

**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE 9TH CHINA-JAPAN-KOREA  
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT AND  
LOGISTICS**

February 29, 2024, Tianjin, China

1. We, the Transport and Logistics Ministers of China, Japan and Korea, met in Tianjin on February 29, 2024 for the 9th Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics.
2. In the opening remarks, we highlighted China-Japan-Korea Ministerial Conference on Transport and Logistics mechanism played a critical role in promoting the trilateral cooperation of transport and logistics, appreciated the progress of the Action Plans since the last Ministerial Conference, and encouraged more concrete cooperation and achievements in the future.
3. The Three Countries will continue to work together to play an important role in contributing to international economic and trade development by strengthening cooperation of transport and logistics.
4. We updated the Action Plans according to the major goals at this Ministerial Conference, thereby further facilitating the trilateral cooperation.
5. The Joint Action Plans will be “Cooperation and Coordination among the Three Countries toward a Resilient Logistics Network” and “Promoting Digital Transformation (DX) in Logistics.” The rest of Action Plans will be respectively led by China, Japan and Korea.
6. China will continue to lead “Efforts to Establish and Expand an Inter-Connected Logistics Information Network”, “Best Practice Sharing and Cooperative Development of the Intermodal Transport in Northeast Asia” and “Promoting Close Cooperative Relations for Ports Sector.”
7. Japan will continue to lead “Standardization of Transport Items”, “Efforts to Realize the Seamless Logistics System” and “Introducing Environmentally Friendly Logistics Policies.”
8. Korea will continue to lead “Measures to Balance Between Security and Efficiency of Transport and Logistics,” “Promoting Information Sharing and Cooperation on Sustainable Arctic Shipping and Logistics” and “Facilitating Trilateral Cold Chain Network”.

## **9. Promotion of a Resilient Logistics Network**

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of logistics for global supply chains. We present our sincerest appreciation and respect to the logistics workers at the forefront who have been making dedicated efforts to secure the supply chain and to support people's lives and economic activities.

- 9.1 We will strive to secure a resilient logistics network by strengthening cooperation among the three countries. We recognize the importance of the coordination in international logistics policies to address challenges that hinder the achievement of this goal and encourage our officials to continue to share experiences and best practices in international and domestic logistics policies with each other.
- 9.2 We seek to balance between security and efficiency in logistics system. To that end, we share information, conduct technology research and exchange experience regarding relevant fields.

## **10. Creation of a Seamless Logistics System**

With the progress of technological innovation and the spread of new lifestyles triggered by COVID-19, the seamless logistics that we have been working on since the 1st Ministerial Conference has become increasingly important, and there is benefit in the continued promotion of such efforts.

- 10.1 Recognizing the importance of Digital Transformation (DX) in Logistics that will dramatically change the nature of logistics through automation and digitalization, we will promote the development of the transport and logistics sectors and ensure that the three countries can play a leading role in this field.
- 10.2 We recognized that 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.
- 10.3 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 inter-modal transport, and steadily advance international exchange and cooperation.
- 10.4 In order to determine the future direction of cooperation in the field of sea-land intermodal transport of containers, the three countries will research the current status and issues of sea-land intermodal transport and share information.

- 10.5 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 promoting standardized pallets with Asia Pallet System Federation (APSF) and encourage research on the possibility of standardizing returnable container.
- 10.6 Noting that global cold chain logistics network is expanding and trilateral trade on fresh food is on the rise, we recognize the need to facilitate cold chain network to ensure fresh food safety and quality. We recognize that this will contribute to the achievement of UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reducing food waste. To that end, we will share relevant information, and encourage to carry out joint research.

## **11. Establishment of Environmentally Friendly Logistics**

In light of growing need for SDGs, we are seeking ways to build environmentally friendly logistics. We recognize that global warming is a common challenge. In this regard, various projects conducted under this Ministerial Conference have an important meaning for establishment of environmentally friendly logistics. We will strengthen our cooperation between the governments and sectors to move forward such projects related to environmentally friendly logistics.

- 11.1 We will be looking for ways to establish environmentally friendly logistics. We will work to ensure the sustainability of environment by further improving the efficiency of logistics through promoting modal shifts, and by promoting low-carbon and decarbonization in transport and logistics.
- 11.2 Recognizing that the use of Returnable Transport Items (RTI) would greatly contribute to an eco-friendly logistics system, and we will cooperate in addressing the issues that hinder the expansion of RTI use.

## **12. Other Related Areas**

- 12.1 We reaffirmed the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)'s role in advancing trilateral cooperation and expressed support for the broader participation of TCS in the trilateral transport and logistics mechanism.
- 12.2 We appreciated TCS's support for the successful operation and maintenance of our website since 2021, which helps to exchange the three countries' relevant policies and research, and enables the people of the three countries to better access the information of the Ministerial Conference.

- 12.3 We expected TCS to continue to contribute to the trilateral transport and logistic mechanism and the Action Plans by its relevant trilateral projects and activities that facilitates cooperation and coordination among the three countries.
13. The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan and the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of Korea expressed their appreciation to the Ministry of Transport of China for hosting this Ministerial Conference.
14. The next Ministerial Conference will be hosted by the Republic of Korea in 2025.

Ministry of Transport  
of the People's Republic of China

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Vice Minister of Transport  
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Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism  
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H.E. Mr. SONG Myeong-dal  
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