Chapter 2
Operation and Activities of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR)

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Chapter 2 Operation and Activities of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR)

Section 1 General Assembly

I. Overview

A. Structure and Operation
   ○ The General Assembly is the supreme legislative body of the Association, which consists of representatives of member regions, and is held biennially.
   ○ The representative of the regional government that holds the next General Assembly shall become the Chair of the General Assembly. The two-year term of office of the Chair ends with the closing of the next General Assembly. When the chair cannot represent the General Assembly, the deputy representative of the regional government shall act as the chair on behalf of the representative.
   ※ Previously, the representative and the deputy representative of the regional government that hosted the General Assembly held the office of Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, until the day before the opening of the following General Assembly. This was amended at the 4th General Assembly held in Khabarovsk Territory, Russia.

B. Function
   Article 8 of the Charter prescribes the following as functions of the General Assembly:
   (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 Charter
   (6) Determination of termination and liquidation of the organization
   (7) Determination of matters regarding holding of the next General Assembly
   (8) Determination of the venue to install the Secretariat
   (9) Determination and execution of various plans of operation
   (10) Other matters acknowledged being required

C. Decision-making
   ○ Each member regions shall have one vote of equal weight.
   ○ Regarding the functions of the General Assembly, the matters specified in articles 1 through 8 shall be decided by a majority of current members present and a vote of two-thirds or more of those present, and regarding other matters, it shall be
decided by a majority of current members present and a majority vote of those present.

2. History of General Assemblies
   A. Meetings of Northeast Asian Regional Governments before the Foundation of the Association
      (1) The 1st Meeting
         (A) Overview of the Meeting
            1) Date: October 8th, 1993
            2) Venue: Shimane Prefecture, Japan
            3) Participants: 11 regions from 4 countries

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Region Government(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hubei Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Hiroshima Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Primorsky Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Theme: Aiming toward the overall development of Northeast Asia
5) Overview of the discussion
   A) Tasks and Prospects of Each Regional Government in Northeast Asia
      The current state of the regional exchanges among participating regional governments, tasks and prospects were discussed and the mutual awareness and understanding for the overall development of Northeast Asia were enhanced.
   B) Collaboration and Cooperation concerning the Northeast Asian Region
      Measures of collaboration and cooperation were examined to build a network of regional exchanges that have thus far been one-to-one exchanges and measures to develop the regional exchange activities of Northeast Asia were devised.

Specific Proposal
- Cooperation in the joint investigations and researches for the preservation of the environment and resources of the East Sea, the joint property of Northeast Asia
- Development of the entire Northeast Asia through exchanges of technologies and information in agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
- Expansion of exchanges through the mutual establishment of presiding office of regional governments
- Establishment of Northeast Asian Studies as well as the construction of research and information network
- Joint effort for fostering capable people who would lead Northeast Asia
- Clarification of foreign communication part of each regional governments for building an exchange network
- Establishment of organizations for the establishment and realization of joint prospects
〈Shimane Declaration〉

10 October 8th, 1993, the '93 Meeting of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR) was held in Shimane prefecture, and the related regional governments from Japan, Republic of China, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation met together in one place. At this moment of facing the 21st century, the development of information and communication systems and the transportation network are organized, and along with the easing of international tensions, there is a growing tendency for international and interregional exchanges. The North East Asian region, where nations are closely related both historically and geographically, has been transforming into a region of peace and exchange and of wealth and prosperity, as such borderless movement allows massive and fast interregional exchange of people, goods, information and technology. In this circumstance, we had a mutual recognition that this meeting today would be promoting the creation of regional exchange network among each regional government and contributing enormously to the development in the Northeast Asian region. We traded opinions on the current state of each regional exchange as well as the future prospect and pointed out the tasks to be dealt with. As a result, we agreed to put effort into fulfilling the following items:

1 Continuous Holding of regional government meetings
   The need is recognized to continue holding meetings that consist of regional governments and interchange information even after the coming years to promote regional exchanges and overall development.

2 Joint Implementation of Regional Exchange Programs
   The need is recognized to stimulate the building of regional exchange network such as making an active joint effort on some of the one-to-one exchange programs that can be made as joint programs.

2) The 2nd Meeting
   (A) Background and Purpose
      In order to promote exchange amongst Northeast Asian regions in the regional government level, and to promote development of the entire Northeast Asian region through this exchange, as well as to make the international exchange circle where the regional governments are the main parts, the leaders of regional governments in the Northeast Asian region gathered and discussed the current status and future prospects of interregional exchange, and intensified the mutual recognition of the matter and understanding of each other, and discussed the liaison and cooperation to promote more efficient interregional exchange.

   (B) Overview of the Meeting
      1) Date : 1994, 9, 7 ~ 9, 8 (for two days)
      2) Venue : Hyogo Prefecture, Japan
      3) Theme : Coexistence and Development of Northeast Asian Region
         – Establishing mutual trust and new regional exchanges
      4) Hosts : Hyogo Prefecture, The League of Japan Sea Coastal Promotion, The West Japan Association for Interchanges in the Pan-Japan Sea Region

6) Participants: 10 regions from 4 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hubei Province, Heilongjiang Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Primorsky Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7) Agenda of the Meeting
   - Discussion on current status, future prospects, and cooperation details of each regional government on the exchange among Northeast Asian regions
   - Joint efforts on activation of exchange among young adults, protection of fishery resources, and environmental problems
   - Holding the third meeting in Khabarovsk Territory, Russia in October 1995
   - Establishment of permanent system for exchange promotion (organized by Hyogo prefecture)
   - Operation of “Boy’s Ship (Shonen no Fune)” for the stimulation of youth exchange

*Hyogo Declaration*

Succeeding the Shimane declaration of the ’93 Meeting of Northeast Asia Regional Government of the previous year held in Matsue city, Shimane prefecture, the ’94 Meeting of Northeast Asia Regional Governments 1994 was held from September 7th to September 8th in Izu city, Hyogo prefecture where related regional governments from Japan, People’s Republic of China, Republic of Korea, and Russian Federation met together in one place.

Due to the improvement of information technology and transportation as well as the easing of international tensions, the world today is becoming more borderless and interdependent so that nations and regions cannot exist without close relationship with other nations in the world.

In this circumstance, it is essential that the Northeast Asian regions henceforth move towards the “coexistence” in the 21st century by mutually respecting and understanding one another.

After discussing subjects such as cultural and personal exchange, and economic and technology exchange, we have come to a mutual recognition that the eternal peace and prosperity of Northeast Asian Region depends on the regional governments of Northeast Asian region, in the spirit of reciprocity and peace, associating and cooperating with one another and increasing solidarity and unity by vitalizing exchange programs.

As the first step to actualize such realization, we declare to make effort towards the mutual fulfillment of the following:
1. To enhance solidarity and unity of Northeast Asian region, meetings consisting of regional governments in Northeast Asian region will be held continuously even after the coming years.
2. The actualization of a permanent international organization in which related regional governments participate will be examined.
3. The actualization of possible exchange programs followed by collaboration and cooperation among regional governments will be examined.

(3) The 3rd Meeting
(A) Overview of the Meeting
1) Date: September 7th, 1995
2) Venue: Khabarovsk Territory, Russia
3) Participants: 17 regions from 4 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Hubei Province, Heilongjiang Province, Jilin Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Primorsky Territory, Sakhalin Region, Jewish Autonomous Oblast</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(B) Agenda of the Meeting
- Exchange of Culture and Human Resources
  - Active promotion of the exchange of culture and sports on the premise of more active promotion from current one-on-one exchange to multinational exchange of Northeast Asian Region (operation of “ship of friendship” and “caravan of friendship”)
  - Promoting the exchange of experts and researchers
  - Supporting the cooperation and language studies to train students and experts
  - Establishing Northeast Asian Region Center for research and training human resources
  - Further Discussion on the interregional cooperation in the Japan Expo in Sakaïminato city, Tottori prefecture in 1996

- Exchange of Economy and Technology
  - Essential points are smooth movement of capital, liberalization of foreign trade, and promotion of movement of human resources.
  - Building infrastructure such as reorganization of cities, and organization of communication and transportation
  - Reorganizing market mechanism
  - Establishing the information center for overseas investment
  - Securing the guarantee for foreign investment
  - Promoting science and technology exchange concerning countermeasures against acid rain, and environmental problems and securing resources in the East Sea
Cooperation among Northeast Asian regions on simple and prompt entry procedure (getting visa) is inevitable.

Concerning exchange in general:
- Proposal of a draft on the establishment of an international organization (Hyogo prefecture)
- Establishing a permanent executive organization and discussing issues on launching the international organization

Establishing a working-level organization and processing the declaration:
- Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea is decided to be the venue for the next meeting
- Gyeongsangbuk-do province will arrange and propose the draft on establishing a permanent working-level organization, which consists of representatives from Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, and People’s Republic of China. The members of the working-level organization will be as follows:
  - Japan: Hyogo Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture
  - Republic of Korea: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
  - Russian Federation: the Interregional Association of Economic Cooperation “Far East and Transbaikalia”
  - People’s Republic of China: will decide after returning to China
- Due to the items of the declaration not reaching an agreement, the government of Khabarovsk territory will later send a modified version of the declaration to all the participant regional governments.

Khabarovsk Declaration

Following the tradition of the Meeting of Northeast Asia Regional Governments, previously held in Mastue city, Shimane prefecture, Japan in 1993 and in Izu city, Hyogo prefecture, Japan in 1994, the 3rd Meeting of Northeast Asia Regional Governments is held in Khabarovsk on September 6th and 7th 1995 where attended the leaders of regional governments from Republic of Korea, Japan, People’s Republic of China, and Russian Federation.

The initiation of the talk among regional governments from nations located in Northeast Asia became possible as a result of the ease of the international tensions, strengthened unity of world economy, extension of the relations among Asia Pacific coastal countries, extension of discretionary authority of regional governments in the process of development of international relations, and increased awareness of people on the need to establish ties with adjacent regions.

During the Khabarovsk international meeting, participants shared views on broad subjects such as exchange of culture and human resources, economic relations, and cooperation of science and technology at the regional government level. During the meeting, participants focused on the fact that current broad relation among regions sufficiently contribute to consolidation of international relations in Asia and Far East and to strengthened peace and stability in Asia Pacific regions. At the same time, the participating leaders had an in-depth discussion on the need for the extended regional exchanges to be adjusted and regulated by an “international organization,” established by the interested regional governments.

The leaders of each regional government participating in the Khabarovsk meeting shared views on the above items and agreed on the following duties that the Meeting of Northeast Asian Regional Governments should consider in the near future.
1. On the basis of reciprocity, mutual understanding, and an equal right, Meeting of Northeast Asian Regional Governments will be held continuously to strengthen the cooperation among Northeast Asian regional governments.

2. Efforts will be continued to form a taskforce team to establish a permanent international organization where interested regional governments will participate and fulfill their duties.

3. Efforts will be continued to formulate reciprocal policies to develop networks of regional cooperation and to strengthen exchange activities among Northeast Asian regional governments.

※ ’95 Khabarovsk Meeting document was written based on the information from Japan and the declaration was written based on the pandect of the NEAR secretariat

B. General Assemblies after the Foundation of the Association

(1) The 1st General Assembly

(A) Background and Purpose

1) From Conflict and Tension to Amity and Cooperation

The expansion of transportation and information and communications facilities as well as the trend of easing political tensions has allowed exchanges beyond borders to be more active and mutual understanding to be enhanced in this world. Now, the time has come where national competitiveness and regional development cannot be secured without close international and interregional coordination.

Likewise, in Northeast Asian region, a new international order is being formed in the East Sea, the so-called Mediterranean Sea of Asia, which is transforming from the “sea of conflict and tension” to the “sea of amity and cooperation.” Mutual exchanges and cooperation are under way in various areas such as culture, academia, economy, environment, and tourism.

2) New Frontier of the World Economy? the unity of Northeast Asian Regions

As is widely known, Northeast Asia is becoming the region with the greatest potential among the world’s economic blocs, including Korea, China, Russia and Japan sharing close historically and geographical relationship, the potential and the possibility of Northeast Asian economic bloc have naturally been formed from each nation’s development strategies being interconnected rather than from any artificial motives.

The prime examples are the recent development project of Tumen river basin, Vladivostok project in Russia, and Rajin–Sunbong area development project in DPRK.

(B) Overview of the Conference

1) Title

   ○ Korean – ’96 동북아시아지역자치단체회의
   ○ English – North East Asia Regional Government Conference ’96 (Acronym: NEAR Conference ’96)

2) Date : (Wed) September 11 – (Sat) September 14, 1996

3) Venue : Gyeongju Hilton Hotel and Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju in Bomun Lake Resort, Gyeongju

4) Hosts : Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
5) Participants: 29 regional governments from 4 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heilongjian Province, Henan Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Aomori Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Sakhalin Region, Amur Region, Kamchatka Territory, Irkutsk Region, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Republic of Buryatia, Chita Region</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6) Theme: “Practical Exchange and Cooperation Measures for Northeast Asia Regional Governments towards the 21st Century”

7) Agenda of the Conference
   - Discussion on Interregional Exchange and Cooperation Projects and Development Strategies
   - Establishment of a permanent international organization for Northeast Asian Regional Governments

8) Format: Round table format via simultaneous interpretation

9) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>(Wed) Sep. 11</th>
<th>(Thu) Sep. 12</th>
<th>(Fri) Sep. 13</th>
<th>(Sat) Sep. 14</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony, Report on &quot;95 Meeting and proposal and discussion on founding an international organization</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Entry /Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>Speeches and Suggestions from the chief delegations (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Industrial Inspection Tour/</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Meeting of Entrepreneurs</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>Discussion on proposed agenda items Adoption of the Declaration</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Group Photo Session</td>
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<td>19:00</td>
<td>Tour/Departure</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:00</td>
<td>Welcoming Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>22:00</td>
<td>The night of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Exhibition (Exported products / Art works)</td>
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</table>

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
(C) Proceeding of the Conference

1) Call to Order (Moderator)

2) Welcoming Speech (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Eui-Geun Lee)
   - Welcoming delegations and guests
   - Emphasized on the need for the international exchange and cooperation among regional governments
     Expecting in-depth discussion on exchange and cooperation measures

3) Congratulatory Address from the Central Government (Prime Minister)
   - Congratulating on the holding of the conference in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
   - Expecting positive results for the mutual development among regions

4) Greetings from the Coordinator (Coordinator)
   - Northeast Asia is the center of the hope of the world
   - It is important to establish a consultative body for Northeast Asia regional governments

5) Report on ’95 Meeting (Governor of Khabarovsk)
   - Explanation on principles concerning the establishment of an international organization
   - Report on key points of ’95 Khabarovsk Declaration
     • Continuous holding of the Meeting of Northeast Asia Regional Governments
     • Establishment of a permanent international organization will be reviewed in the ’96 meeting
     • Preparing a joint business plan

6) Report on the proposal for the establishment of the international organization
   (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Eui-Geun Lee)
   - Report on the progress of the establishment of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
     • Preparing a foundation plan for the organization
     • Collecting opinions from regional governments by visiting each nation
     • Forming a working group and gathering hands-on workers from regional governments representing each nation to prepare a draft of the NEAR charter
   - Preparing the charter(proposal) of the association on the basis of the fact that this organization is a permanent international organization that aims for the joint development of each regional government

7) Discussion on the establishment of the international organization
   [Vice-Governor of Toyama Prefecture]
   - Glad that the charter draft of the international organization is prepared
   - Hopes that a great number of regional governments will participate

   [Governor of Chungcheongnam-do Province]
   - Fully supports continuous holding of this conference
   - Grateful for the efforts of each regional government on progress of this conference

   [Governor of Heilongjiang Province]
   - Wishes for the mutual prosperity and peace in each country in Northeast Asia region
• Expects a successful conference
  
  [Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
  • Establishing an international organization is absolutely required
  • Agrees on the fundamental principles of the charter
  
  [Governor of Jeollabuk-do Province]
  • Supports the formation of NEAR
  • Suggests adding a phrase “[We] contribute to the world peace.” In Article 2 of the charter.
  
  [Governor of Jeollanam-do Province]
  • Suggests a revision of Article 17, the “scope of membership”
  
  [Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
  • Decision required concerning Article 15 “finances”
  
  [Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
  • In this opinion to postpone the membership fees for the time being as it may be a burden due to the financial gap among regional governments
  • Requests revising Article 2 and Article 17 by reflecting opinions of member regional governments
  
  [Vice-Governor of Hyogo Prefecture]
  • Supports the governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province concerning financial issues
  
  8) Signing the Charter of NEAR(Coordinator)
  • After signing the Charter written in four languages, keep them permanently in the secretariat
  • A copy of the charter will be sent to each regional government

  9) Speech and suggestions from the heads of delegations
  
  [Governor of Heilongjiang Province]
  • Will substitute with the previous comments
  
  [Governor of Chungcheongnam-do Province]
  • This conference provided an opportunity to build a framework for a solid cooperation as one community.
  • Suggests organizing the “Northeast Asia Environment Forum”
  
  [Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
  • In the midst of creating a general plan for economic and social development of the Far East and the eastern part of Zabaikalsky Territory
  • Proposed inviting North Korean regional governments
  Introducing the telegram from Mr. Primakov, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs
  
  [Governor of Jeollabuk-do Province]
  • This conference is very timely in this era of regionalization and globalization
  • Formed an alliance with Kagoshima prefecture, Jiangsu province, and the state of Washington
  
  [Governor of Shimane Prefecture]
  • Promotes broad and concrete collaboration and cooperation program for the majority of regional governments
  • Proposes “Vessel of Exchange” program as the joint project of the international
organization

[Governor of Jeollanam-do Province]
- Suggests extending exchanges from human and cultural ones to economic and technology ones
- Suggests to develop a realistic exchange program where both private and public sectors participate

[Governor of Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- Suggests to take turns to exhibit cultural arts, traditional crafts, and local specialties
- Suggests to develop major events, hold regular “International Machinery Expo”

[Chairman of the Parliament of Irkutsk Region]
- Supports the idea of establishing special committee on environment
- Fully supports the charter of NEAR

[Governor of Henan Province]
- Plans to establish sisterly ties with cities in Russia and Vietnam this year
- Expects broader exchange and cooperation with each regional government

[Vice Governor of Shandong Province]
- Wishes for the successful conference and joint development through mutual cooperation
- We must strengthen information and human exchange and create collaboration on trade cooperation

[Vice Governor of Hyogo Prefecture]
- Need for broad collaboration among Northeast Asian regions
- Proposes technical cooperation, sending technical trainees abroad, joint inspection on environment, earthquake, flood, and fire

[Vice Governor of Aomori Prefecture]
- Desires opening a regular international air route to and from China
- Must focus not only on economic exchanges as well as culture and tourism exchanges

[Vice Governor of Toyama Prefecture]
- Proposes environmental cooperation among Northeast Asian regions
- Desires meeting of regional governments to be held in Toyama Prefecture

[Vice Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture]
- Desires promoting cultural, technological and technical exchange and cooperation
- Need an international organization to solve environmental issues such as acid rain and preserving fishery resources

[Vice Governor of Fukui Prefecture]
- Need exchanges that features the characteristics of each regional government
- Plans to hold the “International Art Festival in Fukui” in 1997

[Vice Governor of Kyoto Prefecture]
- The International Symposium will be held in Kyoto prefecture in December 1996
- Appoints foreign students as honorary ambassador of friendship

[Chief Accountant of Tottori Prefecture]
- Requests attendance to the “Shadow of Mountain – Harbor of Dream Expo”
• Promotes exchanges with various places such as Gangwon-do Province and Primorsky Territory

[Vice Governor of Amur Region]
• Puts effort into creating investment climate for foreign companies
• Must support joint projects such as “Vessel of Exchange” and “Environmental Committee”

[Deputy Prime Minister of Republic of Buryatia]
• Suggests extending exchanges in sectors where cooperation with Northeast Asian countries are possible
• Suggests executing “legislation on stimulating foreign investment” for potential investors

[Vice Governor of Kamchatka Territory]
• Will actively participate in joint research in natural resource development and in joint enterprise for producing and selling fish
• Will actively participate in joint projects of NEAR

[Vice Premier of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)]
• 25 Joint ventures and foreign invested companies are active
• The charter of NEAR is democratic and [he] fully supports it

[Vice Governor of Sakhalin Region]
• Hopes to extend trade with foreign cooperators
• Enforces “the Tax Exemption Act for Equipment Manufacturing Companies Attracting Foreign Investment”
• Supports the suggestion of the Governor of Khabarovsk Territory on adopting the Charter

[Deputy Governor of Chita Region]
• Suggests stimulating the attraction of foreign technology and foreign capital
• In the midst of constructing Chita International Airport (Duty Free Zone)

[Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Gyeonggi-do Province]
• Emphasizes increasing economic cooperation and nongovernmental exchange and building mutual trust
• Expects many people to participate in the World Floral Expo held in Gyeonggi-do province in 1997

[Lieutenant Governor for Political Affairs of Gangwon-do Province]
• Suggests developing tour route with the leadership of “East Sea Rim Tourism Promotion Conference”
• The partnership of peace and cooperation is important

[Lieutenant Governor for Political Affairs of Chungcheongbuk-do Province]
• Suggests realizing “Green 21st century” and promoting “Cultivating Green Earth”
• Suggests establishing a system for dealing with environmental problems, technical exchange and joint research

[Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province]
• Plans to establish “Island Tourism Policy Forum” next year
• Promotes an establishment of an international-level convention center
[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province]
- Suggests establishing “Northeast Asia Research Center”
- Suggests holding “Northeast Asian Traditional Fest”
- Suggests holding “1998 Culture Expo”
- Suggests organizing a working committee to discuss environmental issues
- Hopes every regional government member participates the Abilympics

10) Summary of suggestions (Coordinator)
- Common interests (Seven major joint projects)
  - Investment and development of natural resources in Russia and China
  - Expansion of exchange of human and material resources
  - Joint action on environmental issues
  - Joint action responding to natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and droughts
  - Promotion of establishment of Northeast Asia Research Center
  - DPRK and Mongolia joining NEAR
  - Joint holding of expos, culture and art festivals and exhibitions of all kinds

11) Discussion on the suggestions

[Governor of Shimane Prefecture]
- Basically agrees on the suggestions
- Explains further about “Northeast Asia Region Vessel of Exchange”

[Governor of Heilongjiang Province]
- Grateful for drawing a conclusion from this conference
- Satisfied with this successful conference

[Governor of Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- Suggests proceeding this vast plan gradually with a working-level meetings

12) Decision on the next host of the meeting (Coordinator)
- Declares the 5th conference will be held in Toyama prefecture in 1998
- Expects the 6th conference to be held in the Republic of Sakha

13) Acceptance speech as Chairman of NEAR (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province)
- Feels tremendous responsibility as the first chairman of NEAR
- Determined to fulfill the role and duty of the chairman on the principles of mutual understanding, equality and loyalty

14) Adoption of the Declaration (Coordinator)
- Adoption of the ’96 Gyeongsangbuk-do Declaration

15) Closing of conference (Coordinator)
- Expects great things from the authorities of Gyeongsangbuk-do province, the new secretariat of NEAR as well as Mr. Eui-Geun Lee, the governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and the new chairman of the new international organization

16) Issuing the Declaration (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province)
- The Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments is established as a permanent international organization aiming for joint development of Northeast Asia regional governments and the charter of NEAR is hereby being issued.
- Will make efforts to strengthen interregional exchange and to concretely promote
the joint projects

○ The next conference will be held in Toyama prefecture, Japan in 1998

〈 Gyeongsangbuk-do Declaration 〉

Succeeding the ’93 meeting in Shimane prefecture and the ’94 meeting in Hyogo prefecture, Japan and the ’95 meeting in Khabarovsk Territory, Russia, the regional governments from Republic of Korea, People’s Republic of China, Japan, and Russian Federation met together in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do province in Korea on September 12th, 1996 to hold the “1996 Meeting of Northeast Asia Regional Governments.”

Today, Northeast Asia Region is growing fast as a new frontier of the global economy and consequently, the interregional cooperation to solve common challenges such as establishment of peace and order, economic cooperation, and environmental issues is urgently required.

Northeast Asia regional governments, who have had geopolitically close relation and cooperation among themselves for a long time, have mutually realized that, for the progressive and future-oriented 21st century, they must seek for joint development and prosperity by exchanges and cooperation in various aspects such as economy, culture, arts, and sports on the fundamental principles of reciprocity and equality.

On the basis of this mutual recognition and as the result of achievements of the previous three meetings, the theme of this conference has been chosen to be “Practical Exchange and Cooperation Measures for Northeast Asia Regional Governments Towards the 21st Century” and we have agreed on making this meeting a permanent and practical international organization and have had in-depth discussion on practical measures to realize vast projects. As a result, we have agreed on and declared that we will jointly put efforts into realizing the following:

1. We will establish the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments as a permanent international organization aiming to jointly develop the regional governments in Northeast Asian region and adopt the charter,
2. We will strengthen the interregional exchange and cooperation and continuously make efforts to promote the realization of joint projects
3. The next conference will be held in Toyama prefecture, Japan.

(D) Achievements of the General Assembly

1) Major Achievements

○ The charter was adopted unanimously and the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments was officially launched as an international organization, which was unprecedented at the regional governmental level.
○ By promoting the interregional exchange and cooperation in many aspects such as administration, economy, society, and culture, an opportunity for increased mutual understanding and joint prosperity was provided.
○ By forming alliance with Irkutsk Region that possesses great natural resources, the investment for the Far East Siberia was made possible, natural resources were well secured, and the forward base for northern exchange was established.
○ The Russian delegation and entrepreneurs from Gyeongsangbuk-do held an entrepreneur’s meeting and shared opinions extensively providing an opportunity
for promoting trade.

- Ninety-one performers from four countries, from traditional art companies from China, Japan, and Russia and Korean traditional music and dance company in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, opened traditional festivals in four cities, which enhanced mutual understanding and friendship.
- Holding a large-scale international event such as this conference heightened the sense of pride of local people promoted harmony among residents, and broadly publicized the excellence and advancement of Korean culture.

2) Evaluation

- Realization of the globalization policy of the central government in the regional level
  - Contributed to an increased international competitiveness through globalization and regionalization.
  - Supplemented the “Northern diplomacy” of the central government at the regional level
- Suggested a new model of international cooperation where the regional governments assume the main parts
- Expanded the diplomatic horizon from international relation to interregional and inter-NGO relation
  - Responding to the global economy becoming an economic bloc and being regionalized, the framework for the establishment of Northeast Asia Economy Bloc was provided in the long term perspective.

(E) Additional Events

1) Northeast Asia Traditional Festival

- Date: Sep 7th 1996 ~ Sep 13th 1996 (for 7 days)
- Number of performances: 7 shows (approx. 8000 people watched the performances)
- Stage: 4563 seats
- Duration of the show: 100 minutes (20 minutes per team)
- Troupe: 5 teams with 91 performers
  - Henan Provincial Culture and Arts Troupe from China, 16 performers: played traditional music with traditional instruments
  - Koudo Kagura Artistic Team from Shimane prefecture, Japan, 16 performers: performed a well-known traditional piece of Kagura
  - Belorozovaya Folk Dance Troupe from Irkutsk Region, Russia, 19 performers: performed classic traditional Russian regional dances
  - Kim Dong Eun Dance Troupe from Gyeongsangbuk-do province, 20 performers: performed traditional dances, Korean fan dance, Janggu (Korean traditional double-headed drum) dance, Salpuri (Exorcism dance)
  - Gyeongsangbuk-do Provincial Korean Traditional Music Company, 20 performers: performed Samulnori (Korean traditional percussion quartet), Korean traditional songs

2) Meeting of Entrepreneurs

- Date and time: September 11th, 1996, 16:00 ~ 18:15
- Venue: Diamond Hall in Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju(Bl)
○ Number of participants : 30
  • From Russia : 11 participants(4 from Irkutsk Region, 3 from Sakhalin Region, 4 from Republic of Buryatia)
  • Resident entrepreneurs : 19 participants(7 from economy organizations/agencies, 12 representatives from companies)

○ Overview
  • Welcoming speech(Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs)
  • Watched a video presentation of industries and businesses in Gyeongsangbuk-do province
  • Talks on trade and investment
  • Join the welcoming party
    ※ President : Professor Hae Doo Lee from Daegu University

3) Exhibition
○ Export Goods Exhibition
  • Exhibition Period : Sep 11th – Sep 14th(for 4 days)
  • Exhibition Venue : Hotel Hyundai 1st Floor Art Exhibition Hall
  • Number of Exhibition Booth : 24(Number of Display Items : 90 items)

○ Artwork Exhibition
  • Overview of the Exhibition
  • Date : Sep 10th – Sep 14th, 1996(for 5 days)
  • Venue : Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju 1st Floor Art Exhibition Hall (165m²)
  • Hosted by : Korean Fine Arts Association in Gyeongsangbuk-do
  • Display Items : 118 items(26 Korean paintings, 64 Western paintings, 12 Calligraphies, 8 Sculptures, 4 Crafts, 4 Engravings)

4) Industrial Inspection and Tour
○ Date : (Friday) Sep 13th, 1996(08:00, 09:00, 09:30 Hotel Hyundai Entrance)
○ Departure : Hotel Hyundai Entrance, bus boarding information
○ Participants : Around 200 people from 3 countries
○ Inspection tour course and time
  • The 1st course : Visit historical places in Gyeongju(Bulguksa Temple, Museum, Heavenly Horse Tomb(Cheonmachong), Cheomsungdae Observatory, Seokguram Grotto)
  • The 2nd Course : POSCO Tour(54 Russians, 10:20 ~ 11:40), Visit historical places in Gyeongju
  • The 3rd Course : Gumi National Industrial Complex Tour(11 Chinese, 9:40 ~ 10:10), Central Gumi Industrial Complex
  LG Electronics Gumi 2 Plant(10:25 ~ 11:40), Visit historical places in Gyeongju
  ※ Industrial Inspection Tour in the morning; Visit Historical Places in Gyeongju in the afternoon

(2) The 2nd General Assembly
(A) Background and Purpose
This conference is the first meeting since the establishment of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (hereby referred to as NEAR), which aims at the general development of Northeast Asian region as well as the contribution to the global peace by the
regional governments in Northeast Asian region constructing exchange and cooperation network among themselves and building trust under mutual understanding based on the principle of reciprocity and equality.

The purpose of this conference is to draw out discussion among the leaders of the regional governments on various issues of the regions such as environmental cooperation, economy and trade, academic and cultural exchange and disaster prevention cooperation, and to promote various interregional exchange activities by building strong trust and close cooperation for the development of the region.

(B) Overview of the Conference

1) Date : (Tue) Oct 20th – (Fri) Oct 23rd, 1998
2) Venue : Downtown Toyama City (Maitetsu Toyama Hotel)
3) Hosted by : NEAR, Toyama Prefecture
5) Participants : 24 regional governments from 5 countries (Observer : Far East and Transbaikalia Association)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Shandong Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsky Territory</td>
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6) Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Tue) Oct 20th</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Working Group Preparation Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Welcoming Banquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Conference Schedule</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>Opening of Chairmanship Handover Ceremony</td>
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</table>
|            | 9:30  | • Greetings from Guests— Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Minister for Home Affairs, Consulate—General of the Republic of Korea in Niigata, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China in Japan (read by the Secretary), Ambassador of the Russian Federation in Japan (read by the Councilor)  
  • Congratulatory Telegram from Prime Minister |
|            | 10:20 | • Report on the activities of NEAR— Gyeongsangbuk-do Province International Trade Director  
  • Revision of the NEAR Charter  
  1. Resolution  
  • Charter Revision : Extension of the scope of NEAR membership, regulation on establishing subcommittee, registration of NEAR—supporting organizations  
  2. Approval  
  • The approval of establishing 5 subcommittees on economy and trade, cultural exchange, environment, disaster prevention, and general exchange  
  3. Report  
  • Report on the enactment of regulations on the establishment and operation of subcommittees |
| Wed Oct 21st | 11:00 | Proposals and Discussions 1  
  Proposals were submitted by: Fukui Prefecture, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province |
|            | 13:30 | Luncheon                                                                                                                                         |
|            | 14:30 | Proposals and Discussions 2  
  Proposals were submitted by: Liaoning Province, Shandong Province, Tuv Province, Republic of Sakha(Yakutia), Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory |
|            | 15:20 | Proposals and Discussions 3  
  Proposals were submitted by: Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture |
|            | 16:30 | Q & A                                                                                                                                             |
|            | 17:00 | Decision on the host of the next General Assembly                                                                                                  |
|            | 17:30 | Adoption of Toyama Declaration of 1998                                                                                                            |
|            | 17:40 | Group Photo session of heads of delegations                                                                                                         |
|            | 18:30 | Press Conference(Chair of NEAR, etc), Exchange Party                                                                                               |
| Thu Oct 22nd | 9:00  | Tour                                                                                                                                               |
|            | 19:00 | Joint Seminar with Exchange Organizations                                                                                                          |
| Fri Oct 23rd |       | Departure                                                                                                                                         |
(C) Proceeding of the Conference
1) Report on the Activities of NEAR(by Director of the International Trade Division of Gyeongsangbuk-do)
   - During the 1996 NEAR conference, the Charter was legislated and adopted and the first chair regional government and the vice chair regional government of NEAR were designated as Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture respectively, the seven joint projects were adopted, and additional events were held such as Northeast Asian Traditional Festival, Business Entrepreneur Meeting, Export Goods and Artworks Exhibition and Industrial Inspection Tours.
   - In August 1997 in Gyeongju, a working committee was established according to Article 10 of the NEAR Charter(26 regional governments from 4 countries participated, with the Interregional Association of Economic Cooperation “Far East and Transbaikalia” from Russia as an observer). Focusing on the 7 joint projects adopted in 1996 meeting, discussions on culture, art, international trade, environment and general exchange took place and around 40 joint projects were proposed.
   - The 1st Working Subcommittee was held from November 26th to 29th, 1997(7 regional governments from 4 countries). Fourteen director-level personnel from Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Chungcheongbuk-do province of the Republic of Korea, Henan province and Heilongjiang province of the People’s Republic of China, the Association “Far East and Transbaikalia” of the Russian Federation, and Toyama prefecture and Hyogo prefecture of Japan participated.
   - Discussed the NEAR membership of DPRK and Mongolia, agreed on the revision of Article 4 of the Charter concerning the scope of membership and on establishing 5 subcommittees, and prepared the amendment of the Charter regulations.
   - The 2nd Working Subcommittee was held in 1998 from July 7th to July 10th, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Chungcheongbuk-do province of the Republic of Korea, Heilongjiang province of the People’s Republic of China, The Association “Far East & Transbaikalia” of the Russian Federation, Toyama prefecture and Hyogo prefecture of Japan participated.
   - Regulations on the establishment and operation of subcommittees were discussed and Mongolia and DPRK were decided to be included in the Charter regulations in order to extend membership.
   - Prepared an item to newly create regulations on the NEAR-supporting organizations in the Charter to support the activities of NEAR by connecting NEAR to the organizations established or to be established by each member regional government.
   - The NEAR Secretariat produced and distributed the report on the 1996 NEAR conference as well as the 1997 Working Committee.
   - Published “NEAR News” magazine and the creation and operation of the NEAR internet website are under way.
   - Sponsored the Vessel of Exchange in the Northeast Asian Region of Shimane prefecture promoted by the member regional governments, Gyeongju World Cultures Expo held in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Culture Festival, Irkutsk International Conference on Oriental Studies and Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)
2) Matters for Resolution – Charter Amendment (NEAR Vice Secretary General)
   ○ The “NEAR” members shall be wide-area unit regional governments within countries in Northeast Asian region such as the Republic of China, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation that support the objective of establishing the “NEAR,” and the scope of the membership may be extended according to the decision of the General Assembly.
   ○ Addition of Article 10 clause 3 and Article 11 clause 4 of the Charter (the content of the amendment)

Article 10 (Organization and Operation) Clause 4
   ③ To support seamless promotion of individual projects and others, sectional subcommittees may be established as the assistant body of the working committee with the approval of the General Assembly.

Article 11 (Function) Clause 4
   ④ Matters on the establishment (and organization, function, methods of operation, etc.) Of subcommittees
      - On registration of the NEAR-supporting organization: Newly established

Section 4 The NEAR-Supporting Organizations (The NEAR Center, etc.)

Article 16 (Newly Established)
Member regional governments may establish organizations supporting the activities of NEAR (hereafter referred to as “NEAR-supporting organizations” (shall be referred to as “the NEAR center, etc.”) to contribute to the development of Northeast Asian region.

Article 17 (Registration)
   ① In the case of a member regional government establishing a NEAR-supporting organization (the NEAR center, etc.), it may be registered to NEAR in accordance with the application of the applicable member regional government.
   ② The NEAR-supporting organization (the NEAR center, etc.) shall report its activities to NEAR.

3) Matters for Approval – Establishment of Subcommittees (Vice Secretary General of NEAR)
   Items to approve the establishment of subcommittees separately in five sectors such as economy and trade, culture exchange, environment, disaster prevention and general exchange

4) Matters for Report – Regulations on Subcommittees (Vice Secretary General of NEAR)
   Legislated through a review at the working committee by the representative regional governments from each country with the authorization of the working committee

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments Regulations on the Establishment and Operation of the NEAR Sub-Committees

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 (Types and Names of Subcommittees)
Types and names of subcommittees shall be as follows:
1. Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
2. Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange
3. Sub-Committee on Environment
4. Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
5. Sub-Committee on General Exchange

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 subcommittee shall take charge of the Individual projects proposed by the participating regional government(s) of the subcommittee and report the result of the review to the working committee the individual project.

Article 4 (Organization)
The subcommittee shall be organized by director-level staffs from departments and bureaus of the regional governments which have interest in the sector the subcommittee covers.

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 reappointment shall not be prevented.
3. The operation of a subcommittee shall be conducted in principle by telecommunications (such as mail, fax, etc.).
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 the details of the matters organized by the Sub-Committees to the Secretariat, which shall distribute them to the rest of the regional governments with the exemption of members of the Sub-Committee.

Article 9 (Amendment of Regulations)
The amendment of this regulation shall be executed by the Working Committee.

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

5) Suggestions · Discussions

**[Governor of Fukui Prefecture]**
- Suggests building environmental cooperation network - building a network of data collection and transfer for smooth flow of information regarding environmental policies of the regional governments, data related to environment and technology research system that can serve as references
First need to build a network for environmental data and to review on conducting joint inspection for environmental preservation

**[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]**
- Requests active participation in the International Confucian Cultural Festival
- Holding Northeast Business Promotion Conference on a regular basis - Suggests each member group to take turns to hold the conference
- Suggests strengthening the role of NEAR as the channel to promote exchange in the Northeast Asian region
- Requests active participation in the Gyeongju World Culture Expo

**[Lieutenant Governor of Political Affairs of Gangwon-do Province]**
- Need to put continuous effort for the DPRK to join NEAR
- Will hold the 1999 Gangwon International Tourism Expo

**[Lieutenant Governor for Political Affairs of Chungcheongbuk-do Province]**
- Suggests holding “the Northeast Asia Regional Government Trade Fair” and the General Assembly side by side
- Suggests holding the Northeast Asia Regional Government Technomart

**[Lieutenant Governor for Political Affairs of Chungcheongbuk-do Province]**
- Suggests holding the International Environmental Conferences and Forums on a regular basis, establishing an environmental information exchange center and selecting regions that preserved the natural ecosystem and conducting mutual inspection

**[Lieutenant Governor for Political Affairs of Jeollabuk-do Province]**
- Suggests expanding trade exchange among the regional governments regarding the e-commerce
  - suggests allowing trade officials from each regional government to trade local specialties, posting local specialties and agricultural products on the webpage of each regional government and the regional governments carrying out transactions and guaranteeing future payment
  - Suggests developing a cyberspace or a joint system where businessmen have a universal access while each regional government registered to the system to create seamless trade between consumers and providers. In terms of agricultural products, suggests enhancing contract farming among the regional governments through the price stabilization of agricultural products and the induction of contract farming by the assistance of the person in charge in each regional government
- Will hold F1 Grand Prix Competition in 2000
[Planning and Management Chief of Jeollanam-do Province]
- Introduces Jeollanam-do province, economic exchange program and the creation of theme park, requests support for the 2010 Ocean Expo and requests participation in food festival

[Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- Requests participation in Korea International Machinery Expo in Changwon and suggests investment for into the tourism of Gyeongsangnam-do Province

[Director General of Foreign Affairs Office of Liaoning Province]
- Raises the importance of exchange and cooperation in the field of research and technology education to foster human resources, which is the foundation of economic cooperation and of private-public cooperation

[Director General of Foreign Affairs Office of Shandong Province]
- Requests the regional governments to designate contact point and a person in charge and send the information to the NEAR Secretariat as soon as possible so that the Secretariat may organize and distribute the information to member regional governments
- Wishes the Secretariat to publish a newsletter or information sheet
- Introduces various events such as Shandong Province Fair for Economic and Trade Cooperation, Chinese-Korean Fair for Economic and Trade Cooperation, Taishan Mountain International Climbing Festival and Weifang International Kite Festival and the founding of Confucius Research Center

[Vice Governor of Tuv Province of Mongolia]
- Recognizes the importance of promoting exchanges at the regional level and Tuv province plans to actively participate in such exchanges

[President of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)]
- Proposes economic cooperation
  - Establishing international energy bridge between Russia and Japan
  - Fuel resources development project such as eco-friendly gas
- Establishing a fund to eliminate natural and man-made disasters in Northeast Asia

[Vice Governor of Primorsky Territory]
- Suggests establishing a research center on cooperation in the East Sea environmental protection and ecosystem preservation
- Suggests establishing an international fund for the East Sea environmental protection
- Suggests conducting joint research on the nature of the East Sea
- Suggests researching the effect of cross-border, industrial and domestic sewage caused by the UN’s Tumen River Area Development Program

[Vice Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
- Suggests building mutual cooperation system in the occurrence of natural disasters
- Provided information regarding the NEAR activities to the DPRK and Mongolia since the last meeting where Khabarovsk territory proposed the need to include the DPRK and Mongolia as members. Mongolia showed positive response right away and have participated to today’s meeting.
- Suggested joining NEAR to the DPRK government through the head of Russia department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK and through the DPRK
mission to the Khabarovsk territory. In the beginning, the DPRK showed very positive response and gave permission to one of the regional governments to join NEAR. Since then, however, some Northeast Asian countries have become indifferent toward the DPRK due to the missile test. The DPRK also responded through the DPRK mission to the Khabarovsk territory that it would participate only in the case of NEAR meetings held in Russia, China and Mongolia. Due to such circumstances, the DPRK is avoiding participation but is not refusing regional-level cooperation.

[Vice Governor of Niigata Prefecture]
- Introduces the “1999 Niigata–Northeast Asia Economic Conference”
- Suggests strengthening network among regional think tanks as well as among regional think tanks and NEAR

[Vice Governor of Toyama Prefecture]
- Suggests promoting various environmental cooperation project and has interest in becoming the coordinator of the Sub–Committee on Environmental
- Announces holding Northeast Asia Business Messe in Toyama

[Vice Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture]
- Necessary for the regional governments to take the initiative to solve environmental problems. Important for each regional government to build network by sharing the information such as the current state of projects, research outcomes, environmental technologies
  - Prevention of global warming – Action plan to reduce carbon dioxide, energy saving, the current state of energy saving
  - Protection of ozone layer : Promote withdrawal of certain Freon gases
  - Prevention of Acid Rain : Official publication of the current state and research results
  - Prevention of marine pollution : Disaster information such as large-scale oil spill and responses
  - Protection of Migratory Birds

[Vice Governor of Kyoto Prefect]
- Introduces the adoption of the “Kyoto Protocol”
- Suggests exchanges through academic activities and research

[Director of Hyogo Prefecture]
- In order to enhance the ability to prevent disasters in Northeast Asia, need to promote exchange of disaster prevention–related information and communication among officials in charge of disaster prevention.
- Necessary to standardize the method of measurement to preserve water quality and suggests a study for such task and promotion of technology exchange
- Requests participation in Japan Flora 2000

[Chief Accountant of Tottori Prefecture]
- Reports on “Yume Minato Expo” and the “Northeast Asia Economic Forum at Yonago”
- Suggests the need to understand the importance of the role the regional governments must play and to establish collaboration and cooperation for the development of this region

[Vice Governor of Shimane Prefecture]
- Provides evaluation of the “Vessel of Exchange in the Northeast Asian Region”
project and suggests the future prospect
- As the first action program of NEAR, it was operated as a joint project of thirteen regional governments and the total of 358 participants over the span of thirteen days cruised Korea, China, Japan and Russia to foster human resources that will take charge of the exchange of Northeast Asia region in the 21st century and to form human exchange network.
- A groundbreaking and pioneering model for multi-regional exchange projects
- Production of the report on the review result of the “Vessel of Exchange in the Northeast Asian Region” and distribution of the report on the day of the General Assembly
- As for the details of implementation of the joint project, it is reasonable for the Sub Committee with the Coordinator as the core to discuss and adjust the project.

6) Discussion
[Lieutenant Governor of Political Affairs of Gangwon-do Province]
- Supplementary explanation on Gangwon International Tourism Expo

[Vice Governor of Primorsky Territory]
- Requests for the general overview and summary of today’s suggestions.

[Vice Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
- Requests for a reasonable operation of the activities of subcommittees to avoid various projects overlapping

[Vice Governor of Niigata Prefecture]
- Wishes for the time, content and method of business fairs and exhibitions held in each region to be coordinated by the Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade to effectively organize business exhibitions in each region and request active participation.

[Vice Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture]
- In terms of the proposal on establishing interregional arbitration center for environmental cooperation in the Primorsky territory, the center is expected to have similar functions as NEAR Sub Committee; therefore, it would be advisable for the Sub-Committee on Environment to coordinate and review this matter.

[President of the Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)] – Comment made by the Environment Minister
- Introduction of the establishment and related meetings of the special nature reserve area of the Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)

7) Decision on the next host of the General Assembly
[Deputy Director General of Hyogo Prefecture]
- Need to Confirm whether China and Russia expressed will to hold the meeting
- Suggests that the General Assembly should decide the place of the next meeting in accordance with the aim of the Charter
- Agrees that it is appropriate for China and Russia, where the General Assembly has never been held, to hold the next general assembly, but it would be inevitable for Japan to hold the General Assembly in a row(Toyama Prefecture–Hyogo Prefecture) on the premise of no declaration of intention from regional governments in China or Russia. With all these in consideration, Hyogo prefecture expresses its willingness to be the place of the next General Assembly
- As was mentioned in the Working Committees until now and in the preparation
meeting yesterday, the expense should be thoroughly reviewed for the continuous development of NEAR and continuous discussion on the methods of reasonable and effective expense payment is needed.

8) The Adoption of the Toyama Declaration 1998

① On October 21st, 1998, the regional governments of the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation met together and held the 1998 Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Toyama Prefecture, Japan. This regional government meeting is the first since the establishment of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (hereinafter referred to as “NEAR”), and the participants evaluated the activities of NEAR so far and had constructive discussions and information sharing on the task of economy and trade, cultural exchange, environment, disaster prevention, etc. to promote development and peace of the Northeast Asian region under difficult circumstances such as Asian financial crisis.

② In these days of the globalization advancing in all sectors including economy, information and environment, it has become extremely important to actively promote interregional cooperation and exchange, to strengthen the basis of production and exchange such as port and airport, and to enhance other multifaceted attractiveness such as enriching the living environment and culture. The participants have recognized the need to promote further development and stability in the region by building various networks based on the exchanges and cooperation each regional government in Northeast Asian regions has established over a long period of time, and have aligned the system to promote various exchange and cooperation projects.

③ Based on such mutual understanding, succeeding the spirit of the 1993 Shimane Meeting, 1994 Hyogo Meeting, 1995 Khabarovsk Meeting and 1996 Gyeongsangbuk-do Meeting, and on the achievement of the activities of NEAR established in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, the participants have reached an agreement on the following items and revised the NEAR Charter and have confirmed to put continuous effort to realize such agreement.

○ To promote the expansion of the NEAR membership and the loyalty of NEAR, Mongolia and other countries in Northeast Asian region should be allowed to join NEAR and the participation of Tuv Province of Mongolia is welcomed. Moreover, there was a comment from regional governments in the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation on regional governments making a continuous effort regarding the regional governments in the DPRK joining NEAR.

○ To promote the projects proposed in the regional government meeting to be more concrete and effective, the following Sub Committees shall be established for each sector to enhance cooperation and exchange projects among the regional governments,
  • The Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
  • The Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange
  • The Sub-Committee on Environment
  • The Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
  • The Sub-Committee on General Exchange

○ When establishing organization aiming at the development of the Northeast Asian region, the participating NEAR members shall be allowed to register such organization as the “NEAR-supported organization (the NEAR center, etc) and
shall promote strengthening the NEAR function.

④ We, the participants, have shared the following understanding based on the proposals from each regional government and have confirmed that the Working Committee or Sub-Committees shall review and discuss the feasibility or detailed implementation plans of each project.

○ To contribute to the continuous growth of the Northeast Asian region, efforts shall be put into sharing information and providing platforms for business meetings, product exhibition, investment environment introduction, and tourism promotion, and collaboration and cooperation in economic and trade sectors shall be promoted by facilitation of business transactions and promotion of technological exchanges and corporate trainings.

○ As environmental issues such as global warming and marine pollution are challenges shared by all of humanity, each regional government shall promote environmental cooperation project that highlights regional characteristics as well as strengthen the collaboration and cooperation among the regional governments on environmental preservation of the whole of the Northeast Asian region by conducting joint research, exchanging information and researchers and etc.

○ For deeper mutual understanding of the Northeast Asian region that has diverse cultures and lifestyles, each regional government shall participate in, if possible, and support the cultural and academic international events or exchange projects and shall promote exchange and cooperation in terms of culture and academia.

○ To reduce the damage due to natural disasters such as earthquake, flood and forest fire, the possibility of sharing information on disaster prevention system and case studies, dispatching research group and inspection team and exchanging disaster prevention officers shall be examined.

⑤ Moreover, we express our condolences to the regional governments and residents of the Northeast Asian regions that suffered severe damage due to abnormal flood and other natural disasters of this year and we wish swift recovery.

⑥ Hyogo prefecture made a remark that it is willing to hold the next NEAR conference in 2000 in Hyogo prefecture, Japan, and this request was approved. Moreover, the Working Committee shall review, for continuous development of NEAR, on reasonable and effective operation such as dealing with paying expenses.

(3) The 3rd General Assembly

(A) Background and Purpose

The 3rd General Assembly of the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments, established in 1996, is held to build trust, promote overall development in the Northeast Asian region and simultaneously contribute to world peace by all the regional governments in Northeast Asia forming exchange and cooperation network on the basis of reciprocity and equality.

This Assembly is held for the leaders of the regional governments in the Northeast Asian region to further promote the overall development of the Northeast Asian region by gathering and looking back on the activities since the foundation of NEAR, sharing honest opinions on the proceeding of new trends for regional exchange towards towards the 21st century, and enhancing mutual recognition and understanding on the tasks of the region.
(B) Overview of the Conference
1) Date: (Mon) September 4th – (Thu) September 7th, 2000
2) Venue: Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center, Hyogo Prefecture
3) Hosted by: NEAR, Hyogo Prefecture
4) Sponsored by: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ministry of Home Affairs (Japan), Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Japan, Embassy of Mongolia in Japan, Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Japan, Embassy of the Russian Federation in Japan
5) Participants: 26 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Yamaguchi Prefecture</td>
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<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Busan Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Kamchatka Territory, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6) Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) September 4th</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Working group preparation meeting(Main Hall, International Conference Center 2nd floor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>Lecture(Amphitheatre, International Conference Center 1st floor) Speaker: Professor Tamotsu Aoki of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies Theme: The New Century of the Northeast Asia—The Role of Regional Governments</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18:30</td>
<td>Welcoming Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Tue) September 5th</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Chairmanship Handover Ceremony, Opening Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:10</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:10</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Exchange of Opinions [Section 1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Exchange of Opinions [Section 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Theme: Human Exchange and Fostering Human Resources among the Northeast Asian Regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Conference Schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Tue)</td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Deciding on the host of the next General Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 5th</td>
<td>16:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
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<td>16:45</td>
<td>Adoption of the Declaration</td>
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<td>17:00</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony, Photo Session for Heads of Delegations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17:15</td>
<td>Press Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18:30</td>
<td>Exchange Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Wed)</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Inspection Tour of Japan Flora 2000 Awaji Flower Expo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6th</td>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>- Luncheon -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>Inspection Tour of Nojima Fault Preservation Museum in Awaji Island</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Kobe City Tour Course</td>
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<td>• Himeji City Tour Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Thu)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Departure</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7th</td>
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</table>

(C) Proceeding of the Conference
(Plenary Session)

Item 1 - Establishing Working Subcommittee for Reasonable and Effective Operation of NEAR

[Vice Secretary General of NEAR(Director of International Affairs and Tourism Bureau of Hyogo Prefecture)]

(Content of proposal)

The proposal aims to allow the Working Committee to continuously review on the task of reasonable and effective operation of NEAR as well as the matter of expense, a pending issue since the Toyama General Assembly, October 1998

1) The task of improving the financial footing of NEAR by introduction of membership fees
2) The task of reasonable and effective operation of NEAR by the establishment of a standing secretariat
3) Measures to revitalize meetings

Suggests establishing and the “Working Sub-Committee for Reasonable and Effective Operation of NEAR” that consists of the current chair regional government, the next chair regional government (vice chair) and around two regional governments from each country

(Reason for the Suggestion)

1) According to the opinions of each each regional government on the operation of NEAR collected prior the opening of the General Assembly, some suggested the financial footing of NEAR must be improved by adopting the membership fee and reducing the burden of expense of the host regional government while others proposed the membership fee should not be adopted for the present.
2) Regarding the effective operation of NEAR secretariat, some suggested the
establishment of a standing secretariat instead of taking turns to host the secretariat.

3) In terms of measures to revitalize meetings, some suggested to create another platform for mutual exchange among member regional governments apart from the General Assembly and the Working Committee. The General Assembly and the Working Committee are limited to every other year and once a year respectively. Hence, it is unrealistic to conduct effective and continuous discussions on various issues in the Working Committee. Therefore, The Working Sub-Committee should be established within the Working Committee to promote effective discussion of the Working Committee.

[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
The rotation system of the Secretariat the Secretariat caused various problems, including lack of sustainability in operation, failure of fast information exchange and distribution, sporadic promotion of similar projects by NEAR member regions, lack of long-term vision and development programs for the organization and etc. In the external aspect, it was pointed out that it makes difficult for NEAR to enhance international prestige, secure its presence at the international level and connect with other international organizations with a distinct role. The rotation system of the Secretariat has the advantage to enable regional governments to share the Secretariat and its operation, but it has disadvantages in terms of the sustainability of the Secretariat, seamless exchange of information and preservation of records. Hence, the time is right to discuss on the establishment of a standing secretariat that will be run parallel with the current rotating secretariat, and it is desired that the Working Committee will authorize Gyeongsangbuk-do province to establish the secretariat when reviewing this issue.

[NEAR Vice Secretary General]
Is this a proposal to make a decision right now on establishing a standing secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province?

[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
The details of the issue such as deciding the function of the standing secretariat and rotating secretariat and financial matters should be reviewed by the Working Committee. If the standing secretariat is established in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, it will make thorough preparation in the future.

**Item 2 - Expansion of the scope of membership**

[NEAR Vice Secretary General]
The Korean and Russian regional governments commented in the 2nd General Assembly held in 1998 that each regional government would make continuous effort in terms of the DPRK joining NEAR and such intention was included in the declaration. This June, the inter-Korean summit was held. Based on this atmosphere, many participating regional governments in this General Assembly commented that it is worth welcoming the DPRK regional governments participating in NEAR activities and agreeing with the NEAR objective which is mutual development of Northeast Asia and contribution to world peace.

[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
Desires to adopt the joint declaration under the name of NEAR for the DPRK to join NEAR
Supports the DPRK joining NEAR because all the regional governments in Northeast Asia must participate.

Agrees with the opinion of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Khabarovsk territory

Exchange of Opinions

Section 1 – Theme: Continuous development and economic exchange of Northeast Asia

[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]

For the continuous growth and co-prosperity of regional governments, policy coordination, above all, through detailed programs to strengthen the solidarity among member regional governments is required

- Repeatedly emphasizes the ideal and the value of NEAR, which are peace and co-prosperity with the regional governments as the core
- Developing and concretizing programs for economic cooperation
- Establishing human and material networks
- Promoting exchange and cooperation between NEAR and other economic institutions

[Deputy Director-General of Shandong Province Foreign Affairs Office]

- As a non-registered member of NEAR, has actively participated in the NEAR General Assemblies, Working committees and economic and trade exchange events,
- Held “Symposium on Northeast Asia Regional Economic Cooperation” in Qingdao, Shandong province as well as the Qingdao Foreign Economy and Trade Fair

[Governor of Niigata Prefecture]

- Explains the Northeast Asia Economic Conference

[Vice Governor of Kyoto Prefecture]

- Introduces Kyoto’s efforts to prevent global warming

[Vice Governor of Gangwon-do Province]

- It is necessary to secure transportation and information network connecting each region
  - Opening of the Sokcho-Zarubino-Hunchun sea route
- Active efforts should be made to encourage participation by the DPRK.

[Vice Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]

- The basic element to establish stable economic relationship is energy
- Cooperation in the energy sector is a national–level issue, but building a cooperation mechanism at the regional level is necessary as well.

[Vice Governor of Chungcheongnam-do Province]
• Proposes expanding exchange and cooperation through international expos
• Introduces the Anmyondo Flower Exhibition

[Vice Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture]
• Introduces exchanges between Ishikawa prefecture and other Northeast Asian regions

[Chief Accountant of Fukui Prefecture]
• Efforts are being made to establish regular container route from Tsuruga port to Dalian, China or to Busan, Korea
• The Dinosaur Expo to be held

[Vice Governor of Tottori Prefecture]
• Introduces the current status and the future plan of economic exchange of the East Sea-rim region

[Vice Governor of Jeollabuk-do Province]
• Establishing Business Support Center
• Promoting science and technology exchange project with Jeollabuk-do province, Kagoshima prefecture and Iwate prefecture

[Vice Governor of Primorsky Territory]
• Introduces the growth potential of Primorsky territory and its contribution to the Northeast Asian region

[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
• Proposes to build an internet portal site by improving the current NEAR secretariat website

[NEAR Chairman – Governor of Hyogo Prefecture]
• To promote economic exchange with Hyogo-affiliated regions, industrial expositions including not only cutting-edge industries but also life-culture-related industry must be opened
• Please contact if any region wishes to participate in international efforts to come up with countermeasures against pollution of the closed coastal water

[Tung Province]
• Expects more projects of the Tumen River Area Development Program to be promoted and supports the DPRK becoming the member

[General Director of Culture and Tourism Office of Busan Metropolitan City]
• Introduces the current economic status of Busan metropolitan city

[Vice Governor of Kyoto Prefecture]
• As the base of Nintendo, Kyocera, Omron and other high-profile firms, Kyoto prefecture is the center of the global high-technology industries, its Maizuru port is designated by the government as the Free Access Zone (FAZ) and is in the process of improvement.

[Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
• Introduces the Gyeongju World Culture Expo

[Vice Governor of Chungcheongbuk-do Province]
• Introduces the International Printing Culture Expo

〈Exchange of Opinions〉
Section 2 – Theme: Human Exchange and Fostering Human Resources among the Northeast Asian regions
[Chief Accountant Of Shimane Prefecture]
• To foster human resources, the university of Shimane (prefectural university) was opened and the Northeast Asia Research Center was established this April.
• There is a need to regularly hold the NEAR joint projects such as “the Vessel of Exchange in the Northeast Asian region”

[Deputy Director General of Toyama Prefecture]
• Introduces the proposal from the 2nd Sub-Committee on General Exchanges
  – Agreed on holding the “21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention”
  – Action programs were proposed to put joint effort on fostering human resources by continuous implementation of the “Vessel of Exchange in the Northeast Asian Region”.
  – Measures to strengthen collaboration among research institutes
  – Promote exchange of information

[Director of Protocol of Sakhalin Region]
• Introduces various activities to improve mutual understanding in Northeast Asia

[Vice Governor of Chungcheongbuk-do Province]
• Proposes discussion on mutual exchange among regional government officers, exchange among private organizations, youth exchange and other specific joint programs

[Vice-Chairman of CPPCC National Committee of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region]
• Introduces Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region

[Vice Governor of Jeollabuk-do Province]
• Introduces the current status of youth fostering projects and exchange of regional government officers

[Vice Governor of Primorsky Territory]
• Introduces the exchange and fostering of human resources in Primorsky Territory

[Chief Accountant of Fukui Prefecture]
• Introduces the mutual dispatching of inspection delegations between Fukui prefecture and Primorsky territory as well as youth exchange projects

[Vice Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
• Promote fostering of human resources through implementation of foreign language education and international cooperation projects of each country in Northeast Asia

[Administration Manager of Tottori Prefecture]
• Implementation of the “Japan Sea-Rim International Project on Children’s Cultural Exchange” and holding of the “Japan Sea Rim Children’s Environmental Summit”
• Promote exchanges on historical researches
• Suggests that regional governments need to participate in the non-governmental international cooperation such as construction of wells in Mongolia and providing drinking water in China

[Vice Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture]
• Holding the United Nations Symposium on Northeast Asia in Kanazawa as well as the Asia Forum

[Vice Governor of Chungcheongnam-do Province]
• Introduces the administrative and youth exchanges and mutual dispatch of government
employees between Chungcheongnam-do province and Kumamoto prefecture

[Vice Governor of Gangwon-do Province]
- Staff exchange, Mutual dispatch of trainees in specialized fields such as agriculture, public health and environment
- Wishes that dispatch and exchange projects to expand not only to affiliated regional governments but also to all the expectant member regional governments.
- Introduces the project “World Peace Fanfare Festival 2000,” a concert of veterans of the Korean War

[Director, Planning Advisor of Kyoto Prefecture]
- Introduces the Project of Kyoto Prefecture Honorary Ambassador who bridges between Kyoto prefecture and other countries
- Introduces the Academy Forum for Northeast Asia aimed at universities home and abroad, regional government officials, companies and economic organizations with the purpose of promoting intellectual exchange
- Academic and cultural exchanges are especially important in order to strengthen mutual understanding and friendship

[NEAR Chairman (Governor of Hyogo Prefecture)]
- Introduces human exchange policy of Hyogo prefecture
  - Projects to recruit trainees from affiliated regional governments in areas such as trade, agriculture, fishery and medicine
  - International cooperation on disaster prevention measures
  - International cooperation affiliated with international institutions
  - Introduces Hyogo University Mobility in Asia and Pacific (HUMAP)
  - Introduces Asia Pacific Forum, Awaji Conference Japan

[Vice Governor of Niigata Prefecture]
- Introduces projects run by Niigata prefecture aimed at supporting foreign students and trainees as well as Niigata Asian Culture Festival

[Director of Planning, Finance and Economy of Tuv Province]
- Exchange program with Tottori prefecture has been implemented for three years as a joint project
- Extends gratitude to Gangwon-do province and Toyama prefecture for their cooperation on Mongolian youth education

[General Director of Culture and Tourism Office of Busan Metropolitan City]
- Introduces human exchange in fields concerning culture and technology as well as youth

[Deputy Director General of Foreign Affairs Office of Shandong Province]
- Hopes that each regional government continue to consider cooperation important from a long-term, strategic perspective.

[Governor of Toyama Prefecture]
- Agrees that the Sub-Committee on General Exchange will review action programs to be operated as a joint project of regional governments to foster human resources
- The understanding has been strengthened that multi-regional exchanges should be promoted beyond friendship ties and that other regional governments should cooperate as much as possible in programs to foster human resources run by each regional government by information sharing and active participation.
(Decides the host of the next meeting and adopts the declaration the meeting).

[NEAR Chairman]
- Khabarovsk territory is preparing to hold the 2002 General Assembly and the other regional governments have not expressed their intention to hold the meeting.
(Unanimous agreement on Khabarovsk territory to hold 2002 General Assembly)

[Governor of Khabarovsk Territory]
- Apologizes for being late for this assembly due to participating in Japan–Russia summit and expresses gratitude to the member regional governments for their support in holding the 2002 NEAR General Assembly.

[General Director of Economic Relations of Khabarovsk Territory]
- Explains the current state of affairs of Khabarovsk Territory

[NEAR Chairman]
- Declares the agreement and passage of the Hyogo Awaji Declaration

4) Hyogo Awaji Declaration

In September 5th, 2000, in Hyogo prefecture, Japan, where Japan Flora 2000, the international horticulture and landscape gardening expo, is held, the regional governments from the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation have come together to hold the Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments at Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center.

This regional government meeting was held as the third General Assembly of the Association of the North East Asia Regional Governments (hereinafter referred to as “NEAR”) established in Gyeongsangbuk-do, the Republic of Korea in 1996.

Passing through 1990s, countries from the Northeast Asian region as well as the Asia–Pacific region prospered due to the globalization in economy and other sectors while problems government cannot effectively control such as financial crisis occurred. Moreover, the international relief work involving NGOs has become a daily activity toward natural disasters such as earthquake and flood frequently occurring everywhere causing considerable damage. There has been a growing recognition that each and every single person must independently manage the global environmental issue, the task of humankind.

As can be well understood from above, the role of non-governmental agents such as NGOs, individuals, and regional governments has been growing amid the advancement of globalization in this 21st century. Such trend will heighten the importance of the regional collaborations in accomplishing various tasks of the international community. Moreover, information and technology will make rapid progress, which in turn will enhance and simplify the regional collaborations.

In this meeting, therefore, the participating delegates are expected to share prospects of inter–regional exchanges in Northeast Asia for the 21st century and to contribute to the formation of new measures to promote exchanges. The participants looked back on the past NEAR activities after its foundation, discussed on the internal stability of NEAR, and selected for the future inter–regional exchanges two themes, “the continuous development and economic exchange of Northeast Asia” and “Human exchange and Fostering human resources in the Northeast Asian region,” so as to share honest opinions over wide subjects such as economy, environment, and culture.
Through discussion, the participants reaffirmed the goal of NEAR to enhance mutual understanding of each regional government in the Northeast Asian region through interregional exchanges and to promote the overall development of the Northeast Asian region, recognized together the following items, and agreed to make efforts to realize them.

1. Information exchange among the regional governments shall be further enhanced to contribute to the development of the Northeast Asian region, and the platform for intra- and inter-regional economic exchange programs shall be expanded by mutual participation in events such as corporate giving (mecenate) held in each region. Under the recognition that timely response to environmental issues are requisite for continuous development of the region, information exchange on environmental policies through holding international conferences shall be strengthened and environment technology cooperation among the regional governments shall be promoted.

2. To promote broad exchanges among Northeast Asian regions, collaborations and cooperation are inevitable on human exchanges in academia, culture and arts and on fostering human resources to cope with urban problems. To achieve this, human exchange shall be promoted with youth and students, the future leaders of the Northeast Asian region, to promote mutual understanding. Also, interregional cooperation shall be promoted in fostering human exchanges with regard to addressing urban problems including health and disaster prevention.

3. For reasonable and effective operation of NEAR, the Working Committee shall continuously review tasks and measures on the operation of NEAR including the direction of the secretariat and shall report to the next General Assembly. Moreover, the “working subcommittee on reasonable and effective operation of NEAR,” composed of chair and vice chair regional governments as well as two regional governments from each country, shall be established in the working committee for effective examination.

4. In the wake of the Republic of Korea–Democratic People’s Republic of Korea summit held in June of this year, we anticipate an easing of tension on the Korean peninsula and sincerely welcome the regional governments of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the only country in Northeast Asia without NEAR–participating regional governments, to agree with the goal of NEAR to contribute to the mutual development of Northeast Asia and world peace and participate in NEAR.

5. According to the opinions of all the participating regional governments, the next General Assembly will be held in Khabarovsky territory, Russian Federation, in 2002.

(4) The 4th General Assembly
(A) Purpose and Background
1) Background: It is required to establish a close economic cooperation in the regionalization movement that assimilates to the globalization movement and functions as a mediator.

2) Purpose: To prepare a system for regional cooperation on the principles of mutual understanding, reciprocity and peace in the Northeast Asia Region
(B) Overview of the Conference
1) Date: September 10th ~ September 11th, 2002
2) Venue: Khabarovsk City, Russia
3) Hosted by: Khabarovsk City
4) Participants: 30 regional governments from 6 countries

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Amur Region, Republic of Buryatia, Irkutsk Region, Kamchatka Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Sakhalin Oblast Region, Ust-Ordinsky Buryatia Autonomous Area</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
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<td>Selenge Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Heilongjian Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hamgyeongbuk-do Province, Rasun City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5) Participating as Observers
   ○ Japan(3): Consulate of Japan In Khabarovsk, Consul General, The Japanese Minister to Russia
6) Theme: Discussion on the prospect of economic cooperation among regions of Northeast Asia concerning the economic globalization and examination of the fundamental development policies

(C) Agenda
   ○ Activity reports by Sub-Committees of NEAR
   ○ Changing the location of the temporary secretariat of NEAR
   ○ Approval of basic principles on dividing up the partial cost of holding the next General Assembly
   ○ Establishment of the permanent secretariat of NEAR
   ○ Admission of regional governments from DPRK, Mongolia, and Russia into NEAR

(D) Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 9th</td>
<td>11:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>City Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:30 - 10:00</td>
<td>Reception of Participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Tue) Sept. 10th</td>
<td>10:00 - 10:30</td>
<td>Opening of the Forum, Appointment of the Chair</td>
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<td>Welcoming Remarks: Viktor Ishaev, the Governor of Khabarovsk Territory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Schedule</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30 ~ 11:20</td>
<td>Greetings: Mr. Ido, the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture,</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Activity Report of the Secretariat</td>
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<td>Greetings from the Federal Government of Russia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:20 ~ 11:40</td>
<td>Regular Meeting</td>
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<td>11:40 ~ 12:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Tue) Sept. 10th</td>
<td>12:00 ~ 12:40</td>
<td>Regular Meeting: Discussion on the draft of the Charter of NEAR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:40 ~ 13:50</td>
<td>Discussion: Modification and Suggestion on the Charter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14:00 ~ 16:30</td>
<td>Luncheon to celebrate the admission of new members to NEAR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16:30 ~ 16:50</td>
<td>Presentation: &quot;Promotion of the cooperation among Northeast Asia regions in the present globalization of the world's economy&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16:50 ~ 18:00</td>
<td>Discussion and resolution on the organization of NEAR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Closing of the Conference</td>
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<td>19:00 ~ 20:30</td>
<td>Banquet hosted by the Government of Khabarovsk Territory - Intourist Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Wed) Sept. 11th</td>
<td>10:00 ~ 12:00</td>
<td>City Tour, Folk/A Art Museum Tour</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 ~ 13:45</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14:00 ~ 15:50</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15:50 ~ 16:00</td>
<td>Adoption of the new Charter of NEAR</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00 ~ 16:35</td>
<td>Discussion and Adoption of the Charter</td>
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<td>16:35 ~ 16:40</td>
<td>Appointment Ceremony of the Chairmanship to the Governor of Heilongjiang Province</td>
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<td>16:40 ~ 16:45</td>
<td>Acceptance Speech of the New Chairman, the Governor of Heilongjiang Province</td>
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<td>16:45 ~ 16:55</td>
<td>Closing Address by , the Governor of Khabarovsk Territory</td>
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<td>17:00</td>
<td>Closing of the Forum, Photo Session</td>
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<td>17:15 ~ 17:30</td>
<td>Press Conference</td>
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</table>

(E) Proceeding of the Conference
1) Welcoming Address: Viktort Ishaev, the Governor of Khabarovsk Territory
2) Greetings: Toshizo Ido, the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture
3) Regular Meeting: Activity report of the Sub–Committees of NEAR: Sub–Committee on Environment, Sub–Committee on Cultural Exchange, Sub–Committee on Economy & Trade, Sub–Committee on General Exchange, Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention Discussion and Presentation
4) Discussion and decision on the organization of the Association: Report on the result of the four–body talk in Hyogo prefecture (Kazuhide Yamada, Director General of international Exchange Department of Hyogo prefecture) ; Address by the Governor of Hyogo prefecture
   Address by the Governor of Hyogo prefecture
   Address on political issues by Gangwon-do province (Korea)
   Address by Vice-Governor of Tottori prefecture

(5) The 5th General Assembly
(A) Background and Purpose
   • To discuss the grand plan of the development of NEAR, and to seek regional cooperation and joint development

(B) Overview of the Conference
1) Date: September 7th ~ September 8th, 2004
2) Venue: Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province, China
3) Hosted by: NEAR, People’s Government of Heilongjiang Province
4) Participants: 27 regional governments from 6 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Jeolla-buk-do Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hamgyeongbuk-do Province, Rasun City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Selenge Province, Tuv Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Amur Region, Khabarovsk Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5) Theme: The grand plan of the development of NEAR, and the regional cooperation and the joint development

(C) Agenda
   ○ Discussion on the issues of cooperation among each regional government
   ○ Activity Report of Sub-Committees
   ○ Establishment of the emblem of NEAR, finalization of the standing secretariat system, discussion and vote on the location of the secretariat, the length of the term, and amendment of the Charter of NEAR
### (D) Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 6th</td>
<td>09:00 ~ 10:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7th</td>
<td>10:45 ~ 12:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony, Activity Report of the Sub-Committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7th</td>
<td>12:00 ~ 13:50</td>
<td>Remarks from the Delegates of Participating Regional Governments</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7th</td>
<td>14:00 ~ 15:00</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7th</td>
<td>15:00 ~ 17:30</td>
<td>Remarks from the delegations of participating regional governments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7th</td>
<td>18:00 ~ 19:00</td>
<td>Welcoming Banquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 8th</td>
<td>09:00 ~ 10:30</td>
<td>Explanation, Discussion and Voting on the items on the agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8th</td>
<td>10:30 ~ 11:30</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Inspection Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9th</td>
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<td>Departure of the Delegates</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### (E) Proceeding of the Conference

1) Opening Ceremony
   - Declaration of the opening of the conference (Opening address by Zhang Zuojie, the Governor of Heilongjiang province)
   - Congratulatory address (Li Hui, the Assistant Foreign Minister of China)

2) Report of Major Activities of the Association
   - Report of Activities of the 4th Working Committee Meeting (Zhang Chengyi, the vice governor of Heilongjiang Province)
     - Issues on the establishment of a standing secretariat
     - Issues on the status of the member regional governments
     - Issues on the establishment of the NEAR emblem
     - Items regarding strengthening human resources exchange among regional governments of NEAR
     - Sharing opinions on strengthening exchange and cooperation among regional governments of NEAR in the areas of economy, trade and environmental protection
     - Issues on the next host of the rotating secretariat of NEAR

3) Report of activities of the Sub-Committees
   - Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange (Shimane prefecture, Japan)
     - The 1st meeting of Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange was held in November 2001
     - Established a website of the Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange in Chinese, Japanese and Russian
     - Held a youth friendly exchange event where five regional governments participated in Shimane prefecture in August 2004
   - Sub-Committee on Environment (Toyama prefecture, Japan)
• Held a meeting of Environmental Sub-Committee where 13 regional governments from 4 countries participated
• Examined shoreline driftage
• Jointly examined migratory birds
• Hosted a youth environmental seminar in Boryeong city, Chungcheongbuk-do province, Korea
○ Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, the Republic of Korea)
  • Held “The 4th NEAR Business Promotion Conference” where delegates of 23 regional governments from 5 countries participated.
  • Held the Sub-Committee Meeting on Economy and Trade
  • Explained the organization and the operation of “Private–Public Investment Promotion Association”
  • Explained the establishment of “Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Information Network System”
○ Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention (Toyama prefecture, Japan)
  • Held the 2nd Disaster Prevention Sub-Committee meeting where 12 regional governments from 5 countries participated
  • Introduced the activities of Disaster Prevention Sub-Committee

4) Speech and suggestions by heads of delegates
○ Governor of Heilongjiang Province
  • Will make an effort to realize the joint development of the Northeast Asian region by strengthening exchange and cooperation in all aspects of society.
○ Delegate from Hamgyeongbuk-do province
  • Will make an effort to promote exchange and cooperation among the Northeast Asia regional governments in the areas of trade and environmental protection and to further realize the economic development and prosperity as well as the permanent peace in the Northeast Asian region
○ Vice-Mayor of Busan Metropolitan City
  • Making an effort to hold the 6th General Assembly in Busan and enhancing the function of Busan as the distribution center of Northeast Asia
○ Governor of Amur Region
  • Each regional government has posted information on important regional government-related tasks, regional economy and economic cooperation in its language and English and this information helps the interregional cooperation in trade, investment, manufacturing technology and science.
○ Lieutenant Governor of Political Affairs of Chungcheongbuk-do Province
  • Suggests establishing the “International Life Science Forum” for the international exchange in life science and rotational hosting of the international conference
○ Governor of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region
  • To actively engage in multilateral and broad cooperation and exchanges among the regional governments, the public–private joint exchanges and cooperation are emphasized.
Vice Governor of Toyama Prefecture
- Suggests opinions on fostering human resources and environmental cooperation in the Northeast Asian region. Suggests each regional government of the Association to implement interregional exchange in all fields with participation of the youth

Governor of Selenge Province
- We should extend exchange and cooperation on the premise of development. Suggests strengthening cooperation in areas such as tourism, mining and forestation

Head of Delegate from Chungcheongnam-do Province
- Introduces the 2006 Geumsan World Ginseng Expo and requests active support and participation of the member regional governments

Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Jeollabuk-do Province
- Plans to hold the World Logistics Expo 2007 and wishes the member regional governments to show active support and interest

Vice President of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)
- Introduces plans to cooperate with Heilongjiang province, China, in three areas such as economy, culture and education, and science. Introduces the third International Sports Games “Children of Asia” held in Yakutsk in July

Vice Governor of Shandong Province
- Will make efforts to realize mutual prosperity by enhancing mutual communication through NEAR, the forum of exchange, and by discovering potential.

Vice Governor of Jeollanam-do Province
- Introduces the investment climate and leading industries of the province and request support for Jeollanam-do’s bidding for World Expo 2012 Yeosu

Assistant Governor of Henan Province
- NEAR has provided the forum of cooperation to derive ideas, combine wisdom, broaden viewpoints and promote development together through various forms of conferences.

Chairman of the Council of People’s Commissars of Rasun City
- To develop the region of Northeast Asia by utilizing such abundant natural resources and geographic advantage, the most important work is to seek for a reasonable ways for each region to fully demonstrate its excellence and to strengthen enhance joint cooperation.

5) Proposal of the Agenda Items of the General Assembly and Discussion

[September 7th]

Proposal on the “Establishment of the NEAR Emblem” (Joint proposal of Heilongjiang Province and Toyama Prefecture)
- Toyama Prefecture: Explains the proposal and emphasizes the need for the emblem and its selection process
- Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Agrees with this proposal and wishes the proposal to be passed at this meeting
- Khabarovsk Territory: Agrees with the need for the establishment of the
emblem and supports the proposal
  • Heilongjiang Province: Took the yes or no vote on this proposal by a show of hands and the proposal passed by unanimous consent. Decided that the next secretariat would establish the emblem by due process submitted by the item.
  ② Proposal on the "Establishment of Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation" (Khabarovsk Territory)
  • Khabarovsk Territory: Explains the proposal. Emphasizes that the implementation of cross-Cross-border Cooperation is the key to promoting the economic development and prosperity of border regions. Proposes to hold the Sub-Committee meeting once every year in the area of the coordinator region for effective performance.
  • Aomori Prefecture: Must avoid overlapping since currently Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade exists and is performing the role of coordinator.
  • Amur Region: Supports the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation due to the possibility of the new level of cooperation in the border regions.
  • Selenge Province: Agrees with the proposal. The proposal helps the future cooperation and economic and tourism development.
  • Gyeongsangnam-do Province: Consents to establishing the Sub-Committee separate from the Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade.
  • Heilongjiang Province: Took the vote by a show of hands and decided unanimously the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation and Khabarovsk territory as its coordinator. The decision will be included in the Declaration of the General Assembly.
  ③ Proposal on "Holding Business Fair Simultaneously with the NEAR General Assembly" (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
  • Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Introduction to the proposal. Suggests holding the fair because this event will provide a bigger and more convenient stage for promoting realistic exchanges in economy and trade.
  • Heilongjiang Province: This proposal was suggested by Gyeongsangbuk-do province at the 4th Working Committee and is introduced to this General Assembly and a survey was conducted on the proposal before the General Assembly. Some regional governments brought up the issue of cost in the survey. Gyeongsangbuk-do province thereupon suggested to decide the matter according to the circumstances of the host regional government of the General Assembly instead of making the proposal an obligation.
  • Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Emphasizes to decide whether to hold both meetings or the General Assembly alone based on the ability to hold meetings.
  • Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region: Suggests that if conditions permitted, both meetings will be held but no need to make it an obligation.
  • Hyogo Prefecture: Since the matter is about the cost, an in-depth discussion is needed at this meeting.
  • Henan Province: Agrees with the holding of the Business Fair but suggests deciding the matter after considering conditions such as the ability to hold the event.
• Khabarovsk Territory: Suggests that holding both meetings must be implemented based on the ability of the host regional government and an obligatory regulation must not be legislated.

• Busan Metropolitan City: It is not necessary to make the matter compulsory and it should be decided according to the ability of the host regional government holding the General Assembly.

• Shandong Province
  - Must discuss at NEAR meetings and gather opinions from all parties when holding similar events under the name of the Association. However, when similar events are held under the name of some city, state, province, or prefecture, such issue does not need to be discussed.
  - Suggests that the members must actively participate when the host country brings such item to the table. Suggests the host country shall pay certain amount of expense and participating regional governments shall cover the rest.

• Heilongjiang Province
  - Positive evaluation on holding the economy and trade-related events.
  - Suggests the matter to be an option rather than an obligation.
  - The chair regional government hosting the General Assembly must actively hold other events and enhance economy and trade cooperation exchange among the members.
  - Suggests holding them as an open event to encourage any regions and businesses around the world to participate. This proposal was passed unanimously.

4) Proposal on standing secretariat of NEAR (Hyogo Prefecture and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)

• Hyogo Prefecture: Suggests 4-year term for the permanent secretariat and the term being renewable one time only. Proposes establishing the secretariat branch office in each country. Suggests that due to position, security and class issues, secondment of staffs would be difficult.

• Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Agrees on consecutive 4-year term for harmony and development of the Association despite the fact that 6-year term would be beneficial to secure stability and continuity of the operation of the secretariat. Suggests each country to cover the cost of the operation of the branch offices. Suggests that the discussion on secondment of staffs can be continued.

• Jeollanam-do Province: Requests the Chairman to confirm the opinion of Hyogo prefecture and Gyeongsangbuk-do province one more time.

• Heilongjiang Province: Requests Hyogo prefecture and Gyeongsangbuk-do province for more detailed explanation on the following items:
  - Definition of the service of consecutive 4-year term.
  - Whether the branch offices will be established by countries or by the member regional governments desiring to establish the branch offices.
  - Whether to second one staff per country or per member regional government. Whether the permanent secretariat or the seconding country/regional government would cover the cost of the secondment.
- Whether the expense of the permanent secretariat will be covered by the establishing regional government or by all
  - Hyogo Prefecture
    - The term lasts for four (4) years each time and the matter of the service of consecutive terms shall be decided through discussion in the next General Assembly. If the General Assembly gives consent, consecutive service will be possible.
    - Suggests the need for the branch office for each country
    - Suggests that it is difficult to discuss the matter of the cost and post position of the seconded staffs at the moment
    - Suggests more in-depth discussion is required for the issue of expense of the permanent secretariat and the cost should be shared by each country for the long-term development
  - Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
    - Suggests that it is desirable in principle to establish a permanent secretariat in one place. Suggests that if the operation of the permanent secretariat is well carried out for four years, automatic service of consecutive terms would be desirable and if not, voluntary resignation would be advisable. Suggests that this matter should be discussed in the General Assembly in four years.
    - It is not necessary to establish the branch office in each country, but if such establishment is desired, it can be done according to the circumstances and the member regional governments shall decide where to establish the branch office without the involvement of the secretariat.
    - Staffs shall be seconded if each member regional government decides it is needed. The cost of seconding staffs will fundamentally be covered by the seconding country/regional government, and some may be covered by the secretariat. The matter shall be decided by discussion between the seconding country/regional government and the secretariat
  - Hyogo Prefecture : Proposes the expense of the permanent secretariat be paid fundamentally by each member regional government. However, the expense shall be covered by the financial ability of the member regional government. Suggests the next Working Committees to discuss the details of the cost issue
  - Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region : Consents to the establishment of the permanent secretariat and suggests the details of the matter should be discussed by organizing the Working Sub-Committee. Proposes that “branch office” is not the proper name and the name “liaison office” must be used instead
  - Toyama Prefecture : Agrees on the 4-year term of the permanent secretariat and suggests allowing the extension term only once. Proposes that the establishment of the branch office shall be decided by each country or that regulations on the establishment be regulated in the NEAR Charter
  - Shandong Province
    - Consents to the establishment of the standing secretariat
    - Agrees on the 4-year term and suggests the service of consecutive terms on the decision by the General Assembly
- The number of the secretariat staff shall be decided by the secretariat hosting regional government and with regard to composition of staffs, each country can second one staff and the secretariat hosting regional government can second three to three to four staffs. Suggests that the total number of the secretariat members be limited to ten or less,
- The secretariat hosting regional government covers the operational and transportation costs of the secretariat and the seconding country covers the cost of wages and general daily expenses,
- Suggests calling the branch office by the name of liaison office or the secretariat office. Proposes that each member regional government instead of each country shall establish the branch office and communicate with the secretariat.

- Selenge Province
  - Consents to the one-time 4-year term
  - Suggests it is appropriate to establish the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province
  - Suggests that it is unnecessary to establish the branch office since the regional governments in each country are already communicating with the Association.
  - Supports that the membership fee shall be paid based on the financial situation of each member

- Jeollabuk-do Province: It is desirable to discuss in the evening on the details of the permanent secretariat, the term, the branch office and secondment of staffs by organizing the Working Sub-Committee and then report the result the next morning.

- Henan Province
  - Agrees on the establishment of the permanent secretariat
  - Consents to the one-time 4-year term. Suggests deciding the service of consecutive terms through the General Assembly after the completion of term
  - Agrees on the establishment of the secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. This is because Gyeongsangbuk-do province was most active and was the first one to apply for the establishment.
  - Opposes the establishment of the branch office because it goes against the aim of NEAR
  - The operational cost of the secretariat must be covered by the secretariat hosting regional government and the personal expenses and wages of the seconded staff must be covered by the seconding country/regional government

- Khabarovsk Territory: It is desirable to establish the secretariat in a set place. Consents to the establishment of the secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province since it applied for the establishment. The branch office shall be established according to the desire to establish and the circumstances. Suggests exchanging more in-depth opinions whether to set the term of the secretariat as one-time extension of term or unlimited service of consecutive terms
• Busan Metropolitan City: The General Assembly must decide without fail whether the term of the secretariat will be four (4) years or not. The issues regarding the branch office of the secretariat, seconding staffs, and the cost will be discussed tonight by organizing the Working Sub-Committee and the result will be reported to the General Assembly the next day. Agrees with the opinion of Jeollabuk-do province.

• Heilongjiang Province: Requests once more for Gyeongsangbuk-do to confirm its intention to host the permanent secretariat.

• Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
  - Gyeongsangbuk-do province will cover the expense if the permanent secretariat is established in the province.
  - Building the Internet website for exchanging information among regional governments.
  - (The term of office shall be one-time 4-year term) The operational cost of the secretariat shall be covered by the secretariat hosting regional government and the cost of seconding staffs shall be covered by the seconding country/regional government.
  - The member regional government shall cover some of the cost in the long term.

• Heilongjiang Province: Tonight, the six (6) member regional governments such as Heilongjiang province of China, Hyogo prefecture and Toyama prefecture of Japan, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Busan Metropolitan City of Korea, and Khabarovsk territory of Russia shall organize the working Sub-Committee to discuss on basic matters such as the system, position, term of office, place of establishment, establishment of the branch office and cost of the permanent office and report to the General Assembly next morning.

[September 8th]

• Heilongjiang Province: After announcing the agreement that was reached in the working Sub-Committee in the evening of September 7th, and while opinions of the member regional governments on this agreement is collected and arranged Heilongjiang province requests Busan Metropolitan City to apply to be the venue for the next General Assembly.

• Busan Metropolitan City: Located in the center of the Northeast Asian region, Busan is a famous port city in the world. Busan has held international events such as World cup 2002 and will hold APEC conference in November 2005. Busan applies to hold the 6th General Assembly due in 2006 and expects a full support from member regional governments.

• Heilongjiang Province: Suggests deciding by a show of hands. Busan was chosen unanimously. Requests Busan to make an acceptance speech.

• Busan Metropolitan City: Extends sincere gratitude to delegates of each member regional government. Will play important role in many aspects such as information exchange among member governments and human resources and products exchange for the joint development and prosperity of the Northeast Asian region.

• Heilongjiang Province
A) Announcement of the joint agreement of the Working Sub-Committee
   • The term of permanent secretariat is 4 years and secretariat can serve consecutive terms on the decision made by the General Assembly.
   • Based on Article 12, clause 2 of the NEAR Charter, the permanent secretariat of NEAR is the executive body of NEAR and each country (each member regional government) can establish a liaison organ as required.
   • The matters on seconding staffs to the permanent secretariat will be discussed in the next Working Committee and introduced to the General Assembly to be finalized.
   • Regarding the location of the permanent secretariat, working committee has agreed to establish the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. Operating expenses of the secretariat is decided to be covered by Gyeongsangbuk-do province.
   • The Working Sub-Committee agreed unanimously on introducing a membership fee of NEAR. According to the regulations of the Charter, the details on how to pay the membership fee will be introduced in the next Working Committee and will be discussed and finalized in the General Assembly.
   • The agreements mentioned above are passed unanimously.
B) Revised and announced some parts of the NEAR Charter in accordance with the agreement as shown below
   Article 12
   • The secretariat of “NEAR” is the permanent executive body and each country (the member regional government) may have a liaison organ as required.
   • The term of office of the secretariat shall be four (4) years and it may serve consecutive terms on decision by the General Assembly
   Article 13
   • The secretary general shall be one (1) person and shall be recommended by the head of the regional government that hosts the Secretariat and appointed by the Chairman of NEAR.
   The aforementioned amendment was passed unanimously.
C) Announcement of the Harbin Declaration of the 5th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
The permanent secretariat is decided to be established in Gyeongsangbuk-do province as the aforementioned agreement was passed unanimously. Requested Gyeongsangbuk-do province to deliver an acceptance speech
   • Gyeongsangbuk-do Province : Extends gratitude to the Chairman and the member regional governments for their support; will to promote the following plans
     - Establishment of the secretariat, election of the secretary general, placement of staffs
     - After preparing institutional foundation, the secretariat will be opened before May 2005
     - Construction of information and communications network to establish communication among the member regional governments
- Elevation of the status of NEAR by collaboration with the international organizations such as UN and EU
- Plans to establish the Northeast Asia Business Center
  - Heilongjiang Province: Passed the Harbin Declaration, Wishes all the members to make efforts in strengthening realistic exchanges and cooperation and realizing noble ideal of NEAR: Declaration of the adjournment of the meeting

Summary of the proposed items

- Proposal on the “establishment of the NEAR emblem”: The yes or no vote was taken by a show of hands and the proposal was passed unanimously. The decision was made for the next secretariat to establish the emblem according to the process submitted on the agenda
- Proposal on the “establishment of the Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation”: The yes or no vote on this proposal was taken by a show of hands and the proposal was passed unanimously to establish the Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation and to decide Khabarovsk territory as it coordinator
- Proposal on “holding business fairs simultaneously with the NEAR General Assembly”: It shall be an option, not an obligation. The chair regional government holding the General Assembly shall actively host additional events if circumstances allow so as to enhance exchanges in economy and trade cooperation among the member regional governments, Suggests holding the events in an open manner instead of closed manner so to encourage other regions and businesses around the world to participate.
- Proposal on the “permanent secretariat of NEAR”
  - The term of office of the permanent secretariat shall be four (4) years and the service of consecutive terms may be allowed through the General Assembly
  - Based on Article 2, clause 2 of the Near Charter, the permanent secretariat of NEAR shall be the executive body of NEAR, and each country (each member regional government) may establish a liaison organ as required.
  - Regarding the matter the secondment of staffs to the permanent secretariat, the next Working Committee shall discuss and decide by sumitting the agenda to the General Assembly
  - Agreed to establish the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. The operational cost of the secretariat was decided to be covered by Gyeongsangbuk-do province

5) Revision of the NEAR Charter: Parts of the NEAR Charter was revised and announced as below:

**Article 12**

- The secretariat shall be the permanent executive body of “NEAR,” and each country (the member regional government) may have a liaison organ as required.
- The term of office of the secretariat shall be four (4) years and the service of consecutive terms may be allowed on the decision by the General Assembly.
Article 13

• The secretary general shall be one (1) person and shall be recommended by the head of the secretariat hosting regional government and designated by the NEAR chairman.

〈Harbin Declaration〉

The 5th General Assembly of the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments (hereinafter referred to 'NEAR') was held in Harbin city, Heilongjiang province, China from September 7th to September 8th, 2004.

Delegates of 112 member regional governments from the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, and the Russian Federation participated.

With the theme of the strengthened economic cooperation in the Northeast Asian region, based on the principles of mutual coexistence and ferocity and peace, this conference discussed issues of the development of NEAR and the Northeast Asian, shared many opinions, saw tremendous achievement and agreed on the following:

1. The chair of NEAR as well as delegates of each member regional government from the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, and the Russian Federation addressed in this General Assembly. The General Assembly must make efforts to make full use of characteristics of each region based on successful experiences of interregional cooperation of NEAR, to overcome obstacles such as the developmental imbalance among the member regional governments and differences in the cultural background, and to make NEAR one of the most active and successful regional community in the world.

2. The General Assembly received reports on activities of each Sub-Committee and became well aware of their activities. NEAR emphasizes on activities of the Sub-Committee and will actively support Sub-Committees to enhance their business level and efficiency.

3. He General Assembly finalized the agenda of the next General Assembly by voting on the suggestion regarding the establishment of the NEAR emblem proposed by Toyama prefecture, Japan and Heilongjiang province, China and by electing the next chair regional government.

4. The General Assembly passed the proposal on the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation submitted by Khabarovsk Territory. The extent of Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation cannot overlap with the functions of the preexisting related Sub-Committees and in order to promote cooperation and development among member regional governments in the Northeast Asian region, the Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation must proceed with its projects in collaboration with the preexisting Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade.

5. The General Assembly expresses respect to Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Korea for their contribution towards the development of NEAR and passed the proposal of
establishing a permanent secretariat of NEAR in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Korea. The term of the secretariat region was agreed to be 4 years and when voted in the General Assembly the secretariat can serve consecutive terms.

6. The General Assembly mentioned that on the basis of the regulations of the NEAR Charter, each country (each member regional government) can establish a liaison organ as required.

7. The General Assembly passed the revision of the NEAR Charter after explanation and deliberation on the revision. The revision of the Charter is based on the current Charter, succeeding the declarations of the previous general assemblies. It recognizes the new trend in the economic cooperation both in the Northeast Asian region and in the world, and is the creed of NEAR written on the basis of the collection of opinions of each member regional government. The revision of the Charter clearly provides the establishment of the permanent secretariat and the term of the secretariat. The establishment of the permanent secretariat has great significance towards the development of NEAR and towards making NEAR a more mature and official international cooperative organization.

8. In order to strengthen economy and trade cooperation among each member regional government on the basis of reciprocity and peace and to promote the prosperity and development in the Northeast Asian region, each member regional government submitted relatively concrete ideas and opinion in this General Assembly. The General Assembly finds that these suggestions will in principle promote the development of economy and trade cooperation in the Northeast Asian region. Each member regional government shall support and cooperate with various international exhibitions and economy and trade investment fairs hosted by regional governments in the Northeast Asian region.

9. On the basis of opinions submitted by each member regional government, NEAR agreed that each regional government fully support and cooperate with each other in the areas of territorial trade, resource development, information exchange, environmental protection and human resource development.

10. The next General Assembly is voted to be held in Busan Metropolitan City, Korea. This declaration is an official document serving as a basic guideline concerning the development and cooperation of NEAR, written in five languages including Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Mongolian, and Russian, all having the same effect, adopted in the 5th General Assembly of NEAR held in Heilongjiang province, China on September 8th, 2004.

6) Achievements of the General Assembly
A) Major Achievements
- Passed the proposal on the establishment of the NEAR emblem
- The Sub-Committee on Cross-Cross-border Cooperation was established and Khabarovsk territory in Russia was decided to be its coordinator
- The proposal was passed that the permanent secretariat of NEAR shall be established in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea and that the term of office shall be four (4) years, which can be extended
• Passed the amendment of the NEAR Charter

B) Remaining tasks

• Decided that the next secretariat shall promote the establishment of the emblem in accordance with the process submitted in the agenda.

(6) The 6th General Assembly

(A) Background and Purpose

1) Seeking the turning point of NEAR celebrating the 10th anniversary

Marking the 10th anniversary, the 6th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR) was held under the theme of the “Mutual prosperity among the Northeast Asian regions and the role of NEAR” to seek a new turning point.

(B) Overview of the Conference

1) Title of the Conference
   - Korean – 제6회 동북아시아지역자치단체연합총회
   - English – The 6th Conference of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

2) Date : (Tue) September 12th - (Fri) September 15th, 2006 (three nights and four days)

3) Venue: Lotte Hotel Busan, 3rd Floor – The Crystal Ballroom and others

4) Hosted by : Busan Metropolitan City, the NEAR Secretariat

5) Participants : 24 member regional governments from 5 countries and 27 observer regional governments from 4 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>48 (51)</td>
<td>Henan Province, Shandong Province, Heilongjiang Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region (Observer), Shaanxi Province (Observer), Liaoning Province (Observer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Busan 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, Daegu Metropolitan City (Observer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>19 (22)</td>
<td>Tuv Province, Selenge Province, Ulaanbaatar City (Observer), Dornod Province (Observer), Sukhbaatar Province (Observer), Khentii Province (Observer), Dornogovi Province (Observer), Umnugovi Province (Observer), Bulgan Province (Observer),Uvs Khangai Province (Observer), Bayan-Olgii Province (Observer), Arkhangai Province (Observer), Khuvsgul Province (Observer), Zavkhan Province (Observer), Khovd Province (Observer), Bayan-Ölgii Province (Observer), Ovorkhangai Province (Observer), Govisumber Province (Observer), Darkhan-Uul Province (Observer) (3 regional governments that agreed to sign up but did not participate: Dundgovi Province, Govi-Altaa Province, Uvs Province)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Khabarovsky Territory, Sakhalin Region, Amur Region, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Republic of Buryatia, Tomsk Region (Observer), Republic of Tyva (Observer), Altai Territory (Observer)</td>
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</table>

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
6) Theme: “Mutual Prosperity among the Northeast Asian Regions and the Role of NEAR”
   Sub-theme: “Activation of NEAR in Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary”
7) Agenda
   ○ Progress Report on the major activities of NEAR(Working Committee, Secretariat, each Sub-Committee)
   ○ Keynote Speech by representatives of the member regional governments (17 regional governments from 5 countries)
   ○ Discussion on the items of the General Assembly (six items)
9) Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>(Tue) Sept. 12th</th>
<th>(Wed) Sept. 13th</th>
<th>(Thu) Sept. 14th</th>
<th>(Fri/Sept. 15th)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:20</td>
<td>Arrival</td>
<td>Meeting (Mayor &amp; Heads of delegates)</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Departure</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:20 – 09:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 – 09:35</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:35 – 10:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
<td></td>
<td>Introducing membership applicants, Membership Oath, Greetings from the new members</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:20</td>
<td>Photo Session and Break</td>
<td>Introducing the applicants for hosting the next General Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20 – 10:30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deciding the next host</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Reports by Sub-Committees</td>
<td>Tea Time/ Writing the Joint Declaration</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:10</td>
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<td>Announcement of the Joint Declaration</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10 – 11:30</td>
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<td>Closing Ceremony/Press Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 – 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch/FREE Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 – 16:00</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inspection Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 – 17:00</td>
<td>Discussion on the items of the General Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:00 – 18:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:00 – 20:00</td>
<td>Welcoming Banquet</td>
<td>Farewell Banquet</td>
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</table>

(C) Proceeding of the Conference
1) Opening Ceremony
   ○ Meeting and introduction
   ○ Opening address (Mayor of Busan Metropolitan City)
   ○ Congratulatory address (President of the Republic of Korea (read by another person))
   ○ Welcoming address (Governor of Gyeongsanbuk-do Province)
2) Progress report of major activities of NEAR
   ▪ Results of the 5th Working Committee meeting (Director of Culture and Tourism Bureau of Busan Metropolitan City)
     • Promoted the establishment of the NEAR emblem
     • Staffs from member regional governments seconded to the NEAR secretariat
     • Shandong province, China stated that it wishes to host the 7th General Assembly.
     • Discussed on expected items on the agenda of the General Assembly
   ▪ Progress report from the NEAR secretariat (Secretary general)
     • Started internationally publicizing NEAR and recruiting new members
     • Established and operates an official NEAR website
     • Plans to host “NEAR Working Staff Workshop” and “Northeast Asia Regional Cooperation Forum” in order to revitalize actual exchange and cooperation among member regional governments of NEAR
     • Promote publishing the NEAR white paper and building a project database
     • Gives various support to help dispatched workers from member regional governments adapt quickly to the local life.

3) Report of activities from Sub-Committees
   A) Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
      ▪ 2005 Hosted “Business Promotion Conference” in Gyeongju, Korea in December, 2005
        • The member regional governments decided to actively cooperate for the Six Major Bases Construction Project in Heilongjiang province, Priority Development Plan in Shandong Province, Regional Development Project of Irkutsk region.
        • Decided to actively participate in various international trade exhibition hosted by Henan province and Gyeongsangnam-do province.
        • Decided to actively participate in the development of Special Economic Zone between Amur province and Heilongjiang province by sending enterprises from the member regional governments.
      ▪ Hosted “Multilateral Specialty Items Fair” in Gyeongju where 65 companies participated, making 5 million dollars worth contracts in December, 2005
      ▪ Opened “Economy and Trade Network” in May, 2006
   B) Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange
      ▪ Carried out “Youth Exchange Project” in Shimane prefecture in June 2006
      ▪ Singers and dancers from Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region visited Shimane prefecture as a part of “Northeast Asia International Culture Palette Project” and performed in 3 locations
   C) Sub-Committee on Environment
      ▪ Hosted the 7th Sub-Committee on Environment meeting in Toyama prefecture in July, 2005
        • Reported on individual projects of 2005 such as Evaluation of current status of oil pollution in the East Coast (Primorsky Territory, Russia) and Joint examination of the migratory birds in the Northeast Asian region (Toyama prefecture, Japan)
        • Suggested individual projects such as Northeast Asian Youth Environmental Symposium (Toyama prefecture, Japan)
      ▪ Elected Toyama prefecture as the coordinator regional government (for 2 years from July 2005)
      ▪ Examining the current status of the individual projects of 2006 and reviewing
suggestions for the individual projects of 2007

D) Sub–Committee on General Exchange
- Examined the human resource development projects and the status of website establishment of each regional government. The result is posted in the Toyama prefecture website.
- Plans to review projects such as the association among each regional government and joint business projects in human resource exchange and development.
- Makes efforts to make information on each regional government complete in foreign languages in the information exchange sector.

E) Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention
- Provides each regional government the “Evaluation Report on the Disaster Prevention System of NEAR”.
- Shared the valuable experiences obtained through the reconstruction from Kobe earthquake with the member regional governments in various seminars and lectures.
- During the Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting, inspection tour in disaster prevention bases such as Hyogo prefecture Disaster Management Center and Disaster Medical Center, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution, and E-defense was done.
- Plans to upgrade from information and human exchange projects to the participating and problem-solving activities.
- Plans to visibly improve the Northeast Asia Disaster Prevention Measures considering the promotion of the international standardization of disaster prevention measures.

F) Sub–Committee on Cross-border Cooperation
- Hosted the 1st Sub–Committee on Cross-border Cooperation meeting in June 2005
  - Finalized regulation of Sub–Committee on Cross-border Cooperation
  - Shared Information of the status of the territorial infrastructure of participating regional governments.
  - Discussed the simplification of passing the borders in the Far East region of Russia and no-visa entry for tourists among the Northeast Asian countries.
- Khabarovsk Territory applies for the position of the coordinator of Sub–Committee on Cross-border Cooperation for 2007 ~ 2008.

4) Presentation
- Busan Metropolitan City
  - Suggests establishment of the Port Distribution Cooperation System which enables prompt and active reaction to the changes in distribution situation in the Northeast Asian region and reduces the excessive competition among the members.
  - Suggests an organic tourism network among regional governments in the Northeast Asian region by developing a tourism product that associates cultural and historical differences of different cities. Busan has established Tourism Promotion Organization for Asia Pacific Cities in 2002, proceeding with tourism cooperation projects since then.
- Heilongjiang Province
  - In order for NEAR to develop, the members must learn from the successful examples of interregional cooperation in the world and continuously explore the
distinct regional features that are unique in the Northeast Asian region.

- For the joint development of the region, members must proceed with communication and exchange of mutual interests in all directions. Heilongjiang province has established a regular conference system with leaders from 5 territories in the Far East region of Russia. With Japan, a friendly relationship has been established with related organizations such as “Japan–China Northeast Development Association. A long-term friendly exchange relationship has been established with regional governments such as Hamgyeongbuk-do province in the DPRK.
- Strengthening of a multi-directional cooperation in economic and social aspects such as resources, technology, labor and market is required.

○ Tuv Province
- The expansion of the cooperative activities and information exchange among member regional governments through the videoconference infrastructure in the NEAR website is required.
- Agrees with the establishment of the NEAR Sub-Committees

○ Republic of Buryatia
- NEAR must create a single economic system for the member regional governments. For this, the following is required:
  - The principle of mutual respect, the protection of territorial autonomy, and the non-intervention of internal affairs among the regional governments
  - Resolution of problems that interfere with the cooperative and exchange activities in the economy and trade area and an adequate regulation for the political and economical integration (bloc)
  - Through the development of economic cooperation among Northeast Asian countries, it is necessary to induce the resolution of international political, military and economical conflicts and tensions, and the enhancement of the security of the region and of the trust among countries.

○ Gyeonggi-do Province
- Although areas of diplomacy, security, and politics are traditionally of the central government, regional government can play a significant role in the areas of economy, society, and culture. As the exchange and cooperation in the regional government level continues and expands, a bond of sympathy and sentiment is being created toward the coexistence and mutual prosperity.
- Suggests the establishment of Industry and Science–technology Sub–Committee and the setting–up meeting to be held in Gyeonggi–do province.

○ Khabarovsk Territory
- The permanent secretariat was established 10 years after the establishment of NEAR. The status of NEAR was raised as the number of members increase.
- Recently, the activities of the Sub–Committees are not very active.
- The interregional economic cooperation is not proceeding adequately. NEAR must seek for a more adequate role as the economic exchange relationship is greatly expending among nations in the Northeast Asian region. For this, the following is required:
  - Through a continuous exchange with neighboring regional governments, regional governments must pay attention to the exchange among entrepreneurs
from the region.
- Establishment of a special group in the Secretariat that will examine this matter thoroughly and give practical advice to the related regional governments.
- It is time to move on from making fellowship among the members of NEAR to achieving actual results from interregional cooperation in the Northeast Asian region.

- Gangwon-do Province
  - Revitalization of economic exchange: the regional economy was revitalized by preparing a foundation for actual economic exchange such as the Free Trade Zone, exchanging economic information through visits of private exchange groups, and hosting product exchange exhibitions, and by a joint venture.
  - Sharing various information through exchange cooperation with countries all over the world is needed (Utilizing information network such as the Internet)
  - Promotion of tourism and trade transportation network among hub cities
  - Fostering human resources with a global mindset by providing youth with the opportunity of international exchange
  - Sharing opinions and discussing on environmental preservation among nations

- Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region
  - It is necessary to realize sustainable development through promotion of strengthening environmental preservation and environmental cooperation

- Chungcheongbuk-do Province
  - Suggests to hold specialty product fair and regional culture and art events simultaneously
  - Suggests developing technology training program in specific areas

- Amur Region
  - Suggests posting on NEAR webpage up-to-date NEAR news, the current social and economic state of the region, and information about the international events scheduled to be held
  - It is necessary for the NEAR regional delegates to participate when exhibitions in areas such as trade, investment, production and academia are opened
  - It is necessary to extend exchanges in areas such as academia, education, culture, and sports

- Chungcheongnam-do Province
  - Encourages participate in the “2006 World Ginseng Expo Geumsan” as part of interregional economic cooperation

- Henan Province
  - It is necessary to hold more exhibitions and investment and trade events in order to strengthen exchange cooperation in various fields such as economy, trade, investment and industry
    - As a way to achieve this, the member regional governments must attend the NEAR meeting, submit application and the NEAR General Assembly shall decide the theme of the events through discussion
    - NEAR shall use the network advantage to create a place for the member regional governments and post information of large-scale events of the member regional governments and encourage the participation of other members
Jeollanam-do Province
- In the process of promoting “The Southwest Coast Tourism & Leisure City” project and “Development of Theme Tourist Attractions in the Aegean Islands” project
- Promotion of holding the 2012 World Expo
- Fostering tourism, logistics, new materials and shipbuilding industries as the “core strategic industries”

Selenge Province
- In the midst of implementing measures to protect forest resources and restoring indigenous pine tree forest to solve the serious problems of desertification, The Sub-Committee of Environment invested in 690 hectares of land for tree planting and named some parts of the land “NEAR”. Proposed investment by NEAR into planting indigenous pine trees
- Encouraged interest in the very first Mongolian free trade zone “Altangbulag Free Trade Zone”

Sakhalin Region
- Considering shipping lignite coke, liquid motor fuel and other chemical synthetic products
- Development of the area of fishery such as artificial farming of fishery products, construction of farm for fishery products, Japan, China and others are able to implement cooperation in fishery
- The construction project of mountain ski resort directly connected to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk city by roads under implementation in order to promote tourism industry
- Leisure facility construction project in the Kuril Islands, home of extraordinary fauna and flora

Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
- It is necessary to establish firm foundation for the development of NEAR through enhancing the ability of the secretariat to collect and analyze data, to develop and execute cooperation program, and to strengthen public relations and foreign cooperation
- More active participating is needed in major events and cooperation programs of the member regional governments
- Must continuously identify various issues necessary for the development of NEAR and implement without fail decisions made through the voting of General Assembly
- Enhancing international status of NEAR through close cooperation with the international organizations

Hyogo Prefecture
- Will make efforts for the achievements of the Sub-Committees to extend not only to all the members of NEAR but also to the whole of Northeast Asian region
- Will clearly and specifically spread the achievements of NEAR at home and abroad
- Plans to upgrade the Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention activities to participation and task solution style
  - Construction, dissemination and implementation of metropolitan disaster prevention system including joint development of disaster prevention teaching materials and unification of disaster prevention terminology or signs.
- Development of activities to promote creating world-standard disaster prevention measures
- In the process of reviewing the opening of “NEAR Disaster Prevention Symposium (tentative name)"

5) Discussion on Agenda Items of the General Assembly

○ Progress report on promoting the establishment of the NEAR emblem, introduction of the proposal to establish the emblem (Secretariat)

○ Voting proposal on establishment and operation of NEAR “advisory committee” (Gangwon-do Province)
  • Purpose of Composition
    - Construction and operation of international human resource network composed of able leaders who have worked for NEAR and renowned figures from the Northeast Asian region
    - Management of the role of international advisor on foreign public relations and development of NEAR
  • Composition
    - Affiliation: Directly under the General Assembly
    - Composition: Composed of 2 to 3 persons per country, total of approximately 15 to 20 persons
    - Qualification: Renowned person with the citizenship of the NEAR member nation who has served as the previous NEAR chairman or is an international expert
    - Regular meeting held once annually. Hold meetings frequently as required

○ Proposal to establish science and technology Sub-Committee and to take charge of coordinator (Gyeonggi-do Province)

○ Introducing the membership approval of new NEAR membership applications (the Secretariat)
  • China(2): Hubei Province, Hunan Province
  • South Korea(1): Daegu Metropolitan City
  • Mongolia(20): Ulaanbaatar City, Arkhangai Province, Bayanulgii Province, Bayankhongor Province, Bulgan Province, Govi-Altai Province, Govisumber Province, Darkhan-Uul Province, Dornod Province, Dornogovi Province, Dundgovi Province, Zavkhan Province, Orkhon Province, Uvurkhangai Province, Umnugovi Province, Sukhbaatar Province, Uvs Province, Khovd Province, Khuvsgul Province, Khentii Province
  • Russia(4): Krasnoyarsk Territory, Tomsk Region, Republic of Tyva, Altai Territory

○ Official application to hold the 7th NEAR General Assembly in 2008 (by Shandong Province)

6) Adoption and Issuance of the Joint Declaration

〈Busan Declaration〉

- The 6th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments –

The member regional governments, total of 51 members from 5 countries including the
Republic of Korea, People’s Republic of China, Japan, Mongolia and Russian Federation, participating in the 6th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia regional Governments held in Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea, from September 13th to September 14th of 2006, shall make efforts together for the development of the Northeast Asian region on the basis of the following mutual understanding.

Since its foundation in 1996 with the ultimate goal of “coexistence and co-prosperity of Northeast Asia through exchange and cooperation,” the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments have promoted practical exchange and cooperation projects in many areas such as economy and culture and have produced remarkable achievements.

Marking the 10th anniversary, we share the understanding that the cooperation system among the members must be enhanced and more future-oriented development measures must be sought after in order for the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments to play a leading role in the opening of the “era of peaceful and prosperous global world and Northeast Asia.”

On the basis of such mutual understanding, broad discussions were made to enhance the status of NEAR under the theme of “the mutual prosperity among the Northeast Asian Regions and the role of NEAR” in this Busan General Assembly and the following proposals were drawn to be implemented together.

1. The Association shall continuously establish measures and systems to strengthen and promote economic cooperation and shall enhance exchange and cooperation by actively utilizing complementarity among the member regional governments,

2. The Association shall mutually support the efforts of the member regional governments to host international events and shall actively participate in major events and exchange and cooperation programs of other member regional governments,

3. The Association shall make efforts to jointly promote and prepare eco-friendly policies to actively counteract environmental problems of Northeast Asia such as reducing the occurrence and damage of yellow dust.

4. The Association recommends the chair regional government to host various events to sublimate the General Assembly into the place of international exchange starting from the next General Assembly.

Hence, we declare to be the leaders for the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in opening the era of peace and prosperity in the Northeast Asian region.

September 14th, 2006

Representatives of the member regional governments participating in the 6th General Assembly of the Association of the North East Asia Regional Governments

(The Agreement)

- The 6th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments –

The 6th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments was held in Busan Metropolitan City of the Republic of Korea from September 13th to September 14th, 2006, with 24 member regional governments participating from 5 countries of the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, and Russian Federation.
The General Assembly has engaged in grave discussion on the proposals introduced for mutual prosperity of Northeast Asia and development of NEAR and has agreed on the following items:

1. The General Assembly has received the progress report from the Emblem Committee and shall approve the proposal to establish emblem from the Emblem Establishment Committee by reflecting the opinion of Sakhalin Oblast Region, Russia.
2. The General Assembly shall have the next Working Committee to fully conduct review and discussion on the establishment and operation of NEAR advisory committee and the 7th General Assembly shall decide the matter by vote.
3. The General Assembly shall approve the establishment of the Science and Technology Sub-Committee proposed by Gyeonggi-do province, Republic of Korea, and the role of the coordinator of the Sub-Committee shall be taken by Gyeonggi-do province.
4. The General Assembly shall change the coordinator regional government of the Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation to Amur Region, Russian Federation.
5. The General Assembly shall decide by vote the membership registration of the new members from 27 regional governments under the People’s Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, and Russian Federation.
6. The 7th General Assembly in 2008 shall be hosted by Shandong province, People’s Republic of China.

Hence, the member regional governments of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments shall execute without fail the aforementioned items of the agreement through mutual cooperation.

September 14th, 2006

Representatives of the member regional governments participating in the 6th General Assembly of the Association of the North East Asia Regional Governments

(D) Achievements of the General Assembly

1) Major Achievements
   A) Foundation was laid for development of NEAR
      ○ The membership was extended to 68 member regional governments with the addition of 27 regional governments from 4 countries including Daegu Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. The Association has developed into the largest international conference in Asia in light of the number of member regional governments.
      ○ Foundation was laid for NEAR to take the next leap forward by discussing the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology and the NEAR advisory committee
   B) Agreement was reached to implement joint promotion of active response to the environmental problems in Northeast Asia and eco-friendly policies and to prepare cooperative measures
   C) Opportunity is increased for exchange between Busan Metropolitan City and the participating regional governments
      ○ Promotion and expansion of exchange among 48 regional governments from 5 countries participating in the Busan General Assembly
(7) The 7th General Assembly
(A) Background and Purpose
For 12 years since the foundation of NEAR, many achievements were obtained by developing exchanges and cooperation in various areas such as economy, environment, culture, disaster prevention, Cross-border Cooperation, and science and technology.

The 7th General Assembly was held in Shandong province, China, under the theme of “Toward prosperity through innovative cooperation” to seek for mutual development of Northeast Asia.

(B) Overview of the Conference
1) Date : September 1st ~ September 4th, 2008
2) Venue : Jinan City, Shandong Province, China
3) Host : The Secretariat of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, People’s Government of Shandong Province, China
4) Participants : 47 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Hubei Province, Hunan Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Shandong Province, Liaoning Province, Shanxi Province, Shaanxi Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Toyama Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Gunma Prefecture, Wakayama Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Daejeon Metropolitan City, Gwangju Metropolitan City, Incheon Metropolitan City, Ulsan Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Umnur-govi Province, Dakhann-Uul Province, Govisumber Province, Orkhon Province, Uvurkhangai Province, Ulaanbaatar City, Bayankhongor Province, Bulgan Province, Arkhangai Province, Khuvsgul Province, Dornod Province, Uvs Province, Khovd Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Republic of Buryatia, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Altai Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Irkutsk Region</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5) Theme : “Toward prosperity through innovative cooperation”
6) Timetable

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 1st</td>
<td>09:00 ~ 17:00</td>
<td>Registration (Venue : Registration Desk, 1st Floor Lobby, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17:30 ~ 18:00</td>
<td>Reception – Governor of Shandong, Head of Chinese Delegates (higher in ranking than vice head) (Venue : Meeting Room, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18:30 ~ 18:55</td>
<td>Secretary Jiang Yikang and Governor Jian Daming – Joint Reception of heads of delegations from Japan, South Korea, Mongolia and Russia as well as secretary general Hae-Doo Lee of NEAR (Venue : Shandong Hotel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Conference Schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 1st</td>
<td>19:00-20:30</td>
<td>Shandong Province Welcoming Banquet (Venue: Grand Banquet Hall, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Night Time</td>
<td>Staying one night at Shandong Hotel, Jinan City</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>07:30-08:30</td>
<td>Breakfast (Venue: Multipurpose Room, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>08:50-09:00</td>
<td>Group Photo in front of the banner positioned at the front of the conference room – Heads of delegation (Venue: Grand Banquet Hall, Shandong Hotel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:00-09:05</td>
<td>Deputy Governor Cai Limin – Introducing the delegations by country</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:05-09:15</td>
<td>Governor Jiang Daming – Keynote Speech</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>09:15-09:20</td>
<td>Congratulatory Address – President Chen Haosu of Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:20-09:30</td>
<td>General Assembly 1: Report of Activities of Working Committee (Shandong Province, China)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:30-09:40</td>
<td>General Assembly 2: Report of Activities of NEAR Secretariat (Secretary General of NEAR Secretariat) General Assembly 3: Report on the Activities of Sub-Committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:40-10:20</td>
<td>① Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>② Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange (Shimane Prefecture, Japan)</td>
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<td>③ Sub-Committee on Environment (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)</td>
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<td>④ Sub-Committee on General Exchange (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)</td>
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<td>⑤ Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention (Hyogo Prefecture, Japan)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>⑥ Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (Amur Region, Russia)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⑦ Sub-Committee on Science and Technology (Gyeonggi-do Province, Republic of Korea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Tue) Sept. 2nd</td>
<td>10:20-10:30</td>
<td>Tea Time (Heads of Delegation signing Beautiful Garden of Northeast Asia board)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:00</td>
<td>General Assembly 4: Member Regional Government Remarks and Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1) Vice Governor of Henan Province; 2) Vice Governor of Hyogo Prefecture; 3) Lieutenant Governor of Administrative Affairs of Gyeongbuk-do Province; 4) Governor of Urukkhongai Province; 5) Vice Governor of Altay Territory; 6) Vice Governor of Hubei Province; Lieutenant Governor of Administrative Affairs of Jeollanam-do Province; 8) Uvs Province; 9) Vice Governor of Hunan Province; 10) Vice Governor of Dongnong Province; 11) Vice Minister of Heilongjiang Province; 12) Governor’s Aide/Secretary of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00-14:00</td>
<td>Luncheon and Break (Venue: Multipurpose Room, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td>14:00-16:10</td>
<td>General Assembly 5: Introduction of the Agenda, Discussion, Voting</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(1) Application to hold 2010 General Assembly (Gyeonggi-do Province, Republic of Korea); Acceptance Speech from Gyeonggi-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(2) Application to host the Secretariat (Gyeongsangbuk-do, Republic of Korea); Acceptance Speech from Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(3) Application to establish Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and to take charge of its coordinator (Shandong Province, China)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(4) Application to establish Sub-Committee on Tourism and to take charge of its coordinator (Henan Province, China)</td>
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<td>(5) Proposal to Introduce NEAR membership fees (Khakassian Territory, Russia)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(6) Membership Application (NEAR Secretariat): Guangzhou Metropolitan City, Daegon Metropolitan City, Incheon Metropolitan City, Megadon Region, Incheon Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Conference Schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Tue) Sept. 2nd</td>
<td>16:00 ~ 16:50</td>
<td>Tea Time (Drafting and Translation of NEAR Declaration)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:50 ~ 17:20</td>
<td>General Assembly 6: Discussion and Deliberation of NEAR Declaration</td>
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<td>17:20 ~ 17:30</td>
<td>General Assembly 7: Unanimous agreement on NEAR Declaration, Closing Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18:00 ~ 19:15</td>
<td>Banquet (Leaders of Shandong Province invited the heads of delegations by country)</td>
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<td>(1) Acting Governor Jiang Daming welcomes the head of Korean delegation to banquet (Venue: Banquet Hall 1, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td>(2) Invitation Banquet– Vice Secretary Liu Wei, President Chen Haosu (Venue: Center Banquet Hall, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td>(3) Vice Governor Wang Renwei invites the head of Chinese delegation to banquet (Venue: Banquet Hall 5, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td>(4) Vice Governor Wang Junmin invites the head of Russian delegation to banquet (Venue: Banquet Hall 3, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td>(5) Vice Acting Governor Cai Limin invites the head of Japanese delegation to banquet (Venue: Banquet Hall 2, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td>(6) Vice Acting Governor Jia Wanzhi invites the head of Mongolian delegation to banquet (Venue: Qilu Circle, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>19:30 ~ 19:50</td>
<td>Departure to watch artistic performance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20:00 ~ 21:30</td>
<td>View artistic performance (Venue: People’s Hall of Zhengzhou Quan)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Night time Staying one night at Shandong Hotel, Jinan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Wed) Sept. 3rd</td>
<td>07:00-07:50</td>
<td>Breakfast (Venue: Multipurpose Room, Shandong Hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>08:20</td>
<td>Departure to Exhibition Hall holding Green Industry Exhibition (Venue: Jinan International Convention and Exhibition Center)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Attending the Opening Ceremony of the 3rd International Exhibition on Green Industry and Northeast Asia Environmental Protection Industry Fair</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Inspection Tour (Mount Tai Shan and Qufu)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30 ~ 12:00</td>
<td>Departure to Mount Tai Shan: Mount Tai Shan Course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 ~ 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch in Tai Shan City</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13:00 ~ 16:00</td>
<td>Climbing Mount Tai Shan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00 ~ 17:30</td>
<td>Return to Jinan City</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-13:00</td>
<td>Departure to Qufu – Qufu Course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch in Qufu City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14:00-15:30</td>
<td>Inspection Tour: Temple of Confucius (Kong Miao), Temple and Cemetery of Confucius (Kong Lin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15:30-17:30</td>
<td>Return to Jinan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19:00</td>
<td>Farewell Banquet hosted by Jinan Municipal People’s Government (Venue: Sofitel Hotel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Thu) Sept. 4th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Night Time Staying one night at Shandong Hotel, Jinan City</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Delegation Departure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(C) Proceeding of the Conference

1) Call to Order (Vice Acting Governor Cai Limin of Shandong Province)
   - With active support from the member regional governments of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments and the NEAR secretariat, the 7th NEAR assembly is held. Honored to host the meeting, introduces the participating delegations

2) Keynote Speech (Governor Jiang Daming of Shandong Province)
   - Suggestions
     1. Innovate the content of cooperation
     - Suggests the complete promotion of broader and more advanced cooperation in wider areas such as ocean and fishery, tourism, agriculture, energy conservation, underground resources, logistics, sports, medicine, youth and women
     2. Innovate the format of cooperation
     - Introduction of a novel format more suitable to the demand of the regional government when holding various NEAR events
     3. Innovate the operational method of Sub-Committees
     - In-depth discussion and research on related regulations such as establishment and discontinuation of Sub-Committees and term of office of coordinator

3) Congratulatory Address (President Chen Haosu of Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC))
   - The meaning of cooperation in Northeast Asia has become larger in this 21st century, and Northeast Asia is playing a positive role in international cooperation at the global stage.
   - Believes that Northeast Asian countries will unite and promote development of the world in the future.
   - Cooperation in Northeast Asia will bring enormous benefit to the whole world and a bright future.

4) Progress Report on Major Activities of NEAR
   A) Progress Report of Sub-Committee (Director-General Zhang Weimin of Foreign Affairs Office of Shandong Province)
      - Report on the result of the 6th Working Committee meeting in 2007
        - Eighty-one people from 31 regional governments of 5 countries participated
        - Held International Cooperation Dialogue of Northeast Asian Regional Governments
        - Presentation on the basic plans of the General Assembly in Shandong
        - Proposes to establish Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and Sub-Committee on Tourism
        - Proposes to introduce NEAR membership fees
        - Gyeonggi-do Province, South Korea applies to hold the 2010 General Assembly
        - Discussion on the agenda to decide the place to hold the next NEAR secretariat
        - Sub-Committee on General Exchange and Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange merged to Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchange
        - Amendment of Regulations on Sub-Committee
   B) Progress Report of Secretariat (Secretary General of the Secretariat)
      - Members extended from 29 regional governments from 4 countries at the time of
establishment to 65 regional governments from 6 countries
○ Continuous maintenance and management of NEAR webpage since its creation
○ Publication and distribution of NEAR news letter in 5 languages to member and non-member regional governments
○ Implementation of NEAR Working Staff Workshop annually from 2006
○ Implementation of secondment of governmental official of the member regional government (one person per country)
○ Establish NEAR White Paper publication project
○ Establishment of NEAR emblem (Passed in the 6th Busan General Assembly)
○ Holding NEAR International Economic Forum from 2007
○ Measures to revitalize the activities of Sub-Committees suggested
○ Operation of International Training Course from 2005
○ Plans to establish Northeast Asia Center for everlasting development and effective operation of the Association

C) Progress report from each Sub-Committee
○ Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea)
  • Report on 2007 NEAR International Economic Forum and Multilateral Trade Fair
    - Presentations under the theme of “Promotion of Economic Cooperation among Northeast Asian Regional Governments” by 10 world-renowned scholars and economists
    - Mutual understanding of the need for interregional economic cooperation in Northeast Asia and seek constructive approach
  • Requests participation in the North East Asia Business Promotion Conference and Multilateral Trade Fair scheduled for September, 2009
○ Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange (Shimane Prefecture, Japan)
  • Report of the results on hosting the youth exchange project
    - Participants (6 regional governments from 3 countries)
    - Sports exchange, making traditional sweets, cultural exchange, etc.
  • Report on the result of hosting the “North East Asia Internatal Culture Palette”
    - Invited Russian girls’ folk song chorus group and others to perform
    - Plans to invite dancers and singers from Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region this November
  • Will continue to act as the coordinator of the Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchange (Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange and Sub-Committee on General Exchange integrated)
○ Sub-Committee on Environment (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
  • Report on the result of hosting the 6th Sub-Committee on Environment
    - Report on the environmental status and tasks of each regional government
    - Status report on the implementation of individual projects for 2007
    - Proposal of individual projects for 2008
  • Toyama prefecture elected as the coordinator
○ Sub-Committee on General Exchange (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
  • Performance report for 2007 and plans for 2008
    - Coordinator for International Relations offered lectures on lifestyle, culture, and customs of each country to citizens
5) Heads of Delegates – Speeches and Proposals

[Vice Governor of Henan Province]

- Hosted the 1st World Festival of Children’s Theatre
- Has served as the coordinator of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange for 11 years and plans to participate continuously in the integrated educational and cultural Sub-Committee as the vice coordinator
  - Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention (Hyogo Prefecture, Japan)
    - Report on the result of hosting the 6th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention in 2008
    - Participants (33 persons from 17 regional governments)
    - Case report by each regional government
      - Hyogo Environmental Exhibition and Hyogo Kko Green Garden Promotion Project
      - Measures to improve environmental monitoring in Khabarovsk territory
      - Estimation and Management system of earthquake damages in China (Hubei Province, China)
      - 119 Surf Rescue activities, operations and policies (Gyeonggi-do Province, South Korea)
    - Requests many member regional governments to participate in the 7th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention held in March, 2009
  - Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (Amur Region, Russia: read by the Secretariat)
    - Introduction on cooperation with Chinese member regional governments located on the border between China and Russia
  - Sub-Committee on Science and Technology (Gyeonggi-do Province, Republic of Korea)
    - Report on the result of hosting the 1st Sub-Committee on Science and Technology in 2007
    - Presentation on the status of science and technology development and the cooperation measures for international exchange among participating regional governments
    - Adoption of the agreement
      - Cooperation in information exchange on policies to mutually support and foster outstanding science and technology
      - Hosting the Sub-Committee biennially and making efforts to encourage participation and cooperation from the private sector
    - Plans to concurrently host the 2nd Sub-Committee on Science and Technology and the 7th Working Committee in 2009

5) Heads of Delegates – Speeches and Proposals

[Vice Governor of Henan Province]

- Henan province has been transforming from agricultural into industrial, economic, and cultural province
- Out of 5000 years of Chinese history, Henan province has been the political, economic and cultural center of China for 3000 years, and possess rich cultural and tourism resources
- Will provide a realistic platform for the tourism industry of the member regional governments to realize mutual benefits if it becomes the coordinator of the Sub-Committee on Tourism.
[Vice Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, Japan]
• Introduction of the plans to host the 7th Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention in 2009
  – Presentation on the severe continental earthquake by the regional government officials from Sichuan province, China
  – Examined the importance of rescue efforts through private–public coordination
  – Various experience–type learning and training, etc.
• Requests the member regional governments to actively participate in the 2009 Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention

[Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
• Requests the member regional governments to actively participate and show interest in the 10th Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Ramsar Convention held from October 28th to November 4th, 2008
• Suggestions
  – Take turns to serve as the coordinator of each Sub–Committee on a 3–year cycle
  – Come up with measures to receive more membership registration since only the regional governments wishing to take part register for the Sub–Committee up to now
  – Applies for the coordinator of the Sub–Committee on Environment
  – Holding annually the seminar on outstanding administrative policies of the regional governments

[Governor of Uvurkhangai Province, Mongolia]
• Requests for a comprehensive tourism plan and visits from the member regional governments
• Suggestions
  – The member regional governments shall inform the Secretariat of their desired field of cooperation and the Secretariat manages and coordinates requests on the desired field of cooperation of each member regional government

[Vice Governor of Altai Territory, Russia]
• Hopes the impacts of the economic development on the environment to be addressed within the framework of NEAR

[Vice Governor of Hubei Province]
• Expanded opening–up and system reform in response to the central government–run development strategy in the central parts of China; requested the member regional governments to visit Hubei province
• Suggestions
  – Establishment of 6 branches or liaison organs per country
  – Extension of the scope of exchange
  – Holding large–scale multilateral exchange and cooperation fairs
  – Strengthening exchange of information through newsletters and networks

[Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Jeollanam-do Province]
• Proposes as part of the exchange cooperation in agriculture the joint research on the level of the Association and establishment of the agricultural Sub–Committee

[Governor of Uvs Province, Mongolia]
• Suggestions
  – Suggests regional governments to strengthen cooperation by each member
exhibiting comparative advantage

[Vice Governor of Hunan Province]
- China’s National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) designated the province as the trial area for comprehensive reform of building a “resource-conserving and environmentally-friendly society.” Requests the member regional governments for support and help.
- Suggestions
  - Hopes for each regional government in Northeast Asia to take interest in Hunan province building “Two-Oriented” society and share experiences valuable to constructing such society
  - Strengthening cooperation in science, culture, and education
  - Enhancing human exchange

[Vice Governor of Dornod Province, Mongolia]
- Requests active participation of the member regional governments in the international events such as product expos in Mongolia, Russia, and China
- Suggestions/Proposals
  - Revitalizing trade and economic cooperation among the member regional governments
  - Understanding and adopting advantages of other international organizations
  - Presenting successful cases form all fields including international exchange, economy, and culture at the meeting of Working Committee

[Vice Chairman of the Heilongjiang Provincial Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC)]
- Exchanges and cooperation are actively taking place at the stage of “NEAR”
- Ice and snow tours, ecotourism, and territory tourism of the province are the largest in China. Requests the member regional governments to actively participate.
- Rich in coal, petroleum, and agricultural resources. Requests active participation, exchange and cooperation of the member regional governments

[Assistant to the Governor of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region]
- Has been holding youth exchange events since 2002 and requests the member regional governments to take interest and active participation
- Requests the member regional governments to participate in the 50th anniversary celebration of the establishment of the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region

6) Agenda Items of the General Assembly and Discussion
A) Application to host the 8th General Assembly of NEAR in 2010 (Vice Governor of Gyeonggi-do Province)
- Application to host the 8th General Assembly of NEAR in 2010
  - Has been actively participating as a founding member since 1996
  - Has shown the capacity for holding international conferences by successfully hosting the 1st Sub-Committee on Science and Technology of NEAR in July 2007.
  - Possesses infrastructure to host international conferences.
- Discussion and Voting
  - No other members presented their opinions and hence the application of Gyeonggi-do province to hold the 2010 General Assembly was passed by a show of hands,
○ Appreciation remarks (Vice Governor of Gyeonggi-do Province)
  • Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for their support on the province to hold the 2010 General Assembly.
  • Plans to host both the working committee and the 2nd Sub-Committee on Science and Technologyin the second half of 2009 and requests active interest and participation of the member regional governments.

B) Proposal to serve consecutive terms of NEAR Secretariat (Ambassador and Advisor for International Relations of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
○ Proposal to serve consecutive terms of NEAR Secretariat
  • The 5th General Assembly in 2004 decided to place the secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. The secretariat was established and officially started operation in Pohang, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, in May 2005.
  • Established institutional foundation for stable operation of the secretariat.
  • Proposed Gyeongsangbuk-do province to serve consecutive terms for the continuous promotion and systematic operation of the secretariat-run projects and stable development of NEAR.

○ Discussion and voting
  • No other members presented their opinions and hence Gyeongsangbuk-do province was decided to hold the next secretariat of NEAR by a show of hands.

○ Thank-you Remarks (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
  • Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for their support.
  • Suggestions

7) Institutionalization of the permanent secretariat
○ It is advisable to establish the permanent secretariat in one place to enhance the function of NEAR.

A) Application to establish the Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and to serve as the coordinator (Deputy Director of Shandong Ocean and Fishery Bureau)
○ Introducing the importance of the ocean and fishery development in the Northeast Asian region.

○ Basic Plans
  • Academic exchange by holding science and technology forums.
  • Holding seminars on ocean and fishery management under the theme of ocean development and protection.
  • Promoting trade activities and cooperation by holding business trade fair.

○ Discussion and Voting
  • No other members presented their opinions and hence the application of Shandong province was passed by a show of hands to establish the Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and to serve as the coordinator.

B) Application to establish the Sub-Committee on Tourism and to serve as the coordinator (Director of Tourism Bureau of Henan Province)
○ To provide a platform for realistic cooperation among the member regional governments by holding tourism exhibitions, promotional events, and tourism cooperation forums.

○ To Implement and mediate tourism exchanges and cooperation of the member
Discussion and Voting

- No other members presented their opinions and hence the application of Henan province was passed by a show of hands to establish the Sub-Committee on Tourism and to serve as the coordinator.

C) Proposal to introduce NEAR membership fees (Advisor of the Khabarovsky Krai Governor on International Relations, Russia)

- Suggested the membership fees to reduce the financial burden of the host of NEAR events and for the NEAR member to perform the NEAR activities in a responsible way.

- Basic Plans
  - Estimation of membership fees: Must secure accuracy and fairness
  - Proposal on the methods of estimating membership fees, the scope and use of membership fees, imanagement of residual fees
  - Wishes this General Assembly to vote on the membership fees
  - It is necessary to revise the NEAR Charter when deciding to introduce the membership fees. Must form a committee of the member regional governments and discuss the calculation method and the usage of the fees.

Discussion and Voting

[Vice Governor of Hyogo Prefecture]

- The introduction of the membership fees is the most basic matter of NEAR and therefore NEAR shall engage in more in-depth discussion and conduct a thorough research and review to gain understanding and participation of all the members.
- More in-depth discussion is required on the rationality, content, time and necessity of introduction of the budget of events that use the membership fees
- Shall establish a sub-committee for the introduction of the membership fees and discuss the points mentioned above and other issues including whether to introduce the membership fees.

[Vice Governor of Shimane Prefecture]

- Shall consider once more whether it is necessary to introduce the membership fees before discussing whether to introduce the fees.
- The NEAR secretariat must form an expert committee to discuss on the amount of the fees and other related matters and produce the final report
- The General Assembly must vote whether to introduce the membership fees based on this report.

[Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Toyama Prefecture]

- First, whether to introduce the membership fees must be clearly decided.
- Division of cost of the membership fees is not a simple matter.
- An expert committee on the introduction of the membership fees must discuss on the issues including the usage, amount, and division of membership fees.

[Chairperson (Vice Governor of Shandong Province)]

- Introducing the membership fees is meaningful in terms of sustainable development. However, the member countries all take different views as of now and therefore have not reached a complete agreement. Hence, it is proposed that
the NEAR secretariat forms a special committee to discuss in-depth the validity and detailed measures on introducing the membership fees and then introduce the matter to the next Working Committee conference to discuss and decide

- This proposal was passed,

D) New NEAR Membership Applications (Director of Planning and General Affairs of the NEAR Secretariat)

○ South Korea(4) : Incheon Metropolitan City, Daejeon Metropolitan City, Gwangju Metropolitan City, Ulsan Metropolitan City
○ Russia(1) : Magadan Region

- Discussion and Voting
  - No other members presented their opinions and hence the new membership applications were passed by a show of hands.

○ Appreciation Remarks (Vice Mayor of Gwangju Metropolitan City)
  - Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for support
  - Will faithfully fulfill the responsibility as a NEAR member to contribute to the development of Northeast Asia

○ Appreciation Remarks (Vice Mayor of Daejeon Metropolitan City)
  - Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for support.
  - Requests the member regional governments of their interest and participation in the 2009 International Astronautical Congress (IAC) and 2010 International Association of Science Parks (IASP) General Assembly

○ Appreciation Remarks (Director of International Cooperation Department of Ulsan Metropolitan City)
  - Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for support.
  - Will faithfully fulfill the responsibility as a NEAR member to contribute to the development of Northeast Asia

○ Appreciation Remarks (Diplomatic Advisor of Magadan Region)
  - Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for support.
  - Magadan is rich in mine resources, possesses well-established infrastructure and provides benefits to investors
  - Will actively and faithfully fulfill the duties to create the environment for the members of NEAR to mutually cooperate

○ Appreciation Remarks (Mayor of Incheon Metropolitan City)
  - Extends gratitude to the member regional governments for support.
  - Requests the member regional governments to actively support and participate in the Global Fair and Festival 2009

(C) Summary of the Decisions

1) Decided Gyeonggi-do province, Republic of Korea, would hold the 8th General Assembly in 2010
2) Decided to keep the NEAR secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do, Republic of Korea, for the next four(4) years until September 2012
3) Approved the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and decided that Shandong province will be its coordinator
4) Approved the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Tourism and decided that
Henan province will be its coordinator.

5) Decided to entrust the NEAR secretariat with the NEAR membership fees to form a special committee on membership fees by receiving one (1) representative from each member regional government per country, discuss the details of the matter, introduce it to the next working committee conference for discussion and then decide in the General Assembly.

6) Agrees to accept as new members five (5) regional governments including Incheon Metropolitan City, Daejeon Metropolitan City, Gwangju Metropolitan City, and Ulsan Metropolitan City from the Republic of Korea and Magadan Region from the Russian Federation.

The Agreement(Statement)

〈 Shandong Declaration 〉

The 7th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

The forty member regional governments from five countries such as the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, and Russian Federation participating in the 7th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments held in Shandong province, People’s Republic of China, from September 1st to September 4th, 2008, declare to put joint efforts in opening the new era of peace and prosperity in Northeast Asia on the basis of the following mutual understanding:

Since its foundation in 1996 to promote mutual prosperity through enhanced interregional exchange, the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments has taken up the challenge of the era of globalization and has achieved remarkable accomplishments by implementing exchange and cooperation projects in various fields such as economy, environment, culture, disaster prevention, territorial cooperation, science and technology.

Based on such accomplishment, this Shandong General Assembly engaged in broad discussion on the construction of united Northeast Asia through trust, reciprocity, and coexistence among the member regional governments under the theme “Towards mutual prosperity through innovative cooperation,” and enhanced NEAR to be more attractive and influential. The General Assembly agrees that NEAR will play an important role in building peaceful and prosperous Northeast Asia and declares the following:

1. The Association shall build harmonious Northeast Asia sharing trust, reciprocity and coexistence through mutual support, cooperation and active participation among the member regional governments.

2. The Association shall strive for the joint development of Northeast Asia through realistic and continuous exchange and cooperation by building human, material, and information network.

3. The Association shall put efforts in creating Northeast Asia that welcomes the participation of not only the member regional governments but also the non-member regional governments for mutual peace and prosperity.

4. The Association shall make concerted efforts to realize sustainable development such
as implementation of eco-friendly policies to actively respond to the global environmental problems to reduce the occurrence and damage of yellow dust and to plan measures to counteract global warming.

5. This General Assembly held in-depth discussion on the proposed items on the agenda for mutual prosperity of Northeast Asia and development of the Association/NEAR and has agreed on the following items:

○ The 8th General Assembly in 2010 shall be held by Gyeonggi-do province, Republic of Korea.

○ The NEAR Secretariat shall be placed in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Republic of Korea, for an extended term by September 2012.

○ The General Assembly shall approve the establishment of the “Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery” proposed by Shandong province, People’s Republic of China, and designate Shandong province as its coordinator.

○ The General Assembly shall approve the establishment of the “Sub-Committee on Tourism” proposed by Henan province, People’s Republic of China, and designate Henan province as its coordinator.

○ The NEAR membership fees shall be entrusted to the NEAR secretariat. One representative of each country will be recommended by member regions and the Secretariat will establish a “Special Committee on Membership Fee System” consisting of those recommended to come up with concrete measures on the membership fee system, and will present the agenda for discussion in the next Working Committee Meeting.

○ The General Assembly shall approve the admission of the five (5) regional governments including Incheon Metropolitan City, Daejeon Metropolitan City, Gwangju Metropolitan City, and Ulsan Metropolitan City from the Republic of Korea and Magadan Region from the Russian Federation.

The members of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments shall agree to faithfully implement the above declaration and agreement through mutual cooperation.

September 2nd, 2008

(D) Achievements of the Conference and Tasks

1) Major Achievements

○ Elected the next chair regional government (Gyeonggi-do Province)

○ Decided the host of the secretariat for the next term (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)

○ Decided to establish the Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and designate of its coordinator (Shandong Province)

○ Decided to establish of the Sub-Committee on Tourism and designate of its coordinator (Henan Province)

○ Decided to form a special committee on the membership fees (entrusted to the NEAR secretariat)

○ Approved five (5) new membership applications and expanded the members to 69 regional governments from 6 countries
2) Tasks
- Decided the NEAR secretariat commissioned by the General Assembly would form the “Special Committee on Introduction of Membership Fees” by receiving referral of one (1) representative from each member regional government per country, discuss the detailed measures, and introduce the matter to the next working committee conference for a discussion.

(E) Additional Events
- The 3rd International Exhibition on Green Industry and Northeast Asia Region (NEAR) Environmental Protection Industry Fair

Section 2 The Working Committee

1. Overview
   A. Structure and Operation
      - The Working Committee consists of director–general level senior officials of the member regional governments and the deputy head of the chair regional government serves as the chairperson.
      - The chairperson convenes more than one meeting annually and the outcome of the meeting shall be reported to the General Assembly.
      - Receives the approval from the General Assembly for seamless promotion of individual projects and others and operates by establishing Sub–Committees for each sector.

   B. Function
      - Article 11 of the Charter stipulates six (6) clauses for the function of The Working Committee.
      - To discuss of business plans and individual projects.
      - To examine of annual report and financial report.
      - To coordinate opinions among the member regional governments.
      - To manage matters on the establishment of Sub–Committees (composition, function, operation, etc.).
      - To decide matters delegated by the General Assembly to The Working Committee.
      - Other functions deemed to be necessary.

2. History of Working Committees
   A. The 1st Working Committee
      (1) Background and Purpose
         (A) Background
            - The Working Committee of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, as a meeting convened by the Secretary General more than once annually and hosted by the NEAR secretariat according to the NEAR Charter, conducts the following:
            - Seeks practical cooperation among the member regional governments.
            - The 1997 meeting will hold discussions for each sector including culture, art, economy, trade, and environment focusing on the seven joint tasks adopted in the
1996 inaugural meeting and seek concrete joint projects

**Function of The Working Committee**

1. To decide business plans and individual projects
2. To coordinate opinions among the member regional governments
3. To decide matters delegated by the General Assembly to
   The Working Committee
4. To implement other functions deemed to be necessary
   ▶ The Charter of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
     Chapter 3, section 2

**Purpose**

- To lay the foundation for the Working Committee to be settled as an annual meeting and come up with measures for mutual development of the Association
- To contribute to revitalizing the regional economy by enhancing economic and trade cooperation

**Overview of the Conference**

1) Date: August 27th ~ August 30th, 1997 (This conference: August 28th)
2) Venue: Hyundai Hotel Gyeongju (Diamond Hall)
3) Hosted by: The Secretariat of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
4) Organized by: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Korea
5) Participants: 75 Persons of 26 Regional Governments from 4 Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26 Regional Governments from 4 Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Shandong Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Republic of Buryatia, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Amur Region, Kamchatka Territory, Sakhalin Region</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>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</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6) Invited: The Interregional Association of Economic Cooperation “Far East & Transbaikalia”

7) Theme: Identify practical action projects of NEAR for the Northeast Asian Community
8) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>(Wed) Aug, 27th</th>
<th>(Thu) Aug, 28th</th>
<th>(Fri) Aug, 29th</th>
<th>(Sat) Aug, 30th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
<td>• Welcoming Speech—Chair of NEAR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Congratulatory Address — Chairman of the Gyeongsangbuk-do Provincial Council</td>
<td>• Chairman of the Gyeongsangbuk-do Provincial Council</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Report of Activities — Secretariat</td>
<td>• Report of Activities — Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
<td>• Greetings — Secretary General</td>
<td>• Presentation — Proposed Items on the Agenda (Japan, South Korea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:10</td>
<td>• Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>• Presentation — Proposed Items on the Agenda (China, Russia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30</td>
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<td>• Discussion I (Culture and Art)</td>
<td>• Discussion II (Economy and Trade)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Discussion III (Environment)</td>
<td>• Discussion IV (General Exchange)</td>
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<td>• Report on the plan of the next General Assembly(Toyama Prefecture)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
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<td>• Summary &amp; Presentation — Outcome of the Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>21:00</td>
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<td>• Reception hosted by the NEAR Chair</td>
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(C) Proceeding of the Conference

○ Call to Order(Moderator)
- Welcomes the delegation of the participating member regional governments and distinguished guests
- Emphasizes the significance of the very first conference of The Working Committee since the foundation of the Association
- Expects the Association to grow into a substantial international organization by seeking measures to develop and implementing joint projects

○ Welcoming Speech(Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
- Welcomes the delegation of the participating member regional governments and distinguished guests
- Emphasizes the significance of the very first conference of The Working Committee since the foundation of the Association
- Expects the Association to grow into a substantial international organization by seeking measures to develop and implementing joint projects

○ Congratulatory Address(Chairman of the Gyeongsangbuk-do Provincial Council)
- Congratulates the opening of the 1997 Working Committee of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
- Expects joint action projects to be identified at the level of NEAR
- Close coordination among the Northeast Asian regional governments is necessary in order to lead the era of Northeast Asia in the 21st century

○ Report on the Secretariat Activities(Director General of International Relations Division of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
- Founded the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Gyeongju city in 1996
- Designation of Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
Gyeongsangbuk-do Province as the Secretary General and operation of the Secretariat
- Publication and distribution of the comprehensive result report on the 1996 conference of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
- Publication of the quarterly NEAR News magazine
- Promotion of the establishment of the Northeast Asia center, which will play a pivotal role in exchange and cooperation
- Holding joint performance of folk arts, a pilot project in the field of culture and art
- Sponsored the North-East Pacific Environmental Summit and the Vessel of Exchange in the Northeast Asian Region

○ Greetings from the Secretary General (Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
  • As the chair region since last October, Gyeongsangbuk-do has made efforts for the development of NEAR by facilitating exchange of information, extending exchanges among the members and holding The Working Committee while operating the secretariat
  • Hopes this conference comes up with a practical project for the lasting development of the Northeast Asian community.

○ Greetings from the Coordinator (Coordinator)
  • Expects this conference, the first Working Committee of NEAR ever since its foundation, to bear fruitful results
  • Explanation on the proceedings of the meeting and presentation methods

○ Presentation on the agenda : Delegations from Japan
  [Director General of Department of Planning, Toyama Prefecture]
  • Need to build an environmental cooperation system
  • Measures to preserve marine environment
  [Deputy Director-General of the Department of Planning and Environment, Kyoto Prefecture]
  • Exchange activities through academic forums
  • Global environmental problems
  [Director General of International Bureau, Hyogo Prefecture]
  • Exchange of information on disaster prevention and human resources
  • Preservation of water environment
  [Deputy Director-General of the Department of General Affairs, Tottori Prefecture]
  • Strengthening the network among think tanks
  • Need to compile outline information on each participating regional government
  • Expect cooperation and support for the "Sanin Dream/Port Exposition"
  [Director General of the Department of General Affairs, Shimane Prefecture]
  • Establishment of the Northeast Asian Regional Research Center
  • Improve the environment for promoting economic exchange in the Northeast Asian region
  • Environmental networking projects
  • Extends gratitude for supporting the “Vessel of Exchange of the Northeast Asian Region” project

○ Presentation on the agenda : Delegations from Korea
[Director of the Department of Trade Cooperation, Gangwon-do Province]
- Establishment of the cooperation system to dispatch trade promotion team among regional governments
- Opening joint exhibitions

[Officer of the Department of International Cooperation, Chungcheongbuk-do Province]
- Creation of the “Forest of Life” to sustain and manage clean air and water
- Protection and management of mountain valley water

[Director General of Health and Environment Bureau, Chungcheongnam-do Province]
- Develop and choose environmental themes
- Group research and sharing the research results among regional governments

[Director General of Economy and Trade Bureau, Jeollanam-do Province]
- Expects exchange and cooperation on the issue of environmental preservation

[Director General of International Relations Division, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- Expects cooperation for the 1998 Gyeongju World Culture Expo
- Co-hosting North East Asia Business Promotion Conference
- Joint response to the air pollution problem
- Co-hosting youth table tennis competition

[Director of International Relations Division, Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- Requests cooperation in holding the Gyeongsangnam-do International Machinery Expo
- Establishment of the interregional information sharing system

[Director of Trade Cooperation Division, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province]
- Joint promotion of the “tourism agent exchange project”

○ Presentation on the agenda: Delegations from China

[Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Office, Henan Province]
- Expects to build the economy of Henan and to engage in economic exchange and cooperation among member regional governments

[Director of Foreign Affairs Office, Shandong Province]
- Enhancing cooperation through information sharing among the regional governments
- Holding Qingdao Economic and Trade Fair
- Promotion of joint research on Confucian and Mencian philosophies

[Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Office, Heilongjiang Province]
- Introduction to the investment conditions of Heilongjiang province
- Expects investment cooperation of the member regional governments

○ Presentation on the agenda: Delegations from Russia

[Vice Chairman of Economic Committee, Sakhalin Region]
- Proposal of capital investment for economic development of Sakhalin region
- Expects to establish sisterly ties with Korean and Chinese cities
- Strengthening interregional and international cooperation for environmental preservation

[Director General of International Economic Cooperation and Tourism Bureau, Kamchatka Territory]
- Tourism development of Kamchatka territory
• Safety measures against natural disasters
• Invite member regions to the investment project of Kamchatka territory

[Vice Governor of Amur Region]
• Proposal of investment into bean processing business and energy sector of Amur region

[Deputy Chief of the Presidential Administrative Office, Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)]
• Introduction to the investment climate of the Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)
• Need for the interregional economic cooperation

[First Vice Minister, Ministry of Economy, Republic of Buryatia]
• Introduction to the resources and the investment climate of the Republic of Buryatia
• Introduction to various investment projects and suggestion of cooperation measures

[Director General of Protocol Office, Khabarovsk Territory]
• Need to establish regulations on the NEAR membership fees in the Charter and a fixed location for the NEAR secretariat
• Strengthening cooperation among the member regional governments in the environmental sector
• Promotion of the DPRK joining the Association

[Secretary General of the Association "Far East and Transbaikalia"]
• Regarding the direction of the operation of the Association
  – Suggests examining the membership fees and the issue of permanent location for the secretariat
  – Establishment of project research team to promote the seven joint projects
  – Proposes to establish a council of businessmen and scholars and to hold a business forum
  – Establish information exchange network and broadcasting NEAR TV program

○ Summary of Proposals (Coordinator)
• To summarize the proposals suggested by delegates from each regional government:
  – Japan made proposals on the issue of environment and exchange
  – China and Russia made proposals on the relationship of economic cooperation
  – South Korea made proposals on environment, economy, and general exchange

○ Discussion on the proposals
[Director General of the Department of Planning, Toyama Prefecture]
• Suggests to discuss separately the events organized by each regional government and the joint projects organized by the Association

[Director General of General Affairs Department, Shimane Prefecture]
• Requests the interest and cooperation of the member regional governments on the establishment of the Far East Asian Regional Center

[Director General of International Relations Division, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
• Regarding the culture and art events
  – Urges the secretariat to actively promote individual events and the member regional governments for their active participation
  – Suggests the regional governments that proposed joint projects to establish and
submit basic plans to the secretariat and the secretariat to publicize them and encourage active participation

[Deputy Director-General of Citizen’s Activity Promotion Division, Fukui Prefecture]
• Suggests to report the details of the business promotion conference and the tourism agent project to the General Assembly and to encourage agreement of the member regional governments
• Proposes the need to collect data and conduct a field survey to promote investment
• Proposes the need to realize information sharing by reporting the organized data to each member regional government.

[Director of International Relations Division, Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
• Agrees with the proposal of Fukui prefecture, provided that the Secretariat puts together and distributes the detailed plans of the projects presented by representatives in each sector to the member regional governments, allows member regional governments to express their views and then selects joint projects

[Director General of the Department of Planning, Toyama Prefecture]
• Agrees with the proposal of Gyeongsangnam-do province, and suggests establishing working group prior to the’ 98 General Assembly
• Suggests the Secretariat to report to the General Assembly the opinions of each regional government collected from the working group

[Director General of Economy and Trade Bureau, Jeollanam-do Province]
• Proposes the secretariat shall categorize and organize the proposed projects into individual projects and NEAR joint projects and distribute to each regional government

[Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)]
• Proposes the need to discuss on the permanent location of the secretariat and the financial issue

[Director General of International Economic Cooperation Bureau, Kamchatka Territory]
• Suggests collecting and distributing information through the NEAR secretariat
[Deputy Chief of the Presidential Administrative Office, Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)]
• Proposes that the secretariat to take the lead in establishing information exchange system among the members such as the Internet

[Director of Foreign Affairs Office, Shandong Province]
• Propose the need to distribute discussion data beforehand
• In case of China, close coordination is needed with the central government

[Secretary General of NEAR]
• Agrees with the selection of the regional government representing each country and the formation of the working group
• Will submit the result report to the’ 98 General Assembly

[Director General of the Department of Planning, Toyama Prefecture]
• Suggests holding the working group in Toyama prefecture

[Secretary General of NEAR]
• The working group shall be held in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, with Gyeongsangbuk-do province, the host of the Secretariat, assuming the responsibility, and shall take into account as much as possible the opinions of
Toyama prefecture preparing for the General Assembly the next year
[Director General of International Bureau, Hyogo Prefecture]
• Agrees with the opinion of the Secretary General of NEAR
• Suggests that it would be desirable for Gyeongsangbuk-do province, the host of the secretariat, to take the lead in operating the working group

[Each Delegation from Russia]
• Proposes the Association “Far East and Transbaikalia” as the Russian representative

[Director General of the Department of Planning, Toyama Prefecture]
• Questions whether the “Far East and Transbaikalia” is qualified to participate in The Working Committee

[Secretary General of NEAR]
• Explains the role of the “Far East and Transbaikalia” up to the foundation of the Association
• The Secretariat respects the opinion of Russia and acknowledges the representative role of the “Far East and Transbaikalia”

[Director General of International Relations Division, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
• Hopes for the working group to discuss more in detail all the agenda proposed at this conference (permanent location for the secretariat, NEAR membership fees, etc.)
• Suggests the working group to be composed of chair –, vice chair regional government and one regional government representing each country

[Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Office, Heilongjiang Province]
• Proposes the secretariat to gather the opinions of each member regional government instead of establishing a working group

[Director General of International Relations Division, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
• Proposes to decide on the time period for selecting representative regional governments to form the working group

[Secretary General of NEAR]
• Summary and Final Remarks
  – Will put efforts to successfully hold the General Assembly next year
  – Promises to make a full effort to operate the working group efficiently so that the opinions of each regional government will be widely accepted.

Agreement

〈Agreement〉

From the People’s Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation, the working–level representatives of the member regional governments of the Association of North East Asian Regional Governments, established for the joint development in the Northeast Asian region and the world peace, came together in Gyeongju city, South Korea in August 28th, 1997 hosting ’97 Working Committee Conference of NEAR.
As the world’s economy is being globalized and being transformed into economic
blocs, the Northeast Asian region is emerging as the center of the world’s economic zone and thus the interregional cooperation is greatly required to seek for the solution for the common problems and issues in the region.

The theme of this meeting was “Search for the Practical Measure of NEAR for the Northeast Asian Community” on the basis of the recognition of the need for the joint development and prosperity of the region in order to face the prosperous 21st century. In this meeting, focusing on the 7 major common tasks proposed at the ’96 Conference of NEAR, the member regional governments engaged in in–depth discussion on the issues in the areas of culture and arts, economy, trade, environment, and others.

As the result, we have come to the following agreement and all of the regional governments agree to make efforts to actively carry out the projects.

1. Concerning the area of culture and art, the member regional governments shall actively participate in and cooperate with forums, expos, exhibitions, and researches,

2. Concerning the area of economy and trade, the members shall cooperate with the development of and investment on the natural resources in Russia and China and shall strengthen the mutual connection by submitting concrete business plans of each regional government to the secretariat for sharing the information to promote the economy and trade exchange.

3. Concerning the area of environment, the members understand the need for the preservation of the environment and shall establish a cooperative system to continuously promote activities such as information exchange, technology exchange, and joint researches among related regional governments.

4. Concerning general exchange, the issues on the operation of NEAR shall be discussed in the working group meeting, consisting of the current secretariat and representing regional governments from each country and be proposed as an item on the agenda of the ’98 General Assembly. Furthermore, the member agree that the regional governments from Far East Russia and Tottori prefecture, Japan shall proceed with the general steps for the regional governments from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Mongolia to join the association during the ’98 General Assembly.

(D) Achievements of the Conference and Tasks

- Major Achievements
  - At the ’97 Working Committee Conference, held on the basis of the Charter of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments established in Gyeongju, Gyeongsangbuk–do province, Korea in 1996, the followings were achieved:
  - Each member regional government proposed about 50 items for active discussion, reflecting increased expectation toward NEAR and this conference was an opportunity to verify the continuous and ceaseless development of NEAR.
  - Especially, concrete projects that the member regional governments shall jointly promote were proposed: Gyeongsangbuk–do province proposed North East Asia Business Promotion Conference, Jeju Special Self–Governing province proposed a joint venture for tourism promotion, and Hyogo prefecture proposed a joint action against disasters.
With efforts of Khabarovsk Territory and Tottori prefecture, the joining of the DPRK and Mongolia to NEAR is being processed successfully so that the crucial role of NEAR for the peace and joint prosperity in the Northeast Asian region is recognized.

Tasks
- For a detailed discussion on the items of the joint projects, the permanent location of the secretariat, suggested by Russia, and financial issues, working Sub-Committee(working group) shall be established consisting the chair regional government, vice-chair regional government, and representative regional governments from each country, and the results of the meeting shall be reported in the General Assembly in Toyama in the next year.

E) Additional Events
- Reception
  - Date: 6–9 pm, August 28th 1997
  - Venue: Roof Garden in Gyeongju Hotel Hyundai
  - Participants: 100 participants
  - Style: Standing buffet(dishes from four countries)
  - Schedule
    - 17 pm opening and introduction of the guests
    - 7:10 pm Welcoming address (Secretary general of NEAR)
    - 7:25 pm Address (Director of the Department of Planning, Toyama Prefecture, the host of the next General Assembly)
    - 7:35 pm Conversation and dinner
    - 9:00 pm Closing
- Industry Inspection and Tour
  - Date: 9:00 am ~ 12:40 pm, August 29th 1997
  - Participants: all participant of the conference
  - Course: Museums in Gyeongju including Seokguram grotto, and Bulguksa temple and places that participants desire to visit

B. The 2nd Working Committee
(1) Background and Purpose
The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments was established in 1996 to promote exchange and cooperation among regional governments from countries in the Northeast Asian region.

This Working Committee is a conference of director general-level executives and is held to discuss and exchange opinions on strengthening the base of NEAR and promoting more active exchange and cooperation in the Northeast Asian region. Sub-Committee on Environment and Sub-Committee on General Exchange are also held.

(2) Overview of the conference
(A) Date: (Wed) July 14th ~ (Thu) July 15th, 1999
(B) Venue: Toyama Dai-ichi Hotel
(C) Host: Toyama prefecture, Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
(D) Participants: 25 regional governments from 5 countries
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Jilin Province, Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Republic of Buryatia, Khabarovsk Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Observers (2): Korea Local Authorities Foundation for International Relations, The Association “Far East and Transbaikalia”)

(E) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| (Thu) July 15\(^{th}\) | 9:30   | Opening Ceremony  
   • Opening Address— Yutaka Nakaoki, Governor of ToYama prefecture (Chairman)  
   | 9:50   | Report on Activities of Sub-Committee  
   ① Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade – Chang-hyun Cho, Director of Economy and Trade Bureau, Gyeongsangbuk-do province  
   ② Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee – Takanori Kasaki, Director of International Division, Shimane prefecture  
   ③ Sub-Committee on Environment – Hirotao Tachikawa, Director of Environmental Policy Division, Toyama prefecture  
   ④ Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention Takashi Takami, Sectional Chief of Disaster Prevention Planning Division, Hyogo prefecture  
   ⑤ Sub-Committee on General Exchange – Kansuke Shimada, Director of Japan Sea region Policy Division, Toyama prefecture  
   | Lunch  | Concerning the Reasonable and Efficient Operation: Issues of Expense Coverage— Eiji Kanda Director of planning and international affair, Hyogo prefecture  
   | 14:00  | Concerning the Establishment of Registration Guideline for the NEAR-Supporting Organizations: Kansuke Shimada, Director of Japan Sea region Policy Division, Toyama prefecture  
   | 14:40  | Concerning the establishment of Russia Branch of the Secretariat: Kansuke Shimada, Director of Japan Sea region Policy Division, Toyama prefecture  
   | 14:50  | Concerning the General Assembly in 2000: Key Points— Eiji Kanda, Director of planning and international affair, Hyogo prefecture  
   | 14:55  | Concerning NEAR21 (North East Asia Economy Exchange Expo)  
   Kenzo Haji, Director of Tourism and Trade Division, Toyama prefecture  
   | 15:30  | Agreement  
   | 16:00  | Closing  

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Proceedings of the Conference

Report I – Report on Activities of Sub-Committees

[Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade]
- Members of Economy and Trade Sub-Committee: 21 organizations from 4 countries: Korea, China, Japan, and Russia
- Published a pandect of NEAR that contains the economic status of member organizations and trade information. Sent it to each regional government.
- Participated in Harbin International Economy and Trade Fair in Heilongjiang province, China to promote Soy Exhibition in Amur region and NEAR21 (North East Asia Economy Exchange Expo), which will be held in Toyama prefecture this year.
- Arranged suggestions from general assemblies and working committees such as the trade exchange through e-commerce and the networking of economy research centers.
- At the next Sub-Committee conference in September, cooperation measures for trade-related projects such as exhibitions will be discussed. Hopes the guidelines of Sub-Committee on Economy and Tradewill be adopted.

[Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange]
- In the middle of April, announced the activity schedule to member regional governments and arranged suggestions
  - Kyoto prefecture suggested: promotion of exchange through studies and researches
  - Shandong province suggested: participation in the preparation of construction of Confucius Research Center in China
  - Shimane prefecture suggested: establishment of Northeast Asian Region Research Center
- Concerning the suggestions listed above, Cultural Exchange Committee are collecting opinions from the regional governments participating in the Sub-Committee and shall decide on the direction of the activities by consulting the participating regional governments as soon as the responses are collected and arranged.

[Sub-Committee on Environment]
- Discussion on the measures to promote the environmental cooperation such as the questionnaire for individual projects and the future schedule.
- Based on the consented questionnaire, the Sub-Committee plans to collect suggestions on each project and to question the intention of members to participate by the beginning of 2000. The intention to participate shall be asked to not only regional governments in the Sub-Committee on Environment but also to other regional governments. The questionnaire shall be sent to 34 members of NEAR in total.

[Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention]
- There were suggestions such as monitoring to reduce damage from natural disaster, dispatching rescue teams mutually, and training mutually in training institutes of each member.
- Hyogo prefecture as the coordinator is reviewing the following two projects:
  - A project to actively share the experience and lessons learned from the Great Hanshin earthquake.
- Human exchange for disaster prevention

[Sub-Committee on General Exchange]

- Based on the achievement from the fostering human resources project supporting exchanges in the Northeast Asian region (NEAR Vessel of Exchange), through the Sub-Committee on General Exchange, information on the exchange projects of each regional government will be exchanged and the members will actively participate when possible.
- Strengthening the Association of Research Institutes
  - Promote the establishment of websites for the research institutes and the linkage to the NEAR website, supporting information exchange among the research institutes in the Northeast Asian region.
  - Will have discussion on detailed measures for hosting an information exchange forum among research institutes and for a joint research support.
- Reviewed hosting Northeast Asia Women’s Conference

○ Opinions of Each Regional Government Concerning the Reports from Sub-Committees

[Khabarovsk Territory]
- Suggested hosting a seminar with the theme of Transport Corridors from Northeast Asia to Europe to review projects concerning the detailed transportation relationship of the regions.
- Suggested establishment of a working group consisting of the representatives from research institutes of NEAR to promote exchange among research institutes. Suggested a report on the establishment of Economy Cooperation Zone in Northeast Asia to be prepared and presented in the next General Assembly.

[Chungcheongbuk-do Province]
- Suggested when hosting the General Assembly, the host regional government will also host a Industrial Exhibition or an Investment Fair and establish a Trade Office (establish a kiosk) to promote trade.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- Suggested simultaneously hosting Industrial Exhibition when the General Assembly is held in every second year
- Difficult to decide on the establishment of Trade Office right away because of the issues on the location and expenses.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- Distribute a brochure containing the new events of each country to each regional government

[Republic of Buryatia]
- Exchange of information on the products and services of each regional government of NEAR

○ Agenda I – Concerning the Reasonable and Efficient Operation of NEAR: Issues of Expense Coverage (Proposed by Hyogo prefecture)
- Thinks that the reason there is no regional government willing to host the 2000
General Assembly is currently due to the great financial burden of hosting regional government. Reducing the hosting expenses and re-examining the operation system to allow more regional governments to host the conference is desirable for the continuous development of NEAR.

- Suggestion based on the current Charter of NEAR
  - In clause 1, Article 15 of the Charter, the hosting expenses and the operating cost of the secretariat is to be covered by the membership fees of member regional governments and by miscellaneous incomes. Also, in clause 2, Article 2, as a temporary measure, the hosting expenses for the General Assembly and Working Committee are to be covered by the hosting regional government.
  - To reduce the burden on the hosting regional government, Hyogo prefecture suggested clarification of the extent of the expense coverage by the hosting government and simplification of the burden in general

- Suggestion on the Revision of the Charter
  - Concerning the reasonable and effective operation in general, including the issues of the secretariat system and membership fees, with consideration of the status of activities of Sub-Committees and of individual projects of each regional government, the need for continuous revision of the Charter is recognized.
  - Thinks it is required to reorganize the financial base of NEAR by introducing a concept of membership fees and share of conference hosting expense referring back to the principle of on clause 1, Article 15 for the development and stable operation of NEAR, although in clause 2, Article 15 of the Charter mentions “temporarily not collecting membership fees”.

Reasonable and Effective Operation Regarding the Expense and Other Issues (Draft)

Proposing regional government: Hyogo Prefecture

1. On covering the expense of holding the conference

   The basic principle on the regional government covering the expense of holding the General Assembly or The Working Committee prescribed in subclause 2 of clause 2 of Article 15 of the Charter of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments states the following:

1. The expense of the following items shall be covered by the hosting regional government.
   ① Expense on securing the conference hall
   ② Expense on conference interpretation
     • The conference interpretation shall in principle be simultaneous interpretation offered in four languages of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Russian.
   ③ Expense on producing data for conference
     • The data for conference shall in principle be produced in the aforementioned four languages. However, the data that is not directly related to the conference shall not be subject to the aforementioned principle.
4. Office expense required to operate other conferences
5. Expense on other events held by the host regional government based on the suggestion made beforehand that the host regional government would cover the cost

2. The implementation of the following items may be covered by the host regional government or by the membership fees (participation is arbitrary) in the case of arbitrary implementation by the host regional government.
   ① Reception
   ② Inspection

3. Expenses other than the following item 1 or 2 shall be covered by the participating regional governments. However, in the case of the proposal to the effect that the host regional government will cover all the cost, this regulation does not apply.
   ① Transportation cost such as expenses for travelling abroad (except when the transportation support is provided within the host regional government)
   ② Sojourn expense such as accommodation

II. Regarding the continuation of examination on the reasonable and effective operation
As the projects of each regional government in the future are predicted to be more active along with the suggestion of establishing the permanent branch by Russian regional government and the establishment of Sub-Committee, the reasonable and effective operation of NEAR including the Secretariat system and membership fee shall be continuously examined in the future by taking into consideration the status of the activities of Sub-Committees, individual projects of each regional government, and the activities of branch.

- Major suggestions from each regional government
  [Khabarovsk Territory]
  - Russia proposes the introduction of membership fees in 1997. Thinks that the close of the secretariat can be covered with the introduction of even the small amount of membership fees, and the secretariat must function as a permanent organization. Cannot comment on the amount at this meeting but such approach seems to be extremely fair.
  - Thinks that the current situation where there is no membership fees and the cost of holding a conference is entirely covered by the host member regional government will be a stumbling block to the future progress of NEAR.
  [Fukuoka Prefecture]
  - Requests to check once more the reason why the membership fees have not been collected.
  [Toyama Prefecture (the Chair)]
  - Since the matter was not readily concluded due to the great difference of economic standard and price, there was no phrase that stated the membership fees would not be collected for some time. However, Gyeongsangbuk-do province showed great enthusiasm in making the 1st General Assembly successful by any means so the conference reached an agreement to add a phrase that states the cost shall be
covered by the hosting regional government.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
• Today, discussion is required as the first step to manage the issue of sojourn expense

[Jeollanam-do Province]
• Agrees with the spirit of the Association but let this issue of collecting membership fees discussed at the working level first and then at the Head-of-Government level in the next General Assembly

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
• Supports Hyogo prefecture covering the sojourn expense of two people and simplifying reception and inspection in the Hyogo General Assembly held next year
• Thinks the host regional governments up to now, such as Shimane prefecture, Hyogo prefecture Khabarovsk territory, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, and Toyama prefecture, possess practical knowledge on this issue. As a necessary procedures, the host regional governments should discuss a little the issue of membership fees and pass down such knowledge to the next hosts. Supports the establishment of a permanent secretariat

[Toyama Prefecture (the Chair)]—Summary
• It is advisable to have an official discussion in the General Assembly and there has been some suggestions that summarizing up to certain level prior to the official discussion is required.
• There has been some suggestions that the practical knowledge of the previous host regions is very important so such regions should first have a discussion and examination should by conducted based on that discussion.
• It is concluded that discussions shall continue.

○ Agenda 2 – Regarding the registration guidelines for the NEAR-supporting organizations (Proposed by Toyama Prefecture)
• Last year, the registration system of the NEAR-supporting organizations was established in the General Assembly. To regulate the process of registration for the NEAR-supporting organizations, the registration guideline shall be established.

Registration Guideline for the NEAR-Supporting Organizations (Draft)

(Purpose)
Article 1. The purpose of the guideline shall be to determine the registration process for the NEAR-supporting organizations based on Article 17 of the Charter of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments.

(Function of the NEAR-supporting organizations)
Article 2. The purpose of the NEAR-supporting organizations is to establish close cooperation with the Sub-Committees, to promote seamless cooperation within the Sub-Committees, and to enhance the active promotion of the individual project for development of the Northeast Asian region through the
aforementioned cooperation, and the NEAR-supporting organizations shall implement the functions of the following subclauses:

1. Providing advice, guidance and information when consulted by the Sub-Committees
2. Providing expert guidance and advice by participating as observers at the conference of the Sub-Committees
3. Cooperating in the individual project implemented through the collaboration of the Sub-Committees

(Registration requirements)
Article 3. The registration requirements for the NEAR-supporting organizations shall be the following:

1. Currently implementing research activities and business projects for development of the Northeast Asian region
2. Has the intention to support the individual project implemented by a member regional government through collaboration and cooperation with the Sub-Committees
3. Shall not focus on political activities or propagation of religion
4. Shall be recommended by a member regional government

(Application)
Article 4. When recommending an organization that meets the requirement of Article 3 as a NEAR-supporting organization, the member regional government of NEAR shall submit the application form for registration of the NEAR-supporting organizations (annexed form) to the NEAR secretariat.

(Registration)
Article 5. ① If the application according to the previous article has been submitted, the NEAR secretariat shall confirm whether the requirements of Article 3 are met and if the requirements are met, the secretariat shall notify the member regional government the confirmation of registration and the outline of the registered organization. If the requirements are not met, the Secretariat shall inform it to the registering regional government.

② The NEAR secretariat shall produce the list of registration of the NEAR-supporting organizations.

③ The NEAR secretariat shall inquire each member regional government of NEAR of any changes in the information on the registration form once every year and shall renew the list of registration of the NEAR-supporting organizations.

(Cancellation of the registration)
Article 6. ① In the case of the NEAR-supporting organization not being able to satisfy the registration requirements or acted in a way that impedes the interest of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, the NEAR secretariat may cancel the registration.

② In the case of cancelling the registration of a NEAR-supporting organization, the NEAR secretariat shall notify the registering member regional government.

(Financial responsibility of the NEAR-supporting organizations)
Article 7. The NEAR-supporting organizations shall not bear the financial
responsibility for the registration based on this guideline.

(Report on activities)
The NEAR secretariat may request the NEAR–supporting organizations of a status report of activities.

(Supplementary Provision)
This guideline shall take effect from July 15th, 1999.

List of candidates of the NEAR supporting organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Regional Government</th>
<th>Name of Organization</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yamagata Prefecture</td>
<td>The Japan–China Friendship Association, Yamagata Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Shonai International Exchange Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Japan–China Friendship Association for Tsuruoka Tagawa</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dewa Shonai International Exchange Foundation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Eurasian Association, Tsuruoka Branch Office</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Japan–Korea Friendship Association of Shonai, Yamagata Prefecture</td>
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<td>The Japan–China Friendship Association of Sakata District</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Council for the Promotion of the Trade of Eastern Marine Silk Road</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Japan–China Friendship Association of Atsumi Machi</td>
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<td>Niigata Prefecture</td>
<td>The Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Niigata University Society for Japan Sea Rim Studies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Association for Overseas Science and Technology Exchange of Niigata Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyama Prefecture</td>
<td>(Foundation) Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC)</td>
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<td>Center for Japan Sea Rim Studies, National University Corporation Toyama University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>North Pacific Region Trade Center</td>
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<td>Toyama International Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ishikawa Prefecture</td>
<td>United Nations Association of Japan Ishikawa Branch, Japan Sea Economic Exchange Conference in Hokkaido (JEEC)</td>
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<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
<td>The 21st Century Hyogo Project Association</td>
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<td>Tottori Prefecture</td>
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<td>Chungcheongbuk-do Province</td>
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<td>Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
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<td>The State unitary enterprise “Yakutiacoal”</td>
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<td>Forest Industry, Co. Ltd</td>
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<td>Name of Regional Government</td>
<td>Name of Organization</td>
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<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primorsky Territory</td>
<td>National corporation of oil and gas “Sakha-oil-gas”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Research Institute for Business Forecast</td>
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<td>Khabarovsk Territory</td>
<td>Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Research Institute of the Far Eastern branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Report 2 - Concerning the establishment of Russia branch of the Secretariat (Reported by the NEAR Secretariat)**
  - The Russia branch office of the secretariat was established based on clause 1, Article 12 of the NEAR Charter.
  - Outline
    - Each country may establish one (1) branch office of the secretariat.
    - The establishment of the branch office of the secretariat requires the agreement of all the member regional governments of the country to which the branch belongs.
    - The branch office of the secretariat shall decide its place of establishment, board members and staff.
    - The branch office of the secretariat shall cover the expense required to establish and operate the branch office.
    - The function of the branch office of the secretariat is to mediate the communication with the NEAR secretariat and the regional governments within the branch office and other NEAR-related communication.
  - (Chairman): Until now, the Association “Far East and Transbaikalia” has managed the communication between the NEAR secretariat and the Far East regional governments in Russia, but now the organization is expected to carry out the communication between the NEAR member regional governments in Russia and the Secretariat as the Russia branch office of the NEAR secretariat.

- **Overview – Russia Branch Office of the Secretariat**
  ① Address: 680002, Khabarovsk city, Muravieva-Amurskaya street, 19
  Interregional Association of economic coordination <<Far East and Zabaikalye>>
  ② Contact Number TEL: +7-4212-32-5489 or 7602 FAX +7-4212-32-5907
  ③ Directorship: A.M. Novosholf, Director of the Branch, General Manager
     A.G. Buliy, Head of the Department of External Economic Relations

- **Report 3 - Concerning the overview of hosting the 2000 General Assembly (Reported by Hyogo Prefect)**

Overview of hosting the 2000 General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (Draft)
1. Date: (Mon) September 4th ~ (Thu) September 7th, 2000
2. Venue: Yumenbatai International Conference Center, Hyogo Prefecture(tentative name)
3. Accommodations: The Westin Awaji Island Resort and Conference Center
4. Host: The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, Hyogo Prefecture

5. Participants: 38 governor-level executives of regional governments from Northeast Asia (China, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, and Russia)

6. Schedule
   (Mon) Sept. 4th
   PM    Working Group Preparation Meeting
   Night Welcoming Banquet

   (Tue) Sept. 5th
   AM–PM Conference of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
   Evening Chief Delegate Group Photo Time, Press Conference
   Night    Party

   (Wed) Sept. 6th
   AM–PM Inspection Tour

   (Thu) Sept. 7th
   Departure

[Khabarovsk Territory]

- Proposed hosting the 4th General Assembly in 2002 on the premise of expense reduction

(G) The Agreement of the 2nd Working Committee

The working-level delegates of the member regional governments of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments from the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, and Russian Federation have met together and held the 2nd Working Committee Conference of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Toyama prefecture, Japan, in July 15th, 1999.

At this working committee conference, the members perceived the coming 21st century as the era of Northeast Asia, and reached consensus on the regional governments in this region actively developing various exchange cooperation in order to create a global zone of exchange in this region befitting the “Northeast Asian economic zone” and the “Northeast Asian exchange zone” based on reciprocity and equality.

Constructive discussions were conducted concerning the future activities of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments and the following conclusions were reached:

1. Concerning the registration of the NEAR-supporting organizations
   With the establishment of the registration guideline of the NEAR-supporting organizations stipulated in October 1998 [the ‘98 Association of North East Asia Regional Governments], the registration was first implemented on 29 organizations.

2. Concerning the activities of the Sub–Committees
   The Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade, Sub–Committee on Cultural Exchange, Sub–Committee on Environment, and Sub–Committee on General Exchange each submitted the following activity reports, and confirmed their continuous commitment to promote discussions to realize the individual projects of each Sub–Committee in the future. Also, there have been several proposals on additional projects, which will be reviewed later by the related Sub–Committee.

   ① Report on Activities of the Economy and Trade Sub–Committee
The Sub-Committee published a handbook of the Association/NEAR containing the economic status and trade information of the member regional governments and cooperated in the economic project run by the member regional governments. In the future, the Sub-Committee plans to hold the Sub-Committee meeting to have a more in-depth discussion on measures of mutual cooperation in trade projects run by each regional government.

2. Report on Activities of the Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange
The Sub-Committee decided to promote the following three suggestions: 1) Promoting exchange in studies and researches; 2) Taking part in preparation of China’s Confucius Research Center; 3) NEAR Research Center. In the future, the Sub-Committee plans to collaborate with other Sub-Committees and discuss with the participating regional governments to decide the direction of activities of the Sub-Committee.

3. Report on Activities of the Sub-Committee on Environment
Concerning the proposal of individual projects, the Sub-Committee plans to conduct a survey on the details of the projects and the intention of each regional government to participate, compile them by the early 2000 to promote the realization of the projects.

4. Report on Activities of the Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
Since it is crucial to mutually recognize and understand the status of disaster prevention system of each country, the Sub-Committee first implemented the information and human exchange on disaster prevention and requested the proposal of the project in this field from the participating regional governments. Moreover, the Sub-Committee plans to investigate the process of reconstruction from the Hanshin-Awaji earthquake and to deliver the result of the investigation to all the participating NEAR regional governments.

5. Report on Activities of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange
Concerning the importance of fostering human resources that will take charge of exchange in the Northeast Asian region, the Sub-Committee plans to consider exchanging information on exchange project of each regional government and engaging in mutual and active participation. Moreover, the Sub-Committee urged the regional governments participating in the Association/NEAR to create a webpage/homepage on each organization in order to enhance the solidarity with the research centers in the region. In addition, the Sub-Committee plans to keep reviewing the possibility of hosting various “forums for information exchange among experimental research centers” and “Northeast Asian Women’s Convention (tentative name).”

3. Concerning the establishment of Russia branch office of the Secretariat
The establishment of Russia branch office of the secretariat in the “Far East and Transbaikalia” in conformity with clause 1, Article 12 of the NEAR Charter was reported. In addition, the requirements for the establishment of a branch office were agreed including the requirement of receiving consent from all the NEAR-participating regional governments in the country when establishing a branch office.

4. Concerning the reasonable and effective operation including expense coverage
It was agreed fundamentally on the proposal suggested in Hyogo prefecture concerning the reduction of expense covered by the regional government hosting
the General Assembly and the Working committee meeting. The reasonable and effective operation concerning other expense issues shall be examined as well.

5. Concerning the 3rd General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

Hyogo prefecture reported on the overview of the General Assembly such as the schedule and venue of the 3rd General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments hosted in Hyogo prefecture, Japan, in 2000.

6. Concerning the 4th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

Khabarovsk territory expressed its opinion to the effect that it would like to examine the possibility of hosting the 4th General Assembly of NEAR in Khabarovsk territory, Russian federation, in 2002, but the venue for the 4th General Assembly is to be decided in the 3rd General Assembly in 2000.

※ July 10th, 2000

The Director of the Division of Japan Sea Policy, Toyama Prefecture, sent the official document of the “Cancellation of registration for the supporting organization of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (notice)” to the director in charge of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments.

- Cancellation of registration (9 Organizations)
  - Japan–China Friendship Association, Yamagata Prefecture
  - Shonai International Exchange Association, Yamagata Prefecture
  - Japan–China Friendship Association for Tsuruoka Tagawa
  - (Foundation) Dewa Shonai International Exchange Foundation
  - Eurasian Association, Tsuruoka Branch Office
  - Shonai Japan–Korea Friendship Association of Yamagata Prefecture
  - Japan–China Friendship Association of Sakata District
  - Council for the Promotion of the Trade of Eastern Marine Silk Road
  - Japan–China Friendship Association of Atsumi Machi

### List of NEAR–Supported Organizations  (2000. 07. 10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Regional Gov.</th>
<th>Name of Organization (20 Organizations)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niigata Prefecture</td>
<td>The Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia (ERINA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Niigata University Society for Japan Sea Rim Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Association for Overseas Science and Technology Exchange of Niigata Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyama Prefecture</td>
<td>Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPEC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Center for Japan Sea Rim Studies, National University Corporation Toyama University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North Pacific Region Trade Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toyama International Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ishikawa Prefecture</td>
<td>United Nations Association of Japan Ishikawa Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Japan Sea Economic Exchange Conference in Hokuriku (AJEC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Regional Gov.</td>
<td>Name of Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
<td>The 21st Century Hyogo Project Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tottori Prefecture</td>
<td>Policy Research Institute of Tottori Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chungcheongbuk-do Province</td>
<td>Chungbuk Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
<td>Gyeongnam Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)</td>
<td>The State unitary enterprise &quot;Sakha-East&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The State unitary enterprise &quot;Yakutia-coal&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forest Industry, Co. Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National corporation of oil and gas &quot;Sakha-oil-gas&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primorsky Territory</td>
<td>International Research Institute for Business Forecast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory</td>
<td>Economic Research Institute of the Far Eastern branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. The 3rd Working Committee
(1) Background and Purpose
The Working Committee of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, which had been established in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Republic of Korea, in September 1996, was held and participated by director general-level senior officials. In The Working Committee meeting, the participating delegates exchanged opinions and engaged in discussion on the continuous examination of the reasonable and effective operation of the Association as agreed in the Hyogo General Assembly in September 2000, based on the result of the "Working Sub-Committee on the Reasonable and Effective Operation of NEAR" held in February 2001.

(2) Overview of the Conference
A) Date: (Mon) August 27th ~ (Thu) August 30th, 2001
B) Venue: Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center, Hyogo Prefecture
C) Host: Hyogo Prefecture, Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
D) Participants: 23 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gangwon-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Sakhalin Region (&quot;Far East and Transbaikalia&quot; – Russia Branch Office of the NEAR Secretariat)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### E) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 28.</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Call to Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Tues.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Greetings – Secretary General of NEAR, Kazuhiro Hujimoto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Vice Governor, Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>① Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade – Director General Seong-Gil Hwang, Economy and Trade Division, Gyeongbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>② Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange – Director General Moriyoshi Nakata, Foreign Affairs Division, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>③ Sub-Committee on Environment – Director Tokutaro Nakai, Department of Welfare and the Environment, Toyama Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>④ Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention – Director General Hiroki Kimura, Disaster Prevention Policy Planning Bureau, Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>⑤ Sub-Committee on General Exchange – Director Tokutaro Nakai, Department of Welfare and the Environment, Toyama Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>[Agenda 1] Cost-sharing for hosting NEAR conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>– Lunch –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>[Agenda 2] Approval of projects and establishment of sponsorship system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13:45</td>
<td>[Agenda 3] The establishment of permanent Secretariat and the orientation of the Secretariat system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:50</td>
<td>[Report 2] Overview of 2002 General Assembly – Vladimir Kuchuk, Advisor to the Governor of Khabarovsk territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17:10</td>
<td>Agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Proceeding of the Conference

- **Report 1 – Report on Activities of the Sub-Committees (Economy and Trade Sub-Committee)**
  - Hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> North East Asia Business Promotion Conference
  - Additional Events: Seminars, Specialty Product Exhibition, Catalogue Exhibition
  - Plans to promote business transformation in the advent of information age by building cyber trade network such as an information center supporting the global e-commerce, database of trade information of NEAR member regional governments, and Internet trade fairs

- **[Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange]**
  - Plans to host a meeting to discuss how to proceed the joint project

- **[Sub-Committee on Environment]**
  - Report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Sub-Committee on Environment
  - Fifteen regional governments from Japan, South Korea and Russia participated in August 2000.
  - Status report on the implementation of individual projects proposed in 1999 and discussion on the operation of the Sub-Committee on Environment

- **Report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sub-Committee on Environment**
• Report on the implementation of individual projects of year 2000: Joint Research on washed-up driftage along coasts and migratory birds in Northeast Asia, joint environmental assessment project of Northeast Asia
• Proposal of Individual Projects in 2001 and Status Report on Implementation of the Projects
• Election of the next coordinator: Toyama prefecture reelected

[Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention]
• Based on the principle of starting from disaster prevention information and human exchange, conducted survey on the disaster prevention system of each regional government up to now and propagated the lesson Hyogo prefecture learned from the Great Hanshin Earthquake
• Sent the report on the verification result of the “Comprehensive International Verification Project for Earthquake Countermeasures” to all the member regional governments

[Sub-Committee on General Exchange]
• The 2nd meeting of Sub-Committee on General Exchange discussed on the following three items: 1) Plan to host the “21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention,” 2) Project to foster human resources, 3) Measures to enhance the collaboration among research institutes
• In terms of enhancing the collaboration among research institutes, the list of research institutes was expanded to build the network for academic exchanges in the Northeast Asian region as agreed in the Sub-Committee meeting last year
• Introduced “Studies on Sea of Japan” of the Toyama University Center for Far Eastern Studies
  - Regional studies conducting comprehensive research on the Northeast Asian regional governments
  - Hopes for a name with which people in the Northeast Asian region can identify.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
• To avoid misunderstanding, the name “Studies on Sea of Japan” needs to be changed or an explanation needs to be added to clarify that it is called “Studies on East Sea” in Korea while it is “Studies on Sea of Japan” in Japan

[Toyama Prefecture]
• There was no agreement for the Sub-Committee to call it “Studies on Sea of Japan” Plans to discover a name for all by discussing the matter in the meeting of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
• It is stated as “Studies on Sea of Japan” on the conference materials and they are distributed without any explanation of the name being tentative. Suggests to change the name to “studies on Sea of Japan, also known as East Sea”

[Toyama Prefecture]
• In Korean version of the conference materials, it is marked as “Sea of Japan.” Is it possible to discuss whether to call it “Sea of Japan (East Sea)” or “studies on East Sea” and then distribute the corrected version to the member regional governments?

[Chairman]
• Since the name of the sea is different depending on the country, it would not be decided even if the matter is discussed in this meeting.
Suggests announcing as the chairman that “studies on Sea of Japan” is a tentative name.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- Requests inserting “or studies on East Sea” following “studies on Sea of Japan” and then sending the corrected version later on if not possible during the meeting.

[Chairman]
- Do both parties agree on correcting the expression to “studies on Sea of Japan” or “studies on East Sea?”

[Toyama Prefecture and Jeollabuk-do Province agrees]
- If possible, will correct this expression in all languages during the meeting.

[Toyama Prefecture]
- Since one item was omitted from the report of the economy and trade Sub-Committee, will add supplementary explanation.
- Hosted “NEAR 21 (Northeast Asia Region Economic Exchange)” to promote economic exchange in the Northeast Asian region in 1999. “NEAR 2002 China” is to be hosted.
- Perceives that each regional government is implementing various projects to revitalize economic exchange in the Northeast Asian region. Requests the Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade to conduct research on these projects, organize the findings and provide the information.

○ Agenda 1 – The cost-sharing for hosting NEAR conferences

[Secretariat]
- Explains the purpose and details of the proposal
- The proposal on introducing cost-sharing for the meeting gained enormous support in the Working Sub-Committee meeting in February 2001 and it was agreed that the Secretariat would survey opinions from each regional government and suggest detailed proposal with which many regional governments can agree.

〈Content of the Proposal〉
- Expenses to be shared
  - Expense of producing conference materials and operation of the meeting shall be covered by the participating regional governments. Sojourn expense has already been agreed in the meeting of Working Committee held in Toyama prefecture to be covered by the participating regional governments.
  - Method of calculation of the shared amount
    - Half the amount of expense to be shared shall be covered by the host regional government. The remaining half shall be equally divided by the number of the member regional governments(35) excluding the host regional government and then be covered by the participating regional governments. The amount allotted to the regional governments not participating in the meeting shall be covered by the host regional government.
    - The host regional government shall discuss with the chair regional government to decide on the detailed amount to be shared.
- Order of Decision of the shared amount
The candidate regional government running for the host of the next General Assembly shall propose the approximate amount of expenses to be shared for the next Assembly in the General Assembly or the Working Committee which is being held just a year prior to the next General Assembly.

- Exemption
  - The host regional government may reduce or exempt the amount shared for the regional government that has difficulty covering the cost due to natural disaster and other reasons.

- Since this proposal requires the revision of subclause 2, clause 2, Article 15 of the NEAR Charter concerning finance, after getting the approval of the member regional governments in this meeting, actions will be taken so that the General Assembly may vote on the revision of the Charter, which is now attached to the conference materials.
  - “Guideline on cost–sharing for hosting NEAR conferences (draft)”

[Toyama Prefecture]

- In case of Japan hosting the meeting, shouldn’t the regional governments from Japan cover the cost in Yen? Shouldn’t the regulation be stipulated so that the cost may be paid in the currency of the host country?

[Secretariat]

- The proposal will be reviewed to that effect.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]

- Considers using the currency of each country would create confusion.
  - According to the NEAR Charter, the finance of the secretariat shall be covered by the membership fees and others. Clause 2 of Article 15 states that “the items concerning the finance shall be tentatively operated according to the following subclauses” and that “the membership fees shall not be paid,” which is contradictory. How about revising the statement so the finance of the secretariat of Article 15 shall be covered by the participation fees of meetings and other miscellaneous income?

[Secretariat]

- If the payment to the secretariat is made with the currency of each country, several times of currency exchanges are required. In the case of making payment within the same country, it would be good to pay with the currency of that country instead of exchanging into USD.
  - Currently, the object of concern lies in the expense for hosting the General Assembly and the Working Committee of subclause 2, clause 2. Since the allotted amount for conference participation is not the membership fee, it is the opinion of the secretariat that the object of revision is fully covered by subclause 2, clause 2.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]

- Not that the content is misunderstood, but that stating “the membership fees shall not be paid” when clause 1 states expenses “shall be covered with the membership fees and other miscellaneous income” makes the term itself contradictory even if it is tentative. Therefore, the aforementioned comments were made to eliminate the contradiction within one provision.
[Secretariat]
• The principle is stipulated as principle in clause 1. However, clause 2 specifies the current state where the introduction of the membership fees has long been discussed but is difficult. The provisions state principle as principle and the membership fees are not introduced for the time being, so there is no contradiction in the phrasing.

[Chairman]
• Thinks it is the difference in expression of the membership fees and the allotment.

[Sakhalin Region]
• Thinks the proposal of Toyama prefecture is extremely convenient
• In the case of a regional government not being able to pay the allotted amount due to various circumstances, shouldn’t the General Assembly consider collecting in some kind of way the shortage instead of burdening the host regional government?

[Chairman]
• Any objection to paying the shared amount in the currency of the host country as well as in USD when regional governments within the host country pay? (No objection)
• Is there any opinion concerning the case of regional governments not paying the allotment?

[Yamagata Prefecture]
• If the allotment is collected from the regional government not participating in the conference, then it defeats the purpose of covering the actual cost of the conference

[Chairman]
• The opinion is concerned with whether money would be collected from the regional governments not attending the conference such as Yamagata prefecture. However, the opinion of the Sakhalin region concerns with how to treat the regional government that attended the conference but did not pay the allotment.

[Sakhalin Region]
• The cost of holding a meeting would be constant and the cost related to the number of participants would be mostly about the number of conference materials to be produced. The total cost of the meeting would not change significantly just because the number of participants slightly changed.

[Secretariat]
• The system is suggested to divide and distribute the cost proportionally based on the members participating in NEAR in the case of calculating the actual amount to be paid and the actual payment is made by the regional governments that participated in the conference.

[Sakhalin Region]
• There is no change in the total cost of the meeting even if two regional governments do not participate. What will be done with the shortage?

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
• Agrees with the proposal that states the cost of hosting a meeting is shared by the host and the participants. Since this is not the membership fee but the expense actually required to run the meeting, cooperation is required to reduce the cost.
• It is reasonable for the host regional government to pay the expense of producing
the conference materials and of operating the meeting

- Since the sojourn and transportation expense are provided by one’s own country in the case of overseas business trip, it is proposed that the 50 percent of the sojourn fees be covered by the participants and the remaining 50 percent by the host if the transportation cost within the host country is paid by the host regional government.

[Khabarovsk Territory]
- According to the current policy, the host regional government is to manage all the preparations and operational work for holding the meeting for 2 years after the General Assembly. However, the following General Assembly will be held at a place of another regional government. Therefore, we can reverse the system: for example, Khabarovsk territory can establish the secretariat first and then Khabarovsk territory can prepare for the General Assembly to be held in the territory for 2 years.
- It would be easier for the host country to place a secretariat in the regional government within the country to prepare for the General Assembly.

[Chairman]
- The opinion was regarding the issue of the allotment of cost payment and of the structure of the secretariat, but it would be desirable to discuss the issue related to the secretariat after dealing with the issue of the allotment if possible.

[Secretariat]
- Concerning the opinion of Sakhalin region, the biggest problem is that the cost of hosting the General Assembly or the meeting of The Working Committee is solely covered by the host regional government and therefore is a huge burden on the host. Hence, the introduction of the membership fees, although difficult, will be reviewed to facilitate hosting of meetings by reducing the financial burden on the host regional government. Wishes for understanding in the proposal suggesting the introduction of the membership fees to the effect that the NEAR members and the host regional government should all make efforts to encourage more participation to share the cost and reduce the financial burden of the host.
- Concerning the opinion of Jeollanam-do province, the sojourn expense was already agreed in the last meeting of the 2nd working Subcommittee in Toyama prefecture to be solely covered by the participating governments themselves.
- It was agreed that the host is to cover the transportation expense within the host country such as the transportation cost from the airport to the conference hall since the participants will have difficulty moving around within the host country. Also, it would be advisable that the host shall propose the detailed expense of running the meeting to the General Assembly or the Working Committee instead of deciding the matter on its own, and shall follow the step of deciding the cost after discussing the matter with the chair regional government in advance. Although it would be difficult to apply the system to all cases due to the differences by country and the way of hosting the meeting, but such issue can be solved by carefully carrying out the process mentioned above.

[Aomori Prefecture]
- If the system of cost allotment is introduced, the it is also necessary to create a budget.
- Thinks there is a difference in the involvement of each regional government in the NEAR activities. If the budget is created, its merits and demerits must be considered. Thinks more time for further examination is needed for Aomori prefecture.

[Niigata Prefecture]
- There are still many problems regarding the direction of the Association, so it is most important to make easier for more regional governments to participate. Therefore, there is still a room for consideration concerning the matter.

[Secretariat]
- The cost sharing has become a real issue from the Toyama General Assembly in October 1998. There was no candidate for the host of the next General Assembly since the cost of hosting a General Assembly and operating a secretariat is great. It was strongly thought that the development of the Association would be threatened such as hosting the NEAR General Assembly if the issue of cost sharing for holding a meeting is not seriously considered, so the matter has been examined in detail.
- Thus, the matter has been continuously discussed in the 1999 meeting of working Sub-Committee, 2000 General Assembly, and the meeting of working Sub-Committee held this February, and the matter of expense is very important in terms of the future development of the Association so the methods to reduce even by small amount the financial burden of the host must be discovered.
- Since it was agreed in the General Assembly last year that this working Sub-Committee would review and report the matter to the next General Assembly, so the secretariat hopes that the sharing of cost would be introduced with the understanding of the regional governments.

[Chairman]
- There was a case where Hyogo prefecture applied for hosting the next General Assembly, because not any regional government did due to the issue of expense coverage. The very existence of the Association would be threatened if such case persists in the future and there is no regional government wishing to host the General Assembly. This proposal is based on the agreement of the Working Sub-Committee held in order to resolve the issue of covering the expense, even though temporarily, until the next General Assembly in Khabarovsk.
- This issue is to be decided not in the Working Committee but in the Khabarovsk General Assembly based on the discussion of the Working Committee. Then, agenda 1 will be considered to be basically agreed in the direction of the proposal suggested by the secretariat and will be reported and decided in the next General Assembly in Khabarovsk.

- Agenda 2 – Approval of projects and establishment of sponsorship system

[Chairman]
- The second agenda proposes a system of supporting, at the level of the Association, the projects run by NEAR participating regional governments in light of promoting NEAR activities
[Secretariat]

1. The first item: the approval of the Association on specific projects.
   • Purpose of the proposal: The projects such as national expos in which many member regional governments participate are significant in terms of realizing the goal of the Association, which is to promote the overall development of the Northeast Asian region and to provide solution to the mutual tasks. Newly establishing a NEAR approval system on specific projects run by the NEAR member regional governments is the way to promote the projects such as international expos, ensure the success of the host regional government, facilitate national and international exchange of the region, and to realize the goal of the Association.
   • Content of the Proposal: Guideline on project approval
     Criteria for Approval: 1) The project acknowledged to be in line with the purpose of the Association; 2) The host or co-host of the project is the member regional government; 3) The project involves the participation of more than three NEAR-participating regional governments including the country of the host regional government; 4) The project acknowledged to be unrelated to political and religious activities; 5) The project taking no part in the advertisement and the benefit of a certain individual or organization; 6) The project that does not create any disadvantages for the Association, members or a certain individual; 7) The project of considerable dimension that is categorized as one of the following: International expo, exhibition, and other projects
     The standard for the scope of the project is more than 500,000 expected visitors in terms of an international expo held longer than two (2) weeks. In terms of an industry expo, the expected number of participating companies and regional governments must be more than 1000 and the expected visitors more than 5,000. In terms of other projects, the Committee on Qualifying Review shall decide the required scope of the business. However, considering that the population and the economic status can vary greatly depending on the host regional government and therefore it is difficult to set an across-the-board standard, the standard shall work as the principle for the committee to review projects and operate in a flexible manner.
     The number of approvals allowed shall be limited to 4 to 5 projects per year and 2 similar projects within the same country shall not be approved.
   • Establishment of commendation
     – The regional government hosting the certified project will present the “Award of the Association of the North East Asia Regional Governments” to an outstanding exhibit or a pavilion
     – The host regional government will discuss with the secretariat on the evaluation for commendation
   • Obligation to make efforts in the approved project
     – The NEAR Secretariat shall cooperate with the host regional government to encourage the member regional governments to participate in the approved project on the webpage or the newsletter and request cooperation from the
international organizations related to the project
- The host regional government shall first cater to the needs of the NEAR member regional governments participating in the approved project and shall cooperate with the government or other organizations within the country for seamless processing for their participation. After completion of the approved project, the achievement must be presented to the member regional governments.
- Each member regional government must make efforts to participate in and cooperate with the approved project, to promote the related regional governments, and to request participation from the other regional governments.
- The process of approval
  - The member regional governments shall submit the official document to the secretariat and “the Committee on Qualifying Review” to be established within the Working Committee shall implement the selection of the approved project. The “Committee on Qualifying Review” shall consist of the chair and vice chair regional governments and 1 regional government per country, a total of 7 regional governments, selected in the General Assembly to serve for 2 years until the next General Assembly.
  - The secretariat will compile the evaluation result of the committee and report to the very next General Assembly or the Working committee to have the project approved.
  - If the member regional governments agree with this system, the system will be voted on in the 2002 Khabarovsk General Assembly next year

2. The Second Item: Establishment of NEAR Sponsorship System for Individual Projects
- Purpose of the Proposal: Since the establishment of NEAR in 1996, the member regional governments have submitted several concrete proposals in the areas of economy, environment, and culture. Although interregional exchange projects such as exhibitions and fairs are increasing, in order to promote these movement even more, it is necessary to establish a new system where NEAR supports individual projects run by the member regional governments, thus building an atmosphere where member regional governments will mutually participate in and cooperate with the projects of other regional governments and contributing to the activation of regional exchange through NEAR.
- Details of the Proposal
  - Approving the Usage of ‘NEAR’ as a Sponsor: Basically it involves the same steps for the aforementioned approval but the difference is that it includes the projects hosted or jointly run by non-member regional governments or private organizations in the same region as the member regional governments if the related member regional government approves them as adequate projects to support. When supporting, there will be no limitation of the field of project or standard for the scope of project. The approval allows the host of the project to use NEAR as its sponsor and when promoting the event, the
host is allowed to use the phrase ‘Sponsored by the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments’

- Application for Approval
  - The member regional government will submit an official document. In case the host is not the member but a non-member regional government or a private organization, the member regional government in the same region will review qualification and then the regional government will follow the application steps. The secretariat will evaluate the application, the secretary general will finalize the decision for approval and the secretariat will report the status of approval at the next General Assembly or the next working committee.
  - Unlike the approval system, if approved at this working committee, the certification system becomes ‘a miscellaneous project that is approved as necessary’ as mentioned in the NEAR Charter subclause 6, Article 11. Therefore, if The Working Committee approves the certification system, the steps to establish the guideline (draft) will be taken.

[Gangwon-do Province]
- Thinks that one cannot expect the development of NEAR without promptly implementing many projects that provide mutual benefits. To save time, let us all agree together and not take a long time to decide.

[Chairman]
- Wishes to promote the project for the development of NEAR to produce mutual benefits and therefore wishes the “approval system” to be reported in the next Khabarovsk General Assembly to be decided.
- The approval system for the usage of NEAR as a sponsor is considered to be agreed in this meeting of The Working Committee and the operational guideline for this system will be decided and promoted. (No objection)

[Chungcheongnam-do Province]
- Thinks the system is extremely appropriate in that the members have continued to cooperate since the foundation of the Association.
- Next year, Chungcheongnam-do province will host the International Flower Expo in Anmyeon-do Island. This expo is approved by the International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH) and will be held for 1 month from April to May of next year. The number of visitors is expected to reach 700,000 to 800,000 and 30 to 50 countries are expected to participate. Therefore, the expo meets the aforementioned criteria.
- The approval system will be voted on in the Khabarovsk General Assembly and the support system will be effective after this meeting of The Working Committee. However, as the International Flower Expo opens next April in Chungcheongnam-do province, the province would like to hear the opinion of the secretariat as to the possibility of an early approval.

[Secretariat]
- The “approval system” was proposed to promote the mutual collaboration among the regional governments by selecting the approved projects from significantly large projects. This is not an obligation but does require efforts from each member,
The secretariat thus considered the system as an item to be decided in the General Assembly and to be implemented after the General Assembly of next year.

- On the other hand, the “support system” shares the same basic principle but includes the promotion of NEAR by accepting and widely supporting the projects of non-member regional governments. Thus, the secretariat thinks that this system can immediately start the operation with the consent of this working committee.

[Chungcheongnam-do Province]
- The province understands that the “support system” takes effect with the consent of the participants of this meeting today and the “approval system” takes effect after the Khabarovsk General Assembly held in September of next year. The province asks for as much cooperation of the participants as possible in this meeting even if the expo cannot be approved due to its schedule.

[Chairman]
- The International Flower Expo in Anmyeon-do Island is a project appropriate for the approval but it poses the procedural problems requiring the decision of the NEAR General Assembly. However, the secretariat will later proceed with the support procedure with the approval of this working committee.

3. Concerning to direction of the secretariat system including the establishment of the permanent secretariat

[Secretariat]
- Purpose of the Proposal : In order to contribute to the reasonable and effective operation of the Association, the secretariat system, the basis of the organization of NEAR, is reviewed, such as the re-examination of the current rotating secretariat system where the secretariat is located in the regional government of the chairman and establishment of the permanent secretariat.
- Background of Proposal : The tasks and the countermeasures on the operation of the Association including the direction of the secretariat mentioned in the Hyogo General Assembly last September was decided to be reviewed in the meeting of The Working Committee and to be reported to the 2002 Khabarovsk General Assembly. The establishment of the working Sub-Committee for effective examination of The Working Committee was also determined. In the Hyogo General Assembly, the governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province suggested to establish the permanent secretariat along with the rotating secretariat to overcome the problems of the current rotating secretariat and announced that the province has the intention to establish the permanent secretariat. In the Working Sub-Committee meeting held this February, Gyeongsangbuk-do province suggested the detailed proposal to establish the permanent secretariat in the province. The Working Sub-Committee shared understanding on the problems of the current rotating secretariat and the need for a permanent secretariat for NEAR to become an international organization. Although numerous participating regional governments supported the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province to establish the permanent secretariat, it was pointed out that the suggested function of the permanent secretariat, the division of roles between the current rotating
secretariat and the new one, the line of command, and the expense coverage are not clear. Based on the aforementioned discussion, the secretariat was decided in the Working Sub-Committee meeting to coordinate the opinions of each regional government, produce a draft on the establishment of the permanent secretariat, and suggest the draft in this Working Committee meeting. Moreover, it was agreed to ask all the member regional governments whether to have the intention to establish the permanent secretariat in their region.

(Draft A: In the case of establishing the permanent secretariat only)

- The current rotating secretariat system will be terminated and a single permanent secretariat will be newly established. In this case, the chair regional government will have the position of the so-called host regional government. The permanent secretariat will be in charge of all the basic functions as the secretariat of the Association.
- The permanent secretariat has the secretary general who is under direct supervision of the chairman and the secretariat personnel are assigned. The permanent secretariat is an organization of the Association independent from the regional government of its location, and in principle, the secretary general and the secretariat personnel are therefore widely selected or dispatched from the NEAR member regional governments.
- Problems arising from the current system of the Association
  - Although an independent operation of the secretariat requires a large fund and human resources, even the Association itself lacks the financial footing. For a prompt realization of an independent secretariat, more evaluations are needed to improve these conditions.
  - In case a specific organization such as the regional government in the location of the permanent secretariat covers all the operational expenses, even though the NEAR permanent secretariat is independent from the regional government of this location, the influence of the regional government cannot be denied and may damage the neutrality of the secretariat.
  - To effectively and efficiently implement command system of the NEAR chairman, the system calls for an improvement to secure broad human resources in the secretariat such as dispatching staff from each member regional government. However, creating such system requires a thorough discussion and evaluation.
- Due to the aforementioned reasons, the secretariat recognizes that this proposal poses many fundamental tasks to overcome

(Draft B: In the case of establishing the permanent secretariat along with the rotating secretariat)

- This proposal is based on the suggestions from Gyeongsangbuk-do province where the permanent secretariat will be established along with the existing rotating secretariat.
- Dividing the secretariat functions that are closely related to one another is likely to make the seamless operation of the organization difficult.
• If the functions must be divided, it can be done so by having the permanent secretariat functioning as a data bank or a think tank and the current rotating secretariat functioning as the fundamental secretariat.
• As in the past, the rotating secretariat will be in charge of the actual secretariat function such as holding a meeting or putting resolutions into effect and the permanent secretariat take the role of a data bank or a think tank such as collecting and managing NEAR–related data as well as developing and proposing a long–term joint project.
• The current system of the rotating secretariat will keep the line of command as in the past. The permanent secretariat that will be established as an independent NEAR organization will be separate from the regional government of the location of the permanent secretariat and its secretary general will be placed under the secretary general of the current rotating secretariat.
• The proposal of Gyeongsangbuk–do province is similar to this proposal except for the difference of placing a permanent secretary general under direct supervision of the chairman in the permanent secretariat as well, having two secretory generals of equal level under the chairman.
• Expected problems
  - The discontinuity of the secretariat function was disputed as the drawback of the rotating secretariat as it was subject to change every two years, and such problem is not resolved since the rotating secretariat is included in this proposal.
  - The function of the rotating secretariat, the General Assembly and the operation of The Working Committee, and the function of the permanent secretariat, collecting NEAR–related data and publishing information sheet, are related to each other, and researching and proposing long–term projects should also be managed by one organization. It is difficult to clearly divide the functions due to the functions of the secretariats being closely related to one another.
  - A provision of the NEAR Charter stipulates the organizations supporting the activities of NEAR are the NEAR–supporting organization and the NEAR center, and the permanent secretariat of this proposal has functions that are similar to those aforementioned organizations.
  - NEAR is operated in multilingual manner; therefore, the effective operation of the secretariats would be hindered since it would be difficult to seamlessly combine and implement the commands, division of labor and functions between the two secretariats and it would be more inconvenient to communicate with each other, effective operation would be difficult to seamlessly combine and implement the commands, division of labor, and functions between the two secretariats.
  - The relationship between the permanent secretariat and The Working Committee or Working Sub–Committee and the position of the permanent executive secretary or secretary general are not fully organized and reviewed, so more evaluations are required.
  - Creating two secretariats also poses a huge task of understanding the actual role of the secretariats in terms of operating the Association.
  - When 35 regional governments excluding Hyogo prefecture were asked whether
they had the intention to establish a permanent secretariat, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama province answered they did.

- Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Gyeongsangbuk-do province suggests establishing a permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province that has specialized yet limited functions of databank and think tank while leaving the current rotating secretariat as is. The operational cost of the permanent secretariat will be covered by Gyeongsangbuk-do province until the method of expense coverage such as the introduction of the membership fee is finalized.

- Toyama Prefecture: Toyama prefecture presents an opinion where the permanent secretariat, when established, will be an independent organization that functions as the coordinator for the whole Association. The prefecture also suggests that it is too early to decide the location of the secretariat as the first priority should be to clarify the direction of the secretariat by fully analyzing the insufficiency of the current system of the Association.

- Verification of the current rotating secretariat system
  - Background: When the 1996 working committee meeting was held prior to the establishment of the Association, the current rotating secretariat system was selected after having compared and reviewed the permanent secretariat system against the rotating secretariat system.
  - Advantages of the rotating secretariat system
    - All the member regional governments are given an equal opportunity to participate as the central operating body and enhanced participation can therefore be expected.
    - The secretariat will gain broad knowledge in international affairs with relatively small burden for two years.
  - Responses to the problems of the rotating secretariat system
    - It is criticized that the rotating secretariat lacks the continuity of the secretary operations and the function of prompt delivery of information.
    - Difficult to mediate similar projects of the member regional governments and to promote a long-term joint projects of the Association: This can be resolved by enhancing the activities of the Sub-Committee with an enhanced mediating function of the Sub-Committees and more members participating in each Sub-Committee.
    - Because of the expenses, the candidates of the rotating secretariat do not want to become the rotating secretariat: The secretariat thinks if a part of the conference hosting expenses are covered by allotted charges of other members, this financial burden will be reduced.
    - A criticism that changing the secretariat, a window of an international organization, every 2 year will create an image of instability of the Association: this can be resolved by announcements and promotional publications about the Association.
  - The secretariat suggests the following:
    - A number of regional governments proposed an establishment of a permanent secretariat but there was no agreement on its function and role.
    - Because there exists several advantages of having the rotating secretariat system it is possible to establish more effective and efficient rotating secretariat.
with improvement on its operation.

- The direction of the secretariat is the fundamental basis of the organization and the result of numerous in-depth discussions prior to the establishment of the Association in 1996 is to establish a rotating secretariat. In order for the Association to operate and develop on the basis of trust, the proposal must be implemented after having numerous in-depth discussions.

[Chairman]
- The view of the secretariat was that it is appropriate to further examine and discuss on the direction of the secretariat system including the verification of the current rotating secretariat system.
- We will hear supplementary explanations and opinions from Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea and Toyama prefecture, Japan who have the intention to establish a permanent secretariat in their location.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- The establishment of the permanent secretariat was voted to be decided in the Working Sub-Committee meeting in Hyogo General Assembly in 2000. In the Sub-Committee meeting, the participating regional governments have agreed on the proposal of establishing a secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province and have recognized the issues of the current system. Based on the consent from the regional governments of the working Sub-Committee, Gyeongsangbuk-do province submits the proposal to The Working Committee today.
- Therefore, the key point of the discussion today is to report the proposal to the General Assembly after having in-depth discussion on the location and form of the permanent secretariat as was decided in the Working Sub-Committee meeting.
- The province thinks that it is not necessary to discuss the need for the permanent secretariat since all the participating regional governments in the Working Sub-Committee meeting agreed on the need for the permanent secretariat and recognized the problems of the current rotating secretariat.
- The province thinks that the secretariat has no right to argue the need for the permanent secretariat, which has already gone through numerous discussions in the international conferences.

[Toyama Prefecture]
- Toyama prefecture agrees with the direction of establishing the permanent secretariat. However, the prefecture perceives that the discussion of the member regional governments on various issues has not yet resolved such as deciding whether to establish it as annex or exclusive secretariat, the line of command, the relationship between the rotating chair regional government, and expenses.
- The prefecture thus views that more in-depth discussion is most needed on how to establish the permanent secretariat.
- The prefecture also has the intention to establish the permanent secretariat in Toyama prefecture.

[Secretariat]
- The views coincide on the need for the permanent secretariat. However, the form of the secretariat is to be discussed from now on.
• The Working Sub–Committee discussed the proposal to prepare a draft in contribution to the effective evaluation of the Working Committee, not to decide on the proposal. After the discussion, the secretariat was decided to make a draft on establishing the permanent secretariat to be submitted to The Working Committee.
• Both drafts A and B pose problems, so the secretariat thinks more evaluations are needed before setting the direction of the proposal.
• Therefore, the secretariat thinks it is appropriate for the Association to further evaluate the proposal and to improve the current secretariat instead of the time being.

[Sakhalin Region]
• The permanent secretariat is necessary and Gyeongsangbuk–do province is the appropriate location for the permanent secretariat. Geographically, the province is the most convenient place for all the member regional governments of the Association to visit.
• “Northern Forum” also has a permanent secretariat, an organization with the membership including Hokkaido, some regional governments from US, China, and South Korea, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) in Russia, and Finland.
• Let us draw up a draft for the General Assembly next year to decide in detail.

[Gyeongsangbuk–do Province]
• The province will point out 5 problems of the Draft B suggested by the secretariat.
  ① The history of the Association will lose consistency with the current secretariat system. The Association needs a think–tank to revitalize the activities of the Association and the function of managing the data systematically to publish the NEAR white paper. As an international organization, the Association requires to create a permanent contact point.
  ②, ③ The secretariat is to manage the mediation, ideality, and consistency of similar projects among the regional governments. The line of command will be consistent once the chairman of the Association appoints the head of the permanent secretariat. Gyeongsangbuk–do province possesses the geographical advantage in playing the role of mediation. The permanent secretariat should develop new policies and function as a think tank by collecting and exchanging data.
  ④ Without the permanent secretariat, the Association cannot establish a strong foothold as an international organization. The Association must publish newsletters, manage a web page, and develop joint projects for the development of the Association. Gyeongsangbuk–do province is qualified in the historical, geographical, and economic term.
  ⑤ The province views the decision has already been made as the result of the Working Sub–Committee meeting. The province assumes the division of functions and of roles must have been discussed and decided fully in that meeting. We have taken 8 years on this proposal and Gyeongsangbuk–do province thinks that the next General Assembly must, by all means, decide to establish the permanent secretariat by improving the weaknesses of the proposal.

[Chairman]
• May I point out that the Working Sub–Committee decided to proceed with coordination and evaluation, not to establish the permanent secretariat?
[Toyama Prefecture]
- Toyama prefecture agrees with the need for the permanent secretariat to resolve
  the problems of the current rotating secretariat. However, establishing an
  exclusive secretariat is more appropriate than establishing an annex secretariat as
  suggested by Gyeongsangbuk-do province. Association currently has numerous
  problems including the issue of the membership fees,
- Hence, the prefecture does not agree with the annex proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-
do province, and wishes for a further discussion.

[Chairman]
- “The Northern Forum” mentioned by Sakhalin region already has an established
  membership fee system.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- Different members may possess slightly different views due to the different
  systems in their countries, but Gyeongsangbuk-do province thinks the following:
  When the "Hyogo-Awaji Declaration" was formed last year, all the participants
  here agreed with the proposal of establishing the permanent secretariat of the
  province, and there was no clear objection. Therefore, the province assumed all
  the members agreed. Also, the province understands that the proposal has gone
  through the discussion of The Working Committee and then of the Working Sub-
  Committee to be supplemented. The proposal was supplemented by accepting the
  opinions of each regional government in the aforementioned meetings, and those
  entire procedures amount to nothing if the proposal is revoked now.
- Gyeongsangbuk-do province has been most active in suggesting the establishment
  of the permanent secretariat for the first time and in being responsible of the
  expense coverage. The province does recognize there may be some problems
  needing improvements. It is not appropriate for the development of the Association
  to hinder suggestions of any regional government with some trivial excuses.
- If each regional member sharply disagrees, this matter may be decided by the
  majority vote.

[Secretariat]
- In the General Assembly last year, there was simply no objection: It does not mean
  there was no objection in details. For example, it was not decided to contemplate
  whether to establish annexed secretariat in the Working Sub-Committee meeting.
  The secretariat reviewed the proposal in terms of the direction of the secretariat
  by considering many aspects,
- The part that there was agreement in the Working Sub-Committee meeting is
  slightly different from what the secretariat understood. The secretariat decided to
  reevaluate the proposal on establishing the permanent secretariat and there was
  no agreement on the function in the Working Sub-Committee meeting.
- Gyeongsangbuk-do province mentioned that this proposal has been on the table
  for 5 years since the establishment of the Association, 8 years including the period
  prior to the establishment of the Association, but the Association had agreed at
  the time of the foundation of the Association that the rotating secretariat system
  is the best option after numerous discussions. On the contrary, the proposal of
establishing the permanent secretariat has been on the table for less than one year since the General Assembly last year. Therefore, the secretariat views that the proposal requires thorough discussion before its implementation.

- The secretariat mentions this because it holds the responsibility to review the proposal in various aspects for the future of the Association.

[Gangwon-do Province]
- Gangwon-do province thinks it is against common sense for the secretariat to speak for a specific regional government, opinion of the Toyama prefecture that it is too early and the proposal of the secretariat are more or less the same. In a sense, the secretariat seems to keep bringing up the views of Toyama prefecture throughout this meeting.
- Too much time has been wasted on where to establish the permanent secretariat. The province thinks the decision of the Working Sub-Committee should be reflected. The secretariat has conducted a survey on the intention of each member regional government to establish the secretariat in its location, Gyeongsangbuk-do province expressed its clear intention, whereas Toyama prefecture showed its intention provided that the additional conditions such as the membership fees were met.
- Therefore, the report should be submitted to the General Assembly on which regional government supported which of the two proposals: the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province or the proposal of Toyama prefecture. Or, the province suggests that the secretariat should organize and report how to establish the permanent secretariat based on the proposals of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture during the remaining time.

[Chairman]
- The secretariat did not conduct the proceedings in a biased manner. The chairman requests for understanding since the secretariat has submitted the drafts after thorough evaluation and organization.

[Khabarovsk Territory]
- How about establishing the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province on an experimental base since the province suggested to cover the expenses. The territory thinks the Association will know what specific problems will arise if the permanent secretariat is actually established. Let us establish the permanent secretariat for 2 years.

[Chairman]
- Khabarovsk territory took a step forward with this suggestion.

[Ishikawa Prefecture]
- Ishikawa prefecture understands Gyeongsangbuk-do province is suggesting the secretariat playing a role of a think tank. The prefecture suggests considering such role to be an official organization of the Association and the establishment of the permanent secretariat requires further evaluation.

[Chairman]
- Does this mean to recognize the “think tank” as a NEAR supporting organization?

[Ishikawa Prefecture]
- How about creating a think tank based on the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do
province and have a separate discussion further on the permanent secretariat?

[Toyama Prefecture]

- Toyama prefecture comprehended from the comment of the governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province in the Hyogo General Assembly wishing to establish a permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province was to review the general direction of establishing a permanent body, not to limit the decision to establish an annexed permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. The prefecture interpreted the comment as deeply understanding the issue of establishing the permanent body and establishing a review committee for that purpose.
- The prefecture does not recognize that the proposal was passed as the result of the Working Sub-Committee meeting to establish a permanent body in Gyeongsangbuk-do province along with the rotating secretariat.
- When the secretariat asked whether Toyama prefecture had the intention to establish a permanent body, the prefecture answered yes, but the prefecture did not suggest the type of the permanent body.
- The prefecture suggests that because there can be member regional governments other than Toyama prefecture with the same intention, so the opportunity needs to be presented to suggest the format of the establishment of the permanent secretariat including the expense coverage

[Chairman]

- Toyama prefecture proposes a permanent body. Although The Working Committee does not have the authority to decide, the chairman wishes to avoid the majority vote if possible and to proceed the discussion in a constructive manner.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]

- Jeollabuk-do would like to point out the problem in the way the discussion is moderated.
- Generally, when the Working Sub-Committee reports the discussed matter to The Working Committee, then The Working Committee engages in a supplementary discussion to draw the conclusion. Regarding the discussion of the last working Sub-Committee, Gyeongsangbuk-do province proposed to cover the cost of the permanent secretariat until the issue of the membership fee is cleared, whereas Toyama prefecture suggested to create an exclusive permanent secretariat instead of an annexed one and to establish the permanent secretariat after resolving the expense coverage. This discussion was organized by the secretariat to reach this point, but the secretariat is putting the two drafts aside and is now suggesting discussing the issue of the current rotating secretariat. Such suggestion completely disregards the procedures up to now.
- So far, we have four different suggestions: Gyeongsangbuk-do province proposed to establish the permanent secretariat along with the current rotating secretariat and to cover the expense of the establishment while Toyama prefecture suggested that more time should be spent on discussing the characteristic of the permanent secretariat. Ishikawa prefecture suggested to make the permanent body proposed by Gyeongsangbuk-do province as a think tank and to establish the permanent secretariat in a different format, whereas the secretariat proposed to improve the
current rotating secretariat.

- It is essential to discuss in detail which proposal to select among those four. Just keep in mind when hosting the discussion that there has been enough discussion in the Sub-Committee meeting on the current proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and the Russian regional governments, Gyeongsangnam-do province, and Gangwon-do province supported the proposal.

[Chairman]

- The secretariat will once again clarify the procedures of the Working Sub-Committee. The secretariat will ask Toyama prefecture one more time whether the prefecture has the intention to establish the permanent secretariat. Regarding the suggestion of Ishikawa prefecture, the chairman would like to confirm whether it is okay to understand the think tank as the NEAR supporting organization as stipulated in the NEAR Charter.

[Secretariat]

- It was pointed out that the secretariat is disregarding the procedures up to now, but the secretariat has no such intention. Working Sub-Committee has pointed out that there is a flaw in the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province, which is kept as a written record. Based on such discussion, the secretariat decided to further organize the matter. Therefore, the secretariat did not simply list various suggestions, but evaluated which format would be the best for the Association. And came to a conclusion that the two drafts submitted today were reviewed in various ways but still pose many problems.

- The secretariat therefore suggested that improving the current rotating secretariat was another option considering the circumstances surrounding the permanent secretariat. The secretariat did not disregard the discussions up to now.

[Ishikawa Prefecture]

- The prefecture agrees with the opinion of spending more time to evaluate the proposal since the proposal requires some revisions and improvements even though it was agreed that the permanent secretariat is needed.

- The proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province to revitalize the Association is also important, and the draft suggested by Gyeongsangbuk-do province includes the part where the permanent secretariat functions as a think tank, so this function should be made an organization recognized by the Association and the proposal of establishing the permanent secretariat should be discussed further.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]

- More objections are expected in establishing an exclusive permanent secretariat without the rotating secretariat. Once the organ is named as the permanent secretariat, budget and human resources are required, so the title is necessary. The title is also necessary for the operation.

- The discussion has remained stationary for several times so the province wishes to hear the opinion of each regional government one by one. This matter will not be decided today, but such procedure is required to produce the draft of the agenda.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]

- The province suggests to proceed with the discussion by dividing the proposals of
Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Ishikawa prefecture, and the secretariat into two.

[Shimane Prefecture]
- The prefecture thinks that there is no need to track back to the discussion of the Working Sub-Committee. What the prefecture wishes to confirm is that the conclusion of the Working Sub-Committee was that the permanent secretariat is needed. The prefecture hoped to discuss how to realize the establishment of the permanent secretariat on the premise of the conclusion, but it is unfortunate that the discussion today is divided into the two, namely the opinion that it is too early to establish the permanent secretariat and the suggestion to first establishing the permanent secretariat.
- The prefecture views that the discussion must be engaged to recognize and resolve the problems in the direction of establishing the permanent secretariat. It seems appropriate for the secretariat to take all the opinions into consideration and to submit a feasible agenda to the General Assembly.
- Shimane prefecture perceives that the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province is the easiest to adopt as the first step for the transition from the current rotating secretariat system to the permanent secretariat. The prefecture came to this conclusion because the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province respects the current rotating secretariat system in a sense that efforts of the rotating secretariat with Hyogo prefecture taking the lead are highly appreciated and that it seeks the development of the Association by succeeding such efforts through the permanent secretariat.
- Shimane prefecture highly values and supports the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province, but the prefecture does not see that the Association will develop with this proposal alone. The prefecture thinks it is most reasonable to conduct the discussion based on opinions of all the members and requests the secretariat to make more of the effort.

[Chairman]
- The proposal will have great influence in the future so the chairman intends to gather various opinions and have in-depth evaluation to establish the permanent secretariat in the best way possible.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- The province sees that it would be acceptable to set the principles regarding the establishment of the permanent secretariat and discuss and decide based on the principles among a few regional governments on the details such as the authority, structure, system, role, and function of the permanent secretariat. First the bigger principles need to be determined.

[Tuv Province]
- The permanent secretariat is necessary and to choose the best method is something to be managed from now on.
- As we still have some time left, both Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture should submit the detailed proposals to the member regional governments to review. The province hopes to make a decision in the next
Khabarovsk General Assembly.

[Chairman]
- The chair, authorized by the secretariat, reviewed the matter thoroughly and organized the issues and the possible location regarding the establishment of the permanent secretariat. Do you all agree with establishing the permanent secretariat as suggested just now?

[Yamagata Prefecture]
- The prefecture does not see the connection between the part where the conclusion is to establish the permanent secretariat and the part where the current secretariat needs to be improved as suggested by the secretariat in this meeting. Please explain once more.

[Secretariat]
- The Working Sub-Committee discussed the establishment of the permanent secretariat based on the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province. However, the secretariat pointed out that there are many problems concerning the detailed function or the line of command of the aforementioned matter, so under such circumstances, the Working Sub-Committee decided the secretariat to review the proposal on establishing the permanent secretariat and to submit the result to the Working Committee.
- The secretariat reviewed the matter from various angles and concluded that there are still many problems at the current level. The secretariat reasoned that the method of operation of the rotating secretariat can still be improved if the permanent secretariat poses such problems and thus suggested the proposal.

[Yamagata Prefecture]
- The prefecture understood it as the secretariat suggesting two different proposals: the establishment of the permanent secretariat and the improvement of the current system.

[Chairman]
- For clarification, Shimane prefecture proposed just now that each regional government should establish a permanent secretariat and that the decision should be made in the direction of establishing the permanent secretariat since whatever problems that may arise can be overcome. Would it be okay to understand the proposal as the general opinion of all the participants?

[Yamagata Prefecture]
- The prefecture now understands the direction of the discussion.

[Ishikawa Prefecture]
- Understood.

[Chairman]
- As suggested by Shimane prefecture, the permanent secretariat is necessary, and although there may be problems, they can be overcome. Would it be okay to regard the opinion as requiring more coordination on deciding which format is appropriate?

[Sakhalin Region]
- Certainly. Shimane prefecture suggested a very well-organized proposal.
[Chairman]
- To proceed the discussion, Toyama prefecture was asked to comment later. Due to time constraint, please comment briefly.

[Toyama Prefecture]
- Since the permanent secretariat is the face of the Association, all the other regional governments must have their own opinion on the issue. Toyama prefecture would like to play a responsible role and so does Gyeongsangbuk-do province. Other regional governments may express a similar opinion. That is why Toyama prefecture decided, even with the clear intention to establish the permanent secretariat in the province, to hear the opinions of all the participants, to express the proposal of Toyama prefecture of establishing a permanent body when it is decided in detail until when the permanent body will be established and to discuss and promote the matter with other regional governments with the intention of establishing the permanent body.

[Chairman]
- Toyama prefecture meant to ask whether there are other regional governments wishing to establish the permanent body and the prefecture does have the intention to establish the permanent secretariat and will evaluate the matter.
- Although all the member regional governments are not participating in this meeting today, the chairman would like to confirm again the intention of establishing the permanent secretariat once more. Are there other member regional governments with such intention?

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- The province would like to point out again the way how the chairman moderates the discussion.
- The chairman has been proceeding the discussion by simply hearing the opinions instead of weighing pros and cons of various proposals suggested. The province is under the impression that the chairman is delaying the proceeding of discussion on purpose.
- Toyama prefecture expressed its intention to establish the permanent secretariat and to cover the expense of the establishment. Moreover, Gyeongsangbuk-do province has already prepared and brought a plan. How about this working committee deciding to establish the NEAR permanent secretariat and allowing the regional governments determined to cover the expense to apply within a certain period of time to the secretariat for the establishment of the permanent secretariat until the membership fee issue is settled and then to report to the Khabarovsk General Assembly?

[Chairman]
- The secretariat and the chairman are not intending to postpone the voting process. As mentioned before, this matter is not to be decided by a majority vote. The Working Committee is an organization to examine issues; the issues concerning the basis of the Association and the Charter are to be determined in the General Assembly.
- Based on the opinions from Shimane prefecture, the chairman intends to confirm
that 'There are some issues about the permanent secretariat but if the members have in-depth discussions from now on, they can be overcome. The collected opinion of the members is basically to establish a permanent secretariat,' and to proceed further with discussion: The chairman has no intention to stop the discussion nor to overrule the outcome.

- So far, beside Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture, there is no other member intending to establish the permanent secretariat in its region and the flow of this meeting goes toward pro to the establishment of the permanent secretariat. For there is some time until the Khabarovsk General Assembly, the chairman wants to mediate this by, if possible, letting Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, both of which intend to establish the permanent secretariat in their location, Khabarovsk territory, the next chair regional government, and Hyogo prefecture, the secretariat, have a profound evaluation on this issue and then propose the result as an agenda for the next Khabarovsk General Assembly. What say you?

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- It seems that The Working Committee wants to close without making any decision on the issue. Does The Working Committee intend not to determine anything? If not, clarify what are the matters to be decided in this meeting.

[Chairman]
- Even though some issues were found to be resolved in The Working Committee meeting, the chairman intends to adjust this matter so that a draft of establishing the permanent secretariat shall be submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly.
- Because no other regional government is willing to establish the permanent secretariat in its location, except Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture, the chairman wants to confirm the adjustment where Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture shall have in-depth discussions and propose the direction of the permanent secretariat at the General Assembly.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- What does the chairman mean: to prepare the draft or to report the draft at the Khabarovsk General Assembly after preparation?

[Chairman]
- • Report the draft at the Khabarovsk General Assembly after preparation.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- Does the chairman mean that, based on the discussion of today’s Working Committee meeting, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture will have a four-party talk and the result from this talk will be arranged into a draft to be submitted to the General Assembly?

[Chairman]
- • Exactly.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- If the report contains only the result from the four-party talk as mentioned
before, then there would be no point of presenting the opinions from other member regional governments, wouldn’t there? Therefore, Gyeongsangnam-do Province thinks that the report should contain the details of today’s discussion, including who supported which proposal and all the other proposals, and then the arranged report should be submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly.

[Chairman]
• Toyama prefecture and Gyeongsangbuk-do province showed their intention to establish the permanent secretariat in their location and the conclusion of today’s discussion is to establish the permanent secretariat. However, for there exist many issues to resolve, a discussion on the detailed establishment procedure. Thus, let us proceed gradually by adjusting and resolving this matter.
• Hence, regarding the establishment of a permanent secretariat, the issues of the location and form of the permanent secretariat shall be submitted as an agenda to the next General Assembly. The final decision will be made at the General Assembly; the four-party talk shall not decide anything. The overall summary is that the four-party talk shall prepare a draft to report at the next General Assembly.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do province]
• The members came to the consensus that establishing a permanent secretariat is needed. The reason why it took so long time is that Gyeongsangbuk-do and Toyama presented their suggestions and there were many differences in their opinions. If the four regional governments are to have discussion to prepare a consensus proposal as the chairman has mentioned, Gyeongsangnam-do province wants the final adjustment to include a phrase where the individual proposals of each of four regional governments are also to be submitted as an agenda for the next General Assembly to be decided in case the four-party talk cannot come to a consensus.

[Chairman]
• The chairman intends to submit to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in that way.

[Toyama Prefecture]
• Toyama prefecture understands that there is a consensus of establishing a permanent secretariat and that a proposal will be prepared by the Khabarovsk General Assembly.
• Toyama prefecture was, as mentioned earlier, going to cover the expenses by itself if it becomes the location of the permanent secretariat but until now Toyama has not mentioned it but discussed the idea in The Working Committee or Sub-Committee meetings.
• Toyama prefecture considers this meeting as a place to enhance the discussion on the permanent secretariat and thinks it is not the purpose of this meeting to vote on the suggestion of Gyeongsangbuk-do province in this working committee; Please understand this was why Toyama intends to have an in-depth discussion with you.
• Therefore, Toyama prefecture recognizes that the consensus has been formed this time to establish a permanent secretariat and also wants to establish the permanent secretariat with concrete details on the issue of the expense coverage; Toyama prefecture intends to make detailed suggestions on that matter and to discuss them with Gyeongsangbuk-do province.
[Heilongjiang Province]

- Due to time constraint, how the secretariat will be established in the future will not likely be decided within today, so please include in the summary that the key points of the discussion of this committee today are: (1) Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture expressed their intention to establish the permanent secretariat; (2) The secretariat must submit and organize the summary to the Khabarovsk General Assembly next September.

[Chairman]

- The permanent secretariat will be established. The chairman will summarize that the secretariat will prepare a draft for the next Khabarovsk General Assembly which includes the fact that Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture have shown their intention to establish the permanent secretariat in their location.

○ Report 2 – Concerning the Overview of Hosting the 2002 General Assembly

[Khabarovsk Territory]

- Khabarovsk is making efforts in the direction to invite the DPRK and a positive decision is expected according to an unofficial information.

- Considering the flight schedule, the Khabarovsk General Assembly will be held for two days from Tuesday. The first day will include the meeting and the reception, and the second day the meeting and the tour.

- Concerning the budget, the calculation method of cost allotment discussed with the participants today will be applied. The total cost of allotment is 17,500 dollars, including 7,800 dollars for the preparation of the conference material and 9,700 dollars for the operation of the conference. Dividing this cost according to the method discussed with the participants just now would result in 250 dollars. The Association “Far East and Transbaikalia” has been cooperating greatly in preparing for the next General Assembly.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]

- The number 250 dollars was calculated on the premise of all 35 members participating in the meeting. Since only the participating regional governments are to share the cost and the amount will change in the case of only 20 regional governments participating, so please set the amount per person by considering the number of participants sometime next year.

- As mentioned in the last General Assembly and the Working Sub-Committee in February, there was some discussion as to getting the DPRK involved in the next General Assembly. The province requests for an explanation on the progress and the future direction of the discussion.

[Secretariat]

- As explained during the discussion, the share of allotment is to be calculated in a simple way and finalized within a short period of time. In the calculation, the cost is shared among all the 35 NEAR member regional governments, but only the participating regional governments are subject to actual sharing of cost. For example, if only 25 regional governments participate, the remaining cost will be covered by the host regional government. Therefore, the host regional government
needs to get as many regional governments involved. This system also requests the host regional government to urge other regional governments to actively participate.

- Russia has been active in inviting the DPRK and the delegation of Shimane prefecture put efforts to make the participation of the DPRK possible. May I request Shimane prefecture for further explanation on this point?

[Shimane Prefecture]

- In May, Shimane prefecture dispatched a delegation to the DPRK to explain about the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments to the director of the International Affairs Department of the DPRK and strongly urged the DPRK to participate in the 2002 Khabarovsk General Assembly. The DPRK responded to review the matter positively.

[Chairman]

- The interpretation is extended since this meeting is scheduled until 16:00. With the consensus of the participants, the chairman would like to summarize the meeting in the remaining time. The detailed minute of the meeting will be produced separately and the report will be sent to all the regional governments.

○ Summary of the Chairman

[Chairman]

- It took longer time than expected and therefore exceeded the expected interpretation time. The chair will briefly summarize the meeting.

[Secretariat]

- (Read the Summary)
  
  However, number 5 was discussed as follows:
  5. Regarding the establishment of the permanent secretariat and the direction of the secretariat, it was agreed to discuss the direction of the secretariat and to establish the permanent secretariat as an international organization in order to promote the reasonable and effective operation of the Association, but it also became clear that there are many issues to be evaluated and organized such as (1) the function of the secretariat; (2) the line of command; and (3) the operation cost of the secretariat. Concerning the establishment of the permanent secretariat, it was agreed that further discussion including the function and the format of the establishment of the secretariat will be engaged and the detailed proposal will be made in the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002.

[Chairman]

  Separate minutes of the meeting will be produced so please refer to the minutes for more information.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]

- The matters discussed up to now regarding the establishment of the permanent secretariat were not at all reflected in number 5. The agreement seems to be made on the premise of Hyogo prefecture commenting that the matter should be postponed since it still poses problems. The summary should include the following:
  First of all, as the chairman mentioned just now, all the members agreed on
establishing the permanent secretariat.

- Secondly, many regional governments agreed with the establishment of the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. Toyama prefecture also expressed the intention to establish the permanent secretariat. Thirdly, regarding the function and the format of establishing the permanent secretariat, four regional governments of Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Hyogo prefecture, and Khabarovsk territory shall prepare and submit the agreement to the Khabarovsk General Assembly. Fourthly, in case of the four regional governments not being able to reach an agreement, each regional government should submit its own opinion to the Khabarovsk General Assembly as far as understood. More discussion is required before finalizing the summary.

[Chairman]
- The basic idea of the agreement on establishing the permanent secretariat and of submitting the detailed proposal to the Khabarovsk General Assembly is as you mentioned. Such matter cannot be prepared as the summary of the Chairman due to time constraint, the details are not written, but the fundamental concept of establishing the permanent secretariat is agreed. Although it is not written in the summary, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Hyogo prefecture as the chair regional government, and Khabarovsk territory as the next chair regional government shall mediate and prepare to report to the Khabarovsk General Assembly.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- The summary of the Chairman is the conclusion of the meeting. The summary does not reflect at all the matters I mentioned. In the case of the discussion among the aforementioned four regional governments not going smoothly, the establishment of the permanent secretariat will be postponed again. Did not the chairman state the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and the proposal of Toyama prefecture will be submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly if the matter cannot be mediated?

[Chairman]
- The chairman agrees with the establishment of the permanent secretariat. And the preparation of the submission to the Khabarovsk territory will be made in that direction.

[Sakhalin Region]
- The region thinks the attitude of Gyeongsangbuk-do province towards the chairman is inappropriate. This summary states the matter clearly. The summary also includes that the proposal must be produced to be submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly. If the agreement was not reached, can it not be completed in the General Assembly?

[Busan Metropolitan City]
- The result of the discussion mentioned just now is not stated in number 5 of the summary. The establishment of the permanent secretariat is agreed, so just leave the part where Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture wish to establish the permanent secretariat in their regions.
[Chairman]

- There is no time to state the matter in detail today, but it would be included that Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture expressed its intention to establish the secretariat, reflecting the comment of Sakhalin region and Busan Metropolitan City.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]

- Is not the chairman trying to drop the matter with the excuse of time constraint? There is no point whatsoever of the meeting if the meeting concludes in this fashion. Did not Gyeongsangbuk-do province summarize its suggestion and present its opinion just now? The province requests the chairman to rewrite that the agreement was reached.

[Chairman]

- As have been mentioned, the agreement was reached to first establish the permanent secretariat. Although it is not written in the summary, the part where Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Hyogo prefecture, and Khabarovsk territory will mediate is mentioned in the minute. The submission to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002 includes these two matters.
- Will it not suffice to include the intention of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture to establish the permanent secretariat as suggested by Busan Metropolitan City?

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]

- The matter needs to be stated in a written document to suffice. Was it not agreed to produce an agreement and if that is not possible, the proposals of the two regional governments will be separately submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly to be decided? Revise and remake the summary.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]

- Since there is not much time, revise the summary so that the current secretariat and the two regional governments wishing to establish the permanent secretariat, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture, should gather the opinion and report back to this meeting to pass.

[Toyama Prefecture]

- The chairman is requested to make revision. In the part where it states "it was agreed to discuss the direction of the secretariat and to establish the permanent secretariat as an international organization," the following should be added: "Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Republic of Korea, and Toyama prefecture, Japan, showed the intention to establish the permanent secretariat. It was decided that Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Hyogo prefecture, Hyogo prefecture as the chair, and Khabarovsk territory as the vice chair were to proceed with a more in-depth evaluation." Towards the end of the summary, it was agreed that the detailed suggestion would be made in the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002, so the proposal would be created no matter what, and the draft would likely be produced as Gyeongsangbuk-do province commented. Therefore, Toyama prefecture understands that there is no need to write it here.
- How about revising to include: Thus, Toyama prefecture and Gyeongsangbuk-do
province have agreed and the chair and the vice chair (the next chair— and vice chair regional government) decided to discuss together the matter for the Khabarovsk General Assembly. It was agreed to submit the detailed proposal to the 2002 Khabarovsk General Assembly.

[Chairman]
- Thinks it is the same idea. The following is omitted: (1) It was agreed to establish the permanent secretariat; (2) Although not stated in detail in this summary, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture will mediate for the establishment of the permanent secretariat and submit a detailed proposal to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002; (3) Though included here, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture expressed their intention to establish the permanent secretariat in their regions. This part will be revised and sent as soon as possible.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- It should be included that Toyama prefecture, Japan, and Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea, expressed their intention to establish the permanent secretariat in their region and to cover the cost themselves until the issue of the membership fee is resolved.

[Chairman]
- The chairman thinks that including the expense coverage is not necessary. The secretariat will explain this part one more time.

[Secretariat]
- Then let us rearrange.
- Firstly, it was agreed to establish the permanent secretariat. Secondly, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture showed the intention to establish the permanent secretariat in their regions. Thirdly, detailed discussion will be engaged in by Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture. It was agreed that a detailed proposal will be submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002 with the result of the evaluation. It can be understood that the “detailed proposal” is to “suggest in some form” and when it is agreed to submit a single proposal, the suggestions of both parties are included in the proposal. The secretariat thinks all the participants have agreed on these three.

[Chairman]
- These points will be included and the summary will be revised promptly to be distributed when participants are still here.

[Khabarovsk Territory]
- There is a possibility of some other regional government showing the intention to establish the permanent secretariat if the intention of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture is not included to operate the permanent secretariat on their own finance until the issue of budget and the membership fee is resolved.

[Chairman]
- Understood.
[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
• Most regional governments agreed on the establishment of the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province but there is no mention of the agreement. Hence, it is desired to state exactly as it was discussed in the meeting.
• State also that the opinion of each regional member will be included in the summary if the four regional governments did not reach an agreement. Since four regional governments are mediating the matter, one cannot say that they can definitely reach an agreement.

[Gangwon-do Province]
• How about not spending time like this and giving one more chance to the related regional governments to mediate and the other regional governments accepting the agreement if they reach one?

[Chairman]
• Is that comment regarding the summary (of the meeting today)?

[Gangwon-do Province]
• It is concerning the item number five.

[Chairman]
• The discussed matter will be carefully recorded, so let us first focus on one point if possible.

[Gangwon-do Province]
• The province perceives that the agreement is reached to revise the summary according to the comments of Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, and other regional governments. However, an opportunity must be given to discuss how to write the revision and to produce together the revision.

[Chairman]
• The contracted interpretation time ended over an hour ago. The issue concerns with the expression of how far the revision will go in the written document, so how about Toyama prefecture, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture getting together after this meeting to mediate and revise the written document of number five of the summary?

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
• What the chairman is suggesting is that the four regional governments will mediate the matter. However, the province views that this matter is very sensitive, so the mediation should take place with this sensitive part into full consideration

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
• There are people capable of communicating among each regional government without interpretation. Any meeting needs a conclusion. There can be no end to this discussion if this continues. Therefore, I suggest that we take a 5-minute break, produce the summary, and take the summary as the conclusion of the meeting.

[Toyama Prefecture]
• Toyama prefecture understands through the meeting that there are some regional governments agreeing with the annex proposal of Gyeongsangbuk-do province.
• However, Toyama did not consider this meeting a place to pass a detailed proposal. The prefecture clearly expressed its intention to establish the permanent
secretariat and to cover the expenses until the issue of membership fee is resolved. So, from now on Toyama will have to show you a detailed proposal like Gyeongsangbuk-do did, but if a phrase that ‘members agreed with the suggestion of Gyeongsangbuk-do province’ is indicated in the summary, Toyama prefecture thinks it would not be fair.

[Gyeongsangnam-do Province]
- The secretariat conducted a survey and Gyeongsangnam-do faced it seriously regarding the permanent secretariat. The province thinks that your attitude of ‘okay, then I will suggest seriously’ is not a proper attitude to attend a meeting to resolve a problem. To suggest this proposal without any preparation lacks sincerity and also is disrespectful to other regional governments. If you make that comment to revoke well-evaluated opinions of other regional governments up to now, what is the meaning of the discussion so far?

[Chairman]
- As any further discussion will not make the conclusion, I will decide as the chairman. Now, the secretariat will verify the items. Even though all the members have the same feelings, there are subtle differences in expressing them and thus I will proceed with the meeting so that the expression will be discussed after the end of this meeting. Now the secretariat will verbally explain the 5th item of the summary.

[Secretariat]
- To promote the reasonable and effective operation of the Association, there was discussion on the direction of the secretariat and it was agreed to establish a permanent secretariat as an international organization. Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korean and Toyama prefecture, Japan expressed the intention to establish the permanent government on the condition that the expense will be covered by them until the membership fee system is introduced. The function and the form of the permanent secretariat will be evaluated by Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture and a detailed proposal will be submitted to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002. That’s it.

[Chairman]
- I think it contains everything we have discussed. The subtle expressions will be mediated in the future.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- Objection. Did we not say to make a decision here by revising the summary? The province requests the summary to be reorganized from now on to get the overall approval to be passed.

[Chairman]
- The summary of the Chairman is not the minute but to make a brief overview. The complete content of the discussion will be recorded in the minute. Moreover, Sakhalin region and Busan Metropolitan City have already commented that the chairman was not disregarding Gyeongsangbuk-do province at all. The consent of
the discussion is included and the parties directly involved in the matter will mediate the fine differences in the expression later.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- The province is not disregarding the authority of the chairman. The province had the impression that the discussion was very biased because the chairman is including only the opinions of other regional governments.

[Chairman]
- The secretariat will mention the included parts one more time. This is the memo of the chairman and will be mentioned verbally.

[Secretariat]
- It was agreed to establish the permanents secretariat, and Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture expressed the intention to establish the permanent secretariat on the premise that they will cover the expenses until the membership fee system is adopted. Regarding the format of establishing the secretariat, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture will engage in further evaluation, and the four regional governments will submit a detailed proposal to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002. These four points were included.

[Chairman]
- It seems everything Gyeongsangbuk-do province mentioned is generally included.

[Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]
- It is not included that other regional governments consented to the proposal of establishing the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. Also, the province mentioned that it wishes to submit four separate opinions in the case of the four regional governments not reaching an agreement.

[Chairman]
- The detailed issue suggested by Gyeongsangbuk-do province is to write both proposals in the case of nonagreement, but the matter is not decided yet. Why is the province clinging to the matter so much?

[Busan Metropolitan City]
- The city would like to speak to the representative of Gyeongsangbuk-do province; why is the province taking such strict position? The summary is not a document to write such detailed matters because those details are recorded in the minute. This matter was decided to be proposed clearly in the General Assembly. If the province drags on like this, there will only be unnecessary dissent from other participants. The decision of the secretariat today seems fine and the meeting should be concluded.

[Chairman]
- Then the meeting will close for now, and we will take up the matter separately as suggested by Busan Metropolitan City.

[Jeollabuk-do Province]
- Both representatives from Busan Metropolitan City and from Gyeongsangbuk-do province have a point. However, it is important to mark the problems as clear as possible. It seems nearly impossible for Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Toyama prefecture to discuss in the future on the proposal of establishing the permanent
secretariat, so the part should be included where it states two proposals will be submitted to the General Assembly.

[Chairman]

- There was no discussion whatsoever on whether to include two proposals or not (in the summary of the Chairman). Simply, there are two different proposals and two different regional governments intending to establish the permanent secretariat, so Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture will mediate and fundamentally agree to establish the secretariat, and will prepare to submit the proposal to the September General Assembly. That’s it. It is physically impossible for us to extend the meeting, so by the authority of the chairman, the meeting will be concluded with what was mentioned just now.

- The 3rd Working Committee – Summary of the Chairman

The working-level delegates of the regional governments from the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation met together to hold the third working committee meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments at the Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center, Hyogo Prefecture, on August 28th, 2001.

In the midst of globalization in various sectors of the world facing the 21st century, the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments has celebrated its 5th anniversary as the international organization creating the network of exchange and cooperation among the regional governments. The members shared the understanding that it is necessary that the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments enhance the awareness of the importance of interregional collaboration while promoting more substantial activities and actively pushing ahead to find the solution to the joint task of the Northeast Asian region.

The 3rd working committee discussed on the reasonable and effective operation of NEAR, which was decided to be reviewed based on the result of the “2000 Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments,” and reported on the activities of each Sub-Committee and the overview of holding the 2002 Khabarovsk General Assembly. The items of understanding and the reports of the participating regional governments are hereto arranged as the summary of the chairman.

1. Activity report of Sub-Committees

The following reports on activities from the coordinator regional government of each Sub-Committee were made:

   (1) Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade

The state of affairs of the two North East Asia Business Promotion Conferences held in 1998 and in 1999 is reported. Also, the third North East Asia Business Promotion Conference will be held in Gyeongsangbuk-do province in April 2002, and establishing the global e-commerce network will be reviewed including the construction of an information center to promote e-commerce and of trade information data base shared among the members.

   (2) Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange
By holding the 1st Sub-Committee on Culturla Exchange in November 2001, detailed proposals and opinions from the member regional governments will be collected and the implementation of joint projects in the cultural exchange sector will be reviewed.

(3) Sub-Committee on Environment
The state of affairs of holding the 2nd Sub-Committee on Environment in 2000 was reported, and the 3rd Sub-Committee on Environment held in July 12th, 2001, discussed the result of implementing the individual projects for 2000 and the proposals and the state of affairs of individual projects suggested for 2001.

(4) Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
The survey on the disaster prevention systems and policies of the member regional governments was conducted and the report of the “Comprehensive International Investigation of Disaster Prevention Measures” run by Hyogo prefecture was sent to all the member regional governments. Also, the Sub-Committee with actively provide the information on the Great Hanshin–Awaji Earthquake Memorial Center (tentative name) scheduled to be opened in the spring of 2002 in the new downtown of eastern Kobe, Hyogo prefecture, and on the activities of the disaster prevention centers in Asia.

(5) Sub-Committee on General Exchange
The state of affairs of holding the second Sub-Committee on General Exchange held in 2000 was reported. Also, the “NEAR Action Program to Foster Human Resources” was agreed in the 3rd meeting of Sub-Committee on General Exchange held on July 12th, 2001, as a project of cultivating human resources to support exchanges in the Northeast Asian region. Furthermore, it was agreed to provide active support and participation on the 21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention scheduled for 27th to 29th of this October in Toyama prefecture as well as to enhance collaboration among research centers.

2. The cost-sharing for hosting the meeting
The cost-sharing was introduced, agreed, and decided to be discussed in the next General Assembly for the participating regional governments to cover some of the expenses of holding a General Assembly and a Working Committee meeting in order to facilitate holding the meeting in each regional government and to strengthen activities and financial foundation of NEAR in the future.

3. The approval of NEAR on specific projects
To pursue active projects such as international expos, the success of the host regional government, and the promotion of exchanges in and out of the region, and to contribute to the realization of the goals of NEAR, the NEAR approval system on specific projects run by the member regional government was agreed to be established and to be discussed in the next General Assembly.

4. Sponsorship of the Association on individual projects
To promote interregional exchanges, the establishment of a system for the Association to sponsor the individual project run by the NEAR member regional government was agreed, and the “Guideline on the approval of using the name of NEAR as the sponsor” was legislated.
5. Establishment of the permanent secretariat

To promote the reasonable and effective operation of the Association, there were discussions on the secretariat system and it was agreed to establish a permanent secretariat as an international organization, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Republic of Korea, and Toyama prefecture, Japan, expressed their intention to establish the permanent secretariat on the premise that they will cover the expense of establishment until the membership fee is introduced.

Moreover, regarding the function and format of establishing the permanent secretariat, it was agreed that Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Toyama prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, and Hyogo prefecture would engage in further evaluation and mediation and submit a detailed proposal to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September 2002.

6. The fourth General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

Khabarovsk territory reported on the schedule, location, and the overview of holding the fourth General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Khabarovsk territory, Russian Federation, in 2002.

The aforementioned items shall be produced in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian as the summary of the chairman of the 3rd Working Sub-Committee meeting.

D. The 4th Working Committee

(1) Background and Purpose

○ The 3rd working committee meeting was held in Heilongjiang province according to the agreement of the 4th General Assembly of the Association held in Khabarovsk territory, Russia, in September 2002.

○ Purpose – preparation of the 5th General Assembly by enhancing the communication and connection among the member regional governments and promoting mutual understanding

(2) Overview of the Conference

(A) Date : January 12th – January 15th, 2004
(B) Venue : Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province, China
(C) Host : The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, and People’s Government of Heilongjiang Province, China

(D) Participants : 24 regional governments from 5 countries

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Shandong Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Daegu Metropolitan City, Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Kamchatka Territory, Chita Region</td>
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(E) Theme: Strengthening Exchange and Cooperation Among the Northeast Asian Regional Governments

(F) Conference Timetable

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Jan. 12th</td>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>Welcoming Banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Call to Order</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Introduction of participants</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Congratulatory Remarks – Director General of Foreign Affairs Office, Heilongjiang Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:00 ~ 10:00</td>
<td>Agenda 1) Report on the expert committee for the establishment of the permanent secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>(1) Proposal on establishing the permanent secretariat (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
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<td>(2) Proposal on establishing the permanent secretariat (Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(3) Establishing the permanent secretariat at a proper time (Shandong Province)</td>
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<td>10:00 ~ 10:10</td>
<td>Agenda 2) Concerning the reconfirmation of the qualification for the membership (Heilongjiang Province Rotating Secretariat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>10:10 ~ 10:30</td>
<td>Agenda 3) Measures to establish the emblem of the Association (Toyama Prefecture, Heilongjiang Province)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 ~ 10:40</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:40 ~ 11:30</td>
<td>Agenda 4) Report on activities of the sub-committees of each member regional government (Rotating Secretariat of Heilongjiang Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 ~ 13:30</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Tue) Jan. 13th</td>
<td>14:00 ~ 14:30</td>
<td>Agenda 5) Measures for human exchange among the member regional governments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14:30 ~ 15:30</td>
<td>Agenda 6) Measures to enhance the exchange and cooperation on economy, trade, and environmental protection among the member regional governments</td>
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<td>(1) Realization of mutual prosperity and extension of cooperation (Heilongjiang Province)</td>
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<td>(2) Promotion of exchange and cooperation in economy and environmental protection (Toyama Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(3) Cooperation among border regions (Khabarovsk Territory)</td>
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<td>(4) Promotion of Shandong peninsula manufacturing base and the 2nd Northeast Asia Economic Forum and Green Industry Expo in 2004 (Shandong Province)</td>
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<td>(5) Northeast Asian Business Expo (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(6) “International Machinery Expo 2004 in Korea” (Gyeongsangnam-do Province)</td>
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<td>(7) Economic cooperation through the establishment of the railway transport network (Gangwon-do Province)</td>
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<td>15:30 ~ 15:40</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15:40 ~ 16:20</td>
<td>Agenda 7) Item on the issue of the next NEAR rotating secretariat (Rotating Secretariat of Heilongjiang Province)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16:20 ~ 16:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:30</td>
<td>Summary of the Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>Closing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(3) Proceeding of the Conference

(A) Call to Order (Director General of Foreign Affairs Office, Heilongjiang Province)

(B) Congratulatory Remarks (Director General of Foreign Affairs Office, Heilongjiang Province)

(C) Progress report on the major activities

- Progress report from each Sub–Committee
  - Sub–Committee on Environment (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
    - Held the 5th Sub–Committee on Environment meeting in October 2003
    - Status report on the introduction of environmental white paper and the implementation of individual projects
  - Sub–Committee on General Exchange (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
    - Held the 5th Sub–Committee on General Exchange meeting in October 2003
    - Proposed hosting the Northeast Asian Women’s Convention
    - Proposed hosting the mutual exchange events for children and youth in the Northeast Asian region
  - Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention (Hyogo Prefecture, Japan)
    - Held the 5th Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting in October 2003
    - Presented the status of activities of the Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention
  - Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk–do Province, South Korea)
    - Held the meetings of the Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade in 2002 and 2003
    - Presentation on the organization and operation of the “Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion”
    - Presentation on the establishment of the “Northeast Asian Economic and Trade Network,” etc.

- Proposals and Discussions
  - Gyeongsangbuk–do Province: Proposal of establishing the permanent secretariat
  - Hyogo Prefecture: Proposal of clarifying the position of the NEAR member regional governments
  - Toyama Prefecture, Heilongjiang Province: Proposal of establishing the NEAR emblem
  - Toyama Prefecture: Proposal of enhancing the human exchange among the NEAR members
  - Toyama Prefecture, etc.: Strengthening exchanges and cooperation in economy and environmental protection among the NEAR members
  - Heilongjiang Province: Proposal on application for the next chair regional government of NEAR

- Summary of the Proposals
  - Proposed to establish the permanent secretariat and decided for the rotating secretariat to collect the opinions of each member regional governments and report the result to the 5th General Assembly
  - Proposed to clarify the position of the NEAR member regional governments. Agreed to recognize all the Northeast Asian regional governments participating in the General Assembly and supporting the NEAR Charter
Proposed the legislation of the NEAR Charter. Proposed to agree on the proposal to establish the NEAR emblem and to submit the proposal to the 5th General Assembly to strengthen the human exchange among the NEAR members. The participating delegates shared the understanding that the human exchange would strengthen the interregional cooperation and mutual development.

- Enhanced exchanges and cooperation in economy and environmental protection among the NEAR members. The participating delegates suggested various views on strengthening exchanges and cooperation in economy and environmental protection.
- The application for the next chair regional government of NEAR was presented. During the meeting, the application from Busan Metropolitan City was submitted, and it was decided that the rotating secretariat would survey the opinions of the member regional governments and submit the result to the 5th General Assembly.

The Agreement of the 4th Working Sub-Committee Meeting

The 4th Working Sub-Committee meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments was held in Harbin city, Heilongjiang province, People’s Republic of China, on January 13th, 2004. The delegates of 24 regional governments from the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation participated in the meeting.

In this meeting, the participating delegates discussed on the items of mutual interest such as economy, trade, environmental protection, and the establishment of the NEAR permanent secretariat under the theme of enhancing exchanges and cooperation among the North East Asia Regional Governments based on equality, amity, and reciprocity and reached agreement on many issues. Furthermore, the coordinator regional governments of each Sub-Committee reported the activities of the Sub-Committee.

Moreover, according to the agreement of the 4th NEAR General Assembly held in Khabarovsk territory, Russia, in September 2002, the delegates from 6 regional governments including Heilongjiang province, China, Toyama prefecture and Hyogo prefecture, Japan, Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Busan Metropolitan City, South Korea, and Khabarovsk territory, Russia, held the meeting of expert committee in Harbin city, Heilongjian province, China, on January 12th, 2004, on establishing the permanent secretariat. The participating delegates from 6 regional governments engaged in the discussion on the establishment, function, and term of office of the NEAR permanent secretariat.

The discussions and agreements of the 4th Working Sub-Committee meeting are summarized as follows:

1. Item on establishing the permanent secretariat

The NEAR rotating secretariat reported the result of the discussion of the expert committee on establishing the permanent secretariat in the 4th working committee meeting.

Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea, presented again the proposal of establishing the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Hyogo prefecture, Japan, proposed on the premise of establishing the permanent secretariat of NEAR that the term or office of the secretariat should be 4 years, that the NEAR General Assembly shall select by vote the next host member regional government for the permanent secretariat when the
term expires, and that the term of office may be extended.

Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea, agreed with the consecutive terms of office while proposing to set the term of office as 6 years, and the delegates from each regional government engaged in discussions on the proposals of the aforementioned two regional governments.

In this meeting, the agreement was not reached regarding the function, term of office, and the location of the permanent secretariat. However, regarding the function of the permanent secretariat, it was agreed that the rotational secretariat would collect the opinions of each regional government based on the proposals of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Hyogo prefecture to produce a proposal regarding the secretariat function and to send the summary to each member regional government for the opinion of the regional governments. The result is scheduled to be reported and discussed in the 5th General Assembly held in September.

2. Item on clarifying the position of the member regional government

The delegate of Hyogo prefecture explained the method of approval of the NEAR member regional government as the following: The Association considers all the Northeast Asian regional governments supporting the NEAR Charter and participating in the NEAR General Assembly as the members. However, the title of the individual member regional government may differ depending on the circumstances of each country. The participating delegates approved this explanation.

3. Item on establishing the NEAR emblem

Toyama prefecture, Japan, and Heilongjiang province, China suggested jointly and explained the proposal on establishing the NEAR emblem. The participating delegates discussed the proposal and passed it by voting. Also, the delegates agreed to submit this proposal to the 5th General Assembly held in September to discuss and pass by voting.

4. Reports on Activities of the Sub-Committees

(i) Sub-Committee on Environment

Toyama prefecture, Japan, as the coordinator regional government of the Sub-Committee on Environment of the Association reported the status of hosting the 5th Sub-Committee on Environment held in October 2003. Toyama prefecture was elected as the coordinator regional government of the Sub-Committee on Environment once more by the 14 participating regional governments from 4 countries including Japan, China, Mongolia, and South Korea, and the term of office is until July of 2005. Toyama prefecture presented the major activities of the Sub-Committee on Environment.

- Information Exchange on Environmental Policies (Participants: Regional governments from Japan and Russia)
- Held the International Environmental Seminar of the Region of Northeast Asia (Participants: Regional governments from Japan, China, South Korea, and Russia)
- Conducted research on washed-up driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea (Participants: Regional governments from Japan, China, South Korea, and Russia)
- Conducted Northeast Asia joint research on migratory birds (Participants: Regional governments from Japan, South Korea, and Russia)
The participating delegates engaged in the discussion on policies and plans of the future activities. Moreover, Toyama prefecture presented the content of the 2003 Japan Sea Rim (East Sea Rim) Environmental White Paper produced by Toyama prefecture.

(2) Sub–Committee on General Exchange

Toyama prefecture, Japan, as the coordinator regional government of the Sub–Committee on General Exchange of the Association, gave a status report on the “5th Sub–Committee on General Exchange meeting” held in Toyama prefecture in October 2003. In this meeting, the delegates from 16 regional governments of 5 countries participated, and the delegates discussed on the “Action Plan on Fostering Human Resources” established by Toyama prefecture to enhance fostering the human resources of the Association and suggested the following opinions:

- Hosting the Northeast Asian Women’s Convention
- Hosting the mutual exchange events for children and youth in the Northeast Asian region

(3) Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention

Hyogo prefecture, Japan, as the coordinator regional government of the NEAR Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention, reported on the status of the “5th Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting” held in Hyogo prefecture in October 2003. In this meeting, the total of 11 regional governments from 3 countries participated, and the following activities were implemented:

- Conducted the survey on the intention to exchange disaster prevention system and information
- Presentation on the lessons and the experience of the Great Hanshin Earthquake
- Held the Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting in Hyogo prefecture in July 2002 with the participation of 12 regional governments from China, Japan, South Korea, and Russia. The participating delegates implemented exchange on disaster prevention information and proposed policies and plans for future activities.
  • Collection and presentation of the information on disaster prevention in the Northeast Asian region
  • Introduced Hyogo prefecture and provided disaster prevention training for the inspection team from each regional government of the Northeast Asian region visiting the prefecture

(4) The Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade

Gyeongsangbuk–do province, South Korea, as the coordinator regional government of the economy and trade Sub–Committee, reported the status of the Sub–Committee on Economy and Trademeetings held in 2002 and in 2003.

The Sub–Committee on Economy and Trademeeting was held with the participation of 18 member regional governments from 5 countries in May 2002, and the followings are the key items on the agenda of the meeting:

- Proposed holding the “Northeast Asian Business EXPO”. Proposed hosting the “Northeast Asian Business EXPO” during the 6th NEAR General Assembly to strengthen the economic exchange among the member regional governments
- Proposed building the “Northeast Asian Economy and Trade Network” webpage
  Held the Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade meeting with the participation
of 18 member regional governments from 5 countries in 2003 and proposed the item of strengthening exchanges among private companies

- Formed the NEAR Council for Promotion of Private and Public Investment jointly participated by the private and public sectors and proposed enhancing exchanges and cooperation among the member regional governments
- Engaged in discussions on making exchanges among member regional governments more concrete through the “Northeast Asian Economy and Trade Network” and increasing substantial contents of exchanges
- The participating delegates agreed that the coordinator regional government of each Sub-Committee has been implementing various beneficial projects through the Sub-Committee activities. Moreover, the delegates shared the understanding that the events hosted by each Sub-Committee are very valuable in extending exchanges and cooperation among the NEAR members and in development of the Association.

5. Item on strengthening the human exchange among the NEAR members

The participating delegates agreed on strengthening human exchange among the NEAR member regional governments and shared understanding that it enhances exchanges and cooperation among the Northeast Asian regional governments and promotes mutual development and prosperity of the Northeast Asian regional governments.

6. Item on enhancing exchanges and cooperation in economy, trade, and environmental protection among all the NEAR member regional governments

Exchanges and cooperation in economy, trade, and environmental protection are the key issue of this meeting, which also lead to the realization of the goal of the Association. The participating delegates suggested the following on enhancing exchanges and cooperation in economy and trade among the North East Asia Regional Governments.

- The delegate of Toyama prefecture, Japan, made a presentation on the events hosted by the North Pacific Region Trade Center under the theme of enhancing trade and investment exchanges in the Northeast Asian region.
  - Collected and distributed the information on the trade trend and the investment climate of the Northeast Asian region
  - Hosted exhibitions and fairs participated by businesses from the Northeast Asian region
  - Supported the participation of businesses within the prefecture in product exhibitions hosted by Northeast Asian regional governments
- The representative of Heilongjiang province, China, presented the report under the title of “realizing mutual prosperity through extending cooperation and exchanges.”

Heilongjiang province explained to the participating delegates the advantages of economic development and investment on the province and emphasized the “strategies to rejuvenate traditional industrial bases in Northeastern China” would not only present the province with the opportunity to develop but also give endless possibilities to the foreign investors and companies. Also, the province
requested active participation of leaders representing the economic and business
circle of each country in the Northeast Asian region to realize mutual
development.

○ The delegate from Khabarovsk territory, Russia, suggested the opinion on
enhancing the territorial cooperation, proposed for the Association of North East
Asia Regional Governments to establish the Sub-Committee on Cross-border
Cooperation, and wished to take the role of the coordinator of this Sub-
Committee. Also, the territory requested for this rotating secretariat to submit
the item on establishing the Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation to the
5th NEAR General Assembly to be held in September.

○ The delegate from Gyeongsangnam-do province, South Korea, distributed the
invitation to the “International Machinery EXPO 2004 in Korea” and requested
active participation of the companies in the NEAR member regional governments
to enhance economic exchanges among the member regional governments.

○ The delegate from Shandong province, China, introduced the Shandong peninsula
manufacturing base. Also, the province gave an account of the status of the “2nd
Northeast Asian Economic Forum 2004” held in Weihai city, Shandong province,
from May 2nd to May 4th, 2004, targeting the small and medium-sized enterprises
as well as the status of the “the Shandong Eco-province Executive Forum and
International Exhibition on Green Industry” hosted in Qingdao city, Shandong
province, from September 15th to September 17th, 2004. The province requested
the participation of the member regional delegates in the aforementioned events.

○ The representative of Gangwon-do province, South Korea, proposed building a
railway from the southernmost part of South Korea across the Democratic People’s
Republic of Korea, China, and Russia to Europe to promote logistics and tourism
industry of the surrounding cities and to accelerate economic development of each
regional government.

○ The delegate from Jeollabuk-do province gave an account of the status of the
“World Logistics EXPO” held in 2007 and wished for joint participation and active
support of the NEAR member regional governments.

○ Gyeongsangbuk-do province proposed that the chair regional government should
host the “Northeast Asian Business EXPO” during the 6th NEAR General Assembly.
The province suggested that Hyogo prefecture and Toyama prefecture, Japan,
should first decide the location of the 6th NEAR rotating secretariat (the 6th chair
regional government of the Association) and then discuss on the proposal.
The participating delegates discussed on the ways to host all the events proposed
by each member regional government in this meeting. As a result, the delegates
agreed that with the advancement of economic globalization and the ever
increasing mutual dependency in economy and trade among nations and regions,
enhancing cooperation and exchanges in economy, trade, and environmental
protection among the North East Asia Regional Governments will be valuable in
prosperity and stability of the Northeast Asian region and will promote mutual
development of each regional government.
7. Item on the next rotating secretariat of the Association

Heilongjiang province, the current host of the rotating secretariat of the Association, asked the participating regional governments on their intention to apply for candidacy of the next host of the rotating secretariat. Busan Metropolitan city, South Korea, then submitted the application for the next NEAR rotating secretariat. This meeting decided that the Association should conduct a survey on suggesting the candidates after the current NEAR secretariat meeting and submit the result to the General Assembly in September to be discussed and decided.

8. Item on the 5th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

The current secretariat of the Association requested the heads of the participating regional governments to take part in the 5th NEAR General Assembly hosted in Harbin city, Heilongjiang province, China, in September 2004. Also, the secretariat wished for active support and cooperation of each member regional government in the process of preparing the meeting.

The aforementioned items are the agreement of the 4th working committee meeting, and the agreement will be translated in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian and distributed to all the member regional governments.

(4) Achievements of the General Assembly and Tasks
(A) Major Achievements

Discussions were conducted in the areas of mutual interest such as economy, trade, environment, and the establishment of the permanent secretariat, and agreements were reached in various aspects.

(B) Task

Plans to submit and discuss in the 5th assembly on the establishment of the NEAR permanent secretariat and the NEAR emblem and the election of the next chair regional government.

E. The 5th Working Committee
(1) Background and Purpose

The 5th working committee of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments were hosted from November 29th to December 1st of 2005 by Busan Metropolitan City, the new chair regional government designated at the 5th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments held in Heilongjiang province, China, in September 2004, to examine the activities of each Sub-Committee so far and to discuss various pending issues of NEAR. This working committee had 20 member regional governments from 5 countries as well as Daegu Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea and Tomsk Region, Russian Federation as observers.

(2) Overview of the Conference

A) Date: (Wed) November 30th, 2005 09:00 ~ 12:00

B) Venue: Sapphire Room, Lotte Hotel Busan

C) Host: Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea

D) Participants: 58 persons of 20 regional governments from 5 countries
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20 regional governments from 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Shandong Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Toyama Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Amur Region, Republic of Buryatia, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Irkutsk Region, Khabarovsk Territory</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gyeonggi-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
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<td>Mongolia</td>
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<td>Tuv Province</td>
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Observers: Daegu Metropolitan City, South Korea, and Tomsk Region, Russia

E) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>(Tue) Nov. 29th</th>
<th>(Wed) Nov. 30th</th>
<th>(Thu) Dec. 1st</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Opening Ceremony</td>
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<td>• Introduction of the participating delegates</td>
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<td>• Greetings</td>
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<td>• NEAR Secretariat Status Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
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<td>• Group Photo Time and Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:50</td>
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<td>• Report on Sub-Committee Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>Entry/Registration Welcoming Banquet</td>
<td>• Proposals and Discussions Establishment of the NEAR Emblem – the Secretariat Secondment of staffs from regional governments to the NEAR secretariat– Strengthening cooperation between Shandong province, the secretariat, and the Northeast Asian regional governments – Shandong Province, etc.</td>
<td>Departure</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:50</td>
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<td>• Summary, Closing Ceremony</td>
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<td>13:30</td>
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<td>• Inspection: Taejong-daegio → BEXCO → APEC House</td>
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</table>

(3) Proceeding of the Conference

(A) Call to Order (Moderator)
(B) Introduction of the participating delegates (Director of International Cooperation Division of Busan Metropolitan City)
(C) Greetings (NEAR Working Committee Chairman Joon-Tae Ahn, NEAR Secretary General Yong-Dae Kim)
(D) Reports on the Secretariat Activities (NEAR Secretary General)
(E) Reports on Sub-Committee Activities
1) Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
   ○ Reports on the 2004 North East Asia Business Promotion Conference held in
Gyeongju city, Republic of Korea, from October 5th to October 8th, 2004 hosted by Gyeongsanbuk-do province to enhance reciprocal and realistic improvement of economy and trade among members of NEAR.

- Key Agenda of the "2004 North East Asia Business Promotion Conference":
  - Forming the Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion composed of 2 civilians and 2 civil servants from each regional government
  - Holding "Export Fair" and "Specialized Product Fair" simultaneously
  - Joint effort on attracting foreign investments and joint ventures
  - Active participation in the 6th General Assembly in 2006 and the business EXPO

- Achievements of the Meeting:
  - Improving the product reliability and image through operating the product exhibition and business consultation meeting
  - Numerous buyers from the US and Russia with large market and purchasing power participated

2) Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange (Shimane Prefecture)

- Established the "Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee Webpage"

- Implemented the youth exchange project with regional governments which have friendly ties with Shimane prefecture in August 2005 (participation by 4 NEAR member regional governments, experiencing Japanese traditional culture, homestay, etc.)

- Singers and dancers from Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region visited Shimane prefecture as part of "Northeast Asia International Culture Palette Project" that started in 2005, and performed in 3 locations

3) Sub-Committee on Environment (Toyama Prefecture)

- The 7th Sub-Committee on Environment was held on July 14th, 2005, with the participation of 14 regional governments from 5 countries

- Result of the 7th Sub-Committee on Environment Meeting:
  - Reports on the environmental status and tasks of each regional government including Hyogo prefecture and Heilongjiang province, and exchange of opinions and information on the environmental status of Northeast Asia
  - Status report on the implementation of the 2005 individual projects such as the research on washed-up driftage along the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea and the Northeast Asian Youth Environmental Symposium
  - Proposed 4 individual projects of 2006 including the "research on biodiversity and distribution of bio-communities and submarine geography of the East Sea"

- Toyama prefecture was elected as the next coordinator regional government

4) Sub-Committee on General Exchange (Toyama Prefecture)

- The Sub-Committee on General Exchange researched the status of each regional government on producing the webpage of each regional government and promoting the project to foster human resources to contribute to the information exchange and cultivating human resources within Northeast Asia. The Sub-Committee will post the result on Toyama prefecture webpage and notify each regional government.

- Plans to promote information exchange by linking the webpages among the
regional governments and updating the posted information on the webpage of each regional government in foreign languages.

- Plans to put efforts in substantializing human exchange and fostering human resources implemented by each regional government and to review collaborations and joint projects among the regional governments.

5) Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention (Hyogo Prefecture)

- To contribute to enhancing the disaster prevention ability of the Northeast Asian region, the 3rd disaster prevention committee meeting was held in Hyogo prefecture under the title of “Disasters in Asia and Countermeasures” from February 1st to February 4th, 2005.

- The participating regional governments will first receive disaster prevention training from researchers at the Asian Disaster Reduction Center, and then take an inspection training at the Asia Disaster Reduction Center, Hyogo Disaster Medical Center, Hyogo Disaster Preparedness Center, and Miki Earthquake Disaster Memorial Park.

6) Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (Khabarovsk Territory)

- To seek for revitalization of territorial cooperation and of tourism industry among the Northeast Asian regional governments, the Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation held the 1st Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation meeting in Khabarovsk city, Russia, on June 7th, 2005.

- Items of agreement of the 1st Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation meeting:
  - Facilitating research and integration of regulations on the continuation cross-border cooperation of NEAR member countries and the establishment of a special economic zone.
  - Creating a mechanism of exchanging information on the export volume among the customs of the Northeast Asian countries.
  - Increasing bank loans from Russia and other Northeast Asian countries on foreign trade in the border regions.
  - Sharing letter of credit (LC) information of trade companies established in the border regions with the banks in Northeast Asian countries.

(F) Proposals and Discussions

1) Establishing the NEAR Emblem (Secretariat)

- Progress report on establishing the NEAR emblem.

- Plans to conclude and promote the measures to implement the establishment of the emblem in the Working Committee meeting and to confirm the emblem in the 6th Busan General Assembly.

2) Secondment of member regional government staffs to the NEAR secretariat (Secretariat)

- Based on the decision of the 5th General Assembly held in September 2004, the secretariat was placed in Gyeongsangbuk-do province and, staffs of Gyeongsangbuk-do provincial government were primarily seconded to the Secretariat and employees with Korean nationality were recruited. However, for smooth and fair promotion of the secretariat operation, the secretariat would like to have one staff from each member country.
In principle, secondment expense shall be covered by the member regional government, but the secretariat is planning to prepare financial support program if needed such as supporting living expense.

December 2005 – February 2006: Application for secondment, seconded staffs will be working at the Secretariat for an year from March 2006

3) Strengthening Cooperation between Shandong Province and Northeast Asian Regional Governments (Shandong Province)

- Introduction to Shandong Province
- Applied for hosting the 7th NEAR General Assembly along with the 2008 Beijing Olympic

4) Invitation to the 17th Harbin Economic and Trade Fair and the “Year of Russia” event (Heilongjiang Province)

- Invitation to the 17th Harbin Economic and Trade Fair and the “Year of Russia” events
- In commemoration of the “Year of Russia,” invites NEAR member regional governments to the “22nd Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival” and the “17th Harbin Economic and Trade Fair” scheduled for 2006

5) Requests cooperation in hosting Northeast Asia Economic Exchange EXPO 2006 in Toyama (Toyama Prefecture)

- Requests member regional governments to encourage companies in their regions to participate in the “Northeast Asia Economic Exchange EXPO 2006 in Toyama”

6) Korean Entrepreneurial Mission to visit Khabarovsk Territory (Khabarovsk Territory)

- Requests member regional governments to encourage participation in the Korean entrepreneurial mission visiting Russia from April to May 2006 to attend investment fairs and business meetings

Agreement

The working-level delegates of the 22 member regional governments from South Korea, China, Japan, Mongolia, and Russia have met together to hold the 5th working committee meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Busan Metropolitan City, South Korea, on November 30th, 2005.

In this working committee meeting, each Sub-Committee delivered the status report on activities, and various issues were discussed such as establishing the NEAR emblem and dispatching the member country staff to the secretariat. Also, there were request on cooperation from many member regional governments to promote exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and the result is as follows:

1. Report on Activities of the Sub-Committees

   The coordinator regional government of each Sub-Committee gave an account of the status of activities of the Sub-Committees.

   (1) Economy and Trade Sub-Committee

   Gyeongsangbuk-do province reported the result of the “2004 North East Asia Business Promotion Conference” hosted in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, to promote reciprocal and substantial economy and trade among the member regional governments from October 5th to October 8th, 2004, with the participation of 441 persons of 19 regional governments from 5 countries.
(2) Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee

To extend cultural exchanges among the member regional governments, Shimane prefecture created the “Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee Webpage” and reported the result of the “North East Asia International Culture Palette” project, which invites Northeast Asian traditional dancing and singing groups to perform in various locations within the prefecture.

(3) Sub-Committee on Environment

Toyama prefecture held the 7th Sub-Committee on Environment Meeting with the participation of 14 regional governments from 5 countries on July 14th, 2005, to present the status report on the environment of each member regional government and proceedings of the 2005 projects and to propose and discuss the 2006 projects.

(4) Sub-Committee on General Exchange

To contribute to the interregional information exchange and fostering human resources of Northeast Asia, Toyama prefecture reported the result of the research on the “status of webpage construction” and “promotion of fostering human resources” of each member regional government.

(5) Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention

To mark the 10 year of the Great Hanshin Earthquake, Hyogo prefecture held the 3rd Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting for four days from February 1st, 2005, with the participation of 9 regional governments from 5 countries. Hyogo reported that disaster prevention training and inspection visit to disaster prevention facilities were conducted to enhance the multilateral disaster relief cooperation and prevention ability, and requested for participation and cooperation for the 4th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting scheduled in February of next year.

(6) Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation

To seek for revitalization of territorial cooperation and tourism industry among the Northeast Asian regions, Khabarovsk territory held and reported the result of the 1st Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation Meeting in Khabarovsk city on June 6th, 2005, with the participation of 12 member regional governments from 3 countries.

2. Proposals and Discussions

(1) Concerning the establishment of the NEAR Emblem

The NEAR secretariat gave a status report on the establishment of the NEAR emblem adopted in the Heilongjiang General Assembly and requested to reach an agreement on measures to substantially promote the establishment in the level of the Association in the future. The member regional governments agreed to form a Council on Establishing the Emblem in the future for the NEAR emblem.

(2) Concerning the dispatching of the member regional government staff to the NEAR secretariat

To promote smooth and fair operation of the secretariat, the NEAR secretariat suggested dispatching one staff per member country to the secretariat. The member regional governments agreed in principle on dispatching the staff to the secretariat and decided to discuss the details with the secretariat.
(3) Strengthening cooperation between Shandong province and the Northeast Asian regional governments
Shandong province gave an account of the economic status of Shandong province and of exchanges with the Northeast Asian countries and reported that the province is currently reviewing the holding of General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments.

(4) Invitation to the 17th Harbin Economic and Trade Fair and the 2006 “Year of Russia”
Heilongjiang province requested the member regional governments to actively participate in the “22nd Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival” and the “17th Harbin Economic and Trade Fair” held to mark the 2006 “Year of Russia.”

(5) Cooperation in holding the “Northeast Asia Economic Exchange EXPO 2006 in Toyama”
Toyama prefecture requested many member regional governments to participate in the “Northeast Asia Economic Exchange EXPO 2006 in Toyama” to promote economic exchanges in the Northeast Asian region.

(6) Korean Entrepreneurial Mission visiting Khabarovsk territory
Khabarovsk territory introduced the Korean Entrepreneurial Mission visiting Khabarovsk territory hosted by the Russian National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (RNCPEC). Also, the territory suggested that decision on the next host of the Sub–Committee on Cross–border Cooperation of which Khabarovsk is the coordinator region be made at the 6th General Assembly scheduled to be held in 2006.

(7) “The 4th China Henan International Investment and Trade Fair”
The People’s Government of Henan Province and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade plans to hold the “4th China Henan International Investment and Trade Fair” in Zhengzhou city, Henan province, from April 12th to April 14th, 2006. Supported by various central governmental agencies including the China Ministry of Commerce and sponsored by economic associations of South Korea, Japan, US, and EU, the fair covers industry, public facilities, commerce, international trade, logistics, tour, finance, insurance, information, education and public health. Henan province requested active participation from each member regional government.

(8) Request cooperation for the 6th General Assembly
Busan Metropolitan City plans to hold the 6th General Assembly in the mid September, and the schedule will be finalized at the end of February by taking the opinions of each regional government into consideration. The city requested each regional government to actively cooperate so that the two regional governments from the DPRK, Hamgyeongbuk–do province and Rasun City, will be able to participate in the General Assembly next year.

The aforementioned matters are the content of the agreement of the 5th Working Committee meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, and this agreement shall be produced in Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian and distributed to each member regional government.
F. The 6th Working Committee
(1) Background and Purpose
The 6th Working Committee Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments was held by Shandong province, People’s Republic of China, elected as the new chair regional government in the 6th General Assembly held in Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea, in September 2006, to examine the status of activities of each Sub–Committee and to discuss at the working group level various pending issues of the Association.

(2) Overview of the Conference
(A) Date : September 3rd ~ September 6th, 2007
(B) Venue : Jinan City, Shandong Province, China
(C) Host : People’s Government of Shandong Province, The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
(D) Participants : 31 regional governments from 5 countries (including the NEAR secretariat)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Hubei Province, Hunan Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Shandong Province, Shanxi Province, Shaanxi Province, Tianjin City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Toyama Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Daegu Metropolitan City, Gyeonggi–do Province, Chungcheongbuk–do Province, Chungcheongnam–do Province, Jeollabuk–do Province, Gyeongsangbuk–do Province, Gyeongsangnam–do Province, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, The Near Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Arkhangai Province, Bulgan Province, Orkhon Province, Umnugovi Province, Ulaanbaatar City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Irkutsk Region, Magadan Region</td>
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</tbody>
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(E) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 3rd</td>
<td>09:00 ~ 17:00</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 3rd</td>
<td>18:00 ~ 18:15</td>
<td>Greetings to the delegates from each regional government – Vice Governor Cal Limin, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 3rd</td>
<td>18:15 ~ 20:00</td>
<td>Welcoming Banquet– Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mon) Sept. 3rd</td>
<td>07:30 ~ 08:30</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| (Tue) Sept. 4th | 09:00 ~ 09:20 | Opening Ceremony of The Working Committee Meeting
  (1) Congratulatory Remarks – Vice Governor, Shandong Province(Chairman of The Working Committee)
  (2) Congratulatory Remarks – The NEAR Secretary General |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:30 - 10:10</td>
<td>Meeting 1: Reports on Activities of the Sub-Committees</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(1) Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
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<td>(2) Sub-Committee on Environment (Toyama Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(3) Sub-Committee on General Exchange (Shimane Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(4) Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange (Shimane Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(5) Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention (Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(6) Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (Amur Region)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(7) Sub-Committee on Science and Technology (Gyeonggi-do Province)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Tue)</td>
<td>10:10 - 10:20</td>
<td>Report on Activities – NEAR Secretariat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:20 - 10:30</td>
<td>Tea Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 4th</td>
<td>10:30 - 12:00</td>
<td>Meeting 2: Reports on Activities of Each Regional Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>(1) Take the 7th NEAR General Assembly of 2008 as the Opportunity for Strengthening Cooperation between Shandong Province and the Northeast Asian Regions (Shandong Province)</td>
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<td>(2) Introduction of the NEAR Membership Fees (Khabarovsk Territory)</td>
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<td>(3) Amendment of the Regulations on the Sub-Committee Operation (The NEAR Secretariat)</td>
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<td>(4) Application to Host 2010 General Assembly (Gyeonggi-do Province)</td>
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<td>(5) Proposal for the NEAR Secretariat to Serve Consecutive Terms (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
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<td>(6) Recruiting Coordinator of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange (Toyama Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(7) Establishing the Educational and Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee (Shimane Prefecture)</td>
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<td>(8) Introduction – the 2008 Northeast Asia Region (NEAR) Environmental Protection Industry Fair (Shandong Province)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13:30-14:30</td>
<td>Meeting 3: Free Discussion</td>
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<td>14:30-15:00</td>
<td>Tea Time (Production and Translation of the Draft of the Agreement)</td>
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<td>15:00-15:15</td>
<td>Discussion on the Content of the Agreement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15:15-15:30</td>
<td>Production of the Agreement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>Working Committee Meeting – Closing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16:00-18:30</td>
<td>Dialogue on International Cooperation of the Northeast Asian Regional Governments</td>
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<td>18:30-19:30</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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<td>07:00-07:50</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>08:00-10:30</td>
<td>Departure – to Qufu</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Wed)</td>
<td>10:30-12:30</td>
<td>Visit The Temple of Confucius (Kong Miao, 孔廟)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 5th</td>
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<td>The Kong Family Mansion (Kong Fu, 孔府)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30-13:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13:30-14:30</td>
<td>Visit the Cemetery of Confucius (Kong Lin, 孔林)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18:00-19:30</td>
<td>Farewell Banquet – Hosted by Jinan Municipal People’s Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Thu)</td>
<td>07:00-07:50</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 6th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Closing Ceremony, Departure of the Delegates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(F) Proceeding of the Conference
1) Call to Order (Moderator)
2) Keynote Speech (Vice Governor of Shandong Province)
   ○ Wishes for the promotion of mutual development by extending cooperation between Shandong province and the Northeast Asian regions through the 7th General Assembly in 2008
3) Proposals
   ○ Let us establish a new foundation of the Northeast Asian regional cooperation by facilitating the communication and broaden the understanding.
   ○ Let us promote the working–level cooperation of the Northeast Asian region by strengthening specialized exchanges.
   ○ Let us create together beautiful Northeast Asian Community by strengthening cooperation in environmental protection.
4) Congratulatory Remarks (Secretary General of the NEAR Secretariat)
   ○ The 21st century will the era of Northeast Asia with it rich resources, technological, and capital infrastructure, and the role of the Association will continue increase.
   ○ The Association must realize in the future the open Northeast Asian community on the basis of trust, cooperation and coexistence, and the secretariat will put its utmost efforts in establishing the mutual prosperity in Northeast Asia.
5) Progress Report on Major Activities
A) Status Report from Each Sub–Committee
   ○ Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade (Gyeongsangbuk–do Province, Republic of Korea)
     • Held the 7th Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting in December 2006
       – Held the Business Promotion Conference and the Multilateral Trade Fair; 35 regional governments from 5 countries participated
     • In the Business Promotion Conference, 14 regional governments commented under the title of “Measures to Revitalize Northeast Asian Economic and Trade Exchanges.” Sixty–six(66) companies from 22 regional government participated in the Multilateral Trade Fair
     • The Business Promotion Conference and the NEARa International Economic Forum hosted by the NEAR secretariat are planned to be simultaneously held from October 16th to October 18th, 2007.
   ○ Sub–Committee on Environment (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
     • Conducted survey on the individual project of the Sub–Committee on Environment, and the report was distributed to 21 member regional governments and was posted on the Northeast Asian Environmental Information Webpage
     • Held the 8th Sub–Committee on Environment on July 30th, 2007, with the participation of 12 regional governments from 5 countries
       – Reported on the environmental status and task of each regional government, status of implementation and progress of the 2007 individual projects, and the status on proposal of the 2008 individual projects. Major item on the agenda was Toyama prefecture continuing to take the role of the coordinator of the
Sub-Committee on Environment

○ Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention (Hyogo Prefecture, Japan)
  • Held the 5th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention Meeting from February 15th to February 16th, 2007, with the participation of 32 persons of 15 regional governments from 5 countries
    - Changed from a meeting of “Information exchange and training” to “participation and problem solving”
    - Major events included: Hands-on training such as experiencing mock earthquake and trial fire evacuation training and presentation on best practices, and inspection tour to the disaster prevention facilities

○ Sub-Committee on General Exchange (Toyama Prefecture, Japan)
  • Conducted research on status of secondment of regional government staffs, students, trainees, and youths, and human resource fostering projects. The result of the research was posted on Toyama prefecture webpage in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, and English.

○ Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (Amur Region, Russia)
  • Plans to hold the Sub-Committee meeting from August 25th to August 28th, 2007. However, only 4 regional governments from China, Mongolia, and Russia submitted the application to participate in the meeting, so the meeting will be postponed to April 2008. Hopes for active participation of the member regional governments.

○ Sub-Committee on Science and Technology (Gyeonggi-do Province, Republic of Korea)
  • Held the 1st Sub-Committee on Science and Technology Meeting from July 23rd to July 26th, 2007, at the Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center in Suwon City under the title of “Measures of Cooperation in Science and Technology in Northeast Asia”: 40 persons of 20 regional governments from 5 countries participated.
  • Twelve (12) regional governments gave presentation on the current status of science and technology of the concerned regions and measures for international exchanges and cooperation
  • Announced the agreement on science and technology cooperation and promotion of mutual development

6) Report on Activities of the Secretariat (The NEAR Secretariat)

○ Cooperation on trade exchange activities between Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea, and other regional governments from April 22nd to April 26th, 2007

○ Invited delegations of 32 member regional governments from 5 countries to the Working-level Workshop from May 15th to May 18th, 2007

○ Strengthened collaboration with the international organizations such as the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), CITYNET, and Asian Network of Major Cities 21 (ANMC21)

○ Provided support for the delegation of the Gyeongsangbuk-do Provincial Council visiting Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, China, and promoted exchanges of regional councils

○ Published newsletters and promotional booklet in 6 languages to enhance the promotion of the Association
○ Received 4 seconded staffs from 4 countries to increase the operational efficiency and to improve the image of the secretariat as an international organization.
○ Conducted a survey targeting all the members of the Association from June 30th to July 15th, 2007, and proclaimed the result.
○ Plans to repair the NEAR webpage by investing 100 million won from October 2007 to February 2008.
○ Actively cooperated on the preparation of the 2007 Working Committee Meeting and the 2008 General Assembly with the current chair regional government, Shandong province.

7) Proposals and Discussions
○ Shandong Province : Proposal to newly establish the Sub–Committee on Ocean and Fishery
  • Let us promote the cooperation and development of the Northeast Asian region at the working level.
    • Establishing a new foundation of cooperation by facilitating the communication and broadening the understanding
    • Promoting working–level cooperation by strengthening specialized sector–by–sector exchanges
    • Creating a beautiful Northeast Asian community by strengthening cooperation in environmental protection and energy
  • Shandong province will take the 7th NEAR General Assembly of 2008 as an opportunity to promote cooperation with the Northeast Asian regions in multi-dimensional ways by
    • Introducing the basic plans of the 7th General Assembly and the environmental protection fair, and collecting the opinions of the participating regional governments. Shandong requested active participation in the General Assembly by member regions.
    • Hoped to establish the Sub–Committee on Ocean and Fishery and for Shandong province to take the role of its coordinator. Decided to discuss the matter with the participating delegates and to submit the result to the 2008 General Assembly.
    • Taking the 2008 General Assembly as an opportunity, the province is planning to promote multi-dimensional cooperation in the Northeast Asian region, which includes closely coordinating exchanges and cooperation of the Northeast Asian region, large–scale international events of the region, and key exchange projects.
○ Henan Province, Shandong Province : Proposal of newly establishing the Sub–Committee on Tourism
  • Proposed to establish the Sub–Committee on Tourism. Decided to officially submit this proposal after deliberation of the participating delegates.
○ Khabarovsk Territory : Proposal of introducing the NEAR membership fees
  • Submitted a proposal to introduce the NEAR membership fees to reduce the financial burden of the host regional government of the NEAR events and to
increase the sense of responsibility of the participating members. Decided to submit the proposal to the 2008 General Assembly.

- Gyeonggi-do Province: Application for hosting the 2010 General Assembly
  - Decided to submit the application to the 7th General Assembly in 2008 after deliberation of the participating delegates of the meeting

- Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: Application for the Secretariat to serve consecutive terms
  - The participating delegates highly valued the great contribution of Gyeongsangbuk-do province to the regular operation of the Secretariat by actively cooperating and supporting the NEAR secretariat since its foundation in the province, and decided to submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008

- Toyama Prefecture: Recruiting the new coordinator of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange
  - Toyama prefecture, the coordinator of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange, showed the intention to become the next coordinator. The participating delegates agreed to the proposal of Shimane prefecture to integrate the Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee and the Sub-Committee on General Exchange to newly establish the Educational and Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee after in-depth deliberation

- The NEAR Secretariat: Proposal to amend the regulations related to the Sub-Committee
  - The NEAR regulation on establishment and operation of Sub-Committees legislated in 1998 includes only 5 Sub-Committees created at that time. Since then, the Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation and the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology were newly established in the 2004 Heilongjiang General Assembly and the 2006 Busan General Assembly respectively.
  - The participating delegates agreed to amend the NEAR regulation on establishment and operation of Sub-Committees after deliberation and included the two aforementioned Sub-Committees in the Article pertaining to the name and working area of the Sub-Committee.

8) Summary of the Proposals

- Proposed the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and decided to submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008

- Proposed the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Tourism and decided to submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008

- Proposed the introduction of the NEAR membership fees and decided to submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008

- Applied for hosting the 2010 General Assembly and decided to submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008

- Applied for the NEAR Secretariat to serve consecutive terms and decided to submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008

- Decided to integrate the Sub-Committee on General Exchange and the Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee to newly establish the Educational and Cultural Sub-Committee
Agreed to revise the “Regulations on the Establishment and Operation of Sub-Committees” and included the aforementioned two Sub-Committees in the Article pertaining to the name and working area of the Sub-Committee.

Agreement(Announcement)

The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
The Agreement of the 6th Working Committee Meeting of Shandong Province in 2007

The 6th Working Committee Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments was held in Jinan city, Shandong province, China, on September 3rd, 2007. In this meeting, 80 delegates from 31 member regional governments, observers, and the NEAR secretariat from China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia participated.

The meeting included the congratulatory remarks at the opening ceremony, reports on activities of 7 NEAR Sub-Committees, deliberation on the agenda proposed by Shandong province, China, Gyeonggi-do province, South Korea, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea, Toyama prefecture, Japan, Shimane prefecture, Japan, Khabarovsk territory, Russia, Henan province, China, and the NEAR secretariat, as well as on the issue delegated for discussion by the last General Assembly. For each Northeast Asian region to exchange experiences of international cooperation and to enhance the effectiveness of the Working Committee meeting, Shandong province, China, prepared Dialogue on International Cooperation of the Northeast Asian Regional Governments in this meeting and the representatives from 12 NEAR member regional governments gave presentation.

The details of this meeting are as follows:

1. Reports on Activities of the Sub-Committees and the NEAR Secretariat

(1) Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade

Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea, held the 7th Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade in Gyeongju city in December 2006 and hosted the Business Promotion Conference and the Multilateral Trade Fair, and 35 regional governments from 5 countries participated in these events. In the Business Promotion Conference held under the title of “Measures to revitalize Northeast Asian economic and trade exchange,” 15 regional members made comments and 66 companies from 22 regional governments participated in the Multilateral Trade Fair. The scope of the fair surpassed that of the previous meetings. The “Economy and Trade Network” was established in May 2006 to provide service in 5 languages, and 374 companies from 6 countries are currently posting the information on 6,563 products. The Business Promotion Conference hosted by Gyeongsangbuk-do province will be held along with the “NEAR International Economic Forum” promoted by the Secretariat. Both events, hosted by both the province and the NEAR secretariat, will invite renowned economic scholars and experts and will be opened from October 16th to October 18th in Daegu Metropolitan City, South Korea.

(2) Sub-Committee on Environment

Toyama prefecture, Japan, conducted a survey on individual projects of the Sub-
Committee on Environment, organized the result, produced a report, translated the document, distributed the report to 21 member regional governments of the Sub–Committee on Environment and posted the same document on the Northeast Asian Environmental Information Webpage. The 8th Sub–Committee on Environment Meeting was held on July 30th, 2007. In this meeting, 12 regional governments from 5 countries participated, and the key agenda were the environmental status and task of each regional government, the implementation and progress of the 2007 individual projects, the proposal of 2008 individual projects, and Toyama prefecture, Japan, continuing as the coordinator of the Sub–Committee on Environment.

(3) Sub–Committee on Cultural Exchange
Shimane prefecture, Japan, rolled out the “the North East Asia International Culture Palette” project from November 3rd to November 7th, 2006. The Jijutuan troupe from Jilin province, China, composed of 22 members performed at the Arts and Culture Center, Shimane prefecture, and around 1,000 people came to watch the show. Moreover, there were performances of exchange activities with the organization of the disabled people and elementary schools. The committee is planning to invite traditional cultural and art performance groups from the Northeast Asian region this year again to implement mutual exchanges. The “2007 Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane” was held from August 2nd to August 7th, 2007, and 47 persons of 9 regional governments from 4 countries participated in the event. The event included culinary exchanges and introduction to cultures of the participating regions, experiencing Japanese traditional culture, and learning about the environment and welfare, and the promotion of exchanges among participants were achieved through homestay programs and various parties.

(4) Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention
Hyogo prefecture, Japan, held the 5th Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention Meeting from February 13th to February 16th, 2007, and 32 persons of 15 regional governments from 5 countries participated in the meeting. The focus of the meeting has changed from “information exchange training” to the “participation and problem solving.” Major contents of the meeting included hands–on learning and trainings such as hazard map production training, experiencing earthquake using the earthquake simulation vehicle, and mock fire evacuation training and presentation on best practices, and inspection tour of the disaster prevention facilities in Hyogo prefecture.

(5) Sub–Committee on General Exchange
Toyama prefecture, Japan, conducted surveys on human resource fostering projects including the secondment of public officials among concerned regional governments, dispatching and accommodation of the visa students and trainees, and overseas dispatching of youth, and the result of the surveys were posted on the webpage of the International Affairs and Japan Sea Policies department of Hyogo prefecture in English, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and Japanese. From now on, the Sub–Committee plans to see for measures to enhance communications among the regional governments and improve the joint events based on the content of the events.
currently promoted by each regional government. Also, the Sub-Committee plans to search for a new task by accepting various proposals of the participating regional governments.

6. Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation
Amur region, Russia, originally planned to hold the Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation Meeting from August 25th to August 28th, 2007, but only 4 member regional governments from 3 courtiers including China, Mongolia, Russia have summated the application for participating in the meeting, so the meeting was postponed to April 2008. The region requests the active participation of many member regional governments.

7. Sub-Committee on Science and Technology
Gyeonggi-do province, South Korea, hosted the 1st Sub-Committee on Science and Technology meeting at the Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center in Suwon City under the title of “How to Enhance Cooperation in Science and Technology in the Northeast Asian Region” from July 23rd to July 26th, and 40 persons of 20 regional governments from 5 countries participated. Each of the 12 regional governments gave a presentation on the current status of science and technology development and the international exchange and cooperation measures in science and technology of the region, and an agreement of cooperation measures of the regional governments was adopted to promote cooperation and mutual development in science and technology.

8. The NEAR Secretariat
The secretariat promoted the following: (1) Cooperation on trade exchange activities of Gyeongsangbuk-do province and other regional governments from April 22nd to 28th; (2) Invitation of the delegates of 32 regional governments from 5 countries to the Working-level Workshop from May 15th to 18th; (3) Strengthening collaborations with the international organizations such as UCLG, CITY-NET, ANMC21; (4) Exchanges between regional councils by providing support for the delegation of the council of Gyeongsangbuk-do province visiting Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, China (5) Publishing newsletters and promotion booklets in 6 languages to enhance the promotion of the Association; (6) Having 4 staffs from 4 countries seconded to the secretariat to increase the operational effectiveness and improve image of the secretariat as an international organization; (7) Conducting a survey targeting all the member regional governments of the Association from June 30th to July 15th, 2007, and declaring the result; (8) Planning to hold the NEAR Economic Forum on October 17th, 2007; (9) Planning to repair the NEAR webpage by investing 100 million won from October 2007 to February 2008; (10) Actively cooperating with the chair regional government, Shandong province, China, to host the 2007 Working Committee Meeting and the 2008 General Assembly.

2. Comments of the Meeting, Deliberation of the Agenda, and Status of Discussion
(1) Let us promote cooperation and development of the Northeast Asian region at a working level
Vice governor of Shandong province, China, as well as the director of the NEAR working committee, Mr. Cai Limin, made 3 proposals in his remark at the opening
ceremony to promote cooperation and development of the Northeast Asian region at a working level. (1) Let us facilitate communication and broaden understanding to establish a new foundation for the cooperation in the Northeast Asian region; (2) Let us promote working–level cooperation in the Northeast Asian region by strengthening specialized, sector–by–sector exchanges; (3) Let us enhance cooperation in environmental protection and energy to create a beautiful Northeast Asia community.

(2) Taking the 7th General Assembly of the Association in 2008 as an opportunity, Shandong province, China, has promoted multi–dimensional cooperation with the Northeast Asian regions.

1) Shandong province reported the basic plans of the 7th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asian Regional Governments in 2008, reported the measures of the Northeast Asian Environmental Protection Fair, and collected opinions of the participating delegates. The province wishes for all the members to actively participate in the aforementioned two events.

2) Shandong province officially applied for newly establishing the Sub–Committee on Ocean and Fishery in the Working Sub–Committee Meeting and showed the intention to become its coordinator. The participating delegates agreed after deliberation to submit this proposal to be discussed and decided. Taking the 2008 NEAR General Assembly as an opportunity, Shandong province plans to closely coordinate exchanges and cooperation in the Northeast Asian region with large–scale international events in this region, to closely coordinate exchanges and cooperation in the Northeast Asian region with the key exchange projects such as overseas cultural promotion, tourism promotion, attraction of investment, and developing product markets of this region, and to closely connect the key exchange locations of the parties in this region to promote multi–dimensional cooperation in the Northeast Asian Region.

(3) Proposal of newly establishing the Sub–Committee on Tourism – by Shandong province and Henan province, China
The participating delegates decided after deliberation to officially submit this proposal to the 2008 General Assembly to be discussed and decided.

(4) Issues on the introduction of the NEAR membership fees
Khabarovsk territory, Russia, proposed to introduce the NEAR membership fees to reduce the financial burden of the host regional government and increase the sense of responsibility of the participating member regional governments when holding a NEAR event. The meeting decided to submit the proposal to the General Assembly next year to be discussed and decided.

(5) Application for hosting the 2010 General Assembly – by Gyeonggi–do Province, South Korea
Gyeonggi–do province, South Korea, held the 1st Sub–Committee on Science and Technology Meeting of the Association in 2007. In this working committee meeting, the application for holding the 2010 General Assembly was officially submitted as a written document and it was decided by the deliberation of the participating delegates to officially submit the proposal to the 7th General Assembly in 2008 to be discussed and decided.
(6) Application for the Secretariat to Serve Consecutive Terms – by Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, South Korea
Since the establishment of the NEAR secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do province in 2004, the province showed active cooperation and support in various areas such as financial, human resources, etc., for the regular operation of the secretariat. The participating delegates highly valued the great contribution of Gyeongsangbuk-do province on the development of the Association for 4 years, especially on regular operation of the Secretariat, and officially submitted the application for the secretariat of Gyeongsangbuk-do province to serve consecutive years to the 7th General Assembly to be discussed and decided.

(7) Toyama prefecture, Japan, recruiting the next coordinator of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange, and Shimane prefecture, Japan, newly establishing the Educational and Cultural Sub-Committee
Since the establishment of the Sub-Committee on General Exchange on December 22nd, 1998, Toyama prefecture has continuously worked as its coordinator. To promote development of the Association, the prefecture wished as many regional governments to directly participate in operation of the Association, and wished another member to become the coordinator. The participating delegates decided through in-depth discussion to agree on the proposal to integrate the Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee and the Sub-Committee on General Exchange of Shimane prefecture to newly establish the Educational and Cultural Sub-Committee.

(8) Issues concerning the revision of the regulations related to the Sub-Committee
The “Regulations on the establishment and operation of the Sub-Committee” legislated by the Association in 1998 includes on the 5 Sub-Committees created at that time. Since then, the Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation and the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology were newly established in the 2004 Heilongjiang General Assembly and the 2006 Busan General Assembly respectively. The participating delegates agreed unanimously after deliberation to revise the “Regulations on the establishment and the operation of the Sub-Committee” and to include the aforementioned two Sub-Committees in the Article pertaining to the name and working area of the Sub-Committee.

Supplementary Provision

The aforementioned agreement of the 6th Working Committee Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments shall be translated in five languages, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, and Russian, along with English, and shall be distributed to all the member regional governments of the Association by the NEAR secretariat after the meeting.

9) Achievements of the General Assembly and Tasks
   - Major Achievements
     Integrated the Sub-Committee on General Exchange and the Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee to newly establish the Educational and Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee
Section 3 The Sub-Committee

1. Overview
   A. Organization
      ○ As a supporting body of The Working Committee, a Sub-Committee is organized in each area after the approval of the General Assembly when applied by The Working Committee.
      ○ Each Sub-Committee consists of director-level personnel of related department or bureau of the interested regional governments and a coordinator regional government elected by mutual vote that had the role of communication, mediation, and operation within the Sub-Committee.
   B. Function
      ○ The Sub-Committee supports to effectively implement individual projects and tasks proposed by the Association and evaluates and discusses the individual projects proposed by participating regional governments of the Sub-Committee.
      ○ Each Sub-Committee is to report the status and results of its activities to The Working Committee.
   C. Current status of Sub-Committees
      ○ In 1998, five Sub-Committees were organized including economy and trade, cultural exchange, environmental, disaster prevention and Sub-Committee on General Exchanges.
      ○ In 2004, Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation was formed in the Heilongjiang General Assembly.
      ○ In 2006 Sub-Committee on Science and Technology was formed in the Busan General Assembly.
      ○ In 2008, Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery and Sub-Committee on Tourism are formed and Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee and Sub-Committee on General Exchange are merged into Educational and Cultural Sub-Committee in the Shandong General Assembly.

2. Activities of Sub-Committees
   A. Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade (Coordinator - Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
      Concerning requests for investment, each member regional government actively supported "Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade—“North East Asia Business Promotion Conference”"
(1) Background and Purpose
   ○ In 1998, in the NEAR General Assembly, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province was selected to be the coordinating regional government of Economy and Trade Sub-Committee.
   ○ Purpose: to host the meeting as a joint project to establish a trade cooperation network and to promote economy and trade among member regional governments

(2) Major Activities
   (A) The 1st Meeting
      1) Overview of the Conference
         A) Date: September 29th ~ October 2nd, 1998
         B) Venue: Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
         C) Host: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
         D) Number of Participants: 300 persons (public officials from 16 regional governments of the Association, entrepreneurs, buyer local entrepreneurs)
         E) Major Events
            ○ Trade promotion seminar (September 30th, 09:00~12:00)
               • Hosted by professor Hae-Doo Lee. Thirty-eight public officials from 15 organizations participated (Korea: 5, China: 2, Japan: 6, Russia: 3)
            ○ Investment Policy Information Exchange Conference (September 30th 13:00~16:00)
            ○ Trade Fair (for 2 days, 70 foreign buyers and 198 local companies participated)
               • contracts worth of 3 million dollars and consultation worth of 24 million dollars
            ○ Exhibition of specialty products and catalogues (for 2 days, 42 companies from Gyeongsangbuk-do Province · Shandong Province · Toyama Prefecture)
            ○ Tour and industry inspection (October 1st) – Traditional handcraft village, Culture Expo, number of participants: 100 persons
      (F) Budget: 78 Million Won

   (B) The 2nd Meeting
      1) Overview of the Conference
         A) Date: November 24th ~ November 25th, 1999
         B) Venue: Gyeongju Hilton Hotel
         C) Host: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
         D) Number of Participants: 200 persons (public officials from 14 regional governments of the Association, entrepreneurs, buyer local entrepreneurs)
         E) Major Events
            ○ Hosted Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade meeting (November 24th, 10:00~12:00)
               • Hosted by professor Myeong-Ho Park, 15 organizations participated (Korea: 5, China: 2, Japan: 5, Russia: 2)
            ○ Export Fair (for 2 days, 36 foreign buyers and 100 local companies participated)
               • contracts worth of 3.57 million dollars and consultation worth of 6.97 million dollars
            ○ Exhibition of specialty products and catalogues (for 2 days, 70 local companies)
- Tour and industry inspection (for 2 days) – Yangdong village, Heavenly Horse Tomb (Cheonmachong), Bulguksa Temple, Museum

F) Budget: 90 Million Won (Welcoming banquet on November 24th, 150 people and Lieutenant Governor for Political Affairs attended)

(C) The 3rd Meeting

1) Overview of the Conference
   A) Date: May 22nd ~ May 25th, 2002
   B) Venue: Concorde Hotel Gyeongju
   C) Host: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, NEAR Subcommittee on Economy and Trade
   D) Participants: 468 persons (foreign guests: 104, locals: 364)
      - 42 public officials in charge of trade from member organization of the Association (18 organizations from 5 countries)
      - 76 foreign buyers (63 companies from 16 countries)
      - 280 people from local businesses
      - 70 public officials including the leaders of the regional governments, economy and trade related public officials from municipalities
   E) Official languages: Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Russian, English
   F) Conference Timetable
      - (Wed) May 22nd Welcome Banquet (19:00) : presided by the governor
      - (Thu) May 23rd Export Fair (09:30~17:30) Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting (10:00~16:30) : Director of Economy and Trade Sub-Committee
      - (Fri) May 24th Individual Consultation, Inspection (09:30~18:00)
        * Exhibition of products and catalogues: May 23rd, 9:30 ~ May 24th, 13:00

G) Proceeding of the Conference

① Welcoming Banquet
   - Date: May 22nd, 2002
   - Venue: Emerald Ballroom, Concorde Hotel Gyeongju
   - Participants: 150 persons
     - NEAR: 42 persons (public officials of 18 organizations from 5 countries)
     - Foreign buyers: 76 persons (Northeast Asia: 14, Other: 62)
     - Gyeongsangbuk-do Province: 32 persons
   - Schedule
     - Video presentation of the touristic attractions of Gyeongsangbuk-do
     - Welcoming speech (governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province)
     - Introduction of the guests, Toast proposal (Seong-Ho Jang, the former chairman of NEAR)
     - banquet and closing

② Economic Sub-Committee, the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
   - Date: May 23rd, 2002
   - Venue: Ruby room, Concorde Hotel Gyeongju
Participants: 82 persons
- 42 persons from 18 organizations from 5 countries of NEAR
  - Korea: 7(14 persons), China: 3(8 persons), Japan: 4(12 persons), Russia: 3(6 persons), Mongolia: 1(2 persons)
- 40 public officials from international trade related municipal office

Theme: Measures to Activate Economic and Trade Exchange in the Association
- Speakers: 13 persons(Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Gyeonggi-do province, Jeollanam-do province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous region, Ningxia University, Toyama prefecture, Hyogo prefecture, Shimane prefecture, Tottori prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, Sakhalin region, Republic of Buryatia, Tuv province)
- Presider: Professor Hyo-Soo Lee, Yeungnam University(former dean of college of business and economics)
- Languages: Simultaneous Interpretation in Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian

Results of the meeting

[3 matters of agreement]
- Establishing the NEAR ‘E-commerce joint web site’
- Proposed that 'Northeast Asia Business Expo' be hosted by the region government that hosts the General Assembly
  - After decided in the 4th General Assembly in September, the expo will be held in the 5th General Assembly and on,
- Welcoming and cooperating with joining of Hamgyeongbuk-do province and Selenge province(Mongolia) to the Association

[7 matters for cooperation]
- Cooperation with promotions regarding foreign investment requests and joint development
- Support for Gyeongsangbuk-do province to establish a permanent secretariat and cooperation with mutually participating international events,

The delegates of 18 member regional governments of Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade from China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia gathered together to hold the 3rd Economy and Trade Meeting of the North East Asian Regional Governments in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, South Korea on May 23rd 2002.

In this meeting, with the 6th anniversary of the establishment of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, the delegates from participating regional governments agreed on enhancing the exchange and cooperation network to the next level in the area of economy and trade of the Association, expanding actual economic exchange activities of NEAR from now on, and actively promoting the implementation of the joint projects and resolution of the tasks in the Northeast Asian region. All the participating member regional governments presented constructive and useful opinion for the promotion of economy and trade exchange in the Northeast Asian region. After
serious discussions among delegates of participating regional governments, proposed items were expanded into joint venture of the Association through voting or were agreed to become items that need mutual cooperation among the member regional governments. The matters proposed and agreed in this meeting are hereby listed below.

1. Matters of agreement

(1) Hyogo prefecture, Jeollabuk-do province, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, and Khabarovsk proposed establishing an “E-Commerce Joint Web Site” that provides trade information to entrepreneurs of the member regional governments as well as the foreign buyers in order to actually promote economic and trade exchange in the Northeast Asian region. Each participating delegate recognized that the importance of e-commerce is increasing day by day as the era of knowledge and information has emerged and responding to this demand of the times, the establishment of the “E-commerce Joint Web Site” is agreed to proceed in order to promote multi-national trade in the Northeast Asian region. Concerning this item, detailed plans for actualization of these projects are to be prepared as a draft by Gyeongsangbuk-do province and after discussions among the entire member regional governments of the Association, the draft will be finalized.

(2) Gyeongsangbuk-do province suggested “Northeast Asia Business Expo”, where businesses of the region participate, to be hosted by the regional government that also hosts the General Assembly in order to promote North East Asia Business Promotion Conference. Concerning this item, it is agreed that this item will be proposed in the name of Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade to the Khabarovsk General Assembly in September of this year and after passing the voting process, will become an official project of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments from the opening of the 2004 General Assembly.

(3) All the participating organizations expressed a welcome to Hamgyeongbuk-do province, North Korea and Selenge province, Mongolia that had expressed their intention to join the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, which was officially verified by Khabarovsk territory. As expanding exchange in the area of economy and trade in Northeast Asia is necessary, it is agreed that each regional government will actively cooperate so that the two organizations can participate and register as a member in the 4th General Assembly in Khabarovsk in September.

2. Matters requiring cooperation from the members

(1) Concerning requesting Foreign investments and joint developments, Ningxia Hui Autonomous region, Heilongjiang province, Liaoning province, Tuv province, Sakhalin region and Republic of Buryatia presented local industries and the investment climate and requested active investment of economic circles of each member regional government in the areas of energy, science and technology,
agriculture and forestry, tourism, and social overhead capital.
Concerning this item, a basis for active mutual investments among the member regional governments in the Northeast Asian region shall be provided through Investment Promotion Fair hosted by each of the proposing regional governments and through introducing promotional material related to investment.

(2) Toyama prefecture requested active participation and cooperation for the meeting of Sub-Committee on General Exchange and Sub-Committee on Environment of the Association on July 11th to 12th.

(3) Hyogo prefecture requested active participation and cooperation for the meeting of Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention on July 23rd.

(4) Shimane prefecture, Tottori prefecture, and Gyeonggi-do province introduced policies for promoting local economy, for international exchange, and for promoting trade and requested for attention and cooperation from the member regional governments.

(5) Gyeongsangbuk-do Province requested active support and cooperation for establishing the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do Province in the 4th Khabarovsk General Assembly.

(6) Gyeongsangbuk-do Province requested active participation and cooperation of all the member regional governments to “World Agriculture Forum” opening in October 2002 and to “2003 Gyeongju World Culture Expo”.

(7) All the member regional governments were requested to participate in the 4th General Assembly of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments in Khabarovsk territory on September 10th to 11th 2002.

The aforementioned items are the agreement and requests from the 3rd Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade meeting of NEAR and are to be written in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian.

③ Export Fair Inviting Foreign Buyers
- Date: May 23rd (The 24th is for individual consultations and for inspection tours)
- Venue: Emerald Ballroom, Concorde Hotel
- Invited Buyers: 76 persons of 63 companies from 16 countries
  - Northeast Asia: 14 persons of 14 companies from 4 countries (China, Japan, Russia, and Mongolia)
  - Others: 62 persons of 49 companies from 12 countries (including the US, Hungary, and Iran) consulted with 280 companies from the province
- Result
  - Deals: 5.04 million dollars (Aim: 3 million dollars)
  - Consultations: 26.25 million dollars (Aim: 20 million dollars)

Northeast Asian regional governments – Deals: 447,000 dollars;
Consultation: 3,598,000 dollars
○ Result by items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Deals (in thousand dollars)</th>
<th>Consultations (in thousand dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,043</td>
<td>26,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Computer/communications</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>1,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Electric/electronics</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>390</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Machinery/equipment</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>9,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Textile/leather</td>
<td>1,856</td>
<td>6,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Automobiles/transportations</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>3,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stationary/gifts</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>1,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Agricultural produce</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>2,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Others (chemicals, etc.)</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>2,558</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

④ Exhibition of products and catalogues

○ Date: May 23rd ~ May 24th
○ Venue: Lobby of Emerald Ballroom, Concorde Hotel (Size: 1067 ft², 99m²)
○ Number of Exhibits: 1500 items of 155 kinds
○ Operation: interpreters for 4 languages were placed for explanation and guide
○ Contents of the exhibition
  - Exhibits (108 kinds, 35 companies from the province)
  - Handcrafts: 50 kinds (china, Hahoetal mask, etc.) / Non-alcoholic beverages: 20 kinds (Persimmon vinegar, etc.)
  - Alcoholic beverages: 8 kinds (An-dong rice wine, Shilla-ju, Ojeong-ju, etc.)
  - Machineries: 30 kinds (mower, spray, smoke sterilizer, DVR, etc.)
  - 47 items (handcrafts)
    - Shimane Prefecture - 20; Tottori Prefecture - 8; Toyama Prefecture - 12; Hyogo Prefecture - 7
※ promotional material for business and regional governments: 100 kinds
○ Achievement of the exhibition
  - Showed the excellence of products from Gyeongsangbuk-do province to the foreign buyers
  - Motivated research by exhibiting side by side with excellent products of other countries (quality, design, packaging, etc.)
  - some products attracted actual buyers (asking the contact number)

H) Achievements of the Meeting and Tasks

① Major Achievements

○ Verifying the potential of Gyeongsangbuk-do province provided the member regional governments with trust and stability.
○ Discovery of joint ventures and agreement on measures for practical exchange and cooperation
○ Actualization of North Korea joining the Association, which Gyeongsangbuk-do province has advocated, and expansion of support for this

② Tasks
Establishing a constant operating system in order to actualize the mutual interests and the agreement of the Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade, reinforcing international trade and recruiting more human resources and organizations.

Inducing major participation of all the member regional governments by hosting an event with a tentative name "Northeast Asia Business Expo" in the General Assembly level. When the membership of North Korea to the Association is granted, North Korea will be recruited to this Sub-Committee to promote practical exchange and cooperation such as forming alliance.

During Export Fair Inviting Foreign Buyers, participating regional governments should be given an opportunity for export consultation in order to promote multi-national trade consultation.

I) Additional Events
① Tour and Industry Inspection
② Date : May 24th
③ Locations : Gyeongju Area (Bulguksa temple, Seokguram grotto, Expo park), POSCO
④ Participants : 43 persons
   - 26 participants form NEAR (China - 10; Japan - 4; Mongolia - 6; Russia - 6)
     • 12 Buyers invited by KOTRA, 5 public officials from municipalities
⑤ Others
   - News reports
     • On TV : 8 times
       - KBS 2 times, MBC 5 times, TBC 1 time
     • On newspapers : 17 times (national : 3 times, local : 14 times)
       - Dong-A Daily News : 1 time, JoongAng Ilbo : 1 time, The Segye Times : 1 time
       - Maeil Shinmun : 1 time, Yeongnam Ilbo : 4 times, Kyungbuk Ilbo : 2 times,
         Daegu Ilbo : 3 times, Gyeongsang Maeil : 2 times, Gyeongbuk Maeil : 1 time,
         Daegu Shinmun : 1 time
     • Radio Interviews : 2 times
       - Daegu TBS (Dae-ju Hwang, in charge of International Cooperation, for 15 minutes)
       - Pohang CBS "News Scene" (Daeju Hwang, in charge of International Cooperation, for 15 minutes)

(D) The 4th Meeting
① Overview of the Conference
   A) Date : September 23rd ~ September 26th, 2003
   B) Venue : Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
   C) Host : Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
   D) Participants : 380 persons (Foreign guests : 125, Locals : 255)
      • 55 officials in charge of trade from NEAR member organization (29 organizations from 5 countries)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Daegu Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Liaoning Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Republic of Buryata, Khakassov Territory, Irkutsk Region, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 125 Foreign buyers (43 companies from 12 countries)
- 161 persons from companies from the province
- 39 persons including leaders of organizations and related municipal officials in charge of economy and trade

E) Conference Schedule
- September 23rd (Tue) welcoming banquet (19:00) : presided by the governor
- September 24th (Wed) Export Fair (09:30 ~ 17:30)
  - Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting (10:00 ~ 16:30) : director of Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
- September 25th (Thu) : Individual consultation and inspection (09:30 ~ 18:00)
  - Exhibition of products and catalogues September 24th 9:30 ~ September 25th 13:00

F) Proceeding of the Conference

① Welcoming banquet
- Date : 2003, 9, 23
- Venue : Emerald Hall, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
- Number of participants : 200 persons
  - NEAR : 55 persons (public officials of 23 organizations from 5 countries)
  - Foreign buyers : 106 persons (buyers : 84, Investment group : 22)
  - Gyeongsangbuk-do Province : 39 persons
- Program
  - Welcoming speech (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province)
  - Introduction of guests and Toast proposal (Yeon-byeong Choi, chairman)
  - Banquet, Performances, Closing

② NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting
- Date : September 24th 2003
- Venue : Convention Hall, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
- Participants : 100 persons
  - 55 persons of 23 NEAR organizations from 5 countries
    - Korea : 8 (8 persons), China : 4 (18 persons) Japan : 5 (9 persons), Russia : 5 (8 persons), Mongolia : 1 (2 persons)
    - Municipal officials in charge of international trade : 45 persons
- Theme : Measures to promote economy and trade exchange of NEAR
  - Speakers : 12 persons (Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Chungcheongbuk-do province, Daegu Metropolitan city, Liaoning province, Ningxia Hui
Autonomous region, Hyogo prefecture, Shimane prefecture, Tottori prefecture, Khabarovsk territory, Sakhalin region, Selenge province)

- Moderator: Professor Hyo-Soo Lee, Yeungnam University (former dean of college of economy and business)
- Languages: simultaneous interpretation in Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian

○ Result of the meeting

[Agreement: 2 items]
- Organizing Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion
- Establishing Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Information System
  - Gyeongsangbuk-do province will be in charge; other regional governments will cooperate.

[Requests for cooperation: 14 items]
- Request for foreign investment and mutual cooperation regarding joint development
- Active participation of the member regional governments in events hosted by other members
- Cooperation of the member regional governments with regular container route and port usage guidelines

Delegates of 23 member regional governments from China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia gathered together to hold the 4th Economy and Trade Meeting of the North East Asian Regional Governments in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, South Korea on September 24th, 2003.

In this meeting, with the 7th anniversary of the establishment of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, the delegates from participating regional governments agreed on enhancing the exchange and cooperation network to the next level in the area of economy and trade of the Association, expanding practical economic exchange activities of NEAR from now on, and actively promoting the implementation of the joint projects and resolution of the tasks in the Northeast Asian region. All the participating member regional governments presented constructive and useful opinion for the promotion of economy and trade exchange in the Northeast Asian region. After serious discussions among delegates of participating regional governments, the matters proposed and agreed in this meeting are hereby listed below.

1. Concerning Organizing Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion

Gyeongsangbuk-do suggested forming Northeast Asia Economic Community in order to promote stable growth and continuous development of local economy responding to the reorganization of world economic order. The members reached a consensus that Northeast Asian region should seek for mutual economic gain and cooperate with each other. Also, in order to promote mutual investment of member regional governments, NEAR Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion should be formed. The detailed organization and
operation of this council will go through a separate working level talk and then be promoted.

2. Concerning establishing Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Information System

Gyeongsangbuk-do province suggested establishing Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Information System that will analyze and provide information on the natural resources and the investment climate of member regional governments to promote human and material exchange in the Northeast Asian region. It is agreed that Gyeongsangbuk-do province will be in charge of establishing “E-commerce joint web site” that had been agreed on in the NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trademeeting and proceed with it as early as possible and each member regional government will actively cooperate by providing data and supporting with technology.

3. Concerning requests for cooperation of each member regional governments

(1) 3–1 Concerning the request for foreign investment and joint development

The members agreed to cooperate with the free trade zone that has been proposed by Selenge province and with agricultural areas, energy, bio industry, and social overhead capital introduced by Henan province, Lisoning province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous region, Hyogo prefecture, Chungcheongbuk-do province, Khabarovsk territory, Sakhalin region, Irkutsk region, and Republic of Sakha.

(2) 3–2 Concerning events hosted by the member regional governments

The member regional governments agreed to actively participate in Import and Export Exhibition in Yonago city, Tottori prefecture in November and in June 2004.

(3) 3–3 Concerning regular container route and port usage guidelines

The members agreed to fully cooperate with the promotion of using Busan–Hamada international regular container route established by Shimane prefecture in 2001, with request for establishing Kwangyang(Jeollanam-do province)–Hamada regular route and with request of Tottori prefecture to use SaKai port for trade and material exchange among coastal countries.

The aforementioned results of the 4th Sub–Committee on Economy and Trademeeting of NEAR are agreed and implemented and are to be written in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian.

③ Export Fair Inviting Foreign Buyers

- Date : September 24th
  - 25th : Individual consultations and Inspections, etc.
- Venue : Convention B Hall, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
- Invited Buyers : 93 persons
  - Northeast Asia : 31 persons of 26 companies from 4 countries (China, Japan, Russia, Mongolia, etc.)
  - Others : 62 persons of 47 companies from 10 countries (US, Burma, India, etc.)
- Consulted with 200 companies from the province

- Result
  - Deals : 15.32 million dollars (Aim: 3 million dollars)
  - Consultations : 147.02 million dollars (Aim: 20 million dollars)
Northeast Asian Regional Governments - Deals: 348,000 dollars;
Consultation: 454,000 dollars

Result by Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Deals (in Thousand Dollars)</th>
<th>Consultations (in Thousand Dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15,023</td>
<td>147,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric/Electronics</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery/Equipment</td>
<td>9,008</td>
<td>42,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile/Leather</td>
<td>4,042</td>
<td>83,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automobiles/Transportations</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>3,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationary/Gifts</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Produce</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (Chemicals, etc.)</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>17,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exhibition of Products and Catalogues

- Date: September 24th ~ September 25th
- Venue: Convention Hall Lobby, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
- Number of Exhibits: Approximately 1,000 items of 129 kinds
- Operation: Interpreters for 4 languages were placed for explanation and guide
- Contents of the Exhibition
  - Exhibits (120 kinds, 48 companies from the province)
    - Handcrafts: 50 kinds (China, Jewelry Box, etc)/ Non-Alcoholic Beverages: 20 kinds (Red Ginseng Drink, etc.)
    - Alcoholic Beverages: 10 kinds (An-dong rice wine, Shilla–ju, Bullo–ju)
    - Machineries: 50 kinds (mower, spray, smoke sterilizer, DVR, etc.)
  - Foreign Items: 9 kinds (Clothing, fabric, food, wine, animal feed, etc.)
  - Liaoning Province - 5 items; Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region - 4 items
  - Promotional materials for business and regional governments: 100 kinds

Achievement of the exhibition

- Showed the excellence of products from Gyeongsangbuk-do province to the foreign buyers
- Motivated research by exhibiting side by side with excellent products of other countries (quality, design, packaging, etc.)
- Some products attracted actual buyers (asking the contact number)

Achievements of the Meeting and Tasks

1. Major Achievements
   - Verification of the potential of Gyeongsangbuk-do to establish and operate the permanent secretariat. Gyeongsangbuk-do province gained trust and approval from member organizations
   - Preparation of the basis for establishing an economic community in the Northeast Asian region by organizing and operating Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion
   - Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Information System will be established by
Gyeongsangbuk-do Province so that the information on the natural resources and the investment climate will be analyzed and provided.

3) Tasks
   • Hosting a working-level meeting of Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade to prepare a draft for the organization and operation plan of Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion
   • Revision of budgets for 2004 to establish Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Information System, Reinforcement of international trade, Recruitment of human resources and organizations
   • Participating in Children of Asia International Children Sports Games in Republic of Sakha will be implemented by cooperating with the Department of Education
   • During Export Fair inviting Foreign Buyers, participating regional governments should be given an opportunity for export consultation in order to promote multi-national trade consultation.

4) Additional events
   1) Tour and Industry inspection
   2) Date : September 25th
   3) Locations : Gyeongju Culture Expo, Bulguksa temple, POSCO
   4) Number of participants : 65 persons
      • Public officials : 28, Buyers : 30, Assistants and interpreters : 7

(E) The 5th Meeting
   1) Overview of the Conference
      A) Date : October 5th ~ 8th, 2004
      B) Venue : Hotel Hyundaid Gyeongju
      C) Host : Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, NEAR Economy and Trade Sub-Committee
      D) Participants : 441 persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jeollanam-do Province, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Busan Metropolitan City, Daejeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Metropolitan City, Daegu Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Nigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Amur Region, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Public officials of NEAR member organizations in charge of trade : 50 persons
  (19 organizations from 5 countries)
• Foreign Buyers : 86 persons, Exporting Businesses in the province : 200 persons
• Leaders and public officials of related organizations in the province : 105 persons

E) Conference Schedule
Welcoming banquet
Sub-Committee on Economy and Trademeeting
Export Fair Inviting Foreign Buyers
Exhibition of Excellent Products and Catalogues
Industrial Inspection(Gyeongju, Pohang)
F) Proceeding of the Conference
① Welcoming banquet
- Date: October 5th 2004
- Venue: Emerald Room, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
- Participants: 196 persons
  - NEAR: 50 persons (Public officials of 19 organization from 5 countries)
  - Foreign Buyers: 86 persons, Related organizations in the province: 60 persons
- Program
  - Welcoming speech (Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Mayor of Gyeongju city)
  - Introduction of guests, Toast proposal (Gyeongsangbuk-do province and Henan province)
  - Banquet and performance

② NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting
- Date: October 6th 2004
- Venue: Convention Hall A hall, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
- Participants: 95 persons (NEAR: 50, Municipal officials: 45)
- Theme: Measures to promote economy and trade exchange of NEAR
  - Speakers: 10 persons (Heilongjiang province, Henan province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous region, Toyama Prefecture Hyogo prefecture, Shimane prefecture, Tottori prefecture, Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Amur region)
  - President: Professor Hyo-Soo Lee, Yeungnam University (Former Dean of College of Economy and Business)
  - Languages: Simultaneous interpretation in Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian
G) Result of the meeting

[Agreement and requests: 6 items]
- Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion to be merged and held in this Sub-Committee (public officials: 2, civilians: 2)
- Along with Export Fair a Specialty Product Fair to be held
- Mutual cooperation regarding the requests for foreign investment and joint development
- Active participation in the events hosted by the member regional governments and prompt and accurate information exchange through “NEAR Economy and Trade Information System”
- Developing and participating in various programs for women, public organization, sports, and culture among member regional governments
- Active participation in the 6th General Assembly in 2006 and the Business Expo
On October 6th 2004, the 19 member regional governments of NEAR Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade from 5 countries including China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia gathered together to hold the 5th NEAR Sub–Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk–do province, South Korea. In this meeting, the first meeting since the 5th NEAR General Assembly in Heilongjiang province, China where the decision was made to establish the permanent secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk–do province, South Korea, the members mutually recognized that numerous proposals and efforts to actualize them through this Sub–Committee have served as a good model for the member regions and played a role of a driving force for the development and actual expansion of exchange in Northeast Asia.

1. Items of Agreement and Requests
   (1) Concerning the organization of “NEAR Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion” that was passed at the 4th “North East Asia Business Promotion Conference”, it is agreed that, from the next meeting, two representatives from member organizations and two private entrepreneurs should participate and regarding the operation of the Council, the Council shall be merged into and hosted by “North East Asia Business Promotion Conference.”

   (2) In order for “Export Fair” that is held along with the “North East Asia Business Promotion Conference” to be effective in promoting practical and reciprocal trade, all the member regional governments agreed with the proposal of Gyeongsangbuk–do province to hold “Fair for Special Items” by selecting specific items (ex. Processed food, automobile parts, mobile phone parts, textile machines, etc.) and the details were decided to be discussed later.

   (3) Concerning “Attracting Foreign Investment”, Heilongjiang province and Henan province, China and Shimane prefecture, Japan introduced local industries and investment climate and it was agreed that each member organization will actively cooperate with investment requests in the areas of energy, agriculture and forestry, science and technology, and tourism industries.

   (4) The member organizations of the Association will actively participate in the 16th “China Harbin International Economic and Trade Fair” in Heilongjiang province, China in June 2005. Concerning all kinds of exhibitions and trade fairs hosted by each member regional government, information will be sufficiently provided beforehand using “NEAR Economy and Trade Information System.”

   (5) Amur region, Russia fully recognized the role and significance of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments and wished for promotion of various exchanges among member organizations, such as women, public organizations, sports, and culture; It is agreed that each regional government shall develop various programs and actively participate in them.

   (6) Concerning the 6th NEAR General Assembly in Busan, South Korea in 2006 and “North East Asia Industry Exhibition” that opened along with the General Assembly, it was agreed that all the member organizations shall actively participate in both.
The aforementioned 6 items are the items of agreement and requests of the 5th NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Tradeand are written in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian.

③ Export Fair Inviting Foreign Buyers
○ Date: October 6th ~ October 7th
○ Venue: Convention Halls B and C, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
○ Invited Buyers: 286 persons
  • 86 buyers from 15 foreign countries, 200 companies from the province
  • US, Russia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, etc.
  ※ Consultation with 200 companies from the province
○ Result
  • Deals: 10.36 million dollars
  • Consultations: 21.6 million dollars

④ Exhibition of Products and Catalogues
○ Date: October 5th ~ October 8th
○ Venue: Convention Hall Lobby, Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
○ Exhibits: exhibition of 80 specialty products from NEAR members, of 40 kinds including product catalogues

H) Achievements of the General Assembly and Tasks
① Major Achievements
○ Since the decision of establishing the permanent secretariat, it was the first international conference in Gyeongsangbuk-do province. The video presentation on the progress in establishing “Northeast Asia Economy and Trade Network” was shown.
○ Report on the developmental/effective operation strategy for “NEAR Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion”
○ All of 19 member regional governments expressed that they experienced a memorable and exemplary event in Gyeongsangbuk-do province because of its carefully planned and kind reception and farewell in the airport, the prompt and trustworthy arrangement of the agreement, and tours of both historical and high-tech industrial places.
○ Participation of numerous buyers from America and Russian regions that have a huge market size and a great purchasing power.

② Tasks
○ A practical and development-oriented operation of Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade where both government officials and private investors jointly participate by actively operating Council for Private and Public Investment Promotion
○ Along with Export Fair, “Specialty Product Fair” should be hosted for participating regional governments so that the NEAR members are provided with an opportunity for an economic exchange and multilateral mutual trade.

I) Additional Events
① Tour and Industrial Inspection
(②) Date : October 7th
(③) Location : Gyeongju and Pohang (POSCO, Bulguksa temple, Seokguram grotto, Gyeongju World Culture EXPO)

(F) The 6th Meeting
1) Overview of the Conference
A) Date : December 1st ~ December 3rd, 2005
B) Venue : Gyeongju Hilton
C) Host : Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
D) Number of Participants : 185 persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Busan Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province, Henan Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Republic of Buryatia, Amur Region, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Irkutsk Region, Tomsk Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 41 officials of NEAR member organizations in charge of trade (21 organizations from 5 countries)
- 80 local and overseas entrepreneurs (7 companies from 4 countries)
- Staff from municipalities and others : 64 persons

E) Conference Timetable
- Welcoming Banquet
- Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting
- Multilateral Fair for Special Items
- Tour - NEAR Secretariat
- Industrial Inspection (Gyeongju, Pohang)

F) Proceeding of the Conference
① Visiting NEAR Secretariat
   - Date : 12.1 December 1st, 2005
   - Number of Participants : 48 persons
   - Content : Tour of Secretariat Office and Exhibition Center, Demonstration of the NEAR Economy and Trade Network

② Welcoming Banquet
   - Date : December 1st, 2005
   - Venue : Grand Ballroom, Gyeongju Hilton
   - Number of Participants : 100 persons
     - NEAR : 41 persons (public officials of 22 regional governments from 5 countries)
     - Entrepreneurs from Home and Abroad : 40 persons
• Invited Guests and Others: 19 persons
  ○ Program
    • Welcoming Speech (Lieutenant Governor for Administrative Affairs, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
    • Toast Proposal (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Republic of Buryatia, Russia)
    • Banquet, Performance

③ NEAR Economy and Trade Sub-Committee
  ○ Date: December 2nd, 2005
  ○ Venue: Grand Ballrooms B and C, Gyeongju Hilton
  ○ Number of Participants: 88 persons (43 from NEAR member regional governments, 45 municipal officials)
  ○ Theme: Measures to Promote Economic and Trade Exchange of NEAR
    • Speakers: 7 persons (Heilongjiang Province, Henan Province, Shandong Province, Amur Region, Irkutsk Region, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Busan Metropolitan City)
    • Moderator: Professor Hyo-Soo Lee, Yeungnam University (former Dean of College of Economy and Business)
    • Languages: Simultaneous interpretation in Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian

G) Result of the Meeting
  [Items of agreement: 1 item]
    • From the 7th meeting and on, the meeting will be divided into part 1 and part 2.
  [Items of requests: 3 items]
    • Active cooperation with the requests for investment and technical cooperation of member organizations in the local developmental projects in Heilongjiang province and Shandong province, China and Irkutsk region, Russia.
    • Active participation in international expos hosted by Henan province, China and Gyeongsangbuk-do province in 2006
    • Active participation in the development of the Special Economic Zone between Amur region, Russia and Heilongjiang province, China

「Agreement」

On December 2nd 2005, 21 member regional governments of NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade from 5 countries including China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, and Russia gathered together to host the 6th NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do province, South Korea.

In this meeting, Tomsk region, Russia participated for the first time as an observer and apart from the Sub-Committee meeting, “NEAR Multilateral Specialty Product Trade Fair” that was decided in the 2004 meeting was held. At the fair, multilateral trade consultations were made among 95 buyers and sellers of 60 companies and 9 organizations from 4 countries including China, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia in 4 main items of electric and electronics, textiles, processing of agricultural and fishery products, and machineries.
After serious discussions among participating member organizations on the theme of “Measures to Promote Economic and Trade Exchange of NEAR”, Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade agreed on the following:

1. Items of Agreement
   (1) From the 7th meeting and on, the meeting will be divided into part 1 and part 2.
      In the part 1, the presentations of each member organization will be made; in the part 2, a discussion on the common theme of “Measures to Promote Economic and Trade Exchange of NEAR”

2. Items of Requests
   (1) The member organizations agreed to pay attention to and cooperate with the requests for investment and technical cooperation in the construction project of six major bases carried by Heilongjiang province, China, major development projects carried by Shandong province, China and regional developmental projects in Irkutsk region, Russia.
   (2) Each member organization agreed to actively participate in International Investment and Trade Fair in Henan Province, China (April), and International Factory Automation System Show(May), Korea Autoparts and Auto-related Industries Show(June), International Machinery Expo (October) in Gyeongsangnam-do province, South Korea. And the detailed information of aforementioned events will be posted and fully promoted in the newsletter published by NEAR secretariat and in Economy and Trade Information System before the event dates.
   (3) The companies from the member regions will actively participate in the development of Special Economic Zone between Amur region, Russia and Heilongjiang province, China and Amur region will provide detailed information about incentives such as tax reduction on the investment of member regional governments.

The aforementioned 4 items are the items of agreement and requests of the 6th NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade and are written in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian.

4 Multilateral Fair for Specialty Items
   ○ Date: December 2nd
   ○ Venue: Grand Ballroom A, Gyeongju Hilton
   ○ Invited Buyers: 95 persons (20 overseas buyers of 15 companies from 3 countries, 75 Korean buyers from 50 companies)
   ○ Result
     • Deals: 5 million dollars
     • Consultations: 10 million dollars

5 Exhibition of Excellent Products and Catalogues
   ○ Date: December 1st ~ December 2nd
- Exhibits: 70 specialty items from the NEAR member regional governments; 50 catalogues

H) Achievements of the Sub-Committee Meeting and Tasks

1) Major Achievements

- Enhanced the position of the province as the core member regional government of Northeast Asia by having delegates from the member regional governments visit the NEAR Secretariat and holding demonstration of economic and trade network
- Promoted export increase by holding the "Multilateral Specialty Product Fair" that was decided last year
- Provided the opportunity to confirm that Gyeongsangbuk-do province plays the leading role in the progress of the Association by agreeing on stable operation through separating meetings into part 1 and part 2 since the 7th Business Promotion Conference

I) Additional Events

1) Tour and Industrial Inspection
2) Date: December 1st ~ December 2nd
3) Locations: NEAR Secretariat, POSCO, Bulguksa Temple, Seokguram Grotto, Gyeongju World Culture Expo

(G) The 7th Meeting

1) Overview of the Conference
A) Date: December 5th ~ December 8th, 2006
B) Venue: Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju
C) Hosts: Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
D) Participants: 300 persons of 35 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Daegu Metropolitan City, Gyeonggi-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Shandong Province, Shaanxi Province, Hunan Province, Hubei Province, Heilongjiang Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Altai Territory, Republic of Buryatia, Republic of Tyva, Krasnoyarsk Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Sakhalin Region, Tomsk Region, Khabarovskyk Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Bayanulgi Province, Bayankhongor Province, Bulgan Province, Dornogovi Province, Dornod Province, Govi-Altaai Province, Khentii Province, Tuv Province, Umnu-govi Province, Uvs Province, Zavkhan Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E) Conference Timetable

- Welcoming Banquet
- Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting
- Multilateral trade fair and exhibition of products and catalogues
- Industrial inspection and historic sites tour (POSCO, KyongJu Folk Craft Village,
Daereungwon Royal Tombs)  
F) Proceeding of the Conference  
① Welcoming Banquet  
○ Date: December 5th, 2006  
○ Venue: Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju  
○ Participants: 250 persons  
• Officials from the member regional governments, buyers, entrepreneurs  
• Domestic guests, related organizations, and others  
○ Program  
• Opening ceremony, introduction of participants, welcoming speech, congratulatory remarks, etc.  
• Proposal of Toast  
• Banquet, performance  

② The NEAR Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade Meeting  
○ Date: December 6th, 2006  
○ Venue: Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju  
○ Participants: 130 persons(33 from the NEAR member regional governments)  
○ Theme: Measures to increase trade through revitalization of economic exchange among the member regional governments  
• Speakers: 16 presentations (Shaanxi Province, Shimane Prefecture, Khabarovsk Territory, Khentii Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Republic of Buryatia, Shandong Province, Altai Territory, Bayankhongor Province, Hunan Province, Uvs Province, Krasnoyarsk Territory, Tomsk Region, Hubei Province)  

「Agreement」  

On December 6th, 2006, 32 member regional governments of the Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments from 5 countries including China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia gathered together to hold the 7th Sub-Committee on Economy and Trademeeting along with the NEAR Multilateral Trade Fair in Gyeongju city, Gyeongsangbuk-do province.  

At the fair, multilateral trade consultations were made among 180 buyers and sellers of 66 companies and 22 organizations from 4 countries including China, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia in 4 main items of electric and electronics, textiles, processing of agricultural and fishery products, and machineries  

After serious discussions among participating member organizations on the theme of “Measures to Promote Economic and Trade Exchange of NEAR”, Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade agreed on the following:  

1. Items of Agreement  
   (1) As China brought up the importance of the interregional economic cooperation in Northeast Asia by introducing the Great Western Development strategy of Shaanxi
province, creative regional construction of Shandong province, and central rally policies of Hunan province, the member regional governments are to actively respond and cooperate with China.

(2) As Russia introduced key promotional projects of lumber, marine products, logistics and transport in Khabarovsk territory, of tourism in Republic of Buryatia, of tourism and industrial products based on grain production in Altai territory, of tourism industry and investment cooperation and development in Krasnoyarsk territory, and of science and education in Tomsk region, and expects multi-dimensional exchange and investment among the members, the member regional governments are to actively respond and cooperate with Russia.

(3) As Mongolia introduces the plans for regional economic development in Bayankhongor province and expects active investment of the member regional governments in development of rich mineral resources in Khentii Province and in production of the Dahurian buckthorn trees in Uvs Province, the member regional governments are to actively cooperate with Mongolia.

(4) As Shimane prefecture of Japan presented a case report on its own efforts towards advanced global management of companies, and Gyeonggi-do province of South Korea proposed measures to increase mutual trade through training sessions of company CEOs among the members, the member regional governments are to cooperate with them.

2. Item of Cooperation

(1) Each member regional government shall actively participate in the “Cooperation and Investment Trade Fair of the Eastern and Western Region of China” held in Shaanxi Province, China, in April 2007.

The 5 aforementioned items are the agreement of the 7th Sub-Committee on Economy and Trademeeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments, and the member regional governments of the Association shall pledge to implement the items to the best of their ability through mutual cooperation.

December 6th, 2006
Delegates from the Participating Regional Governments of the 2006 Northeast Asia Business Promotion Conference

③ Multilateral Specialty Product Fair
- Date: December 6th
- Venue: Hotel Hyundai Gyeongju(Convention B and C Halls)
- Participants: Approximately 180 persons (buyers and entrepreneurs from home and abroad)
  - Overseas: 22 regional governments from 4 countries (80 persons from 66 companies)
  - Domestic: 6 regional governments (100 persons from 80 companies)
- Performance
  - Total Consultation: 7,569 million dollars
④ Exhibition of Excellent Products and Catalogues
   ○ Date : December 6th
   ○ Venue : Hotel Hyundai (Consulting Hall and Lobby)

G) Additional Events
   ① Tour and Industrial Inspection
   ② Date : December 7th
   ③ Locations : POSCO, Bulguksa Temple, Kyongju Folk Craft Village, Daereungwon Royal Tombs

(H) The 8th Meeting(Substituted with the “2007 NEAR International Economic Forum and Multilateral Trade Fair”)
   1) Overview of the Conference
      A) Date : October 16th ~ October 19th, 2007
      B) Venue : Hotel Inter-Burgo Daegu
      C) Hosts : Co-hosted by Gyeongsangbuk-do Province and NEAR Secretariat
      D) Participants : 300 persons of 22 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Daegu Metropolitan City, Busan Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kyoto Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Irkutsk Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dorno-govi Province, Bayankhongor Province, Bulgan Province, Oorkhon Province, Umnugovi Province, Selenge Province, Tuv Province, Khovd Province, Bayanulgii Province, Ulaanbaatar City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E) Conference Timetable
   ○ Welcoming Banquet
   ○ Hosting International Economic Forum along with the Multilateral Trade Fair
   ○ Industrial inspection and Gyeongju EXPO tour

F) Proceeding of the Conference
   ① The 1st NEAR International Economic Forum of 2007
   ② Date : October 17th, 2007
   ③ Venue : Hotel Inter-Burgo Daegu
   ④ Hosts : NEAR Secretariat, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province
   ⑤ Theme : “Promotion of Economic Cooperation Among Northeast Asian Regional Governments”
   ⑥ Participants : Approximately 150 persons(Economists, Officials from the member regional governments)
   ○ Forum Speakers – 11 persons from 5 countries
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Forum Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>Young-Ho Kim (President of Yuhang University), In-Chul Kim (Professor of Sungkyunkwan University), Byeong-Hae Sohn (Professor of Kyungpook National University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Zhang Yuyan (Vice Chairman of the Institute of Asia–Pacific Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), Zhang Jun (Professor of Fudan University, Shanghai)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Iwakuni Tetsundo (Member of the House of Representatives), Wada Haruki (Honorary Professor of the University of Tokyo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Ivankov Vladimir (Chairman of the Committee of the Inter-Regional Association &quot;Siberian Accord&quot;), Yevlushenko (Secretary General of Interregional Association of Economic Interaction &quot;Far East and Transbaikalia&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>J. Dovdondaljir (President of Central Mongolian Development Agency), Ch. Khashchuluun (Dean of School of Commerce and Economy, National University of Mongolia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

G) Multilateral Trade Fair
   ① Date : October 17th
   ② Venue : Hotel Inter-Burgo Daegu (Convention Hall)
   ③ Participants : Approximately 130 persons (Buyers and entrepreneurs from home and abroad)
      ○ Overseas – 23 persons from 8 regional governments and 22 companies from 2 countries (Russia, Mongolia)
      ○ Domestic – Approximately 100 companies from Korean regional governments
   ④ Host : Gyeongbuk-do Province
   ⑤ Collaboration : The Korea International Trade Association(KITA), KOTRA, Gyeongbuk Corporation, Korea Importers’ Association
   ⑥ Items : Machinery, electric and electronics, automobiles, textile, and agriculture, animal husbandry and fishery
   ⑦ Operation method
      ○ Held group trade fairs and exhibition of excellent products from Gyeongsangbuk-do province
      ○ Simultaneously held the exhibition of excellent products
         • Attracting investment to Gyeongsangbuk-do province and establishment and operation of tourism promotion booth
         • Providing booth for excellent products and promotion of participating companies from home and abroad
   ○ Result
      • Total consultations : 8.2 million dollars
      • Potential Contracts : 6 cases

H) Additional Events
   ① Tour and Industrial Inspection
   ② Date : October 18th
   ③ Location : POSCO, Gyeongju World Culture Expo

B. Sub-Committee on Environment
   (1) Background and Purpose
      ○ One of the 5 Sub-Committees (Economy and Trade, Cultural Trade, Environmental, Disaster Prevention, and General Exchange) established in the ’98 Meeting of the...
Association of the North East Regional Governments (the 2nd General Assembly) held in October 1998

- In the first meeting held in July 1999, Toyama prefecture was elected as the coordinator regional government to manage the communications, mediation, and operation. Measures to promote environmental cooperation (joint researches, etc.) were evaluated and unified surveys (surveys on proposals of the individual projects and on the intention to participate in the individual projects) were implemented to substantialize the environmental individual projects.
- For seamless implementation of the environmental individual projects, mediation of opinions among the regional governments and measures to actualize and implement the projects were evaluated and discussed.

(2) Composition (21 members from 4 Countries)  
Coordinator : Toyama Prefecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Regional Governments</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gangwon-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tuv Province, Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Chita Region, Republic of Buryatia, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Amur Region, Irkutsk Region, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Major Activities
(A) The 1st Meeting
1) Overview of the Conference
A) Date : July 14th, 1999
B) Venue : Toyama Daiichi Hotel, Toyama Prefecture
C) Participants : 19 Regional Governments from 5 Countries: Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>8 (1)</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Tottori Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (3)</td>
<td>Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Republic of Buryatia, Khabarovsk Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Jilin Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D) Major Contents
- Selecting Coordinator Regional Government
- Evaluating measures to promote environmental cooperation (joint researches, etc.)
• Shall implement surveys on the proposals of and intention to participate in the individual projects according to the unified survey table. Also, the language used in the survey table must be English

(B) The 2nd Meeting
1) Overview of the Conference
   A) Date: August 2nd, 2000
   B) Venue: Toyama International Convention Center, 2nd Floor Hall
   C) Participants: 15 Regional Governments from 3 Countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>7 (1)</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Tottori Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3 (2)</td>
<td>Amur Region, Sakhalin Region, Primorsky Territory (Kamchatka Territory, the Association “Far East and Transbaikalia”)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D) Major Contents
   • Report on progress of the individual projects proposed in 1999. Four (4) projects were implemented through the participation of the NEAR member regional governments.
     • Research on Washed-up Driftage along the Coast of the East Sea (Japan - 10 Regional Governments; Russia - 3 Regional Governments (Khabarovsk Territory, Primorsky Territory, Sakhalin Region))
     • Northeast Asia Joint Research on Migratory (Toyama Prefecture, Primorsky Territory)
     • Joint Project on Environment Evaluation of Northeast Asia (Japan - 8 Regional Governments)
     • Research Project on Wildlife in Northeast Asia (Tottori Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Gangwon-do Province, Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia))
   • Discussion on the operation of the Sub-Committee on Environment
     • Conducted surveys on proposals of and intention to participate in the 2000 individual projects
     • Regularly holding the Sub-Committee on Environment meeting around once a year

(C) The 3rd Meeting
1) Overview of the Conference
   A) Date: July 12th, 2001
   B) Venue: Toyama Citizens’ Hall, Room 302
   C) Participants: 13 Regional Governments from 4 Countries; Observers in parentheses ( )
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>Chungcheongnam-do Province (Chungcheongbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(Far East and Transbaikalia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(Heilongjiang Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D) Major Contents
   ○ Proposal of the 2001 Individual Projects
     • Research on Shoreline Reclamation and Driftage on the Coast of the East Sea.
       Research on the shoreline reclamation and driftage of artificial materials on the
       coast of the East Sea was decided to be implemented run by the participating
       regional governments and supported by private organizations. Also, 3 regional
       governments from Kyushu province will participate from 2001.
     • Northeast Asia Joint Research on Migratory Birds
       It was decided to conduct a joint research with Primorsky territory, Russia, to
       explain the migratory route of the birds migrating from the continents
       including Siberia, lifespan, and breeding age. In 2001, the trainees for
       ornithological research from Khabarovsk territory and Sakhalin region, Russia,
       and Chungcheongnam-do province, South Korea, will be dispatched to Toyama
       prefecture.
     • Northeast Asia International Environmental Symposium
       The Council for Promoting Environmental Cooperation in the Northeast Asian Region
       was established by 8 regional governments from Japan and the International
       Environmental Symposium was decided to be held on environmental problems
       including water and air pollutions by collaborating with the regional governments
       from China(2001), South Korea(2002), and Russia (2003).
   ○ Election of the Next Coordinator Regional Government – Toyama Prefecture
     (From July 2001, for 2 years)
   ○ On the Operation of the Sub-Committee on Environment – the Overview of the
     3rd Working Committee Meeting and Activity Reports
   ○ Others (Proposal on Sub-Committee on Environment Activities, etc.)
     • Methods were evaluated on how to introduce international environmental joint
       projects of each regional government to the Sub-Committee and develop them
       into joint projects to get as many regional governments involved and receive
       support from the central government

(D) The 4th Meeting
1) Overview of the Conference
   A) Date : July 11th, 2002
   B) Venue : Toyama Citizens’ Hall, Room 302
   C) Participants : 17 Regional Governments from 5 Countries; Observers in parentheses ( )
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>7 (1)</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Yamaguchi Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sakhalin Region, Khabarovsk Territory, Primorsky Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D) Major Contents
-
  - Report on Status and Result of Research on Shoreline Reclamation and Washed-up Driftage on the Coast of the East Sea
  - Report on Status and Result of Northeast Asia Research on Migratory Birds
  - Northeast Asia International Environmental Symposium: Report on the implementation of the symposium run by the regional governments located on the coast (2001 - Jiangsu Province, China; 2002 - Chungcheongnam-do Province, South Korea) for the exchange of information on environmental protection measures and international environmental cooperation
  - Report on the implementation of the international symposium on “Biodiversity on Mountains” of East Sea Rim Region

○ Proposal and Explanation of the 2003 Individual Projects
  - Project on Exchanging Information on Environmental Policies of the NEAR Sub-Committee on Environment
    - Project on Exchanging Information on Environmental Policies via Internet among the regional governments participating in the Sub-Committee on Environment
  - Holding a symposium on domestic sewage disposal in rural areas
  - Symposium on Environmental NGOs Participating in Administration
    - Joint participation and planning of environmental policies of administrative organizations with NGOs
  - 2003 Northeast Asia International Environmental Symposium
    - Concerning Symposium Held in Khabarovsk Territory, Russia
  - Research on Washed-up Driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea
    - Concerning the research on washed-up driftage on the beach on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea to contribute to the marine environmental protection

○ Northeast Asia Joint Research on Migratory Birds
  - Concerning the joint research on migratory birds conducted in the Siberian region, Russia, to explain the migration route, etc.

○ Activity Log of the Sub-Committee on Environment

○ Others
  - Regarding the operation of the Sub-Committee on Environment
  - Explanation on the international environmental cooperation projects of each
member regional government to promote activities of the Committee on Environment and case reports on the implementation status

- Explanation on the “East Sea Rim–Northeast Asia Greenbelt Plan” (proposed by Toyama prefecture)

Since the environmental protection of the East Sea Rim and Northeast Asian region is the mutual interest of all the countries and regions, the participants agreed that understanding the “East Sea Rim–Northeast Asia Greenbelt Plan” and actively pursuing environmental preservation are important. The “East Sea Rim–Northeast Asia Greenbelt Plan” was proposed by professor 카와다 of University of Toyama Center for Far Eastern Studies to enhance the mutual understanding of the East Sea Rim and Northeast Asia and to protect environment by considering forests, lakes, and oceans all in one.

- Providing Environmental Information

- Each country had one regional government to explain the current status and task under the theme of "the Current Status of Sewage Disposal" (China: Heilongjiang Province, Japan: Fukui Prefecture, South Korea: Chungcheongnam-do Province, Russia: Khabarovsk Territory; Mongolia: Tuv Province)

(E) The 5th Meeting

1) Overview of the Conference

A) Date: October 16th, 2003

B) Venue: Osaka Canal Park Hotel Toyama

C) Participants: 14 regional governments from 4 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2(1)</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province [Gyeongsangbuk-do Province]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Director of Environmental Cooperation Office of Global Environment Bureau at the Ministry of the Environment attended

D) Major Contents

- Electing the next coordinator regional government – Toyama Prefecture (Until July 13th, 2005)

- Introducing the new member regional governments – Tottori Prefecture (Japan), Gangwon-do Province (South Korea), Chita Region (Russia), Tuv Province, Selenge Province (Mongolia)

- Explanation on the overview of the 2002–2003 Sub – Committee on Environment activities and implementation of the individual projects

- Environmental policy – related information exchange project of the NEAR Sub – Committee on Environment

- Regarding the status of creating webpage established to exchange environmental policy information through the internet among the member
regional governments of the Sub-Committee on Environment
- Holding a symposium on domestic sewage disposal in rural areas
  - Postponed the symposium scheduled to be held in September 2003 to 2005
- Symposium on Environmental NGOs Participating in Administration
  - Postponed the symposium scheduled to be held in September 2003 to 2005
- 2003 Northeast Asia International Environmental Symposium
- Regarding the symposium held in November 2003
- Research on washed-up driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea
  - Status and result of the research on washed-up driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea
- Northeast Asia Joint Research on Migratory Birds
  - Status and result of the joint research on migratory birds conducted with Primorsky Territory of Russia, etc.
- Proposal and explanation on the 2004 individual projects
- Research on shoreline driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea
- Northeast Asia joint research on migratory birds
- Marine safety trainings, environmental education and enlightenment activities for children
  - Regarding the implementation of environmental education and enlightenment activities to enhance the awareness of the environment such as children in Northeast Asian region engaging in environmental protection activities together and presenting their results
- Activity Log of the Sub-Committee on Environment
- Others

Each member regional government explained and shared opinions on the overview of the “East Sea Rim White Paper 2003” produced to understand the status of the East Sea Rim environmental protection and to provide the forum for information. Also, status was introduced and problems were raised regarding the regional environmental protection.

(F) The 6th Meeting
1) Overview of the Conference
A) Date: July 22nd, 2004
B) Venue: Oaks Canal Park Hotel Toyama
C) Participants: 15 regional governments from 5 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fuku Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2(1)</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province(Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Primorsky Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Advisor of Environmental Cooperation Office of Global Environment Bureau at the Ministry of the Environment attended
D) Major Contents

① Report
- Environmental status and tasks of each regional government
- Report on Environmental Status and Tasks – Liaoning Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, Primorsky Territory, Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture
- Status report on the 2004 individual projects
- Research on shoreline driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea (Toyama Prefecture)
  - Status and result of the research on shoreline driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea
- Northeast Asia joint research on migratory birds (Toyama Prefecture)
  - Status and result on the joint research on migratory birds conducted together with Primorsky territory of Russia, etc.
  - Northeast Asian Youth Environmental Symposium (Toyama Prefecture, Chungcheongnam-do Province)
  - Explanation on the overview of the Northeast Asian Youth Environmental Symposium scheduled to be held in Chungcheongnam-do province, South Korea, in August 2004

E) Major Contents
- Proposal on the 2005 individual projects

① New Projects
- Status evaluation of the East Sea coast oil contamination (Primorsky Territory)
  - Research on the oil contamination of soil conducted in the East Sea coastal region
- International Youth Symposium on Northeast Asia Environmental Protection (Primorsky Territory)
  - Symposium on environmental protection and rational usage of natural resources of the Northeast Asia held in Vladivostok, Russia

② Existing Projects
- Research on shoreline driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea (Toyama Prefecture)
- Northeast Asia joint research on migratory birds (Toyama Prefecture)
- Northeast Asia Youth Environmental Symposium (Toyama Prefecture, Liaoning Province)
  - Overview of the Northeast Asia Youth Environmental Symposium scheduled to be held in Liaoning province, China, in August 2005, targeting junior high school students engaging in environmental protection activities
  - The Existing Work plan of the Sub-Committee on Environment

(G) The 7th Meeting

1) Overview of the Conference
A) Date : July 14th, 2005
B) Venue : Oaks Canal Park Hotel Toyama
C) Participants : 14 regional governments from 5 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Nigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture</td>
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<td>China</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>(Liaoning Province, Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2(1)</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Advisor of Environmental Cooperation Office of Global Environment Bureau at the Ministry of the Environment attended

D) Major Contents

1) Report
   ○ Report on environmental status and tasks of each regional government
   ○ Selenge Province : Change of natural environment and its countermeasures following the loss of forest
   ○ Khabarovsk Territory : Countermeasures to Amur river water pollution, countermeasures to air pollution in cities, white stork protection, management of nature reserves
   ○ Sakhalin Region : Countermeasures to water pollution, adequate hazardous waste disposal, management of natural resources and nature reserves
   ○ Hyogo Prefecture : Environmental protection 5% system, regulations on driving diesel vehicles
   ○ Heilongjiang Province : Status on and countermeasures to water pollution in the Songhua river basin and others.
   ○ Shandong Province : Air pollution status, operation of monitoring system, countermeasures to air pollution
   ○ Gyeongsangbuk-do Province : Research on heavy metal contamination of residents around abandoned or dormant metal mines
   ○ Status report on the 2005 individual projects
   ○ Status evaluation on the East Sea oil contamination (Primorsky Territory)
     • Canceled due to low participation from the regional governments.
   ○ International Youth Symposium on Environmental Protection in Northeast Asian Region (Primorsky Territory)
     • Scheduled to be held in Vladivostok, Russia, in September 2005
   ○ Research on Shoreline Driftage on the Coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea (Toyama Prefecture)
   ○ Northeast Asia Joint Research on Migratory Birds (Toyama Prefecture)
   ○ International Youth Symposium on Northeast Asia Environmental Protection (Toyama Prefecture, Liaoning Province)
     • Environmental symposium targeting the youth in the Northeast Asian region (middle school students). Scheduled to be held in Liaoning province, China, in August 2005, under the theme of the “Construction of Circulating Society.”

2) Agenda
   ○ Electing the next coordinator regional government - Toyama Prefecture
(Terms of office – 2 years)
○ Status of the 2006 individual projects

③ New Projects
○ Research on the submarine geography and the biodiversity and distribution of organisms in the East Sea (Primorsky Territory)

④ Existing Projects
○ Research on Shoreline Driftage on the Coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea (Toyama Prefecture)
○ Northeast Asia Joint Research on Migratory Birds (Toyama Prefecture)
○ International Youth Symposium on Northeast Asia Environmental Protection (Toyama Prefecture)
○ Sub-Committee on Environment Activity Plans

(H) The 8th Meeting
  1) Overview of the Conference
     A) Date : July 30th, 2007
     B) Venue : Toyama International Conference Center
     C) Participants : 10 regional governments from 5 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>[2]</td>
<td>(Liaoning Province, Shandong Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>[1]</td>
<td>(Dorno-govi Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Advisor of Environmental Cooperation Office of Global Environment Bureau at the Ministry of the Environment attended

D) Major Contents
  ① Report
    ○ Environmental status and tasks of each regional government
    ○ Chingcheongnam-do Province : Establishment of healthy natural environment in Chingcheongnam-do province
    ○ Ishikawa Prefecture : International environmental cooperation project of Ishikawa prefecture
    ○ Kyoto Prefecture : Countermeasures of Kyoto prefecture to global warming
    ○ Shandong Province : Environmental problems and countermeasures of Shandong province, China
    ○ Liaoning Province : Environmental problems and countermeasures of Liaoning province in 2006
    ○ Dorno-govi Province : Various problems and causes due to the desertification and decline in wildlife diversity of Dorno-govi Province
    ○ Status report on the 2007 individual projects
    ○ Research on shoreline driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow
Sea (Toyama Prefecture)
  • Planned to continue in 2008

○ Northeast Asia Joint research on migratory birds (Toyama Prefecture)
  • Planned to cancel the joint research on migratory birds in the Far East region as of this year

○ Northeast Asian Young Leaders Conference of Environmental Protection (Toyama Prefecture)
  • Conference to foster youth (junior high school/middle school student, etc.) as leaders in environmental protection in the Northeast Asian region. Scheduled to be held in Toyama prefecture, Japan, in August 2007, under the theme of the “Marine Environmental Protection (Marine Waste).”

② Agenda
  ○ Electing the next coordinator regional government – Toyama Prefecture (Terms of office – 2 years)
  ○ Proposal of the 2006 individual projects
    • Primorsky territory of Russia and Toyama prefecture proposed, provided overview, and requested participation in the following 4 projects as the 2006 individual projects.

③ New projects
  ○ The 3rd International Forum: “Nature without borders” (Primorsky Territory)
    • To create proper environment, manage safe waste disposal and reasonable use of natural resources, evaluation and exchange of opinions were implemented to promote international and interregional cooperation.
  ○ Establishing broad monitoring system of yellow dust (Toyama Prefecture)
    • Continuously monitor the actual condition and effect of the yellow dust by forming network among regional governments, economic and academic fields from home and abroad to establish and implement measures to effectively manage the yellow dust in the future based on the result of such monitoring
  ○ Northeast Asian Region Hands-On Environmental Program (Toyama Prefecture)
    • Regional governments, economic and academic fields collaborating to provide opportunities for students to directly experience environmental problems of the Northeast Asian region in order to foster leaders who think and act on their own

④ Existing Project
  ○ Research on shoreline driftage on the coasts of the East Sea and the Yellow Sea (Toyama Prefecture)

C. Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchange
(1) Background and Purpose
  One of the 5 Sub-Committees established in the 98 Meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (the 2nd General Assembly) held in October 1998. To promote mutual understanding and friendship exchange through exchange programs targeting the youth of Northeast Asia,
(2) Composition (9 members from 3 countries)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
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<td>Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsky Territory, Amur Region, Irkutsk Region, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coordinator: Shimane Prefecture

(3) Major Activities

(A) The 1st Meeting

1) Purpose: To evaluate on the possibility of multilateral joint projects in the future based on the cases of projects in the past from the point of view of cultural exchange. Also, to examine the support and participation of the Association towards the cultural exchange projects run by the regional governments.

2) Date: November 7th ~ November 9th, 2001

3) Venue: Matsue City, Shimane Prefecture

4) Participants: 9 regional governments from 3 countries

5) Major Contents
   A) Presentation of the case of joint project
   B) Proposal of joint projects
   C) Discussion on other measures to revitalize exchange

(The Wings of Exchange)

1) Overview
   Youth exchange projects to promote mutual understanding and friendship exchange of all regions and to create new Northeast Asian network through youth exchange programs of the Northeast Asian region

(B) The 2nd Meeting (2002)

1) Theme: Commemorative exchange project among Korean, Chinese, and Japanese people – ‘Wings of Exchange’ that connects Korea, China, and Japan

2) Purpose: Marking the 30th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan, 10th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between South Korea and China, and joint hosting of the 2002 World Cup, this year was made the year of exchange among Korean, Chinese, and Japanese people and Korea, China, and Japan have agreed to roll out national exchange projects in broad fields. Hence, Shimane Prefecture and its friend regions, Gyeongsangbuk-do province of Korea and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China, implemented the joint youth exchange program and each dispatched youths to promote exchanges among young people who would lead the future.

3) Hosts: Shimane Prefecture of Japan, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province of South Korea, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China
4) Sponsors: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

5) Schedules: Programs – China – August 1st
    August 8th, 2002; Japan – August 23rd
    August 28th, 2002; Korea – February 20th ~ February 27th, 2003

(C) The 3rd Meeting (2003)
1) Theme: "Wings of Exchange" that Connects Korea, China, and Japan
2) Purpose: Commemorating the 10th anniversary of Shimane prefecture and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China forming friendship ties and on the request of Gyeongsangbuk-do province of South Korea, the goal was set by the three regions to jointly dispatch youths to promote exchanges and networking of young people who would lead the future of Northeast Asia.
3) Hosts: Shimane Prefecture of Japan, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province of South Korea, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China
   o Sponsors: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

(D) The 4th Meeting (2004)
1) Theme: The 2004 Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane
2) Purpose: Commemorating the 15th anniversary of Shimane prefecture and Gyeongsangbuk-do province forming friendship ties and the 10th anniversary of friendship exchange between Shimane prefecture and Jilin Province of China, youths from Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Jilin province, and other Northeast Asian regions (Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China, Primorsky territory of Russia) visit Shimane prefecture, participate in the exchange programs to promote mutual understanding and friendship and to form a new network
3) Hosts: Shimane Prefecture of Japan, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province of South Korea, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and Jilin Province of China, Primorsky Territory of Russia
4) Sponsor: The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
5) Date: August 19th ~ August 24th, 2004

(E) The 5th Meeting (2005)
1) Theme: The 2005 Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane
2) Purpose: Targeting the youths in the Northeast Asian regions having friendship ties with Shimane prefecture (Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of China, Jilin province of China, Primorsky territory of Russia), the prefecture implemented exchange programs to promote mutual understanding and friendship of all the regions and to form new network in the regions.
3) Host: Shimane Prefecture
4) Sponsor: The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
5) Date: July 21st ~ July 26th, 2005
6) Participating regional governments: Shimane Prefecture, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Jilin Province, Primorsky Territory

(F) The 6th Meeting (2006)
1) Theme: The 2006 Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane
2) Purpose: For the youths in the Northeast Asian region to promote mutual understanding and friendship exchanges and to create a new network of the region through the exchange programs run by Shimane prefecture
3) Host: Shimane Prefecture
4) Sponsor: The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
5) Date: August 3rd ~ August 8th, 2006
6) Participating Regional Governments: Shimane Prefecture, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Jilin Province, Heilongjiang Province, Primorsky Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)

(G) The 7th Meeting (2007)
1) Theme: The 2007 Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane
2) Purpose: For the youths in the Northeast Asian region to promote mutual understanding and friendship exchanges and to create a new network of the region through the exchange programs run by Shimane prefecture
3) Host: Shimane Prefecture
4) Sponsor: The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
5) Date: August 2nd ~ August 7th, 2007
6) Participating Regional Governments: Shimane Prefecture, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Jilin Province, Shandong Province, Primorsky Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Republic of Buryatia, Tuv Province, Khuvsgul Province

(H) The 8th Meeting (2008)
1) Theme: The 2008 Northeast Asia Wings of Exchange in Shimane
2) Purpose: For youths in the Northeast Asian region to promote mutual understanding and friendship exchanges and to create a new network of the region through various exchange programs run by Shimane prefecture
3) Host: Shimane Prefecture
4) Sponsor: The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments
5) Date: August 7th ~ August 12th, 2008
6) Participating Regional Governments: Shimane Prefecture, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Jilin Province, Primorsky Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Dornod Province, Umnugovi Province

〈 The North East Asia International Culture Palette Project 〉
○ Overview
The North East Asia International Culture Palette Project was implemented to widely present traditional culture and artistic talents of the region and to promote mutual
exchange and network formation among the Northeast Asian regional governments through inviting and presenting shows of the traditional art performance groups and through exchange activities with the local residents.

1) 2005

A) Performance by Ningxia Troupe

① Content of Activities

The traditional artistic troupe of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region performed in the 19th “Masuda Industrial Festival” (Host: Department of Youth Affairs, the Masuda Chamber of Commerce and Industry) held at the Shimane Arts Center “Grand Toi” on November 6th. The group had performances at the “Kashima Cultural Hall” in Matsue city and at the “Fureai Hall Mito” in Masuda city to introduce Chinese traditional culture through exchange opportunities with the local residents.

B) Visit of Vice governor to the Japanese Culture Society, Vladivostok Japan Center

① Content of Activities

Performances, homestays, and visiting schools in the framework of the “Meeting of Russian Traditional Arts and Citizens” held at the Goutsu Civic Center on November 27th. Exchanges through Japanese cultural experiences and workshops in Hamada city or Tsuwano town

2) 2006

A) Performance by the Jijutuan troupe from Jilin province

① Content of Activities

Performed at the Shimane Arts Center “Grand Toi” on November 5th. Visited and had exchange with nursing care facilities, facilities for disabled people, elementary schools and others within Shimane prefecture

3) 2007

A) Performance by Russian Girls’ Folk Chorus “Yarmarka”

① Content of Activities

Performed from October 31st to November 13th at the Matsue English Garden, Okinoshima–cho Culture Festival, Hamada Museum of Children’s Art, Kotsu City Industrial Fair, etc. Also visited and had exchange with schools in Matsue city and Nishinoshima–cho and Waki Civic Center of Kotsu city.

B) Performance by “Noridan,” Korean recycling musical instrument performers’ group

① Content of Activities

From November 20th to 27th, had performance and parade in the shopping district in downtown Matsue city, performed at the Yokota Community Center, Matsue English Garden, Okinoshima–cho Culture Festival, Hamada Museum of Children’s Art, and Kotsu City Industrial Festival, and visited and had exchange with schools in Nishinoshima–cho and the Waki Civic Center of Kotsu city. Prior to performances and exchange activities, the group had a workshop of instrument production using recycled materials at Matsue Career and Tech High School.

4) 2008

A) Performance by Ningxia Troupe

① Content of Activities

Performed at Shimane Prefecture Civic Center, Matsue city, on November 18th.
Had joint performance in the University of Shimane auditorium with Ishimi Kagura (Ishimi sacred music and dance, by Hamada Commercial High School traditional performing arts team) on November 20th.
※ The Cultural Exchange Sub–Committee was integrated with the Sub–Committee on General Exchange in the 7th General Assembly held in Shandong province, 2008, and was changed to the Educational and Cultural Exchange Sub–Committee.

D. Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention
(1) Background and Purpose
The Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention is currently composed of 5 regional governments from Japan, 1 from Mongolia, and 5 from Russia. The purpose of the Sub–Committee is to contribute to improve the disaster prevention ability of the Northeast Asian region through exchanges in the disaster prevention field. Since each country and/or region has different capacity to cope with different natural disasters including earthquake, flood, forest fire, drought, and others, the Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention has been implementing exchange projects in sharing information and fostering human resources.

(2) Composition (11 members from 3 countries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Republic of Sakha(Yakutia), Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Kamchatka Territory, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Major Activities
(A) The 1st Meeting
1) Purpose : To hold the Sub–Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments to strengthen the disaster prevention system of each member regional government and the regional collaboration; to exchange opinions on the status of the disaster prevent and the tasks; and to introduce the function of “The Great Hanshin–Awaji Earthquake Memorial Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution.”
2) Date : July 23rd, 2002
3) Venue : Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution
4) Participants : 12 regional governments from 4 countries
5) Major Contents
- Introduction – Disaster prevention measures from each regional government
- Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region : Earthquake and drought measures
- Chungcheongbuk-do Province : Research on storm and flood damages
- Khabarovsk Territory : Forest fire measures. Concluded an agreement with Heilongjiang province to inspect regularly and to exchange measurements of the environment of Heilongjiang province and the Amur river
- Exchanging opinions on ways to promote disaster prevention exchanges in Northeast Asia
- Inspection tour – Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution

(B) The 2nd Meeting
1) Date: February 12th, 2004
2) Venue: Briefing Room, JICA Center
3) Participants: 12 regional governments from 5 countries

4) Major Contents
- Report on the efforts of the residents of each regional government to enhance the disaster prevention awareness
- Liaoning Province: Department of Earthquake Disaster Prevention promoting enlightenment projects.
- Toyama Prefecture: Held symposiums and seminars to present the outcome of the earthquake researches and to promote the formation of independent disaster prevention organizations
- Tuv Province: Promotional activities and fire prevention activities of forests and plains
- Busan Metropolitan City: Promotional activities mainly through the internet,
Designated the 5th day of every month as the day of safety inspection. Implementation disaster preparedness and prevention training on the Civil Defense Training day, which is the 15th of every month

- Kamchatka Territory: From 1994, starting BLS and SAL, two of the special courses for students to prevent state of emergency according to the instructions of the Ministry of Education, Russian Federation
- Introducing Asian Disaster Reduction Center
- Agreed to give presentation and conduct survey on foreign aid project to provide drinking water and forestation
- Implementation of disaster prevention training in connection with the Subcommittee on Disaster Prevention meeting

(C) The 3rd Meeting

1) Purpose: To agree on the implementation of inspection training on efforts of Hyogo prefecture based on the lesson from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (Kobe Earthquake) in the 1st Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting held in 2002, and carried out disaster prevention inspection and training of the Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention in February 2004. This training session aims to understand the ways of the multilateral disaster prevention cooperation through courses offered by the ‘Asian Disaster Reduction Center,’ which was established to promote multilateral disaster prevention cooperation of Asia with frequent natural disasters. As the meeting is held in the 10th year since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, the meeting provides opportunity to inspect disaster prevention facilities organized on the basis of the earthquake experience of Hyogo prefecture.

2) Date: February 1st ~ February 4th, 2005

3) Venue: Asian Disaster Reduction Center

4) Participants: 10 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>No. of Participants</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shandong Province</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
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<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gangwon-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tuv Province, Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5) Major Contents

- Disaster prevention course: Natural disasters in Asia and the countermeasures (Asian Disaster Reduction Center)
- Inspection of disaster prevention facilities: Hyogo Emergency Medical Center, the Hyogo Institute for Traumatic Stress, Hyogo Prefectural Disaster Management Center, and the Miki Earthquake Memorial Park (3D full-scale earthquake testing facility)
(D) The 4th Meeting
1) Purpose: Held the 4th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments to contribute to substantializing and strengthening Northeast Asian disaster prevention system and to enhance regional solidarity. To promote exchange of information among disaster prevention officials in each regional government and to provide opportunity to inspect disaster prevention facilities.
2) Date: February 1st ~ February 2nd, 2006
3) Venue: Hyogo Prefectural Disaster Management Center
4) Participants: 12 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
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<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gangwon-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Republic of Sakha(Yakutia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5) Major Contents
○ Disaster prevention course: On broad disaster prevention cooperation of Hyogo prefecture
○ Inspection of disaster prevention facilities: Hyogo Prefectural Disaster Management Center, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution, and Hyogo Emergency Medical Center

(E) The 5th Meeting
1) Purpose: In order to enhance the ability of the Northeast Asian region to reduce natural disaster damages, the 5th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting was held to focus efforts on creating a framework of training and broad-area/metropolitan disaster prevention cooperation to improve the ability of the disaster prevention officials to put prevention measures into practice while implementing exchange of information among the disaster prevention officials (director-level) of each regional government.
2) Date: (Tue) February 13th ~ (Fri) February 16th, 2007
3) Location: Hyogo Prefecture (Kobe City, Awaji City, Miki City)
4) Participants: 14 regional governments from 5 countries

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<tr>
<td>China</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5) Major Contents
   A) Implementation of participation and problem solving–oriented training
      1. Hazard map production simulation (Courses and on-site training at the Hyogo Prefectural Emergency Management and Training Center)
      2. Disaster prevention courses (Disaster prevention measures of Hyogo prefecture)
   B) Promotion of broad disaster prevention cooperation
      1. Presentation on proposal from Hyogo prefecture: Proposed measures to standardize emergency aid markers
      2. Presentation on best practices: Gyeonggi-do Province, Busan Metropolitan City, Khabarovsk Territory
      3. Building consensus on the content and schedule of the standardization of markers for emergency aid
   C) Inspection within the prefecture
      1. Hyogo Prefectural Emergency Management and Training Center (Accumulation/concentration and shipping of emergency aid and gathering and reporting location for emergency relief workers)
      2. Hyogo Prefectural Disaster Management Center (The best shock-resistant command base in times of natural disasters)
      3. Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (Disaster prevention museum to let the world know of the lessons from the Great Hanshin–Awaji Earthquake)
      4. Awaji Yumebutai International Conference Center (Facility where nature and human coexist)
      5. Akashi Kaikyo Bridge (The longest suspension bridge in the world with excellent shock-resistance)

(F) The 6th Meeting
1) Purpose: To carry on the lessons from the Great Hanshin–Awaji Earthquake and to enhance the disaster relief ability of the whole of Northeast Asia
2) Date: (Mon) March 3rd ~ (Thu) March 6th, 2008
3) Location: Hyogo Prefecture
4) Participants: 17 regional governments from 5 countries

<table>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gyeonggi-do Province, Gyeongwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Hubei Province, Hunan Province</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
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<td>South Korea</td>
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<td>Busan Metropolitan City, Gyeonggi-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province</td>
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<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Govi-Alta Province, Dorno-govi Province, Umnu-govi Province, Uvurkhangal Province, Orkhan Province</td>
</tr>
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<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Kamchatka Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5) Major Contents
   A) Disaster prevention course
      - Keynote lecture - Director General, Water Resources Policy Division, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) : Disaster prevention and environment
   B) Presentation on best practices
      - Hyogo Prefecture, Hubei Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Khabarovsk Territory, JICA Hyogo
   C) Inspection tour – Disaster prevention facilities
      - Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution, inspection visit to the site of the erosion control project implemented by the Mt. Rokko afforestation office

(G) The 7th Meeting
1) Objective: To improve disaster reduction capability of the Northeast Asian region by providing training to enhance on-site ability of the disaster prevention officials and by building framework of the broad-area/metropolitan disaster prevention cooperation, the disaster prevention officials (director-level staff) from the member regional governments of NEAR/the Association were invited to Hyogo prefecture to the 7th Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention meeting.
2) Date: March 10(Tuesday) ~ March 13(Friday)
3) Venue: Hyogo Prefecture
4) Participants: 220 regional governments of five countries
   * Sichuan Province – Non-Member Regional Government

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Country</th>
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<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
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<td>Korea</td>
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</table>

5) Major Contents
   - Held seminars to compare the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and the Sichuan Earthquake
     - Himeji Bosai(Disaster Prevention & Reduction) Plaza(experience evacuation and fire extinguishing, first aid and life-saving activities), Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution(disaster prevention museum), Himeji Disaster Prevention Center(Inspection tour of exhibit hall introducing the history, structure, and extensive disaster prevention system to protect Himeji castle)
E. Sub-Committee on General Exchange
(1) Background and Purpose

The Sub-Committee on General Exchange is one of the five Sub-Committees established in each field to support seamless promotion of the individual projects or tasks suggested by the meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments; the Sub-Committee was decided to be established in the 98 meeting of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (the 2nd General Assembly) held in Toyama prefecture in October 1998. The Sub-Committee on General Exchange promotes enhancing mutual understanding and human exchanges among the Northeast Asian regional governments and supports fundamental and essential activities of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR) such as boosting exchange of information.

(2) Composition (14 members from 4 countries)

- Coordinator: Toyama Prefecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Busan Metropolitan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tuv Province, Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsk Territory, Sakhalin Region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Major Activities
(A) The 1st Meeting
1) Date: July 14th, 1999
2) Venue: Toyama Dai-ichi Hotel
3) Participants: 22 regional governments from 5 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>6 (3)</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Ishikawa Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2 (5)</td>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province (Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Jeollanam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Jilin Province, Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Major Contents
- Project to foster human resources for exchanges in the Northeast Asian region (based on the accomplishment of the “NEAR Vessel of Exchange”)
  - Agreed to review exchanging information on the exchange projects of each
regional government
- Strengthening collaboration among research institutes
  - Supporting mutual exchange of information among the Northeast Asian research institutes by connecting the research institutes within the Northeast Asian region to the Association webpage
  - Discussing on concrete measures to hold information exchange seminars and to support joint project among the research institutes in the future
- Agreement to review the holding of the Northeast Asian Women’s Convention? (tentative name)
  - Evaluating the convention as providing the opportunity to discuss matters from the female point of view by gathering women playing active roles in various fields in the Northeast Asian region

(Vessel of Exchange of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments NEARI)
- Purpose of the project
  - To foster youths with the cosmopolitan mindset; especially to encourage fostering human resources that will support the international exchange of Northeast Asia in the 21st century.
  - To create opportunities for the participants to evaluate and implement in the future the appropriate measures to practice international exchanges and cooperation.
  - To promote the formation of human exchange network of the Northeast Asian region with the ties among the participants created by spending time together as the foundation to promote future exchange.
- Overview of the project
  - Participating regional governments: Japan – 5; China – 3; South Korea – 1; Russia – 3
  - Number of participants: 358 persons
  - Date: September 10th – September 22nd, 1997
  - Sail destinations: Gathered in Shimane prefecture and would sail to Port of Sakai, Dalian, Pohang, Vladivostok (Dismissal) and Niigata

(B) The 2nd Meeting
1) Date: August 2nd ~ August 3rd, 2000
2) Venue: Unazuki International Hall
3) Participants: 19 regional governments from 4 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>6 (2)</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukushima Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (4)</td>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province (Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(Heilongjiang Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3 (2)</td>
<td>Primorsky Territory, Khabarovsky Territory, Sakhalin Region (Amur Region, The Association “Far East and Transbaikalia” )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4) Major Contents
   ○ Planning to hold the Northeast Asian Women’s Convention (tentative name)
     - Agreed to hold the convention in Toyama prefecture, 2001
   ○ Project to foster human resources for exchange in the Northeast Asian region
     - Agreed with the action program to jointly promote projects of fostering human resources suggested by Shimane prefecture
     - Agreed that other regional governments would cooperate as much as possible in the projects implemented by each regional government to foster human resources
   ○ Measures to strengthen collaboration among the research institutes
     - Recognized the importance of building the Northeast Asian academic network and agreed to produce a list of research institutes
     - Agreed to continuously discuss detailed measures of collaboration among the research institutes

(C) The 3rd Meeting
1) Date : July 12th, 2001
2) Venue : Special Conference Room, Toyama Prefectural Civic Center
3) Participants : 14 regional governments from 4 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5 (1)</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (3)</td>
<td>Jindo-gun-do Province (Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>Liaoning Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Jilin Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Major Contents
   ○ Project to foster human resources for exchange in the Northeast Asian region
   ○ Agreement on the NEAR action program to foster human resources
     - Agreed to jointly promote projects to foster human resources and decided to set the future procedures and others,
   ○ Individual Project : Adopted the proposal (Toyama Prefecture) of “Establishing Educational Institution of Japanese Language For International Students”
   ○ The 21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention
     - Presentation by each country on the current status of women in the Northeast Asian region
       ( Liaoning Province, China; Toyama Prefecture, Japan; Gangwon-do Province, South Korea )
     - Each regional government agreed to actively support and participate
     - Suggested the importance of regularly holding the women’s convention. Decided to evaluate holding the women’s convention regularly on the basis of the NEAR approval system.

(D) The 4th Meeting
1) Date : July 11th, 2002
2) Venue: Special Conference Room, Toyama Prefectural Civic Center
3) Participants: 11 regional governments from 3 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5 (1)</td>
<td>Nigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (3)</td>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province (Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Major Contents
   - NEAR Action Program to Foster Human Resources
   - Adoption of individual projects
     - Toyama Senior International Cooperation Project (Toyama Prefecture): Seniors (aging from 40 to 69) living in Toyama prefecture and possessing outstanding skills and rich experience contribute to fostering human resources in the region by being dispatched to other member regional governments as volunteers and teaching skills
     - Project to dispatch Toyama residents overseas (Toyama Prefecture)
     - Wings of Exchange connecting Korea, China, and Japan (Shimane Prefecture)
   - Progress report on “Establishing Educational Institution of Japanese Language For International Students” (Toyama Prefecture)
   - The East Sea Studies (The Sea of Japan Studies)
     - Discussed on the details of promoting the East Sea Studies (the Sea of Japan Studies), policies from the point of view of the East Sea Studies (the Sea of Japan Studies), and the direction of promotion from now on
     - Agreed that the Sub-Committee on General Exchange would continue supporting the East Sea Studies (The Sea of Japan Studies)
   - Result and continuous holding of the 21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention
     - Reported on the outcome of holding the “21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention” and discussed on continuously holding the convention in the future
     - The Sub-Committee on General Exchange agreed to review the continuous holding of the Women’s Convention

(The 21st-Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention)

(1) Purpose
In the Northeast Asian region, exchanges in various fields such as economy, academia, and culture are currently expanded to fulfill numerous conditions of forming the global economic and cultural area. In the midst of such period, the convention was held for women in this region to gather and share opinions on measures for both men and women to further promote the regional exchange and cooperation.

(2) Theme
Major Theme: Creating Northeast Asia Leaping Toward the 21st Century
Other Sub–Committees discussed on four themes of education, economy, environment, and health and opinions were exchanged in the overview Sub–Committee meeting under the theme of “the Future of Northeast Asia, the Region of Coexistence”

(3) Overview of Conference
   ① Date: October 27th ~ October 29th, 2001
   ② Venue: Toyama International Conference Center, Unazuki International Hall
   ③ Host: The 21st–Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention Executive Committee, Toyama Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture
   ④ Participants: Total 2,300 persons
   ⑤ Schedule
      1st Day: Opening ceremony, keynote lecture, welcoming reception
      2nd Day: The 1st to 4th Sub–Committee Meetings
      3rd Day: The overview Sub–Committee meeting
      Adopted the “21st–Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention” Toyama Declaration
   ⑥ The “21st–Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention” Toyama Declaration

From Northeast Asia to the World – Message of Circulation and Coexistence

1. The women of the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation gathered in one place for the first time to hold the “21st–Century Northeast Asian Women’s Convention” in Toyama prefecture, Japan, from October 27th to October 29th, 2001.
2. The 20th century was the period when the modern values stained with anthropocentrism was strongly believed that the civilization, which had ignored the relationship with the nature would, would advance and develop in a linear fashion. However, such view has finally come to a dead end and there is a concern that we would reach a desperate state if the trend continues.
3. It is the power of women, the gender that gives birth to life, that brings coexistence and prosperity in the 21st century of Northeast Asia with the Sea of Japan (East Sea), the sea of peace with active exchanges from long ago, in the center, and this power of peace would further influence the whole world.
4. With such mutual understanding, we, the participants of this conference, agreed through sincere exchange of opinions in four areas of education, economy, environment and health of the Northeast Asian region that countries in this region exhibit historically strong and mutually dependent relationship and share the same views and tasks.
5. We have verified the importance of women becoming the driving force for both men and women to find solutions to mutual tasks and to open up the future of the Northeast Asian region.
6. Through this conference, extensive exchange among women in the Northeast Asian region was achieved, which in turn led to increased mutual understanding and blossoming new friendship, forming the network for women in the Northeast Asian region. In the future, we will strengthen this network.
7. Based on the achievement of this meeting, we must start putting our efforts on establishing a new paradigm in the context of relationships between human and nature as well as among people in the region. Now, for world peace and prosperity from the region of Northeast Asia, we sent out a new message of circulation and coexistence.

(E) The 5th Meeting
1) Date: October 16th, 2003
2) Venue: Oaks Canal Park Hotel Toyama
3) Participants: 16 regional governments from 5 countries; Observers in parentheses ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Government(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5 (2)</td>
<td>Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Ishikawa Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>1 (3)</td>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province (Gangwon-do Province, Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>(Heilongjiang Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Selenge Province, Tuv Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory (Republic of Sakha (Yakutia))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Major Contents
A) Proposing new projects
   ○ Establishing the flag and emblem of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (Toyama Prefecture, Heilongjiang Province)
      • Explained the purpose and procedure of the proposal, and gained consent of the participating regional governments,
   ○ Common house for 6 countries in Northeast Asia (Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)
      • Agreed to review the possibility of linking webpages of each region to promote information exchange of all the member regional governments of the Association,
B) Action Programs to Foster Human Resources
   ○ Implementation and evaluation of joint promotion project to foster human resources
      • Hosting the Northeast Asian Women's Convention (Toyama Prefecture)
      • Mutual exchanges of children and youths (Heilongjiang Province)
      • The International Forum of "Women Pursuing Clean Environment" (Khabarovsk Territory)
      • Wings of Exchange connecting Korea, China, and Japan (Shimane Prefecture)
      • International cooperation for fostering human resources (Republic of Sakha (Yakutia))
   ○ Report on projects individually promoted by each regional government (5 Cases)
      • Establishing the Educational Institution for Japanese Language (Toyama Prefecture)
      • Toyama Senior International Cooperation Project (Toyama Prefecture)
      • Project to mutually dispatch students to each East Sea Rim country (Tottori Prefecture)
      • Inviting and training university students from the Northeast Asian regional governments (Gangwon-do Province)
• Project to foster human resources focusing on the international exchange (Jeollabuk-do Province)

- Case report on promoting international exchange and cooperation projects (11 cases)
  - Environmental protection exchange project and agricultural technology exchange (Heilongjiang Province)
  - Improvement of the Japan Sea (East Sea) Rim Exchange Hall (tentative name) (Toyama Prefecture)
  - Japanese Language and Culture Training Program (Ishikawa Prefecture)
  - Commemorative project marking the 10th year of friendship alliance between Fukui prefecture and Zhejiang province (Fukui Prefecture)
  - Hyogo meeting of international solidarity (Hyogo Prefecture)
  - Project to distribute information on the Japan–Korea exchange “Place of forming relationship” (Tottori Prefecture)
  - Plans to hold the international exchange and cooperation summit 2004 of 5 regional governments in Northeast Asia; projects to dispatch and accept human resources (Tuv Province)
  - Promotion of establishing and revitalizing Mt. Baekdu sea route (Gangwon-do Province)
  - Chungcheongnam-do Province – Introducing Kumamoto office (Chungcheongnam-do Province)
  - The 5th International Investment Forum (Khabarovsk Territory)
  - International Tourism Exhibition “EXPO Far East Tourism” (Khabarovsk Territory)

(F) The 6th Meeting
1) Date : July 22nd, 2004
2) Venue : Oaks Canal Park Hotel Toyama
3) Participants : 18 regional governments from 4 countries; Observers in parenthesis ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>6 (2)</td>
<td>Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture (Ishikawa Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>Jeollabuk-do Province, Gyeongsangnam-do Province (Busan Metropolitan City, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(Jilin Province, Heilongjiang Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2 (1)</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Sakhalin Region (Republic of Sakha (Yakutia))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Major Contents
A) Proposing new projects
  - Confirming the importance of projects to foster human resources (Liaoning Province)
  - Exchange of information among the regional governments (Toyama Prefecture, Liaoning Province)
  - For now, the webpage of each regional government must be translated in foreign languages and all the webpages of the member regional governments must be linked; in the medium and long term, establishing the webpage for each Sub-Committee within the webpage of the Association and publishing the
e-mail magazine will be reviewed.

- The 2004 Wings of Exchange Connecting Northeast Asian Regions in Shimane (Shimane Prefecture)
- Confirmed the importance of projects that foster staff and managerial officials (Republic of Sakha/Yakutia))

B) Promoting projects to foster human resources

It was decided to report the projects to foster human resources (20 cases) promoted by each regional government, to share opinions on the future promotion of the projects, and to post the information of the projects on the webpage of Toyama prefecture.

- The Sub-Committee on General Exchange was integrated with the Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee in the 7th General Assembly held in Shandong province, 2008, and was changed to the Educational and Cultural Exchange Sub-Committee.

F. Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation

(1) Background and Purpose

(A) Background: To seek plans to integrate regions with great possibility of mutual development through utilizing economic potential of the Northeast Asian region

(B) Purpose: To mutually devise territorial cooperation measures such as building tourism, finance, transportation, and customs infrastructures in the future among the member regional governments of NEAR

(2) Major Activities

(A) The 1st Meeting

1) Overview of Meeting

A) Date: June 7th, 2005

B) Venue: Khabarovsk City (Russia)

C) Host: Amur Region

D) Participants: 13 regional governments from 3 countries; Observers in parenthesis ( )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Amur Region, Irkutsk Region, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jilin Province, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, Neimenggu Autonomous Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gyeonggi-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(Altai Territory, Magadan Region)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>(Jilin Province, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, Neimenggu Autonomous Region)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Japanese and Chinese consulate generals in Khabarovsk

(3) Contents of the Conference

- Issues that hinder the promotion of cross-border cooperation, the current status and future development of infrastructure in border regions
- Measures to revitalize territorial cooperation
- Promotion of international tourism among the Northeast Asian regions
- Cooperation among the banks in the border regions of Northeast Asia
(4) Conference Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Conference Schedule</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:30</td>
<td>To the Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09:30 - 10:00</td>
<td>Registration of Conference Participants</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 - 10:05</td>
<td>Welcoming Speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:05 - 11:25</td>
<td>Agenda 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:25 - 11:45</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Agenda 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:45 - 14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>14:00 - 14:40</td>
<td>Agenda 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14:40 - 15:30</td>
<td>Agenda 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>Closing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18:00 - 19:30</td>
<td>Banquet Hosted by the Regional Government of Khabarovsk Territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Tue) June 7th

(5) Proceeding of the Conference

- Welcoming Speech (Governor Ishaev, Khabarovsk Territory)
- Theme of Discussion 1 Speaker: Vice Governor Alexander Rebintal of Khabarovsk Territory. Panels: Vice Governor Liu Xueliang, Heilongjiang Province; Vorobiev, the Head of the 1st customs department of the Far East Region; Deputy Head Guriev of the Forest Resources Committee of the Khabarovsk Territory; Deputy Head Zharov of the Economic Executive Committee of the Sakhalin Region; Director Zhang Jigan of Foreign Affairs Office of Shandong Provincial People’s Government; Chairman Shuvakov of the Association of Khabarovsk City.
- Theme of Discussion 2 Speaker: Korchev, The Deputy Governor of the Amur region, the Head of the Department of International Exchanges. Panels: Director Maeda Toshiji of Japanese Culture Center in Khabarovsk; Stegni, the Head of the Information Research Center “Primorie”; Grebennyk, the head of the Special Economic Zone in Magadan Region; Lebedets, Director-General of the Department of International Affairs and Tourism of Chita Region.
- Theme of Discussion 3 Speaker: Stolpiko, the 1st Deputy of the Association of Tourism Industry, the 1st Vice-President of “Intour Khabarovsk” Company. Panels: Vice Governor of Liaoning Province; Director Maeda Toshiji of Japanese Culture Center in Khabarovsk.
- Theme of Discussion 4 Speaker: Director Boeikov, the Director of the International
Investment Bank, Khabarovsk Branch

Panels: Dalian Branch Manager Wang Yanwei of Agricultural Bank of China; Director Zhang Yesui of Department of Integration and Promotion Of “Legio Bank”; Buraya, the Head of the Internal Affairs Department of the Central Bank of Russian Federation, Khabarovsk City

G. Sub-Committee on Science and Technology

(1) Background and Purpose

With the participation of 40 persons of 20 regional governments from 5 countries (China, Japan, Russia, Mongolia, and South Korea), Gyeonggi-do province held the 1st Sub-Committee on Science and Technology of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR) at the Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center in Suwon city from July 23rd to July 26th, 2007, under the theme of how to enhance cooperation in science and technology in Northeast Asia.

(2) Major Activities

(A) The 1st Meeting

1) Overview of the Conference

A) Date: July 23rd ~ July 26th, 2007 (This Meeting – July 24th)

B) Venue: Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center (Suwon City, Republic of Korea)

C) Hosted by/ Organized by: Gyeonggi-do Province/Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center, Gyeonggi-do Tourism Association

D) Participants: 40 persons from 20 regional governments in 5 countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Participant(s)</th>
<th>Participating Regional Governments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chungcheongbuk-do Province, Chungcheongnam-do Province, Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, Daegu Metropolitan City</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heilongjiang Province, Hubei Province, Shandong Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hyogo Prefecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Khabarovsk Territory, Tomsk Region, Irkutsk Region, Altai Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dornogovi Province, Dornod Province, Uvurkhangai Province, Umnugovi Province, Zavkhan Province, Selenge Province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Secretariat of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E) Theme: “Seeking science and technology cooperation measures among the regional governments”

F) Content of the Conference: Welcoming feast, opening ceremony, Sub-Committee meeting, industrial and cultural inspection tour, visiting science institutions

2) Proceeding of the Conference

○ Presentation 1: Science and Technology Policies of Gyeonggi-do Province

Introducing the function of the Gwanggyo Techno Valley as the complex that integrates science and technology cooperation network: Introducing Panggyo Techno Valley, science mentoring project, science and technology organizations in...
Gyeonggi-do province (Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center, The Province of Gyeonggi Bio-Center, Gyeonggi Technopark), and the policies to foster those organizations; presenting cases of joint cooperation between the universities in the province and foreign countries

○ Presentation 2: Science and technology cooperation measures within the Northeast Asian region

Proposed development methods of science cooperation policies in Northeast Asia were promoted by the Korean government (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology): suggested new cooperation and development models which suggest a paradigm shift from a country-oriented to regional government-oriented one; proposed step-by-step development model.

○ Presentations by the regional governments from home and abroad (9 regional governments)
  • Hubei Province, China: Introducing the industry, investment, and technology cooperation of Wuhan City, Hubei Province
    Introduced the current status of economy, major industries, science and technology industries, government-funded companies, foreign technology cooperation and exchange of Wuhan city and proposed multi-dimensional international exchanges with Wuhan city through the NEAR network
  • Hubei Province, China: Promoting development of private science and technology companies
    Introduced cases of Hubei provincial government and related agencies successfully promoting legislation and policies of science and technology, including ensuring the development of science and technology companies through regional legislation, creating business-friendly environment, establishing science and technology complex and service system, and preparing various financing system
  • Shandong Province, China: Diversification of science and technology policies and technology cooperation of Shandong province
    Introduced science and technology policies and status of Shandong province and the current state of the international science cooperation of Shandong Academy of Sciences. Proposed measures to diversify cooperation among the NEAR member regional governments in steel, electronic information, and agricultural biotechnology.
  • Hyogo Prefecture, Japan: Science promotion policies with “Spring-8”
    Case report on science promotion policies of Hyogo prefecture and Kobe city: the “Spring-8,” the large synchrotron radiation facility and the Harima Science Garden City
  • Daegu Metropolitan City: The role of Asian Science Park Association (ASPA) for cooperation in the Asian region
    The Asian Science Park Association (ASPA) is a private organization established to contribute to mutual understanding, promotion of cooperation, and mutual development of the Asian region. The ASPA is similar to NEAR in terms of its aim of exchange and cooperation among Asian regions, ASPA must lead mutual cooperation and exchange through industrial and technology exchanges among
the Asian regions and building a labor pool.

- **Tomsk Region, Russia**: Interaction among the science industrial complexes based on industry–academic cooperation
  Introduced the status of economy and science and technology of Tomsk region. Emphasized that the region possesses rich natural resources as well as great potential for outstanding human resources and proposed measures to develop regional innovation models based on high-quality education and science & technology potential

- **Altai Territory, Russia**: The role and potential of universities for innovation
  Introduced 8 state universities in Altai region and explained that Altai State Technical University (ASTU) is one of the largest universities in Russia. Gave presentation on the areas of scientific research of major universities including Altai State University of Agriculture and the potential of science and technology education of research institutes and universities

- **Khabarovsk Territory, Russia**: Prospect of science and technology activities of Pacific National University
  Gave presentation on the prospect of science and technology activities of the Pacific National University (TOGU), one of the largest universities in the Far East region. Suggested photomagnetic materials research, laser technology, material science, and energy conservation technology as the most prospective cooperation areas considering the specialty and experience of the university. Proposed development directions such as expanding joint programs of Russia and Korea in science and technology as well as international educational

- **Irkutsk Region, Russia**: Introduced the development of information and communications, history, current status, activities of previous research directors, the information and communications model currently under development of Irkutsk Institute of Technology and the current status of science and technology in the region,

- **Guest Lecture**: Cases of Korea–Russia Science and Technology Cooperation
  Under the agreement and support of Korean and Russian governments, the research institutes of both countries jointly established SOI–KOREA Center. Based on the basic original technology from Russia SOI, the research and development was transformed from the level of government researchers studying within the laboratory to the level of advanced country and finished product were produced for commercialization. The research and development prior to the production was introduced.

### The Agreement

**Agreement on Cooperation Measures among the Regional Governments of The 1st Sub–Committee on Science and Technology of The Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR)**

On Tuesday, July 24th, 2007, the participating regional governments of the 1st Sub–Committee on Science and Technology of the Association of North East Asian Regional
Governments agree to cooperate on the following for enhanced cooperation and mutual development in science and technology under the principle of mutual equality and reciprocity:

1. The participating regional governments of the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology shall individually or jointly seek and develop cooperation tasks based on the cooperation measures presented in the 1st meeting.

2. The regional governments shall actively cooperate and exchange information on outstanding science and technology support and promotion policies.

3. In principle, the Sub-Committee on Science and Technology shall be held once every two years and the participants shall put mutual effort in engaging participation from the regional governments and revitalizing participation and cooperation from the related science and technology private organizations.

July 24th, 2007
The Sub-Committee on Science and Technology of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments

3) Achievements of the Meeting and Tasks
A) Major Achievements
   ◦ The meeting provided the opportunity as well as the international recognition of the Gwanggyo Techno valley of Gyeonggi-do Province as the core of the science and technology cooperation network in the Northeast Asian region
   ◦ Adopted the “Agreement to actively seek science and technology cooperation measures among the regional governments” through presentation and discussion
   ◦ In particular, participants from Russia decided to actively seek for research cooperation measures (Tomsk Region: cell biology, developing new medicine, medical field, etc.) after consulting with the Korea Advanced Nano Fab Center and Bio Center.

B) Tasks
   ◦ To seriously consider expanding participation by the private sector and holding meetings of experts in each sector within the framework of the 2009 conference to increase industry-university-government collaboration of the member countries
   ◦ To enthusiastically invite universities and research institutes of each member regional government
   ◦ To lay the foundation for cooperation among private sectors