



MEMORANDUM

TO : **THE DIRECTORS**
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Ecosystem Research Development Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

FROM : **THE UNDERSECRETARY**
Policy, Planning, and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR INPUTS ON THE JOINT STATEMENT ON
THE DECLARATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES
AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

DATE : **MAY 24 2021**

This is to refer the letter dated 4 May 2021 from the Office of Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, requesting for inputs on areas of cooperation between the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, in preparation for the visit of the Korean Foreign Minister H.E. Chung Eui Yong to the Philippines on 28 June 2021.

One of the main deliverables of the visit is a Joint Statement on the Declaration of the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership, which aims to elevate the already robust PH-ROK relations into a strategic partnership.

In this regard, we would like to request for inputs on the possible areas of cooperation and on the draft Joint Statement. Kindly send an advance copy to oueiea.denr@gmail.com.

For your immediate attention and appropriate action, please.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

MEMO NO. 2021 - 392

Let's Go Green!!!



(Follow-up) Request Inputs for Korean FM Visit and Joint Statement PH-ROK Strategic Partnership and Inter-Agency Meeting

1 message

Northeast Asia (Div2) <aspac2.northeast@dfa.gov.ph>

Fri, May 14, 2021 at 3:20 PM

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Dear Colleagues,

ASPAC respectfully requests your Inputs on the Visit of the Korean Foreign Minister, Joint Statement on the Declaration of the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the Philippines (PH) and the Republic of Korea (ROK), and your agency's representative to the Online Interagency Meeting on 18 May 2021, Tuesday, 10 am.

Your prompt response on the matter would be highly appreciated.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this email.

Thank you and warm regards,

Martyn

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Division II - Northeast Asia (Japan, ROK, and DPRK)
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2 attachments

NGI-2021-0037 Inputs for Korean FM Visit and Joint Statement PH-ROK Strategic Partnership and Inter-Agency Meeting.pdf
 218K

PH-ROK Strategic Partnership ROK Counterdraft as of 07 January 2020 and DFA Comments as of August 2020 CLEAN COPY.docx
 41K



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

EXTREMELY URGENT

OFFICE OF ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

NGI-2021-0037

4 May 2021

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

The Department respectfully informs your good offices of the proposed **working visit of the Korean Foreign Minister H. E. Chung Eui Yong to the Philippines on 28 June 2021**.

PH and ROK recently commemorated 72 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations, one of country's longstanding partners. The visit comes at a time when global and regional challenges merit a revitalization of relations with friendly neighbors.

In preparation for this visit, the Department requests inputs on areas of cooperation with the ROK that are of your agencies' interest or priority, by way of suggested points with background information on issues or initiatives that you deem significant in their inclusion to be raised in the visit. If there are pending agreements that may merit being signed on the sidelines of the visit, the Department would appreciate advance notice on this as well.

One of the main deliverables of the visit is a *Joint Statement on the Declaration of the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the Philippines (PH) and the Republic of Korea (ROK)*, which aims to elevate the already robust PH-ROK relations into a strategic partnership. When the *Joint Statement* is signed, the ROK will prospectively be the fourth country to have such ties with PH, after the United States (security treaty ally and de facto strategic partner since 1951), Japan (September 2011) and Vietnam (November 2015), the status of strategic partners being reserved for closest and like-minded partners, and with which intensified cooperation in key areas are seen to advance shared strategic ends. The Department would appreciate receiving your respective offices' comments in Word file format (with track changes activated, if editing on the actual document) on the draft *Joint Statement*.

Furthermore, we invite you to an online interagency meeting on 18 May, Tuesday, 1000H to further discuss matters related to the visit. We would appreciate receiving the above requests for inputs and confirmation of attendance to the meeting on or **before 11 May, Monday** through our Northeast Asia Division at <aspac.div2@dfa.gov.ph>.

The Department extends its warm regards.

Very truly yours,
For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs


NATHANIEL G. IMPERIAL
Assistant Secretary

Please see attached mailing list

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JOINT STATEMENT ON THE DECLARATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

ROK Counterdraft as of 07 January with DFA Comments as of 07 August 2020

1. On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES and the REPUBLIC OF KOREA and the observance of 2019 as the “Year of Mutual Exchanges”, His Excellency President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and His Excellency President Moon Jae-in reaffirmed the robust relationship between the two countries and peoples, underpinned by strong bonds of friendship and by the ultimate sacrifice of their nations in defense of democracy, sovereignty and freedom during the Korean War of 1950-53.
2. The two leaders recognized that, since the formal establishment of bilateral ties on 3 March 1949, by which the REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES became the fifth country and the first country in Southeast Asia to recognize and inaugurate relations with the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ties between the two countries have flourished and evolved comprehensively through mutually beneficial exchanges anchored on mutual respect and understanding, cooperation, and nurtured by them based on shared principles and aspirations for peace, progress and mutual prosperity.
3. The two countries acknowledged that the New Southern Policy of the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, which aims to forge closer ties with nations in Southeast Asia, and the independent foreign policy of REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, provide a point of convergence in their pursuit of stronger, productive and sustainably healthy relations through bilateral, regional, and multilateral engagements and mechanisms.
4. Cognizant of the robust bilateral relations between the two countries, and affirming their common aspiration to advance concrete cooperation across the full spectrum of relations, both leaders agreed to elevate the bilateral relations to a STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP.

Political Relations

5. Both countries agreed to broaden and deepen bilateral political engagement through high-level visits, regular exchanges and interactions at all levels and channels, thus reinforcing the firm foundation for the development of a Strategic Partnership.
6. The two countries recommitted themselves to the timely convening of existing strategic channels of dialogue, such as the bilateral Policy Consultations and the Joint Consular Consultations, and agreed to promote and amplify the significance and role of the aforementioned mechanisms in advancing the Strategic Partnership.
7. To complement these existing communication channels, both sides agreed to explore more focused mechanisms for dialogue between the relevant agencies of both countries in order to further formulate responsive plans of action and strategies with the end in view of strengthening and carrying out common goals and implementing concrete initiatives under the Strategic Partnership.

Defense and Security Cooperation

8. Honoring the deep friendship cemented by the deployment of the Philippine Expeditionary Force to South Korea (PEFTOK) during the Korean War in the 1950s, both countries affirmed their shared common interests for peace and security in the region, and committed to carry out mutually beneficial security and defense engagements to address traditional and non-traditional security issues.
9. The two leaders furthermore affirmed to intensify such defense cooperation within the framework of their existing pacts in this field, namely, the *1994 Memorandum of Understanding on Logistics and Defense Industry Cooperation* as amended in 2019; the *2009 Memorandum of Understanding concerning Mutual Logistics Cooperation*; and the *2013 Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Cooperation in the Field of Defense*.
10. Furthermore, both sides confirmed that they will effectively implement the *2015 Agreement on the Protection of Classified Military Information* and other bilateral defense and military agreements.
11. Building on these agreements, the two sides agreed to enhance cooperation particularly on defense and logistical acquisition, and capability and capacity enhancement.
12. Recognizing the rapidly evolving security situation, the two sides agreed to also broaden defense and security cooperation to address serious challenges, such as terrorism, cybercrime, and the proliferation of illegal drugs.
13. Both sides reaffirmed the value of frequent and high-level military exchanges through staff-to-staff talks between relevant branches of their militaries to address the ever-evolving risks, threats and uncertainties.
14. Both sides welcomed the convening of the 1st REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES-REPUBLIC OF KOREA Joint Defense Cooperation Committee (JDCC) Meeting as the principal mechanism for dialogue and consultations between the two countries' defense and military establishments, with the aim of strengthening cooperation and exploring new forms and areas of cooperation.
15. The two sides also agreed to pursue closer coordination between law enforcement agencies in maritime cooperation, through partnership activities to prevent piracy and maritime terrorism; developing and strengthening maritime rescue capabilities; implementing appropriate training and education systems to promptly respond to large-scale disasters stemming from global warming, and calamities both natural and man-made; and enhancing exchanges and cooperation through joint training activities, maritime security conferences, and mutual port visits to exchange best practices relative to threats such as maritime crimes, accidents and environmental pollution through the implementation of maritime safety enhancement projects, among others.

Trade, Investment, and Economic Cooperation

16. The two leaders welcomed the dynamic and mutually beneficial economic partnership between both countries, with the Philippines recognizing the stature of the REPUBLIC OF KOREA as one of its top partners in trade, foreign direct investments, and official development assistance. Accordingly, both sides committed agreed to significantly increase bilateral trade and investments with a view to achieving balanced mutual benefits for the two countries.

17. With the macroeconomic foundations of the Philippine economy robust and sounder than ever, and with the REPUBLIC OF KOREA resolved to engage Southeast Asian partners more under its New Southern Policy, the two sides agreed to cultivate, nurture, strengthen and capitalize on the synergy between their economies and the vast untapped potential for enriched collaboration from which either country can derive further sustainable economic growth.
18. Both Leaders agreed to broaden and deepen current levels of bilateral trade and investments across multiple industries comprising, but not restricted to, agriculture, automotive manufacturing, electronics, energy, finance and banking, infrastructure, and tourism, and also recognized that an enabling environment for foreign investments is crucial to the attainment of inclusive growth and development.
19. Recognizing the importance of the *2018 Memorandum of Understanding on Trade and Economic Cooperation* in creating a mutually beneficial and strategic trade and economic partnership, both countries agreed to expand trade ties in a balanced and sustainable manner, enhance current market access for products of interests to both sides, and create favorable conditions for Filipino and South Korean businesses by concluding the Free Trade Agreement between the REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES and the REPUBLIC OF KOREA (PH-KR FTA) within the first half of 2020, as well as support accelerated negotiations on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Republic of Korea Free Trade Agreement (AKFTA), ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), and the remaining issues of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). In this context, both Leaders welcomed and noted substantial progress in the negotiation of the PH-KR FTA.
20. The two sides also recognized the role of the Joint Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation (JCTEC) under the relevant Memorandum of Understanding signed on 17 January 2013, as updated on 4 June 2018 to reflect new priority areas and implementing agency, in promoting enhanced trade and investments. Both sides agreed to prioritize areas for cooperation and engage the private sector in the implementation of initiatives related to 1) trade promotion, facilitation, and capacity building; 2) industry development and investment promotion; 3) film production and development; and 4) MSME development.
21. The REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES manifested its continuing appreciation for the REPUBLIC OF KOREA's contribution to the development of the Philippines, and welcomed the REPUBLIC OF KOREA's growing role as a major development partner. Along these lines, the two countries reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening development cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as infrastructure and digital economy, as well as priority cooperation areas of Country Partnership Strategy (CPS), as well as areas such as law-enforcement, rural development, health and sanitation, transport, and disaster prevention and preparedness.
22. Recalling the *2018 Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture*, the two sides agreed to advance their agricultural cooperation, recognizing the importance of agricultural and rural development in ensuring food security. The two sides further affirmed the importance of agricultural trade as well as of the business environment in the growth of agriculture and food enterprises.
23. Recalling the *2018 Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation*, the two sides agreed to enhance their cooperation in the energy sector, taking into consideration current challenges and new developments, particularly renewable energy utilization.

24. Recalling the *2018 Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific and Technological Cooperation*, the two countries agreed to undertake to promote mutual S&T development and spur further investments in public sector research and development. The two sides also agreed to consider convening a Joint Working Group meeting as necessary in the future to discuss possible modes of collaboration and the implementation of mutually agreed projects and activities.
25. Recalling the 2019 Memorandum of Understanding on Fisheries Cooperation, the two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in the fields of fisheries and promotion of fisheries trade and fishery-based investments through the pursuit and promotion of scientific and technical, economic and investment cooperation in fisheries and aquaculture; and encouragement and support of the involvement of the concerned agencies, the academic and scientific community, and private business sectors of both countries in market facilitation activities and joint ventures in fisheries and aquaculture to generate strong cooperation and livelihood opportunities.
26. Recalling the *2018 Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Cooperation in the Field of Transport*, both sides agreed to bolster concrete cooperation between the two countries in the transport sector; to exchange information, experiences and technology in the fields of roads, railways and airports; and to facilitate cooperation between their transport-related industries and organizations with the aim of enhancing competitiveness in domestic and international markets. They agreed that the scope of cooperation should include among others, the development of transport infrastructure such as railways and airports; the establishment of a national transportation network plan; civil aviation; intelligent transport system; land transport; maritime transport and inter-connectivity; sustainable transport, including ports and shipping infrastructure development, green shipping promotion and development, development and use of sustainable and renewable green energy in the maritime sector; intermodal transport; air transport connectivity; and the impact of transportation on the environment.
27. Underscoring the importance of healthy societies in fostering rural and urban development and in addressing current and future health pandemic, both sides agreed to advance cooperation in the fields of health including universal health coverage and welfare, food and drug safety, disease control, and vaccine technology and development.
28. Acknowledging the REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S expertise and initiatives on sustainable development, both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in scaling-up sustainable consumption and production (SCP) practices through capacity building, technical assistance and technological exchange particularly in utilizing green technology and green industries as new engines for growth. Areas of cooperation include among others, waste reduction, sustainable tourism, and sustainable energy.
29. Both sides recognize the need to build an intellectual property (IP) system which values creative ideas and their protection; and enables fair competition with a view to achieving continued economic growth and prosperity. Both sides confirmed their intent to cooperate to improve the creation and protection of IP rights in the two countries.

People-to-People Exchanges

30. Strong social, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges have assumed prominence over the past decade as one of the strongest, most meaningful and firm anchors of bilateral relations, and accordingly, the two countries agreed to foster even greater appreciation, understanding and interaction among their peoples, by enhancing interconnectivity. The two sides welcomed the signing of Social Security Agreement which will function as a stronger ground to foster the exchange of human resources.
31. Noting the sizeable presence of their respective nationals in each other's jurisdictions, the two sides committed to work together to ensure the safety and protection of their nationals in both countries, and to collaborate in combatting, human trafficking and illegal migration. In this respect, they recognized the value of sustained exchanges between law enforcement agencies, particularly the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Korean National Police Agency (KNPA), in addressing cross-border and transnational crime, facilitating information sharing and enhancing joint efforts on police training and capacity building to ensure greater security of our peoples.
32. Recognizing the importance of the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Employment Permit System (EPS)* of 2004 in underpinning labor cooperation between the two countries, and recognizing the contribution of Filipino EPS workers in the advancement of Korean economy, the two sides reaffirmed their readiness to work towards the further improvement of the EPS program and strengthen the protection of Filipino nationals.
33. The two sides agreed to strengthen their consular and immigration consultation and cooperation mechanisms, including the existing Joint Consular Consultation Meeting.
34. Recalling the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Cooperation between the REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES and the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, both leaders committed to support enhanced travel and tourism between their peoples, through programs such as the exchange of tourism professionals and administrators; exchanges among the academe and youth; dissemination of tourism information; promotion of sustainable tourism; tourism safety and quality assurance; joint tourism promotion; training and exchange; supporting tourism fairs, exhibitions, and other promotion initiatives; and tourism investment.

Socio-Cultural Cooperation

35. Guided by the 1973 Cultural Agreement between the REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES and the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, the two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fields of culture and arts through initiatives such as exchanges of experts; cultural visits and exchanges; promotion of various programs of culture, arts and other fields relevant to culture.
36. Both Leaders acknowledged the important role that culture plays in their respective sustainable social and economic development, and confirmed that both countries share their expertise in cultural policy and creative industries and encourage collaboration between the respective cultural agencies of both countries or their equivalents, and other relevant agencies.

Regional and International Cooperation

37. Fully aware of the trend and impact of globalization and the strength that may be derived from cooperation and mutual support, both countries agreed to further elevate their cooperation in addressing regional and global challenges and promote peaceful co-existence among states, placing a premium on the value of diplomacy, dialogue and the rule of law.
38. The two countries fully and strongly reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate in the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and other regional and multilateral organizations, in terms of common policy and thematic priorities, and to the extent possible, international candidatures.
39. The REPUBLIC OF KOREA recommitted itself to its full support for and cooperation with ASEAN and its associated frameworks and mechanisms, as well as its abiding support for ASEAN centrality.
40. Both leaders affirmed the importance of respect for the rule of law, the freedom of navigation and overflight, maritime security and safety, and the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with the universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), in the maritime domain.
40. Both countries highlighted the importance of achieving complete denuclearization and establishing permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula in order to promote peace and stability in the region. Toward this end, both sides emphasized the full implementation of the Panmunjom Declaration and the Pyongyang Joint Declaration, both of which were adopted in 2018 as well as attaining the commitments by the United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Joint Statement of the Singapore Summit on 12 June 2018. Both sides also reiterated the significance of the full implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions and sustainable dialogue between the parties concerned. REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES welcomed and expressed support for the three principles in the course of resolving issues related to the Korean Peninsula: zero tolerance for war, mutual security guarantee and co-prosperity and the vision to transform the Demilitarized Zone of the Korean Peninsula into an international peace zone introduced by the President Moon Jae-in in his address to the 74th UNGA.

Plan of Action

41. In pursuit of the foregoing, the two governments commit to further discuss, formulate and finalize a Plan of Action within the Policy Consultation mechanism between their Foreign Ministries to secure implementation and achievement of these goals, in keeping with the two countries' shared interests, principles and values.
42. This Joint Declaration will guide the cultivation of the Strategic Partnership between the two Governments.