# The 1st Working Committee Conference

* **Overview**

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| Periods | August 27, 1997 ~ August 30, 1997 |
| Venue (Place) | South Korea > Gyeongsangbuk-Do, Diamond Hall, Hyundai Hotel, Gyeongju |
| Organized by | South Korea > Gyeongsangbuk-Do, Secretariat of the NEAR Association |
| Managed by | South Korea > Gyeongsangbuk-Do, Invited: International Association of Far East and Trans Baikal from Russia |
| Participation | China | Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province, Henan Province |
| Japan | Aomori Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture |
| South Korea | Gangwon-Do, Chungcheongbuk-Do, Chungcheongnam-Do, Jeollabuk-Do, Jeollanam-Do, Gyeongsangbuk-Do, Gyeongsangnam-Do, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province |
| Russia | Republic of Buryatia, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Khabarovsk Territory, Amur Region, Kamchatka Region, Sakhalin Region |

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| ▷ Seeking out the practical business of the Association for the Community of the North East Asia Region▷ Report agenda from each local authority (50 cases)

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| **▷ Discussion by each area of Economy and Commerce, Cultural Art, Environment, General exchanges, etc.▷Composition of Working Subcommittee (Working Group) for discussing the pending problems confronted**• Preparation of the practical projects for the Association • Discussion of the reorganization of the Association Operation System such as a Secretariat, etc. • Discussion of the extension of the scope of members to register the local authorities of North Korea and Mongolia. |

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* **Agreement**

On the 28th day of August in Year 1997, the delegates of local governments from the People’s Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation, members of the NEAR Association, organized for the purpose of concerted development of all member authorities and contribution to the world peace, were gathered in the Working Committee Conference in Gyeongju, Gyeongsangbuk-do.

Now the North East Asia is developing as the economic center for in the world economy. We have to cooperate to solve common problems including preservation of the environment and trade barriers.

We are pursuing mutual development and prosperity. To accomplish this purpose, we discussed issues about culture, arts, and economy and trade, interchanges, and environmental problems including 7 jointly agreed upon agenda adopted in 1996. The main subject was to search for projects, which must be executed for the localities in our community.

As a result, we derived the following agreements from the NEAR Conference 1997. In addition, all the member governments will make efforts to accomplish the joint projects.

1. In the areas of culture and arts, all the member localities of the Association will actively participate in all the events, which are related to culture and the arts including forums, exhibitions and expositions.

2. In the areas of economic boost and trade promotion, we will cooperate for increased capital investments and resource development in the Russian Federation and China. Each locality of the Association sends the concrete master plan of the involved projects so that all localities can have access to all information.

3. Preservation of the environment facing the preservation of environment, all of the member localities of the Association will cooperate in many projects related, including information exchange, technological interchange and joint research.

4. General exchanges the working committee, composed of the Secretariat and representative local governments from four countries, arranges the issues including the operation of the Secretariat and the establishment of the organization for the joint projects. The Working Group must report issues to the General Assembly meeting in 1998.

The local governments of Mongolia and North Korea can join the Association at the next conference in 1998. To accomplish this goal, Tottori Prefecture, Japan and Localities in the Far East of the Russian Federation will play important roles and make progress.