



FY2016 Trilateral   

Cooperation Secretariat

Annual Report FY2016
September 2016 - August 2017

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Trilateral
Cooperation
Secretariat

Pursuant to *the Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)* signed by the governments of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Japan in December 2010, the TCS was established as an international organization in September 2011 in Seoul. *The Annual Report FY2016* contains the TCS' activities and events for the 2016 fiscal year (September 2016 – August 2017).

This *Report*, in principle, employs the protocol order of the TCS in listing the names of the three countries, which is based on the rotational appointment of the Secretary-General every two years seconded by one of the three member states. In FY2016, the order is the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Japan. Nevertheless, the country order may vary depending on individual cases such as chair country or visiting order of the three countries.



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Annual Report
FY2016

2016.9 – 2017.8



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Foreword



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jong-heon Lee'.

LEE Jong-heon

Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) presents its Annual Report for the 2016 fiscal year (September 2016 - August 2017). This is the second report that contains the activities and events of the TCS under the leadership of the 3rd Consultative Board.

During the year, the three countries have achieved many encouraging developments in a wide range of cooperative areas. There have been positive increases in the number of trilateral consultative mechanisms: including the inauguration of Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting in September 2016, the number of governmental mechanisms for consultation increased to more than 70, covering almost all aspects of our society. In FY2016, the TCS worked closely with the three governments to support the strengthened collaboration and enriched its commitment to more than 70 cooperative projects within the framework of the trilateral cooperation. The 30 flagship projects of the TCS are further consolidated with enlarged scale and developed initiatives. The International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC), one of those long-standing flagship projects, has now become a solid underpinning for the collective work to provide an accurate diagnosis of the current status and a roadmap for the future cooperation.

At the same time, the TCS is leading the effort also to explore potential cooperative projects. Upon the success of the **joint project on the improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity (SCC)**, the outcomes of the project were reported to the 11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting for further cooperation. The TCS continued its backbone support for the Ministers on another **joint project on E-Commerce**, for which two rounds of working group meetings were facilitated in Seoul and Beijing during FY2016. With the initiatives of the **Trilateral Teacher's Exchange Program (TTEP)** and the **joint project on Forestry Lexicon**, the TCS is empowering more people to recognize the importance of environmental protection and enhancing communication among forestry experts. The TCS worked to promote greater engagement in intellectual exchange such as the **Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT)**. Such efforts have been also focused on facilitating dialogue among scholars and experts about ways to strengthen trilateral cooperation related to trans-border issues, as well as about issues that impact the development of regional cooperation such as Brexit and the 20th anniversary of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. In the area of education, the TCS

Trilateral cooperation will help the three countries and the region to make full use of resources and high complementarities on a WIN-WIN-WIN basis, crafting timely responses to the challenges and leading global changes.

first convened the **TCS Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation** in recognition of the regularization of the CAMPUS Asia Program, helping the universities and other stakeholders to establish a closer network to nurture future global leaders. Additionally, as a promotion activity for 808 commonly-used Chinese characters, the compilation work of the **Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (TCVD)** has been implemented by the TCS to create added-values to the shared cultural asset among the three countries.

There is an ever-growing need for stronger cooperation across national borders. We face challenges today that are more complex and crosscutting, from low economic growth and resurgence of protectionism, to climate change, disaster management and terrorism that spill across national borders and defy unilateral solutions. On the other hand, there are significant opportunities to be seized, such as the imminent 4th Industrial Revolution and the consecutive Olympics planned in Pyeongchang, Tokyo and Beijing in upcoming years. These challenges and opportunities require collective efforts and wisdom. Single country's capacity to respond is limited. The cooperation among China, the ROK and Japan, as major

pillars of regional development in Northeast Asia, will help the countries and the region to make full use of resources and high complementarities on a win-win-win basis, crafting timely responses to the challenges and leading global changes.

Trilateral cooperation is not an easy task, and it should be developed from a long term perspective. At the end of FY2016, the three governments of China, the ROK and Japan each finished their first round of rotation in leading the TCS, and the second round for the next six years has begun. If the past six years could be described as "a period of establishment," the next six years may well be called "a period of development." The TCS will reflect on current and emerging challenges and their implications for further development. The TCS will also continue to exert utmost effort to achieve two major objectives for the next two years: facilitating trilateral win-win-win cooperation and building internal capacity to sustain growth. All of these efforts will only come to fruition with your invaluable attention and support in the coming years.

About the TCS

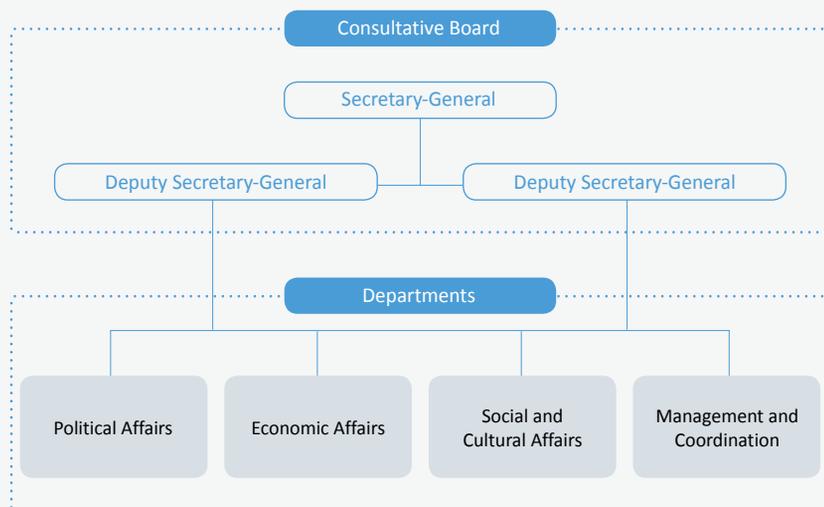
The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) is an international organization established with a vision to promote peace, stability and common prosperity of the East Asian Region. Pursuant to *the Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)* signed and ratified by the three governments of the People's Republic of China (China), the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Japan, the TCS was officially inaugurated in Seoul in September 2011. On the basis of equal participation, each country shares 1/3 of the total operational budget.

The TCS aims to serve as a hub for trilateral cooperation that encompasses a broad spectrum of sectors and stakeholders. With a view to solidifying the cooperative ties among the three countries, the TCS will strive to ensure that trilateral cooperation remains dynamic and future-oriented in the coming days.

Functions

- Providing support for trilateral consultative mechanisms
- Exploring and facilitating cooperative projects
- Communicating and coordinating with other international organizations and stakeholders
- Generating databases, research and publications

Structure



Consultative Board

The Board, the executive decision-making body of the TCS, is comprised of a Secretary-General (SG) and two Deputy Secretary-Generals (DSGs), who are appointed by each country on a two-year rotational basis.

1st Board 2011.9- 2013.8	SG	 ROK	SHIN Bong-kil
	DSG	 Japan	MATSUKAWA Rui
	DSG	 China	MAO Ning
2nd Board 2013.9- 2015.8	SG	 Japan	IWATANI Shigeo
	DSG	 China	CHEN Feng
	DSG	 ROK	LEE Jong-heon
3rd Board 2015.9 – 2017.8	SG	 China	YANG Houlan
	DSG	 ROK	LEE Jong-heon
	DSG	 Japan	UMEZAWA Akima

By the end of FY2016, the three governments each finished their first round of rotation and the 4th Consultative Board is led by the Secretary-General from the ROK for the second time. The 4th Board headed by Mr. LEE Jong-heon took office in September 2017, with two Deputy Secretary-Generals Mr. YAMAMOTO Yasushi from Japan and Ms. HAN Mei from China.

Departments

There are four Departments which are composed of the Professional Staff (PS) seconded by the three governments, and the General Services Staff (GSS) recruited through open competition from the three countries.

Department of Political Affairs

- Foreign Affairs
- Security
- Regional Issues
- International Issues
- Disaster Prevention and Management
- Think-Tank Networks

Department of Economic Affairs

- Trade and Investment
- Transport and Logistics
- Customs
- Intellectual Property Rights
- ICT Industry
- Finance
- Science and Technology
- Standardization
- Energy
- Consumer Policies
- Environmental Protection
- Agriculture
- Water Resources
- Forestry

Department of Social and Cultural Affairs

- Culture
- Youth Exchanges
- Media
- Education
- Health and Welfare
- Tourism
- Local Government Exchanges
- Personnel Administration
- Sports
- Public Diplomacy

Department of Management and Coordination

- Planning and Coordination
- Public Relations
- Human Resources
- Administrative and Legal Support
- Budget and Accounting
- Archives

Historical Background and Development



1999 Nov.

Inception of the Trilateral Cooperation

1st Trilateral Summit on the occasion of the 3rd ASEAN Plus Three Summit (Manila, Philippine)

2008 Dec.

Institutionalization of the Trilateral Cooperation

1st Trilateral Summit independent from the ASEAN Plus Three framework (Fukuoka, Japan)

2009 Oct.

Consensus on a Need for a Permanent Secretariat for the Trilateral Cooperation

The three leaders agreed to establish a secretariat for the cooperation among the three countries at the 2nd Trilateral Summit (Beijing, China)

2010 May

Memorandum on the Establishment of the TCS

The three leaders adopted *the Memorandum on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat* at the 3rd Trilateral Summit (Jeju, ROK)

Dec.

Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS

The three governments signed on *the Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat* (Seoul, ROK)



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1. Memorandum on the Establishment of the TCS adopted at the 3rd Trilateral Summit (May 2010)
2. Opening Ceremony of the TCS (Sep 2011)
3. TCS' Participation in the 6th Trilateral Summit (Nov 2015)
4. 5th Anniversary Reception of the TCS (Sep 2016)

2011 Sep.

Opening Ceremony of the TCS (Seoul, ROK)

2012 May

TCS' Participation in the 5th Trilateral Summit (Beijing, China)

2013 Oct.

TCS' Participation in the 16th ASEAN Plus Three Summit (Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam)

2014 Nov.

TCS' Participation in the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit (Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar)

2015 Nov.

TCS' Participation in the 6th Trilateral Summit (Seoul, ROK)
TCS' Participation in the 18th ASEAN Plus Three Summit (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

2016 Sep.

5th Anniversary Reception of the TCS (Seoul, ROK)
TCS' Participation in the 19th ASEAN Plus Three Summit (Vientiane, Lao PDR)

FY2016 Highlights

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC)

IFTC is the TCS' annual flagship event held on a rotational basis between the three countries. It aims to bring together eminent scholars and policy makers to share and offer new insights into the political climate, economic cooperation and socio-cultural ties among the three countries. The TCS hosted IFTC 2017 under the theme of "Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation in the Face of New Challenges" in Seoul, including sessions on political, economic and socio-cultural affairs. It was attended by the dignitaries from various fields of the three countries, and the keynote speech addressed topics of future trilateral cooperation and regional prosperity.





Special Seminar on the Brexit Implication on Regional Integration (Seoul, ROK)

p.40 Special Seminar on the Brexit Implication on Regional Integration

The Special Seminar gathered prominent scholars and experts from Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia and Europe to examine relevant issues under the two themes of “Evaluation of the Brexit and its Broader Impacts,” and “Implications of the Brexit on the Future Development of East Asian Integration.” The Seminar addressed the short and mid-to-long-term impacts of the Brexit on regional cooperation in East Asia and worldwide.

p.42 Young Scholars/Researchers Exchange Program on Trilateral Cooperation

The TCS organized its first ‘Young Scholars/Researchers Exchange Program on Trilateral Cooperation,’ aiming at creating a platform for academic exchange among young professionals doing Ph.D. or post-doctoral programs relevant to Northeast Asia or East Asian regional studies. The Program consisted of a half-day seminar, study visits and participation in the Inter-Regional Dialogue on Regional Cooperation organized by the TCS.

p.45 Trilateral Economic Symposium

As a follow-up project of *the Trilateral Economic Report*, an annual research publication of the TCS, the 2nd Trilateral Economic Symposium was held under the theme of “Globalization at a Crossroads: Prospects for the Trilateral Economic Cooperation.” The event was co-organized by the TCS and the Japan Forum on International Relations. Approximately 70 participants, mainly from academic and diplomatic fields, engaged in an active discussion on the latest economic policies of the three countries and explored how trilateral economic cooperation could be further strengthened.

2nd Trilateral Economic Symposium (Tokyo, Japan)





1st Trilateral Working Group Meeting for the Joint Study “Trilateral Cooperation on E-Commerce” (Seoul, ROK)



5th Trilateral Business Networking Symposium and Reception – Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity (Qingdao, China)

0.22 Joint Study “Trilateral Cooperation on E-Commerce”

In light of the importance of e-commerce in the generation of new economic value, the TCS coordinated the Joint Study “Trilateral Cooperation on E-Commerce” upon the agreement of the 11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan in October 2016. The study aims to conduct basic research to grasp the current status and characteristics of e-commerce activities and to analyze issues to be improved in order to contribute to the creation of a region-wide digital single market which can benefit all three countries.

0.30 Joint Project on Forestry Lexicon

The Joint Project on Forestry Lexicon was initiated by the TCS to standardize the usage of terminology on forestry among the three countries against the backdrop of having different usage of forestry terms in newly developed areas such as forest therapy. The forestry agencies of the three countries welcomed the project, and the TCS organized the 1st Working Group Meeting for the Joint Project during the 4th Director-General Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation. There were 13 experts from the three countries’ governments and research institutes and the TCS participated in the meeting, where the area of coverage, number of terms, utilization of the lexicon and target audience were discussed. The three sides agreed to first prioritize one area of coverage and target researchers.

0.47 Trilateral Business Networking Symposium and Reception – Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity (SCC)

To follow up on the results of the Joint Study of Trilateral Cooperation for Improvement of SCC, which was approved at the 10th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting, the Trilateral Symposium on Improvement of SCC was held to raise public awareness of the impact and latest developments of SCC on trade and economics between China, the ROK and Japan. Following the symposium, the TCS’ annual Trilateral Business Networking Reception was held for the 5th time to foster communication, information sharing and cooperation between business associations, corporations and entrepreneurs of the three countries.

0.27 Trilateral Teacher’s Exchange Program (TTEP) – Public Awareness of Environmental Protection

Initiated to contribute to the overall public awareness project tasked by the three environment ministries, the TCS held the 1st TTEP with the theme of “Eco-friendly Smart Technology towards an Environmentally Sustainable Society.” The 4-day program involved highly qualified middle school teachers, education experts, government officials as well as journalists from the three countries. It provided a valuable platform for the participants to exchange information and know-how, share best practices, and acquire new ideas and skills to tackle challenges and improve environmental education for students and the general public, as well as explore cooperative opportunities in such areas.

p.38 Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT) National Focal Points Meeting

The 1st NTCT National Focal Points Meeting was organized for the first time following the agreement made at the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting in March 2015, which was also expressed in *the Joint Declaration* of the 6th Trilateral Summit in November 2015.

p.52 TCS Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation: CAMPUS Asia in China, Japan and ROK

The Seminar was developed as a follow-up of the 1st Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting held in 2016, during which the Chinese, ROK and Japanese Ministries of Education called for TCS support to trilateral education cooperation. Given that the CAMPUS Asia Program is one of the most significant mechanisms in education and that working-level managers from participating universities from all three countries have never before convened in one place, TCS organized the two-day seminar as a meeting among relevant stakeholders.

p.52 Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program (TJEP)

Initiated to deepen journalists' understanding of trilateral cooperation as well as to contribute to establish favorable media environment for strengthening mutual trust and friendship among the three countries, TCS organized the TJEP with the theme of "Trilateral Industry 4.0 in China, Japan and ROK" from June 14 to 23, 2017. Also, 12 journalists from the three countries joined as the TJEP delegation.

p.54 Young Ambassador Program (YAP)

To promote trilateral cooperation and to foster amicable relationship among the future leaders of the three countries, the 5th YAP was held with the participation of 18 university students. In this two-week program, the participants enhanced their understanding of trilateral cooperation and built relationships through lectures, discussions, site visits and cultural tours.

TCS Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation: CAMPUS Asia in China, Japan and ROK (Seoul, ROK)



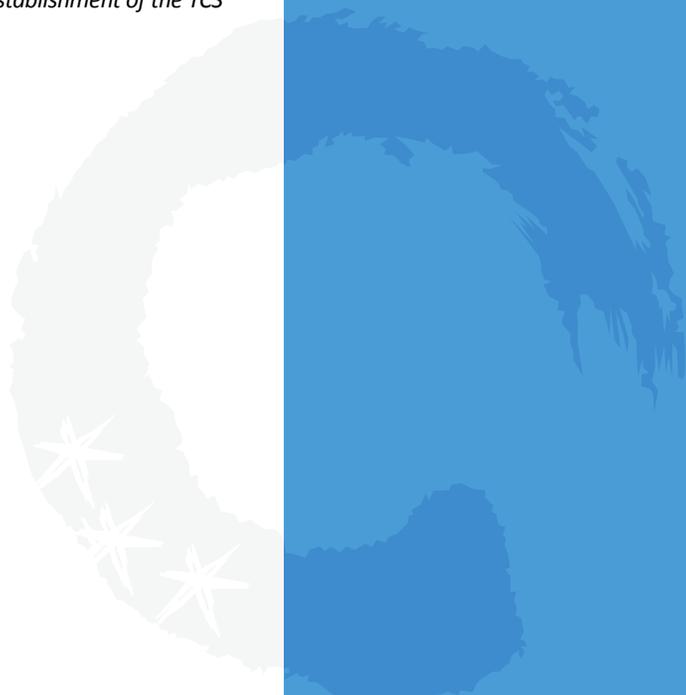
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“Provide administrative and technical support for the operation and management of such trilateral consultative mechanisms among the Parties as the Trilateral Summit Meeting, the Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, the Three-Party Committee and other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

Article 3.1(a) of the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS

I

Providing Support for Trilateral Consultative Mechanisms



1.

Political Affairs

Politics

Consultative mechanisms between foreign ministries prepared the agenda of high-level meetings and the summit deliverables. Considering the frequent suspension of such important mechanisms, in FY2016, the TCS attempted to give impetus to institutionalizing the trilateral cooperation towards the complete restoration of its process by expanding habits of cooperation nurtured by various stakeholders. Also, the TCS has been putting forward efforts to support the three countries' involvement in the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Cooperation mechanism and promote its progress and visions, as the Secretariat of the Plus Three countries.

19th ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit

In FY2016, the TCS delegation, headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan, participated in the 19th ASEAN+3 Summit held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on September 7, 2016. The TCS has been invited to the meeting since the 16th ASEAN+3 Summit held in Brunei, 2013. Keeping in close contact with the ASEAN Chair and Plus Three governments, the TCS has also explored ways to institutionalize its involvement in the APT mechanism, with a view to creating more opportunities for substantive projects and regular meetings.





The ASEAN Plus Three (APT) cooperation process began in December 1997 with the convening of an Informal Summit between the Leaders of ASEAN and China, Japan and the ROK. The APT Summit was institutionalized in 1999 to strengthen and deepen cooperation in East Asia at various levels and in various areas, particularly in economic, social and political areas.

Overview

- Date:** September 7, 2016
- Venue:** Vientiane, Lao PDR
- Participants:**
 - Heads of State/Government of 10 ASEAN member states,
 - Heads of the Plus Three countries (Japan, China and the ROK)
- Agenda:**
 - Review of APT cooperation and discussion on its future directions
 - Regional and international issues
- Outcomes:** *Chairman’s Statement of the 19th ASEAN Plus Three Summit; ASEAN Plus Three Statement on Promoting Sustainable Development Cooperation; ASEAN Plus Three Statement on Active Ageing*

Security

The following consultations enabled the three countries to exchange information on the national policies and strategies in the respective security areas, to identify common issues for which trilateral cooperation can be strengthened, and to build mutual trust. In FY2016, the TCS expanded its presence in the trilateral consultations concerning diverse security issues and demonstrated its commitment to further support the follow-up measures agreed among the three parties.

9th Top Regulators Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety

The TCS delegation headed by Deputy Secretary-General LEE Jong-heon attended the 9th Top Regulators Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety on November 29, 2016 in Beijing, China. Since its first participation in the mechanism at the 8th TRM in Seoul, ROK in October 2015, the TCS was firmly committed to promote nuclear safety cooperation among the three countries including organizing a session titled “Trilateral Views: Promoting Nuclear Safety Cooperation in Northeast Asia” at the 11th Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity in May 2016.



The Top Regulators Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety, inaugurated in September 2008, had the mandate to promote information exchanges for issues and technologies related to nuclear safety regulations, and improving and strengthening regional nuclear safety cooperation. Under this mechanism, there were technical dialogues called the Top Regulators Meeting on Nuclear Safety Plus (TRM Plus), the Joint Emergency Drill (JED) and three Working Groups.

Overview

- Date:** November 29, 2016
- Venue:** Beijing, China
- Participants:** Heads of Nuclear Regulatory Authorities of China, Japan and the ROK
- Agenda:**
- Current status of nuclear safety activities in the respective countries
 - Progress and future plans on the three Working Groups: (i) Working Group on Human Resources Development (WGHRD), (ii) Working Group on Online Information Sharing (WGOIS), and (iii) Working Group on Emergency Preparedness and Response (WGEP)
 - Discussion on Joint Emergency Drill (JED)

4th Trilateral Counter-Terrorism Consultation

The TCS first joined the 4th Trilateral Counter-Terrorism Consultation as an observer. The TCS observed the three parties' assessment of international and regional terrorism situations and information-sharing on the counter-terrorism policies and measures as well as discussion on ways to enhance trilateral cooperation for countering terrorism and violent extremism. The TCS also exchanged views with the three delegations about the role of TCS in this area and some possible collaborative projects.

The Trilateral Counter-Terrorism Consultation was established in 2011 according to the *Trilateral Cooperation Vision 2020*. It aims to promote organic and practical cooperation among counter-terrorism agencies in the three countries in order to jointly prevent and respond to security threats.

Overview

- Date:** November 15, 2016
- Venue:** Seoul, ROK
- Participants:** Ministries of Foreign Affairs and relevant agencies of the ROK, Japan and China
- Agenda:**
- Information-sharing on counter-terrorism policies and measures of the three countries
 - Discussion on ways to enhance trilateral and multilateral cooperation in Countering Terrorism (CT) and Countering/ Preventing Violent Extremism (C/PVE)

3rd Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation

The Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation was proposed by China in 2013, and the first round was held in the following year. The Consultation is a venue for the three countries to share information relating to the respective cyber policies and best practices, and to improve mutual trust and trilateral cooperation in the cyber domain.

The TCS took part in the 3rd Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation as an observer. The TCS closely followed the three parties' discussion on national cyber security strategies, international cyber issues and possible areas of future cooperation. The TCS also explored possible role for the TCS to promote trilateral cooperation for ensuring a safe and sound cyberspace.

Overview

- Date:** February 10, 2017
- Venue:** Tokyo, Japan
- Participants:** Ministries of Foreign Affairs and relevant agencies of Japan, China and the ROK
- Agenda:**
- Information-sharing on the respective national cyber security strategy, policy and relevant government structures
 - International cyber issues such as the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (UNGGE), confidence-building and capacity building measures, and international and regional engagements
 - Possible areas of trilateral cooperation

2.

Economic Affairs and Sustainable Development

Trade and Investment

As a major economic engine of the world, the three countries play a leading role in the global economy. Consultative mechanisms among economic and trade ministries have been actively creating common agenda and cooperative projects that can benefit all three countries. In FY2016, the TCS stimulates and contributes to the development of trilateral cooperation under the trilateral economic and trade consultative mechanism in continuous consultation with the Ministries through managing various projects tasked by the mechanism, namely the Joint Project “Trilateral Cooperation for Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity” (hereafter, the “SCC Project”) and the Joint Study “Trilateral Cooperation on E-Commerce” (hereafter, the “E-Commerce Project”) under the Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting. In addition, the TCS laid a foundation to further expand its economic projects under the framework of ASEAN+3. Based on *the ASEAN+3 Cooperation Work Plan 2018-2022*, the TCS will encourage cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat and other ASEAN+3-related agencies to explore areas of mutual interest with a view to promoting deeper regional integration and further enhance the work and initiatives of ASEAN+3 cooperation.



11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting

11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting



Refer to [the Final Report of the SCC Project](#) for more information.

The Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting is organized by the head delegates from the Economic and Trade Ministries of the three countries on a rotational basis, discussing global and regional issues and gathering joint efforts through economic and trade cooperation among the three countries.

Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) for the 11th Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting

The TCS has been invited to the Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting as an observer since the 9th Meeting held in Beijing, China in 2012. In FY2016, the TCS delegation, headed by Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima, participated in the 11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting in Tokyo, Japan on October 29, 2016. The ministers discussed issues varying from the Trilateral Trade and Investment Relationship, the trilateral FTA and RCEP, to trilateral cooperation in the fields of SCC, Olympic and Paralympic Games, e-commerce, fourth-party-market, LNG and regional economies. The TCS reported the outcome of the SCC Project to the three ministers. Due to the success of the project, the ministers agreed to establish a trilateral dialogue channel between business and academia to be facilitated by the TCS. In addition, the ministers agreed that the TCS facilitate a joint study on e-commerce as a new cooperation following the SCC Project.

Overview

Date:	October 29, 2016
Venue:	Tokyo, Japan
Participants:	 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI)  Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM)  Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK (MOTIE)

The TCS delegation attended the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) for the 11th Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting as an observer in Tokyo, Japan on October 28, 2016. At the Meeting, the Directors-General of the three countries prepared the upcoming Ministers' Meeting and discussed further development of cooperation on proposed agenda. In FY2016, the Meeting dealt with global and regional issues such as supporting G20, WTO, APEC and regional trade agreements including RCEP and trilateral FTA. The three parties also selected common cooperative agenda such as e-commerce, Olympic and Paralympic Games, SCC, local government cooperation, cooperation in fourth-country markets and LNG. The TCS reported the outcome of the SCC Project in detail to the three Directors-General and agreed to manage the new project on e-commerce.

Overview

Date:	October 28, 2016
Venue:	Tokyo, Japan
Participants:	 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan  Ministry of Commerce of China  Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK

1st-2nd Trilateral Working Group Meeting for the Joint Study “Trilateral Cooperation on E-Commerce”

In light of the importance and economic value of e-commerce, the 11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting launched the E-Commerce Project, managed and coordinated by the TCS. The E-Commerce Project aims to conduct basic research to grasp the current status and characteristics of e-commerce activities and to analyze issues to be improved in order to contribute to the creation of a region-wide digital single market which can benefit all three countries. The 1st Trilateral Working Group Meeting was held in Seoul, ROK on May 25, 2017. Government officials from three economic and trade ministries and researchers from designated research institutes exchanged their views on the contents of the E-Commerce Project. The 2nd Working Group Meeting was held in Beijing, China on August 8, 2017. The participants shared the progress of research and discussed key elements for potential implications on e-commerce and the future trilateral cooperation. The two meetings were organized and moderated by the TCS. The TCS organized the 3rd Trilateral Working Group Meeting in Japan in September 2017. The E-Commerce Project will be completed in FY2017 and its results will be submitted to the next Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting.

Overview

Date: May 25 and August 8, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK and Beijing, China

Participants:  Ministry of Commerce of China
China Academy of Information and Communication Technology (CAICT)
 Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK
Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)
 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan
Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

Trilateral Dialogue for Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity (SCC)

The establishment of a dialogue channel for improvement of supply chain connectivity (SCC) was proposed by the 11th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting, upon the success of the SCC Project. The purpose of the dialogue channel was to study concrete measures to improve SCC, based on the results of the SCC project, with the joint efforts of research institutes, including the China Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC), Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA), Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). To follow up the proposal from the three economic and trade ministries, the TCS organized and facilitated the Trilateral Dialogue for Improvement of SCC in Qingdao, China on July 21, 2017. The Dialogue discussed possible solutions for the implementation of action plans of the SCC Project by inviting business and academic representatives from the three countries. The TCS plans to submit the result of the Dialogue to the three economic and trade ministries in FY2017.

Overview

Date: July 21, 2017

Venue: Qingdao, China

Participants: Business and academic representatives from the three countries

 Ministry of Commerce of China

 Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK

 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan

Intellectual Property Rights

Reflecting the huge number of patent applications in China, the ROK and Japan, which occupies more than half of the total number in the world, the cooperation among the three countries has been increasing its importance for the development of intellectual property system worldwide. The TCS has been continuing its effort to support the trilateral mechanism of Intellectual Property Rights.

Regarding the mechanism of Intellectual Property Rights, the trilateral cooperation has been active like other mechanisms. For example, the Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Commissioners of the IP Offices, equivalent to a Ministerial Level Meeting, has been held annually and there have been other working-level meetings such as Joint Experts Groups of Automation and Patent Examination, and the Heads Meeting of IP Training Centers of the three countries. The three offices have launched the new Trilateral IP Cooperation Website named “TRIPO” (Trilateral IP Offices) as well. The TCS participates in the Dialogue Meeting and plans to support or facilitate future possible projects under this mechanism.

16th Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the JPO, KIPO and SIPO

The TCS has been involved in the Policy Dialogue Meeting since 2014, which started in 2001 for the trilateral cooperation especially in the areas of patents, design rights and trademarks. The 16th Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting was held on December 8, 2016 in Kanagawa, Japan. During the Meeting, the three IP Offices reported and reviewed the current status in their national IP Systems and shared a common view to further strengthen cooperation among the three Offices, considering the fact that the three countries account for 57% of worldwide patent applications. The TCS delegation attended the Meeting as an observer.



The Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting and Trilateral IP Symposium are organized by the Commissioners of the Intellectual Property of the three countries on a rotational basis, reporting and reviewing the latest trilateral cooperation activities, and discussing future trilateral cooperation.

Overview

Date: December 8, 2016

Venue: Kanagawa, Japan

Participants:  Japan Patent Office (JPO)
 Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO)
 State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO)

Agenda:

- Trilateral cooperation towards appropriate protection of patents, design rights and trademarks
- Regular exchange of the statistical information on judging

Trilateral Intellectual Property (IP) Symposium

The IP Symposium has been held back-to-back with the Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting on the following day, where the TCS has been also annually participating. In FY2016, the TCS Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima was invited to provide the opening remarks at the Symposium after the 16th Meeting, corresponding to the purpose of the Symposium to discuss the latest trends in intellectual property protection by the administrative and judicial bodies of each country.

Overview

Date: December 9, 2016

Venue: Kanagawa, Japan

Participants: Judges, experts and government officials from the three countries

 Japan Patent Office (JPO)
 Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO)
 State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO)

Programs:

- Lectures on the latest trends in intellectual property litigation
- A panel discussion under the theme of interpretation of “product-by-process claims”



Environmental Protection

Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) is one of the longest-living and well-established mechanisms among all the current 21 ministerial-level consultative mechanisms. The three ministries have been holding the meeting on an annual basis since 1999 and achieved great results. To strategically manage a variety of environmental cooperative activities, the ministries adopted *the Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation (TJAP) 2015-2019* at TEMM17, which outlined 9 priorities to tackle under the three parties' endeavor.

The TCS also shared the understanding that Northeast Asia is one environmental community, and TEMM is one of the most important mechanisms that the TCS supports. By providing administrative and technical support to the meetings, following up to conduct projects assigned at TEMM, and exploring and implementing cooperative projects under the 9 priorities, the TCS is paving its way to make meaningful and substantial contribution to the TEMM mechanism.

19th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM19)

In FY2016, the TCS delegation participated in the 19th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM19). At the meeting, the three ministers exchanged information on the latest developments of national environmental policies and shared key environmental policies of their countries to address global and regional environmental issues. The ministers also reviewed the progress of *the TJAP 2015-2019*, and welcomed the results of the Trilateral Teachers' Exchange Program (TTEP) – Public Awareness of Environmental Protection held in August, 2017 in ROK initiated and organized by the TCS. The three ministers reaffirmed their commitment to work together to further promote sustainable development by promising to step up efforts in various areas including air quality, climate change, biodiversity, and waste management.

The Youth Forum and Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business were also held as back-to-back events of the TEMM19. The TCS joined the Youth Forum as an observer. Ms. JANG EunYoung, Director of Economic Affairs of the TCS, delivered congratulatory remarks at the Youth Forum addressing the importance of youth cooperation in promoting the trilateral relations and solving regional environmental issues.



Overview

Date: August 25, 2017

Venue: Suwon, ROK

Participants:  Ministry of Environment of ROK
 Ministry of Environmental Protection of China
 Ministry of the Environment of Japan

Side Events: Youth Forum; Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business

Pre-TEMM19 and Directors-General Meeting for TEMM19

Prior to TEMM19, Pre-TEMM19 Working Level Meeting was held in February, and the Directors-General Meeting was held in March for the preparation of TEMM19. The TCS delegation attended both meetings. The working level staff discussed the general preparation of TEMM19, including logistics, progress on *the TJAP 2015-2019*, timeline for drafting the TEMM19 *Joint Communiqué*, and projects proposed by the three countries as well as the TTEP proposed by the TCS. TCS Director of Economic Affairs Ms. JANG EunYoung delivered the presentation on the preparation of TTEP. The Directors-General Meeting reviewed what was discussed at Pre-TEMM and revised the draft *Joint Communiqué*. TCS Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima delivered an opening remark at the Directors-General Meeting.

Overview

Pre-TEMM19 Working Level Meeting

Date: February 15, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants:  Ministry of Environment of ROK
 Ministry of Environmental Protection of China
 Ministry of the Environment of Japan

Directors-General Meeting for TEMM19

Date: March 24, 2017

Venue: Suwon, ROK

Participants:  Ministry of Environment of ROK
 Ministry of Environmental Protection of China
 Ministry of the Environment of Japan





1st Trilateral Teacher's Exchange Program (TTEP) – Public Awareness of Environmental Protection

TEMM18 in 2016 decided the three ministries to collaborate with the TCS to hold a consultation meeting and discuss specific themes and activities under the General Public Awareness Project, one of the 9 priorities under *TJAP 2015-2019*. During the meeting organized by the TCS in June 2016, the ministries laid their emphasis on key words such as Students, Teachers and Youth as indispensable players, Education as an area to be utilized, High School, Middle School and Elementary School as target ages, and People-to-People Exchanges as effective tools. Inspired by the ideas, the TCS proposed to hold TTEP on Public Awareness of Environmental Protection as a tool to help achieve the ultimate goal to raise general public awareness, the priority area which was identified to be collaborated with the TCS. Agreed and supported by all three ministries, the TCS started to prepare the program in close consultation with the ministries.

The first program took place in Seoul, ROK on August 7-10, 2017 with participation from nine highly qualified middle school teachers and environmental education specialists, three government officials from the three countries, as well as four journalists. Under the theme “Eco-friendly Smart Technology towards an Environmentally Sustainable Society,” the participants spent quality time together and explored eco-friendly sites, made eco-friendly devices, and held conversations on increasing cooperation in environmental education and raising public awareness with subject matter experts from different walks of life and among themselves.

It provided a valuable platform for the participants to exchange information and know-how, share best practices, and acquire new ideas and skills to tackle challenges and improve environmental education to the students and the general public. The program achieved positive results and was reported to the three ministers at TEMM19 and is included in the TEMM19 *Joint Communiqué*.

Overview

Date: August 7-10, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: Middle school teachers, education experts and journalists from the three countries; officials from the Ministry of Environment of ROK, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China and Ministry of the Environment of Japan

Main Activities: Site visits to Nami Island and Seoul Energy Dream Center, hands-on eco-friendly device making, dialogue sessions with subject matter expertise from civil society, government and business, participants' discussions

Health and Welfare

As mandated by the three parties, the TCS has made efforts to strengthen its engagement in this tripartite mechanism through compiling the history of the tripartite health cooperation in *the 10th Anniversary Booklet* of the Ministers' Meeting, and through its on-going efforts to provide an information sharing platform on the new cooperative agenda related to the use of health technology.

9th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting (THMM)

The 9th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting (THMM) was held in Busan, ROK on December 3 to 4, 2016 in which Deputy Secretary-General LEE Jong-heon attended and delivered a speech emphasizing the significance of health issues as a critical factor to push forward trilateral cooperation and expressing the TCS' firm commitment for following up on the meeting. At the press conference after the meeting, the three Ministers announced the adoption of *the Joint Statement of the Ninth Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting*, which stipulated tripartite cooperation on major health issues, including the TCS' follow-up on promoting the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and big data in the healthcare sector.



The THMM was inaugurated in 2007 to discuss common issues in health and medical field among the three countries and ways to manage such challenges. The TCS participated in this meeting since 2013.

Overview

Date: December 3-4, 2016

Venue: Busan, ROK

Participants:  Ministry of Health and Welfare of the ROK
 Ministry of National Health and Family Planning Commission of China
 Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan

Side Event: 1st Tripartite Quarantine Working Group

Outcome: *Joint Statement of the Ninth Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting*

Forestry

Working towards sustainable forestry management in policies, administration and technology among the three countries as put forward by the leaders, the TCS continued its effort to support the relevant consultative mechanism and the implementation of its follow-up projects.

In the field of forestry cooperation, the trilateral cooperation mainly relies on a Director-General Level Meeting, where the TCS not only fulfills its mandates to provide assistance to its operation, but also initiated new follow-up projects that would create added value to the cooperation in this area.

3rd-4th Trilateral Director-General Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation

The TCS has been involved in this trilateral meeting since its inauguration in 2014 in Beijing. In FY2016, Deputy Secretary-General of the TCS UMEZAWA Akima attended the 3rd and 4th Meetings, and delivered the opening remarks congratulating the successful opening of the Meetings and reaffirming the importance of forestry cooperation among the three countries. During the 4th Meeting, DSG UMEZAWA showed the TCS' full support to strengthen future cooperation on this field and further develop cooperative projects on forestry cooperation, appreciating the three forestry agencies' support to hold the 1st Working Group Meeting for the Joint Project on Forestry Lexicon as a side meeting. After the Meetings, the TCS drafted the official Record of Discussion (ROD) to be submitted to the ministries.



The Director-General Level Meeting is organized by the head delegates from the Forestry Authorities of the three countries on a rotational basis, enhancing the forest cooperation among the neighboring countries and gathering joint efforts to contribute to the global environment.

Overview

3rd Director-General Level Meeting

Date: September 7-8, 2016

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Participants:  Forestry Agency of Japan
 State Forestry Administration of China
 Korea Forest Service

4th Director-General Level Meeting

Date: July 18, 2017

Venue: Xining, China

Participants:  State Forestry Administration of China
 Korea Forest Service
 Forestry Agency of Japan

Side Event: 1st Working Group Meeting for the Joint Project on Forestry Lexicon

1st Working Group Meeting for the Joint Project on Forestry Lexicon

The Joint Project on Forestry Lexicon was proposed by the TCS at the 3rd Director-General Level Meeting to standardize the usage of terminology on forestry among the three countries. In light of the different usage of forestry terms in the three countries, the Forestry Authorities agreed on the proposal by the TCS to create a forestry lexicon and the 1st Working Group Meeting was held as a side meeting during the 4th Director-General Level Meeting in 2017. The Forestry Lexicon is expected to be published in 2018 and to promote better understanding and communication between the three countries on forestry related terms.



3.

Social and Cultural Affairs

Culture

The TCS has been enlarging its contributions to the major initiatives under the Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting (TCMM), including its continued supports for the East Asian Cultural Cities (EACC) Program, and its participation in the 9th Trilateral Meeting of the Directors of National Museums and the 10th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum.

9th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting (TCMM)

The TCMM is a trilateral mechanism established in 2007 to promote cultural exchanges and cooperation among the three countries. The TCMM has identified cooperation in the field of "culture and art," "cultural assets," and "cultural industries" as important pillars of the trilateral cultural cooperation. The EACC Program, Trilateral Meeting of the Directors of National Museums, and Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum are the follow-up initiatives of such pillars under the ministerial meeting.

The TCS has participated in the Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting (TCMM) since 2013 and supported its major follow-ups, including the EACC Program. The 9th TCMM was held in Kyoto, Japan from August 25 to 26, 2017 in which *the Kyoto Declaration 2017* was adopted to consolidate the future oriented trilateral relations by promoting cultural exchange in different levels. The TCS participated in the 9th Meeting as an observer and the three parties stipulated the continued cooperation with the TCS in *the Kyoto Declaration 2017*.

Overview

Date:	August 25-26, 2017
Venue:	Kyoto, Japan
Participants:	 Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan  Ministry of Culture of China  Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK
Side Event:	Trilateral Arts Festival 2017, EACC Summit
Outcome:	<i>Kyoto Declaration 2017</i>

2017 East Asian Cultural Cities (EACC) Program

East Asian Cultural Cities (EACC) Program is a trilateral initiative launched in 2014 to promote cultural exchanges and cooperation among the cities of the three countries. The three designated cities carry out a variety of events concerning their tradition and contemporary culture, and engage in diverse trilateral cultural exchanges. The TCS has implemented various supports for the 2017 EACC Program among Kyoto of Japan, Changsha of China, and Daegu of the ROK. The TCS attended the major events of the 2017 EACCs including the Opening Ceremonies in Kyoto on February 18, 2017, and Daegu on May 12, 2017, and co-sponsored the "Asian Corridor" Contemporary Art Exhibition held in Kyoto from August 19 to October 15, 2017, supporting the exhibition of Mr. CHOI Jeonghwa's "Flower of 808 Commonly-used Chinese Character" initially made by TCS' proposal to celebrate the IFTC 2016 held in Beijing, China.



Overview

Date: Year-round

Participants (2017 EACC):

🇯🇵 Kyoto 🇨🇳 Changsha 🇰🇷 Daegu

TCS' Collaboration with 2017 EACC:

“Asian Corridor” Contemporary Art Exhibition (Kyoto, Japan)

9th Trilateral Meeting of the Directors of National Museums

The Trilateral Meeting of the Directors of National Museums started in 2006 to promote cultural cooperation and exchange among the national museums of the three countries. Since 2014, the three museums have organized an array of joint exhibitions on the sidelines of the Meetings, as agreed at the TCMM. The 9th Meeting was held in the National Museum of China in Beijing on November 4, 2016. The TCS delegation headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan attended the Meeting as an observer for the first time, and SG YANG delivered congratulatory remarks at the Opening Ceremony of the Joint Exhibition, “15-19th Century Trilateral Paintings.”

Overview

Date: November 4, 2016

Venue: Beijing, China

Participants: 🇨🇳 National Museum of China

🇰🇷 National Museum of Korea

🇯🇵 Tokyo National Museum

Side Event: Joint Exhibition, “15-19th Century Trilateral Paintings”

10th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum

The Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum was established in 2002 to strengthen cooperation for the development of cultural industries of the three countries. The 10th Forum was held in Tokyo, Japan from June 28 to 30, 2017 in which the TCS delegation led by Deputy Secretary-General LEE Jong-heon attended the forum for the first time. The TCS at the Public-Private Sector Joint Session delivered a presentation on the “Trilateral Miss Granny Special Movie Talk” held on November 19, 2016 that demonstrates the case of effective co-production among the three countries.

Overview

Date: June 28-30, 2017

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Participants:  Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan
 Ministry of Culture of China
 Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK

Major Activities: Trilateral Meeting, Open Seminar, Public-Private Sector Joint Session, Joint Promotion at Content Tokyo 2017

Outcome: *Joint Declaration of the 10th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum*

Education

The TCS is cooperating with the Chinese, ROK and Japanese Ministries of Education (MOE) to assist the follow-up projects of the Trilateral Education Ministers’ Meeting (TEDMM). For this mission, the TCS is also mobilizing other relevant networks such as those from the Children’s Story Exchange Program and universities involved in the CAMPUS Asia (Collective Action for Mobility of University Students in Asia) Program.

In the field of education, CAMPUS Asia Program, a university-level student exchange initiative, is the most prominent agenda included in the 1st TEDMM. In FY2016, the TCS organized the Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation: CAMPUS Asia in China, Japan and ROK to assist with the development of the Program, and discussed with the Ministries of Education different ways to provide better support.



1st Trilateral Rectors' Forum (TRF)

TRF aims to strengthen the networks between higher education institutions and to further cooperation, convening university presidents from China, ROK and Japan on a rotational basis. The 1st TRF was held on December 13, 2016 in Seoul, ROK, hosted by the Korean Ministry of Education and Korean Council for University Education. As a side event, a ceremony celebrating the launching of the full-fledged CAMPUS Asia Program was organized. Over 170 university presidents, vice presidents, professors, and staff members including representatives from the 17 original and new CAMPUS Asia consortia participated.

The TCS delegation, headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan, participated in the event as an observer and delivered congratulatory remarks. During his remark, SG Yang briefed the progress of trilateral education cooperation accelerated by the launching of the TEDMM in 2016. He particularly emphasized the significance of the CAMPUS Asia, and expressed his congratulations on its continuation as a regular program as well as the successful organization of the 1st TRF.

Overview

Date: December 13, 2016

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: - MOE Representatives from the three countries
- Chinese, Japanese and Korean university presidents
- CAMPUS Asia program managers and other education authorities

Side Event: CAMPUS Asia Launching Ceremony

Sports

Taking the opportunity of a series of the Olympic Games to be hosted by the ROK, Japan, and China consecutively, trilateral consultative mechanism in the field of sports was newly established in 2016. The first Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting was convened in September 2016 to further strengthen cooperation, especially regarding the sports industry, disabled sports, anti-doping, and physical education. The TCS will work closely with the relevant ministries to explore and initiate projects to help institutionalize the newly established consultative mechanism on sports cooperation.

1st Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting (TSMM)

The TCS participated in the 1st Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting (TSMM) which was held in Pyeongchang, ROK, on September 22 and 23, 2016 as an observer. The TSMM was established to strengthen cooperation among the three countries in areas of sports industry, youth and disabled sports, anti-doping policies, and sports cooperation in general. The TCS was also involved in the preparatory advisory meetings organized by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK to develop meeting agenda and to provide support for the preparation of the ministerial meeting.



Overview

Date: September 22-23, 2016

Venue: Pyeongchang, ROK

Participants: 🇰🇷 Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK
 🇯🇵 Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan
 🇨🇳 State General Administration of Sports of China

Outcome: *Pyeongchang Declaration*

Local Government Exchanges

The three governments have paid close attention to promoting cooperation among local governments of the three countries. As manifested in major documents from the Trilateral Summit meetings, promoting trilateral cooperation at the local government level has been one of the continuous agenda in the trilateral cooperation dialogue.

Trilateral cooperation at the local government level mainly addresses practical issues such as the economy, tourism, environment, aging society and health. The TCS mainly plays the role of an observer in meetings hosted at the municipal level to discover the latest agenda of cooperation and to explore the needs of local governments in the areas of trilateral cooperation.

18-19th Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference

The Conference is an annual international meeting among local governments of China, the ROK and Japan, hosted by the Chinese People’s Association of Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), the Governors Association of Korea (GAOK) and Japan’s Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR). Established in 1999, the Conference aims to strengthen the relationships and promote trilateral cooperation at the municipal level. Frequently discussed themes include tourism, culture, economy and sustainable development. The 18th and 19th Conference were held in Okayama, Japan and in Ulsan, ROK, respectively, with participation from around 300 local government officials. The TCS participated in the event as an observer.

Overview

18th Conference

Date: October 18-21, 2016

Venue: Okayama, Japan

Theme: “Vitalization of Northeast Asia through Local Government Exchanges”

Topics: - Sustainable development
- Vitalization of local cities through culture and art
- Promotion of tourism through local cities cooperation

19th Conference

Date: August 28-September 1, 2017

Venue: Ulsan, ROK

Theme: “Exploring Cooperative Measures for Northeast Asian Local Governments through a New Paradigm”

Topics: - Integration of tourism and industry
- Eco-cities and sustainable development
- Policy recommendations for aging societies and lowering birth rates

Media

Media cooperation among the three countries has made great contributions to the development of trilateral cooperation. Recognizing the importance of media cooperation, the TCS has developed its network and enhanced cooperation with relevant influential media organizations.

The Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum (NATF) is an important high-level platform of this field as a place where the TCS could receive wisdom and valuable suggestions to further promote the development of trilateral cooperation in all aspects.

11th Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum (NATF)

The NATF was started in 2006, co-organized by three influential media agencies of Xinhua News Agency of China, Joong-Ang Ilbo of the ROK and Nikkei Shimbun of Japan. The NATF has developed into an important regional platform bringing big figures from political, economic, academic and cultural fields to discuss regional cooperation in all aspects. The major outcome of the Forum is the chart of 808 commonly-used Chinese Characters among the three countries.

The TCS delegation, headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan, participated in the 11th NATF held in Shizuoka, Japan on December 4 to 5, 2016. The TCS has attended the Forum since 2012, and has become an official observer since 2015 with a view to strengthen its cooperation with the NATF and transform valuable recommendations into tangible policies and projects. As designated organization for promoting 808 commonly-used Chinese characters, the TCS has conducted various promotion activities including a Promotion Booklet, a Forum Session and a Photo Contest which increased recognition among general public in the three countries.



Overview

Date: December 4-5, 2016

Venue: Shizuoka, Japan

Organizers: 🇯🇵 Nikkei Shimbun 🇨🇳 Xinhua News Agency 🇰🇷 Joong-Ang Ilbo

Participants: Approximately 10 people each from the three countries, including Mr. FUKUDA Yasuo, former Prime Minister of Japan; Mr. ZENG Peiyan, former Vice Prime Minister of China; and Mr. LEE Hong-koo, former Prime Minister of the ROK

Theme: “How China, Japan and South Korea Shall Take Action with the Increasing Tendency of Inwardness in the World?”

Topics:

- Finance, economy and trade
- Environment and energy
- Culture, education, society and regional exchanges

Think-Tanks

In order to provide intellectual support to the trilateral cooperation mechanisms, it is of significance to keep a close relationship between the TCS and academia of the three countries. Through supporting and organizing events relevant to the trilateral cooperation, the TCS has consulted with various distinguished scholars and researchers from the three countries as well as other regions on the ways to promote the trilateral cooperation and strengthen TCS capacity building in FY2016.

1st Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT) National Focal Points Meeting and Japan-China-ROK Dialogue

The Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT), agreed upon the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting in March 2015, was officially inaugurated on August 31, 2015 in order to promote mutual intellectual exchanges among the three countries. The function of the NTCT is to share academic resources to provide intellectual support for the three Governments, and to promote the general public's understanding of the trilateral cooperation.

The 1st NTCT National Focal Points Meeting and Japan-China-ROK Dialogue was held in Tokyo, Japan, on September 21, 2016. The TCS, as a facilitator of the trilateral cooperation, also participated in the meeting. Highlighting the importance of enhancing trilateral think-tank cooperation, the participants discussed the mechanisms and operation of the NTCT, agreed to hold the meeting of the NTCT annually on a rotational basis, and to strengthen cooperation in organizing seminars, conducting joint research projects and increasing mutual exchanges. The meeting also agreed to task the TCS a secretariat role in developing the NTCT. Following the National Focal Points Meeting, the Japan-China-ROK Dialogue on global politics and the economy was organized, bringing together scholars and experts from the three countries and inviting general public interested in the trilateral cooperation.

Overview

Date: September 21, 2016

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Participants:  The Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR)
 China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU)
 Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA)

Agenda: Discussion on the Concept Paper of NTCT by JFIR, including the purpose, function, membership, and bodies and decision making process of the NTCT



III

Exploring and Facilitating Cooperative Projects

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

Article 3.1(c) of the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS



1.

Political Affairs

Special Seminar on the Brexit Implication on Regional Integration

In an attempt to address the impacts of the Brexit on the global trend of regional integration in a timely manner, the TCS organized the Special Seminar on the Brexit Implication on Regional Integration, on September 28, 2016 in Seoul, ROK. The participant list for the Seminar included prominent scholars and experts from not only China, the ROK and Japan but also from the ASEAN and the EU. The discussion covered not only the immediate effects of the Brexit on European countries, but also the lessons to be noted by countries in East Asia on political, economic and social fronts.

Overview

Date: September 28, 2016

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: 14 scholars and experts from China, ROK, Japan, ASEAN, EU

Agenda:

- Evaluation of the Brexit and its broader impacts
- Implications of the Brexit on the future development of East Asian integration

2016 TCS-KFF International Conference: Trilateral Economic Cooperation – Towards the Establishment of East Asian Economic Community



With a shared vision and common goal toward peace and co-prosperity of Northeast Asia, the TCS has established close partnership with the Korea Future Foundation (KFF) since 2011. Building on such ties, the two organizations have co-organized two rounds of international conferences since 2015, under the

themes relevant to peace and co-prosperity in the Northeast Asian region. The conference brings together the experts and scholars from China, the ROK and Japan attracting more than 300 general public interested in the regional cooperation as audience.

The Conference in 2016 was titled “Trilateral Economic Cooperation: Toward the Establishment of East Asian Economic Community.” The speakers and discussants were invited to discuss pathways toward the establishment of an East Asian Economic Community which was a proposal put forward in the report submitted by East Asian Vision Group (EAVG) II in 2012, and agreed at the ASEAN Summit of the same year. The panelists from the three countries offered various perspectives on a possible roadmap as well as challenges ahead for making progress toward the vision of building an economic community in the region, and reviewing a number of options for economic integration among the region-wide mega-FTAs that are currently being negotiated. They agreed that the three countries should take a step further from their academic discussions to develop more action-oriented blueprint. TCS Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima also participated as a discussant and added TCS’ viewpoints on the pathways toward economic integration in this region.

Overview

Date: October 12, 2016

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Co-organizer: Korea Future Foundation (KFF)

Participants: Former government dignitaries, 3 presenters and 3 discussants from China, the ROK and Japan

Agenda: Discussion on the pathways toward the establishment of East Asian Community by 2020, as proposed in the East Asian Vision Group (EAVG) II

Preliminary Dialogue for the Trilateral Cooperation on Trans-Border Issues

In preparation of the launching of a new project titled “Trilateral Cooperation Research Series on Trans-Border Issues” in FY2017, the TCS organized a preliminary dialogue session to examine the landscape of non-traditional security on global and regional levels, and to identify the most pressing trans-border security issues in Northeast Asia. Over three sessions, the participants delivered presentations and engaged in comprehensive discussions on how to strengthen trilateral cooperation regarding various trans-border issues such as climate change, cyber security, aging population, epidemics and security issues related to the Olympics. During the Dialogue, the TCS also gave a briefing on the current status of trilateral cooperation and its role in the cooperative mechanisms on trans-border issues. The TCS selected appropriate topic-based outcomes from the Dialogue and implemented the first round of research series. This is expected to encompass academic research and a public forum.

Overview

Date: August 1, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: 6 scholars from the three countries, 3 representatives of the national focal points for the Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT)

Agenda:

- Approaching non-traditional security issues in the context of Northeast Asia
- National and Regional Experiences in responding to non-traditional security issues
- Cooperation with the think-tanks and ways forward for the Trilateral Cooperation Research Series on Trans-Border Issues

Young Scholars/ Researchers Exchange Program on Trilateral Cooperation

The Young Scholars/Researchers Exchange Program on Trilateral Cooperation was organized as a platform for academic exchange and networking among young professionals, addressing their new perspectives toward pressing issues in the eight young professionals including Ph.D. candidates and postdoctoral fellows from the three countries who had been selected based on research papers submitted to the TCS.

This year's Program was designed as pilot initiative to promote the active exchanges among young leaders of the three countries, while encouraging them to see trilateral cooperation in a more positive light and as a potential subject for their studies. The Program consisted of a half-day seminar, a study visit and participation in the Inter-Regional Dialogue on Regional Cooperation organized by the TCS. During the seminar, the participants presented their researches on various topics in such areas as trade, energy, the environment, media, human rights law and social issues, which was followed by exchanges of comments and feedback. On the following day, the participants had an informal group meeting at the Asan Institute for Policy Studies, and visited the Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

Based on the comments and feedback received from the participants, the TCS will continue to discuss ways to improve the Program and develop it into a more useful venue for both the TCS and participating scholars.



Overview

Date: August 7-10, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: 8 Ph.D. candidates and post-doctoral fellows from the three countries.

Main Activities: Presentation seminars, meeting with journalists, study visits and discussions.

Inter-Regional Dialogue on Regional Cooperation: Regional Community in East Asia

The TCS held the Inter-Regional Dialogue on Regional Cooperation on August 10, 2017, in Seoul, ROK. On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the ASEAN+3 cooperation, the Dialogue aimed at exploring the current status of regional community building in East Asia by assessing the ASEAN+3 cooperation in the political, economic and socio-cultural fields and its prospect in the short-term. The Dialogue also featured presentations by scholars from the ASEAN and Europe, each putting forward constructive suggestions on how to develop shared vision and political trust among the countries in East Asia. In addition, the role of international organizations including the TCS in promoting regional cooperation was touched upon in the Dialogue. Additionally, the Dialogue facilitated communication between the senior and younger generations of academia by including the participants of the Young Scholars/Researchers Exchange Program on Trilateral Cooperation.

Overview

Date: August 10, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: 9 scholars and researchers from China, the ROK, Japan, Malaysia and the UK; 9 participants of the Young Scholars/Researchers Exchange Program on Trilateral Cooperation

Agenda:

- The assessment of the ASEAN+3 cooperation from political, economic and socio-cultural perspectives
- Experience and lessons of EU and ASEAN in building regional communities
- The outlook for East Asian regional cooperation and the role of international organizations



2.

Economic Affairs and Sustainable Development

Trilateral Symposium on Innovation Policy

In the *Joint Declaration* of the 6th Trilateral Summit held on November 1, 2015, the leaders of the three countries affirmed the importance of innovation economy in promoting prosperity and advancement of the three countries. However, the perspective on the innovation of each country differs to each other in many ways. To exchange the viewpoints of what and how the innovation is growing interest and concern for the three countries and to raise public awareness, the TCS organized the Trilateral Symposium on Innovation Policy in Tokyo, Japan on November 22, 2016. The Symposium was co-organized by the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) of Japan.

Distinguished speakers and discussants shared the three countries' innovation policies and best practices, and gave opinions such as the necessity of exploring people's potential for innovation by developing effective policies for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), the importance of promoting openness and globalization and the importance of strengthening innovation to focus on innovation of traditional business and creation of new business through IT and convergence. The participants also discussed similarities and differences in innovation policies in the three countries and their thoughts on possible future cooperation. They suggested: (i) mutual patent agreements between the three countries; (ii) establishment of the three countries' scientific community; (iii) sharing and promoting best cooperative practices in terms of science and technology and choosing collaborative themes; (iv) a platform to discuss Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); (v) capacity building against aging societies and decreasing populations; and (vi) the capacity building to compete with the rest of the world through STI cooperation.



Overview

Date: November 22, 2016

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Co-organizer: National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

Participants: Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS); LG Economic Research Institute, ROK; Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

Agenda:

- Innovation policies and best practices of China, ROK and Japan
- Possible future cooperation on innovation policies

2nd Trilateral Economic Symposium

The Trilateral Economic Symposium is a follow-up event of one of TCS' flagship publications, *Trilateral Economic Report*. The TCS has annually published the report since 2012 to conduct an in-depth review of the economic trends and cooperation of the three countries. In January 2016, the TCS invited the three authors of the 2015 Report and hosted the 1st Trilateral Economic Workshop to promote better understanding of the macro-economic fronts of China, the ROK and Japan and to explore future ways of cooperation.

In FY2016, the TCS co-organized the event with the Japan Forum on International Relations in Tokyo. It took the format of a symposium and 70 participants including many scholars, diplomats and researchers engaged in an active discussion on regional economic cooperation. The session was titled "Globalization at a Crossroads: Prospects for the Trilateral Economic Cooperation." It addressed the economic challenges and opportunities that the three countries face, and aimed at having vigorous discussions of the economic policies of each country and exploring prospects of new and creative trilateral cooperation.

The session was moderated by the TCS Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima, and participated by four distinguished panelists: Dr. ITOH Motoshige, the main author of *the 2016 Trilateral Economic Report* and the Professor of Faculty of International Social Sciences from Gakushuin University of Japan, discussed the recent development of the Japanese economy under the Abe



administration; Ms. ZHANG Qi, Vice Director-General of Research Department of Foreign Economic Relations from the Development Research Center of the State Council of China, and Dr. SONG Yeongkwan, Research Fellow of Korean Development Institute, analyzed economic policies of China and the ROK referring to the domestic and international challenges; and Dr. KAWAI Masahiro, Superior Research Fellow of Japan Forum on International Relations and Project Professor of Tokyo University, examined common issues that need to be jointly addressed by the three countries.

The discussion session following the presentations reflected the participants' strong interests in the future direction of regional and international economics in the face of uncertainties of economy, politics and security. The audience posed many questions concerning the future course of international currency regime and prospects of TTP and FTA among China, ROK and Japan. They also shared concerns about issues, such as, protectionism and unilateralism. In concluding the symposium, DSG UMEZAWA Akima of the TCS encouraged the participants that accumulation of knowledge and discussion will contribute to the resolution of outstanding political and economic issues among the three countries.

The TCS will continue to provide a public platform to discuss trilateral economic cooperation every year. As 2018 marks the start of the three consecutive Olympic Games to be held in ROK, Japan and China, the TCS plans to scale up the event to encompass a wider perspective to comprehensively examine the economic and social impacts of the Olympics on the three countries. The event is scheduled to be held in ROK in January 2018.

Overview

Date: June 22, 2017

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Co-organizer: Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR)

Participants: 70 scholars and researchers, diplomats and students

Theme: "Globalization at a Crossroads: Prospects for the Trilateral Economic Cooperation"



Trilateral Business Networking Symposium and Reception – Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity (SCC)



The Trilateral Business Networking Reception aimed to provide Chinese, Korean and Japanese enterprises, business associations, and entrepreneurs a platform to connect, communicate and share. As the TCS' annual event, the Reception was launched in 2013 and has been held in China, ROK and Japan on a rotation basis with great participation from business leaders of the three countries. 2017 is the 5th year of the hosting of the Reception and the “Trilateral Symposium for Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity” was held on the same occasion. The two events were co-organized with the China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC), Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) and Japan Business Federation (KEIDANREN), and implemented by the CCOIC Qingdao.

The Symposium was a follow-up to the results of the SCC Project. It was organized to raise public awareness on the latest development and impact of SCC on trade and economics among China, ROK and Japan. The Symposium was divided into two main sessions. In the first session, researchers and scholars from the three participating institutes introduced the results from the SCC Project, including the areas where companies are satisfied, as well as challenges in trilateral SCC. The scholars and researchers agreed that further study is needed in order to cover a wider scope of industries and companies to collect more data. The second session focused on introducing best practices in SCC from the three countries which were included in the Project.

As a result, over 150 participants including business representatives, government officials from MOFCOM, MOTIE and METI, scholars and researchers, and the general public joined the events. The participants had good opportunities to learn, exchange ideas and share information on SCC. The TCS will continue its efforts to hold the Reception with economic and trade related events annually to promote communication, mutual understanding, and collaboration among the three countries.

Overview

Date: July 21, 2017

Venue: Qingdao, China

Co-organizers: China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC), Federation of Korean Industries (FKI), Japan Business Federation (KEIDANREN)

Participants: 150 government officials, scholars and researchers, business representatives and general public

Programs:

- Trilateral Symposium for Improvement of SCC
- Session I: Trilateral Cooperation for the Improvement of SCC
- Session II: Best Practices for Improvement of SCC
- Trilateral Business Networking Reception

3.

Social and Cultural Affairs

3rd Trilateral People-to-People Exchange Forum

The Forum is a track 1.5 trilateral cooperation event which brings together former government dignitaries, current government officials, and eminent scholars of China, the ROK and Japan. It was started in 2014, co-organized by China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), the Trilateral Cooperation Studies Center (TCSC) of Jilin Province and the TCS with a view to commemorating the 15th anniversary of the trilateral cooperation process (1999-2014). In 2014, the TCS organized a session with the theme of “Exploring the Path toward Mutual Trust and Reconciliation in Northeast Asia.” On the occasion of the 2nd Forum in 2015, the NTCT was officially inaugurated.

The 3rd Forum was held on October 17 to 18, 2016 in Changchun, China under the theme of “Fostering the Stability and Prosperity of Northeast Asian by Strengthening Trilateral Communication and Collaboration.” The TCS organized a session on “Media Voice: Forging Cooperative Spirit by Fulfilling Common Responsibility.” The session brought together media representatives and journalists from the three countries to exchange the views on the media’s common responsibilities and expected roles in exploring the ways for joint efforts in furthering people-to-people exchanges and entire trilateral cooperation. Participating journalists also provided concrete proposals for enhancing the media cooperation among the three countries.

Overview

Date: October 17-18, 2016

Venue: Changchun, China

Co-organizers: China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), Jilin Trilateral Cooperation Studies Center (TCSC)

Participants: 150 participants including senior government officials, scholars, and journalists from China, the ROK and Japan

Theme: “Fostering the Stability and Prosperity of Northeast Asian by Strengthening Trilateral Communication and Collaboration”



World Conference on Sinology 2016

The World Conference on Sinology is a major platform linking Chinese academic circles and overseas Sinology and other China Studies circles. The themes of past Conferences include: Dialogue of Civilizations and a Harmonious World (2007); Sinology and Cross-cultural Communication (2009); Sinology and the World Today (2012); and Exchange and Learning between ‘East’ and ‘West’: 400 Years in Retrospect (2014).

The World Conference on Sinology 2016 was held on November 11, 2016, co-hosted by Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban) and Renmin University, addressing the pluralities of Sinology in the context of current plurality of cultures. In line with the conference, the TCS organized Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary Consultation Forum which brought together linguistics and relevant experts from China, the ROK and Japan to discuss making Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (TCVD). At the Forum, participating experts promoted a heated discussion about the main contents of the dictionary, measures of selecting vocabulary items and the comparison of commonly-used vocabularies in the three countries.

Overview

Date: November 11, 2016

Venue: Beijing, China

Organizers: Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban), Renmin University

Theme: “Sinology in a Comparative Context: Tradition and Innovation”

TCS’ Contribution to the World Conference on Sinology 2016:

Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary Consultation Forum

3rd CJK Journalist Joint Interview Program

With the cooperation of the Global Times, the CJK Journalist Joint Interview Program is a two-week program that brings nine journalists from the three countries to conduct joint interview on various issues on trilateral cooperation. It is aimed to strengthen understanding of CJK journalists on the development of trilateral cooperation and increase press coverage of issues related to trilateral cooperation.

In FY2016, the TCS co-organized the 3rd CJK Journalist Joint Interview Program with the Global Times of China from November 6 to 18, 2016. Under the theme of “Innovation and Entrepreneurship,” journalists visited institutions including the Ministry of Science and Technology, Zhongguancun Science Park, Huawei company, BYD Automobile in China, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Waseda University robotics lab, Nikonico in Japan and Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning, Pangyo Technovalley and Gyeonggi Creative Economy & Innovation Center in the ROK.



Overview

- Date:** November 6-18, 2016
- Venue:** Beijing, Shenzhen, Tokyo, Osaka and Seoul (visiting order)
- Co-organizer:** Global Times
- Participants:** 9 journalists from the three countries
- Main Activities:** Visits to major economic, cultural, and technology-related executives and institutions of the three countries

Special TCS LOUPE: Trilateral Miss Granny Special Movie Talk

Since 2014, the TCS has been holding its open lecture series, TCS LOUPE, which stands for “Lecture on Uncovering Panoramic East Asia.” The lecture series bring together experts of China, ROK and Japan to explain compelling aspects of the three countries from a comparative perspective.

On November 19, 2016, the TCS co-organized Special LOUPE with the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) under the title, “Trilateral Miss Granny Special Movie Talk.” Three directors of the trilateral “Miss Granny” include Mr. HWANG Dong Hyeok, Mr. Leste CHEN, and Mr. MIZUTA Nobuo participated in the event and shared stories about the similarities and differences of the three movies, interesting episodes regarding the film production, and reasons for the movies’ popularity. Ms. SHIM Eun Kyung, the main actress of the Korean version, also expressed her thoughts on the event and the popularity of the movie around different countries. The discussion lasted for two hours with a lively discussion and dialogue with the audience.



Refer to [the Summary Booklet of Trilateral Special Movie Talk](#) for more information.



The Lecture provided a significant chance to enhance people’s mutual understanding of the three countries through one of the most popular box office movies made in all three countries, and contributed to the trilateral cultural industry cooperation by consolidating the network among the movie experts of the three countries and facilitating the dialogues among them. The TCS presented the outcome of the Movie Talk at the 10th Trilateral Cultural Content Industry Forum, the flagship trilateral governmental mechanism in the field of cultural contents.

Overview

Date:	November 19, 2016
Venue:	Seoul, ROK
Co-organizer:	Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)
Speakers:	- Mr. HWANG Dong Hyeok, Director of “Miss Granny” - Mr. Leste CHEN, Director of “20s Once Again” - Mr. MIZUTA Nobuo, Director of “Sing My Life” - Mr. JEONG Tae-sung, CEO of the CJ E&M Film Division - Ms. SHIM Eun Kyung, Actress of “Miss Granny”
Theme:	“Understanding Similarities and Diversity among Korea, China, and Japan through the Movie Miss Granny”

6th Trilateral Campus Harmony

Trilateral Campus Harmony is a symbolic trilateral youth event to promote positive trilateral relations through gathering interesting and brilliant ideas from youths of the three countries reflected on short video clips. The TCS and Korea-China Friendship Association (KCFA) have co-hosted this event since 2014.

The 6th Trilateral Campus Harmony was held on November 29, 2016 at Kyung Hee University in Seoul, ROK. During the Contest, seven teams composed of the students of the three countries presented UCC videos on “Interesting History of Cultures of China, Japan and Korea Developed through Mutual Exchange and Influence” and delivered presentations about the UCC making process. The TCS served as the judges and awarded the TCS Secretary-General Award to the team named ‘Song of Korea, China and Japan,’ which made UCC on “Integration of the Three Countries Expressed through Songs.”

Overview

Date:	November 29, 2016
Venue:	Seoul, ROK
Co-organizer:	Korea-China Friendship Association (KCFA)
Participants:	7 mixed-nationality teams composed of university students of the three countries
Theme:	“Interesting History of Cultures of China, Japan and Korea Developed through Mutual Exchange and Influence”
Main Activities:	Presentation of UCC videos and making processes, award ceremony of the TCS Secretary-General Award

TCS Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation: CAMPUS Asia in China, Japan and ROK

The TCS Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation was developed as a platform for information exchange among working-level experts of education in China, the ROK and Japan. The content of the meeting was designed based on the needs reflected in the outcome document of the 1st Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting, and as a result the seminar served as a platform for information exchange among universities participating in the CAMPUS Asia Program.

From May 11 to 12, 2017, TCS organized the Seminar on CAMPUS Asia, and 74 CAMPUS Asia professors and staff participated, representing 35 universities and 17 consortia in the CAMPUS Asia Program framework. The participants attended a cross-consortia networking and welcoming reception, interest-based thematic subgroup discussions divided into three groups, and a presentation from EU's working-level experts on Erasmus Program. The topics of the subgroup discussion included (i) non-academic student support, (ii) academic support and student professional development and (iii) facilitating exchange through double and joint degree programs. Best practices and difficulties in program implementation from the program pilot period from 2011 to 2015 were shared among the participants.

The results of the discussion from the seminar will be published in the form of outcome report and will be shared with the Ministries of Education as well as with the participants and other interested organizations.



Refer to [*the Outcome Report of the TCS Seminar on Regional Education Cooperation*](#) for more information.

Overview

Date: May 11-12, 2017

Venue: TCS

Participants: Director-level officials from the Chinese, ROK and Japanese Ministries of Education, CAMPUS Asia university vice presidents, professors, program managers, education experts from the EU Commission to ROK and Erasmus Impact Study Team

Main Activities: Subgroup discussions by working-level managers of CJK CAMPUS Asia Programs, EU experts sharing experience with the Erasmus Program, networking reception among participants

2017 Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program (TJEP)

The TJEP is a 10-day program that offers journalists from the three countries a chance to deepen their understanding of trilateral cooperation and contribute to constructive media environment upon the co-prosperity of the three countries. The program was initiated in 2014, and has been continued as a flagship program for TCS since then.

This year, the TCS organized the 4th TJEP in China, Japan and the ROK from June 14 to 23, 2017. Twelve journalists joined the TJEP delegation from the three countries. During the program, the delegation visited governmental agencies, businesses, and research institutions of the three cities and accomplished in-depth interviews on policy, technology, and the social impact of IoT (Internet of Things), VR (Virtual Reality), AR (Augmented Reality) and AI (Artificial Intelligence). The delegation also actively participated in a series of discussions and fully utilized



the opportunities to deepen mutual understanding and to share invaluable experiences of the media corps in the three countries. Further, at the end of TJEP schedule, TCS organized a special public seminar named “Trilateral Journalist Exchange Seminar: The 4th Industrial Revolution and News Media” together with the Korea Press Foundation to promote the outcome of TJEP.

As an international organization mandated to promote cooperative relations among China, the ROK and Japan, the TCS will continue its efforts to facilitate mutual understanding between the three countries and contribute to constructive media environment upon the co-prosperity of the three countries.

Overview

Date: June 14- 23, 2017

Venue: Shenzhen, Tokyo and Seoul (visiting order)

Participants: 12 journalists from the three countries

Main Activities: Visits to governmental agencies, companies, and research institutes of the three cities



5th Young Ambassador Program (YAP)

YAP is a two-week program that offers a range of opportunities for highly motivated and competent youth of China, the ROK and Japan. YAP aims to enhance understanding of trilateral cooperation and to foster a sense of community and friendship among the future leaders of the three countries. The program was initiated in 2013 as a six-week summer internship program that offers unique opportunities for highly qualified and motivated young individuals of the three countries who have passion in international cooperation and interests in pursuing a diplomatic career. From 2014, the format of the YAP grew into a two-week program to enhance the program’s productivity and effectiveness. YAP has been recognized by the three governments as a successful case of trilateral youth exchange project. At the 6th Trilateral Summit of November 2015, the three leaders recognized the YAP and endorsed its continuation.

This year, the TCS organized the 5th YAP from July 31 to August 11, 2017, in Seoul and Jeju, ROK. The program was joined by 18 highly qualified undergraduate and graduate students of the three countries. The program consisted of lectures on the major fields of trilateral cooperation: history and development, political affairs, economic cooperation, and social issues, as well as briefings by each department of the TCS to help enhance the participants’ understanding of the functions and activities of the TCS. The participants also paid visits to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, Chinese and Japanese Embassies, the EU Delegation to the ROK, ASEAN-Korea Centre, Resource Recovery Facility, and the Asan Institute for Policy Studies, and engaged in team projects as well as cultural activities.

The TCS will continue to hold the YAP in the future to promote trilateral cooperation and strengthen the friendship among the youth of the three countries.

Overview

Date:	July 31-August 11, 2017
Venue:	Seoul and Jeju, ROK
Participants:	18 undergraduate and graduate students of the three countries
Main Activities:	Lectures, visits to governmental organizations, international organizations, think-tanks, research and presentation team projects, and cultural tours

4.

Cross-departmental Projects

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2017

IFTC has been the TCS' annual flagship event since 2012 after being held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of ROK and the Sejong Institute in 2011. The TCS has been organizing the IFTC on a rotational basis among the three countries since 2015. It aims to bring together eminent scholars and policy makers to share and offer new insights into the political climate, economic cooperation and socio-cultural ties among the three countries. The targeted participants are government dignitaries, scholars, business leaders, journalists and civil society leaders from the three countries. In April 2017, the TCS hosted the 5th IFTC under the theme of "Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation in the Face of New Challenges" in Seoul. There were three main sessions addressing political, economic and socio-cultural affairs with the key topics spotlighted by the three countries.

Session 1 under the title of "Revisiting the Essence of Trilateral Cooperation in the Context of Global Uncertainty," invited renowned scholars and experts from the three countries as well as ASEAN and the EU. The aim of this session was to facilitate constructive discussions on exploring ways forward for the trilateral cooperation against an anti-globalization sentiment that is setting in, not only across the West but also in East Asia after the series of global incidents from Brexit to Trump and his opposition to TPP. New developments have been expected to carry the region into a new phase of geopolitical uncertainty and volatility. The session discussed both the opportunities and challenges that may come to the three countries, China, the ROK and Japan, in promoting their cooperation. The session also revisited the meaning of trilateral cooperation, and invited ideas for the future leadership China, the ROK and Japan.

Reflecting the global economic and political changes that the world has witnessed in the past year, Session 2 aimed to draw on past experiences and discuss current global economy and international economic policies of China, the ROK and Japan to explore new horizons for future trilateral economic cooperation. Four distinguished panelists analyzed the three countries' international economic policies in light of the global economic situation and made policy recommendations. Throughout the session, an emphasis was put on topics such as FTAs, monetary policies, and protectionism and the speakers carefully examined the causes of outstanding issues that hinder domestic and multilateral economic development. At the basis of suggested approaches to promote greater regional integration lied the shared understanding that progress of economic cooperation among the three countries can give positive impacts at regional and global levels. The speakers noted the necessity of



strong commitments and leadership to achieve ambitious and high-level trade agreements, and underlined that the current uncertainties of the world are opportunities to strengthen trilateral economic cooperation.

Session 3, under the theme of “Towards the Promising Future: Practices of the Trilateral Youth Empowerment,” brought together youth experts of the three countries and Europe (Denmark) to share exemplary initiatives of the three countries and Europe related to the youth confronted by socio-structural changes and to discuss ways for joint efforts to address common youth issues of the three countries. The experts introduced various policy measures and practices to promote youth welfare, education, and entrepreneurship, and highlighted the importance of empowering future leaders who can contribute to the development of trilateral cooperation.

After the forum, *the Final Outcome Report of IFTC 2017* was published to summarize and share the outcomes of the forum. This regular publication is designed to compile the ideas and policy recommendations from various fields of governments, politicians, academia and media as essential references in exploring possible roles of the TCS and in setting future agenda for the trilateral cooperation. The next IFTC will be held in Tokyo in April 2018.



Refer to [the Final Outcome Report of IFTC 2017](#) for more information.

Overview

Date: April 18, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Theme: “Strengthening Trilateral Cooperation in the Face of New Challenges”

Programs: - Session 1 – Revisiting the Essence of Trilateral Cooperation in the Context of Global Uncertainty
 - Session 2 – International Economic Policy at a Crossroads – An Opportunity for Trilateral Cooperation
 - Session 3 – Towards the Promising Future – Practices of the Trilateral Youth Empowerment

Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity 2017 – Sharing a Common Vision for Asia’s Future

Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity is an annual event hosted by the Government of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK. As a regional multilateral dialogue, the Forum serves as a platform for sharing future visions on sustainable peace and prosperity in Asia. The Jeju Forum comprises more than 60 sessions, including plenaries and various networking opportunities. The TCS has been participating in the Forum as a session organizer since 2014.

In 2017, the TCS participated in the 12th Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity on May 31 to June 2, as a session organizer and panelist. This year, the TCS organized two sessions on Industry 4.0 and youth exchanges. Also, the TCS Secretary-General YANG Houlan spoke as one of the panelists in the Ambassadors’ Roundtable titled “Sharing a Common Vision for Asia’s Future,” which was organized by the Jeju Peace Institute, where SG YANG shared his insights on trilateral cooperation and the future of regional development in Northeast Asia.

The TCS organized a session entitled “Industry 4.0 in China, Japan and ROK, a Leading Regional Cooperation in the Globalized World” to examine multiple cases of Industry 4.0 transformation in China, the ROK and Japan and explore ways to co-develop a common future in which technology and society coexist. The discussion aimed at yielding practical ideas and solutions on how to best adapt to the potential of this great transformation. The presenters from both academia and the private sector first introduced the recent developments of Industry 4.0 and innovation policies of the three countries, and discussed how CJK cooperation can be enhanced to lead the global economy. The discussion underlined the need for win-win-win collaboration based on each country’s comparative advantages and strengths to address various social impacts of Industry 4.0. The session concluded with a shared understanding that there are a number of areas where trilateral cooperation is welcomed, and that the promotion of Industry 4.0 through cooperation can also contribute to addressing some of the common challenges that the three countries currently face, such as labor shortages and economic gaps.



The TCS also participated in the Session “Free Economic Zone Roundtable: Cooperation of Growth Center among Korea, China and Japan” organized by the Incheon Free Economic Zone Authority on June 1, 2017. Ms. JANG EunYoung, TCS Director of Economic Affairs, introduced the history of TCS and its activities on economic affairs such as trilateral cooperation for improvement of supply chain connectivity and the trilateral joint study ‘Trilateral Cooperation on E-Commerce,’ as a panelist.

As for the session on “Building Bridges of Mutual Understanding through Trilateral Youth Exchanges,” the TCS invited experts from the three countries to share best practices of youth exchange programs and to discuss measures to further develop and improve these programs. The session discussed various existing programs that aim to promote mutual understanding among the youth of the three countries such as Trilateral Children’s Story Exchange Program, CAMPUS Asia, Trilateral Youth Diplomatic Camp, and the Trilateral Cooperation Youth Forum. It also stressed the need to institutionalize trilateral youth exchanges and to develop a greater variety of programs that engage a broader range of age groups from elementary to higher education students. The panelists agreed that youth programs should be tailor-made to better accommodate the different needs of youth in different stages of life. They also called for the continuous interest and support from the government to youth exchange programs to help shape the future of trilateral cooperation.

Overview

Date: May 31-June 2, 2017

Venue: Jeju, ROK

Organizer: Government of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Theme: “Sharing a Common Vision for Asia’s Future”

Forum Sessions Organized by the TCS:

- “Industry 4.0 in China, Japan and ROK, a Leading Regional Cooperation in the Globalized World”
- “Building Bridges of Mutual Understanding through Trilateral Youth Exchanges”

Other Sessions with TCS’ Participation:

- Ambassadors’ Roundtable: “Sharing a Common Vision for Asia’s Future”
- Free Economic Zone Roundtable: Cooperation of Growth Center among Korea, China and Japan



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

Article 3.1(b) of the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS

III

Communicating and Coordinating with Other International Organizations and Stakeholders



1.

Regional and International Organizations

In FY2016, the TCS managed and expanded its networks with regional and international organizations in various areas such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), European Union (EU), United Nations (UN) agencies and NGOs. Working towards a vision of establishing East Asia Economic Community, the TCS continued its effort to institutionalize the existing network with regional partners, such as ASEAN, by regular courtesy visits and cooperative activities. Also, as part of the efforts to strengthen networks and to promote trilateral cooperation in the international arena, the TCS launched inter-regional dialogues to involve international organizations in other regions from outside East Asia. Lastly, the TCS strengthened networks with ROK-based international organizations in FY2016.

Regional Organizations

ASEAN Secretariat/ ASEAN Chair Country



ASEAN is considered the priority partner for the TCS in advancing regional cooperation in East Asia. With a view to closely supporting the three countries' cooperation with the ASEAN, the TCS Secretary-General pays an annual outreach visit to the ASEAN chair country as well as the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) to discuss future cooperation.

On May 17 to 20, 2017, the TCS delegation visited the ASEC in Indonesia and the Department of the Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, the 2017 ASEAN chair

country. The TCS delegation had a meeting with the External Economic Relations Division of the ASEC to introduce the Joint Projects titled “Trilateral Cooperation for Improvement of Supply Chain Connectivity (SCC)” and to exchange views on exploring possible cooperative programs between the TCS and the ASEC. In the Philippines, Secretary-General YANG Houlan paid a courtesy visit to Amb. Enrique A. MANALO, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, conveying the TCS’ support for the ASEAN+3 cooperation. SG YANG also met with the Heads of Mission of China, Japan and the ROK in the Philippines to exchange views on the prospect of various regional economic agreements and the TCS’ role in both trilateral and ASEAN+3 cooperation frameworks.

The Asia Foundation

The Asia Foundation (TAF) delegates headed by Mr. Dylan DAVIS, Korea Country Representative of TAF, visited TCS on May 30, 2017. Secretary-General YANG Houlan and Deputy Secretary-General LEE Jong-heon met with the delegation. TAF, an international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia, was established in 1954, headquartered in San Francisco and has 18 offices in Asia countries and in Washington D.C. During the meeting, TAF introduced the history of TAF and the current development and achievements in the three countries, especially in ROK.

Recognizing the TCS’ mission to promote trilateral cooperation and shared prosperity, TAF proposed a project to collaborate with the TCS for the cooperation of NGOs of the three countries. The TCS appreciated the great development assistance that TAF brought to the three countries and looked forward to working with TAF to explore cooperative projects to promote trilateral cooperation in the near future.

NEAR Secretariat

The TCS delegation headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan paid a courtesy visit to the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR) Secretariat on July 5, 2017. Mr. HONG Jong-kyoung, Secretary-General of NEAR, welcomed the TCS delegation and introduced the activities of NEAR. SG YANG and SG HONG exchanged views on the current situation of Northeast Asia and prospects of trilateral cooperation. They both shared the view that cooperation among local governments is of great significance because unlike central governments, local governments are relatively free from international politics and can address imminent and practical issues. Both SGs agreed to further develop cooperation between the TCS and NEAR Secretariat.

UN Agencies

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) 2016

On November 3 to 4, 2016, on the invitation by the Government of India and the UNISDR, Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima attended the AMCDRR 2016 in New Delhi, India. The AMCDRR is a biennial conference which serves as a forum for stakeholders to take a shared responsibility and make actionable commitments towards implementation of DRR in the Asia region through the exchange of experiences on best practices and innovative approaches in reducing and managing disaster risk.



During the Conference, DSG UMEZAWA delivered remarks at the Ministerial Session, as well as attended as a panelist of the Featured Event 3: Strengthen Regional Cooperation for Sendai Framework Implementation in Asia to report about the achievements of regional cooperation on disaster management by the three countries. DSG UMEZAWA also had a meeting with Ms. Kirsi MADI, Director of the UNISDR to discuss the future cooperation between two organizations.

Overview

Date: November 3-4, 2016

Venue: New Delhi, India

Participants: More than 4,000 participants including delegates of 51 countries, 9 UN agencies, numerous international organizations, representatives of civil society, and the private sector

Agenda: Promote the implementation and monitoring of *the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*

UN Global Compact

9th United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) China-Japan-Korea Roundtable Conference

The TCS participated in the 9th United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) China-Japan-Korea Roundtable Conference on August 22, 2017 in Tokyo, Japan, as a special sponsor. The Roundtable is an annual conference held among the three countries' Local Networks of the UNGC since 2009 aiming to provide a network for business, academia and youth in the three countries to seek collaborative efforts towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This year's Conference was titled "Transform Our World with SDGs – Roles of East Asia" and throughout the day, 150 participants actively shared existing efforts and ideas on promoting SDGs in their country. The TCS delivered a presentation introducing some cases of trilateral cooperation in SDG-related



areas, and facilitated a discussion session “Trilateral Cooperation and SDGs: How Business in CJK Can Transform Our World.” In the session, panelists discussed how the three Local Networks can utilize their strengths to expand their efforts to promote SDGs. In the closing remark, TCS Secretary-General YANG Houlan referred to statistical data to show the growing potential of CJK cooperation, and emphasized the critical role of people-to-people exchange that contributes to building better trilateral relations. The TCS plans to further explore cooperative projects with the Local Networks in the three countries to keep the momentum of cooperation.

Overview

Date: August 22, 2017

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Participants: 120 business representatives and scholars, and 30 graduate and undergraduate students from China, ROK and Japan

Agenda: Promoting gender equality; Role of business and academic partnership; Responsible consumption and production; Peace, justice and strong institutions; and CJK business cooperation to promote SDGs

UNESCAP Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia (ENEA)

UNESCAP-ENEA visited the TCS on November 9, 2016 to discuss possible cooperation between the two organizations and shared their projects in this regard. The TCS introduced the SCC Project conducted in the year of 2016 as a follow-up of the 10th Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers’ Meeting. The UNESCAP-ENEA also shared relevant projects. The two organizations shared a view of a continuous update of the project planning for the future possible cooperation.

2.

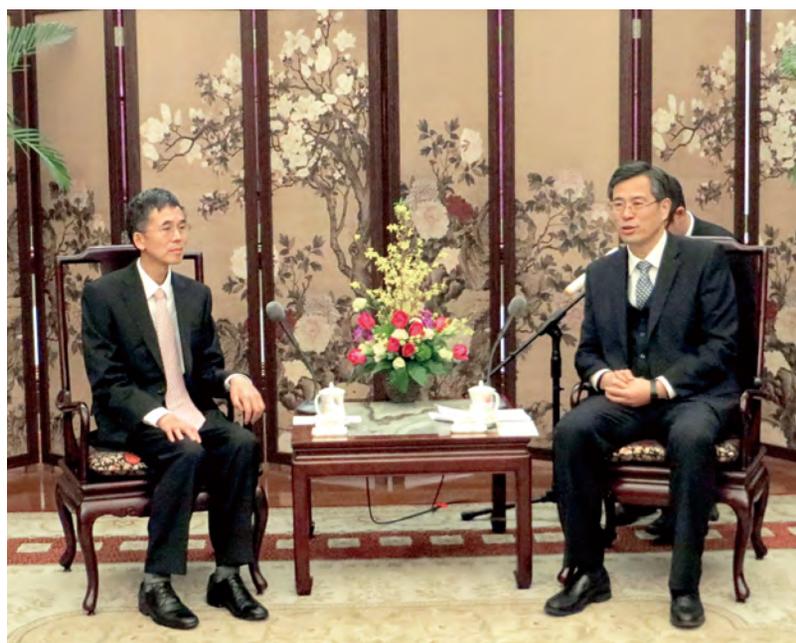
Local Governments

Acknowledging the importance of trilateral cooperation at the local government level, the TCS maintains close relationships with various cities and provinces of the three countries to explore practical agenda and projects. Despite the TCS being an organization among the central governments, much potential can be achieved from collaboration with local governments given the fact that much of cooperative activities at the municipal level are politically less-sensitive and can directly affect the daily lives of the general public.

Guangdong Province, China

On January 16, 2017, TCS delegation headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan paid a visit to Guangdong Province and had meeting with Mr. HE Zhongyou, Vice Governor of the People's Government of Guangdong.

SG YANG stressed that building unity among the three countries will bring prosperity to all Asia. In particular, he underscored the importance of people-to-people exchanges in the local government level. In addition, Deputy Secretary-General UMEZAWA Akima stressed the importance of trilateral innovative technologies since science has played a great role in the three countries. Vice Governor HE shared a common view of building mutual understanding of local governments of the three countries and showed great determination to strengthen cooperation with the various cities of Japan and the ROK.





Jeju Province, ROK

The TCS delegation, headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan, had a meeting with Mr. WON Hee-ryong, the Governor of Jeju Special Self-governing Province on February 9, 2017. SG YANG noted that cooperation among local governments in China, the ROK and Japan is an essential part of trilateral cooperation. Speaking highly of the Jeju Island's geopolitical and cultural merits, he conveyed TCS' willingness to maintain close partnership with the Jeju Province and the Jeju Peace Institute (JPI). Governor WON extended his welcome to the TCS delegation, and commented that Jeju Province will continue to support trilateral cooperation and looks forward to future opportunities to be involved in local government exchanges.

Pohang City, ROK

The TCS delegation headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan visited the city of Pohang on July 4, 2017. SG YANG met Mayor LEE Kang-deok of Pohang City and exchanged views on the prospect of trilateral cooperation. SG YANG underlined the significance of trilateral cooperation especially among local governments to build trust and deepen mutual understanding among the three countries. Mayor LEE agreed that exchanges among local governments is crucial in advancing trilateral cooperation and emphasized the need for continuous support from central governments to vitalize exchanges and further develop cooperation among local governments.

Afterwards, the TCS delegation met with Mr. MOON Myoung-ho, the Chairman of Pohang City Council. Mr. MOON introduced the industries in Pohang City and its cooperative efforts with China and Japan. SG YANG stressed that in time of political hardships faced by central governments, exchanges and cooperation among local governments are becoming ever so important and will contribute to the peace and co-prosperity of the Northeast Asian region.



3.

Governmental Agencies

The TCS has been actively communicating and coordinating with various governmental agencies to promote trilateral cooperation to the general public. In FY2016, the strengthened collaboration with government affiliates, national institutes and other important public associations with specialties in certain areas has made substantive contributions to the trilateral cooperative projects.

China Cultural Center in Seoul

China Cultural Center in Seoul is a governmental cultural agency affiliated with Chinese government for promoting the bilateral friendship between China and the ROK through various cultural exchanges. The TCS has built a partnership with



the Center through several collaborative events including Seoul China Day and cultural lectures. In FY2016, the TCS co-organized an open lecture with the Center in the TCS office, Seoul on June 15, 2017, inviting Ms. QIN Bailan, a renowned Chinese artist who was named in 2005 as one of China's Ten Major Art Masters. Ms. QIN delivered the lecture on Inheritance and Development of Traditional Chinese Painting Style. The lecture lasted for two hours with a painting demonstration by Ms. QIN and a lively Q & A with the audience.

Overview

Date: June 15, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Lecturer: Ms. QIN Bailan, Chinese Art Master

Theme: "Inheritance and Development of Traditional Chinese Painting Style"

National Institute for Youth Education (NIYE)

NIYE is a public organization that provides the Japanese youth with the opportunity to participate in experiential learning and global exchange. The Children's Dream Fund Department is responsible for the implementation of China-Japan-ROK Children's Story Exchange Program in Japan along the China National Committee for Well-being of Children in China, and the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (until 2016) and Seoul National University of Education (since 2017) in ROK. TCS has recently established a cooperative partnership with the organization, having the Director of Children's Dream Fund Department, Mr. ONO Tamotsu, joined the TCS session on youth education at the 2017 Jeju Forum. The TCS also closely cooperated with NIYE to support alumni activities during the 2017 Children's Story Exchange Program.

4.

Media and Public Relations

In FY2016, the TCS had been expanding and consolidating its network with media associations including Korea Press Foundation (KPF), Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club (SFCC) and partner media corporations, namely Xinhua News Agency, JoongAng-Ilbo, Nikkei Shimbun (for NATF), and People's Daily, Chosun-Ilbo, Asahi Shimbun (for IFTC), as well as other major media corporations in the three countries. Based on the accumulated credibility and understanding on the importance of media's role in the trilateral cooperation, the TCS deepened the cooperation with above-mentioned associations through public seminars and conferences which were covered

by major media in the three countries. Furthermore, TCS utilized various tools of promotion including its official websites in Chinese, Korean, Japanese and English, as well as the major social network services in the three countries such as Chinese Weibo, Korean Facebook, Japanese Facebook and English Facebook. Real time communication through online programs allowed the TCS to strengthen its public relations with CJK people with various background. Also, the TCS developed creative souvenirs with cultural themes and characteristics considering different levels and tastes of age and gender to effectively increase the public awareness of TCS during business trips and courtesy visits.



Seminar for Celebrating the SFCC 60th Anniversary

The TCS Secretary-General YANG Houlan attended the Seminar for celebrating Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club (SFCC) 60th Anniversary which was held in Korea Press Center on December 7, 2016. The seminar was organized by KPF and SFCC, and the overall agenda was "Northeast Asia Outlook for 2017." SG YANG was invited as a presenter and delivered speech on Cooperation in the Northeast Asia.

During the presentation, SG YANG emphasized the importance of accumulated efforts on trilateral cooperation and substantial outcome of these which can be the basement for the further progress on regional cooperation. Also, he recognized the unprecedented challenges and variabilities after the Brexit Referendum and the election of Donald TRUMP, however, expressed his confidence that the three countries can turn the challenges into opportunities based on close cooperation with each other. In the following discussion session, experienced journalists including Mr. YONEMURA Koichi, Bureau Chief of Mainichi Newspaper; Ms. ZHOU Yu Bo, Bureau Chief of People's Daily Online; Mr. PARK Young-rule, Senior Reporter of Hankyoreh Shimbun; Mr. AHN Yong Hyun, Deputy Editor of Political Desk of Chosun-Ilbo; and Mr. YOO Seokjo, International News Director of KBS, made constructive comments and suggestions for trilateral cooperation and TCS such as CJK Journalist Joint Declaration on Trilateral Cooperation and Annual Media Conference on Trilateral Cooperation.



Overview

- Date: December 7, 2016
- Venue: Seoul, ROK
- Organizers: Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club (SFCC),
Korea Press Foundation (KPF)
- Participants: 120 journalists, correspondents, and related public officers
- Theme: "Northeast Asia Outlook for 2017"

Trilateral Journalist Exchange Seminar

The TCS organized the Trilateral Journalist Exchange Seminar together with the KPF as a part of the 4th Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program (TJEP) on June 23, 2017. The theme of the seminar was the "4th Industrial Revolution and News Media," focusing on the impact of technology advancement such as IoT, VR, AR and AI on the contents, production and distribution of news media.

In his opening remarks, Deputy Secretary-General LEE Jong-heon put emphasis on the high complementarities and great potential existing among the three countries which can transform the difficulties caused by the 4th industrial revolution into opportunities. Also, he shed light on the efforts and achievements of TCS focused on the recovery of momentum for trilateral cooperation and asked for media's close interest on it to advance co-prosperity in East Asia.

In the following session, media experts and journalists from the three countries shared their views on the theme and continued discussion chaired by Mr. KIM Young Uk, Professor of Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. Mr. XIONG Cheng Yu, Professor of Tsinghua University, addressed that new types of media will continuously come into presence, however, the responsibility of the media will not change in principle. Furthermore, he recognized the importance of media's role in trilateral relations by comparing media as a window into each country. Mr. FUJITANI Takeshi, Director-General of Asahi Shimbun, pointed out the inevitable transformation toward digital media which affects existing way



of production and distribution of news. Based on comparison between CJK media's pros and cons, he suggested close benchmarking for improvements. Mr. YU Hong Sik, Professor of Joongang University, illustrated the imbalanced profit-structure of media platforms and necessity of reclassification of portal sites as a news media. Also, he introduced positive utilization of AI for information gatherings and contents managements. Furthermore, representatives of the 4th TJEP shared their experiences and perspectives.

Overview

Date: June 23, 2017

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Co-organizer: Korea Press Foundation (KPF)

Participants: 100 journalists, correspondents, media experts, and general public

Theme: "4th Industrial Revolution and News Media – Cases of China, Japan and Korea"

Courtesy Visits to Media Corporations

TCS delegation, headed by Secretary-General YANG Houlan, visited Mr. LEE Hong-koo, former Prime Minister of the ROK (currently Advisor to the Joong-Ang Ilbo), on March 13, 2017. Also, TCS delegation visited Mr. BANG Sang-oon, the President of Chosun-Ilbo on April 3, 2017, and Mr. TAKEOKA Rinji, Managing Executive Officer of Nikkei Shimbun on July 20, 2017, respectively.

During the meeting with Mr. LEE Hong-koo, SG YANG expressed sincere appreciation for his active support for promoting trilateral cooperation in the past years, and introduced the progress and achievement of trilateral cooperation. Mr. LEE affirmed the important role of trilateral cooperation in promoting peace, stability, and development in the region, and expressed his willingness to continue to supporting the TCS. He also showed high expectations on the TCS to take a more active role in strengthening trilateral cooperation through mechanisms and projects such as NATF and IFTC. TCS board members and Mr. LEE exchanged views on regional and international issues during the meeting.

Courtesy Visit to Mr. LEE Hong-koo, Advisor to the Joong-Ang Ilbo and former Prime Minister of the ROK



In between the visit to Chosun-Ilbo, SG YANG and President BANG Sang-hoon exchanged views on the importance of trilateral cooperation for the regional peace and co-prosperity which directly related to the global economy and also discussed ways to deepen the contribution of media and international organizations on this aspect. Also, SG YANG emphasized that although political difficulties disturbed the relationship among the neighbors, the future of the three countries would be brighter considering the economic potentials and accumulated people-to-people exchanges between the three countries. President BANG compared the relationship among the three countries as the gears inside the analog watch which shows constant progress toward future although gears inside rotate toward opposite directions and underlined the importance of consistent attention and effort to keep the watch works. The TCS and Chosun-Ilbo agreed to continue close cooperation on IFTC and also on other people-to-people exchange programs organized by the TCS.

SG YANG also paid a courtesy visit to Nikkei Shimbun in Tokyo, Japan on July 20, 2017, and met with Mr. TAKEOKA Rinji, Managing Executive Officer. Both exchanged the views on the NATF as well as trilateral exchanges among private sectors. SG YANG expressed his gratitude for inviting the TCS to attend the 11th NATF hosted by Nikkei Shimbun in Shizuoka, Japan on December 4-5, 2016. He emphasized the significant role of the NATF as a dialogue platform to provide valuable suggestions on developing trilateral cooperation in economic and socio-cultural affairs. With a view to making the NATF more practical and meaningful, SG YANG mentioned that the TCS would stand ready to provide full support by explaining the TCS' initiative on compiling Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (TCVD) as a follow-up of the Forum for promoting the chart of 808 commonly-used Chinese characters among the three countries. Mr. TAKEOKA expressed his appreciation for the TCS' support and briefed the future plan of organization of the upcoming 12th NATF. In addition, he introduced several youth exchange activities organized by Nikkei Shimbun collaborated with China and the ROK such as the Japanese Speech Contest in China.



IV

Generating Databases, Research and Publications

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

Article 3.1(d) and (e) of the Agreement on the Establishment of the TCS



2016 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation



The 2016 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation will be available soon on the TCS website.

The Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation is an annual report recording the progress of the trilateral cooperation in the year. Under the approval of the relevant ministries of the three countries, *the Progress Report* records the main events held in the year, including the Trilateral Summit, ministerial meetings, and working-level governmental meetings among the three countries.

The 2016 Progress Report records the achievements of the trilateral cooperation among the three countries in 2016. *The Report* covers the cooperation progress in the following areas, Politics and Security, Economy, Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection, and Social and Cultural Exchanges.

2017 Trilateral Economic Report



The 2017 Trilateral Economic Report will be available soon on the TCS website.

The Trilateral Economic Report is an annual publication by the TCS to provide the relevant stakeholders and the public with updates on the macro-economy of China, ROK and Japan, as well as the trilateral economic relations. Since the three countries will host the Olympic Games in the upcoming years, the Trilateral Summit, the Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting and the Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting emphasized Trilateral Cooperation on Olympic Games. *The 2017 Trilateral Economic Report* is also focused on the macro-economy and Olympic economy of the three countries.

The 2017 Report is completed by the principal author from China and co-authors from the ROK and Japan, namely Mr. CHEN Jian, the Vice President of China Society of Economic Reform and the Director of Beijing-Zhangjiakou Winter Olympic Games Research Institute; Dr. JOO Won, the Deputy Director of the Economic Research Department of Hyundai Research Institute; Mr. OH Junbeom, the Senior Researcher of the Economic Research Department of Hyundai Research Institute; and Mr. SAITO Jun, the Senior Research Fellow of the Japan Center for Economic Research. *The Report* contains the following four parts: (i) General Economic Performance of the Three Countries; (ii) Economic Relations among the Three Countries; (iii) The Olympic Games Effect on the Three Countries; and (iv) Policy Recommendations. The TCS also plans to invite the authors for further discussion on trilateral economic cooperation as a follow-up to *the Report*.

Interactive Data Visualization

Since its establishment in 2011, the TCS has been providing key facts and figures on current and emerging trends of economic, social and environmental developments in the three countries through its annual booklet, *Trilateral Statistics*. The booklet aims to follow up key facts and figures on the trends of economic, social and environmental development of the three countries, to provide updated statistics to the three countries' governments, institutions, academia and general public and to cultivate the TCS' capacity for conducting research based on the trilateral statistics. In FY2016, the TCS initiated a new project to improve the utilization and analysis of the Trilateral Statistics, by providing an interactive data visualization tool on the TCS website. This tool will improve the accessibility of the three countries' data for the general public,

which is easily downloaded and allows utilization of it for research papers for citation. Moreover, this trilateral tool will establish a foundation to develop statistical projects in the trilateral mechanisms as well as provide a developed statistical pool of various statistical data upon a request of the trilateral consultative mechanisms.

Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary (TCVD)

The compilation work of TCVD is an ongoing project initiated by the TCS, which aims to deepen the mutual understanding and facilitate smooth communication among the three countries as well as to promote exchanges and research among the experts on Chinese characters and linguistics. It is mainly facilitated by Editorial Committees composed of the experts from the three countries, namely Fudan University, Yonsei University, Dankook University and Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation.

The TCS has been promoting the TCVD project since 2016, and organized several consultation/expert meetings to elaborate the ideas and measures of facilitating compilation work, including the TCVD Consultation Forum in Beijing, China on November 11, 2016, and TCVD Expert Meeting in Kyoto, Japan on March 31, 2017. Based on consultations among the experts during the Meetings, the TCVD will contain around 600 common lexicon terms shared by the three countries, compiling the dictionaries in Chinese, Korean and Japanese language versions.



TCS 5th Anniversary Reception



Marking its 5th Anniversary of the establishment, the TCS organized the Reception 2016 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Seoul on September 1, 2016. This is the first reception that the TCS organized without occasion of transition of the Consultative Board. The Reception served as an opportunity to reflect the TCS' history and take stock of its achievements on trilateral cooperation. It would also be an opportunity to spotlight where the TCS needs to redouble its efforts to meet current and future challenges to become a significant hub or focal point for the trilateral cooperation.

The reception was honoured by the attendance of Mr. LEE Hong-Koo and Mr. GOH Kun, the former Prime Ministers of the ROK; Mr. KIM Hyung-Zhin, the Assistant Secretary of the ROK MOFA; Mr. NAGAMINE Yasumasa, the Ambassador of the Japanese Embassy; Ms. HAO Xiaofei, the Chargé d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy; and Amb. SHIN Bong-Kil, the first Secretary-General of the TCS. Over 300 participants including diplomats to the ROK, governmental officials, and representatives from media and academia joined this memorable ceremony.

The participants recognized the contribution made by the TCS for the past five years, and laid great emphasis on the collective wisdom and joint efforts among the three countries which are indispensable for achieving more extensive development. Noting that the establishment of the TCS is determined to materialize the vision of the three leaders of making full use of the potential of the Northeast Asian region in the form of trilateral cooperation, the participants stressed that now the TCS has grown into an active international organization, extensively engaged in different kinds of governmental consultative mechanisms and promoting various cooperative projects. Promising continued close attention to the trilateral cooperation, the participants expressed hope that the TCS would make greater contribution in the next five years to building an Asian Community having China, the ROK and Japan as the center.

Secretary-General YANG Houlan reviewed the progress and achievement of the TCS during the past five years, and expressed his sincere gratitude to the whole community for their enormous support for the trilateral cooperation and the TCS. He stressed that in spite of the possible challenges, the CJK trilateral cooperation possesses huge opportunity and potential. Keeping its own responsibility and the expectation from all the people in mind, he hoped the TCS will make great efforts in pushing forward the trilateral cooperation.

Overview

Date: September 1, 2016

Venue: Seoul, ROK

Participants: Approximately 300 people from CJK Governments, business, academia, media, the diplomatic corps, and private associations relevant to the trilateral cooperation

TCS Open House 2017

The Open House is an annual promotion event inviting general public and diplomatic corps to the TCS office offering unique opportunities to experience CJK traditional cultures. This event was initiated from 2012 and hosted various themes including traditional music, dance and tea ceremonies. Every year, TCS adds special sessions such as Trilateral Cooperation Photo Exhibition or International Organization Career Consulting for Student to receive public recognition and facilitate understanding on the efforts done by TCS.

This year, the TCS organized the Open House 2017 on March 14, inviting the general public, diplomatic corps and journalists. Under the theme of “Tea Cultures of the China, Japan and Korea,” the TCS provided opportunities to appreciate CJK tea ceremony and the lecture. 130 participants appreciated the tea ceremonies of the three countries and learned more about the role of TCS on the development of trilateral cooperation. In his opening remarks, Secretary-General YANG Houlan emphasized the future vision of TCS as a facilitator and thruster of trilateral cooperation and promised continuous cooperation with partner institutions and the diplomatic corps. Also, he shed light on the efforts behind the scenes of trilateral cooperation by distributing the TCS’ publications including *the Final Outcome Report of IFTC 2017*.

The highlights of the event included the special lecture on the East Asian Tea Culture by Prof. PARK Dong-chun, Sungkyunkwan University from the ROK, and tea culture performance with tasting time provided by the tea masters affiliated to Yinya Tea Academy from China, East Asia Tea Culture Institute from the ROK and the Urasenke from Japan. Through the special lecture, Prof. PARK pointed out the efficacy and utility of the East Asian tea culture shared by the three countries which provided a warm and fragrant room for communication and gathering. She explained that the three countries can wisely utilize this characteristic of tea for the future of regional co-existence as ancestors of the three countries did.

Overview

Date:	March 14, 2017
Venue:	TCS
Participants:	130 general public, diplomatic corps and journalists
Main Activities:	Lecture, CJK tea culture performance, tea tasting and Q&A session with tea masters



TCS Farewell and Welcome Reception 2017

The TCS Farewell and Welcome Reception has been held every two years right before the completion of the term of the Consultative Board. The Reception aims to review the achievements and challenges in the past two years and to better prepare for the next two years led by the new board members. The Reception also serves as an opportunity to bid farewell to the outgoing board members, as well as to introduce the new board members to stakeholders related to the trilateral cooperation.

This year, the TCS organized the 3rd Farewell and Welcome Reception at the Four Seasons Hotel in Seoul, ROK, on August 25, 2017, with nearly 200 prominent figures from CJK Governments, business, academia, media, diplomatic corps and private associations related to the trilateral cooperation.

In the Reception, Secretary-General YANG Houlan delivered the farewell speech and expressed his sincere gratitude toward participants for the strong support and guidance for the trilateral cooperation and TCS' activities since its establishment. After that, new SG LEE Jong-heon made inaugural remarks, expressing his firm determination to make utmost efforts with new members to further institutionalize the trilateral cooperation, and kindly asked for all participants' close attention and continued support to the TCS to be headed by the new board members.

During the Reception, ROK Foreign Minister's Plaques of Appreciation were presented to the outgoing board members by Mr. LEE Jeong-kyu, Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs of the ROK, in order to appreciate the dedication and devotion for promoting trilateral cooperation in the past two years.

Overview

- Date:** August 25, 2017
- Venue:** Seoul, ROK
- Participants:** Approximately 200 people from CJK Governments, business, academia, media, diplomatic corps and private association with regard to the trilateral cooperation
- Main Activities:** Presentation of ROK Foreign Minister's Plaques of Appreciation



FY2016 TCS Activities and Projects at a Glance

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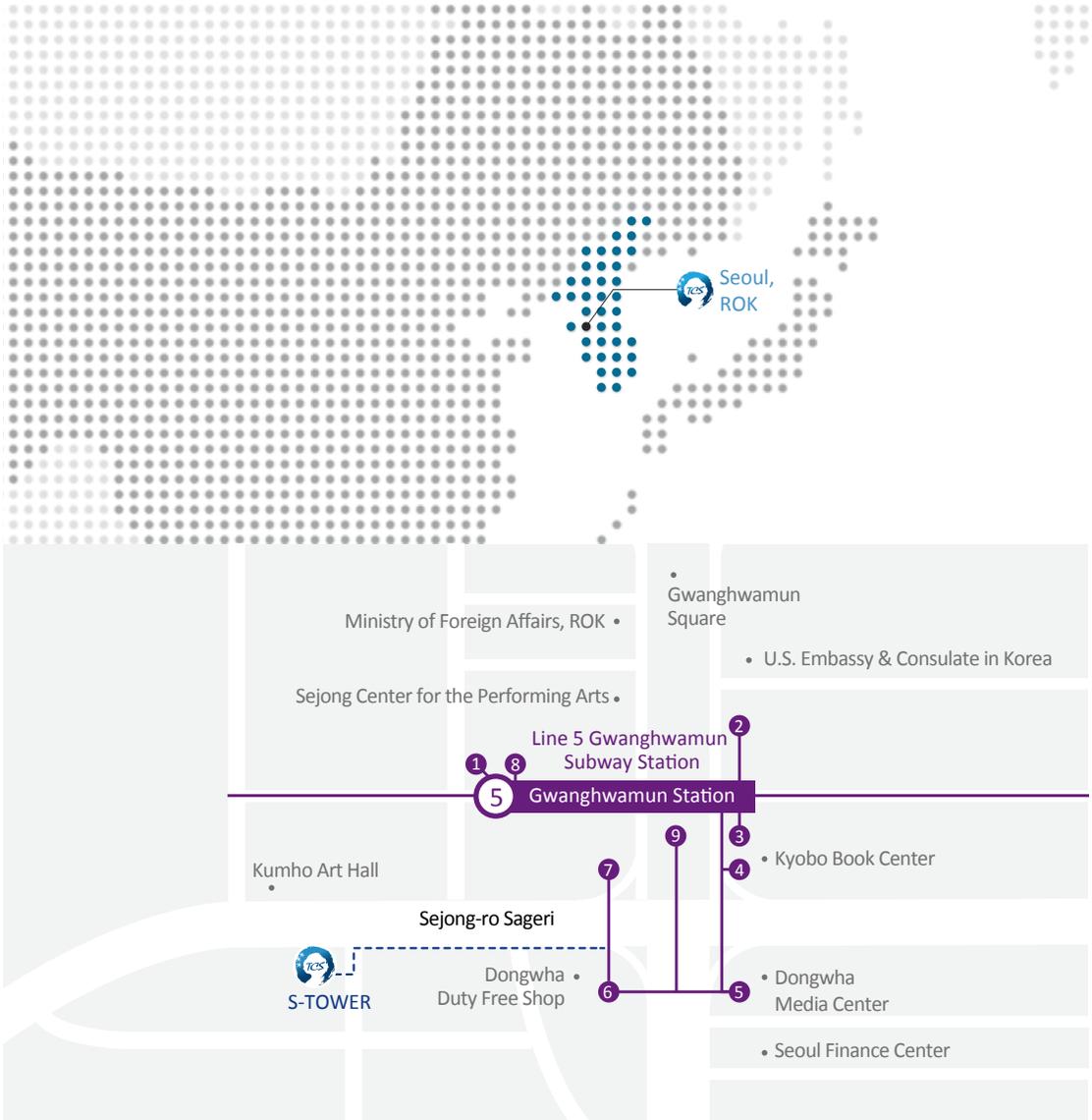
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Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
AMCDRR	Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APT	ASEAN Plus Three
AR	Augmented Reality
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEC	ASEAN Secretariat
C/PVE	Countering/Preventing Violent Extremism
CAICT	China Academy of Information and Communication Technology
CAMPUS Asia	Collective Action for Mobility of University Students in Asia
CAS	Chinese Academy of Sciences
CCOIC	China Chamber of International Commerce
CFAU	China Foreign Affairs University
CJK	China, Japan and Korea (ROK)
CLAIR	Council of Local Authorities for International Relations
CPAFFC	Chinese People's Association of Friendship with Foreign Countries
CT	Counter-Terrorism
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSG(s)	Deputy Secretary-General(s)
EACC	East Asian Cultural Cities
EAVG	East Asian Vision Group
EU	European Union
FKI	Federation of Korean Industries
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
FY	Fiscal Year
G20	Group of 20
GAOK	Governors Association of Korea
GGGI	Green Growth Institute
GRIPS	National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
GSS	General Services Staff
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFTC	International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation
IoT	Internet of Things
IP	Intellectual Property
JCIE	Japan Center for International Exchange
JED	Joint Emergency Drill
JETRO	Japan External Trade Organization
JFIR	Japan Forum on International Relations
JPI	Jeju Peace Institute
JPO	Japan Patent Office
JST	Japan Science and Technology Agency
KBS	Korean Broadcasting System
KCFA	Korea-China Friendship Association
KFF	Korea Future Foundation
KIEP	Korea Institute for International Economic Policy
KIPO	Korean Intellectual Property Office
KNDA	Korea National Diplomatic Academy
KOTRA	Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency

KPF	Korea Press Foundation
Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LOUPE	Lecture on Uncovering Panoramic East Asia
METI	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOFCOM	Ministry of Commerce of China
MOTIE	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK
NATF	Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum
NEAR	Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIYE	National Institute for Youth Education
NTCT	Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks
PS	Professional Staff
RCEP	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
ROD	Record of Discussion
ROK	Republic of Korea
SCC	Supply Chain Connectivity
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFCC	Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club
SG	Secretary-General
SIPO	State Intellectual Property Office of China
SOM	Senior Officials' Meeting
STI	Science and Technology and Innovation
TAF	The Asia Foundation
TCMM	Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting
TCS	Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat
TCSC	Trilateral Cooperation Studies Center
TCVD	Trilateral Common Vocabulary Dictionary
TEDMM	Trilateral Education Ministers' Meeting
TEMM	Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting
THMM	Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting
TJAP	Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation
TJEP	Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program
TPP	Trans-Pacific Partnership
TRF	Trilateral Rectors' Forum
TRIPO	Trilateral IP Offices
TRM	Top Regulators Meeting
TSMM	Trilateral Sports Ministers' Meeting
TTEP	Trilateral Teacher's Exchange Program
UCC	User Created Contents
UNESCAP-ENEA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia
UNGC	United Nations Global Compact
UNGGE	United Nations Group of Governmental Experts
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
VR	Virtual Reality
WGEPR	Working Group on Emergency Preparedness and Response
WGHRD	Working Group on Human Resources Development
WGOIS	Working Group on Online Information Sharing
WTO	World Trade Organization
YAP	Young Ambassador Program

TCS Location



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