The New Southern Policy (NSP) is an initiative aimed at growing and prospering together with ASEAN member states and India. Over the past few years, the Republic of Korea’s recent unveiling of the NSP has been well-received.
It’s my goal to elevate Korea’s relationship with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to the level of its relations with the four major powers whose interests converge on the Korean Peninsula. To this end, the Korean Government will strongly push forward its New Southern Policy to dramatically improve cooperative ties with ASEAN. We will seek to expand our focus from the trade-centered relations to exchanges of technology, culture, art and people. Joined together, we can further strengthen cooperative ties in sectors ASEAN countries have long prioritized such as transportation, energy, water resource management and ICT. Enhancing people-to-people exchanges that connect both sides will lay a solid foundation for all cooperative projects. I hope the New Southern Policy will achieve these things: a community for the people that connects people to people and minds to minds; a community of peace that can contribute to peace across Asia; and, lastly, a community with shared prosperity where ASEAN countries thrive together through mutually beneficial economic cooperation.
THE NEW SOUTHERN POLICY (NSP) IS

A new policy paradigm and ROK’s core diplomatic initiative. The NSP is aimed at realizing mutual prosperity and peace not only on the Korean Peninsula but in East Asia and the world. To this end, the policy seeks to elevate Korea’s relations with ASEAN member states and India in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres, among others, to the same level Korea maintains with the four major powers (the United States, China, Japan and Russia).

PEOPLE

A people-centered community that connects people to people and minds to minds

PEACE

A community that supports regional peace and security

PROSPERITY

A community with shared prosperity where our partner countries thrive together through mutually beneficial, forward-looking economic cooperation
A YOUNG & DYNAMIC REGION

Young and dynamic regions with significant growth potential making the leap together

ASEAN member states and India (collectively referred to as “NSP target countries”), with a combined population of 2 billion and median age of 30 years, have become important economic partners for Korea. Over 10 million people-to-people exchanges and a bilateral trade volume exceeding US$160 billion have been recorded annually. Korea is forging a closer cooperation with the NSP target countries toward a community of shared prosperity.

**TOTAL POPULATION**
Moving forward with India (with its population of 1.37 billion) and ASEAN member states (with a total population of 640 million)

**MEDIAN AGE**
The NSP target countries, whose population has a median age of 30, have an immense potential to develop more dynamically than any other region in the world.

2 billion
30 years
The Presidential Committee on New Southern Policy provides support for Korean companies to participate in infrastructure projects and make inroads into the manufacturing sector in the NSP target countries. In addition, the Committee strives to spread Hallyu, or the Korean Wave, in overseas markets that have a huge growth potential by promoting K-Food, K-Beauty and K-Pop. The NSP target countries are promising markets for building a global open innovation platform for a joint response to the Fourth Industrial Revolution, including 5G, IT and smart cities. Thus, we seek to increase business opportunities in this region by adopting a cooperative model that satisfies the needs of each partner country. Ultimately, we aim to build a foundation for mutually beneficial and future-oriented economic cooperation with the NSP target countries.

With the combined GDP of ASEAN member states amounting to approximately US$5.64 trillion, and that of India standing at approximately US$2.72 trillion, the NSP target countries are the new drivers of growth. As the economies of ASEAN member states grow by 5.1% (annual mean), and that of India at 7.1%, Korea, ASEAN and India are emerging as new growth engines for the global economy.

FAST GROWING MARKETS WITH MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION

Seeking mutually beneficial cooperation with one of the fastest-growing and biggest consumer markets in the world.
We are committed to drawing up a new economic map on the Korean Peninsula by building a people-centered community of peace and prosperity. ASEAN is Korea’s 2nd largest trading partner and the 3rd largest investment destination with exports of US$100.1 billion, imports of US$59.6 billion, and investments of US$6.1 billion. As of 2018, India is Korea’s 7th biggest export market with exports of US$15.6 billion, imports of US$5.9 billion and an outbound investment to India of US$1 billion.

We seek to play a pivotal role in the world and in shaping the future.
Korea-ASEAN trade grew steadily after the global financial and economic crisis of 2008-2009. Though the two sides experienced a temporary slump in 2015-2016, bilateral trade bounced back after 2017. ASEAN is Korea’s second largest trading partner with a combined total of US$159.7 billion in 2018. That same year, India became Korea’s 11th largest trading partner with a total of US$21.5 billion. Bilateral trade with Viet Nam reached US$68.2 billion, making it Korea’s largest trading partner among the ASEAN member states followed by Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Since the establishment of the Dialogue Partnership in 1989, Korea and ASEAN have become key partners on many fronts. The two sides have witnessed more active people-to-people exchanges since the conclusion of the Korea-ASEAN FTA in 2009 and the upgrade of bilateral relations to a strategic partnership in 2010. The peoples of Korea and the NSP target countries have continued exchanges on economic, cultural and historical fronts. As of 2018, the overall number of people traveling both ways between Korea and ASEAN amounted to 11.4 million. And the number of Koreans and Indians visiting each other’s country reached 270,000 as of 2018.

Korea and ASEAN have seen a steady increase of people traveling to each other’s country since 2012, and more people-to-people exchanges are expected following the implementation of the New Southern Policy.
BUILDING A PEOPLE-CENTERED COMMUNITY THAT CONNECTS PEOPLE TO PEOPLE AND MINDS TO MINDS

01 Broadening Korea’s appeal as a tourist destination among NSP target countries
We will also revitalize Korea’s inbound tourism market by appealing to more tourists from the NSP countries. Considering Thailand, the Philippines, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore’s economic strength and the number of tourists from there already traveling to Korea, efforts to increase the number of inbound visitors will mainly be focused on these six ASEAN member states. However, we intend to create tourism demand by sparking interest among potential tourists from other countries in the region and second-tier cities.

02 Expanding two-way cultural exchanges with the NSP target countries
We will promote two-way cultural exchanges by increasing the number of bases for cultural exchanges in the NSP target countries, implementing cultural ODA projects and spreading ASEAN cultures and relevant language contents.

03 Strengthening capacity building for students, teachers and public officials from the NSP target countries
We will contribute to strengthening capacity building for students, teachers and public officials from the NSP target countries by increasing student exchanges through scholarship programs and invitational programs for college students as well as offering public officials more training opportunities.

04 Providing support to strengthen public administrative capacity and contributing to enhanced governance within the NSP target countries
We will continue to cooperate with the NSP target countries to share Korea’s experience in public administration, to satisfy demand for relevant cooperative projects and to promote democratic values through civil society exchanges.

05 Advancing the rights of immigrants and migrant workers through enhanced protection
We will provide support for migrant workers from the NSP target countries to help them adapt more easily to Korean society and to resettle after returning to their home countries. We will also support the women and children of vulnerable multicultural families and provide improved education and medical services for those multicultural families.

06 Improving the quality of life in the NSP target countries
We will also carry out rural development projects such as the Saemaul Undong Movement to alleviate poverty and foster the self-reliance capacity of the NSP target countries and strengthen the capacity to respond to diseases through enhanced development and cooperation in the field of health care.

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF TOURISTS TRAVELING TO KOREA

EXPANDING TWO-WAY CULTURAL EXCHANGES

SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS OF IMMIGRANTS AND MIGRANT WORKERS

Providing various services, such as education and medical care, to immigrants to help them settle in Korean society.
PURSUING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND FUTURE-ORIENTED ECONOMIC COOPERATION

PROSPERITY

07 Enhancing institutional frameworks for promoting trade and investment
We will jointly pursue bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements with ASEAN member states further to create a better business environment for the companies of both sides.

08 Participating in infrastructure development projects in the NSP target countries to improve the region’s connectivity
We will support Korean companies to participate in infrastructure development projects in the NSP target countries through bilateral cooperation in key areas that can promote connectivity in the region such as transportation, energy and water resources management.

09 Providing support for SMEs to make inroads into overseas markets
We will expand our support for Korean SMEs to help them make inroads into the NSP target countries’ markets, in particular the markets promising for Korea’s agricultural and fisheries products (K-Food, K-Seafood) and cosmetics products (K-Beauty).

10 Enhancing the capacity for innovative growth through cooperation in science, technology and new industries
We will strengthen Korea-ASEAN-India cooperation in science, technology and new industries to build a global open innovation platform and to jointly respond to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

11 Developing customized cooperative models that satisfy the needs of each partner country
We will adopt customized cooperative models to create high added value in key industries, such as agriculture, fisheries, automobiles, steel and petrochemical industries, based on the needs of each partner country.
Increasing the number of summits and high-level exchanges
We will consolidate our strategic partnership with the NSP target countries through more frequent high-level exchanges, including summits and ministerial meetings. To this end, President Moon pledged to and subsequently did visit all 10 ASEAN member states before the end of 2019. We will revitalize other exchanges with NSP target countries through biennial visits by the leaders of Korea and India, the 2019 ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit to celebrate the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, the inaugural Mekong-ROK Summit and other such meetings.

Boosting cooperation to bring peace and prosperity to the Korean Peninsula
We will expand support from the NSP target countries to create a virtuous cycle that will help realize complete denuclearization and permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula and improves inter-Korean and U.S.-North Korea relations.

Strengthening cooperation with regard to national defense and the defense industry
We will deepen cooperation with the NSP target countries regarding national defense and the defense industry through expanded exchanges among high-level defense officials via such mechanisms as the ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting-Plus, the transfer of defense technology and the localized production of weapons and systems in the NSP target countries.

Jointly responding to terrorism as well as cyber and maritime security threats in the region
We will jointly respond to terrorism, violent extremism and cyber crimes in the NSP target countries. In addition, we will also work together to respond to non-traditional security issues and environmental issues such as the challenge posed by marine litter.

Enhancing emergency response capabilities of the NSP target countries
We will also provide the NSP target countries support to improve their resilience by strengthening their abilities to prevent and respond to emergency situations in areas vulnerable to disputes, natural disasters and climate change. In addition, we will also identify areas for climate technology cooperation, push ahead with joint projects and provide support for related infrastructure building projects.
**PEOPLE**

01 Increasing the number of people traveling between Korea and the NSP target countries
- Nurturing and promoting Korea’s unique tourism contents
- Improving a Muslim-friendly travel environment
- Improving the visa system

02 Expanding two-way cultural exchanges
- Expanding infrastructure to promote culture
- Designating official cultural exchange years to mark the anniversaries of diplomatic ties
- Intensifying content exchanges with ASEAN member states
- Promoting the Korean people’s awareness and understanding of ASEAN’s cultures
- Expanding Korean language education

03 Providing support to build human resources capacity
- Increasing the number of students invited to study in Korea on scholarships
- Expanding exchanges among public officials and experts
- Enhancing Technical and Vocational Education Training programs

04 Providing support to strengthen public administrative capacity, and contributing to the NSP target countries’ enhanced governance
- Expanding cooperation with the NSP target countries to share Korea’s experience in a-government
- Expanding cooperation in public administration

05 Advancing the rights of immigrants and migrant workers through enhanced protection
- Providing support for projects aimed at settling the grievances of migrant workers staying in Korea
- Providing support for multicultural families to settle in Korean society and better safeguarding their rights through enhanced protection

06 Improving the quality of life
- Improving the living standards of residents in rural communities by supporting rural development
- Enhancing capacity for addressing environmental health and hygiene challenges
- Deepening forestry cooperation to increase the income levels of local residents through forest utilization

**PROSPERITY**

07 Enhancing institutional frameworks for promoting trade and investment
- Pursuing bilateral FTAs with major NSP target countries
- Strengthening the platform to provide support for Korean financial companies to make inroads into the NSP target countries
- Enhancing access to financial services for Korean companies
- Concluding a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement between Korea and Cambodia
- Making further progress in air transport agreements

08 Participating in infrastructure development project in the NSP target countries to improve the region’s connectivity
- Providing support for identifying and developing infrastructure projects and securing contracts
- Seeking Smart-Cities Network cooperation
- Pursuing cooperation in port development
- Entering Indonesia’s infrastructure market
- Seeking cooperation with the NSP target countries through Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) projects
- Strengthening cooperation concerning the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity

09 Providing support for SMEs to make inroads into overseas markets
- Creating an ecosystem to facilitate exchanges and cooperation between startups
- Building industrial complexes in the NSP target countries for Korean SMEs
- Seeking technological cooperation and exchanges between the SMEs of Korea and NSP target countries
- Providing support for Korean companies to enter promising overseas markets

10 Enhancing the capacity for innovative growth through cooperation in “smart” technologies and new industries
- Strengthening R&D cooperation for jointly responding to the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Laying the foundation for cooperation in science and technology
- Establishing bases for ICT cooperation and nurturing technicians and engineers
- Creating new business opportunities in the NSP target countries

**PEACE**

11 Developing customized cooperative models that satisfy the needs of each partner country
- Increasing participation in Indonesia’s infrastructure development projects
- Seeking cooperation with Malaysia in the consumer goods industry, based on Halal and halal
- Building a Technology Advice and Solutions from Korea (TASK) center in Vietnam

12 Increasing the number of summits and high-level exchanges
- Hosting the 2019 ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit and the Inaugural Mekong-ROK Summit
- Actively engaging in summit diplomacy

13 Boosting cooperation to bring peace and prosperity to the Korean Peninsula
- Securing support from NSP target countries for the ROK’s peace process on the Korean Peninsula
- Establishing high-level strategic dialogue channels with India and other countries

14 Strengthening cooperation in national defense and the defense industry
- Holding an annual ROK-ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting
- Expanding defense industry cooperation with the NSP target countries

15 Jointly responding to terrorism as well as cyber and maritime security threats in the region
- Establishing the Korea-ASEAN Center for Transnational Crime Investigation Capacity Building
- Implementing marine litter monitoring and collection projects
- Establishing the Korea-Mekong Biodiversity Preservation Center

16 Enhancing the NSP target countries’ emergency response capabilities
- Providing support for the ASEAN+3 Emergency Rice Reserve
- Implementing a pilot project related to establishing a Forest Fire Disaster Management Center
- Restoring and protecting damaged wetlands
We will implement the NSP catering to the needs of the people to produce policy outcomes that can be shared and felt by the people. We seek to pursue a national interest-centered diplomacy that aims to expand Korea’s diplomatic horizons and enhance the nations’ status.

Korea-South & Southeast Asia Business Coalition

The Business Federation for New Southern Policy was formed with the aim of facilitating communication among major associations and organizations in relation to entering markets in the NSP target countries. The Business Federation will provide support for companies doing business in the NSP target countries through an active business network and gather their opinions and suggestions. At the same time, the Federation will carry out projects aimed at supporting our companies to enter the NSP target countries’ markets. The Business Federation is tasked with increasing interest in the NSP target countries, supporting Korean companies to develop markets in that region and identifying challenges faced by those Korean companies making inroads into the export and services markets. The Korea International Trade Association (KITA) holds the presidency of the Business Federation, and the New Southern Policy Promotion Team and KOICA serve as co-secretariats supporting the Federation.

ASEAN & India Business Desk

ASEAN & India Business Desk is a private organization established to help deliver substantial results for the New Southern Policy. AIBD is tasked with offering specialized consulting services on investment, labor, trade, halal certification, legal matters, accounting and financial support. Providing information on the local business environment by utilizing the Business Federation for New Southern Policy’s network of Korean companies. Working with KOICA’s overseas Korea Business Centers and companies identified by the Business Desk to manage their market entry-related needs and provide the necessary support. Preparing measures to quickly resolve grievances at home and abroad for Korean companies doing business in the NSP target countries by utilizing intergovernmental cooperation networks, including that of the Presidential Committee on New Southern Policy. Organizing and hosting “On-demand Briefing Sessions” in collaboration with the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry to present information on the local market and identify problems facing Korean companies doing business in the NSP target countries. Acting as the secretariat of the Business Federation for New Southern Policy, the Business Desk is tasked with developing customized cooperation models for each partner country to help Korean companies make inroads into new markets.

02-3460-3470
Select “Services,” “Trade Support” and “ASEAN and India” on the KOICA website for related information
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2017.11.09 REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
President Moon Jae-in held a summit with Indonesian President Joko Widodo and adopted the Korea-Indonesia Vision Statement.

2017.11.13 REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
President Moon Jae-in and Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte held a summit and discussed how to advance bilateral relations in a wide range of areas, including political affairs, society, culture, the economy and trade. Their discussion also covered recent developments on the Korean Peninsula as well as regional and international cooperation.

2018.03.23 SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
In a meeting with Vietnamese leaders, President Moon Jae-in stressed the importance of building mutually-beneficial relations with Viet Nam, a key partner in Korea’s New Southern Policy initiative, and discussed ways to further enhance friendly ties between the two countries.
President Moon Jae-in said that the Republic of Korea would host the ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit later this year to mark the 30th anniversary of the Korea-ASEAN Dialogue Partnership.

President Moon extended his special gratitude to Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah for Brunei serving as a bridge in its capacity as the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-Korea dialogue.

President Moon said, “Malaysia and South Korea are good, longtime friends who help push and pull each other,” emphasizing that “Malaysia’s Look East Policy and the ROK’s New Southern Policy, pursued in a harmonious way, will further elevate the relations between Korea and Malaysia.”
**2019.03.15 KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

President Moon Jae-in and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen praised how Korea and Cambodia have greatly advanced friendly and cooperative relations over the past 20 years since the re-establishment of diplomatic ties in 1997. Their discussion also covered recent developments on the Korean Peninsula as well as how to develop bilateral relations.

**2019.09.02 KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

At a summit meeting with Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha of Thailand, President Moon said that “Koreans are grateful to the Kingdom of Thailand, the first Asian nation to send troops during the Korean War. The Korean people will never forget the dedication and sacrifice of Thailand.”

**2019.09.03 THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR**

President Moon held a summit with State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi. The two leaders agreed to open a “Korea Desk” tasked with helping South Korean investors resolve administrative difficulties, which will lay the groundwork for the two countries’ push for cooperative projects.

**2019.09.05 LAO PEOPLE’S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

President Moon became the first South Korean president to visit Laos. President Moon held a summit with his counterpart President Bounnhang Vorachith. The two leaders and Lao Prime Minister Thongloun agreed to make various efforts to promote co-prosperity for the two countries, especially through the Mekong-ROK cooperation framework.
India and Korea have a long history of exchanges and have been friends helping each other in difficult times. I intend to elevate Korean ties with India to the same level as those with the four major powers surrounding the Korean Peninsula. The New Southern Policy reflects that commitment. It is aimed at creating a peace-loving, people-centered community where all the people thrive together, going beyond simple economic cooperation. I defined this community by "the Three Ps": People, Prosperity and Peace. First of all, I would like to propose "the Three Ps Plus" for India, which includes forward-looking cooperation in addition to the Three Ps. This shows my will and that of the Republic of Korea to join hands with the dynamically developing country of India in the future. The New Southern Policy is in line with the Act East Policy that the Indian Prime Minister is pushing for. The completion of the two policies will be marked by prosperity in all of Asia."
IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASEAN-ROK DIALOGUE PARTNERSHIP, WE WILL CREATE A NEW WAVE OF CHANGE TO BRING SHARED PROSPERITY.

THE 2019 ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT
PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE, PROSPERITY FOR PEOPLE

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