

JOINT STATEMENT
OF THE 6TH CHINA-JAPAN-KOREA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
ON TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Hangzhou, China

28 July 2016

1. We, the Transport and Logistics Ministers of China, Japan and Korea, met in Hangzhou, China on 28 July 2016 for the 6th Ministerial Conference. We congratulated the 10th anniversary of this cooperative mechanism, commended the progress secured under the 12 Action Plans, which were adopted during the previous five Ministerial Conferences among the three countries, and encouraged more concrete cooperation and achievements in the future.

2. We recognized that Northeast Asia is one of the centers of the world economic activities. The total aggregated GDP of the three countries is approximately 22.3% of the world economy¹, and the trade value generated by the three countries reached approximately USD 6,193.5 billion, accounting for 18.7% of the world total in 2015². China, Japan and Korea are increasingly regarded as the three pillars of Asia's prosperity and crucial cornerstones of world economic growth.

3. We realized that transport plays a fundamental and trailblazing role in the national economy and foreign trade, and it is essential to deepen and expand substantial cooperation among the three countries in the transport and logistics sectors to enhance the development of an efficient, green and secure logistics network so as to facilitate smoother and larger trade in Northeast Asia.

¹ Quoted from the World Bank statistics.

² Quoted from UNCTAD statistics.

4. The three major goals for logistics cooperation we defined, namely, “creation of a seamless logistics system”, “establishment of environmentally friendly logistics” and “achievement of balance between security and efficiency of logistics”, were highly acknowledged and appreciated by leaders from the three countries at the 6th Trilateral Summit Meeting convened in Seoul last November. 12 Action Plans under the three goals have also been identified and carried out ever since. With ten years of concerted efforts, we were delighted to see that marked achievements have been made so far. We thus confirmed the “Progress and Future Work of the Action Plans”, which is attached hereinafter, and reached the following consensus for constant cooperation:

4.1 Creation of a Seamless Logistics System

Mutual access of trailer chassis plays a key role in linking land and maritime transportation and thus increasing logistics efficiency and speed. Accordingly the three countries will endeavor to realize trilateral access of sea-land inter-modal trailer chassis in the future. To this end, we will gradually make the efforts for mutual access of trailer chassis. China and Korea will endeavor to facilitate mutual access of trailer chassis based on the previously signed agreement and Japan and Korea will expand the existing pilot project, considering demands of consigners and logistics enterprises. China and Japan will continually cooperate with each other more closely toward implementation of the pilot project of mutual access.

We will continually improve and promote NEAL-NET logistics information-sharing service, increase the number of information-sharing ports and explore more information-sharing service areas, promote the popularization of NEAL-NET in Northeast Asia, start joint study on transnational intermodal transport, and steadily advance international exchange and cooperation.

We will continue to make efforts to realize the establishment of the low cost and

eco-friendly logistics system. We will share the results of research of the three countries and make joint efforts to facilitate the work of returnable pallets among the three countries.

We will constantly promote standardized pallets to contribute to the realization of seamless logistics system in Northeast Asia, and maintain cooperation toward these efforts. We will make efforts for developing national standards of pallets and encourage research on the possibility of standardizing returnable container excepting pallet.

We will share information and experience in container rail-sea intermodal transport development, deepen common understanding, explore the potential demand on container rail-sea intermodal transport among the three countries, and identify the opportunities and challenges for container rail-sea intermodal transport.

Noting that global fresh food logistics and the trade of agricultural product and sea food in Northeast Asia are growing, we recognized there is a need for a cold chain running smoothly to secure food safety and reduce food abandonment. To that end, we will encourage the public and private sectors to explore cooperative projects and conduct joint research.

4.2 Establishment of Environmentally Friendly Logistics

We are seeking ways of building an environmentally friendly logistics. We recognized that global warming and air pollution are a common challenge. In accordance with the growing environmental consciousness of customers, the demand for environmentally-friendly logistics services is growing in the three countries. In this regard, we recognized that various projects conducted under this Ministerial Conference have an important meaning for establishment of an

environmentally-friendly logistics. We will strengthen our cooperation and promote cooperation between the governments and private sectors to move forward such projects related to environmentally-friendly logistics.

4.3 Achievement of Balance between Secure and Efficient Logistics

To jointly endeavor to respond to changes in the international logistics security environment, including effective development of human resources in the logistics security, we will encourage exchange of information on the current logistics security-related trainings in the three countries.

We will endeavor to cooperate and encourage research by the research institutes and enterprises of the three countries on logistics security-related technologies to improve logistics security and efficiency.

4.4 Other Related Areas

We noted the plan of holding the 17th Northeast Asia Port Director-General Meeting and Port Symposium in Incheon, Korea in November 2016, and encouraged the confirmed cooperation on “Comparative Study on Port Legal Institutions of China, Japan and Korea”, “Measures for Attracting People to Ports” and “Study on Handling Capacity for Efficient Development of Container Terminal”.

We recognized the importance of the Northern Sea Route (NSR) as the alternative route in the future. To further facilitate the use of the NSR, we will continue to encourage the governments, the research institutes, and enterprises of the three countries to share information and cooperate with one another.

The three countries will deepen their efforts under cooperation to create

conditions to facilitate 3PL business. In addition, the three countries will continue to exchange information of efforts to promote 3PL business in each country.

5. New Initiatives for Future Cooperation

5.1 We welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the 12 Action Plans. We looked forward to ever greater outcomes in the upcoming decade of cooperation. We will review the progress of the Action Plans and come up with measures to improve. By doing so, we will efficiently proceed with the Action Plans and identify new agendas constantly so that we will further expand cooperation in the area of logistics.

The China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics, as the only trilateral consultative body in logistics, has been considered successful since the 1st Ministerial Conference was held in 2006. Measures for efficient operation and management of the Ministerial Conference will be jointly reviewed and presented by the three countries at the 7th Ministerial Conference so that China, Japan, and Korea will further strengthen trilateral logistics cooperation.

5.2 We observed that in recent years, the three countries have respectively put forward major initiatives, namely, China's "Belt and Road" initiative, Japan's "Partnership for Quality Infrastructure" initiative, and Korea's "Eurasia Initiative". In the implementation of these national-level initiatives, transport infrastructure connectivity and logistics facilitation will play a significant part. We will endeavor to strengthen communication and collaboration among each other in implementing these initiatives, and explore the possibility of launching cooperative projects and activities under these initiatives in the future.

5.3 We recognized that multinational and international organizations are serving as important platforms for the three countries to promote the development of

transport and logistics in the region. We shared the view that we, together, should work more closely and play a more active role under such regional and global frameworks as the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), etc., with the purpose of contributing to our common interests.

5.4 We were heartened to see the joint contributions to the logistics development in the Asia-Pacific region by the three countries. We hoped that the three countries could work harder and enable NEAL-NET to play a bigger role in this region, expand trilateral logistics information cooperation from shipping to various transport modes, including road, railway and civil aviation, further strengthen the cooperation among each other as well as within international frameworks such as UNESCAP, APEC, etc., and jointly push forward the application of NEAL-NET in ASEAN, the Asia-Pacific and the European Union.

6. We welcomed the participation of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) in the 6th CJK Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics, and we would closely work with the secretariat for the promotion of transport and logistics cooperation among the three countries.

7. We decided that according to established norms, the 7th CJK Ministerial Conference will be held in 2018 in Korea.

8. We expressed our sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Transport of China and the Government of Zhejiang Province for the warm hospitality accorded and the excellent arrangements made for the Conference.

Annex: 2016 Progress and Future Work Sheets of the Action Plans

For the Ministry of Transport of the
People's Republic of China

YANG Chuantang

Minister of Transport

For the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure,
Transport and Tourism of Japan

Hideki MIYAUCHI

Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Land,
Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

For the Ministry of Oceans and
Fisheries of the Republic of Korea

KIM Young-suk

Minister of Oceans and Fisheries