# The 5th NEAR Association Conference

* **Overview**

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| Periods | September 07, 2004 ~ September 09, 2004 |
| Venue (Place) | China > Heilongjiang Province |
| Organized by | China > Heilongjiang Province |
| Participation | 27 regional authorities from 6 countries |
| China | Heilongjiang Province, Shandong Province, Henan Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region |
| Japan | Aomori Prefecture, Yamagata Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Toyama Prefecture, Ishikawa Prefecture, Fukui Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, Shimane Prefecture |
| South Korea | Busan Metropolitan City, Chungcheongbuk-Do, Chungcheongnam-Do, Jeollabuk-Do, Jeollanam-Do, Gyeongsangbuk-Do, Gyeongsangnam-Do |
| North Korea | Hamgyeongbuk-do, Rasun City |
| Mongolia | Tuv Aimak, Selenge Aimak |
| Russia | Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Khabarovsk Territory, Amur Region |

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* **Harbin Declaration**

We opened the fifth General Assembly of the self-governing organizations in Northeast Asia (hereinafter "Association"), on September 7-8, 2004. About 112 representatives from 27 member self-governing organizations in China, North Korea, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia, participated in this General Assembly.

Under the theme of the reinforcement of an economic collaboration in the Northeast Asian Region, this General Assembly was based on a spirit of being 'mutually coexistent, benefits, and equal.' We exchanged many opinions, gained considerable outcomes, and agreed on the following.

1. The Chairman of the Association, and the representatives of each member of the self-governing organization of China, North Korea, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Russia, made a presentation in this General Assembly. Based on the successful collaborated experiences among the regions of the self-governing organizations of Northeast Asia, the General Assembly endeavors to fully utilize the features of each region, to overcome the disadvantages on the components of imbalance in the growth and differences of cultural backgrounds among the member of the self-organization countries, and to make the self-governing organizations in Northeast Asia be among the most active and successful communities in the world.

2. The General Assembly received reports on the status of programs by each subcommittee, and was fully aware of the programs. The Association thought very highly of the programs of the subcommittee, and proactively supports the program in order to enhance the level of the programs and their efficiency.

3. The General Assembly decided upon an agenda for the next General Assembly by appointing a proposal on the establishment of the emblem of the Association presented in Toyama, Japan, and Heilongjiang River area, China, and a self-governing organization for the next General Assembly.

4. The General Assembly passed a bill on the constitution to change a collaborative subcommittee presented by Khabarovsk, Russia. The scope of the change on a collaborative subcommittee may not duplicate the functions of the existing related subcommittee. Furthermore, the change collaborative subcommittee should run a program in collaboration with the existing economy trade subcommittee, without fail, in order to promote the collaboration and development among the members of self-governing organizations in the Northeast Asian Region.

5. The General Assembly paid its respect to Gyeongsangbuk-do, Korea for contributing to the development of the Association. It passed a bill on establishing the associated standing Secretariat in Gyeongsangbuk-do, and proposals including that the tenure of the Secretariat shall be four years and that the Secretariat can be reappointed through the General Assembly

6. The General Assembly repeatedly mentioned that each country (each member self-governing organization) might establish a liaison office upon necessity pursuant to the rules in the Charter of the Association.

7. The General Assembly passed a revision of the Charter via the explanation of the revision to the Charter and screening. The revision of the Charter is a directive to the Association drawn upon by the sufficient reflection on the opinions of each member of the self-governing organization, succeeding to the spirit of all the declaration of the General Assemblies, and considering a new trend of the collaboration in the whole world's economic development. The revision of the Charter clearly stipulated the establishment of the Standing Secretariat and tenure. The establishment of the Standing Secretariat holds a significant meaning in the development of the Association, and the establishment is even more significant in that it moved one-step forward as an official international collaborative organization.

8. In order to further expand the collaboration of economy trade based on reciprocity and equality among each member of the self-governing organization in the Northeast Asian Region, each member of the self-governing organization submitted relative concrete schemes and opinions in this General Assembly. In principle, the General Assembly determined to actively support and cooperate for diverse international expositions and consultation on the investment in economic and trade held by each member of the self-governing organization in the Northeast Asian Region.

9. The Association agreed to actively proceed with and support the collaboration in the fields of borderland trade, the development of resources, information exchange, the environmental protection, and fostering of talent, based on the opinions presented by each member of the self-governing organization.

10. In this General Assembly, it was determined that Busan, Korea should hold the next General Assembly. This Declaration is a document, which may be considered a basic directive concerning the development and collaboration of the Association. It was written in the five languages of Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Mongolian, and Russian that the fifth General Assembly held in the Heilongjiang River area, China on September 8, 2004, and each version may hold equally effective.