The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
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 throughout 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.

Since 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 educational and cultural exchanges, environment, disaster prevention to maritime affairs and fisheries, tourism, cross-border cooperation to science and technology.

With the accession of new members at the 7th General Assembly held in September 2008 in Shandong Province, China, NEAR has grown into a local diplomacy and cooperation organization representing Northeast Asia with 69 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 NEAR General Assembly.

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*NEAR stands for “the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments” with the word itself meaning close intimacy.
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

contents

06 Introduction to NEAR
  • Goals and Principle
  • Background of Foundation
  • History
  • Official Emblem
  • Members
  • Organization and Operation

09 Major Activities

17 NEAR Secretariat

20 Member Information

40 NEAR Charter
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 realize reasonable globalization to effectively respond to the challenge of globalization and formation of economic blocs.
- To create synergy effect by complementing differences among regions.
  * These demands raised 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 membership to 65 regional governments with the accession of new members from Mongolia and DPRK at the 6th General Assembly held in Busan in 2006.
- expanded membership to 69 regional governments from six nations at the 7th General Assembly held in Shandong in 2008.

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 an open global village.
Members - 69 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 (15)
- Busan Metropolitan City
- Daegu Metropolitan City
- Incheon Metropolitan City
- Gwangju Metropolitan City
- Daejeon Metropolitan City
- Ulsan 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
- Bayanulgi Province
- Bayankhongor Province
- Bulgan Province
- Govi-Altai Province
- Govi-Sumber Province
- Darkhan-Uul Province
- Dornod Province
- Dorno-govi Province
- Dund-govi Province
- Zavkhan Province
- Orkhon Province
- Uvurkhangai Province
- Umnugobi Province
- Sukhbaatar Province
- Selenge Province
- Tuv Province
- Uvs Province
- Khovd Province
- Khuvsgul Province
- Khentii Province

DPRK (2)
- Rasun City
- Hamgyeongbuk-do Province

DPRK

Russia (14)
- Republic of Buryatia
- Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)
- Republic of Tyva
- Altai Territory
- Zabaikalsky Territory
- Krasnoyarsk Territory
- Primorsky Territory
- Khabarovsk Territory
- Amur Region
- Irkutsk Region
- Kamchatka Territory
- Magadan Region
- Sakhalin Region
- Tomsk Region

*Observer* - Liaoning Province of China and Yamaguchi Prefecture of Japan participate in various events of NEAR as observers, and share information on NEAR activities.
### Organization and Operation

#### Secretariat
(Secretary-General)

#### Working Committee
(Chair)

#### General Assembly
(Chair)

#### Sub-Committee
(Coordinator)

- **Economy and Trade**
  - Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
- **Environment**
  - Toyama Prefecture
- **Educational and Cultural Exchange**
  - Shimane Prefecture
- **Disaster Prevention**
  - Hyogo Prefecture
- **Cross-border Cooperation**
  - Irkutsk Region
- **Science and Technology**
  - Gyeonggi-do Province
- **Ocean and Fishery**
  - Shandong Province
- **Tourism**
  - Henan Province
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
- Amendment of the Charter
- Approval of budget, projects plans, settlement of accounts
- Determination of the termination and liquidation of the Association
- Resolution of member admission and dismissal
- Determination of agendas related to the next General Assembly
- Determination and execution of business plans of NEAR
- Determination of membership fees
- Other functions deemed to be necessary

Major Activities
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

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
- Amendment of the Charter
- Approval of budget, projects plans, settlement of accounts
- Determination of the termination and liquidation of the Association
- Resolution of member admission and dismissal
- Determination of agendas related to the next General Assembly
- Determination and execution of business plans of NEAR
- Determination of membership fees
- Other functions deemed to be necessary

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 Charter was amended to expand the scope of membership; five Sub-Committees were established.
- The 3rd General Assembly (Hyogo Prefecture, September 2000):
  The establishment of the Secretariat was discussed; a consensus was reached to encourage participation of DPRK regional governments in NEAR activities.
- The 4th General Assembly (Khabarovsk Territory, September 2002):
  DPRK and Mongolia’s accession was approved; a joint working group was organized to prepare for establishing a permanent secretariat.
- The 5th General Assembly (Heilongjiang Province, September 2004):
  Decision was made to establish the secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea; Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation was created.
- The 6th General Assembly (Busan Metropolitan City, September 2006):
  Joint Declaration “Prosperity of Northeast Asia and the Role of NEAR” was adopted; Sub-Committee on Science and Technology was created.
- The 7th General Assembly (Shandong Province, September 2008):
  Shandong Declaration was adopted; Sub-Committee on Tourism and Sub-Committee on Ocean & Fishery were established; decision was made to place the secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province for an extended term of four years.
Current and Former Chairs

- The 1st Chair (Sept. 1996 ~ Sept. 1998) : Governor Lee, Eui Geun (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Korea)
- The 2nd Chair (Oct. 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)
- The 8th Chair (Sept. 2008 ~ Sept. 2010) : Governor Kim, Moon Soo (Gyeonggi-do Province, Korea)

Working Committee

The working committee consists of senior administrative staffs [director-generals] nominated by the head of each member regional governments. 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 audit reports
- 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 substantial measures to promote exchange in Northeast Asia

Major Activities

- The 1st Meeting (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, August 1997): Joint projects were proposed in the fields of economy & trade, culture & arts and environment.
- The 2nd Meeting (Toyama Prefecture, July 1999): Activity report was presented by each Sub-Committee; the issue of fee sharing was discussed.
- The 3rd Meeting (Hyogo Prefecture, August 2001): Introducing membership fee and a permanent secretariat was discussed.
- The 4th Meeting (Heilongjiang Province, January 2004): Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Korea, as a single candidate, bid for hosting the Secretariat
- The 5th Meeting (Busan Metropolitan City, November 2005): A consensus was reached to organize an Emblem Establishment Committee and to dispatch public officials from member regional governments to the secretariat.
- The 6th Meeting (Shandong Province, September 2007): Motions on the introduction of membership fee, creation of Sub-Committee on Tourism and Sub-Committee on Ocean & Fishery were proposed.
Sub-Committees

Each sub-committee consists of directors of local government divisions who have interest in the field that each sub-committee is responsible for. Meetings may be convened if necessary.

- Each sub-committee discusses how to effectively execute respective projects initiated and led by its member regional governments and coordinates opinions among them.
- Each sub-committee reports the outcome and review of respective projects proposed by regional governments to the Working Committee.
- Each sub-committee will have a coordinator (member regional government) which will be in charge of liaison, coordination and operation.
- The office term of a coordinator is two years, and it can be re-elected.
- In principal, the operation of a sub-committee shall be based on telecommunications such as postal mail and fax.

Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Coordinator: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)

Objective

Promote 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 fair on special products
- Facilitation of Economic Exchange and Trade in Northeast Asia
  - Analyses on investment environments and resources of NEAR members
  - Facilitation of e-commerce through cyber e-market supporting system
Conference

- The 1st Meeting in September 1998: 16 regional governments from four countries participated; a motion was proposed to establish a network for trade and cooperation.
- The 2nd Meeting in November 1999: 14 regional governments from five countries participated; a motion was proposed to expand the Business Promotion Conference.
- The 3rd Meeting in May 2002: 16 regional governments from five countries participated and decided to build a website for e-trade.
- The 4th Meeting in September 2003: 23 regional governments from five countries participated. A motion was proposed to organize a council on private investment promotion.
- The 5th Meeting in October 2004: 21 regional governments from five countries participated and agreed to cooperate in attracting foreign investment and carry out joint development projects.
- The 6th Meeting in December 2005: 22 regional governments from five countries participated in trade fair on specialty products and visited NEAR Secretariat.
- The 7th Meeting in December 2006: 36 regional governments from five countries participated. Members signed agreements on projects to be jointly implemented.
- The 8th Meeting in October 2007: 22 regional governments from five countries participated. Gyeongsangbuk-do Province co-hosted the “2007 NEAR International Economic Forum and Multilateral Trade Fair” with NEAR Secretariat.

Sub-Committee on Environment (Coordinator- Toyama Prefecture)

Objective
Promote partnership among member regional governments within the Northeast Asian 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 Symposia
- Northeast Asia Youth Environment Seminar

Conference
- The 1st Meeting in July 1999: 19 regional governments from five countries participated and reviewed measures to promote cooperation in environmental issues.
- The 2nd Meeting in August 2000: 17 regional governments from three countries participated and delivered reports on the implementation status of respective environmental cooperation projects.
- The 3rd Meeting in July 2001: 13 regional governments from four countries participated and elected Toyama Prefecture as the next coordinator.
- The 4th Meeting in July 2002: 17 regional governments from five countries participated and conducted joint research on migratory birds in Northeast Asia.
- The 5th Meeting in October 2003: 14 regional governments from four countries participated and discussed the outline of Environment White Paper.
- The 6th Meeting in July 2004: 15 regional governments from five countries participated and 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 and conducted research on the washed-up driftage along the coast of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea of Korea.
- The 8th Meeting in July 2007: 10 regional governments from five countries participated. “Leadership Program for the Northeast Asia Youth’s Environmental Preservation” was held.
Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchange [Coordinator - Shimane Prefecture]

Objective
Support human exchange in the Northeast Asian region with an aim to foster education for young adults

Major Activities
- "Wings of Exchange" Project in Northeast Asia
- International Cultural Palette Project

Conference
Decision was made to integrate the Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchanges and the Sub-Committee on General Exchanges into the Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchange at the 6th Working Committee in Shandong Province, China.

Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention [Coordinator - Hyogo Prefecture]

Objective
Improve and solidify disaster prevention system in Northeast Asia and promote cooperation and solidarity among member regions

Major Activities
- Find cooperative measures to prevent disasters such as earthquake, flood and forest fire
- Exchange Training on disaster prevention
  - Disaster prevention lecture: "Disaster in Asia and its Prevention Measures"
  - Inspection visit to disaster prevention facilities: Disaster Medical Center and Disaster Prevention Center
- Other disaster prevention projects
  - Conduct Survey on "Disaster Prevention System and Intention for Information Exchange" among all NEAR members
  - Provide reports to members on the results of disaster prevention study on a regular basis

Conference
- The 1st Meeting in July 2002: 12 regional governments from four countries participated and discussed measures to promote exchanges in the area of disaster prevention.
- The 2nd Meeting in February 2004: 12 regional governments from five countries participated. Disaster prevention lectures and public officials training were held.
- The 3rd Meeting in February 2005: 10 regional governments from five countries participated and discussed possible disasters in Asia and prevention measures.
- The 4th Meeting in February 2006: 12 regional governments from five countries participated. Public officials of disaster prevention departments exchanged information and inspected disaster prevention facilities.
- The 5th Meeting in February 2007: 14 regional governments from five countries participated. Trans-border cooperation initiative for disaster prevention was proposed. Disaster prevention lectures and earthquake training.
- The 6th Meeting in March 2008: 17 regional governments from five countries participated and gave presentations on disaster prevention measures. Disaster prevention lectures and inspection visit to disaster prevention facilities.
**Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (Coordinator - Irkutsk Region)**

- **Objective**
  
  Expand practical cooperation in cross-border areas

- **Major Activities**
  
  - Review the introduction of a simplified visa regime
  - Facilitate bank credit for financing cross-border trade in border areas
  - Establish basic facilities for cross-border cooperation
  - Introduce legislation on cross-border cooperation and trade
  - Prepare to establish a comprehensive, cross-border trade organization

- **Conference**

  The 1st Meeting in June 2005: 18 member regional governments from four countries participated and discussed new measures to promote exchange among NEAR members in border areas.

  - Amur Region became the new coordinator (former: Khabarovsk Territory) of the Sub-Committee at the 6th NEAR General Assembly in September 2006.
  - Irkutsk Region became the new coordinator of the Sub-Committee at the 7th General Assembly in September 2008.

**Sub-Committee on Science and Technology (Coordinator - Gyeonggi-do Province)**

- **Objective**

  Promote cooperation in science and technology for joint development of the Northeast Asian region

- **Major Activities**

  - Decision was made to establish Sub-Committee on Science and Technology at the 6th General Assembly in September 2006
  - The 1st meeting held in July 2007
  - Fairs and Conferences scheduled to be held to facilitate exchange among NEAR members in the fields of science and technology
Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery (Coordinator - Shandong Province)

Objective
Strengthen partnership in maritime affairs and fisheries in Northeast Asia

Major Activities
- Academic exchanges through science and technology forums
- Seminars under the theme of “Development and Preservation of Ocean”
- Business round tables for trade facilitation

Conference
- Decision was made to establish the Sub-Committee in September 2008 at the 7th General Assembly in Shandong Province, China.

Sub-Committee on Tourism (Coordinator - Henan Province)

Objective
Seek joint development and mutual interest by promoting tourism businesses of NEAR member regional governments

Major Activities
Provide a platform for substantial cooperation among NEAR members by organizing tourism exhibition and promotion events and tourism partnership forums

Conference
- Decision was made to establish the Sub-Committee in September 2008 at the 7th General Assembly in Shandong Province, China.

Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchanges (Coordinator - Shimane Prefecture)

Objective
Enhance understanding of regional diversity by promoting exchange and cooperation in the area of academia, culture and art

Major Activities
- “Wings of Exchange” Project in Northeast Asia [since 2002]: Provide opportunity to experience Japanese traditional culture and homestay for youths from NEAR member regions
- International Cultural Palette Project (since 2004): Invite artistic troupes for performances and exchange activities with local residents

Integrated into the Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchange (According to the decision by the 6th Working Committee in Shandong)
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

Conference

- The 1st Meeting in November 2001: 9 regional governments from three countries participated. Joint projects were proposed and project implementation cases were presented.
- The 2nd Meeting in August 2002: “Wings of Exchange” project was launched to commemorate national partnership among China, Japan and Korea.
- The 3rd Meeting in January and February 2003: “Wings of Exchange” project
- The 8th Meeting in August and November 2008: “Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane (August)”, “Northeast Asia International Cultural Palette Project (November)”

Sub-Committee on General Exchanges (Coordinator - Toyama Prefecture)

- Integrated into the Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchange (According to the decision by the 6th Working Committee in Shandong)

Objective

Facilitate mutual understanding and human & information exchanges among NEAR members

Major Activities

- Northeast Asia “Ship of Exchange” [since 1997]
- 21C Women’s Conference in Northeast Asia [since 2001]
- Strengthen networks among R&D institutions by building a result sharing system
- Collect information on human resource development of NEAR members: Database available at the official homepage of Toyama Prefecture

Conference

- The 1st Meeting in July 1999: 22 regional governments from five countries participated and consulted on measures to strengthen ties among research centers.
- The 2nd Meeting in August 2000: 19 regional governments from four countries participated and agreed to prepare NEAR action program for human resource development.
- The 3rd Meeting in July 2001: 14 regional governments from four countries participated. “21C Women’s Conference in Northeast Asia” was held.
- The 5th Meeting in October 2003: 15 regional governments from five countries participated and proposed building the “Common House of six Northeast Asian nations.”
- The 6th Meeting in July 2004: 18 regional governments from four countries participated and reviewed the direction of human resource development projects.
NEAR Secretariat
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

NEAR Secretariat was placed in Pohang City of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Korea on 2 May 2005
Organizational Structure: 1 Department, 2 Divisions, 15 Staffs

- Secretary General
- Public officials dispatched from Gyeongsangbuk-do Provincial Government: 5 persons
- Regional Specialists: Chinese, Japanese, Mongolian, Russian and English specialists
- Public officials dispatched from NEAR members: 4 persons (China, Japan, Mongolia and Russia)
Functions

- Budgeting, budget execution and audit report documentation
- Liaison and coordination among NEAR members
- Executing resolutions made by the General Assembly and the Working Committee
- Executing exchange and cooperation projects in the area of administration, economy and culture
- Operating NEAR homepage

Operation Principle

- Be the channel for 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

- NEAR Working Level Workshop
- NEAR International Economic Forum
- Support NEAR General Assembly and Working Committee
- Develop and execute projects promoting exchange and cooperation among public servants, lawmakers, entrepreneurs, youths and NGOs from NEAR members
- Enhance publicity for NEAR and attract new membership
- Facilitate the operation of “Northeast Asian Economy and Trade Network”
- Publish NEAR White Paper and manage project DBs
- Publish NEAR NEWS Letter
- Provide international training program for dispatched public officials

NEAR Official Homepage

- Introduction of NEAR
  - Mission
  - Activities

- NEAR Member Portal
  - Regional information database
  - Industrial structure of members
  - Investment environment and major policies

- The Secretariat
  - Online Information Exchange Network

- E-Marketplace
  - Company directory
  - Search Engine for Electronic Product Catalogue
  - Trade mediation
### Mediation of Exchange and Cooperation in Various Fields

- **Main channel for exchange and cooperation**

  - **The Secretariat: Gateway for exchange and collaboration**
    - Compile data by sectors and subjects on exchange and cooperation among NEAR members
    - Provide information at request in a timely manner
    - Mediate exchange and cooperation
  
  - **Mediate sisterhood ties among NEAR members and international exchanges among educational institutes**
    - Operate exchange and partnership programs for youths, businesses and NGOs
    - Exchange and experience program for youths
  
  - **Homestay, traditional culture experience program, friendship building events**
    - “Ground of Friendship” Project
  
  - **Provide a platform for building mutual understanding among college and university students from China, Japan, Korea and Russia**
  
  - **Exchange program for local councils**
    - Cross visit and information sharing among local councils in Northeast Asia
  
  - **Develop exchange projects for women and NGO**

### NEAR Website

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEAR</th>
<th>Member Regional Governments</th>
<th>NEAR Secretariat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newsletter</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Reference Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
CHINA

Member Information

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heilongjiang Province</td>
<td>38.24 million, 454,800km²</td>
<td>Harbin City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>Harbin Ice and Snow World, International Snow Sculpture Art Expo, Wudalianchi (five interconnected lakes), Jinbo Lake, Xingkai Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henan Province</td>
<td>98.69 million, 167,000km²</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubei Province</td>
<td>60.50 million, 185,900km²</td>
<td>Wuhan City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>The Three Gorges, Shennongjia, Wudang Mountain, Yellow Crane Towe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunan Province</td>
<td>68.00 million, 211,800km²</td>
<td>Changsha City</td>
<td>Agriculture, Machinery Manufacture</td>
<td>Zhang jiajie, Hengshan, Yueyang Tower, Dao Hua Yuan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
<td>6.10 million, 66,400km²</td>
<td>Yinchuan</td>
<td>Agriculture, Industry</td>
<td>Sha Lake, Ming Great Walls, Xixia Mausoleums, Helan Mountain's Petroglyph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shandong Province</td>
<td>93.67 million, 157,100km²</td>
<td>Jinan Province</td>
<td>Manufacture, Service Industry</td>
<td>Tai Mountain, Qufu three Kings (the Temple of Confucius, Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion), Baotu Spring Park, Qingdao Laosan, Shuiboliangshan Mountain [The background of the famous Chinese literature, “Outlaws of the Marsh”]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JAPAN

Member Information

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
### Aomori Prefecture
- **Population and Size**: 1.5 million, 9,606 km²
- **Major City**: Aomori
- **Major Industry**: Agriculture
- **Major Tourist Attractions**: Oirase Valley, Towada Lake, Shirakami Sanchi

### Yamagata Prefecture
- **Population and Size**: 1.24 million, 9,323 km²
- **Major City**: Yamagata
- **Major Industry**: Machinery, Food
- **Major Tourist Attractions**: Ginzan Onsen (hot springs), Soft Rimes, Yamatera

### Niigata Prefecture
- **Population and Size**: 2.48 million, 12,582 km²
- **Major City**: Niigata
- **Major Industry**: Agriculture, Metal
- **Major Tourist Attractions**: Niigata Convention Center (Tokimesse)

### Toyama Prefecture
- **Population and Size**: 1.12 million, 4,247 km²
- **Major City**: Toyama
- **Major Industry**: Heavy Chemical, Tulip
- **Major Tourist Attractions**: Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route, Zuiryuji, Historic Village of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama

### Ishikawa Prefecture
- **Population and Size**: 1.81 million, 4,185 km²
- **Major City**: Kanajawa
- **Major Industry**: Industry, Fishery
- **Major Tourist Attractions**: Kanajawa Castle

### Fukui Prefecture
- **Population and Size**: 0.83 million, 4,188 km²
- **Major City**: Fukui
- **Major Industry**: Textile Manufacture, Machinery
- **Major Tourist Attractions**: Tojimbo Cliffs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefecture</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kyoto Prefecture</strong></td>
<td>2.64 million, 4,612km²</td>
<td>Kyoto</td>
<td>Commerce, Service</td>
<td>Arashiyama Park, Amanohashidate Park, Rurikei Hot Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hyogo Prefecture</strong></td>
<td>5.57 million, 8,392km²</td>
<td>Kobe</td>
<td>Electronic, Machinery</td>
<td>Himeji Castle, the Port of Kobe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tottori Prefecture</strong></td>
<td>0.61 million, 3,507km²</td>
<td>Tottori</td>
<td>Agriculture, Electronic</td>
<td>Tottori Sand Dunes, Daisan National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shimane Prefecture</strong></td>
<td>0.76 million, 6,707km²</td>
<td>Matsue</td>
<td>Fishery, Agriculture</td>
<td>Matsue Castle, Shinji Lake, Iwami Silver Mine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Busan Metropolitan City
**Population and Size**
- 3.68 million, 765km²

**Major Industry**
- Service, Harbor Industry

**Major Tourist Attractions**
- Haewoondae Beach, Kwanganri Beach, Yongdusan Park

### Daegu Metropolitan City
**Population and Size**
- 2.51 million, 884km²

**Major Industry**
- Textile, Machinery

**Major Tourist Attractions**
- Palgong Mountain, Duryu Park

### Incheon Metropolitan City
**Population and Size**
- 2.73 million, 1,007km²

**Major Industry**
- Incheon Free Economic Zone [Songdo, Yeongjong, Cheongna]

**Major Tourist Attractions**
- Chamseongdan Altar, Wolmido Island, Sorae Pogu, China Town

### Gwangju Metropolitan City
**Population and Size**
- 1.42 million, 501km²

**Major Industry**
- Mining, Automobile, Digital Home Appliances

**Major Tourist Attractions**
- Mt. Mudeong, Pochungsa Shrine, Wolbong Seowon Confucian Academy, Gwangju Student Independence Movement Memorial Hall

### Daejeon Metropolitan City
**Population and Size**
- 1.5 million, 539km²

**Major Industry**
- IT, R&D

**Major Tourist Attractions**
- National Science Museum, Dosan Seowon Confucian Academy, Lake Daedeong, Gyeryongsan National Park

### Ulsan Metropolitan City
**Population and Size**
- 1.1 million, 1,057km²

**Major Industry**
- Automobile, Shipbuilding, Precision Chemistry

**Major Tourist Attractions**
- Seoknamsa Temple (Mt. Gaji), Chisan Seowon Site, Daewang Rock
### Gyeonggi-do Province

**Population and Size**

- **Major City**: Suwon City
- **Major Industry**: Electronic, Mining and Manufacturing Industry
- **Tourist Attractions**: Hwaseong Fortress, Namhansanseong Fortress, Fortress, Haengjusanseong Fortress

**Population**: 11.34 millions, **Area**: 10,184km²

### Gangwon-do Province

**Population and Size**

- **Major City**: Chuncheon City
- **Major Industry**: Environment-Friendly Agriculture, Logistics
- **Tourist Attractions**: Seoraksan National Park, Odaesan National Park, Chiak National Park

**Population**: 1.5 millions, **Area**: 16,873km²

### Chungcheongbuk-do Province

**Population and Size**

- **Major City**: Cheongju City
- **Major Industry**: Bio Industry, Agriculture
- **Tourist Attractions**: Beobjusa Temple (Mt. Songni), Woraksan National Park, 8 Scenic Beauties of Danyang

**Population**: 1.52 millions, **Area**: 7,433km²

### Chungchonam-do Province

**Population and Size**

- **Major City**: Cheonan City
- **Major Industry**: Manufacture, Logistics
- **Tourist Attractions**: Gyeryongsan National Park, Taean Seashore National Park, Independence Hall of Korea

**Population**: 2.02 millions, **Area**: 8,600km²

### Jeollabuk-do Province

**Population and Size**

- **Major City**: Jeonju City
- **Major Industry**: Automobile, Agriculture
- **Tourist Attractions**: Mt. Jirisan, Mt. Naejangsan, Mt. Deokyusan

**Population**: 19.1 millions, **Area**: 8,051km²

### Jeollanam-do Province

**Population and Size**

- **Major City**: Mokpo City
- **Major Industry**: Agriculture, Fishery
- **Tourist Attractions**: Cultural Asset of Mahan and Baekje, Yudalsan Mountain

**Population**: 1.94 millions, **Area**: 12,121km²
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
<td>2.71 millions, 19,026km²</td>
<td>Pohang City</td>
<td>Electronic, Steel</td>
<td>Bulguksa Temple, Seokguram Grotto, Bomun Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
<td>3.17 millions, 10,518km²</td>
<td>Changwon City</td>
<td>Machinery, Agriculture</td>
<td>Yangsan Tongdosa Temple, Hapcheon Haeinsa Temple, Hadong Sanggyesa Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeju Special Self-Governing Province</td>
<td>0.56 million, 1,848km²</td>
<td>Jeju City</td>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>Mt. Hallasan, Sungsanilchulbong (Sun Rise Island)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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DPRK

Member Information

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamgyeongbuk-do Province</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.08 million, 18,427㎢</td>
<td>Cheongjin</td>
<td>Machinery, Chemical</td>
<td>Songheung Hot Spring, Hwangjin Hot Spring</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rasun City</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.17 million, 746㎢</td>
<td>Rasun City</td>
<td>Industry, Fishery</td>
<td>Gulpori Primitive Cultural Heritage, Najinchodo Island</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MONGOLIA

Member Information
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population and Size</th>
<th>Major City</th>
<th>Major Industry</th>
<th>Major Tourist Attractions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ulaanbaatar City</td>
<td>1 million, 4,700 km²</td>
<td>Ulaanbaatar</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>Terelj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkhangai Province</td>
<td>90,000, 55,300 km²</td>
<td>Tsetserleg</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Lake Ogii, Taikhar Rock, Zayiin Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayanulgii Province</td>
<td>90,000, 45,800 km²</td>
<td>Ulgii</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Mountain Deluun, Lake Dayan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayankhongor Province</td>
<td>80,000, 116,000 km²</td>
<td>Bayankhongor</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Shargaljuut Resort, Bolor Tsagaan Grotto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgan Province</td>
<td>60,000, 48,700 km²</td>
<td>Bulgan</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 km²</td>
<td>Altai</td>
<td>Food-processing, Felt Production</td>
<td>Guviin Shal, Takhin Tal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td>Population and Size</td>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>Major Industry</td>
<td>Major Tourist Attractions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Govisumber Province</td>
<td>10,000, 5,500km²</td>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Jaraa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darkhan-Uul Province</td>
<td>90,000, 3,275km²</td>
<td>Darkhan</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Zulzagiin River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dornod Province</td>
<td>70,000, 123,600km²</td>
<td>Choibalsan</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Lake Buir, Menen Tal, Khalkhiin Gol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorno-govi Province</td>
<td>50,000, 109,500km²</td>
<td>Sainshand</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Ar Ulaan Statue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dund-govi Province</td>
<td>50,000, 74,700km²</td>
<td>Mandal Govi</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Baruun-Biluut, Stone Carvings, Uush Sand Dunes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zavkhan Province</td>
<td>70,000, 82,000km²</td>
<td>Uliastai</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Mountain Otgontenger, Humiin Hooloi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td>Population and Size</td>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>Major Industry</td>
<td>Major Tourist Attractions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orkhon Province</td>
<td>100,000, 84,400km²</td>
<td>Erdenet</td>
<td>Mining, Molybdenum Industry</td>
<td>Orkhon Museum, Zeel Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uvurkhangai Province</td>
<td>110,000, 62,900km²</td>
<td>Arvaikheer</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Ulaanzutgalan Fall, Tuvkhun Monastery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ummu-govi Province</td>
<td>40,000, 165,400km²</td>
<td>Dalanzadgad</td>
<td>Mining industry</td>
<td>Gobi Gurvan Saikhan National Park, Yolin Am Grotto, Khongor River, Bayanzag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sukhbaatar Province</td>
<td>50,000, 82,300km²</td>
<td>Choibalsan</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Shilin Bogd, Altan Ovoo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
<td>100,000, 42,800km²</td>
<td>Sukhbaatar</td>
<td>Stock-farming, Forage industry</td>
<td>Amarbayasgalant, Lake Gun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
<td>110,000, 78,200km²</td>
<td>Zuunmod</td>
<td>Mining, Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Mt. Khentii, Mt. Bogdkhan, Manzhir Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province</td>
<td>Population and Size</td>
<td>Major City</td>
<td>Major Industry</td>
<td>Major Tourist Attractions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uvs Province</td>
<td>80,000, 69,600km²</td>
<td>Ulaangom</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Jinst, Goojuur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khovd Province</td>
<td>90,000, 173,800km²</td>
<td>Jargalant</td>
<td>Agriculture, Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Gunvan Tsenkhenin Agui, Mongon, Sambarin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khuvsgul Province</td>
<td>110,000, 100,600km²</td>
<td>Murun</td>
<td>Fishery, Agriculture</td>
<td>Lake Khovsgol, Khovsgol Taiga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khetii Province</td>
<td>70,000, 80,300km²</td>
<td>Undurkhaan</td>
<td>Stock-farming Industry</td>
<td>Lake Gurmiin, Kherlen 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>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Buryatia</td>
<td>0.96 million, 351,300km²</td>
<td>Ulan-Ude</td>
<td>Energy, Machinery</td>
<td>Ivolginsky Datsan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)</td>
<td>0.95 million, 3,103,200km²</td>
<td>Yakutia</td>
<td>Mining, Fuel</td>
<td>Lenskie Stolby [Lena Pillars] National Nature Park, Moma National Nature Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Tyva</td>
<td>0.31 million, 168,600km²</td>
<td>Kyzyl</td>
<td>Food Processing, Metallurgy</td>
<td>Burial Mound in Arzhaan, Uighur Fortress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altai Territory</td>
<td>2.51 million, 167,850km²</td>
<td>Barnaul</td>
<td>Machinery Manufacturing, Agriculture</td>
<td>Belokurikha Health Resort, Denisov’s Cave, Tavdinsky Cave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zabaikalsky Territory</td>
<td>1.12 million, 431,500km²</td>
<td>Chita</td>
<td>Mining, Metallurgical Industry, Agriculture, Forestry</td>
<td>Tsongol Datsan Lama Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krasnoyarsk Territory</td>
<td>2.96 million, 2,366,800km²</td>
<td>Krasnoyarsk</td>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>Stolby Nature Reserve, Sayano-Shushenskaya, Hydroelectric Power Station</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Primorsky Territory

Population and Size
Major City: Vladivostok
Major Industry: Fishery, Wood
Major Tourist Attractions: Botanic Garden of the Far Eastern Branch Russian Academy of Sciences, Singing Sands, Petrov Island

Khabarovsk Territory

Population and Size
Major City: Khabarovsk
Major Industry: Machinery, Metal
Major Tourist Attractions: Amur River

Amur Region

Population and Size
Major City: Blagoveshchensk
Major Industry: Metal Processing, Electronic Power Industry
Major Tourist Attractions: Museum of Amur Region

Irkutsk Region

Population and Size
Major City: Irkutsk
Major Industry: Mining, Forestry
Major Tourist Attractions: Monument of Alexander III, Lake Baikal, Baikal Museum

Kamchatka Territory

Population and Size
Major City: Kamchatka
Major Industry: Fishery
Major Tourist Attractions: Volcanos, Geyser Valley

Magadan Region

Population and Size
Major City: Magadan
Major Industry: Hunting, Fishery, Mining
Major Tourist Attractions: Omolonsk, Cherge Mountains
Sakhalin Region

Population and Size
0.52 million, 87,100㎢

Major City
Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk

Major Industry
Oil, Fishery

Major Tourist Attractions
Akhalin Regional Art Museum, Moneron Island

Tomsk Region

Population and Size
1.03 million, 316,900㎢

Major City
Tomsk

Major Industry
Petrochemistry, Machinery Manufacturing

Major Tourist Attractions
Bogoyavlensky Cathedral, Siberia Botanic Garden
The Charter of NEAR
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

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 of 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 on mutual understanding through the establishment of networks for exchanges and cooperation among member governments.
Article 3 (Agenda) “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) Review projects pertinent to accomplish the purposes of the Association.

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 will be effected by a decision 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 Charter.

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. If 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 accounting and audit, 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 clause.
(1) Appointment of auditors
(2) Approval of budget, project plans, settlement of accounts
(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) Other functions deemed to be necessary

Article 9 (Resolution) Decisions of the General Assembly shall be made in accordance with the following methods:
(2) The particulars specified under clause 1 to 8 of Article 8 shall be resolved by a majority of the members present and a two-thirds majority of the members voting.
(3) Other particulars, with the exception of clause 2 of Article 9, shall be resolved by a majority of the members present and a majority of the members voting.

Section 2 Working Committee

Article 10 (Organization and Operation) ① The Working Committee consists of director-general level senior administrative staffs nominated by the head of each member regional government. The chair of Working Committee shall convene a meeting more than once every year.
② The chair of the Working Committee shall be the vice head of the chair local government.
③ The chair of the Working Committee reports the result of the meeting to the General Assembly.
④ For smooth operation of individual projects and other works, a separate sub-committee or sub-committees for each field of work may be organized as a supporting organization for the Working Committee with the approval from the General Assembly (new provision since September 1998).

Article 11 (Functions) The Working Committee shall perform the following clause.
(1) Discussion of business plans and individual projects
(2) Documentation of annual reports and audit reports
(3) Coordination of opinions among members
(4) Determination of the establishment (composition, functions and operation) of sub-committees (new provision since September 1998)
(5) Determination of issues delegated by the General Assembly to the Working Committee
(6) Other functions deemed to be necessary
Section 3 The Secretariat

Article 12 (Organization and Operation) The Secretariat is a standing body of “the Association.” Each member government may set up a liaison body if necessary. The term of the Secretariat is 4 years, and may be extended by the decision of the General Assembly.

Article 13 (Executives and Staffs) 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 head 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, the Secretariat can be constituted in a different way under the approval by the chair of the Association.

Article 14 (Functions) The Secretariat shall perform the following clause.
(1) Budgeting and budget execution
(2) Documentations of business plans, annual reports, and accounting reports
(3) Liaisons and coordination among members
(4) Execution of decisions made by the General Assembly and the Working Committee
(5) Other functions deemed to be necessary

Article 15 (Finance) ① The accounting of the Secretariat shall be treated as special accounting, and its operations shall be covered by membership fees and other miscellaneous income.
② Accounting shall temporarily be carried out in accordance with the following clauses:
(1) Members shall temporarily not be obliged to pay membership fees.
(2) All expenses incurred by 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 regional government hosting the General Assembly.
   2) As to the other half (C=A-B), the rest of the regional governments shall share the amount (C/D), which is equally divided by the number of the regional governments of the Association, excluding the host of the conference (D).
   3) In the event that the number of regional governments actually participating in the General Assembly is less than D, the balance shall be borne by the regional government hosting the conference.
   4) In the event that a member regional government is unable to bear a significant portion of the expense due to unavoidable circumstances such as natural disasters, the expense to be borne may be partially reduced to a reasonable level based on the agreement of other member regional governments.
5) During the General Assembly, the regional government which proposed to host the next General Assembly shall submit tentative accounting of expenses for organizing the General Assembly and the Working Committee.

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

(4) Expenses for other individual cooperation projects shall be covered by the member government which proposed those projects. However, based on agreement, they may be shared among participating members which desire to join the projects.

Section 4 Associated Supporting Organizations

Article 16 (Establishment) Aimed at contributing to the development of the Northeast Asian region, each member regional government may establish a supporting organization (hereinafter referred to as “Supporting Organization of the Association”) to support the activities of the Association (new provision since 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 (new provision since September 1998).

② “The Supporting Organization of the Association” shall report its activities to the Association (new provision since September 1998).

Chapter 4 Final Provisions

Article 18 (Effectuation) This Charter shall be effectuated from the 8th of September 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. Original copies of which shall be kept at the regional government where the Secretariat is located, and copies of which shall be kept by each member.

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 12nd 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 12nd 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 established for each field of work.

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 Educational and Cultural Exchanges
(4) Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
(5) Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation
(6) Sub-Committee on Science and Technology
(7) Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery
(8) Sub-Committee on Tourism

Article 3 (Functions) ① Each Sub-Committee reviews and discusses methods to materialize and realize project plans by coordinating opinions among regional governments in order to promote effective execution of “Individual Projects” led by member regional governments which initiated them.
② Each Sub-Committee shall report the results of the review and discussion on “Individual Projects” proposed by regional governments to the Working Committee.

Article 4 (Structure) Each Sub-Committee consists of directors of local government divisions 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 two years, and it can be re-elected.
③ In principal, the operation of a sub-committee shall be based on 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 membership 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, in principle.

**Article 8 (Relation to the Secretariat)** Each “Coordinator” shall send updated information of the Sub-Committee to the Secretariat, which shall distribute 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 decided 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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