

[Congratulatory Video Message]

MOON Jae-in President of the Republic of Korea



Ripe for a Miracle of the “Taedong River”

I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations on the holding of the 12th Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity and extend a warm welcome to all participants. My special thanks go to the guests who have come to Jeju Island from over 80 countries around the world.

First, I would like to bring your attention to the beautiful nature of Jeju Island. Jeju is a ‘world-renowned environmental treasure-island’ which has been awarded as the UNESCO’s prestigious triple crown - a World Natural Heritage site, a Biosphere Reserve and a Global Geopark. Although your stay may be brief, I hope all of you can fully enjoy this wonderful island. But what makes this island truly beautiful is its people. Since far back in history, people have referred to Jeju Island as an island known for three things you will not find here – no thieves, no beggars and no front gates. No matter how tough life was, people on this island never coveted what belongs to others nor begged. Instead, they trusted and depended on each other. This is a beautiful community that is quite rare in our world and an example of a ‘community of peaceful coexistence’ which humanity should aspire toward. I hope that you may also fully experience the charm of the lovely people of Jeju Island.

69 years ago, this peaceful and beautiful island suffered a terrible tragedy. Tens of thousands of innocent residents who did not even know what ideology meant were sacrificed in its name. This was an ordeal suffered on the front lines of the Cold War that ravaged the world. However, the Republic of Korea and Jeju Island have now moved beyond the suffering of the past and are opening the way toward peace and reconciliation. In 2006, the Korean President himself acknowledged the responsibility of the state and made an official apology on behalf of the nation. My new administration will continue to carry out its remaining responsibility in finding the truth and restoring the honor of the victims and their families.

I am especially delighted that a session on the April 3 Incident is to be held for the first time in this forum. With the 70th anniversary of the April 3 Incident next year, I hope the session will be an opportunity to heal the remaining pain and scars of the people of Jeju. Now Jeju Island is healing the remaining vestiges of confrontation and conflict, and opening a new age of peace and coexistence. This is the spirit of the Jeju Forum - “seeking peace and common prosperity of Northeast Asia.”

The new government of the Republic of Korea will fulfill its responsibility and play its part in pursuing “the peace and common prosperity of Northeast Asia.” We will launch an entirely renewed initiative and boldly implement it for lasting peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula. To this end, we will work with the international community. In cooperation with relevant countries including the United States and China, we will bring North Korea out to dialogue through persuasion and pressure and achieve the resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue as well as improvements in inter-Korean relations and U.S.-North Korea relations. We will take the lead in dealing with the Korean Peninsula issues without relying on the role of foreign countries.

The recent series of missile launches by North Korea is a serious challenge not only for the Korean Peninsula but indeed for international peace and stability. I will respond resolutely to such provocations together with the international community. Also, in the case North Korea commits an armed provocation, I clearly pledge to preserve the peace by promptly and forcefully retaliating with the defense capabilities of both the



Republic of Korea and the steadfast Korea-U.S. alliance.

On the Korean Peninsula made free from the threat of war, I will ensure that the economy flourishes. An economic community encompassing South and North Korea will bring about the “Miracle on the Korean Peninsula” which will change the global economic map by expanding South Korea’s “Miracle on the Han River” into North Korea’s “Miracle on the Taedong River.” This will also play the role of establishing a lasting peace regime on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

I also take great interest in the session on the human rights situation in North Korea which is scheduled for the second day of the forum. As a human rights lawyer, I have long championed the human rights of the South Korean people. And as human rights are universal values of mankind, I will endeavor to enhance the human rights of the North Korean people without hesitation. In cooperation with the international community, I will urge the North Korean authorities to introduce changes to its policies and institutions.

A peaceful Korean Peninsula is no longer just a dream. Within my term in office, I will create a drastic turning point for peace on the peninsula. I will lead the Republic of Korea to spearhead efforts for peace and common prosperity in Asia. It is my hope that all of you will join me in this grand dream.

[Opening Remarks]

WON Heeryong Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Jeju Forum / Governor of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province



Jeju, a Platform for “Peace Industry”

Peace and prosperity are long-standing tasks for humanity throughout history. Jeju Island went through the Cold War in the 20th century and is therefore well aware of the values of peace, human rights and co-existence. The Jeju Forum was initiated in 2001 to open a new era of peace and prosperity in East Asia based on mutual trust and cooperation. Every one of you here has committed to fulfilling your share of responsibility in addressing various global issues. Your experience and wisdom along with those of other global leaders and world intellectuals have served as a catalyst for the Jeju Forum to push its boundary beyond Asia and toward the whole world with five thousand participants from more than 70 countries. I hope this year’s forum will be a venue for future-oriented discussions, bringing the entire world together under the umbrella of peace where peaceful order in Asia can be further expanded.

This year marks the 12th event of the Jeju Forum with the theme of “Sharing a Common Vision for Asia’s Future.” Complicated and diverse issues and challenges, as characterized by “deglobalization,” have been posing a threat to humanity. Security threats have become more diverse and even more widespread, including not only nuclear but also energy, food and cyber issues. Transnational challenges such as terrorism continue to surface. These kinds of transnational challenges cannot be solved by one single country’s effort. It requires to have a shared vision locally and globally. The Jeju Forum is designed to share a common vision for Asia’s future for more universal hope and better future for humanity by seeking discourse for stronger cooperation among nations in more creative ways.

The world now faces global warming, which is a serious environmental crisis threatening the future of mankind. “An Inconvenient Truth,” as former U.S. Vice President Al Gore put it, has become better known across the world. Not only super powers but also developing countries have been working togeth-