

2014-2015

Progress Report  
of the Trilateral Cooperation

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



Trilateral  
Cooperation  
Secretariat



# 2014-2015 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation

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

# Table of Contents

---

**Part I Introduction 06**

---

**Part II Cooperation Progress 09**

---

**1. Politics and Security 10**

---

Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting  
Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation  
Meeting of the Directors-General on Latin American Affairs  
Cyber Security  
Disaster Management  
Nuclear Safety

**2. Economy 15**

---

Trade and Investments  
Transport and Logistics  
Intellectual Property Rights  
Finance  
Science and Technology  
ICT Industry  
Standardization  
Consumers  
Audit

**3. Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection 22**

---

Environmental Protection  
Health and Welfare  
Agriculture  
Fishery  
Water Resource

Forestry  
Geology

---

## **4. Human and Cultural Exchange** **33**

---

Culture  
Tourism  
Education  
Youth Exchanges  
Sports  
Local Governments Exchanges  
Exchange among Research Institutes

---

## **5. TCS** **39**

---

Overview of the Progress in 2014-2015  
TCS Participation in the ASEAN Plus Three Summit  
International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation  
Track 2 Dialogue on History Issues  
Track 2 Dialogue on Security Issues  
CJK FTA Seminar  
Trilateral Business Networking Reception  
TCS LOUPE  
Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program  
Young Ambassador Program  
Outreach  
Management

---

## **Part III Conclusion** **44**

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## **Annex** **46**

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# Part I

## Introduction

Background

Cooperation Highlights

## Background

As stated in the “Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (hereinafter referred to as TCS)” ratified by the governments of the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as ROK/Korea), Japan and the People’s Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as China) in 2011, the TCS shall submit annual progress reports to the Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting for approval. Since its establishment in 2011, the TCS has compiled progress reports three times (2008–2012, 2012–2013 and 2013–2014) to provide an overview of activities and progress of trilateral cooperation in various fields. With the endorsement of relevant ministries and organizations of the three countries, the TCS presents “2014–2015 Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation” covering the period from May 2014 to April 2015.

## Cooperation Highlights (May 2014 - April 2015)

During this period, despite the absence of the Trilateral Summit, the three countries never stopped their efforts to advance practical cooperation and achieved remarkable progress in various areas.

The three countries have been cordially striving to address existing challenges with strong political commitment. The Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting was successfully resumed in Seoul after almost three years. Disaster management cooperation was strengthened as the 3rd Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management was held in Beijing. The countries also implemented new initiatives by having the 1st Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation Dialogue as well as expanding the scope of the Top Regulators’ Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety framework and holding the TRM Plus.

Economic cooperation is expanding and procuring sound development. The Trilateral Investment Agreement came into effect in May 2014, and a China-Japan-Korea Free Trade Agreement (CJK FTA) negotiations convened two rounds of chief representatives’ meetings. Other ministerial meetings such as the China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport

and Logistics, the Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO), the Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, and the Tripartite Governors' Meeting among the People's Bank of China (PBC), the Bank of Japan (BOJ), and the Bank of Korea (BOK), and the Trilateral Meeting of the Heads of Supreme Audit Institutions were also held during this period.

Sustainable development is always an important part of trilateral cooperation. The 17th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM17) was held in April 2015 and the Ministers adopted and committed to steadily implement the "Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation (2015–2019)." In addition, the 7th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting was held in November 2014 and the Water Resource Ministers convened their meeting on the occasion of the World Water Forum in April 2015.

Socio-cultural exchanges are thriving with concrete projects such as "East Asian Cultural Cities," "Trilateral Arts Festival," "Trilateral Arts & Education Forum" and "Collective Action for Mobility Program of University Students in Asia (CAMPUS Asia)." The 6th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting was held in November 2014 and three cities, namely, Niigata of Japan, Qingdao of China and Cheongju of the ROK, were designated as the "2015 East Asian Cultural Cities." The 7th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting was held in April 2015 and the Ministers agreed on increasing the numbers of mutual visits, and decided to jointly implement the "Visit East Asia Campaign."

Alongside the consultative mechanisms promoted by the three countries, the TCS has been fulfilling its duty by carrying out various activities, such as the International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2015, the 3rd CJK FTA Seminar, the Trilateral Business Networking Reception 2015, lecture series named TCS LOUPE, Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program, Young Ambassador Program (YAP), and the 2014 Trilateral Youth Summit.

In sum, the three countries made their utmost efforts to maintain and strengthen the momentum of trilateral cooperation, not only for the sake of the three countries, but also for peace, stability and prosperity in Northeast Asia.

# Part II

## Cooperation Progress

1. Politics and Security
2. Economy
3. Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection
4. Human and Cultural Exchange
5. TCS

# 1. Politics and Security

## Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting



7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting

The 7th **Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting** among the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the three countries was convened in Seoul, ROK in March 2015. The Meeting, chaired by the ROK, was held for the first time in three years since the 6th Meeting held in April 2012. Ministers of Japan and China highly appreciated the active role of the ROK as the chair country in leading the trilateral cooperation for the past years, including the hosting of this Foreign Ministers' Meeting. During the Meeting, the three Foreign Ministers had in-depth discussions on various issues including the current status and future direction of the trilateral cooperation as well as regional and global issues of common concern. In the spirit of facing history squarely and advancing towards the future, the three Ministers agreed that the three countries should

address related issues properly and to work together to improve bilateral relations and to strengthen trilateral cooperation. The three Ministers shared the view to continue and develop the trilateral cooperation as an important framework of cooperation for peace, stability and prosperity in Northeast Asia. In this regard, the Ministers of Japan and China highly appreciated and welcomed the ROK's "Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative." A joint press conference was held after the Meeting, where the three Ministers reaffirmed their commitments to pushing forward the healthy and sustainable development of the trilateral cooperation. In the "Joint Press Release," the three Ministers appreciated various endeavors made to promote trilateral cooperation and decided to expand cooperation in areas including nuclear security, disaster management, environment, and youth exchange. They also decided not only to newly promote the "Trilateral Youth Summit," cooperation among diplomatic training institutions, network among think-tanks, and the "Trilateral Policy Consultation on Middle East Affairs," also to resume the "Trilateral Counter-Terrorism Consultation" and the "Trilateral Policy Dialogue on Africa," and welcomed the release of the "Matrix of Major Events for Trilateral Cooperation in 2015" on the TCS' website.

## Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation

The 9th **Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation** was held in Seoul, ROK in September 2014. The Meeting was participated by Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the three countries. In the Meeting, the Deputy Ministers reviewed the progress in the trilateral cooperation and relevant projects, exchanged views on the future direction of the trilateral cooperation as well as other matters of shared interest. Half a year later, the 10th **Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation** was convened in Seoul, ROK in March 2015. During the Meeting, the three Deputy Ministers had discussions on the agenda, media arrangement and the expected outcomes of the prospective Trilateral Foreign Ministers Meeting, and decided to continue communication and coordination for its preparation. The three sides shared the view that all Parties should cherish the progress achieved and take this opportunity to restore stalled cooperation by revitalizing various consultative mechanisms and cooperative projects.

## Meeting of the Directors-General on Latin American Affairs

The 8th **Trilateral Director-General Meeting on Latin American Affairs** was convened in Seoul, ROK in December 2014. The Meeting was participated by Directors-General (DG) and Deputy Director-General (DDG) for Latin American and Caribbean Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the three countries. In the Meeting, the three Parties exchanged views on respective policy focus on Latin America, political, economic and security situation and their outlooks in Latin America region and discussed ways to cooperate with the leading countries in the region and ways to support bids of companies of the three countries to expand their presence in Latin America.

## Cyber Security

The 1st **Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation Dialogue** was held in Beijing, China in October 2014. The Coordinator for Cyber Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, the Ambassador in Charge of Cyber Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, and the Ambassador for International Security Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK attended the Meeting. The three Parties exchanged views on their respective cyber policies and domestic mechanisms and explored possible ways of enhancing trilateral cooperation on cyber affairs. The Meeting also touched upon issues including combating cyber crimes and cyber terrorism, Internet emergency response, confidence-building measures as well as relevant international and regional processes. In the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting in March 2015, the three Ministers decided to continue this consultation.

## Disaster Management

The 3rd **Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management** was held in Beijing, China in April 2015. The Trilateral TTX was hosted by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China and organized and facilitated by the TCS. Officials from disaster management related ministries and agencies of the three countries participated in the Exercise and had in-depth

discussion and policy exchange on respective disaster relief mechanism and humanitarian assistance procedure in collective response to a hypothetical earthquake in China. Experts from international organizations including the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) attended and shared their knowledge, experiences and good-practices of disaster management. Observers from Mongolia, the Russian Federation (Russia) and the United States of America (the United States) also attended for the first time. The Exercise achieved the objective by deepening mutual understanding of disaster management as well as identifying challenges and exploring potentials for future cooperation.

## Nuclear Safety

The 7th **Top Regulators' Meeting (TRM) on Nuclear Safety** among the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China/the National Nuclear Safety Administration (MEP/NNSA), the Nuclear Regulation Authority of Japan (NRA), and the Nuclear Safety and Security Commission of the ROK (NSSC) was held in Tokyo, Japan in September 2014, hosted by the NRA. The three countries made presentations on the current status and progress on nuclear safety activities in each country. As follow-up of the "Implementation of Action Items" which was agreed on the 6th TRM, the three countries confirmed the following items: 1) implementation of event reporting exercise in case of emergency, 2) establishment of the Working Group for Online Information Sharing System (WGOIS) for information sharing under both emergency and normal situations, and 3) establishment of the Working Group for Human Resource Development (WGHRD) for exchange of information on training program. The three countries agreed to hold the 8th TRM in Seoul, ROK in 2015.

In order to strengthen the technical communication through in-depth expert meeting focusing on commonly concerned or interested issues, the 1st **Top Regulators' Meeting Plus (TRM Plus) on Nuclear Safety** was launched back to back with the 7th TRM on Nuclear Safety in Tokyo, Japan in September 2014. The experts from the three countries, Canada, the French Republic (France), Russia, the United States, and the International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA) participated in the Meeting and made brief presentations on the implementation of lessons learned from Fukushima Daiichi Accident and on how to improve nuclear safety. The 2nd **TRM Plus** was held in Seoul, ROK in November 2014 in the form of symposium by inviting participants such as government officials and senior experts from regulatory bodies, universities, research organizations and industries. The Meeting was to strengthen relevant regional cooperation through in-depth discussion focusing on the theme of “Institutional and Organizational Challenges in Enhancing Nuclear Safety in Northeast Asia.”

The 1st **Top Regulators’ Meeting (TRM) Emergency Preparedness Drill** was convened for the first time at Kori nuclear power plant in Busan, ROK in November 2014. The NSSC invited other two countries as observers to its domestic emergency preparedness drill.

## 2. Economy

### Trade and Investments

The 5th to 7th rounds of the **CJK FTA negotiations** were held in Beijing, China in September 2014 hosted by the Ministry of Commerce of China; in Tokyo, Japan in November 2014 (DG/DDG level meeting) and January 2015 (Chief Delegate level meeting) hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; and in Seoul, ROK in April 2015 (DG/DDG level meeting) hosted by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK, respectively. In addition, as preparation for the negotiations, two intersessional DG/DDG level meetings were held in Tokyo, Japan in June 2014 and in Seoul, ROK in March 2015. In these rounds of negotiations, the three Parties held a series of substantial discussion on areas such as trade in goods, trade in service, investment, competition policies, intellectual property amongst others.

The 13th **Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technological Conference** was held in Nagasaki, Japan in November 2014. The Conference consisted of the DG-level Meeting among the Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK, the Ministry of Commerce of China and; the Business Forum; the University President Forum; the Trilateral Workshop among Research Institutions (Exchange of Opinions on the Joint Research); Triangle Tourism Forum; and the Plenary Meeting. At the Conference, the representatives of governments, business and academia of the three countries exchanged opinions on promoting business exchanges in environment and tourism sectors. The 14th Conference will be held in Busan, ROK in November 2015.

## Transport and Logistics



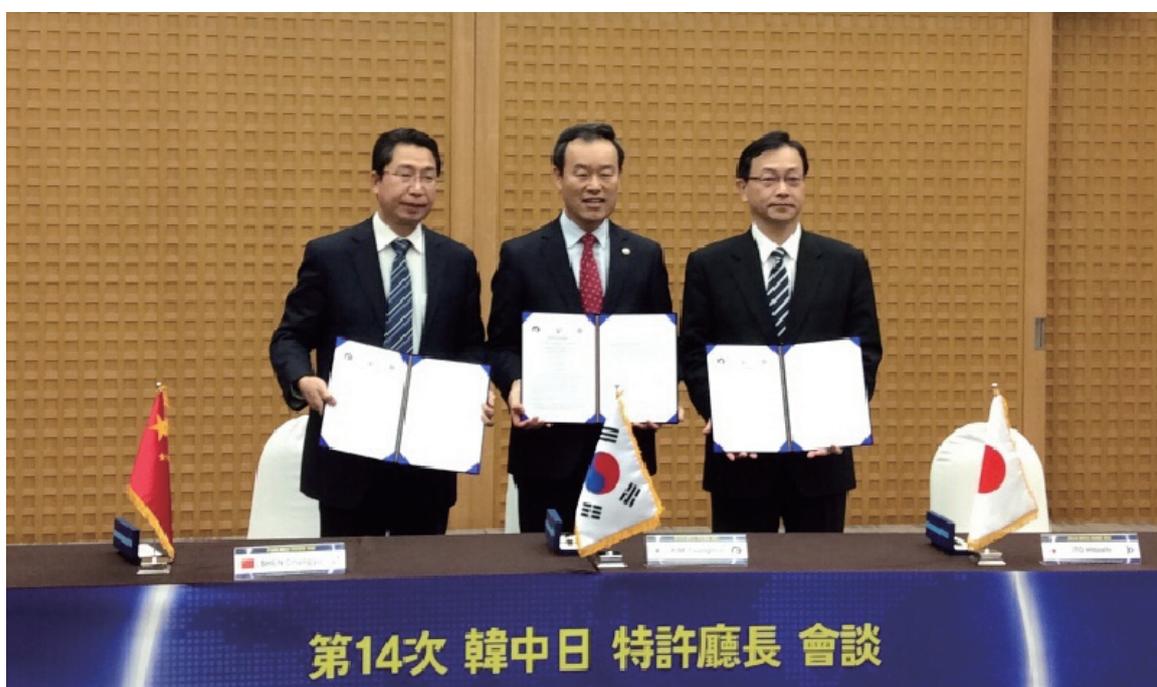
5th China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics

The 5th **China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics** was held in Yokohama, Japan in August 2014 in attendance with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the ROK, and the Ministry of Transport of China. The three countries discussed the progress of the action plans which were confirmed at the previous conferences including the Northeast Asia Logistics Information Service Network (NEAL-NET). In the “Joint Statement” signed at the Conference, the three countries reached consensus for constant cooperation on 1) creation of a seamless logistics system, 2) establishment of an environmentally-friendly logistics, and 3) achievement of balance between security and logistics. The next Conference will be held in China.

Back-to-back with the 5th Ministerial Conference, **China-Japan-Korea Transport and Logistics Development Forum** was held under the theme of “Development of Seamless Logistics in Asia.”

The 15th **Northeast Asia Port Director-General Meeting** was held in Nanjing, China in November 2014. Following the Meeting, **Northeast Asia Port Symposium** was also organized and around 150 officials and specialists participated in the Symposium.

## Intellectual Property Rights



14th Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO)

The 14th **Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO)** was held in Seoul, ROK in November 2014. The three Offices reported on the recent developments in their national IP systems, reviewed the latest trilateral cooperation activities and discussed future trilateral cooperation. The three Offices endorsed and decided to disclose the outcomes of Comparative Study on Differences in Regulations, Patent Examination Criteria and Appeals against the Decision of Rejection submitted by the Joint Experts Group.

Furthermore, the three Offices discussed the possible cooperation in the fields of patent, design, and appeals and trials. As for patents, the three Offices endorsed the outcomes of the Comparative Study on Amendments for Disclosure and the Case Study on the Requirements for Claims and Description, and decided to disclose them to the general public. As for designs, the three Offices agreed to continue and advance the Trilateral Design Forum to exchange information and opinions concerning the examination standards and the international design classification. As for appeals and trails, the Offices decided to continue the comparative study and hold trial judge exchanges.

Back-to-back with the 14th Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting, the 2nd **Korea-China-Japan IP Symposium** was held by the three Offices.

## Finance



14th Trilateral Finance Ministers and Cultural Bank Governors' Meeting

The 13th and 14th **Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting** was held in Cairns, Australia in September 2014 and in Baku, Azerbaijan in May 2015, respectively. The 13th and the 14th Meeting were hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the ROK and by the Ministry of Finance of Japan respectively, with attendance of the Ministry of Finance of China and Central Banks from the three countries. At the aforementioned Meetings, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors exchanged views on the latest development of global economy and regional financial cooperation. The 15th Meeting is planned to be held in Frankfurt, Germany in May 2016.

The 6th **Tripartite Governors' Meeting among the People's Bank of China (PBC), the Bank of Japan (BOJ), and the Bank of Korea (BOK)** was held in Basel, Switzerland in June 2014, chaired by the Bank of Korea. The next Meeting will be hosted by the People's Bank of China in 2015.

## Science and Technology

The 12th **Meeting of Heads of Research Councils in Asia (A-HORCs)** was held in Busan, ROK in September 2014. Heads of the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF), the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) convened to exchange views on their countries' science and technology policies and other matters of mutual interest with a focus on "Quality Assurance in Evaluation." They also exchanged views on policies and efforts for enhancing the review systems of each country and the implementation of exchange programs among the organizations. The 16th **Northeastern Asian Symposium** was held in Busan, ROK in December 2014 under the theme of "Autophagy: from Basic to Medicine."

The 9th **Trilateral Science and Technology Policy Seminar** was held in Chengdu, China in November 2014. The Seminar was attended by the heads of the Institute of Policy and Management (IPM) of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development (CASTED), the National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP) of Japan, the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (S&T) Evaluation

and Planning (KISTEP), and the Science and Technology Policy Institute of Korea (STEPI). The participants introduced highlights of research activities in each institute, and had discussions under the topics of innovation-driven development and creative economy, evidence based S&T and innovation policymaking as well as science and diplomacy.

## ICT Industry

The 13th **China-Japan-Korea IT Directors-General Meeting for the Promotion of Open Source Software (OSS)** of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of China, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, and the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning of the ROK, and the **Northeast Asia OSS Promotion Forum** was held in Wuhan, China in November 2014. The three countries shared the views on recent development of OSS in the three countries, and decided to promote its future development to raise Northeast Asia's global status and influence in OSS and industrial circles.

## Standardization

The 13th **Northeast Asia Standards Cooperation Forum** was held in Gyeongju, ROK in July 2014 and concurrently with the **Standing Committee Meeting of the Trilateral Standards Cooperation 2014** with the participation of the Korea Agency of Technology and Standards (KATS), the Standardization Administration of China (SAC), and the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC). The participants decided to launch three new cooperative projects regarding “Test Methods for Thermal Conductivity of Electronic Circuit Board for High-Brightness LEDs Guidelines,” “Electrical Scanning Probe Microscopy,” and “Testing Procedure for Deck Equipment of Vessel Intended for Cold Climate Region.”

## Consumers

The 6th **Consultative Meeting on Consumer Policy** was held among the Consumer Affairs

Agency of Japan, the Fair Trade Commission of the ROK, and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of China in Tokyo, Japan in July 2014. The three Parties exchanged information on recent consumer policies, enforcement and consumer problem of elderly people and discussed handling of consumer complaints related to cross-border transactions.

The **International Symposium on Consumer Policy** was held in Tokyo, Japan in July 2014. In the Symposium, international comparison of the system for collective redress for consumer damage and consumer organizations was presented and the role of consumer organizations in the system for collective redress for consumer damage was discussed.

## Audit

The 16th and 17th **Three-way Meetings of the Heads of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAIs) of China, Japan and Korea** were held in Moscow, Russia in September 2014 and in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in February 2015, respectively, among the Board of Audit and Inspection of the ROK, the Board of Audit of Japan and the National Audit Office of China, for exchanging opinions and sharing information among the Heads of the three SAIs.

The 10th **Trilateral Working Level Meeting of the Supreme Audit Institutions** was held in ROK in October 2014 among the three Institutions. They shared information and exchanged experiences on the topics of “The Status of IT-assisted Audit Practices” for the Joint Research Project and “Audit of Government Debt” for the Audit Workshop.

## 3. Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection

### Environmental Protection



17th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

The 17th **Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM17)** was held in Shanghai, China in April 2015. The Ministry of Environmental Protection of China, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and the Ministry of Environment of Korea exchanged the recent progress in each country regarding environmental policies under the statements that are “Sharing Ecological Civilization Concept, Deepening Environmental Protection Cooperation” by China, “Introduction of Latest Environmental Policy Development” by Japan, and “High Quality Environmental Welfare Policies including Addressing of Life Surrounding Environmental

Issues” by Korea. The Ministers also reviewed the progress regarding the implementation of the “Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation (2010–2014)” and adopted the new Joint Action Plan (2015–2019). Nine priority areas are 1) air quality improvement, 2) biodiversity, 3) chemical management and environmental emergency response, 4) circulative management of resources/3R/transboundary movement of e-waste, 5) climate change response, 6) conservation of water and marine environment, 7) environmental education, public awareness and corporate social responsibility, 8) rural environmental management, and 9) transition to green economy.

As TEMM’s side events, the Youth Forum was held themed with “Building Connections with Nature,” and the Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business themed “Strengthen the Exchanges and Cooperation in Environmental Technology and Industry, Promote the Development and Transformation of Regional Green Economy.”

#### 1) Air Quality Improvement

The 2nd **Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Air Pollution (TPDAP)** was held in Seoul, Korea in March 2015. The Dialogue shared policies and best practices on Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Non-road Mobile Source. The first meeting of two working groups (WG – WGI: Scientific Research on Prevention and Control, and WGII: Technology/Policy on Air Quality Monitoring and Prediction) under the TPDAP will be held in China and Korea respectively to draft TOR and detailed action plan. The 3rd TPDAP will be held in Japan in February 2016.

The **Dust and Sandstorms (DSS) WGI Meeting** was held in Xi’an, China in November 2014 and **WGII Meeting** in Utsunomiya, Japan in October 2014. WGII conducted the joint investigation in Hulunbeier, China in July 2014. WGI and WGII finalized the Mid-term Action Plan for Joint Research on DSS (2015–2019) and will hold the first joint workshop in Japan in 2016.

#### 2) Biodiversity

The 2nd **Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Biodiversity** was held in Pyeongchang, Korea in October 2014. The three Ministers confirmed to promote trilateral joint actions such as cooperative research on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and agreed to share

experience and information on issues that need to be addressed at regional level (methods assessing progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Target, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), Business and Biodiversity Initiative, researches on valuation of ecosystem services, adaptation to climate change, invasive alien species control, and urban biodiversity conservation). They decided to strengthen cooperation on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), noting the importance of information sharing to prepare for implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

### 3) Chemical Management and Environmental Emergency Response

The 8th **Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management** was held in Jeju Island, Korea in November 2014. The three Parties encouraged further cooperation in the field of chemical management such as conducting joint research on ecotoxicity and sharing information on chemical risk assessment and mercury management.

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

The Ministers decided to jointly organize the Tripartite 3R and Transboundary Movement of E-Waste Seminar with the objectives to exchange waste management policies of the three countries. The Ministers decided to cooperate to control illegal transboundary movement of e-waste and encouraged to ensure smooth operation of the tripartite hotline to combat illegal transboundary movement of waste.

### 5) Climate Change Response

The three countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in adaptation efforts through exchange of information, knowledge and best practices in regards to policies and experience of the three countries. They reaffirmed the importance of pursuing greenhouse gas mitigation through market mechanisms and noted three countries' ongoing efforts including Emissions Trading Schemes operated in Korea and pursued in China, and the Joint Crediting Mechanism in Japan.

### 6) Conservation of Water and Marine Environment

The Ministers recognized the importance of cooperation among the three countries in conserving water environment and marine environment, and decided to cooperate to hold joint workshops and promote activities to understand the situation and subjects of marine litter on

surrounding sea area in each country. They also noted the importance of cooperation on water environment issues and control among the three countries.

#### 7) Environmental Education, Public Awareness and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

The Ministers agreed to promote and sustainably utilize the “Environmental Education Book for Children in China, Japan and Korea,” a joint project initiated in 2012 as one of “Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation in 2010–2014.” They also agreed to initiate cooperation on environmental CSR.

The 15th **Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN) Symposium & Workshop** was held in Jeju Island, Korea in October, 2014. The Symposium & Workshop discussed issues on sustainable cooperation on environmental education among the three countries and five years plan and future joint projects on TEEN.

The 14th **Tripartite Environmental Training** was held in Incheon, Korea in November, 2014.

#### 8) Rural Environmental Management

As one of new priorities in “2015–2019 Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation,” the Ministers decided to initiate a tripartite policy dialogue on rural environment management to share information on rural environment management policies in each country and promote cooperation among them.

#### 9) Transition to Green Economy

The Ministers decided on further strengthening information sharing and cooperation on environmental and green industry and green supply chain. Especially, cooperation on green supply chain among the three countries is a response to Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Cooperation Network on Green Supply Chain agreed to be established by APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting in 2014.

The 14th **Tripartite Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry (RTM14)** was held in Takamatsu, Japan in November 2014. The three countries had discussed waste management cooperation and shared useful information on environmental enterprises and advanced

technologies.

The 1st **Tripartite Roundtable on Environmental Business (TREB)** was held in Shanghai, China in April 2015. The TREB has replaced the Tripartite Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry (RTM) since 2015. The three countries had discussions under the theme of “Strengthen the Exchanges and Cooperation in Environmental Technology and Industry, Promote the Development and Transformation of Regional Green Economy.”

## Health and Welfare



7th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting

The 7th **Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting** was held in Beijing, China in November 2014, with the participation of the National Health and Family Planning Commission of China, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and the Ministry of Health and Welfare of

the ROK. The World Health Organization, West Pacific Regional Office (WHO-WPRO) also attended the Meeting as an observer. At the Meeting, the three Ministers reviewed the progress and achievement of trilateral cooperation on health, and discussed the further cooperation on the issues of common concerns including response against Pandemic Influenza and Emerging/re-emerging Infectious Diseases including Ebola Virus Disease outbreak, Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Population Aging, and health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). They adopted the “Joint Statement of the Seventh Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting” and the “Joint Statement of the Seventh Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting for the Preparedness and Response of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Outbreak.” The next Meeting will be held in Japan in 2015.

## Agriculture

The 10th **Forum for Agricultural Policy Research in Northeast Asia (FANEA)** was held in Seoul, ROK in June 2014 with the participation of the Korea Rural Economic Institute (KREI), the Japan Policy Research Institute of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (PRIMAFF), and the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Development of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science (CAAS). Experts from the three Institutes exchanged ideas under the theme of “The 6th Industrialization of Agriculture and New Value Creation in Agriculture.” Back to back with the Symposium, the President and DGs’ Meeting among the three Institutes was also held.

The 7th **Crop Science Seminar in East Asia** was held in Hokkaido, Japan in November 2014 under the theme of “Breeding Technology in Rice and Upland Crops-From Genetic Resources to Breeding.” The Seminar was attended by the Institute of Crop Science of National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO) of Japan, the Institute of Crop Science of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), and the National Institute of Crop Science of Rural Development Administration (NICS) of the ROK. The participants from the three countries exchanged views on rice, barley, soybean and miscellaneous cereals.

The 4th **Symposium on Prevention and Control of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in East**

Asia was held in Tokyo, Japan in November 2014 with the participation of veterinary officers and researchers from the three countries, Mongolia and the United States. The participants shared the following perceptions: 1) while acknowledging that some progress had been made in the area of the recommendations agreed in Lanzhou, China, November 2013, they reaffirmed the importance of their continued commitment under the recommendations; and 2) recognizing that the growing threat of transboundary animal diseases such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in East Asia, they agreed that the next symposium would also focus on prevention and control of HPAI, reminding them of the importance of FMD.

## Fishery

The 11th **Trilateral International Workshop for Research on Giant Jellyfish** was held in Xi'an, China in November 2014 with the participation of the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences (CAFS), the Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) of Japan, and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) of the ROK. The experts exchanged information on resource dynamics of giant jellyfish in Northeast Asia in 2014 and the research outcome in each country. They also had discussions on giant jellyfish's distribution, resource dynamics modal, biological and ecological characteristics, as well as research on its gene and toxin.

The 8th **Presidents Meeting among the Fisheries Research Institutes of the Three Countries** was held in Yeosu, ROK in November 2014. The heads of the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) of the ROK, the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences (CAFS), and the Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) of Japan participated the Meeting. They acknowledged significant progress of the joint research on giant jellyfish, information-sharing on aquaculture technology, personnel exchanges, etc. The three Institutes adopted the revised Appendix of MOU which included new cooperative issue such as the information exchange of resources of pacific saury.

The 25th **Trilateral Symposium on Fisheries Science and Technology** was also held under the theme of "Current Status and Future Development on Processing and Management of Fisheries Products."

## Water Resources



2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources

The 2nd **Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources** among the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the ROK, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, and the Ministry of Water Resources of China was held on the occasions of the 7th World Water Forum in Gyeongju, ROK in April 2015. The three Ministers signed the “Joint Ministerial Statement on Collaborative Actions for Water Policy Innovation” and decided to strengthen trilateral cooperation in response to persistent and emerging water challenges. The three Ministers recognized water policies such as the Smart Water Grid, water circulation system, multi-agency cooperation in flood control and the improved procedure for local community-led conflict management of the ROK; water cycle legislation to ensure sound water cycle at all levels of Japan; and the most stringent water resources management system with the aim of establishing three red lines for the control of total quantity of water use, the efficiency of water use and total pollution load in water function zones of China. The three

Ministers decided to share the knowledge and experience learned those water policy innovation initiatives for improved water security in the world.

The **Trilateral Forum on Water Resources** organized by the TCS in special collaboration with the three Ministries was held in Gyeongju, ROK in April 2015 back-to-back with the 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources. The Forum introduced Future Smarter and Integrated Water Management Policy (SIWM) for Sustainable Water Reform of the ROK; Optimization of Water Cycle Policy in Response to Global Climate Change with Focus on Risk Reduction of Water-related Disasters of Japan; and Approaches and Methods to Realize the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Yellow River Basin of China. It exchanged views on the future trilateral cooperation on water resources and suggested establishment of a trilateral expert framework. The booklet “China-Japan-ROK Cooperation on Water Resources” was also distributed to promote the trilateral cooperation on water resources to the public.

## Forestry

The 2nd **Director-General (DG) Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation** among the Korea Forest Service of the ROK, the Forestry Agency of Japan, and the State Forestry Administration of China was held in Jeju Island, ROK in January 2015. The three Authorities made discussions on sustainable forest management through forest certification schemes; climate change responses, inter alia, Research & Development cooperation on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) in Northeast Asia, carbon emission trading system and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) pilot projects, and measures against mountain disasters; forest recreation, healing and education; and cooperation on international forest issues. Based on the Record of Discussion of the 2nd Meeting, the action plan was finalized by mutual agreement among the three Authorities and accordingly follow-up activities will be carried out. The 3rd Meeting will be held in Japan in 2016.

## Geology

The 1st **Trilateral Geo Summit** among the China Geological Survey (CGS), the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources (KIGAM), and the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ) was held in Beijing, China in April 2015. The three Parties signed the “Minutes on Geoscientific Cooperation.” The three Parties exchanged information and discussed about future trilateral cooperation during the technical session, and decided to promote research cooperation through establishing working groups which would focus on subjects such as geological mapping, coastal geology and geological hazards. The three Parties decided to hold Trilateral Geo Summit every two years on a rotation basis.

## 4. Human and Cultural Exchange

### Culture



6th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting

The 6th **Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting** was held in Yokohama, Japan in November 2014 during which the “Yokohama Joint Statement of the Sixth Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting” was signed. The Meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, with the participation of the Ministry of Culture of China, and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK. The three Ministers reviewed the progress of the implementation measures of “Shanghai Action Plan including East Asian Cultural Cities, Trilateral Arts Festival” and “Trilateral Arts & Education Forum.” They also reconfirmed the importance of the cooperation among the three countries' cities in resolving diverse social issues through the power of culture, and shared their respective views on the

cooperation between “East Asian Cultural Cities” and “Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Cities of Culture,” dispatch of “East Asian Cultural Envoy,” joint culture & art programs during the occasion of Pyeongchang 2018 and Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and the consideration of the possibility of holding the Trilateral Arts Festival outside East Asia. During the Meeting, Niigata of Japan, Qingdao of China and Cheongju of the ROK were designated as the “2015 East Asian Cultural Cities.”

## Tourism



7th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting

The 7th **Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting** was held in Tokyo, Japan in April 2015. The Meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, with the participation of the National Tourism Administration of China, and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the ROK. At the Meeting, the three Ministers

reviewed the progress and achievement of trilateral cooperation on tourism in past four years and discussed the further cooperation under three main agendas including 1) a new area of tourism exchange among the three countries, 2) promotion of “Visit East Asia Campaign,” and 3) quality enhancement of trilateral tourism exchange. The three Ministers reached consensus on making the joint efforts in increasing the visitor numbers among the three countries from 20 million in 2014 up to 30 million by 2020. In addition, they agreed to launch the “Visit East Asia Campaign,” which is a joint regional tourism project to attract the visitors from the regions beyond Asia such as the United States and European countries. At the joint press conference, the three Ministers signed the “Joint Statement of the 7th Trilateral Tourism Ministers’ Meeting.” The next meeting will be held in Wuhan, China in 2016.

The 9th **Symposium on Education Travel** was convened in Gwangju, ROK in August 2014 with more than 200 participants from governments as well as education and tourism industries of the three countries. The Symposium examined the significance and outcomes of the past trilateral youth exchanges and suggested the ways to vitalize the trilateral education travel, and policies for strengthening safety measures for education travel. The **Trilateral Youth Exchange Meeting** was held as a sideline of the Symposium, inviting 60 secondary school students of the “2014 East Asian Cultural Cities” in Gwangju of the ROK, Yokohama of Japan and Quanzhou of China.

## Education

The 5th Meeting of the **China-Japan-Korea Committee for Promoting Exchange and Cooperation among Universities** was held in Shanghai, China in April 2015. Representatives of educational authorities, quality assurance agencies, universities, industries and other relevant agencies from three countries have attended this meeting; as well as officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, the Embassy of Japan in China and the Embassy of the ROK in China.

The Meeting has adopted the “Agreement of the 5th Meeting of the China-Japan-Korea Committee for Promoting Exchange and Cooperation among Universities.” The main content

of the agreement includes, unanimously agreement on moving forward the Collective Action for Mobility Program of University Students in Asia (CAMPUS Asia) into the full-pledged program implementation stage from pilot stage in 2016, and the expansion of CAMPUS Asia program will be implemented in stages in accordance with the principles of openness, flexibility, and diversification. The three Parties also agreed on establishing cooperation mechanism for mutual recognition of qualifications and credits among three countries and agreed to further discuss a specialized website, the “CAMPUS Asia Information Platform” after a successful implementation of the full-pledged program. The next development plan will be further discussed by the three Parties.

The committee members of three countries discussed the framework and the criteria of the second joint quality monitoring on CAMPUS Asia based on the results of the first monitoring in 2014 on the pilot programs of CAMPUS Asia.

CAMPUS Asia program is based on the consensus reached by the leaders of the three countries and “Trilateral Cooperation Vision 2020,” which is the flagship cooperation program among the three countries in the educational domain, with the demonstration functions.

## Youth Exchanges

The **2014 Trilateral Youth Summit** was held in Seoul, ROK in August 2014, co-hosted by the TCS and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK, with a theme of “Trilateral Cooperation for promoting peace in Northeast Asia – culture, economy, and environment.” This year, 50 students from the three countries participated in the program to enhance mutual understanding and nurture future diplomats and International Relations (IR) professionals promoting trilateral cooperation from the grassroots. The participating students were divided into four mixed-nationality teams representing the TCS and three governments with an aim to provide participants with chances to think and understand perspectives of the other nations. Also, the students organized three committees (culture/economy/environment) for discussions during the program. The results of discussions were presented in the form of joint statements at the Model Trilateral Summit.

The **9th Trilateral Future Leaders Forum** was co-organized by the Korea Foundation, the Japan Foundation and the All-China Youth Federation in November 2014. The Forum was designed to enable next-generation leaders of the three countries to gather for 11 days to respect diversity and discover what they shared in common. In the Forum, the 16 member delegation, representing various sectors of the three countries, built a multi-sector network and exchanged diverse opinions under the theme of “Cooperation in Northeast Asia.” During the schedule, the delegation visited not only major educational institutions and governmental departments, but also the international organizations to discuss the progress and future of trilateral cooperation.

## Sports

The **22nd Trilateral Junior Sports Exchange Meet** was held in Iwate Prefecture, Japan in August 2014. The event was hosted by the Japan Sports Association and relevant Japanese organizations, with the participation of the All-China Sports Federation and the Korean Olympic Committee. Around 1,000 young athletes divided into four teams (Japan, ROK, China and Iwate Prefecture) competed in 11 sports: athletics, soccer, tennis, volleyball, basketball, weightlifting, handball, soft tennis, table tennis, badminton and rugby (football). The **23rd Trilateral Junior Sports Exchange Meet** will be held in Jeju Island, ROK in August 2015.

## Local Governments Exchanges

The **16th Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference** was held under the theme of “Revitalizing Trilateral Local Governments Exchange through the Expansion of Cultural and People-to-People Exchange,” in September 2014, in Gumi City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, ROK. The Conference was hosted by the Governors Association of Korea (GAOK), Gyeongsangbuk-do Province and Gumi City, and co-hosted by the Chinese People’s Association of Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), and the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) of Japan. Around 450 representatives from local governments and organizations of the three countries participated in the Conference and exchanged their views on the trilateral local governments’ exchange in various areas including economy,

trade, culture, etc. As a side-event, the Conference also included a “Trilateral City Exchange Square” session that provided the participants with a platform for a face-to-face discussion on cooperative projects. The next Conference will be held in Yiwu, Zhejiang Province, China in 2015.

## Exchange among Research Institutes

The 7th **Trilateral Cooperation Forum** was held in Seoul, ROK in November 2014 by foreign policy think-tanks of the three countries, namely, the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) of the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA), the China Institute of International Studies (CIIS), and The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIJA). The participants discussed varied agendas including the security situation in Northeast Asia, outlooks on the envisioned economic integration of the Asia-Pacific region, and ways to step up cooperation on non-traditional security issues among the three countries.

## 5. TCS

### Overview of the Progress in 2014-2015

During the period from May 2014 to April 2015, the TCS played an active role in promoting trilateral cooperation by participating in and providing support to trilateral consultative mechanisms, including the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the 5th China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics, the 14th Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among KIPO, SIPO and JPO, the 7th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting, the 6th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting, the 7th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting, the 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources, the 17th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting, and many other governmental meetings at working level.

Meanwhile, the TCS has achieved remarkable progress by exploring and conducting more cooperative projects in a wide range of areas. Through such efforts, the TCS further promoted its public awareness and also contributed to the development of relations among the three countries.

### TCS Participation in the ASEAN Plus Three Summit

The 17th **ASEAN Plus Three Summit** was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in November 2014. The Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States as well as the ROK, Japan and China (Plus Three Countries) attended the Summit. With a view to supporting the Plus Three Countries and to boosting ties with ASEAN, Mr. Iwatani Shigeo, the Secretary-General of the TCS attended the Summit. The leaders reviewed the progress and direction of ASEAN Plus Three relations and shared the view to further promote East Asian cooperation in various areas including economy, finance, environment, food security, health, people-to-people exchanges, regional connectivity, and energy.

## International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation



International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation 2015

The TCS held the **International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2015** under the theme of “Challenges and Opportunities – Ushering into a New Era” in Tokyo, Japan in April 2015. The IFTC is one of the signature events of the TCS with an aim of sharing constructive proposals for the trilateral cooperation, which may lead to a momentum for future-oriented trilateral partnership towards peace and common prosperity in Northeast Asia. It also aims to provide insights into the political climate, economic cooperation and socio-cultural ties among three countries. This year, the IFTC 2015 was composed by three sub-sessions of “Towards a Peaceful and Cooperative Northeast Asia: Exploring Practicable Trilateral Dialogue Mechanism for Common Security,” “Cooperate to Learn, Learn to Cooperate: The Trilateral Educational Exchanges and Sense of Community,” and “New Opportunities for Trilateral Industrial – ‘Coopetition’ – Collective Voice of Business Leaders toward CJK FTA and Beyond.” More than 300 people joined for the event and prominent speakers from the three countries, ASEAN, the European Union (EU), and the United States addressed a variety of current affairs including dialogue mechanisms in Northeast Asia, regional educational exchanges, and CJK FTA.

## Track 2 Dialogue on History Issues

The TCS has been cautiously exploring roles to play in the area of history issues. This process began with the TCS' participation in the **Track II Dialogue on “Wartime History Issues in Asia: Pathways to Reconciliation”** which took place under the co-sponsorship of the TCS and the Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center (APARC) at Stanford University in May 2014. The TCS representatives attended the Dialogue as observers. Participants from the three countries, the United States, and Europe had open, frank discussions on ways to foster dialogue on history issues in Northeast Asia.

With a view to sustaining the momentum for cooperation in this area, the TCS initiated a follow-up dialogue session titled **“Reconciliation and Integration in Northeast Asia: Past, Present and Future,”** on the occasion of the 9th Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity held in Jeju Island, ROK in May 2014. It promoted in-depth discussion on history issues bringing together eminent scholars from the three countries and the United States. They agreed on making further efforts to enhance the understanding of different views among the three neighboring countries by pushing forward trilateral joint history research.

In December 2014, the TCS organized another dialogue session focused on history education as part of the **Seminar on the 15th Anniversary of Trilateral Cooperation and the 1st People-to-People Exchange Forum** held in Changchun, Jilin Province, China. The Forum discussed various ways to promote joint projects in history education. The panel shared their hands-on experiences in the past and exchanged their viewpoints on how to carry out the prospective dialogues, possibly in the framework of Track II.

## Track 2 Dialogue on Security Issues

The TCS held its first **Track II Dialogue on Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)** in Tokyo, Japan in June 2014. The Dialogue was organized back-to-back with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)–Japan Conference and brought together representatives from the OSCE Secretariat, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

Secretariat, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Track II institutions such as The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIJA) and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Indonesia as well as scholars from the three countries. The participants discussed ways to develop CBMs and security cooperation in the Northeast Asian region by learning the examples of existing CBMs shared by other regional organizations and exploring their applicability in Northeast Asia.

## CJK FTA Seminar

The 3rd **CJK FTA Seminar** was held in Tokyo, Japan in November 2014 in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; the Ministry of Commerce of China; and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK. The Seminar provided a unique platform where the negotiating teams, business representatives, experts and more than 120 participants of the three countries gathered and exchanged views on the significance of CJK FTA. Copies of the booklet “Insight into CJK FTA” were also distributed for deeper understanding of CJK FTA.

## Trilateral Business Networking Reception

The TCS hosted the **Trilateral Business Networking Reception 2015** on the occasion of IFTC2015 in Tokyo, Japan in April 2015. Major business associations in the three countries; the Keidanren of Japan, the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI), and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) sponsored the event and more than 100 business persons attended in order to discuss business opportunities and prospects of further trilateral industrial cooperation.

## TCS LOUPE

TCS LOUPE is an open lecture series organized by the TCS with an aim to encourage general

public's balanced and thoughtful understanding of the cultures and societies of the three countries. LOUPE stands for "Lecture on Uncovering Panoramic East Asia." Following the previous lecture series "Three Strands of Asia" on traditional cultures organized from February to September 2014, TCS LOUPE touches upon various issues of the three countries from Pop Culture (October–December 2014) to communal archiving (January 2015). The Lecture also features diverse formats including expert lecture and public dialogue. The outcomes of the lecture series were made into booklets and distributed at other TCS events.

## Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program

The TCS organized the **2015 Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program** in April 2015. This year, TCS organized the Program for the second occasion on an annual basis focusing on the socio-cultural aspects of the trilateral cooperation and in-depth communication between journalists of the three countries and general public. The purposes of the Program was to increase the participants' understanding on trilateral cooperation and to create a sound and favorable environment of public opinion. Searching for an appropriate role of media on cooperation between the three countries was another purpose of the Program. 12 journalists from various types of media visited governmental agencies related to trilateral cooperation as well as major cultural attractions of the three countries to conduct joint-meetings. Also, the journalist delegation held series of dialogues at universities and think-tanks with cultural/political figures, scholars, and university students of three countries.

## Young Ambassador Program

The TCS organized the 2nd Young Ambassador Program (YAP) in Seoul, ROK in August 2014. The 2nd YAP is a two-week summer program comprising of professional training, on-site visit, policy debate and roundtable, offering a good opportunity for 16 young people from the three countries to learn more about each other and develop a basic understanding of trilateral cooperation.

## Outreach

The TCS has been actively expanding network and strengthening partnership with other regional and international organizations. The TCS delegation paid visits to EU organizations in November 2014 and ASEAN countries in March 2015 to exchange information and explore potential agendas for cooperation in relevant areas. Moreover, the TCS works in close contact with UNISDR, UNOCHA, UN Global Compact, and UN Economic Social Communication for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

## Management

The TCS has continued the recruitment of additional General Service Staff to provide the better support for the operation and management of existing trilateral consultative mechanisms among the three countries, and to explore potential cooperative areas and promote understating of the trilateral cooperation.

In the meantime, the TCS has reviewed the accounting standards implemented within TCS, with a view to adopting the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), which is a globally acknowledged set of accounting principles for public sector organizations such as UN, ASEAN, the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OECD), the European Commission (EC) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), etc. to enhance the credibility of financial management as well as the comparability and comprehensibility of the financial reports.

In 2014, the TCS participated in a series of Joint Meetings of International Organizations which maintain their headquarters in the ROK, including ASEAN-Korea Centre, Global Green Growth Institute, Green Climate Fund, and International Vaccine Institute being held on a quarterly basis to explore possible ways to jointly promote cooperation and share ideas and best practices in challenging issues. In October, the TCS hosted the 3rd Meeting. These Meetings have served as useful opportunities to seek ways to communicate smoothly and to boost substantive cooperation in administration and management areas.

# Part III

## Conclusion

## Conclusion

The foregoing activities reveal the significant moments of the three countries during May 2014 to April 2015. Despite the absence of the annually planned Trilateral Summit, with the firm support by leaders of the three countries, various stakeholders at multiple levels have demonstrated excellent performances and yielded further tangible results with continuous efforts. The three countries have been striving to resolve existing challenges in a wide variety of fields. At the same time, the TCS also has been making its efforts to maintain and strengthen the positive momentum of trilateral cooperation and cultivate the new fields of cooperation. These efforts successfully reflected the resumption of the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting which was held in March 2015. This fact vividly proves that, although there might be twists and turns, development of trilateral cooperation is an irresistible trend which is in the interest of not only the three countries but also the region and the world.

Building upon the progress and the current atmosphere of gradually improving bilateral relations, the three countries should step up their joint efforts, seize the opportunity, and try to bring trilateral cooperation completely back to its normal track. With the blessing from leaders of the three countries, the trilateral cooperation will gain new impetus and develop to a new level, and thus makes significant contribution to regional cooperation and integration in East Asia.

## Annex. List of Trilateral Ministerial Meetings

No.	Name of Meetings	Major Participants
1	Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting	- China : Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Japan : Ministry of Foreign Affairs - ROK : Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2	Trilateral Heads of Government Agency Meeting on Disaster Management	- China : Ministry of Civil Affairs - Japan : Cabinet Office - ROK : Ministry of Public Safety and Security
3	Tripartite Meeting on Earthquake Disaster Mitigation	- China : China Earthquake Administration - Japan : Japan Meteorological Agency - ROK : Korea Meteorological Administration
4	Trilateral Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting	- China : Ministry of Commerce - Japan : Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry - ROK : Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy
5	China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics	- China : Ministry of Transport - Japan : Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism - ROK : Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
6	Tripartite Customs Heads' Meeting	- China : General Administration of Customs - Japan : Ministry of Finance - ROK : Korea Customs Service
7	Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO)	- China : State Intellectual Property Office - Japan : Japan Patent Office - ROK : Korean Intellectual Property Office
8	Trilateral Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting	- China : Ministry of Finance - Japan : Ministry of Finance - ROK : Ministry of Finance
9	Tripartite Governors' Meeting among the People's Bank of China (PBC), the Bank of Japan (BOJ), and the Bank of Korea (BOK)	- China : People's Bank of China - Japan : Bank of Japan - ROK : Bank of Korea
10	Trilateral Meeting of the Heads of the Supreme Audit Institutions	- China : National Audit Office of China - Japan : Board of Audit of Japan - ROK : The Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea

No.	Name of Meetings	Major Participants
11	Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : Ministry of Science and Technology</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology</li> <li>- ROK : Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning</li> </ul>
12	China-Japan-Korea ICT Ministerial Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : Ministry of Industry and Information Technology</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications</li> <li>- ROK : Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning</li> </ul>
13	Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China: Ministry of Environmental Protection</li> <li>- Japan: Ministry of the Environment</li> <li>- ROK: Ministry of Environment</li> </ul>
14	Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : National Health and Family Planning Commission</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare</li> <li>- ROK : Ministry of Health and Welfare</li> </ul>
15	Trilateral Agricultural Ministers' Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</li> <li>- ROK : Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs</li> </ul>
16	Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : Ministry of Water Resources</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism</li> <li>- ROK : Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport</li> </ul>
17	Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : Ministry of Culture</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology</li> <li>- ROK: Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism</li> </ul>
18	Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : National Tourism Administration</li> <li>- Japan : Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism</li> <li>- ROK: Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism</li> </ul>
19	Heads of Personnel Authorities Meeting among China, Japan, and Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- China : Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security</li> <li>- Japan : National Personnel Authority</li> <li>- ROK : Ministry of Personnel Management</li> </ul>







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