NEAR
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
A Hub of Exchange & Cooperation in Northeast Asia
The Secretariat of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
The 6th North East Asia Regional Governments Association
21C is the age of Northeast Asia

Northeast Asia - a place where age-old history lives on with brilliant culture, a land blessed with valuable natural resources, abundant talents and technology.

Now, overcoming the wall of ideology and hostility in history, it is taking a great leap into the future full of hope and limitless growth potential.

Northeast Asia, one of the pillars of the world, ushers in a new era of peace and prosperity turning a new page of history through mutual exchange, cooperation and unity.
NEAR is

an international organization founded by 29 regional governments from four Northeast Asian countries, including People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation in September 1996 in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea. NEAR is committed to contributing to the co-development of the region and world peace by enhancing mutual exchange and cooperation based on the spirit of reciprocity and equity.

After adopting the Charter based on the ideology of co-prosperity of Northeast Asia, NEAR has been practicing extensive exchange and cooperation projects in various fields ranging from economy and trade to cultural exchanges, environment, disaster prevention to general exchanges, cross-border cooperation to science and technology.

With the accession of new regional governments from DPRK and Mongolia, NEAR is growing to a local diplomacy and cooperation organization representing Northeast Asia with 65 member regional governments from six countries.

**NEAR is open to all.**

Any local government located in the Northeast Asian region sharing the founding purpose of NEAR can join us through the approval of NEAR General Assembly.

- 3F, Pohang Techno Park, 601 Gigok-dong, Nam-gu, Pohang-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do
- Tel +82-54-223-2311~8, Fax +82-54-223-2309
- HOMEPAGE: www.neargov.org

*NEAR is the abbreviation for the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, and the English word ‘near’ itself has the meaning of close intimacy.*
NEAR
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

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Introduction to NEAR

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

Goals and Principle

To contribute to the co-development of Northeast Asia by promoting exchange and cooperation in every field including administration, economy and culture based on the spirit of reciprocity and equity.

Background of Foundation

- To maximize the limitless growth potential of Northeast Asia, which is emerging as one of the three pillars of the world economy.
- To cope with globalization and formation of economic blocs by promoting reasonable regionalization.
- To create synergy effect by complementing diversity among different regions.

These demands raised the necessity to create a regional cooperative body to achieve "Bottom-up" exchanges.

History

NEAR...
- was founded in Gyeongju City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province in September 1996 with the participation of the leaders of 29 regional governments from four countries, namely China, Japan, Korea and Russia.
- established the Secretariat in 2005 in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea, in accordance with the decision made by the 5th General Assembly held in 2004.
- expanded its membership into 65 regional governments with the accession of new members at the 6th General Assembly held in Busan in 2006.

Official Emblem

- The emblem represents the bright and prosperous future of Northeast Asia, which is marked in green on a sphere world map that signifies the open global village.
Members - 65 Members from 6 Countries

**CHINA (6)**
- Heilongjiang Province
- Henan Province
- Hubei Province
- Hunan Province
- Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region
- Shandong Province

**JAPAN (10)**
- Aomori Prefecture
- Yamagata Prefecture
- Niigata Prefecture
- Toyama Prefecture
- Ishikawa Prefecture
- Fukui Prefecture
- Kyoto Prefecture
- Hyogo Prefecture
- Tottori Prefecture
- Shimane Prefecture

**KOREA (11)**
- Busan Metropolitan City
- Daegu Metropolitan City
- Gyeonggi-do Province
- Gangwon-do Province
- Chungcheongbuk-do Province
- Chungcheongnam-do Province
- Jeollabuk-do Province
- Jeollanam-do Province
- Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
- Gyeongsangnam-do Province
- Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

**MONGOLIA (22)**
- Ulaanbaatar City
- Arkhangai Province
- Bayanulgiy Province
- Bayankhongor Province
- Bulgan Province
- Govi-Altai Province
- Govisumber Province
- Darkhan-Uul Province
- Domod Province
- Dornogovi Province
- Dund-govi Province
- Zavkhan Province
- Orkhon Province
- Uvs Province
- Umnugovi Province
- Sukhbaatar Province
- Selenge Province
- Tuv Province
- Uvs Province
- Khovd Province
- Khuvsgul Province
- Khentii Province

**RUSSIA (14)**
- Primorskiy Territory
- Republic of Buryatia
- Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)
- Republic of Tyva
- Altai Territory
- Krasnoyarsk Territory
- Khabarovsk Territory
- Amur Region
- Kursk Region
- Kamchatka Region
- Sakhalin Region
- Tomsk Region
- Chita Region
- Ust-Orda Buryat Autonomous District

*Observer*: Liaoning Province of China and Yamaguchi Prefecture of Japan participate in various events of NEAR as observers, and share information related to NEAR.
Organization and Operation

- Secretariat (Secretary-General)
- Working Committee (Chair)
- General Assembly (Chair)
- Sub-Committee (Coordinator)

- Economy and Trade: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
- Environment: Toyama Prefecture
- Cultural Exchanges: Shimane Prefecture
- Disaster Prevention: Hyogo Prefecture
- General Exchanges: Toyama Prefecture
- Cross-border Cooperation: Amur Region
- Science and Technology: Gyeonggi-do Province
Major Activities

The General Assembly of North East Asia Regional Governments

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme legislative body of the Association, which consists of representatives of member regional governments and is held every two years.

- Appointment of auditors
- Determination and execution of business plans of NEAR
- Approval of budget, projects plans, settlement of accounts
- Resolution of member admission and dismissal
- Determination of membership fees
- Determination of the termination and liquidation of the Association
- Amendment of the Charter
- Determination of agenda related to the next General Assembly
- Determination of other necessary issues

Major Activities

- The 1st General Assembly (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, September 1996)
  - NEAR was officially launched as an inter-regional governmental organization and adopted seven joint agendas.
- The 2nd General Assembly (Toyama Prefecture, October 1998)
  - NEAR amended the Charter to expand the scope of membership and established five Sub-Committees.
- The 3rd General Assembly (Hyogo Prefecture, September 2000)
  - NEAR discussed the establishment of the Secretariat, and reached a consensus to encourage the participation of regional governments of DPRK.
- The 4th General Assembly (Khabarovsk Territory, September 2002)
  - NEAR approved the membership application of DPRK and Mongolia, and organized a joint working group to establish the Secretariat.
- The 5th General Assembly (Heilongjiang Province, September 2004)
  - NEAR decided to establish the Secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea and to create a Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation.
- The 6th General Assembly (Busan Metropolitan City, September 2006)
  - NEAR adopted a joint statement under the title “Prosperity of Northeast Asia and the role of NEAR” and created a Sub-Committee on Science and Technology.
History of Chairs

- The 1st Chair (Sept. 1996 ~ Sept. 1998) : Governor Lee, Eui Geun (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Korea)
- The 2nd Chair (Sept. 1998 ~ Sept. 2000) : Governor Nakaoki Yutaka (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
- The 3rd Chair (Sept. 2000 ~ Sept. 2002) : Governor Ido Toshizo (Hyogo Prefecture, Japan)
- The 4th Chair (Sept. 2002 ~ Sept. 2002) : Governor Victor I. Ishaev (Khabarovsk Territory, Russia)
- The 5th Chair (Sept. 2002 ~ Sept. 2004) : Governor Zhang Zuo Ji (Heilongjiang Province, China)
- The 6th Chair (Sept. 2004 ~ Sept. 2006) : Mayor Hur, Nam-Sik (Busan Metropolitan City, Korea)
- The 7th Chair (Sept. 2006 ~ Sept. 2008) : Governor Han Yu Qun, Governor Jiang Daming (Shandong Province, China)

Working Committee

The working committee consists of administrators (director-generals) nominated by the representative of each member. The chair of working committee shall convene a meeting at least once a year.

- Discussion of business plans and individual projects
- Documentation of annual reports and financial statements
- Coordination of opinions among members
- Determination of the establishment of sub-committees (composition, function and operation)
- Determination of issues delegated by the General Assembly to the working committee
- Discussion of measures on substantial exchanges in Northeast Asia

Major Activities

- The 1st Meeting (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, August 1997)
  - The Working Committee proposed joint projects in the fields of economy and trade, culture and arts and environment.
- The 2nd Meeting (Toyama Prefecture, July 1999)
  - The Working Committee had briefings on activities conducted by each Sub-Committee, and discussed the sharing fees.
- The 3rd Meeting (Hyogo Prefecture, August 2001)
  - The Working Committee discussed sharing of membership fee and establishing a Secretariat.
- The 4th Meeting (Heilongjiang Province, January 2004)
  - The Working Committee received the single application from Gyeongsangbuk-do Province to host the Secretariat.
- The 5th Meeting (Busan Metropolitan City, November 2005)
  - The Working Committee agreed to organize an Emblem Establishment Committee and to dispatch staffs from member regional governments to the Secretariat.
- The 6th Meeting (Shandong Province, September 2007)
  - The Working Committee discussed introduction of membership fee, retention of NEAR Secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province and establishment of two additional sub-committees.
Sub-Committees

A Sub-Committee consists of division directors of local governments who have interest in the field that each sub-committee is responsible for. A meeting may be convened if necessary.

- Each sub-committee reviews and discusses specific and substantial plans to coordinate opinions among regional governments for effective execution of respective projects initiated and led by member local governments.
- Each sub-committee reports the result of review and consultation on respective projects proposed by local governments to the working committee.
- Each sub-committee will have a coordinator (member local government) who will be in charge of liaison, coordination, and operation.
- The office term of a coordinator is 2 years, and it is not prevented from running for re-election.
- In principle, the operation of a sub-committee shall be done via telecommunications such as postal mail and fax.

Subcommittee on Economy and Trade (Coordinator - Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)

Objective

Promotion of co-prosperity and sustainable economic development of Northeast Asia by executing practical exchanges in economy and trade

Major Activities

- Northeast Asian Business Promotion Conference
  - Seminars on trade promotion, information exchange on investment policy, consultations on trade, and exhibition of specialty products and catalogues
  - Multilateral trade consultation fair on special products
  - Council for public-private investment facilitation
- Establishment of Northeast Asian Economy and Trade Network
  - Analyses on investment environments and resources of NEAR members
  - Facilitation of e-commerce through a supporting system of cyber e-marketplace
Conference

- The 1st Meeting in September 1998: 16 regional governments from four countries participated. Proposed to establish a network for trade and cooperation.
- The 2nd Meeting in November 1999: 14 regional governments from five countries participated. Proposed to expand the Business Promotion Meeting.
- The 3rd Meeting in May 2002: 16 regional governments from five countries participated. Decided to build a website for e-trade.
- The 4th Meeting in September 2003: 23 regional governments from five countries participated. Proposed constitution of a council on private investment promotion.
- The 5th Meeting in September 2004: 21 regional governments from five countries participated. Agreed to jointly cooperate to attract foreign investment and carry out joint development projects.
- The 6th Meeting in December 2005: 22 regional governments from five countries participated. Visited NEAR Secretariat and held consultation fair on special products.
- The 7th Meeting in December 2006: 36 regional governments from five countries participated. Members signed agreements on joint implementation projects.

Subcommittee on Environment (Coordinator: Toyama Prefecture)

Objective

Promotion of mutual cooperation among member regional governments within the region to resolve global environmental issues of the 21st century.

Major Activities

- Joint-research by members and NGOs on washed-up driftage along coasts.
- Joint research on migratory birds in Northeast Asia.
- Information exchange and preparation of environment preservation plans through Northeast Asian International Environmental Symposiums.
- Northeast Asia Youth Environment Seminar.

Conference

- The 1st Meeting in July 1999: 19 regional governments from five countries participated. Reviewed measures to promote cooperation in environmental issues.
- The 2nd Meeting in August 2000: 17 regional governments from three countries participated. Delivered reports on the cooperation status of respective projects on environmental issues.
- The 3rd Meeting in July 2001: 13 regional governments from four countries participated. Elected Toyama Prefecture as the next coordinator.
- The 4th Meeting in July 2002: 17 regional governments from five countries participated. Conducted joint research on migratory birds in Northeast Asia.
- The 5th Meeting in October 2003: 14 regional governments from four countries participated. Explained and discussed the outline of the White Paper on environment.
- The 6th Meeting in July 2004: 15 regional governments from five countries participated. Conducted evaluation on the current status of oil contamination in coastal areas.
- The 7th Meeting in July 2005: 14 regional governments from five countries participated. Conducted research on the washed-up driftage along the coast of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea of Korea.
Subcommittee on Cultural Exchange (Coordinator - Shimane Prefecture)

**Objective**
Promotion of mutual understanding of regional variety through exchange and cooperation in the fields of culture, academy and art

**Major Activities**
- "Wings of Exchange" Project in Northeast Asia (2002-2006)
  - Providing experiences on Japanese traditional culture to youths from member regions
  - Inviting traditional performance groups in Northeast Asia to Shimane Prefecture and exchanging activities with citizens in the Prefecture

**Conference**
- The 1st Meeting in November 2001: 9 regional governments from three countries participated. Proposed joint projects and reported on project implementation cases.
- The 2nd Meeting in August 2002: "Wings of Exchange" project to commemorate national exchange among China, Japan and Korea
- The 3rd Meeting in January and February 2003: "Wings of Exchange" project connecting China, Japan and Korea
- The 4th Meeting in August and November 2004: "Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane (August)", "Northeast Asia International Cultural Palette Project (November)"
- The 5th Meeting in July and November 2005: "Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane (July)", "Northeast Asia International Cultural Palette Project (November)"

Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention (Coordinator - Hyogo Prefecture)

**Objective**
Improvement of disaster prevention system in Northeast Asia and promotion of cooperation and solidarity among member regions

**Major Activities**
- Promotion of cooperative measures to prevent disasters such as earthquake, flood and forest fire
- Execution of exchange training on disaster prevention
  - Disaster prevention lessons: "Disaster in Asia and Its Prevention Measures"
  - Disaster prevention facility inspection: Disaster prevention facilities including Disaster Medical Center and Disaster Prevention Center
- Other disaster prevention projects
  - Survey on "Disaster Prevention Mechanism and Information Exchange Opinion" of all NEAR members
  - Periodical reports to members on results of disaster prevention study
Sub-Committee on General Exchanges (Coordinator - Toyama Prefecture)

Objective
Facilitation of mutual understanding and human and information exchange among NEAR members

Major Activities
- Northeast Asia “Ship of Exchange” (1997)
- Northeast Asian Women’s Conference (2001)
- Research network improvement project: building a result sharing system for research centers
- Collection of information on human resource development of NEAR members: available in the Toyama Prefecture Homepage

Conference
- The 1st Meeting in July 1999 : 22 regional governments from five countries participated. Consulted on measures to strengthen ties among research centers.
- The 2nd Meeting in August 2000 : 19 regional governments from four countries participated. Agreed to prepare a NEAR action plan for human resource development.
- The 3rd Meeting in July 2001 : 14 regional governments from four countries participated. “21C Northeast Asian Women’s Conference” was held.
- The 5th Meeting in October 2003 : 15 regional governments from five countries participated. Proposed building of the “Common House of six Northeast Asian nations.”
- The 6th Meeting in July 2003 : 18 regional governments from four countries participated. Reviewed the direction of human resource development projects.
Subcommittee on Cross-border Cooperation (Coordinator - Amur Region)

Objective
Expansion of practical cooperation in cross-border areas

Major Activities
- Review of the introduction of a system to simplify visa regime
- Facilitation of bank credit for financing external trade in cross-border areas
- Establishment of basic facilities for cross-border cooperation
- Introduction of legislation on cross-border cooperation and trade
- Foundation project of a comprehensive cross-border trade organization

Conference
- The 1st Meeting in June 2005: 18 member regional governments from four countries participated. Discussed new measures to promote cross-border exchange among NEAR members.
  * Amur Region became the new coordinator (former: Khabarovsk Territory) of the Subcommittee at the 6th NEAR General Assembly in September 2006.

Subcommittee on Science and Technology (Coordinator-Gyeonggi-do)

Objective
Promotion of cooperation in science and technology for co-development of the region

Major Activities
- Determination to establish Subcommittee on Science and Technology at the 6th General Assembly in September 2006
- Fairs and Conferences scheduled to be held to facilitate exchange among NEAR members in the fields of science and technology
- The 1st meeting of the Sub-committee was held in July 2007
Establishment of the Secretariat - Established in Pohang City of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Korea on 2 May 2005

Organizational Structure - 1 Department, 2 Divisions, 15 Staffs

- Secretary-General
- Deputy Secretary-General
- Planning and General Affairs Division (4 staffs)
- International Cooperation Division (9 staffs)

- Secretary General
- Staffs from Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: 5 persons
- Language specialists: one each for Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and English
- Staffs dispatched from NEAR members: 3 persons (China, Mongolia, Russia)
Functions
- Budgeting, budget execution and documentation of financial statements
- Liaison and coordination among NEAR members
- Execution of resolutions made by the General Assembly and the Working Committee
- Conducting exchange and cooperation projects in areas such as administration, economy and culture
- Operating NEAR homepage

Operation Principles
- To be the hub of exchange and cooperation in Northeast Asia
- Provide professional collection and analysis of data
- Develop and execute practical exchange programs
- Proactive international cooperation and publicity

Major Activities
- Hold NEAR working level workshop
- Hold regional cooperation forums in Northeast Asia
- Support NEAR General Assembly
- Develop and execute projects to promote exchange and cooperation among public servants, lawmakers, entrepreneurs, youths and NGOs from NEAR members
- Reinforce publicity of NEAR and endeavors to expand membership application
- Facilitate the operation of "Northeast Asian Economy and Trade Network"
- Operate the NEAR advisory committee
- Publish NEAR White Book and manage project DBs

Operation of NEAR Official Homepage and Economy & Trade Network
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**NEAR Website**

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  - Organizational Structure
  - Activities
  - Secretariat, Charter

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  - Companies
  - Members’ Products
  - Members’ Companies
  - Trade Leads
  - Exhibitions

- **Regional Governments**
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  - Economy
  - Investor Relations
  - Culture/Tourism
  - Children

- **Reference Room**
  - Reference Room
  - Event Journal
  - Newsletter
  - Statistics
  - e-Book
  - Photo Gallery

- **Community**
  - Near News
  - News from Members
  - Culture and Tradition
  - Foreign Language
  - NEAR Cafe
  - Cyber Video Conference

**Mediation of Exchange and Cooperation in Various Fields**

- **Main channels of exchange and cooperation**

- **The Secretariat: Gateway to exchange and cooperation**
  - Compile data by sectors and subjects of exchange and cooperation of NEAR members
  - Provide required information on time
  - Mediate exchange and cooperation

- **Mediate sisterhood ties among NEAR member regions and international exchanges of educational institutes**

- **Operate exchange and cooperation programs for youths: Home stays, experience of traditional cultures, friendship building events, etc.**

- **Building mutual understanding among college and university students from Korea, Japan, China and Russia**

- **Exchange programs among local councils**
  - Cross visit and information sharing among local councils in Northeast Asia

- **Develop exchange projects for women and NGO**
Member Information

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<th>Population and Size</th>
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<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Heilongjiang Province</strong></td>
<td>38.2 million, 454,800</td>
<td>Harbin City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>Harbin Ice and Snow World, Snow Sculpture Art Fair, Wudalianchi (five interconnected lakes), Jinbo Lake, Xingkai Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Henan Province</strong></td>
<td>97.17 million, 167,000</td>
<td>Zhengzhou City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>Luoyang Baima Temple (Temple of White Horse), Longmen Grottoes, Kaifeng Qingmingshangheyuan Garden, Dengfeng Xiaolin Temple, The Ancestral Hall of Baoqingta</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hubei Province</strong></td>
<td>60.31 million, 185,900</td>
<td>Wuhan City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>The Three Gorges, Shennongjia, Wudang Mountain, The Ming Dynasty Xian Tomb, Yellow Crane Towe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hunan Province</strong></td>
<td>67.32 million, 211,800</td>
<td>Changsha City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Machinery Manufacture</td>
<td>Zhang jiajie, Hengshan, Yueyang Tower, Dao Hua Yuan, Shaooshan, Yan Di Ling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</strong></td>
<td>5.95 million, 66,400</td>
<td>Yinchuan</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>Sha Lake, Ming Great Walls, Xixia Mausoleums, Helan Mountain's Petroglyph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shandong Province</strong></td>
<td>92.48 million, 157,100</td>
<td>Jinan Province</td>
<td>Manufacture, Service Industry</td>
<td>Tai Mountain, Qufu three Kongs (the Temple of Confucius, Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion), Baotu Spring Park in Jinan County, Zibo of ancient state of Qi Dynasty, Shuiboliangshan Mountain of the famous Chinese literature, “Outlaws of the Marsh”</td>
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JAPAN

Member Information

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<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aomori Prefecture</td>
<td>1.5 million, 9,606</td>
<td>Aomori</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Oirase Valley, Towada Lake, Shirakami Sanchi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamagata Prefecture</td>
<td>1.24 million, 9,323</td>
<td>Yamagata</td>
<td>Machinery, Food</td>
<td>Ginza Onsen (hot springs), Soft Rimes, Yamatera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niigata Prefecture</td>
<td>2.48 million, 12,582</td>
<td>Niigata</td>
<td>Agriculture, Metal</td>
<td>Niigata Convention Center (Tokimesse)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyama Prefecture</td>
<td>1.12 million, 424</td>
<td>Toyama</td>
<td>Heavy Chemical, Tulip</td>
<td>Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route, Zuiryuji, Historic Village of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ishikawa Prefecture</td>
<td>1.81 million, 4,185</td>
<td>Kanajawa</td>
<td>Industry, Fishery</td>
<td>Kanajawa Castle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fukui Prefecture</td>
<td>0.83 million, 4,188</td>
<td>Fukui</td>
<td>Textile Manufacture, Machinery</td>
<td>Tojimbo Cliffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefecture</td>
<td>Population and Size</td>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>Major Industry</td>
<td>Major Tourist Attractions</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyoto Prefecture</td>
<td>2.64 million, 4,612 km²</td>
<td>Kyoto</td>
<td>Commerce, Service</td>
<td>Arashiyama Park, Amanohashidate Park, Rurikei Hot Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
<td>5.57 million, 8,392 km²</td>
<td>Kobe</td>
<td>Electronic, Machinery</td>
<td>Himeji Castle, the Port of Kobe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tottori Prefecture</td>
<td>0.61 million, 3,507 km²</td>
<td>Tottori</td>
<td>Agriculture, Electronic</td>
<td>Tottori Sand Dunes, Daisan National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shimane Prefecture</td>
<td>0.76 million, 6,707 km²</td>
<td>Matsue</td>
<td>Fishery, Agriculture</td>
<td>Matsue Castle, Shinji Lake, Iwami Silver Mine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KOREA

Member Information

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<tr>
<td><strong>Busan Metropolitan City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Service, Harbor Industry</td>
<td>Haewoondae (beach), Kwanganli (beach), Yongdusan Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daegu Metropolitan City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Textile, Machinery</td>
<td>Palgong Mountain, Duryu Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gyeonggi-do Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Electronic, Mining and Manufacturing Industry</td>
<td>Hwaseong Fortress, Namhansanseong Fortress, Haenggusanseong Fortress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gangwon-do Province</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environment-Friendly Agriculture, Logistics</td>
<td>Seoraksan National Park, Odaesan National Park, Chiaik National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chungcheongbuk-do Province</strong></td>
<td>Cheongju City</td>
<td>Bio Industry, Agriculture</td>
<td>Beobju Temple in Songni Mountain, Woraksan National Park, 8 Scenic Beauties at Danyang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chungchongnam-do Province</strong></td>
<td>Cheon-ahn City</td>
<td>Manufacture, Logistics</td>
<td>Gyearyong National Park, Taean Seashore National Park, Independence Hall of Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province</td>
<td>17.8 millions, 8,046</td>
<td>Jeonju City</td>
<td>Automobile, Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeollanam-do Province</td>
<td>1.82 millions, 11,955</td>
<td>Mokpo City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Fishery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
<td>2.63 millions, 19,020</td>
<td>Pohang City</td>
<td>Electronic, Steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
<td>3.16 millions, 10,520</td>
<td>Changwon City</td>
<td>Machinery, Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeju Special Self-Governing Province</td>
<td>0.53 million, 1,845</td>
<td>Jeju City</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DPRK
Member Information
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
Hamgyeongbuk-do Province

| Population and Size | 2.08 million, 18,427
| Major City | Cheongjin
| Major Industry | Machinery, Chemical
| Major Tourist Attractions | Songheung Hot Spring, Hwangjin Hot Spring

Rasun City

| Population and Size | 0.17 million, 746
| Major City | Rasun City
| Major Industry | Industry, Fishery
| Major Tourist Attractions | Gulpori Primitive Cultural Heritage, Najinchodo Island
MONGOLIA

Member Information

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ulaannbaator City</td>
<td>690,000, 2,000</td>
<td>Manufacture</td>
<td>Terelj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkhangai Province</td>
<td>90,000, 55,300</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Lake Ogii, Taikhar Rock, Zayiin Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayanulgi Province</td>
<td>90,000, 45,800</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Mountain Deluun, Lake Dayan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayankhongor Province</td>
<td>80,000, 116,000</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Shargaljuut Resort, Bolor Tsagaan Grotto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgan Province</td>
<td>60,000, 48,700</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Tsogtiin Tsagaan Balgas, Tsagaan Suvarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Govi-Altai Province</td>
<td>60,000, 141,400</td>
<td>Food-Processing, Felt Production</td>
<td>Guviin Shal, Takhiin Tal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Govisumber Province

- Population and Size: 60,000, 141,400
- Major City: Choir
- Major Industry: Stock-farming industry
- Major Tourist Attractions: Jaraa

Darkhan-Uul Province

- Population and Size: 90,000, 55,700
- Major City: Darkhan
- Major Industry: Stock-farming industry
- Major Tourist Attractions: Zuulzagiin River

Dornod Province

- Population and Size: 70,000, 123,600
- Major City: Choibalsan
- Major Industry: Stock-farming industry
- Major Tourist Attractions: Lake Buir, Menen Tal, Khalkhiin Gol

Dorno-govi Province

- Population and Size: 50,000, 109,500
- Major City: Sainshand
- Major Industry: Stock-farming industry
- Major Tourist Attractions: Ar Ulaan Statue

Dund-govi Province

- Population and Size: 50,000, 74,700
- Major City: Mandal Govi
- Major Industry: Stock-farming industry
- Major Tourist Attractions: Baruun-Biluut, Stone Carvings, Uush Sand Dunes

Zavkhan Province

- Population and Size: 70,000, 82,000
- Major City: Uliastai
- Major Industry: Stock-farming industry
- Major Tourist Attractions: Mountain Ogontenger, Humiin Hooloi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attraction(s)</th>
<th>Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orkhon Province</td>
<td>100,000, 84,400</td>
<td>Erdenet</td>
<td>Mining industry, Molybdenum industry</td>
<td>Orkhon Museum, Zeel Rock</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uvurkhangai Province</td>
<td>110,000, 62,900</td>
<td>Arvaikheer</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Ulaanzutgalan Fall, Tuvkhun Monastery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umnu-govi Province</td>
<td>40,000, 165,400</td>
<td>Dalanzadgad</td>
<td>Mining industry</td>
<td>Gobi Gurvan Saikhan National Park, Yolin Am Grotto, Khongor River, Bayanzag</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sukhbaatar Province</td>
<td>50,000, 82,300</td>
<td>Choibalsan</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Shiliin Bogd, Altan Ovoo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
<td>100,000, 42,800</td>
<td>Sukhbaatar</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry, Forage industry</td>
<td>Amarbayasgalant, Lake Gun</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
<td>110,000, 78,200</td>
<td>Zuunmod</td>
<td>Mining industry, Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Mountain Khentii, Mountain Bogdkhan, Manzshir Temple</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td>Population and Size</td>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>Major Industry</td>
<td>Major Tourist Attractions</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uvs Province</td>
<td>80,000, 69,600</td>
<td>Ulaanom</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Jinst, Goojuur</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khovd Province</td>
<td>90,000, 173,800</td>
<td>Jargalant</td>
<td>Agriculture, Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Gurvan Tsenkheriin Agui, Mongon, Sambariin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khuvsgul Province</td>
<td>110,000, 100,600</td>
<td>Murun</td>
<td>Fishery, Agricultural industry</td>
<td>Lake Khovsgol, Khovsgol Taiga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khorchin Province</td>
<td>70,000, 80,300</td>
<td>Undurkhaan</td>
<td>Stock-farming industry</td>
<td>Lake Gurmiin, Kherlen River</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RUSSIA

Member Information

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primorski Territory</td>
<td>2.28 million, 165,900,000</td>
<td>Vladivostok</td>
<td>Fishery, Wood</td>
<td>Botanic Garden of the Far Eastern Branch Russian Academy of Sciences, Singing sands, Petrov Island (called the Natural Arboretum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Buryatia</td>
<td>1.05 million, 351,300,000</td>
<td>Ulan-Ude</td>
<td>Energy, Machinery</td>
<td>Ivolginsky Datsan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)</td>
<td>1.06 million, 3,103,200,000</td>
<td>Yakutia</td>
<td>Mine, Fuel</td>
<td>Lenskie Stolby (Lena Pillars) National Nature Park, Moma National Nature Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Tyva</td>
<td>0.3 million, 170,500,000</td>
<td>Kyzyl</td>
<td>Food Processing, Metallurgy</td>
<td>Burial Mound in Arzhaan, Uighur Fortress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altai Territory</td>
<td>2.68 million, 169,100,000</td>
<td>Barnaul</td>
<td>Machinery Manufacture, Agriculture</td>
<td>Belokurikha Health Resort, Denisov’s Cave, Tavdinsky Cave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krasnoyarsk Territory</td>
<td>2.95 million, 710,100,000</td>
<td>Krasnoyarsk</td>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>Stolby Nature Reserve, Sayano-Shushenskaya Hydroelectric Power Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory</td>
<td>1.59 million, 788,600,000</td>
<td>Khabarovsk</td>
<td>Machinary, Metal</td>
<td>Amur River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Population and Size</td>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>Major Industry</td>
<td>Major Tourist Attractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amur Region</td>
<td>1.05 million, 363,700</td>
<td>Blagoveshchensk</td>
<td>Metal processing, Electronic power</td>
<td>Museum of Amur Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irkutsk Region</td>
<td>2.71 million, 745,500</td>
<td>Irkutsk</td>
<td>Mining, Wood industry</td>
<td>Monument of Alexander III, Lake Baikal, Baikal Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamchatka Region</td>
<td>3.78 million, 472,300</td>
<td>Kamchatka</td>
<td>Fishery</td>
<td>Volcanos, Geyser valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sakhalin Region</td>
<td>0.69 million, 87,100</td>
<td>Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk</td>
<td>Oil, Fishery</td>
<td>Sakhalin Regional Art Museum, Moneron Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomsk Region</td>
<td>1 million, 316,900</td>
<td>Tomsk</td>
<td>Petrochemistry, Machinery manufacturing</td>
<td>Bogoyavlensky Cathedral, Siberia Botanic Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chita Region</td>
<td>1.28 million, 412,500</td>
<td>Chita</td>
<td>Wood, Mining industry</td>
<td>Ivano-Arakhleysky Wildlife Protection Area, Alkhanay National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ust-Orda Buryat Autonomous District</td>
<td>0.14 million, 224,000</td>
<td>Ust-Ordynsk</td>
<td>Wood, Food industry</td>
<td>Ust-Orda National Museum, Ust-Orda Folk Art Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preamble

In the spirit of reciprocity and equity, representatives of regional governments in the Northeast Asian Region, which has unlimited potential to contribute to the international community, have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish co-development in the region and, at the same time, to contribute to world peace by promoting exchange and cooperation in all fields including administration, economy and culture. Accordingly, to accomplish these noble aims, the representatives have agreed to the present Charter of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments.

Chapter 1  Name and Purposes of the Association

Article 1 (Name) This organization shall be named as “the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments” (hereinafter referred to as “the Association”).

Article 2 (Purposes) In the spirit of reciprocity and equity, “The Association” has the purposes of pursuing joint development of the Northeast Asian Region and, at the same time, contributing to world peace by building trust based on mutual understanding through the establishment of networks for exchange and cooperation among member governments.
**Article 3 (Functions)** “The Association” shall perform the following functions.

(1) Regularly hold the Conference of Northeast Asian Regional Governments (The General Assembly)
(2) Collect and distribute information on economic and technological development within the region.
(3) Support and execute projects related to exchange and cooperation.
(4) Implement projects pertinent to accomplishing the purposes of “the Association.”

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**Chapter 2 Membership Scope and Rights & Obligations of Members**

**Article 4 (Membership scope)** The members of “the Association” shall be the regional governments of People's Republic of China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and Russian Federation, which agreed to the purposes of “the Association”. The membership is open to other regional governments, and may be expanded upon decisions of the General Assembly.

**Article 5 (Rights and Obligations of Members)** Members shall have the rights to participate in various projects and activities performed by “the Association”, and have the obligations to comply with the provisions stipulated in the present Charter.

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**Chapter 3 Organization and Functions**

**Section 1 The General Assembly**

**Article 6 (Structure and Operation)** The General Assembly is the supreme legislative body of the Association, which consists of representatives of member organizations, and is held biennially.

**Article 7 (Executives)** The General Assembly shall be given due authority to appoint executives to positions specified below.

(1) The General Assembly shall designate one person as the chair who represents the Association. The representative of the regional government, which holds the next General Assembly, shall become the chair of the General Assembly. The chair's term of office ends on the day before the next General Assembly opens. However, when the chair cannot represent the Association, the deputy representative of the regional government shall act as the chair on behalf of the representative.

(2) Each country shall have an auditor. Auditors shall administer auditing and be elected at the General Assembly. The auditor's term of office is the same as stipulated in clause 1 of Article 7.

**Article 8 (Functions)** General Assembly shall perform the following functions.

(1) Appointment of auditors
(2) Approval of budget, account closing and project plans
(3) Resolution of member admission and dismissal
(4) Determination of membership fees
(5) Amendment of the Association Charter
(6) Determination of termination and liquidation of “the Association”
(7) Determination of agendas related to the next General Assembly
(8) Determination of the venue for the Secretariat
(9) Determination and execution of business plans of “the Association”
(10) Determination of other necessary issues

**Article 9 (Resolution)** Decisions of the General Assembly shall be made in accordance with the following methods.

1. Each regional government member shall have one vote.
2. The particulars specified in clause 1 to 8 of Article 8 shall be resolved by a majority of the registered members and a two-thirds majority of the members voting.
3. Other articles, with the exception of clause 2 of Article 9, shall be resolved by a majority of the registered members and a majority of the members voting.

**Section 2 Working Committee**

**Article 10 (Structure and Operation)** The Working Committee consists of administrators (director-general level senior staffs) nominated by the representative of each member regional government. The chair of the Working Committee shall convene a meeting more than once every year.

2. The chair of the Working Committee shall be the vice representative of the chair local government.
3. The chair of the Working Committee shall report the result of the meeting to the General Assembly.
4. For smooth operation of individual projects and works, a sub-committee may be organized by projects or by fields as a supporting entity of the Working Committee with the approval from the General Assembly. (newly created in September 1998)

**Article 11 (Functions)** The Working Committee shall perform the following functions.

1. Discussion of business plans and individual projects
2. Documentation of annual reports and financial statements
3. Coordination of opinions among members
4. Determination of the establishment of sub-committees (composition, functions and operations / newly created in September, 1998)
5. Determination of issues delegated by the General Assembly to the Working Committee.
6. Determination of other necessary issues.

**Section 3 The Secretariat**

**Article 12 (Structure and Operation)** The Secretariat is a standing body of “the Association.” Each member government may set up a liaison body if necessary.

2. The term of the Secretariat is 4 years, and may be extended with the resolution of the General Assembly.
**Article 13 (Executives and staff)** The Secretariat shall have the following executives and staffs.

1. The Secretary-General shall be one person. The Secretary-General shall be recommended by the representative of the member regional government where the Secretariat is located and be appointed by the Chair of the Association.

2. The executives and staffs of the Secretariat shall be comprised of government officials dispatched by “the Association” in principle. However, when it is deemed necessary by the Secretary General, it can be constituted in a separate way after receiving approval from the chair of the Association.

**Article 14 (Functions)** The Secretariat shall perform the following functions.

1. Budgeting and budget execution
2. Documentation of business plans, annual reports, and financial statements
3. Liaisons and coordination among members
4. Execution of resolution decided by the General Assembly and the Working Committee
5. Determination of other necessary issues

**Article 15 (Finance)**

1. The accounting of the Secretariat shall be treated as a special accounting, and its operations shall be performed using membership fees and other miscellaneous income.

2. The accounting shall temporarily be operated on the basis of the following clauses

1) Members shall temporarily not be obliged to pay membership fees.

2) All expenses related to holding the General Assembly and the Working Committee shall be covered and shared as follows.

   1. Half (B) of the total expenses (A) shall be borne by the hosting regional government.

   2. As to the other half (C=A-B), the rest of the participating regional governments shall share the amount (C/D), which is equally divided by the number of the member regional governments of the Association, excluding the hosting regional government (D).

3) In the event that the number of regional governments actually participating in the General Assembly or the Working Committee is less than D, the balance shall be borne by the regional governments hosting those conferences.

4) In the event that a member regional government is unable to bear a portion of the expense due to unavoidable circumstances such as natural disasters, the expense it has to bear may be partially reduced through agreement of other member regional governments.

5) During the General Assembly, a regional government which will run for candidacy of the next venue of the General Assembly shall submit tentative accounting of expenses for hosting the General Assembly and the Working Committee.

3) The operating expenses of the Secretariat shall be borne by the member government who hosts the Secretariat.

4) Expenses needed for each individual cooperative project shall be covered by the regional government which proposed the project. However, through an agreement, the expenses may be shared among participating member regional governments, which intend to join those projects.
Section 4  Associated Supporting Organizations

Article 16 (Establishment) Each member regional government may establish a supporting organization (hereinafter referred to as “Supporting Organization of the Association”) to support activities of “the Association” for the development of the Northeast Asian region. (newly created in September, 1998)

Article 17 (Registration) ① In the event that a member regional government establishes a “Supporting Organization of the Association,” it can register the organization by submitting application to “the Association.” (newly created in September, 1998)
② “The Supporting Organization of the Association” shall report its activities to “the Association.”

Chapter 4  Final Provisions

Article 18 (Effectuation) This Charter shall take effect and be in full force on September 8, 2004.

Article 19 (The Scope of Members) The founding members of “the Association” consist of regional governments, which attended the General Assembly in 1996 and agreed to the basic spirit of the Association.

Article 20 (Language) This Charter shall be written in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian, the original copies of which shall be kept in the archive of the regional government where the Secretariat is located, and copies of which shall be kept by each member regional government.

In faith whereof, the representatives of the regional governments, who were given the due authority from each member government, have signed the present Charter of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Gyeongju City, Gyeonsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea on the 12th day of September, 1996.

Supplementary Provision
This Charter shall be effectuated from the 21st of October 1998.

Supplementary Provision
This Charter shall be effectuated from the 12th of September 2002.

Supplementary Provision
This Charter shall be effectuated from the 8th of September 2004.
Appendix: Regulations on Establishment and Operation of Sub-Committees of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

The present regulations stipulate rules regarding establishment and operation of Sub-Committees in accordance with Clause 4 of Article 11 of the Charter of NEAR.

Article 1 (Establishment) For smooth operation of individual projects or tasks (hereinafter referred to as “Individual Projects”) proposed at conferences of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, Sub-Committees shall be organized for each working area.

Article 2 (Name and Working Area) The name of the Sub-committees shall be as follows.
1. Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
2. Sub-Committee on Environment
3. Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchanges
4. Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
5. Sub-Committee on General Exchanges
6. Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation
7. Sub-Committee on Science and Technology

Article 3 (Functions) ① Each sub-committee reviews and discusses specific and substantial plans to coordinate opinions among regional governments for effective execution of “Individual Projects” initiated and led by member local governments.
② Each sub-committee reports the result of review and consultation on “Individual Projects” proposed by local governments to the working committee.

Article 4 (Structure) A Sub-Committee consists of division directors of local governments who have interest in the field that each sub-committee is responsible for.

Article 5 (Operation) ① An elected member regional government (hereinafter referred to as “Coordinator”) shall be in charge of liaison, coordination and operation of each Sub-Committee.
② The office term of a “Coordinator” is 2 years, and it is not prevented from running for re-election.
③ In principal, the operation of a Sub-Committee shall be done via telecommunications (such as postal mail and fax).
④ Each Sub-Committee may convene a meeting, if necessary.

Article 6 (Participation) ① Regional governments which intend to participate in a Sub-Committee shall submit application to the “Coordinator.”
② Each “Coordinator” shall notify the Working Committee of any changes in the members of the Sub-Committee.
Article 7 (Expenses) Expenses for the operation of each Sub-Committee shall be borne by the “Coordinator.” In the event of a Sub-Committee meeting being convened, expenses for transportation and accommodation shall be covered by participating regional governments, as a general rule.

Article 8 (Relation to the Secretariat) Each “Coordinator” shall send updated information of the Sub-Committee to the Secretariat, which shall send the documentation to the rest of the regional governments with the exemption of members of the Sub-Committee.

Article 9 (Revision of Regulations) Revision of the present regulations shall be made by the Working Committee.

Article 10 (Effectuation) These regulations shall take effect and be in full force on October 21, 1998.

Supplementary Provision
These regulations shall take effect and be in full force on September 4, 2007.
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

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