



**THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AND
NEW ZEALAND**

A Partnership for the 21st Century

A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HELEN CLARK
AND
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
HIS EXCELLENCY ROH MOO-HYUN

On the occasion of the state visit to New Zealand, the President of the Republic of Korea Roh Moo-hyun and the Prime Minister of New Zealand Helen Clark met and discussed the deep and promising bilateral relationship between the Republic of Korea and New Zealand.

The Republic of Korea and New Zealand have shared a rich history, with significant potential for stronger cooperation and mutually beneficial relations.

The President and Prime Minister recognised that there are many prospects for positive developments which would consolidate, advance and further enhance Korea-New Zealand relations.

The two Leaders committed to take a fresh look at opportunities and activities which could further strengthen and develop the relationship.

To meet this objective, they outlined a 21st Century Partnership to carry the relationship forward, reflecting the achievements made thus far and the opportunities that should be seized for the future.

Wellington

8 December 2006

TAKING THE RELATIONSHIP FORWARD: A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

1 POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

Regular high-level political consultations between New Zealand and the Republic of Korea are an essential element of the bilateral relationship, providing opportunities to discuss specific issues of mutual concern. The two Leaders express a commitment to the following:

- More frequent and regular visits by Ministers from both countries to discuss existing issues and identify new opportunities for cooperation, with the aim of ensuring that:
 - Foreign Minister visits take place annually, alternating each year between the two countries
 - strategies are established to capitalise on opportunities as they arise and to address potentially difficult issues
 - ministerial-level visits take place both ways across a range of portfolios, reflecting the diversity of the bilateral relationship
- Regular visits by Members of Parliament from both countries, through fully implementing the reciprocal parliamentary exchange programme established in 1999, New Zealand's Prime Minister's Fellow programme, and by exploring further possibilities for closer Parliamentary relations

Recognising the value of effective multilateral and regional cooperation and being appreciative of the two countries' shared history of mutual support in these contexts the two Leaders support future activities including:

- Collaboration to strengthen the effectiveness, credibility and legitimacy of the United Nations
- Cooperation in the fields of disarmament, non-proliferation and human rights

The two Leaders stress the merit of official level consultations. They note the value of:

- The continuation of the regular bilateral consultation mechanisms already established, including those between the respective Foreign Ministries, military and security talks, Annual Joint Economic Committee Meetings, Forestry Consultations and Customs Consultations
- The establishment of regular consultations between the New Zealand Treasury and Korean Ministry of Finance and Economy
- Encouraging foreign service staff from Korea and New Zealand to undertake language or postgraduate study in the other country

Acknowledging New Zealand's longstanding and ongoing commitment to the maintenance of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, evolving from New Zealand's participation in the Korean War, the two Leaders:

- Recognise the North Korean security issue as a key concern in maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia
- Welcome the agreement to resume the Six-Party Talks and emphasise the need for substantive progress in the resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue through the expeditious implementation of the September 19 Joint Statement and the faithful implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1718

- Commit to ongoing bilateral dialogue between New Zealand and the Republic of Korea on North Korean issues, including ways of encouraging North Korea to engage in productive dialogue with the international community and issues affecting regional security

2 ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The two Leaders express a commitment to fostering and maintaining a flourishing trade, investment and economic relationship and to ensure this by:

- Initiating a fresh look at the bilateral trade, economic and investment relationship by undertaking a joint study in 2007 between private research institutes on the feasibility of a possible Korea–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement, whose results will be discussed in a round table involving researchers and government officials and reported to their trade ministers
- Building on the long history of working closely together in the agricultural sector through the implementation of an arrangement between the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Korean Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on agricultural cooperation
- Working together to adjust and enhance bilateral economic activity in a changing global and regional economic environment

With the aim of responding effectively and promptly to the aspirations of their business communities, the two Leaders emphasise their support for ongoing cooperation and consultation between Korean and New Zealand officials and business people through:

- The resolution of trade access issues identified by either side

- Reducing trade constraints associated with standards and technical regulations by expediting market access through:
 - exchange of information on the related regulatory processes and measures
 - enhanced dialogue on Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues
 - improved technical consultation and discussions on relevant bilateral arrangements

- Recognising the annual Joint Economic Committee as an important supportive forum for advancing all aspects of the trade and investment relationship, ensuring that:
 - with the aim of opening new areas of trade, discussions take place at technical levels based on sound scientific and technical information
 - policies are developed in special interest areas of trade identified by either side
 - joint research projects are undertaken on agreed subjects such as the scope for enhanced bilateral economic activity; potential areas of trade sensitivity; and effects of third party trade and economic arrangements and agreements

- Exploring possible initiatives to strengthen the Korea–New Zealand Business Councils, and encouraging government participation in the annual joint Business Council meeting

Recognising that there are specific areas in which there is significant potential for increased economic activity between the Republic of Korea and New Zealand, the two Leaders will:

- Look into mechanisms for increasing investment in both directions, including those under the Memorandum of Understanding between

the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise

- Encourage business to business links including through ministerial-led reciprocal missions
- Facilitate dialogue on tourism issues in both countries, engaging government officials, relevant business groups and stakeholders

3 THE ENVIRONMENT

The two Leaders recognise the importance of ensuring that the quality of the environment be preserved for future generations, and acknowledge that steps need to be taken to ensure that future activity and growth takes place in such a way to meet this objective. The two Leaders seek to:

- Implement fully the Conservation Cooperation Arrangement signed on 22 May 2006
- Establish regular discussions on global environmental issues between the two countries to foster jointly possibilities for greater co-operation, for example through:
 - participation in joint long-term cooperation projects on environmental development and protection issues including climate change
 - close cooperation on fisheries issues, especially through regional organisations, with the aim of preserving world fisheries stocks at sustainable levels

4 INNOVATION AND THE KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY

The two Leaders recognise the rapid development of both countries' capabilities in innovation and education, and celebrate the important role a knowledge-based economy plays in the achievement of prosperity. The two Leaders seek greater cooperation in these areas through:

- Closer cooperation in new fields including but not limited to research, science and technology, the creative sector and education
- Developing new joint research projects, collaboration and the exchange of staff and researchers in areas of mutual interest

In the Science and Technology sector, through:

- Increasing activity and linkages under the Focal Point Programme created under the Memorandum of Understanding between New Zealand's Foundation for Research, Science and Technology and the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation, and supported by the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology of New Zealand and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Korea
- Actively progressing the Focal Point Programme through collaborative research and joint projects

In the Information and Communications Technology and creative sectors specifically, through:

- The early conclusion and implementation of the Arrangement between the Ministry of Information and Communication of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Economic Development of

New Zealand for Cooperation in Information and Communications Technology

- A commitment to the pursuance and promotion of avenues for reciprocal dialogue and visits at the industry level

The two Leaders welcome the strong and positive education relationship between the two countries, and recognise the importance of promoting education sector linkages through:

- The establishment of an Education Counsellor position at the New Zealand Embassy in Seoul
- Developing ways to encourage students to study in the other country, such as through the continuation of the New Zealand International Scholarships scheme and University student exchange programmes
- Encouraging study of the other country's traditional and popular culture, including languages

5 ENHANCED CIVIL SOCIETY LINKS

The two Leaders recognise the importance of links between sectors in New Zealand and the Republic of Korea which serve to build human bridges between the two countries. To strengthen the relationship and develop new linkages, the two Leaders recognise the significance of:

- Government agencies sharing experiences on issues common to both, such as aging populations, social policy and superannuation

- Commitment to increase activity under the bilateral Audio-visual Cooperation Arrangement signed in 2005
- Establishing projects to enhance cultural understanding and cooperation between the two countries, facilitated through the New Zealand Ministry for Culture and Heritage and the Korean Ministry of Culture and Tourism, as well as other interested organisations such as the Asia New Zealand Foundation and the Korea Foundation
- Expansion of sports, educational and cultural exchanges and visits to create a network for people-to-people exchanges, in order to promote awareness of the other country's culture and society and enhance people-to-people links between the two countries. Possible examples include:
 - a journalist exchange programme, funded by host governments
 - exploration of further sister-city linkages
 - regular information exchanges between the National Libraries of New Zealand and the Republic of Korea, to develop Information Management systems and share archived materials
- The role immigration plays in enhancing mutual understanding between the two peoples

6 COOPERATION IN OTHER AREAS

Looking to build a future-oriented relationship, the two Leaders recognise the importance of enhancing cooperation in all areas (political, economic and cultural) and commit to exploring new ways of strengthening bilateral relations.

7 FOLLOW UP

Annual Foreign Ministry and Joint Economic Committee consultations provide a mechanism for the regular review of current activities, identification of new opportunities and provision of a context for addressing any issues that may arise between the two countries. The Foreign Ministers of the two countries will, in the context of their annual visits, review the implementation and operation of this document and periodically undertake a substantive bilateral review. Furthermore, within two years Leaders will, during a bilateral visit or in the sidelines of a regional or multilateral forum, consider implementation progress.