1. The Charter of NEAR  461
2. Regulations on the Establishment and Operation of Sub-Committees of NEAR  467
3. Ordinance on the Support for the Foundation and Operation of the Secretariat of NEAR  469
4. Working Regulations of Seconded Public Officials from NEAR Member Regions  471
5. List of Seconded Public Officials from NEAR Member Regions  473
1. The Charter of NEAR

Preamble

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

Chapter 1 Name and Purpose of the Association

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

Article 2(Purposes) In the spirit of reciprocity and equity, The Association has the purposes of pursuing co-development of the Northeast Asian Region and, at the same time, contributing to world peace by building trust on mutual understanding through the establishment of networks for exchanges and cooperation among member governments.

Article 3(Agenda) The Association shall perform the following functions:

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

Chapter 2  Membership Scope and Rights & Obligation of Members

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

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

Chapter 3  Organization and Functions

Section 1  The General Assembly

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Appointment of auditors
(2) Approval of budget, project plans, settlement of accounts  
(3) Resolution of member admission and dismissal  
(4) Determination of membership fees  
(5) Amendment of the Association Charter  
(6) Determination of termination and liquidation of the Association  
(7) Determination of agendas related to the next General Assembly  
(8) Determination of the venue to install the Secretariat  
(9) Determination and execution of business plans of the Association  
(10) Other functions deemed to be necessary  

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

Section 2 Working Committee  

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

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

Section 3 The Secretariat

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

Article 13 (Executives and staffs) The Secretariat shall have the following executives and staffs:

① The Secretary-General shall be one person. The Secretary-General shall be recommended by the head of the member regional government where the Secretariat is located and be appointed by the Chair of the Association.
② The executives and staffs of the Secretariat shall be comprised of seconded government officials of the Association in principle. However, when it is deemed necessary by the Secretary General, the Secretariat can be constituted in a different way under the approval by the chair of the Association.

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

① Budgeting and budget execution
② Documentation of business plans, annual reports, and accounting reports
③ Liaisons and coordination among members
④ Execution of decisions made by the General Assembly and the Working Committee
⑤ Other functions deemed to be necessary

Article 15 (Finance)

① The accounting of the Secretariat shall be treated as special accounting, and its operations shall be covered by membership fees and other miscellaneous income.
② Accounting shall temporarily be carried out in accordance with the following clauses:
   1. Members shall temporarily not be obliged to pay membership fees,
   2. All expenses incurred by holding the General Assembly and the Working Committee shall be covered and shared as follows:
      (1) Half (B) of the total expenses (A) shall be borne by the regional government hosting the General Assembly.
(2) As to the other half (C=A-B), the rest of the regional governments shall share the amount (C/D), which is equally divided by the number of the regional governments of “the Association,” excluding the host of the conference (D).

(3) In the event that the number of regional governments actually participating in the General Assembly is less than D, the balance shall be borne by the regional government hosting the conference.

(4) In the event that a member regional government is unable to bear a significant portion of the expense due to unavoidable circumstances such as natural disasters, the expense to be borne may be partially reduced to a reasonable level based on the agreement of other member regional governments.

(5) During the General Assembly, the regional government which proposed to host the next General Assembly shall submit tentative accounting of expenses for organizing the General Assembly and the Working Committee.

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

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

Section 4 Associated Supporting Organizations

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

Article 17Registration)

1. In the event that a member regional government establishes a Supporting Organization of the Association, it can register the organization by submitting application(new provision since September 1998).

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


**Chapter 4 Final Provisions**

**Article 18(Effectuation)** This Charter shall be effectuated from the 8th of September 2004.

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

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

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

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

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

**Supplementary Provision**
This Charter shall be enforced from the 8th of September 2004.
2. Regulations on the Establishment and Operation of Sub-Committees of NEAR

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

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

Article 2(Name and Working Area) The name of the Sub-Committees shall be as follows:

1. Sub-Committee on Economy and Trade
2. Sub-Committee on Environment
3. Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchanges
   (The Sub-Committee on Cultural Exchanges and the Sub-Committee on General Exchanges were integrated into the Sub-Committee on Educational and Cultural Exchanges on September 2, 2008).
4. Sub-Committee on Disaster Prevention
5. Sub-Committee on Cross-border Cooperation (since September 5, 2004)
6. Sub-Committee on Science and Technology (since September 14, 2006)
7. Sub-Committee on Ocean and Fishery (since September 2, 2008)
8. Sub-Committee on Tourism (since September 2, 2008)

Article 3(Functions)

1. Each Sub-Committee reviews and discusses methods to materialize and realize project plans by coordinating opinions among regional governments in order to promote effective execution of Individual Projects led by member regional governments which initiated them.

2. Each Sub-Committee shall report the results of the review and discussion on Individual Projects proposed by regional governments to the Working Committee.

Article 4(Structure) 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 (Revision of Regulations) The amendment of this regulation shall be executed by the Working Committee.

Article 10 (Effectuation) These regulations shall take effect and be in full force on September 2, 2008.

Supplementary Provision

These regulations shall take effect and be in full force on September 4, 2007.
3. Ordinance on the Support for the Foundation and Operation of the Secretariat of NEAR

**Article 1 (Objective)** The objective of this ordinance is to regulate matters concerning the provision of support for the foundation and operation of a standing body of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (NEAR; the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments).

**Article 2 (Foundation and Name)** In order to serve the purpose as set out in Article 1, the standing body shall be a non-profit organization and named “the Secretariat of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments” (hereinafter referred to as “the Secretariat”).

**Article 3 (Location)** The main office of the Secretariat shall be located where it is registered as a non-profit organization.

**Article 4 (Projects)** The Secretariat shall perform the following projects:

1. Budgeting and budget execution
2. Documentation of business plans, annual reports, and accounting reports
3. Provision of support for the operation of the General Assembly and the Working Committee
4. Provision of support for the execution of decisions made by the General Assembly and the Working Committee
5. Provision of support for the activities of the Sub-Committees
6. Documentation and adjustments of long-term plans of NEAR
7. Development and execution of joint projects for the development of NEAR
8. Operation of NEAR website
9. Liaison and coordination among NEAR members
10. Arrangement of NEAR documents, information and data analysis
11. Establishment of networks among local research institutions
12. Public relations activities including publication of newsletters and brochures
13. Other projects deemed to be necessary according to the decisions of the General Assembly

**Article 5 (Qualification of Executive Director)** The Secretary General of the Secretariat shall be an international relations specialist who is devoted to the development of NEAR.
Article 6 (Financial Support) The Governor of Gyeongsangbuk-do Province (hereinafter referred to as “the Governor”) may provide donation or financial support for the foundation and operation of the Secretariat.

Article 7 (Lease of Publicly-owned Properties) The Governor may, if necessary for the foundation and operation of the Secretariat, lease or allow use of publicly owned properties in conformity with related regulations such as the Local Government Finance Act.

Article 8 (Project Plan and Settlement of Accounts)

① The Secretariat shall prepare and submit work plans to the Governor before March of the next year and obtain approval.

② The Secretariat shall submit the statement of account for the fiscal year to the Governor by the end of June of the next year.

Article 9 (Reports)

① The Governor may, if deemed necessary for supervision, require from the Secretariat reports on the work of the Secretariat or ask the government officials to carry out inspection about the work.

② The Governor may, if illegality or impropriety be found as a result of the inspection conducted pursuant to Provision 1, order corrections or take other necessary measures.

Article 10 (Secondment of Public Officials)

① The Governor may, on request of the Secretary General of the Secretariat and if deemed necessary for supporting the work of the Secretariat, second public officials or allow them hold positions concurrently.

② The public officials seconded pursuant to Provision 1 shall not receive disadvantageous treatment because of the secondment.

Article 11 (Enforcement Regulations) The items, necessary to enforce this ordinance, are determined by the regulations.

Supplementary Provision
This ordinance shall come into force on the date of its publication.
4. Working Regulations of Seconded Public Officials from NEAR Member Regions

Enacted on January 15, 2007

Chapter 1 General Rules

Article 1(Objective) The objective of these regulations is to regulate matters concerning the working duties and others of public officials seconded from overseas NEAR members to the Secretariat of the Association of North East Asia Regional Governments (hereinafter referred to as “NEAR”).

Article 2(Definition)

(1) “Public officials seconded from overseas NEAR members” (hereinafter referred to as “seconded officials”) mean persons of nationalities other than that of the country hosting the Secretariat who were seconded by order of their own regional governments to work at the Secretariat of NEAR.

(2) General matters on working duties not stipulated in these regulations shall be subject to the regulations of the Secretariat.

Chapter 2 Qualification of Seconded Public Official

Article 3(Qualification) Seconded officials shall be public officials who were recommended by the heads of NEAR member regions which they belong and selected by the Secretary General of the Secretariat of NEAR.

Article 4(Number of Seconded Positions) In principle, one person for each country shall be seconded to the Secretariat of NEAR. However, if the Secretary General of the Secretariat of NEAR acknowledges the necessity for additional secondment to push forward preparation for the General Assembly or other pending works, the number of seconded positions can be adjusted in consultation with the concerning NEAR member region.

Article 5(Term of Secondment) The term of secondment is one year in principle, which can be extended once, if necessary, and in such a case, the maximum term shall be two years or less.

Article 6(Position at the Secretariat) Seconded officials shall serve as a staff member of the Secretariat of NEAR.

Chapter 3 Working Regulations

Article 7(Status) During their service at the Secretariat of NEAR, seconded officials shall retain the status of staff member of the Secretariat and perform their duties faithfully in the interest of the dignity of their position.

Article 8(Duty) Seconded officials shall conduct business of the Secretariat of NEAR and the specific duties are as follows:
1. Liaison with NEAR member regions
2. Promote projects of the Secretariat of NEAR
3. Perform interpretation and translation work for the Secretariat of NEAR
4. Management of the NEAR Website
5. Other duties deemed necessary by the Secretary General of the Secretariat of NEAR

Article 9 (Report Writing) Seconded officials shall compile and submit an activity report to the Secretariat on the duties performed at the Secretariat of NEAR and other matters deemed necessary at the end of every month.

Article 10 (Leave) Seconded officials may take ten days of leave every year.

Article 11 (Permission for works besides duties in the Secretariat) Seconded officials shall obtain permission in advance from the Secretary General, if they need to do works besides their duties in the Secretariat.

Article 12 (Observance) Seconded staffs shall observe the national law of the host country of the Secretariat of NEAR and, in case of a violation, be responsible for the consequences thereof.

Article 13 (Repatriation) The Secretary General of the Secretariat of NEAR may repatriate seconded officials in consultation with the heads of the member regions which they belong if the following rules apply:
1. If it is deemed extremely difficult to stay in the local area due to deterioration of health or other reasons,
2. If it is deemed that they cause serious hindrance to the works of the Secretariat
3. In case of violation of Article 7 or Article 12 of these regulations
4. In case of violation of the duties and regulations of the Secretariat

Chapter 4 Regulations on Support

Article 14 (Payment of Expenses) The salary, living expenses and the cost of insurance of seconded officials for living in the local area shall be borne by the member regions which they belong.

Article 15 (Support by the Secretariat) The Secretariat of NEAR shall, in order to help seconded officials to adapt to the local life, provide the following support. However, payments stipulated in Provision 2 may vary by national income gap.
1. Provision of residence
2. Payment of part of living expenses: KRW 800 thousand
3. Provision of furnishings necessary for local life: as stipulated in [asterisk 1]
4. Provision of expenses necessary to perform the work of the Secretariat of NEAR

Article 16 (Compensation) Seconded officials are obligated to manage the residence and furnishings provided by the Secretariat of NEAR in good faith and pay compensation for loss or damage caused by their negligence; expendable supplies are excluded.

Supplementary Provision (January 15, 2007)
These regulations shall be enforced from the date of enactment.
5. List of Seconded Public Officials from NEAR Member Regions

1. List of Seconded Public Officials in the Year of 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Member Region</th>
<th>Seconded Official</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region</td>
<td>Ma Yuqi (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Tuv Province</td>
<td>Dashzeveg Tserendondov (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Republic of Buryatia</td>
<td>Alexander Mangutov (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. List of Seconded Public Officials in the Year of 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Member Region</th>
<th>Seconded Official</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Shandong Province</td>
<td>Xu Lilan (Ms.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Shimane Prefecture</td>
<td>Hiroaki Nakamichi (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Selenge Province</td>
<td>Baatarjav Bolorzul (Ms.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Republic of Tyva</td>
<td>Mongush Mergen Partizanovich (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. List of Seconded Public Officials in the Year of 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Member Region</th>
<th>Seconded Official</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Hubei Province</td>
<td>Zheng Aiqun (Ms.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Shimane Prefecture</td>
<td>Hiroaki Nakamichi (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Dornod Province</td>
<td>Tsend. Munkhatsatsral (Ms.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Republic of Sakhalin</td>
<td>Protopopov Valeriy (Mr.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>