



ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION
27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
10 - 15 SEPTEMBER 2006 ▲ CEBU CITY, PHILIPPINES

Rep.27GA/Com/Panel/Kor

REPORT
ON
THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE AIPO
AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. President,

It is my great honor to submit the following Report on the Dialogue of AIPO with the Delegation of the Republic of Korea:

1. The dialogue was held on 12 September 2006 from 4:45 to 6:30 in the afternoon, with the undersigned as Chairman.
2. The Dialogue Meeting was attended by the following delegates:

Republic of Korea

1. Hon. Woo Je Hang
2. Hon. Park Nyung Kwang
3. Hon. Kim Young Sun

Cambodia

1. Hon. So Victor
2. Hon. Ky Lum Ang

Indonesia

1. Hon. Muhidin M. Said
2. Hon. Vera Febyanthy

Lao People's Democratic Republic

1. Hon. Koukeo Akhamountry
2. Hon. Ousavanh Thiengthepvongsa
3. Hon. Pakonexay Sithirajvongsa

Malaysia

1. Hon. Mr. Ng Lip Yong

Philippines

1. Hon. Matias V. Defensor, Jr. - Chairperson

Singapore

1. Hon. Michael Palmer
2. Hon. Ho Geok Choo
3. Hon. Lim Biow Chuan

Thailand

1. Hon. Wiboon Shamsheun

Vietnam

1. Hon. Bui Ngoc Thanh
2. Hon. Duong Thu Huong

Brunei Darussalam

1. P.D.N. Pg. Abdul Momin

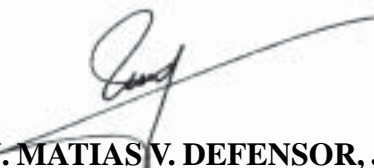
3. At the beginning, the undersigned as Chairperson of the Dialogue Meeting, invited the Head of the ROK's delegation to introduce his delegates. Other delegations of the AIPO and Observers were also invited to introduce themselves.
4. After introduction, the Chairperson invited all delegates to consider 8 topics, which have been endorsed at the First Plenary Session of the 27th AIPO General Assembly, held on 11 September 2006.
5. After consideration, the Chairperson invited the Delegation of the ROK to give a comprehensive presentation. Then, the AIPO Members and Observers were invited to give their comments on those topics, and raise any questions to the ROK to respond.
6. The Dialogue was conducted in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding. The delegates very actively discussed 8 topics, and the highlights of the Meeting are as follows:
 - a. On "Regional and Security Matters", the ROK emphasized the importance of the Six-Party talks on the Korean Peninsula issue, recognizing the vital role of the ASEAN's help and understanding in the resolution of the same;
 - b. On the agenda items "Economic and Trade Cooperation" and "Investment Opportunities", the ROK informed its dialogue partners that the ASEAN is already its fifth trading partner. It also conveyed its hope of forging FTA agreements with ASEAN member countries. On the issue of foreign workers in the ROK, while Laos expressed its appreciation for the kind treatment by the ROK of its nationals, the ROK emphasized the nature of such a humane treatment as an official policy by noting that out 15,000 Mongolian workers on its soil, only 1,000 of such are legal workers. Finally, in the matter of foreign visits, the ROK pointed out that Koreans visiting ASEAN countries number more than three times the number of ASEAN nationals visiting the ROK;

c. On “Environmental Issues”, the ROK expressed alarm over climate change and the so-called yellow smoke or gas coming from China, while enumerating its various environmental initiatives such as its support for the planting of trees in the Mongolian mountains, CNG cars, etc. Malaysia reacted to the ROK’s concern over the Chinese yellow smoke by informing the body that Malaysia and China have been cooperating in eradicating the problem;

d. On “Information and Technology Cooperation”, Thailand expressed interest in the ROK’s e-learning program while Vietnam manifested the similar sentiment with respect to the ROK’s “electronic parliament”. In turn, the ROK indicated its intentions of sending businesses with high IT capacity to the ASEAN countries;

e. The ROK stated its opinion that notwithstanding the collapse of the “Doha Round” of the WTO, it still believes that the WTO could serve as the basic framework for international trade.

The meeting ended with a note of optimism about the continuing harmonious relations between the AIPO and the Republic of Korea.



HON. MATIAS V. DEFENSOR, JR
Chairman