy Secretary-Generals. The Secretary-General is appointed on a two-year rotational basis in the order of the ROK, Japan, and China. Each country other than the one of the Secretary-General nominates a Deputy Secretary-General respectively. Under the Consultative Board, there are four Departments of Political Affairs, Economic Affairs, Social-Cultural Affairs, and Management. The four Departments are composed of diplomats seconded by the three countries, and General Services Staff recruited through open competition from the three countries.

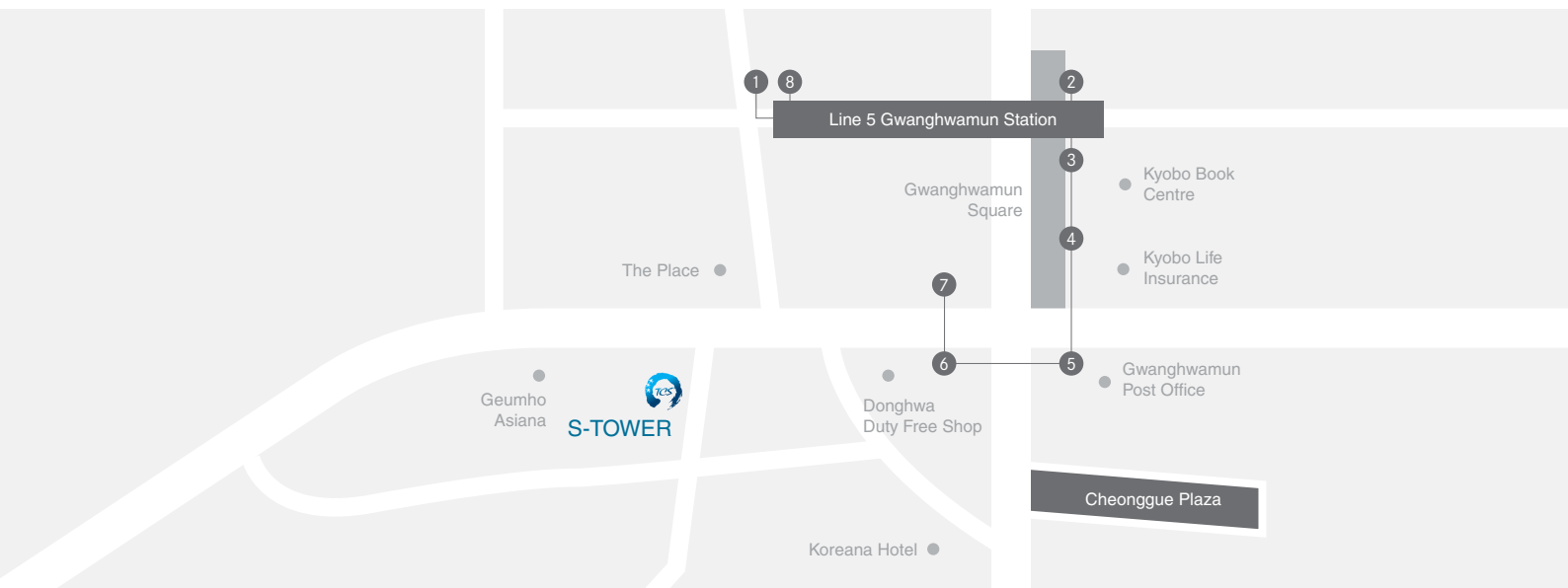
## 2. STRUCTURE



## 3. FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

1. Provide administrative and technical support for the operation and management of such trilateral consultative mechanisms among the three countries as the Trilateral Summit Meeting, the Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the Three-Party Committee and other ministerial meetings, and the Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation and send, if necessary, its representatives to attend major consultative mechanisms;
2. Communicate and coordinate with the three countries and, if necessary, with other international organizations, particularly with other East Asian cooperation mechanisms;
3. Explore and identify potential cooperative projects among the three countries, and report those projects to the relevant consultative mechanisms for adoption;
4. Evaluate the cooperative projects and draft reports on them, compile necessary documents into database, and submit annual progress reports to the Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting for approval; and
5. Conduct research on important issues related to the trilateral cooperation, manage the TCS' website, and promote understanding of the trilateral cooperation.

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**Website** | [www.tcs-asia.org](http://www.tcs-asia.org)

\*Note: Following the agreement among the three governments, this annual report, in principle, employs the chair-country order in listing countries. Chair country changes annually in rotation; the Republic of Korea is the chair country in 2013, followed by Japan in 2014, and the People's Republic of China in 2015.

# TRILATERAL COOPERATION SECRETARIAT

## ANNUAL REPORT FY2012-13

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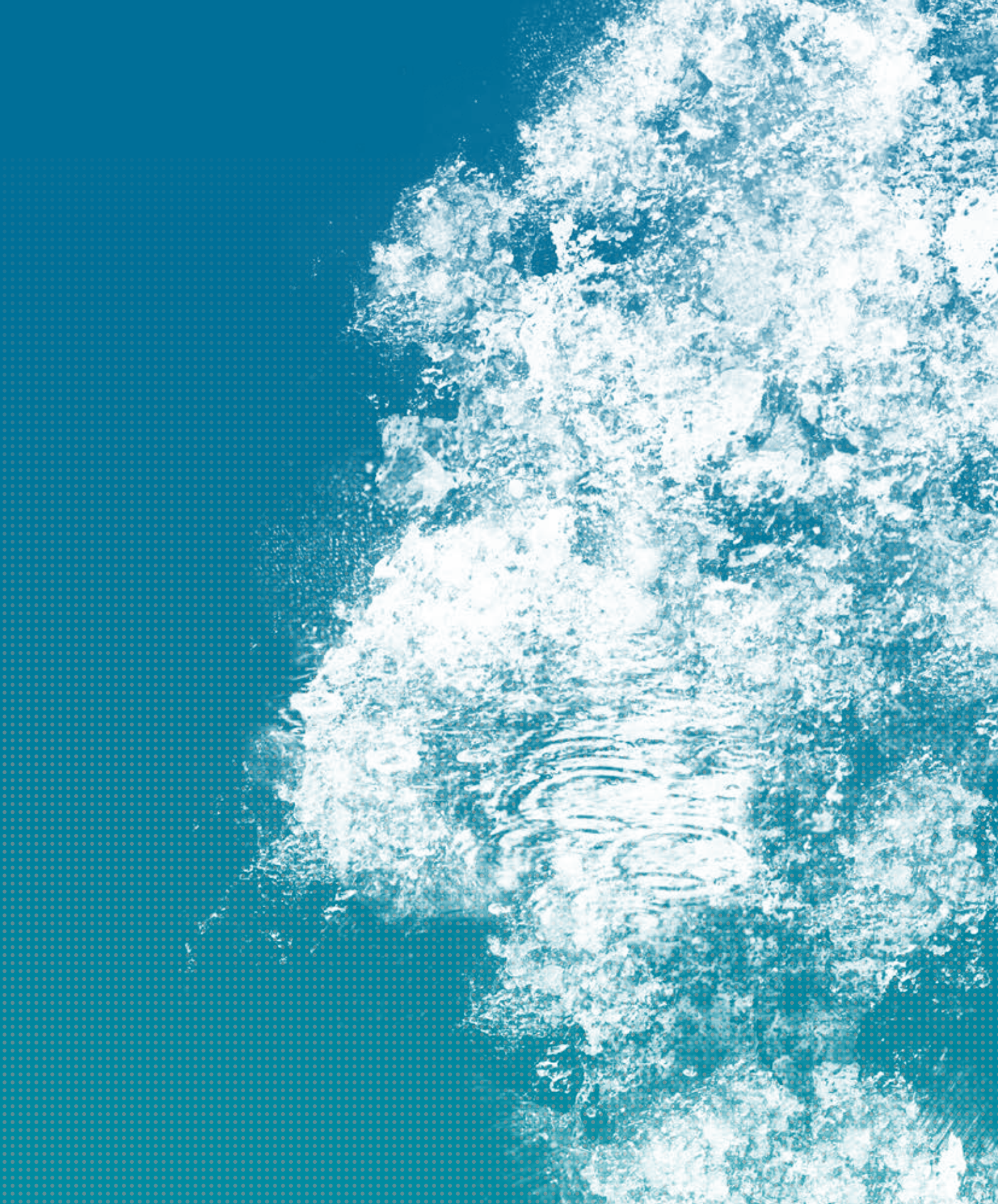
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