International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2016 & 1st Trilateral Public Diplomacy Forum

Final Outcome Report

Deepening Dialogue and Communication - Pushing Trilateral Cooperation to a New Level

Friday, April 29, 2016

S-Tower, 20th Fl., 82 Saemunan-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, ROK
Tel: +82.2.733.4700 / Fax: +82.2.733.2525 / E-mail: tcs@tcs-asia.org
Web: http://www.tcs-asia.org

Follow us on:
https://www.facebook.com/TrilateralCooperationSecretariat
https://www.twitter.com/TCS_tweet
**Disclaimer**

The summaries of speeches and discussions contained in this report are drafted by the TCS without consultation with the participated speakers and panelists. Therefore, the quotations from this report is strictly prohibited without prior consultation with the TCS as well as respected speakers and panelists.
ABOUT IFTC

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) is an annual forum that brings together eminent scholars/policy makers to share and offer new insights into the political climate, economic cooperation, and socio-cultural ties among the three countries. IFTC is held on a regular and rotational basis among the three countries, targeted at participants of government dignitaries, scholars, business leaders, journalists and civil society leaders from the three countries. The inaugural IFTC was held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the ROK and Sejong Institute in Seoul, ROK, in 2011, commemorating the launch of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS). The TCS has succeeded the initiative and organized the IFTC as its annual independent project since IFTC 2012 held in Seoul, ROK. In 2015, the TCS decided to organize the IFTC in the three countries on a rotational basis and hosted IFTC 2015 in Tokyo, Japan.

On April 29, 2016, the TCS organized IFTC 2016 and the 1st Trilateral Forum on Public Diplomacy in Beijing, China, in collaboration with China Public Diplomacy Association. Under the theme of “Deepening dialogue and communication, pushing trilateral cooperation to a new level”, the Forum also served as a timely follow-up to the 6th Trilateral Summit, aiming to raise awareness of the importance of public diplomacy in cultural and people-to-people exchanges among China, Japan and Korea.

The IFTC 2016 was attended by dignitaries from Japan, China and ROK including Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Mr. Zhang Yesui, Vice-Chairman of the 9th and 10th NPC Standing Committee of China Mr. Xu Jialu, Former Prime Minister of the ROK Mr. Goh Kun, and Chairman of General Council, Liberal Democratic Party of Japan Mr. Nikai Toshihiro. The dignitaries delivered congratulatory remarks and keynote speeches to share their insights and expectation for the development of trilateral cooperation.

Most unfortunately, Mr. WAKAMIYA, Senior Fellow of Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), who was invited to the Forum as one of the speakers in Session 3, suddenly passed away the day before the Forum. All speakers and audiences paid a silent tribute at the beginning of the Forum and Session 3.
Opening Remarks by Mr. ZHANG Yesui

In the speech, Mr. ZHANG Yesui said that China, Japan and the ROK are important countries in Asia and major economies in the world. Being geographical neighbors, the three countries have enjoyed complementary advantages, deeper economic cooperation and closer people-to-people and cultural exchanges in recent years. The trilateral cooperation is an important part of East Asia cooperation, which makes positive contributions to maintaining peace and stability of East Asia and promoting the regional development. Emphasizing that practical and deep cooperation among the three countries needs a solid political foundation and broad support from the people, he called upon the three countries to properly solve relevant sensitive issues, especially historical issues in the spirit of "facing the history squarely and advancing toward the future", with a purpose of improving relevant bilateral relationships to lay a solid political foundation for trilateral cooperation. In the meantime, he emphasized that the three countries should jointly advocate and implement the concepts of “friendliness, inclusiveness and harmony”, expand cultural exchanges and develop Olympic economy and tourism cooperation. He added that the three countries should establish more public platforms and collect social forces to inject positive energy to promote mutual understanding and boost relationships among people of the three countries.

Congratulatory Remarks by Mr. KIM Jang-soo

Mr. KIM Jang-soo underscored the importance of trilateral cooperation as the three countries play a central role in Northeast Asia covering 23% of the world’s GDP. He added that trilateral cooperation is constantly restoring since the resumption of the Trilateral Summit in November 2015. Despite such developments in trilateral cooperation, Mr. KIM pointed out the intensifying conflicts over political and security issues, and emphasized the significance of Trilateral Summit providing various opportunities to develop trilateral cooperation.
Keynote Speech by Mr. XU Jialu

In his speech, Mr. XU Jialu focused on the crisis of humanity and building a community of shared destiny in East Asia. He elaborated that humanity is in an unpleasant era of crisis. Unlike in the past when human beings suffered natural crises of earthquakes, tsunami and volcanic eruptions, the major and severe crises they are facing now are all man-made. He maintained that when we look at the present situation around the world, conflicts, wars, terrorism are all caused by human being as each party has its own vision or reason for such act, adding that inequality is evident in race and gender around the world and even the environmental condition is becoming unfriendly due to human involvement. These problems, he said, need urgent and collective attention by not only Asian countries but the world as a whole.

Mr. Xu furthered that China, Japan and Korea lost many of their cultures in their quest for industrialization. The transformation in the wake of learning from the west was so fast that society has lost its balance, which gave rise to many social problems and further resulted in conflicts and crisis. Given the situation, he urged people of the three countries to learn from their ancient culture and help find solutions to the current challenges facing the world, by arguing that “culture is our uniting tool, we need to look at our past, present and future”. He called on the three countries to work together to rejuvenate their tradition and ancient civilization, strengthen cultural and people-to-people exchange and foster a common value shared by the three countries, with a vision of building a community of shared destiny in East Asia and making due contribution to peace and prosperity in the world.
Keynote Speech by Mr. GOH Kun

Mr. GOH Kun underscored the importance of establishing regional governance among the three countries to solve various global issues and to strengthen trilateral cooperation. Although the three countries developed cooperative measures in many aspects, he expressed his concern that the three countries did not yet overcome the Asian Paradox. In order for the common prosperity in the three countries, he mentioned the cooperation among the European Union nations as a good example of mutual benefit. Mr. KOH pointed out that the three countries should not forget its long history of peace and cooperation. In regards to other existing issues, he stated that North Korean nuclear program is an existential threat of the three countries and asked to strengthen trilateral cooperation to address safety issues. Furthermore, Mr. GOH underscored the necessity of coordinated response from the three countries on environmental issues and suggested the political leaders of the three countries to hold Trilateral Environmental Summit on a regular basis.

Mr. GOH concluded his speech by stressing the need for a balanced structure, where the three countries develop peace and prosperity through mutual respect and competition. Furthermore, he underlined the necessity of political leadership of the three countries to promote successful public diplomacy.

Keynote Speech by Mr. NIKAI Toshihiro

Mr. NIKAI Toshihiro began his remarks with the appreciation to China and Korea for their condolences to Kumamoto earthquake, and called for promoting trilateral cooperation in the area of disaster. He touched upon U.N.’s designation of November 5th as World Tsunami Day, which is originally proposed by him and will take effect in 2016. Mr. Nikai took his strong emphasis on the imperativeness of a spirit of mutual understanding and helpfulness among young generation especially in the disaster affected area. Looking ahead the high potential of young generation and future of the three countries, Mr. NIKAI informed that Japan will invite one thousand youth from China, Korea and other Asia-pacific countries annually. As one of such inviting activities, Japan will hold World Tsunami Day High School Student Forum. He also referred to 2016 Trilateral Youth Summit, which will be held in Japan announced by Japanese Prime Minister Abe in the 6th Trilateral Summit. He concluded his remarks by highlighting the preciousness of neighboring countries and suggested that governments of the three countries make joint efforts to help their people fully recognize it.
SESSION 1
SEEKING COMMONALITY:
TRILATERAL COOPERATION FOR PEACE AND STABILITY
IN NORTHEAST ASIA AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY

MODERATOR
IWATANI Shigeo
Former Secretary-General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)

SPEAKERS
ZHAO Qizheng
Former Minister of the State Council Information Office of China
WU Jianmin
Member of Foreign Policy Advisory Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
YANG Bojiang
Deputy Director of Institute of Japanese Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS)
ISHIGAKI Yasuji
Trustee and Councilor of The Japan Forum on International Relations, President of the Council on East Asian Community
KAIEDA Banri
Chairman of Japan-China International Communication Promote
TOYAMA Kiyohiko
Member of the House of Representative in the Japanese Diet
JINBO Ken
Associate Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University
SHIN Bong-kil
Visiting Professor of Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University
SHIN Jung-seung
Professor Emeritus and Director of Center for Chinese Studies, Dongseo University
MOON Chung-in
Visiting Professor of Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University

Session Overview
Session1 moderated by Mr. IWATANI Shigeo, former Secretary-General of TCS, promoted discussion on trilateral cooperation to cope with common political and security challenges in the region. This session brought together eminent scholars and former government officials from China, Japan, and the ROK to address a range of issues including history reconciliation, new regional security regime, trilateral parliament exchange, Korean Peninsula issue, etc.

Presentations
Mr. ZHAO Qizheng opened his presentation by pointing out the speedy development of public diplomacy and the
increasingly important role it plays in the relations among China, Japan and Korea. He remarked that in addition to the governments, general public in the three countries have become active players in carrying out public diplomacy. He explained that given the complexity and fluctuation of the trilateral relations influenced by history and territory disputes, political dialogues at government level sometimes became difficult and immature. Under this circumstances, the public-led public diplomacy becomes vital and indispensable as it provides a vehicle for sincere, candid, and in-depth dialogues, which can complement the Track 1 (government) interaction and make positive contribution for the improvement of inter-state relations. More importantly, people of the three countries can increase mutual understanding toward each other and build confidence through public diplomacy, which would create a favorable environment for the governments to solve difficult/disputed problems. He concluded by calling upon the three countries to focus on their common interests and pursue the path of feasible and practical cooperation.

Mr. WU Jianmin began his speech by calling attention to the three centers in the world. He summarized that the Middle East and North Africa is troubled by wars and turmoil, Europe is confronted with migrant and other crisis, while Asia, particularly East Asia, has become the engine for world economic growth and enjoys huge potential for development. Under this background, he noted that the relations among China, Japan and Korea is getting more and more important in the world arena. Regarding how to develop the trilateral relations, Mr. Wu echoed President Xi Jinping’s philosophy in pushing forward the China-US relations, which is to focus on cooperation and manage differences properly. He elaborated that the three countries should deepen cooperation in varied forms based on common interests. Meanwhile, the three countries should manage differences properly before they deteriorate and not let the differences hamper the trilateral cooperation and exert negative influence on the public.
Mr. YANG Bojiang raised three points in his presentation. Firstly, the three countries should reflect on and learn from history, including pre-modern history, with a view to improving bilateral relations and developing the trilateral cooperation unswervingly. Secondly, the trilateral cooperation faces many opportunities after the 6th Trilateral Summit. In terms of economic cooperation, the three countries can benefit from varied bilateral and multilateral FTA frameworks in the region such as CJK FTA, RCEP and TPP; in terms of non-traditional security cooperation, the three countries can work together to enhance nuclear safety such as establishing data sharing mechanism of nuclear contamination; in terms of cultural cooperation, the three countries can organize dialogues on culture and civilization and conduct in-depth research on basic concepts of the commonly-used Chinese characters. Thirdly, the three countries should seize the historic opportunity for development and shoulder the responsibility of rejuvenating Asian culture and civilization in the world.

Mr. ISHIGAKI Yasuji noted that the resumption of Trilateral Summit has driven the development of trilateral cooperation in wide ranging fields and pushed ahead high-level dialogues among the three governments. These large steps forward of trilateral relations are the result of strong political will among the three Leaders and should not be reverted again to political strain. Moreover, the agreement reached between Japan and ROK on "comfort women" issue has contributed significantly to the improvement of regional political situation. On the other hand, he pointed out that misunderstanding of the national perceptions still exist among the three countries. In addition, the pressing North Korea nuclear issue has complicated the security situation in the region. Under this circumstances, Mr. Ishigaki suggested that the three countries should overcome differences and maintain dialogues, and work together to ensure peaceful settlement of these problems in accordance with the UN Charters and the relevant international laws. To improve security situation in East Asia, he added that the ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) should be held biannually to ensure frequent dialogues among stakeholders in the region.

Mr. KAIEDA Banri touched upon three issues in his presentation. Firstly, in order to realize the goal of 30 million people exchange among the three countries by 2020, which was stated in the Joint Declaration of the 6th Trilateral Summit, the three countries should
further promote people-to-people exchange. Mentioning that fewer Japanese tourists visiting China and Korea compared to the number of Chinese and Korean tourists visiting Japan, he suggested the Japanese government come up with incentive methods to change the tourism imbalance, such as providing more opportunities for students to learn Chinese and Korean languages and encourage youth exchange. Regarding trilateral trade relations, he underscored the importance of accelerating CJK FTA negotiation as he believed a high-level and mutually beneficial FTA will boost the trade volume among the three countries. Commenting on North Korea nuclear issue, he strongly advocated the denuclearization in East Asia, and hoped that China can play a more active role in resuming the Six Party Talks.

Mr. TOYAMA Kiyohiko talked about the importance of parliament exchange in promoting the trilateral relations. He introduced that last year, Natsuo Yamaguchi, the leader of New Komeito visited China and Korea and met with President Xi Jinping and President Park Geun-hye, respectively to exchange views on various issues, which would have facilitated the productive interaction between Japanese government and its two neighbors. He also touched upon the “China-Japan Ruling Party Exchange Meeting” held in March last year, where the two sides shared importance on further improvement of China-Japan relations. He also mentioned “China-Japan Future Generation Exchange Committee”, formed up by Japanese youth parliament members, visited China last year to learn about the Chinese history related to the WWII. In terms of Japan-Korea parliament exchange, “Japan-Korea Parliament Members Association” organizes meeting every year to have candid discussion on issues of common concern, which also contributed to the settlement of the “comfort women” issue between Japan and Korea. REMARKING that the bilateral parliament exchange is helpful in improving inter-state relations, he hoped such exchange could be expanded to trilateral framework and called for concerted effort of the three countries.

Mr. JINBO Ken provided his insights on the role of people-to-people exchange in facilitating trilateral security issue. He acknowledged Northeast Asian security architecture as three divided layers: 1) U.S.-axised military alliance network, 2) security cooperation on specific areas such as non-traditional security and countering international terrorism, and 3) multi-regional security mechanism represented by ASEAN security dialogue whose scope has expanded to the entire Asia. Highlighting the high potential for the three countries to enhance cooperation on second and third layers, he gave three suggestions including 1) creation of a new mechanism on risk management and confidence building, 2) enhancement of mutual assistance mechanism on Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HA/DR), and 3) maritime security cooperation. He emphasized the significant role of Track 2 level such as think-tanks in facilitating those security cooperation.

In his presentation, Mr. SHIN Bong-gil made three concrete proposals for strengthening trilateral cooperation in political and security areas. Firstly, the Trilateral Summit should be regularized and held annually regardless of political atmosphere. China’s leadership is important for the regularization of the Trilateral Summit. Secondly, the most important issues need to be discussed at the Trilateral Summit for history reconciliation. Like EU, the three countries need to make “grand historical reconciliation”, without which peace and stability in Northeast Asia cannot be fully achieved. US role could also be considered in the “grand historical reconciliation”. Starting with working-level discussions, it is highly expected that “Joint Declaration on Historical Reconciliation” could be adopted in the future Trilateral Summit. Thirdly, an epoch-making decision is highly needed in Northeast Asia to prevent the region from reverting to Cold-War order. North Korea nuclear issue is the crux of instability in the region. We should get rid of “cold-war” thinking in addressing this issue, instead, solution could be sought under the framework of New Regional Order for Peace in Northeast Asia. Mr. SHIN suggested that Northeast Asia should organize a Peace Talk involving North Korea and US to establish a new peace regime in the region.

Mr. SHIN Jung-seung pointed out that trilateral cooperation has been relatively weak in the area of
traditional security, due to long-standing conflicts over history and territorial issues and differences in national security policies. Nevertheless, on the North Korea nuclear issue, the three countries made unified voice in denuclearizing North Korea, especially the commitment made by the Chinese government to implement relevant UN Resolution, is an encouraging factor for security cooperation in the region. Highlighting peace and stability in Northeast Asia is the common goal for the three countries, Mr. SHIN called upon the three countries to work harder to denuclearize North Korea by considering establishing a trilateral cooperation mechanism for effective implementation of the sanctions.

Mr. MOON Chung-in mainly talked about the community building in Northeast Asia. The three countries should begin by creating an economic community, supplemented by a cultural community, while promoting the efforts to establish a ‘security community’ featuring common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. In the process of community building, the three countries should overcome barriers such as history and maritime disputes as well as North Korea nuclear crisis. Secondly, the three countries should overcome exclusive nationalism, as the clash of nationalisms would not only make the regional identity building difficult, but may also lead to political/military conflicts. Thirdly, the three countries should try to overcome the negative spillover effects of domestic politics. A country’s foreign policy is usually influenced by its domestic politics and sometimes utilized to arouse animosities for their domestic political gains, which is harmful to the cooperation in Northeast Asia. In conclusion, Mr. MOON advocated the three countries to adopt the philosophy of “harmony in diversity” to realize peace and common prosperity in Northeast Asia.

Discussion and Q&A

In the discussion session, the moderator raised a question on how the three countries should enhance cooperation in dealing with North Korea nuclear issue.

In general, all speakers reached consensus in the following points. Firstly, the three countries should take a unified stance in denuclearizing North Korea and make their best effort to prevent its further nuclear tests. Secondly, the three countries should work together to ensure full implementation of UN sanctions against North Korea’s nuclear and missile programs. Thirdly, sanction itself is not a final solution. North Korea nuclear issue should be resolved through dialogue and negotiations.

In the meantime, opinions varied on how to respond to North Korea’s possible fifth round of nuclear test. Mr. Shin Jung-seung suggested that the international community tighten sanctions, while Mr. MOON Chung-in believed stronger sanctions might have rebound effect and suggested exploring other solutions. With regard to the roles of concerned countries, many speakers believed China, as the initiator of the Six Party Talks, should take a leading role in bringing back concerned countries to the negotiation table, while others thought US should play a more constructive role, by re-examining its policy toward North Korea and exploring the possibility of normalizing dialogue with North Korea. Mr. Moon shared the opinion that all the concerned countries should equally share the burden and work together toward peaceful settlement of the issue, rather than pointing fingers at each other. Mr. TOYAMA Kiyohiko suggested that, given the difficulty of resuming Six Party Talks at the current stage, more feasible methods should be explored in a step-by-step manner, such as starting trilateral dialogue among CJK first and gradually involve more countries including US and Russia.
SESSION 2
HIGH COMPLEMENTARITIES AND GREAT POTENTIAL OF THE THREE ECONOMIES: ESSENCE OF TRILATERAL COOPERATION

MODERATOR
Li Daokui
Dean of Schwarzman Scholars, Tsinghua University

SPEAKERS
LIN Yifu
Vice President of All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce and Former Vice President of the World Bank
CHI Fullin
President of China Institute for Reform and Development
ITOH Motoshige
Professor of Faculty of International Social Sciences, Gakushuin University
EHARA Noriyoshi
Chief Economist of Institute for International Trade and Investment of Japan
CHUNG Duck Koo
Chairman of North East Asia Research (NEAR) Foundation, Former Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK
LIM Ho Yeol
Vice President for Northeast Asian Economies, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP)

Session Overview
In Session II, prominent speakers from the three countries facilitated the discussion on trilateral economic issues, examining current economic situations of the three countries and sharing prospects as well as suggestions for future trilateral economic cooperation.

Presentations
Mr. LIN Yifu underscored the importance of China for the economic growth of Japan and ROK, given the fact that both Japan and ROK are China’s major trading partners and the three economies are increasingly complimentary to each other. Mr. LIN noted that the possibility of maintaining more than 6.5% GDP growth rate is one of the major issues China is currently facing. The double-digit growth rate has been consecutively decreasing and reached a record low rate since 1990. Mr. LIN pointed out the exterior factors as the key reason for economic deterioration. Providing with an example of the declining economic situation of the other countries of BRICS, he explained that many developed countries did not recover from the financial crisis and are facing large amount of housing debt which decreased their consumption rate. He noted that in 2015 China’s export fell by 1.8% from due to the global recession.

Despite the decline in the growth rate and export, Mr. LIN
Mr. LIN Yifu pointed out that the Chinese economic development strategy is in a transformation stage after the release of the 13th Five-Year Plan. He noted two transformations: 1) from development of manufacturing industry to service industry and 2) from spending of goods to services. In explanation to the transformation, Mr. CHI Fulin expected that the 1) percentage of service industry will increase from 50% to 58% in China by 2020 and 2) spending in services such as health, medical treatment, tourism, etc. in the cities will increase from 45% to 50% by 2020. Mr. CHI Fulin stressed the need for another Chinese reform and opening-up policy focusing on trade in services. He underscored the necessity of such reforms in order to accelerate the free trade process within the three countries.

In this regard, Mr. CHI presented three proposals as follows: 1) Rapid development in trade in services; 2) another economic reform to liberalize trade in services; 3) acceleration of CJK FTA through economic reform.
Mr. ITOH Motoshige shared his view that China, Japan and the ROK are facing similar economic challenges and called for further cooperation among the three countries. He expected that the world economy might face a big turning point in the next 15 or 20 years. Mr. ITOH identified three major tasks to overcome the prolonged economic stagnation: 1) solving low birthrate and aging society problem; 2) technological innovation and 3) adjustment in the monetary policy.

In order to maintain stable growth, Mr. ITOH suggested the need for 1) technological innovation in the fields of IoT, AI, big data, etc.; 2) institutional reforms to solve low birthrate and aging society and 3) regional economic cooperation. He stated that the world economic prospect is not necessarily optimistic and underscored the importance of strengthening economic partnership and necessity of promoting various kinds of dialogue between the three countries.

Mr. EHARA Noriyoshi referred to the complementarities and cultural similarities of the three countries, and noted the potential for synergy effects and called for cooperation among them. Furthermore, he pointed out that cooperation in the field of creative and innovated economy could help to promote CJK FTA.

Mr. EHARA, then, underscored the importance of three countries' cooperation in the field of: 1) urbanization and 2) robot industry.

He explained that, under the current administration, Japan has entered the second stage of its growth strategy which finds ways to revive the economy through technologies innovation inductive in the fields of robotic, ICT, etc., and improving business environment for investment.

Mr. EHARA expects that urbanization based on technologies such as IoT, robots, driverless and electric cars, creates a strong foundation for a creative and innovative economy. Regarding the cooperation in the robotic industry, he pointed out that robotic technology is becoming more advanced and expected to become commercialized in Japan. He noted the various opportunities for cooperation in this field and stressed the need for joint development for robotic technology and creation of common guideline for robotic regulations.

Concluding his speech, Mr. EHARA pointed out that the world is entering into the 4th industrial revolution, and identified that trilateral cooperation for the development of creative and innovated economy will greatly contribute to the development of the global economy.

Mr. CHUNG Duck-koo began his remarks by pointing out that the three countries are facing transitional period where the previous structures for economic growth are being questioned after the global financial crisis: 1) economic reform in China; 2) advanced technology and capital strength in Japan and 3) manufacturing based structure in ROK.

Mr. CHUNG described that the global economy is facing long-term economic recession after the financial crisis in 2008, and pointed out the ineffectiveness of current monetary policies.

Mr. CHUNG presented four stages of economic
development: 1) ascending period; 2) outrunning period; 3) stagnation period and 4) declining period. In this regard, he described the current phases of the three countries: 1) China is in the phase between the successful ascending to outrunning period; 2) Japan in the stagnation period and 3) ROK between outrunning to stagnation period.

Referring to the importance of the broad-scale structure adjustment for the economic revival of United Kingdom, Mr. CHUNG identified three core tasks for the three countries: 1) forming complimentary relationship; 2) promoting open-door policy and 3) expanding the range of balancing measures for cooperation among the three countries.

Mr. LIM Ho-yeol underscored the necessity of CJK FTA for forming balanced market that covers for all consumer levels. He identified the different consumption structures of the three countries: 1) pyramid consumption structure in China; 2) upper-income class consumption structure in Japan and 3) middle-income class consumption structure in ROK.

Mr. LIM pointed out the economic policies of the three countries have similarities: 1) promoting economic growth and strengthening industrial competitiveness through innovative economy; 2) improving efficiency through regulatory reforms and 3) creating virtuous cycle through domestic market activation.

Considering these similarities, economic cooperation of the three countries would produce 1) expansion of new industries through exchange in new technologies; 2) improvement in efficiency through mutual opening of the markets and 3) increase of consumption through market integration.

In particular, Mr. LIM stressed the necessity of cooperation in the field of innovative economy, as the three countries agreed to form a consultative group to develop collaborative areas in creative and innovative strategies. Furthermore, he underscored the importance of continuous discussion and exchanges for the establishment and improvement of the new industry regulations.

Concluding his speech, Mr. LIM suggested three specific tasks for cooperation: 1) operation of pilot clusters for certain industries such as high-tech medical cluster; 2) partnership in new technologies through mutual participation in start-up platforms and 3) mutual understanding to include some provisions in CJK FTA such as Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA), consumer protection in digital market and protection of intellectual property rights, that are essential for promoting new industries.

Discussion and Q&A

(1) Regarding the current situation of negative interest rate and revaluation of Japanese Yen, Mr. ITOH mentioned the need for the exchange rate stability of Yen and stressed the necessity of trilateral cooperation in the financial sector to correspond to the global economic recession.

(2) About trilateral cooperation on environmental issues, Mr. LIM responded that the Chinese government is showing active efforts to solve environmental issues and asked the three countries to take cooperative measures to achieve sustainable environment.

(3) For the question on whether the United States will exceed China in the manufacturing sector, Mr. LIM stated that comparing manufacturing sectors of the two countries is difficult, since the role and the structure of China and US are different from each other. Mr. CHUNG added that the industries are forming value-added chain structure, where each country represent different streams of division according to its industrial structure and stage of development.

(4) Regarding the prospects of CJK economy in the next 10 years, the speakers called for economic integration of Northeast Asia and supported high-level FTA to achieve a win-win-win situation.
SESSION 3
PROMOTING PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE AND MEDIA EXCHANGE:
ENHANCING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP

MODERATOR
LV Fengding
Vice President of the China Public Diplomacy Association

SPEAKERS
WANG Gengnian
Director-General of China Radio International (CRI),
YANG Lan
Cofounder and Chairperson of the Sun Media Group and the Sun Culture Foundation
NIE Weiping
Vice President of Chinese Weiqi Association
SHIRANISHI Shinichirou
President of the Japan-China Society, Inc
KATO Yasushi
Bureau chief of the Kyodo News Beijing office
PARK Jin-bum
Producer of KBS <Super China>
LEE Hee-ok
Director of Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU) Institute of China Studies

Session Overview
Session 3 examined the significance of people-to-people exchange and promoted discussion on media’s responsibility and its role of facilitating mutual understanding among the three countries.

Presentations
Mr. WANG Gengnian opened his remarks by sharing the outcome of “Asia Media Summit”, hosted by CRI in the occasion of Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2016. He argued that while China, Japan and Korea encompass different national circumstances and development status, all three countries seek for the common appeal on mutual understanding and cooperation, as well as building up the platform for common development. Responding to this, media takes an irreplaceable and significant role. Throughout CRI’s numerous collaborative projects with Japan and Korea, Mr. WANG proposed three suggestions including: 1) exploring more common interests for mutual cooperation instead of minor differences, 2) creating platform for mutual exchange and information sharing, and 3) launching more tangible projects which make a positive change in diplomatic and political relations.

Ms. YANG Lan presented her observation on the trilateral relations by sharing her abundant experiences of interviews with well-known figures that impressed her of solid friendship between the people of the three countries. In
addition, analyzing the result of a public survey on people’s impression on each other, she argued that media’s role is not deepening misunderstanding by meeting general public’s bias, but providing sufficient and in-depth information from an objective perspective. Ms. YANG closed her remarks by providing three suggestions to further enhance trilateral cooperation in 1) popular culture such as animation, games, robot through conducting exhibitions and exchanges; 2) the area of design such as architecture, fashion and plays; 3) women exchange by enhancing women’s role in social development of the three countries.

Mr. NIE Weiping, as a professional go player, provided his insight from the perspective of go exchange among the three countries. Tracing back to the go development in the three countries, he emphasized Japan’s contribution to developing skills of Chinese go players as well as Korea in the past years. In addition, he highlighted a lot of endeavors made by the old generations of political leaders of the three countries to build up the solid foundation of friendship through go exchange. Comparing to these old generations’ commitments, he echoed the views of Ms. YANG on pointing out the existing distrust in current trilateral/bilateral relationships in which the media bears some responsibilities. Lastly, Mr. NEI reminded us to develop the relationships between China and Japan as well as China and Korea in strategic vision as go game.

Mr. SHIRANISHI Shinichi noted his satisfaction with the increasing mutual exchange between Japan and China through tourism, culture and economic exchanges despite the fragile bilateral relations in state level. On the other hand, he pointed out that in spite of this positive phenomenon, media’s coverage has tended to focus on the mutual disputes which make huge influence on public opinions. He asserted that along with the “facts”, media also should tell the “truth” by enumerating the island dispute between Japan and China. He also touched upon North Korean Nuclear issue, suggesting solving the problems through dialogue and discussion at the occasion.
of international platforms instead of overpowering with military force. Mr. SHIRANISHI encouraged the three countries to learn both from the reconciliation between France and Germany towards the integration of the Europe as well as the spirit of Confucius which tells us the importance of neighbors towards building an East Asia Community.

Mr. KATO Yasushi began by echoing Mr. SHIRANISHI’s criticism on media’s biased coverage, and clarified the ultimate purpose for his work is to make his best to remain neutral and unbiased report as much as they can. He asserted that media is not the catalyst of propagating government’s claims but independent from the government which reports both Japanese government’s position as well as variety of different opinions. The utmost important role of media is to promote mutual understanding and trust among the people. In particular, as Kyodo News Agency whose readers are not only Japanese but also foreigners, it is crucial to produce neutral coverage to earn the trust of wide range of readers. Analyzing the current trilateral relation as well as its future direction, Mr. KATO acknowledged that bilateral relations of Japan-China and Japan-ROK showed slow progress than expected, and new conflicts might be constantly occurred in the future. Responding to this concern, he believes that media can take the role of easing these conflicts through the foreign news coverage in facilitating mutual exchange in this region.

Mr. PARK Jin-bum started his remarks with his own stories to examine that three countries have close ties with each other and share commonalities in culture. Through producing “Super China” and other documentaries in several regions, he recognized that Northeast Asia is the most energetic region, and achieved remarkable economic development. In order to explore measures to further develop the trilateral cooperation, Mr. PARK suggested 1) eliminating the biases on each other and building up durable friendship, and 2) exploring cooperative agendas including joint media report on common cultures and well-known figures in the three counties such as Korean poet Mr. Yun Dong-ju. He concluded his remarks by emphasizing the three countries should follow the principle of “seeking common ground while reserving differences”.

Mr. LEE Hee-ok highlighted the significance of creating “Humanities community”, which can take the role of maintaining the steady relations among the three countries when the high-level policies don’t function well. Comparing to the experience of the EU, he draw on the philosophical elements to promote trilateral cooperation including “Community sharing common destiny”, “coexistence”, “accepting mixed identities” and “correlation”. In addition, he underscored that East Asia cooperation is beneficial to all three countries, and advised to convene Trilateral Summit annually despites any difficulties, enhance local cities exchange as well as strengthen youth exchange.

Mr. WAKAMIYA Yoshibumi planned to express his insights on the role of media in promoting mutual understanding and friendship. According to his presentation materials, he would propose to make a project of Trilateral Joint Newspaper called as “同舟新聞 (Same board Newspaper)”, which referred to the common four-character idiomatic compounds “呉越同舟” with his wish to eliminate misunderstandings and build mutual trust among the three countries.
Mr. CHO Hyun-dong shared his view that this Forum provided a precious opportunity for the government, academia, media, and other various sectors of the three countries to discuss trilateral cooperation measures. He underscored the importance of sharing proper knowledge and policy for public diplomacy.

He underscored the importance of the people-to-people exchange among the three countries. He explained that forming trust and friendship will brighten up the future of the three countries. He provided with a recent example of the trilateral youth cooperation in the Inner Mongolian Autonomy Region, where the youth of the three countries shared mutual understanding on environment issues through activities such as combating desertification.

He underscored the significance of trilateral cooperation in public diplomacy and hoped to hold Public Diplomacy Forum on a regular basis.

Mr. YANG Houlan stated in his closing remarks that enhancing trilateral cooperation in public diplomacy is one of the important consensus reached by the three leaders in the 6th Trilateral Summit. He noted with satisfaction that the Forum is a meaningful endeavor to encourage candid exchange between governments and general public of the three countries. Emphasizing that the three countries are influenced by East Asian civilization and share a lot of cultural commonalities, he believed the three countries have natural advantage in carrying out public diplomacy cooperation and suggested expanding the cooperation through varied channels. He added that the ultimate goal of public diplomacy is to connect people’s hearts and minds. This cause needs great support not only from the three governments, but also from the wide social communities. He stated that the TCS stands ready to serve as a bridge for sincere communication and friendly exchange among the people of the three countries, and expressed hope to enhance cooperation with public diplomacy organizations in the three countries and looked forward to the 2nd Trilateral Public Diplomacy Forum in Korea.
Deepening Dialogue and Communication -
Pushing Trilateral Cooperation to a New Level
Friday, April 29, 2016

International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation 2016
& 1st Trilateral Public Diplomacy Forum
Final Outcome Report

S-Tower, 20th Fl., 82 Saemunan-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, ROK
Tel: +82.2.733.4700 / Fax: +82.2.733.2525 / E-mail: tcs@tcs-asia.org
Web: http://www.tcs-asia.org

Follow us on:
https://www.facebook.com/TrilateralCooperationSecretariat
https://www.twitter.com/TCS_tweet