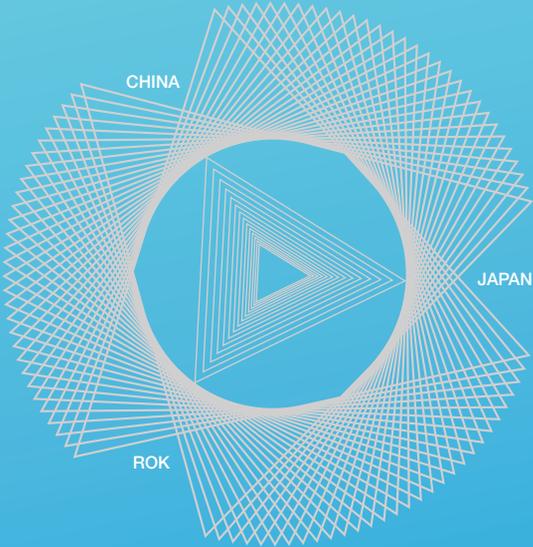


ANNUAL REPORT
FY 2014 - 2015

**TRILATERAL
COOPERATION
SECRETARIAT**



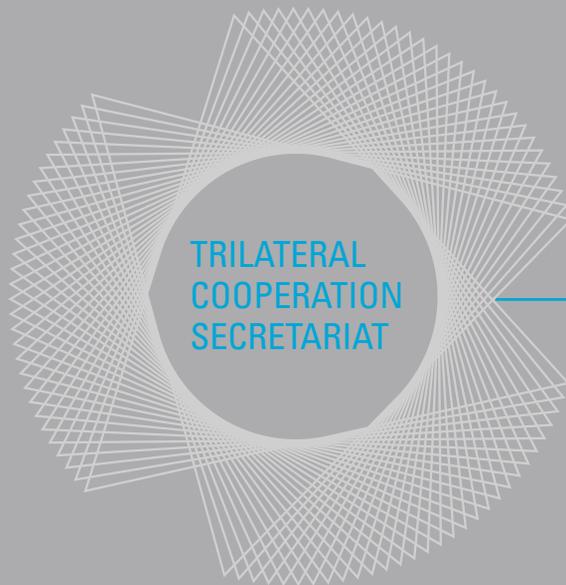
Trilateral
Cooperation
Secretariat

TRILATERAL
COOPERATION
SECRETARIAT

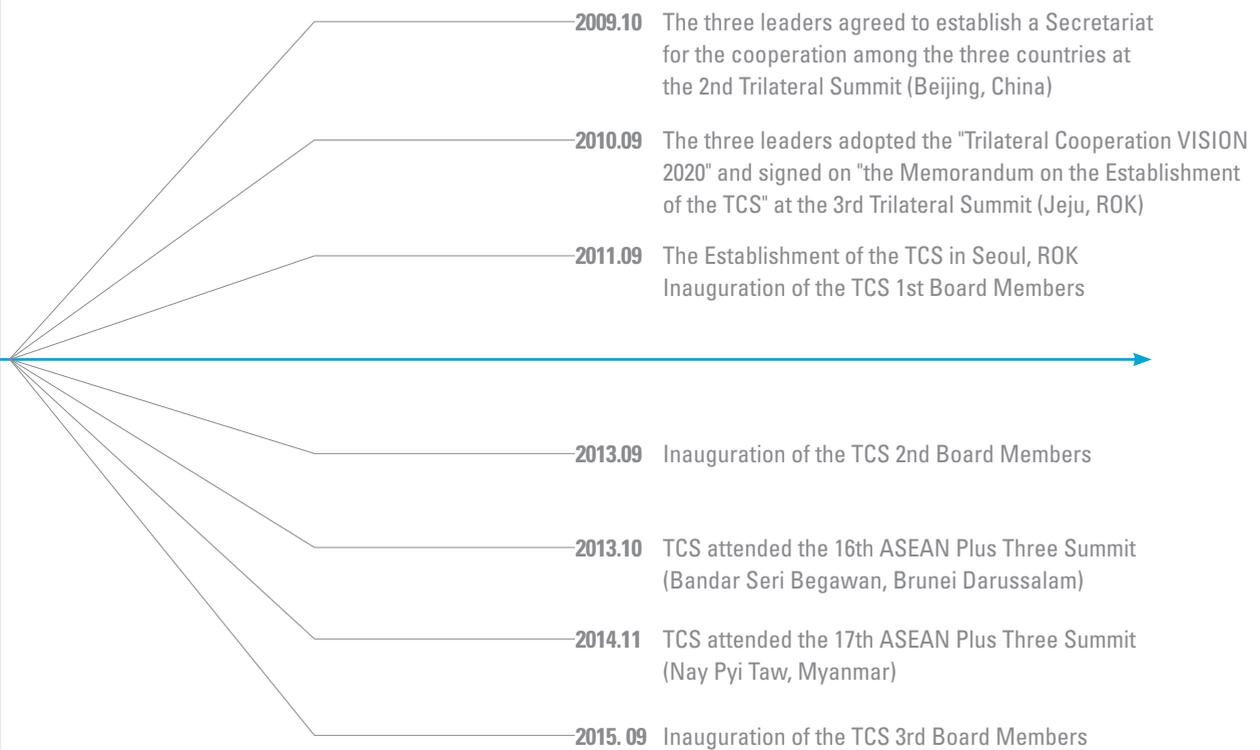
ANNUAL REPORT
FY2014-2015

About TCS

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) is an international organization established with a vision to promote peace and common prosperity among the People's Republic of China (China), Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK). Upon the agreement signed and ratified by each of the three governments, the TCS was officially inaugurated in Seoul, September 2011. On the basis of equal participation, each countries shares 1/3 of total operational budget.

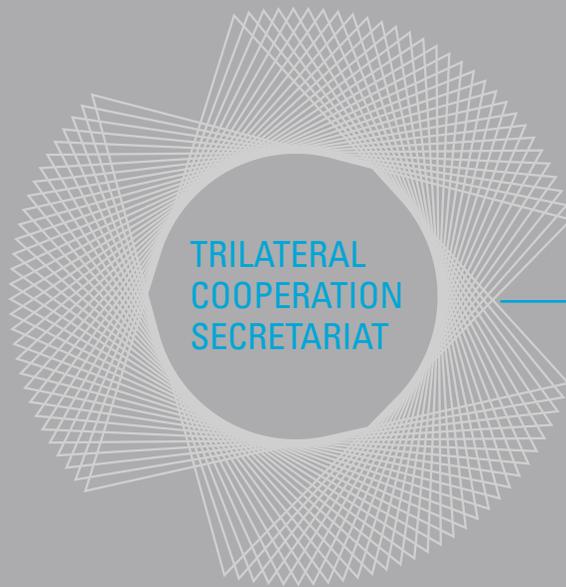


HISTORY



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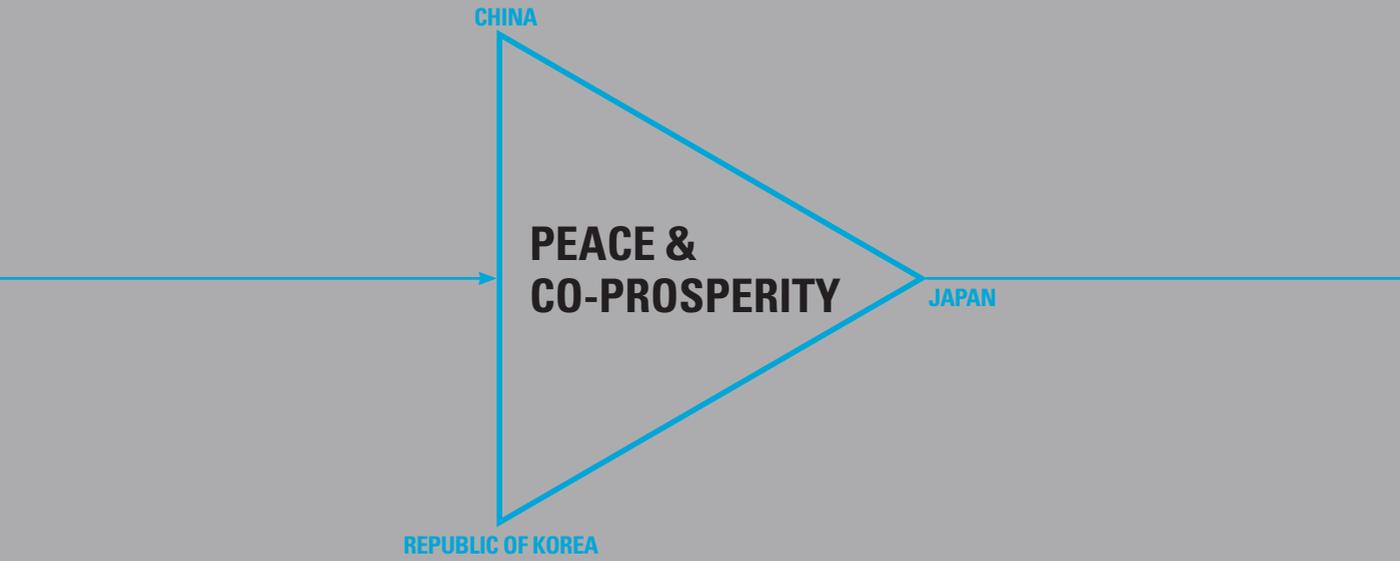
HISTORY

CHINA

**PEACE &
CO-PROSPERITY**

JAPAN

REPUBLIC OF KOREA



OBJECTIVE



**" TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE
FURTHER PROMOTION OF
COOPERATIVE RELATIONS
AMONG THE THREE
COUNTRIES"**



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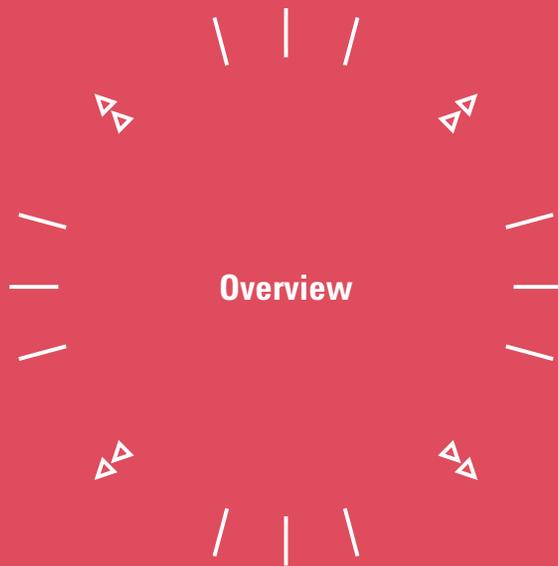
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1. Foreword



The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (hereinafter referred to as “TCS”) is glad to present its Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 (September 2014 ~ August 2015). This report contains the contribution and enthusiasm of TCS on the broad spectrum of sectors and fields of trilateral cooperation. As an international organization established with a vision to contribute to peace, stability and prosperity of the East Asian Region, TCS will continue its utmost efforts to accomplish the vision.

Since the historical inauguration in September 2011, TCS targeted its main functions as follows. First, ‘Providing support for trilateral consultative mechanisms’, second, ‘Exploring and facilitating cooperative projects’, third, ‘Promoting understanding of trilateral cooperation’, fourth, ‘Networking with other international organizations’, and fifth, ‘Compiling database and conducting research’.



[Functions and Activities of TCS]



As an international organization established with a vision to contribute to peace, stability and prosperity of the East Asian Region, TCS will continue its utmost efforts to accomplish the vision.

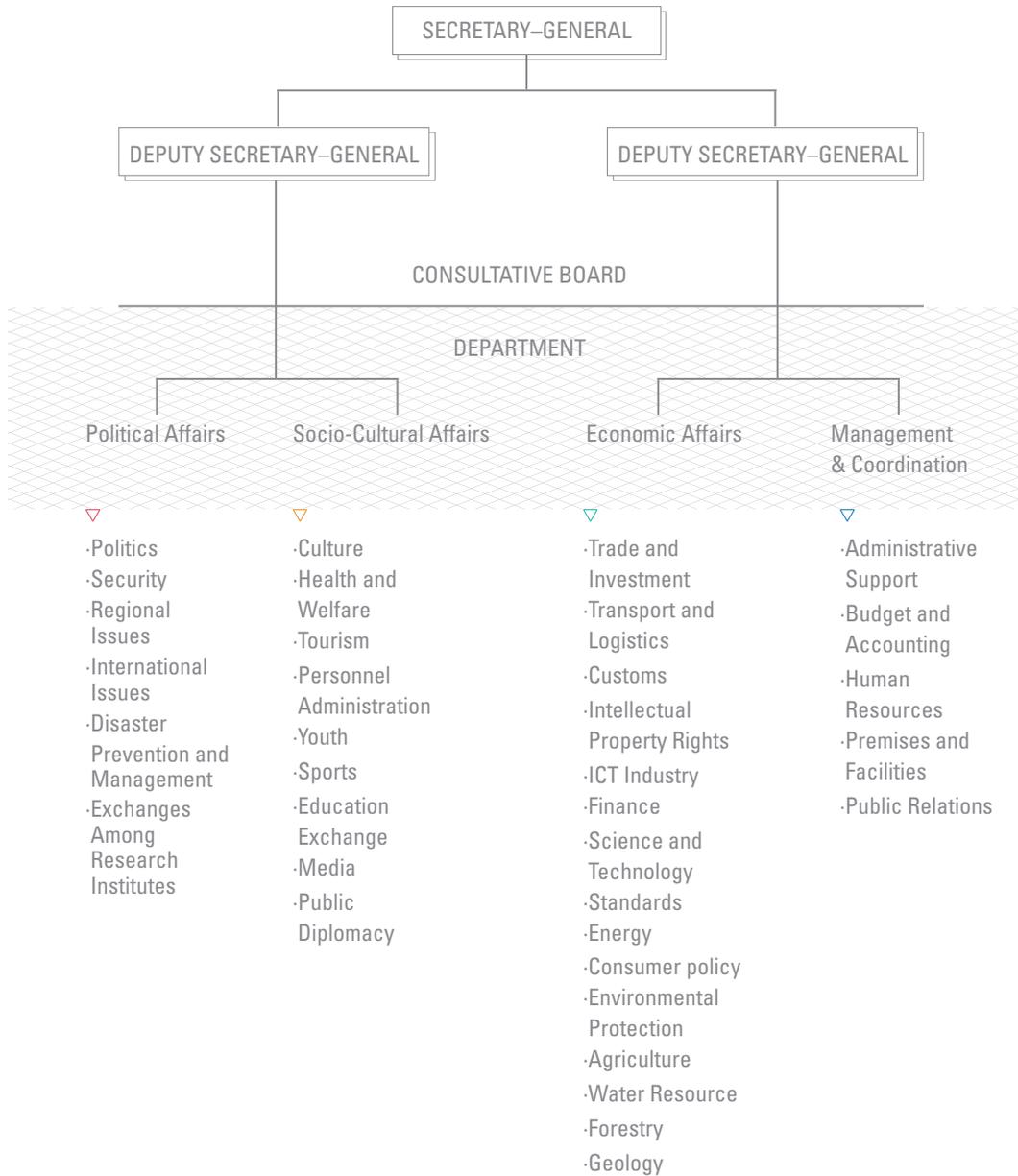


To fulfill the responsibilities above, around 30 staffs of TCS are working with a team spirit and professional manner. TCS consists of a Consultative Board and four departments. TCS greeted its 3rd Consultative Board in September 2015, which is the executive decision-making body of TCS for next two-year term. With the aim of effective contribution to necessary areas, TCS is organized into four departments, Department of Political affairs, Economic Affairs, Socio-Cultural Affairs, and Management & Coordination, which consist of Directors seconded by the governments and General Service Staffs recruited through open competition.

In accordance with the restoration of trilateral relationship after well-trying years, TCS will continue to search for new possibilities and consolidate established achievements on trilateral cooperation. TCS wishes your everlasting support and participation which is indispensable for the crafting of trilateral cooperation in this region.

*This report mainly introduces the activities done by 2nd Board Members during September 2014 to August 2015.

2. Structure of TCS





**Providing Support for Trilateral
Consultative Mechanisms**



1. Highlight

The 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit



SG IWATANI Shigeo at the Summit together with leaders from the Plus Three Countries, Prime Minister of Japan ABE Shinzo, President of the ROK PARK Geun-hye, and Premier of China LI Keqiang (from the left)

On November 13, 2014, TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo attended the 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit Meeting (APT) held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The TCS delegation observed the leaders' review of the progress and direction of ASEAN Plus Three relations and their remarks on how to promote regional cooperation in various areas. As the Secretariat of the Plus Three Countries, the TCS has attended the APT Three Summit for two consecutive times since the 16th ASEAN Plus Summit Meeting held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

The 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting



The three Ministers shared the view to continue and develop the trilateral cooperation

TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo attended the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting convened in Seoul, ROK in March 21, 2015. The Meeting, chaired by the ROK, was held for the first time in three years since the 6th Meeting held in April 2012. The three Ministers appreciated various endeavors made to promote trilateral cooperation and decided to expand cooperation in areas including nuclear security, disaster management, environment, and youth exchanges. In the "Joint Press Release" announced at the Joint Press Conference held after the Meeting, the three Ministers welcomed the release of the "Matrix of Major Events for Trilateral Cooperation in 2015" on the TCS' website.

The 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources



(from the left) Mr. OHTA Akihiko, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan; Mr. YOO Il ho, Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the ROK; and Dr. JIAO Yong, First Vice Minister of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China

The 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources was held on the occasion of the 7th World Water Forum in Gyeongju, the ROK in April 2015. The three Ministers signed “the Joint Ministerial Statement on Collaborative Actions for Water Policy Innovation” and decided to strengthen trilateral cooperation in response to persistent and emerging water challenges. The three Ministers decided to share the knowledge and experience of water policy innovation of the three countries. The TCS participated in the meeting as an observer, and organized the Trilateral Forum on Water Resources back-to-back with the meeting in collaboration with the three ministries.

The TCS facilitated two trilateral consultation meetings at director level throughout 2014-2015. The meetings took a vital role on realization of the 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources. The TCS will continue to explore and facilitate cooperative projects to support the trilateral mechanism on water resources.

2. Trilateral Consultative Mechanisms with TCS Contribution

Name of Mechanism	Date/City	Main Participant (Name of Institution)
The 9th Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation	2014.09.11/ Seoul, ROK	K / J / C: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The 1st Round Dialogue of China-Japan-Korea Cyber Policy Consultation Mechanism	2014.10.21/ Beijing, China	C / J / K: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The 14th Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among KIPO, SIPO and JPO	2014.11.10-11/ Seoul, ROK	K: Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) C: State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) J: Japan Patent Office (JPO)
The 17th ASEAN Plus Three Summit	2014.11.13/ Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar	The leaders of the three countries
The 7th Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting	2014.11.23/ Beijing, China	C: National Health and Family Planning Commission J: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare K: Ministry of Health and Welfare
The 6th Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting	2014.11.30/ Yokohama, Japan	J: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology K: Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism C: Ministry of Culture
The 2nd Trilateral Director General Level Meeting on Forestry Cooperation	2015.1.22/ Jeju, ROK	K: Korea Forest Service J: Forestry Agency C: State Forestry Administration
The 1st Deputy Director Generals Meeting on Trilateral Cooperation	2015.02.13/ Gyeongju, ROK	K / J / C: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The 10th Trilateral Senior Foreign Affairs Officials' Consultation	2015.03.11/ Seoul, ROK	K / J / C: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting	2015.03.21/ Seoul, ROK	K / J / C: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The 7th Trilateral Tourism Ministers' Meeting	2015.04.12/ Tokyo, Japan	J: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism C: National Tourism Administration K: Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
The 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources	2015.4.13/ Gyeongju, ROK	K: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport J: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism C: Ministry of Water Resources
The 17th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting	2015.4.30/ Shanghai, China	C: Ministry of Environmental Protection J / K: Ministry of the Environment

*In this page, TCS followed the country order of each Mechanism, which is the order of host country and the next two successive host countries.



1. International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation



Participants of IFTC 2015

The TCS held the International Forum for the Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2015 under the theme of “Challenges and Opportunities – Ushering into a New Era” in Tokyo, Japan on April 3, 2015. The IFTC is one of the signature events of the TCS with an aim of sharing constructive proposals for the trilateral cooperation, which may lead to a momentum for future-oriented trilateral partnership towards peace and common prosperity in Northeast Asia. It also aims to provide insights into the political climate, economic cooperation and socio-cultural ties among the three countries. This year, the IFTC 2015 was composed by three sub-sessions of “Towards a Peaceful and Cooperative Northeast Asia: Exploring Practicable Trilateral Dialogue Mechanism for Common Security,” “Cooperate to Learn, Learn to Cooperate: The Trilateral Educational Exchanges and Sense of Community,” and “New Opportunities for Trilateral Industrial ‘Coopetition’: Collective Voice of Business Leaders toward CJK FTA and Beyond.” More than 300 people joined for the event and prominent speakers from the three countries, ASEAN, the EU, and the United States addressed a variety of current affairs including dialogue mechanisms in Northeast Asia, regional educational exchanges, and CJK FTA.



Political Session
“Towards a Peaceful and Cooperative Northeast Asia: Exploring Practicable Trilateral Dialogue Mechanism for Common Security”



Socio-cultural Session
“Cooperate to Learn, Learn to Cooperate: The Trilateral Educational Exchanges and Sense of Community”



Economic Session
“New Opportunities for Trilateral Industrial ‘Cooperation’: Collective Voice of Business Leaders toward CJK FTA and Beyond”

2. Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management



Participants of the 3rd Trilateral TTX

The 3rd Trilateral Table Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management was held in Beijing, China on April 28, 2015. The Trilateral TTX was hosted by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China and organized and facilitated by the TCS. Officials from disaster management related ministries and agencies of the three countries participated in the Exercise and had in-depth discussion and policy exchange on respective disaster relief mechanism and humanitarian assistance procedure in collective response to a hypothetical earthquake in China. Experts from international organizations including the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) attended and shared their knowledge, experiences and good-practices of disaster management. The Trilateral TTX achieved the objective by deepening mutual understanding of disaster management as well as identifying challenges and exploring potentials for future cooperation.

3. Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction



Participants of the Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

The TCS and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education and Training Institute for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR-GETI) co-organized the Trilateral Local Government Exchange Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Incheon Metropolitan City, ROK on November 4-7, 2014. About 40 local government officials participated in the Conference. They are from Miyagi Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Niigata Prefecture, Shizuoka Prefecture, Ibaraki Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture and Sendai City of Japan; Qinghai Province and Sichuan Province of China; and Incheon Metropolitan City, Namyang-ju City, Changwon City, and Gapyeong County of the ROK. Throughout the Conference consisted of a seminar and a training workshop, the participants exchanged respective policies and experiences on disaster risk reduction, and learned relative expertise on building cities more resilient.

4. Track II Dialogue on CBMs



The OSCE expert delivers a presentation on the examples of CBMs in the context of the OSCE and relevant suggestions for Northeast Asian region



Participants of the Track II Dialogue on Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)

The TCS hosted its second round of Track II Dialogue on Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) in Seoul, ROK on June 3, 2015. The Dialogue invited scholars from other regional security organizations such as the OSCE and NATO to share their perspectives and learn the lessons from their experiences in building CBMs. The Dialogue also promoted in-depth exploration of the region-specific CBMs for Northeast Asia with the participation of scholars from the three countries including those who have military background.

Building on the discussions conducted in the first round of Dialogue held in Tokyo, Japan on June 18, 2014, the participants of this year focused on working out a way to create concrete CBMs, particularly, for the prevention of maritime and air conflicts in Northeast Asia. The OSCE shared the concrete examples of their CBMs that are relevant to the Northeast Asian region and the scholars from the three countries discussed possible means of promoting CBMs in both military and diplomatic aspects while making constructive proposals to start with, such as utilizing the existing mechanisms and creating track 1.5-2 dialogue mechanisms.

5. Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity



This year's Jeju Forum celebrated its 10th anniversary under the theme "Towards a New Asia of Trust and Harmony", featuring in-depth discussions on diverse topics, and attracted a large number of international and local audiences.



The TCS participated in the 10th Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity held in Jeju Island, ROK on May 20-22, 2015 and hosted two sessions entitled 1) Trilateral Cooperation on Forest Therapy and Healing: Towards a collaborative way for the people's mental, physical health and beyond, and 2) Beyond the Communication Barriers: 808 commonly used Chinese characters in China, Japan, and the ROK. The TCS sessions brought together experts from governmental agencies, universities, and research institutes to introduce the three countries' perspectives and policies on the respective topics. After the presentations, the participants discussed the TCS' role as a hub for information sharing and a coordinator among the three countries, in addition to the way forward for the trilateral cooperation. The TCS also utilized this occasion to raise public understanding of the trilateral cooperation and TCS projects. A photo exhibition on 808 commonly used Chinese characters was also held as a side event of the session 2, which attracted much attention from the audience.



Participants of the session 1 “Trilateral Cooperation on Forest Therapy and Healing: Towards a collaborative way for the people’s mental, physical health and beyond”



Participants of the session 2 “Beyond the Communication Barrier: 808 commonly used Chinese characters in China, Japan, and the ROK”

6. Trilateral Academic Workshop on “Challenges of Northeast Asia, Prospect of Trilateral Cooperation, and the Role of Think-tanks”



Participants of the Trilateral Academic Workshop

The TCS and the China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU) co-organized the Trilateral Academic Workshop on “Challenges of Northeast Asia, Prospect of Trilateral Cooperation, and the Role of Think-tanks” in Seoul, ROK, on October 19, 2014. The Workshop was convened as a half-day, closed door dialogue inviting dignitaries and eminent scholars from the three countries to share their viewpoints on the current challenges and the direction for future cooperation in this region. Madame FU Ying, former Vice Foreign Minister and the present Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of 12th National People’s Congress of China attended the Workshop as a keynote speaker.

During the presentation and discussion session, the scholars touched upon the current regional challenges and ways to reshape the regional architecture. They also supported the Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT) as a common agenda for trilateral cooperation and proposed various roles that this Network should take up in the future. In this respect, the Workshop served as a meaningful opportunity to gather representatives of the renowned think-tanks from the three countries, namely, The Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR), CFAU, and the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA), to reaffirm their interests and commitment towards the initiative.

7. Seminar on East Asia Cooperation



The Seminar serving as the platform for dialogue among the scholars and officials from the three countries and ASEAN countries

In the light of the launching of ASEAN Community by the end of 2015, the TCS jointly hosted the Seminar on East Asia Cooperation, under the theme of “From ASEAN Community to East Asia Community,” with the CFAU in Beijing, China on July 17, 2015. On this occasion, the TCS reiterated its view that the trilateral cooperation is an essential component of East Asia cooperation and shared its expectation towards the new momentum to be created from the ASEAN Community. In the first three sessions of the Seminar, renowned scholars from the three countries and ASEAN countries engaged in in-depth discussions on the current challenges and possible ways to advance East Asian regional cooperation in political, economic, and socio-cultural realms. The Seminar also provided a good opportunity for representatives of the TCS and the ASEAN-China, the ASEAN-Japan, and the ASEAN-Korea Centres to exchange ideas on practical measures to strengthen coordination among the Plus Three Countries in their cooperation with ASEAN. The participants acknowledged that it would be mutually beneficial to form a good partnership among the centers and the TCS with an aim of expanding East Asia cooperation.

8. Trilateral People-to-People Exchange Forum



The TCS co-sponsored the Seminar on the 15th Anniversary of Trilateral Cooperation & 1st Trilateral People-to-People Exchange Forum co-hosted by the China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU) and the Jilin Trilateral Cooperation Studies Centre (TCSC Jilin) in Changchun, Jilin Province of China on December 23, 2014. The Seminar & Forum was held as an important track 1.5 event to commemorate the 15th anniversary of trilateral cooperation, inviting former dignitaries, current government officials and eminent scholars of the three countries. The TCS organized a session under the theme of “Exploring the Path toward Mutual Trust and Reconciliation in Northeast Asia” with an aim to find out ways to promote historical reconciliation through comparative discussions on history education systems of the three countries. TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo moderated the discussion and panelists from the three countries shared their hands-on experiences in writing history textbooks of their respective countries as well as their insights and specific suggestions on the future direction for trilateral cooperation in this field.

The 2nd Trilateral People-to-People Exchange Forum was co-organized by the TCS with the CFAU and the TCSC Jilin on August 31, 2015 in Changchun, Jilin Province of China. Under the theme of “Trilateral Cooperation and the Future of East Asia,” the forum brought together around 150 participants including senior government officials, scholars, entrepreneurs and journalists from the three countries to have in-depth discussion on ways to enhance mutual trust, people-to-people exchange, media and think-tank cooperation. TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo delivered welcoming remarks in the forum and moderated one session titled “Deepening Trilateral People-to-People Exchange and Cultivating Sense of Community in East Asia.”

On the occasion of the Forum, the Network of Trilateral Cooperation Think-Tanks (NTCT) was officially inaugurated. The NTCT was proposed by China in 2013 and approved at the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in March 2015. At the launching ceremony, representatives of focal point institutes of the NTCT, namely the CFAU, the Japan Forum on International Relations (JFIR) and the Korea National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA), shared commitment to enhance cooperation on joint research and collectively contribute intellectual support to the trilateral cooperation.



The TCS organized a session under the theme of “Exploring the Path toward Mutual Trust and Reconciliation in Northeast Asia” with an aim to find out ways to promote historical reconciliation through comparative discussions on history education systems of the three countries.



- 1 SG IWATANI Shigeo moderates the TCS discussion session at the Seminar on the 15th Anniversary of Trilateral Cooperation & the 1st People-to-People Forum
- 2 Launching ceremony of the NTCT
- 3 SG IWATANI Shigeo delivers welcoming remarks at the 2nd Forum

9. Trilateral Business Networking Reception



SG IWATANI Shigeo with representatives from Keidanren, CCPIT and FKI as well as an official of Ministry of Economy and Trade and Industry of Japan

The TCS hosted the 3rd Trilateral Business Networking Reception in Tokyo, Japan on April 3, 2015, on the occasion of IFTC 2015. This event was organized in collaboration with Keidanren, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and the Federation of Korea Industries (FKI), with attendance of officials from Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industries of Japan and more than 100 business representatives from the three countries.

The event provided a space of building up networks for new business opportunities among business pioneers of the three countries by sharing future vision of trilateral industrial cooperation.

10. Trilateral Forum on Water Resources



SG IWATANI Shigeo and DSG LEE Jong-heon with speakers at the Trilateral Forum on Water Resources

The TCS organized the Trilateral Forum on Water Resources back-to-back with the 2nd Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Water Resources on the occasion of the 7th World Water Forum in Gyeongju, ROK on April 13, 2015, under the topic of 'Trilateral Cooperation for Water Policy Innovation in Response to Persistent and Emerging Water Challenges'. Speakers presented national policy and know-how on water resources management, and shared their views on future trilateral cooperation in water sector.

11. Trilateral Science and Technology Expert Dialogue



Participants of the Trilateral Science and Technology Expert Dialogue

The TCS organized a track 2 Trilateral Science and Technology (S&T) Expert Dialogue on August 21, 2015 in Seoul, ROK, as TCS' first project in promoting the trilateral cooperation in S&T. It provided an opportunity for networking of experts in the three countries and to explore possible agendas for trilateral science and technology cooperation. Experts emphasized the importance of trilateral cooperation and networking among scientists, and suggested various ideas for the future cooperation. They also appreciated TCS' initiative and requested TCS to organize regular dialogue and continuously support by bridging experts' opinions to the three governments.

12. CJK FTA Seminar



SG IWATANI Shigeo at the 3rd CJK FTA Seminar

The 3rd CJK FTA Seminar was held on November 26, 2014 in Tokyo, Japan on the occasion of the 6th round of CJK FTA negotiation (DG/DDG meetings), in cooperation with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; Ministry of Commerce of China; and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK. The Seminar provided a unique platform where the negotiating teams, business representatives, experts and more than 120 participants of the three countries gathered and exchanged views on the significance of CJK FTA. The booklet “Insight into CJK FTA” was also distributed for deeper understanding of CJK FTA.

13. Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program



Dialogue with students at Seoul National University

The TCS organized the second Trilateral Journalist Exchange Program (TJEP) from April 15-24, 2015. Journalist delegation consisting of total 12 journalists from the three countries visited Japan, China, and the ROK.

The TJEP is organized by the TCS on an annual basis from 2014, with the aim to deepen journalists' understanding of trilateral cooperation as well as to contribute to establishing favorable media environment for strengthening mutual trust and friendship among the three countries.

This year, the program focused on the socio-cultural aspects of the trilateral cooperation and in-depth communication between journalists and the general public. During the program, the journalist delegation visited governmental agencies related to trilateral cooperation in the fields of politics, tourism, education, and culture. Also, series of roundtables and dialogues were held at local universities and think-tanks with the participation of cultural/political figures, scholars, and university students of the three countries. Throughout the program, journalists deepened their understanding of the trilateral cooperation and enhanced the mutual communication and relationship among the journalists as well as the general public of the three countries.

14. Trilateral Youth Summit



Opening Ceremony of the 2015 Trilateral Youth Summit

The TCS and the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs co-hosted the 2015 Trilateral Youth Summit in Seoul, ROK on August 24-28, 2015 with an aim to establish a friendly network amongst the youths and to develop future leaders in diplomacy and international relations through a model Summit. 30 student representatives divided into three mixed-nationality teams discussed ways to facilitate the trilateral cooperation in the areas of environment, economy, and culture. The event was held in collaboration with the three countries' Ministries of Foreign Affairs for the first time. In the Joint Press Release of the 7th Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in March 21, 2015, the three Ministers decided to newly promote this event.

15. Young Ambassador Program (YAP)



The TCS will continue to hold the YAP in the future to promote trilateral cooperation and strengthen the friendship among the youth of the three countries.



Group Photo of YAP 2015



The TCS organized the 3rd Young Ambassador Program (YAP) from August 3-14, in Seoul, ROK. The YAP is a two-week program that offers a range of opportunities for highly motivated and competent youth of the three countries to develop a mutual understanding of trilateral cooperation and foster a sense of community and friendship among the future leaders of the three countries.

During the two weeks, the TCS offered lectures on the major fields of trilateral relations: history of trilateral cooperation, political affairs, economic cooperation, and socio-cultural issues, as well as department briefings to help enhance the students' understanding of trilateral cooperation and the TCS. The students also paid visits to government agencies, international organizations, media, and cultural sites. Previous participants from YAP 2013 and 2014 also joined in several occasions to share their past experiences and network with this year's participants.

This year, the participants engaged in an intensive discussion session on various issues of trilateral relations. To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII, the students exchanged their views on WWII reparations, bilateral geographical disputes, and extreme nationalism prevalent in all three countries. The participants also conducted interviews on their fields of interest and presented their findings to enhance their understanding of various aspects of trilateral cooperation.

The TCS will continue to hold the YAP in the future to promote trilateral cooperation and strengthen the friendship among the youth of the three countries.

16. Open Lecture Series, TCS LOUPE

The TCS is regularly holding its open lecture series, TCS LOUPE which stands for 'Lecture on Uncovering Panoramic East Asia'. The lecture series bring together experts of the three countries to explain compelling aspects of the three countries from a comparative perspective. The lecture series this year touched upon various issues of the three countries including pop culture and modern history with diverse formats ranging from expert lecture to public dialogue. It also invited such renowned cultural figures as the President RHIE Won Bok of Duksung Women's University, who is also the author of the steady-selling comic series "Far Countries, Near Countries", to understand the societies and cultures of the three countries.



Lectures of TCS LOUPE / October 2014 ~ May 2015

NO.	Date	Title	Speaker
Special Lecture	2015 05.12	Understanding the Differences- The Processes of Opening-Up and Reforms, Cultures and Value Systems of China, Japan and Korea	RHIE Won Bok, President of Duksung Women's University
4th	2015. 01.29	Why is 'nostalgia and memory' recently becoming so hot in Korean Society?	HONG Sammy, Memory Collector of "Memory in Seoul"
3rd	2014. 12.20	Why do I enjoy CJK cultural contents? – Pop Culture Fan Dialogue	CJK Pop Culture Fans
2nd	2014. 11.13	Reflection of CJK Societies on Dramas – Focus on "Boys over Flowers"	YANG Soo Young, TCS Officer
1st	2014. 10.16	Making of CJK Cultural Contents	KANG Myungkoo, Director of Seoul National University Asia Center



Lecture by President RHIE Won Bok of Duksung Women's University

17. TCS Open House



Traditional Dance Performances at the TCS Open House 2014

The TCS invited the public to its Open House on October 25, 2014 with an aim to enhance people's understanding about the organization as well as the cultures of the three countries. The highlights of the TCS Open House included the trilateral dance performance, demonstration of traditional and popular dances of the three countries; international organization career briefing, where student can learn about specific expertise necessary to work in organizations like TCS; office tour and the networking among TCS partners. 120 participants enjoyed the event with lively dances of the three countries and learned more about the trilateral cooperation and the TCS by the info graphics around the office.

18. Promotion Activities on the chart of 808 Commonly-Used Chinese Characters

With the view to promote the mutual communication among the people from China, Japan and Korea, the chart of 808 commonly used Chinese characters in the three countries was released at the 9th Northeast Asia Trilateral Forum (NATF), held in 2014, in Yangzhou, China.

As a designated promotion agency, the TCS has made substantial efforts by holding the session in the 10th Jeju Forum, Trilateral Photo Collection Campaign and the publication of a booklet on 808 commonly used Chinese characters. The TCS will continue its efforts to conduct relevant promotion activities to enhance the mutual communication and understanding among the people from the three countries.



Relevant Promotion Activities

The 10th Jeju Forum Session / May 20, 2015 (Jeju, ROK)

- Session Title: " Beyond the Communication Barriers - 808 Commonly Used Chinese Characters in China, Japan and the ROK"
- Side event: 808 Commonly Used Chinese Characters Photo Exhibition

Photo Collection Campaign / May, 2015 (China, Japan and the ROK)

The photo collection campaign is designed to generate the attention and interest in the chart of the 808 Commonly Used Chinese Characters through sharing special memory of Chinese characters related to China, Japan and the ROK.

Booklet of the 808 Commonly Used Chinese Characters in China, Japan and the ROK

The booklet mainly contains the Chart, Same Chinese Characters with Same Meanings, Same Chinese Characters with Different Meanings and Common Four-Character Idioms, etc.



**Compiling Database and
Conducting Research**

▶ 1. Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation



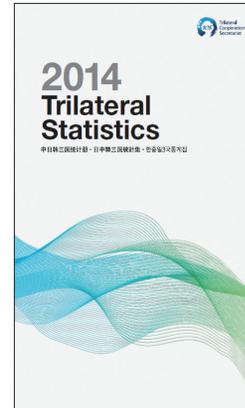
The Progress Report of the Trilateral Cooperation provides an overview of activities and progress of trilateral cooperation in various fields. As stated in the “Agreement on the Establishment of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat” ratified by the three countries in 2011, the TCS shall submit annual progress reports to the Trilateral Foreign Ministers’ Meeting for approval. Since its establishment in 2011, the TCS has compiled progress reports four times (2008–2012, 2012–2013, 2013–2014 and 2014-2015) with the endorsement of relevant ministries and organizations of the three countries.

▶ 2. International Forum for Trilateral Cooperation (IFTC) 2015 Final Outcome Report



IFTC 2015 Final Outcome Report is an attempt to publish the record of IFTC which has been held since 2011. It is designed to promote the ideas and recommendations discussed in the forum and to utilize as an essential reference in exploring possible roles of the TCS and setting the future agenda for trilateral cooperation.

▶ 3. Trilateral Statistics



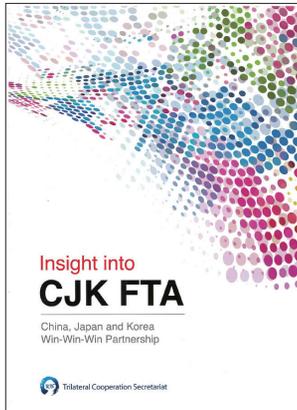
The 2014 Trilateral Statistics booklet contains facts and figures from economic relations among the three countries as well as each country’s current economic situation. Indicators on macro-economy, population and resources paint a picture of the overall economic situation while indicators on intra-regional trade, investment, and movement of people reveal the close connections among the three countries and the driving force for regional integration.

▶ 4. 2015 Trilateral Economic Report



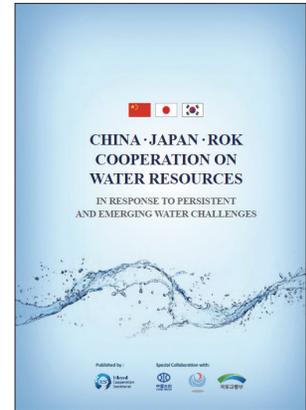
The 2015 Trilateral Economic Report aims to continuously follow up on the economic development and integration among the three countries. To better analysis of the economic situation and policies of each country, the research is conducted by three scholars from each country. The research is led by Dr. LEE Chang Jae, Senior Research Fellow of Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, and supported by Dr. LI Xiao, Professor of Jilin University from China and Dr. TANAKA Kiyoyasu, Research Fellow of IDE-JETRO from Japan. The 2015 Trilateral Economic Report contains the followings. 1) macro economy; 2) trade; 3) investment; 4) financial integration; 5) CJK FTA; 6) energy and 7) policy recommendations.

▶ 5. Insight into CJK FTA



The booklet "Insight into CJK FTA" was published in order to promote the significance of CJK FTA and to foster deeper understanding of trilateral economic cooperation among the three countries. This booklet was distributed to participants of TCS events, and relevant ministries and organizations.

▶ 6. China-Japan-ROK Cooperation on Water Resources



The CJK Cooperation on Water Resources was published in special collaboration with the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China; the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan; and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the ROK. It describes the importance of water resources and the history of trilateral cooperation in the water sector. It also presents best practices of the three countries and details how the TCS can contribute to further enhancing trilateral cooperative mechanisms in the area of water resources.



1. ASEAN

With a view to strengthening partnership between the TCS and ASEAN, TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo visited Indonesia and Malaysia on March 2-6, 2015. During the outreach, the TCS delegation paid courtesy visits to Secretary-General Datuk OTHMAN Bin Hashim of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, and Secretary-General H.E. LE Luong Minh of the ASEAN Secretariat. The TCS delegation also met with the heads of missions of Japan, China and the ROK to ASEAN and discussed how to enhance coordination among the three countries in their cooperation with the ASEAN. The outreach afforded an opportunity for the TCS to exchange views on the latest development of the respective regional cooperation and to reaffirm the ASEAN's support for TCS' involvement in the ASEAN Plus Three mechanisms.

Furthermore, the TCS delegation visited ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic and Research Office (AMRO) and Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC) as part of its endeavor to reach out to other regional organizations related to East Asia cooperation. The TCS and the respective organizations agreed to explore potential future cooperation, such as joint workshop, during these visits.



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- 1 Courtesy call to OTHMAN Bin Hashim, Secretary-General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia
- 2 Meeting with Secretary-General LE Luong Minh of the ASEAN Secretariat
- 3 Meeting with Mr. NEMOTO Yoichi, Director of AMRO
- 4 Meeting with Mr. ENDO Yoshihisa (the center at the left side), Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC

2. EU

On November 15-19, 2014, TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo paid an outreach visit to the EU with an aim to learning the experience of the EU integration process as well as strengthening relationship between the TCS and the EU institutions.

The TCS delegation visited the European External Action Service (EEAS) and met with Mr. Gerhard Sabathil, Director of East Asia and the Pacific. During the meeting, Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI introduced the progress of trilateral cooperation and exchanged views with the EU counterpart on varied issues including education exchange, regional economic cooperation, joint history study, etc. The EU side expressed continued support in TCS' work and hoped the TCS could play a bigger role in promoting regional cooperation. The two sides agreed to strength exchange and seek possible areas for future cooperation. The TCS delegation also visited the European Institute for Asian Studies (EIAS), a leading think-tank based in Brussels. Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI emphasized the important role of think-tanks in promoting regional cooperation and expressed hope to expand network with leading think-tanks in the EU with the view to facilitate understanding between the EU and the three countries.



Meeting with the EEAS



Meeting with the EIAS

3. Other Organizations

UNESCO APCEIU



TCS Board's Visit to UNESCO APCEIU

On March 25, 2015, TCS Secretary-General Mr. IWATANI Shigeo, Deputy-Secretary General Mr. CHEN Feng, and Deputy-Secretary General Mr. LEE Jong-heon paid an outreach visit to the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU) under the auspices of UNESCO with an aim to exchange ideas on promoting peace and common prosperity in Northeast Asia and to explore cooperative projects related to culture and education, in particular the China-Japan-Korea Children's Story Exchange Programme.





Current and former TCS Officers at the Farewell & Welcome Reception 2015.8.27



Location



Address S-Tower 20th FL, 82 Saemunan-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, Korea 03185

Phone +82-2-733-4700

Fax +82-2-733-2525

E-mail tcs@tcs-asia.org

Website www.tcs-asia.org

Note: This annual report, in principle, employs the TCS order, which is the order of the country of the Secretary-General and the next two successive Secretary-general, which in the case of FY2014 would be Japan, China and the Republic of Korea.

