

JOINT STATEMENT
OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE 8TH CHINA-JAPAN-KOREA
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

29 June 2020

We, the Transport and Logistics Ministers of China, Japan and Korea, held the Special Session of the 8th Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics on 29th June 2020, with a view to confirming and strengthening cooperation among the three countries in securing and maintaining a steady and smooth logistics system in the region against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We express our deepest condolences and sympathies for the loss of so many lives and for suffering of those affected by the pandemic. We also present our sincerest appreciation and respect to those who have been continuously making devoted efforts on the front-line of international and domestic logistics in the three countries to safeguard the supply chain of essential goods during the pandemic.

We recognize that the spread of the pandemic and its impacts have resulted in hindered international logistics, leaving international supply chain and world economy in severe risks.

We, acknowledging the joint decision adopted by the leaders of China, Japan and Korea on 24th December 2019 to enhance regional connectivity and infrastructure cooperation including transport and logistics areas, reaffirm our commitment to fostering a seamless, efficient and secure logistics system since the launch of the mechanism of transport and logistics cooperation in 2006.

We share the view that our trilateral cooperation should be further strengthened to make the logistics in the three countries even more resilient, taking into account both the risk of the pandemic persistently occurring in the future and the role to be played by the logistics.

Accordingly, we hereby resolve to:

- 1) Strengthen the three countries' cooperation and coordination in international logistics policies based on the framework of Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics with active participation from each country's related industries, in order to exchange necessary information and to enhance resilience and sustainability of the international logistics to and from each of the countries against the pandemic of COVID-19 and other possible infectious diseases,

- 2) Be even more committed to sharing good experiences and practices with each other also in the context of domestic logistics policies to overcome the adverse effects brought about by the pandemic, and to jointly building logistics network in the region which is less vulnerable to the possible pandemics in the future,
- 3) Explore ways to facilitate the movement of essential logistics workers, such as seafarers and air crews, to the fullest and within the extent that does not hinder the quarantine measures of the three countries, in order to ensure unimpeded passages for cross-border movement of goods and make every endeavour to share information on the quarantine measures being implemented in each country for transport means, and
- 4) Spare no efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination in ongoing and future discussions within the existing international organizations to realize proportional infection prevention measures with which unnecessary traffic restrictions can be avoided in order to ensure the smooth operation of international logistics.

We remain unwavering in our cooperation and coordination towards more integrated, efficient and resilient logistics services and network by continuing working level discussion to materialize each of 1), 2), 3), and 4) above and by holding the 8th Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics in Kobe at the earliest opportunity to acknowledge our progress.