

**National Plan of the Alliance of Civilizations,
Republic of Korea**

**(General Planning on Cultural Diversity and on
Intercultural and Inter-Religious Dialogues)**

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I. Introduction

1. The Alliance of Civilizations and the Republic of Korea

(1) Background

- i. The Alliance of Civilizations (hereafter “the Alliance” or “the AoC”) is a global initiative primarily founded under the guidance of the Spanish and Turkish governments six months after the Madrid Train Bombings in September 2009. In July 2005, the AoC initiative was approved by then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.
 - The AoC Group of Friends, a sponsor of the Alliance and its activities, was also founded at this time. Its current members include over 100 states and several international organizations.
- ii. The founding objective of the Alliance was to lessen the conflicts between the Western and the Muslim spheres. The Alliance has aimed and strived to enhance intercultural and interfaith dialogue, cooperation, and mutual understanding, and to prevent extremism and polarization.
- iii. In July 2005, then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan founded the High-Level Group comprised of twenty experts. Through the report it submitted in November 2006, this Group made

recommendations on the future activities of the Alliance.

iv. Based upon the High-Level Group's recommendations, in 2007, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed former Portuguese President Jorge Sampaio as the AoC High Representative, whose responsibility is to direct and manage the general activities of the Alliance.

- High Representative Sampaio submitted the 1st AoC Implementation Plan (2007~2009) to the UN Secretary-General on June 2007, and the second (2009~2011) on June 2009.

v. Of all the meetings that take place within the Alliance, the annual Forum is given the highest priority. The first meeting took place in Madrid, Spain in January 2008; the second in Istanbul, Turkey in April 2009; and the third in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in May 2010.

- Through the annual Forum, the specific businesses of the Alliance have been proposed. While the businesses are being processed, the Alliance has entered the full-fledged execution phase, and has developed into an action-oriented initiative.

vi. Initially, the Alliance was focused on Western-Muslim relations around the Mediterranean. It has since expanded its scope of activities, and is now becoming a fundamental global gathering to foster good governance and cultural diversity.

- In the 2nd Implementation Plan, High Representative Sampaio emphasized the global expansion of the Alliance by fortifying regional activities in Asia, Africa, and Central and South America as one of the six most important tasks to be undertaken during the 2nd Implementation Period (2009~2011).

(2) Participation of the Republic of Korea in the Alliance

i. The Republic of Korea has consistently supported the Alliance's

goals and activities since its inception. In April 2007, the Republic of Korea joined the AoC Group of Friends, and it has been an active participant in the Alliance ever since.

- ii. At the 1st annual Forum in Madrid, the Republic of Korea was represented by then Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Song Min-soon. Then Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs, Oh Joon and Ambassador to Brazil, Choi Kyoun-lim followed suit at the 2nd and the 3rd Forums.
 - In addition, the Republic of Korea has been an active participant in the AoC Group of Friends Ministerial Meetings on the occasion of the UN General Assembly, as well as the Group's general meetings.
- iii. In response to High Representative Sampaio's request that each member state appoint a Focal Point to take charge of all the Alliance's issues, in August 2008, the Republic of Korea nominated the Director of the Human Rights and Social Affairs Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade as the Focal Point.
 - The Alliance held several Focal Point Meetings: 1st in Paris, France in October 2008; 2nd in Istanbul, Turkey in April 2009; 3rd in Rabat, Morocco in November 2009; 4th in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in May 2010; and 5th in Berlin, Germany in October, 2010.
- iv. Furthermore, the Republic of Korea donated five million US dollars to the AoC Trust Fund both in December 2007 and in June 2009.

2. The Alliance of Civilizations National Plan

(1) Significance

- i. In its report to the UN Secretary-General in November 2006, the High-Level Group of the Alliance chose the following four main areas of activity: Education, Youth, Migration, and Media.

- ii. At the AoC Group of Friends Ministerial Meeting in September 2007, High Representative Sampaio suggested that each member state create a National Plan so that the Alliance's four main areas of activity could be pursued at the State and community levels.
- iii. Since then, the creation of each member state's National Plan has been made one of the Alliance's main priorities. In High Representative Sampaio's second Implementation Plan (2009~2011), this was reiterated as one of the Alliance's six most important tasks.
- iv. To implement the Alliance's general and conceptual goals, which are to increase the dialogue and mutual understanding between diverse cultures, civilizations, and religions, and to prevent extremism, each state must push ahead the specific activities via its National Plan.
- v. All countries must confront the task of good governance of cultural diversity. Despite this common goal for all members, however, the different histories, current situations, and social contexts of each country must also be given the appropriate consideration in the respective National Plans.

(2) The National Plan in the Context of the Korean Society

- i. The Republic of Korea, a country that has made remarkable improvements in the areas of democracy and human rights within a short period of time, upholds democratic principles, such as the prohibition of discrimination and respect for social diversity, and has consistently sought to install a system of values that comply with these principles.
- ii. Also, as an exemplary nation where Eastern religions such as Buddhism and the Western faith of Christianity have co-existed peacefully for a long time, the Republic of Korea has seen

interfaith tolerance and respect take root in its national culture.

- iii. Due to a recent increase in immigration, the Republic of Korea has experienced a rapid proliferation of cultural and ethnic diversity within its borders. Thus, the governance of cultural diversity is a new challenge that Korea faces.
- iv. As of December 31, 2010, 1,261,415 foreign residents are living in the Republic of Korea.
- v. In Korea, marriage migrants and migrant workers represent an especially high percentage among the immigrant settlers and temporary visitors, respectively. As a consequence, the Korean government has introduced and employed various policies toward them, who are likely to be the vulnerable of the society.
- vi. The Republic of Korea's National Plan has been structured to ensure that the following policies are synthesized, carried out, and reinforced in a faithful manner: respect for diversity in the Korean society, mutual understanding and tolerance of different ethnicities, religions, cultures, and improved treatment of foreigners in the spirit of respect for human rights.

II. Policy Goals for Each Area of Activity

1. Education

- i. Restructure education programs to strengthen multicultural understanding and to eliminate racial discrimination.
- ii. Establish and consolidate infrastructure to improve multicultural education.
- iii. Implement and expand multicultural education in public sectors.
- iv. Provide educational support for children of marriage migrants and foreign immigrants.

2. Youth

- i. Expand activities for the youth that could enrich and promote better understanding of multi-culture.
- ii. Create more exchange programs for the youth.

3. Migration

- i. Respect diversity and support social integration of immigrants.
- ii. Secure human rights of foreigners and eliminate discrimination against them.
- iii. Secure the rights of married migrant women and support their social integration.
- iv. Provide stronger support for multicultural families.

4. Media

- i. Better understanding of multicultural, intercultural and interfaith issues through media.
- ii. Provide media education to support multicultural families and improve understanding of multi-culture.

5. Other areas of activities

(1) Migrant Workers

- i. Guarantee human rights for migrant workers.
- ii. Better treatment for migrant workers and support their social integration.

(2) Interfaith Dialogues

- i. Enhance mutual understanding of interfaith.
- ii. Implement programs in advance to prevent potential interfaith conflicts.

(3) Regional and International Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogues

- i. Enhance mutual understanding and exchange with countries in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa.
- ii. Participate in intercultural and interfaith dialogues and

- discussions at regional cooperation organizations.
- iii. Participate in intercultural and interfaith dialogues and discussions at international organizations.

III. Implementation Plan (2010~2012)

1. EDUCATION

(1) Restructure education programs to strengthen multicultural understanding and to eliminate racial discrimination.

i. The Reflection of Contents that Appreciate Multiculturalism and that Eliminate Racial Discrimination in the National Educational Curriculum (Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, hereafter “MEST”)

(Significance)

- Reinforce the understanding of multiculturalism via the national education system.

(Current Status)

- Multicultural education has been determined as a topic to be covered across the educational curriculum in the “2009 Curriculum Reform” (MEST Announcement № 2009-41, December 23rd, 2009)
- Multicultural educational components have been included in the following subjects: social studies, ethics, and practical arts (household management and technology).

(Future Plans)

- Promote the integration of multicultural studies to the overall education system in ways such as issue-related subjects and creative hands-on activities.

ii. Promotion of Multicultural Education Training Programs for Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers (MEST)

(Significance)

- The development of training programs for kindergarten, elementary, middle, and high school teachers to meet the growing needs of increasing multicultural families resulting from international marriages and inflow of foreigners.

(Current Status)

- The development of a 60-hour multicultural education professional training program for primary and middle school teachers (240 teachers participated in 2010).
- On December 2010, the government hosted the ‘Multicultural Education Best Practice Models Presentation Contest’ to discover and expand the best practice models of multiculturalism.

(Future Plans)

- Continue multicultural education training programs for primary and middle school teachers.
- Develop and practice training programs for teachers who specialize in multicultural education.

iii. The Training of the Parents of Multicultural Families to Become Bilingual Lecturers to Support Bilingual After-School Programs (MEST)

(Significance)

- Make use of capable parents in education, by selecting highly educated bilingual parents, and providing them with intensive training to employ them as after-school lecturers.

(Current Status)

- The development and operation of training programs for highly educated bilingual parents to educate and employ them.
- As of 2010, 116 bilingual lecturers have completed the training process and are actively engaged in teaching.

(Future Plans)

- Develop additional training programs for bilingual lecturers, with an intensified evaluation scheme, and station them at schools.

(2) Establish and consolidate infrastructure to improve multicultural education

i. The Operation of the Center for Multicultural Education (MEST)

(Significance)

- The appointment and operation of the Center for Multicultural Education serves as a link between multicultural research and development centers and academic institutions.

(Current Status)

- The creation and operation of the Center for Multicultural Education*.

** Seoul National University Center for Educational Research*

- Carried out a research and development on 27 different subjects to establish the multicultural educational policy during 2007~2010.
 - The subjects include publishing a multicultural education guidebook for teachers, developing and conducting multicultural education training programs for elementary and middle school teachers, and performing a study on the education-level of students from multicultural backgrounds.
- Hosted the “Multicultural Education Best Practice Models Presentation Contest” on December 2010, and shared its exemplary cases. Also, the government sponsored a training session for outstanding trainees.

(Future Plans)

- Perform research and development related to multicultural education.
- Initiate a Conference for Experts in Multicultural Education.

ii. Multicultural Educational Personnel Training Project (Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism, hereafter “MCST”)

(Significance)

- Improve public perception on multicultural society through multicultural education and facilities.

(Current Status)

- The Promotion of the 2010 Multicultural Educational Personnel Training Project is ongoing.
 - Social interest in multiculturalism is increasing in Korea. Nonetheless, a correct understanding and appreciation for it has not yet been fully achieved in terms of cultural perspective and approach.

(Future Plans)

- Reinforce the multicultural capacity of the regional organs, such as libraries, with existing multicultural programs via education for a better understanding of multiculturalism.
- Train immigrants, including marriage migrants, along with native Koreans to be professional lecturers on multiculturalism, and dispatch them to cultural and educational fields.

iii. Installation of Multicultural Centers and the Program Support Project (MCST)

(Significance)

- Dissolve cultural differences and build a foundation for a multicultural society via the installation of multicultural centers.
- Provide foreign residents with a chance to experience

cultural and educational programs as true members of the Korean society.

(Current Status)

- Constructed six multicultural centers and supported 16 related programs.

(Future Plans)

- Install multicultural centers in public libraries: 11 centers in the plan.
- Support cultural and educational programs associated to multiculturalism: 30 programs in the plan.

iv. Promotion of Multicultural Education in Life-long Education Institutions (MEST)

(Significance)

- There has been an increase in the need for education of immigrants on communication, basic knowledge on the Korean society, and essential training necessary to adapt to life in Korea.
- Foster independence and induce the social integration of immigrants via multicultural education at life-long education institutions.

(Current Status)

- Supported life-long study of those in multicultural surroundings, including immigrant women and foreign workers.
 - Providing basic education on subjects, such as the Korean language, history, geography, culture, and arts, as well as diverse life-long education programs.
 - The government provided support for ten separate programs, with each program receiving approximately 1,000 million Korean won in grants.

(Future Plans)

- Induce a wider participation of people with multicultural backgrounds to life-long education programs by providing a persistent service.
- Assist immigrants in transferring from basic education on language, culture, and custom to education needed for finding jobs.

(3) Implement and expand multicultural education in public sectors

i. Human Rights Education Targeted at Immigration Officials (Ministry of Justice, hereafter “MOJ”)

(Significance)

- As the number of immigrants has increased in Korea, the role of immigration officers has become more significant.
- Thus human rights education to immigration officers would help the officers fulfill their duties in compliance with human rights.

(Current Status)

- A handbook on human rights issues for immigration officers was published and distributed in 2009.
- Lectures by professional human rights lecturers were delivered at the immigration office.
- A training program on human rights has been created and is being provided at the Legal Research and Training Institute (LRTI).

(Future Plans)

- Conduct advanced education programs on human rights, such as a customized training on the sensitivity of human rights.
- Train more professional human rights lecturers in order to extend human rights education at the immigration office.

ii. Multicultural Education Targeted at Local Government

Officials (Ministry of Public Administration and Security, hereafter “MOPAS”)

(Significance)

- Realizing a society that values multiculturalism by changing local government officers’ attitude towards foreign residents.

(Current Status)

- Published and distributed booklets with policy manuals and exemplary cases of local government officials helping foreign residents (2007).
- Offered education on multiculturalism to the relevant government officers (2007 onwards).
- Multicultural training programs initiated in 15 municipal and provincial training institutes for officials and the Local Government Officials Development Institute (LOGODI).
- An online multicultural education course was set up and completed (at the Central Officials Training Institute (COTI) and the Local Government Officials Development Institute (LOGODI) in 2010).

(Future Plans)

- Conduct further multicultural education courses all year round at municipal and provincial officials training institutes and the LOGODI.
- Annually provide education to local officers on services targeting foreign residents.

(4) Provide educational support for children of marriage migrants and foreign immigrants

i. Education Support for Children of Foreigners or Marriage Immigrants (eg. mentoring service provided by college students) (MEST)

(Significance)

- Customized education and mentoring by college students for

children of multicultural families, such as foreigners and immigrants, will help them adapt into the Korean society both socially and academically.

(Current Status)

- Customized education plan for students from multicultural families was established (2006~ongoing).
- Sponsoring after-school programs for students from multicultural backgrounds.
- Encourage college students with related majors (eg. Students from (Seoul) National University of Education) to participate in activities of mentoring multicultural students.

(Future Plans)

- Establish “Plans to Support Mentoring for Students from Multicultural Families by Trainee Teachers at Colleges.”

ii. Provide Children with Educational Programs on Culture and Language of their parents’ native country (MEST)

(Significance)

- Providing opportunities for students from multicultural families to learn about the culture and language of their parents’ native country will enable them to gain a sense of positive self-identity and pride.

(Current Status)

- Providing lectures on understanding multiculturalism with the help of parents of multicultural families (2009).
- Initiated projects for children from multicultural families to grow up as international leaders.

(Future Plans)

- Design a “Global Bridge Project” for students from multicultural families, so that they can take advantage of their multicultural background.

2. YOUTH

(1) Expand activities for the youth that could enrich and promote better understanding of multi-culture

i. Programs for Youth Counselors and Instructors that would Improve Multicultural Professionalism (Ministry of Gender Equality & Family, hereafter “MOGEF”)

(Significance)

- Operate educational training programs on multicultural youths for related practitioners, such as youth counselors or instructors, to fortify a manpower pooling system and increase their level of professionalism.

(Current Status)

- Created two levels (beginners and advanced) in a training program for experts on North Korean defectors and multicultural youths.
- The beginners course is held once a year, while the advanced course is a two-day program.
 - Current Status in Detail
 - a. 2007: Beginners Course (October and December), 58 participants
 - b. 2008: Beginners Course (June and September) and Advanced Course (November), 102 participants
 - c. 2009: Beginners Course (April and October), 96 participants
 - d. 2010: Beginners Course (April) and Advanced Course (November), 34 participants

(Future Plans)

- Continue programs to train professionals on North Korean defectors and multicultural youths.
- Separate the advanced courses by topics: North Korean Defectors and Multicultural Youths.

ii. Support for Activities that Strengthen Multicultural Youths' Social Capabilities (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Through “Happy Rainbow,” a support program designed for multicultural youths, a healthy friendship and settlement of multicultural youths is expected.
- Introduce education programs targeting the initial settling period, so that the youths can adjust smoothly to the Korean society.

(Current Status)

- “Happy Rainbow”
 - Regional base centers: two centers in 2008 (Busan and Iksan) → four centers in 2009 (Naju and Hongseong added) → five centers in 2010 (Ansan added) → 11 centers in total expected in 2011
- “Rainbow School”: Development of an Adaptation Program for Multicultural Youths in Their Early Stages
 - Developed and operated education programs that help multicultural youths adapt into the Korean society.
 - In 2009, a basic research on developing this program was completed, and the program was development based on the research results.
 - A trial operation of the adaptation program was carried out in two regions in 2010, and is expected to expand to six more regions in 2011.

(Future Plans)

- “Happy Rainbow”
 - 2011: Open 11 additional centers
 - 2012: Open 16 additional centers in the metropolitan cities and provinces.
- “Rainbow School”: Early stage adaptation program for multicultural youths
 - Run eight programs in total in 2011
 - Run ten programs in total in 2012

(2) Create more exchange programs for the youth

i. “Visit your Second Homeland” program for multicultural youths (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Allowing youths from multicultural families to visit their second homeland to experience the history and culture will help them grow with an appreciation of cultural diversity.

(Current Status)

- Hosting a public contest as a part of the overseas thematic experience program for multicultural youths.
- Selected two multicultural regions in Vietnam and the Philippines in 2010.

(Future Plans)

- Continue the program during 2011~2012.

ii. The AoC Related Thematic Experience Program (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Promote a better understanding of the Alliance among students interested in the AoC, through an overseas thematic experience program.

(Current Status)

- Launched an overseas thematic experience program in order to assist participants in understanding the Alliance, which seeks enhanced cooperation and conversation between different races and countries, composed of diverse cultures and religions.
- Conducted the Dialogue among Civilizations program while visiting Istanbul, Turkey in August 2010.

(Future Plans)

- Visit Istanbul, Turkey and continue the Dialogue among Civilizations program via overseas experience activities during 2012~2013.

iii. Support the Participation in Exchange Activities that Promote a Better Understanding between Civilizations, such as the “European Youth Forum,” the “International Children’s Festival,” and the “ASEM Interfaith Cultural Youth Camp” (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Promote a better understanding between civilizations by sending youths to international conferences and exchange activities.

(Current Status)

- Completed recruiting youths who will participate in various international conferences in 2011.

(Future Plans)

- Dispatch youths in various international conferences and youth-related events throughout the year (2011~2012).

3. MIGRATION

(1) Respect Diversity and Support the Social Integration of Immigrants

- i. Host the Commemorative Event, “Together Day” (MOJ)

(Significance)

- Create a place where Koreans and foreigners living in Korea can communicate and work for cultural harmony.
- Create a social atmosphere where Koreans and foreigners living in Korea can respect one another.

(Current Status)

- The third “Together Day” was hosted on May 20th, 2010.
- Essay contests with the theme of multi-culture and chorus contests for multicultural children were held in 2010.
- Events such as the walking festival and the World Culture and “Together Day” festivals were held in 2010.

(Future Plans)

- Host the 4th “Together Day” in 2011.
- Host thesis and essay contests on immigration policies and experience.
- Host multicultural events in all immigration offices throughout the country during World Week.

ii. Establish and Implement “Basic Policies for Foreigners” (MOJ)

(Significance)

- To establish national plans on policies for foreigners every five years, in accordance with Article V of the “Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea.”

(Current Status)

- Established the 1st “Basic Policies for Foreigners (2008-2012)” (December, 2008).
- Prepared an action plan in accordance with the first “Basic Policies for Foreigners.”

(Future Plans)

- Establish the 2nd “Basic Policies for Foreigners (2013-2017).”
- Annually evaluate the plans.

iii. Implementation of Social Cohesion Programs (MOJ)

(Significance)

- Standardize programs that support foreigners in adapting to life in Korea.

- Reach a consensus towards voluntary policies by providing incentives for participation in the social cohesion programs.

(Current Status)

- 76 institutes are selected for social cohesion programs (Feb., 2009).
- A system encouraging the completion of the programs is underway.

(Future Plans)

- Expand social cohesion programs for immigrants.
- Expand the scope of institutes participating in the social cohesion programs to include self-governing and private organizations.
- Identify problems and improvements via a model program.

iv. Support the Regional Multicultural Service Programs (MCST)

(Significance)

- Promotion of the interaction and cooperation among immigrants and domestic citizens.

(Current Status)

- Promoting the 2010 regional multicultural service programs (Feb. to Dec., 2010).
 - Public announcement of the regional multicultural service programs competition (March, 2010), evaluation of applications and selection, followed by a workshop (April, 2010), and a report of the accomplishments (Dec., 2010).
- Programs for 2011 have been embarked.

(Future Plans)

- Create a cultural community among migrants and multicultural families while providing support.
- Continuous management via professional consultations, and evaluations.

v. Devise Ways to Expand Multicultural Programs at local governments (MOPAS)

(Significance)

- Promotion of the secure settlement of foreign residents via local government policies offering service and information.

(Current Status)

- Provided grounds for supporting foreign residents by enacting the “Standard Ordinance to support Alien Residents” (Oct., 2006).
- 223 out of 244 local governments have finalized the local ordinance.
- The revised version of the “Standard Ordinance to support Alien Residents” was made and distributed (Dec., 2010).
- Published and distributed a “Guidebook for Life in Korea” (Jan., 2010)
 - In six languages, eighty thousand copies, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Administration and Security (MOPAS), Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW), and Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MCST).
- Support education programs via local community service centers.

(Future Plans)

- Encourage local governments without the ordinance to establish one and support alien residents (all year round).
- Continue follow-ups to the revised “Standard Ordinance.”
- Organize and ensure the manual to support alien residents at the local government level (Nov., 2010).
- Extend multilingual services on the website of local governments, and provide public medical support such as counseling and medical services (all year round)
- Establish a link between local community service centers and multicultural family support centers, and reinforce the education of the Korean language (all year round).

(2) Secure human rights of foreigners and eliminate discrimination against them

i. Implement the “Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea” (MOJ)

(Significance)

- Define an implementation system of policies and basic treatment, such as preventing the harsh treatment and protecting the human rights of foreigners in Korea, and support their social integration with the Act.

(Current Status)

- Established the “Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea” (2007, Notification № 8442).
- Established the “Basic Policies for Foreigners” in accordance with Article V of the “Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea.”
- Established the “Yearly Action Plan” in accordance with Article V of the “Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea.”
- Established the “Council of Immigration Policy” in accordance with Article VIII of the “Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea.”

(Future Plans)

- Establish the “Basic Policies for Foreigners (2013~2017).”
- Include ways to strengthen the human rights of foreigners in the “Yearly Action Plan.”

ii. Support the Enactment of the “Anti-Discrimination Laws” (MOJ)

(Significance)

- To understand the differences between religions and races, as well as to respect individual rights.

- To correspond to international trends, such as the legislative recommendations of international organizations on anti-discrimination and the enactment of anti-discrimination laws.

(Current Status)

- A proposal on anti-discrimination was made to the National Assembly in December 2007. In May 2008, however, the proposal was repealed following a session-out of the 17th National Assembly.
- Ran a taskforce on the promotion of the anti-discrimination law in 2008 and 2009.
- Established the special Committee for the Promotion of the Anti-discrimination Law (April to Nov., 2010).

(Future Plans)

- Analyze problems arising out of law, policy, and customs, and seek alternatives for their improvement.
- Do research on cases of the related Acts in other countries.

iii. Establish and operate the “Monitoring Group for Immigrant Integration Policies” (MOJ)

(Significance)

- To generate policy agenda, such as policy proposals, to help help the social adaptation of immigrants.
- To create institutional arrangements to ensure the policies reflect the established agenda.

(Current Status)

- Monitoring the staff re-selected for regional immigration offices throughout the country (328 staff members, Oct., 2010)
- Make a practical report on monitoring activities to develop social integration policies.

(Future Plans)

- Come up with ways to improve the activities of the Group.

iv. Implementation of the “International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination” (CERD) (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, hereafter “MOFAT”)

(Significance)

- To submit the national report on the implementation of the CERD
 - According to Article IX of the Convention, every member state needs to submit a national implementation report every two years.
 - a. The Republic of Korea signed the Convention on December 5th, 1978, and the Convention went into effect on January 4th, 1979.

(Current Status)

- Submitted the 13th and 14th reports (July 2005). The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination examined and evaluated these reports (Aug., 2007).

(Future Plans)

- Expected to submit the 15th and 16th reports in 2011.

v. Abolish the Prostitution of Foreign Women and Render Support to Victims (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- To regulate and eliminate prostitution, procurement, and human trafficking for the purpose of prostitution, and to support the safe return home of foreign sex slaves by making an exceptional clause in the Special Law on Prostitution in order to prevent the prostitution of foreign women.

(Current Status)

- Protect and support victims by establishing support facilities

in accordance with the exceptional clause for foreigners in the “Act on the Prevention of Sexual Trafficking, and Protection of Victims” and the “Act on the Punishment of Procuring Prostitution and Associated Acts.”

- Provide legal, medical, interpretation, and counseling services to victims, and ensure their safe return home.

(Future Plans)

- Make a constant effort over policies seeking to prevent the prostitution of foreign women, and help those who are forced into prostitution.

vi. Counseling for Foreign Residents at Immigration Offices (MOJ)

(Significance)

- To create counseling offices for foreign residents at immigration offices to meet their needs.
- To provide counseling services and substantial help to foreign residents on issues arising out of their settlement in Korea.

(Current Status)

- Total number of 24,534 grievances resolved in 2010.
 - Overdue wages for foreign residents wishing to depart Korea.
 - Medical assistance for foreigners taken into custody.
 - Domestic violence against marriage migrants.

(Future Plans)

- Offer regular counseling services at immigration offices.
- Station counselors and human rights officers at immigration offices.

(3) Secure the rights of married migrant women and support their social integration

i. Manage Brokerage Services of International Marriages (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- To prevent any harm to those utilizing marriage brokerage services, and provide human rights protection measures to promote sound international marriages between people from different nations and civilizations.

(Current Status)

- Established and implemented the “Law for Managing Marriage Brokerages.” (2008)
- Constant evaluation and guidance provided to the international marriage brokerage agencies.
- Drafted a way to “Make International Marriage Sound and Enhance Human Rights for Married Migrants” (July 2010).
- Provided education on work ethic and human rights to new brokerage workers (four hours of mandatory lectures)
 - Number of workers who have completed the education: 2,477 (2008) → 1,168 (2009) → 1,144 (2010)
- Published a standard manual for international marriage brokerage, and distributed a standardized service agreement in 2010.
- Conducted information sessions about Korea before departure to countries from which marriage migrants arrive.
- Provided education programs for relevant officials of the migrant’s native country.
- Informed marriage migrants of multicultural family support centers, and offered education on Korean culture, life, and settlement processes.
- Promoted a better understanding of the Korean society and enhanced international cooperation system between countries.

(Future Plans)

- Amend the legislation to improve the marriage brokerage system.
- Strengthen supervision, examination, and publicity toward

the brokerages.

- Expand information sessions before departure in countries that marriage migrants arrive from.

ii. Education on agriculture for married migrant women (Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, hereafter “MFAFF”)

(Significance)

- Help married migrant women in farming and fishing villages adapt to cultural environments by providing fundamental training on agriculture in general, using machines and working in the field.

(Current Status and Future Plans)

- Educated 563 women while financing 7,500,000 Korean Won from national treasuries.
- Educate 500 women each year on farming basics with the national budget.

iii. Customized training provided to married migrant women and farmers (MFAFF)

(Significance)

- Link settled married migrant women with professionals to help the former benefit from customized training and also so that they can share their cultural understanding and experience.

(Current status)

- Educated 628 women with the financial support of 4,260,000 Korean Won from national treasuries in 2009.
- Educated 636 women with the financial support of 4,260,000 Korean Won from national treasuries in 2010.

(Future plans)

- Provide a customized agriculture training program to 500

women each year with the financial support of the national budget until 2012

iv. Establish “A Network of Married Migrant Women” (MOJ)

(Significance)

- Ensure the safe settlement of migrant women by helping them form ties among themselves.
- Provide support such as the creation of communities, sharing of information, and conducting settlement support programs.

(Current status)

- Selected married migrant representatives: 333 representatives so far.
- Appointed married migrant representatives and honorary immigration officials: 192 so far.
- Encouraged the voluntary work of married migrants: 262 voluntary workers so far.

(Future plans)

- Expand the network of married migrants.
- Appoint married migrant representatives and honorary immigrant officials.
- Support Korea-friendly immigrants through various informal gatherings and cultural events for them.

v. Maintain the “Center of Emergency Support for Migrant Women” (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Protect human rights of migrant women by counseling and supporting victims of violence

(Current Status)

- Consultations are provided in nine languages, 24/7/365, via interviews, phones, and the Internet. If needed, these women

can get in touch with care centers, police stations, and medical centers.

(Future plans)

- To reinforce direct support such as interviews and travel advice, local centers are operated in various regions. By 2012, eight regional centers are expected to be installed and run (four centers in 2009 → six centers in 2010 → eight centers in 2012)

vi. Operation of “Shelters for Migrant Women” (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Shelters are designed to protect migrant women who find normal family or social lives difficult due to violence, or are in need of protection. Furthermore, to protect the human rights of these women via medical and legal support.

(Current status)

- 18 care centers (shelters) for migrant women in the country.
 - Women are provided with accommodation, meals, legal advice, medical treatment, and other consultations.

(Future plans)

- Promote businesses to improve housing environments (until Dec. 2010) and strengthen services in the shelters by expanding the budget for emergencies.

vii. Operation of “Self-Support Centers for Migrant Women” (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Seek to support and provide assistance to migrant women and (OR who are) victims of violence, in terms of residence and employment

(Current status)

- A self-support center is open in Seoul.
- The center seeks to provide residence, job training, and child care to migrant women and their children.

(Future plans)

- Analyze the achievements and try to provide a more effective support.

(4) Provide stronger support for multicultural families

i. Expansion of information services for multicultural families (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Provide information and policy in various languages so that multicultural families will not have difficulty accessing the provided information.

(Current status)

- Published and distributed the “Rainbow+” magazine to provide information about policies and lifestyles.
- Annually published and distributed 60,000 copies, totaling 240,000 copies (2010) in six languages (2008) → in eight languages (2009) → in nine languages (2010).
 - Nine languages: Korean, English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Tagalog, Mongolian, Russian, and Japanese
- Published a guidebook for multicultural families.
- Published 105,000 copies in nine languages in association with the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism and Ministry of Public Administration and Service.
- Maintained websites in various languages.
- Provided various teaching materials about life in Korea, supported inter-communication through sharing knowledge on online communities.

(Future plans)

- Improve and activate portal websites for multicultural

families.

- Expand the distribution of the “Rainbow” magazine.
- Host a network conference to support multicultural families.

ii. Stronger support for the “Center for Multicultural Families” (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Provide various services such as an education on the Korean language, family education, and support for business.
- The number of centers grew from 159 in 2010 to 200 in 2011.

(Current status)

- Expand centers for multicultural families and budget support, which take into consideration the operational differences and the scopes of businesses

Unit	2010	2011
Number	159 centers	200 centers (26% increase)
Budget	7,728,000,000 Korean Won	12,020,000,000 Korean Won (55.5% increase)
Assistance rates	50,000,000 – 87,000,000 Korean Won	80,000,000 – 105,000,000 Korean Won (assistances vary according to the number of married migrants and project results)

(Future plans)

- Establish plans to check upon centers and carry out these processes throughout the year.
- Assess the results of business assistances provided to multicultural families.

- Open conferences for business reports in 2011.
- Host a Support-Network contest for multicultural families in 2011.

iii. Expansion of language and education support for multicultural families (MOGEF)

(Significance)

- Promote businesses to nurture the children of multicultural families to be healthy and talented to be a global leader.
- Support the growth of children and nurture the rearing capacities of parents by supporting their language development and education of various languages

(Current status)

- Visit and educate about rearing children
- Provide guidance and education about rearing children so that parents can elevate their capacity to rear children in consideration of their environment and children's development cycle.
 - 1,330 childcare consultants were dispatched, and the center supported 9,613 families in 2010.
- Perform visiting language education to children of multicultural families with businesses to visiting married migrants.
- Through the systematic support of language development for multicultural children, assist the healthy growth of the children.
 - Train professionals, conduct programs, and diagnose language development and educational services by dispatching professionals to childcare facilities nearby.
 - a. 200 professionals have been dispatched in 2011.
- Support multicultural children with bilingual education to help them grow as global leaders.
 - Conduct bilingual programs at centers for multicultural families by training lecturers to speak various languages
 - a. 94 centers in 2010

(Future plans)

- Recruit and educate instructors to be multilingual.
- Assess the programs in July and August, and report the results in December.

iv. Establish and implement the “Basic policy plans for support of multicultural families” (Prime Minister’s Office)

(Significance)

- Establish a basic policy following Article 2 of the Regulations for the Committee for Multicultural Families, to improve the life quality and social integration of multicultural families.

(Current status)

- Established Regulations for the Committee for Multicultural Families (Training Notification, Sep., 2009).
- Established the first Basic Policy Plan on Support for Multicultural Families (2010-2012). (May, 2010)
- Established the first Implementation Plan for 2011, according to the Basic Policy Plan (March, 2011).

(Future plans)

- Evaluate the 2011 Implementation Plan, establish and evaluate an implementation plan for 2012.
- Establish a Basic Policy Plan on Support for Multicultural Families (2013-2017).

v. Welfare tour for the vulnerable (MCST)

(Significance)

- Provide the vulnerable with traveling services to deal with bi-polarization in this section.
- Create a system with a variety of continuous traveling programs to meet the needs of the socially vulnerable.

(Current status)

- Welfare tour targets the socially vulnerable (multicultural families, foreign workers, the disabled, the aged, and the low-income families) and provides traveling vouchers in 3 kinds: private traveling, welfare facilities and locally designed vouchers.
- In case of locally designed vouchers, those who are selected receive budget support for traveling within the nation.
 - Less than 150,000 Korean Won per person supported, between June and December.

(Future plans)

- Announce project bulletins, receive applications, select institutions, and implement projects by 2011.
- Agency in charge : 15 local governments

vi. Support sports activities of multicultural families (MCST)

(Significance)

- Promote sports programs that multicultural families can enjoy with other families.

(Current status)

- Operate classes for sports activities (130 rooms for nine months)
 - Conduct programs that children of multicultural families can enjoy with those from other families.
- Sports festivals for multicultural families
 - Hold sports festivals to bring multicultural families together.
- Sports camp for multicultural families(once a month)

(Future plans)

- Maintain an operation of 130 classrooms for sports activities (from April to December).
- Hold sports festivals and camps for multicultural families (Once amongst 16 cities).

4. Media

(1) Better Understanding of Multicultural, Intercultural and Interfaith Issues through Media

i. Develop and supply cultural contents that will enhance multiculturalism (MCST)

(Significance)

- Enhance the domestic awareness of multiculturalism by introducing different cultures.

(Current status)

- A multicultural musical concert, “Love in Asia,” performed in different regions in Korea (2010).
- Looking for other multicultural performances (2011).

(Future plans)

- Select new regions that multicultural performances will visit.
- Evaluate the achievements after the performances are held.

ii. Financial support for media contents that enhance multiculturalism (Korea Communications Commission, hereafter “KCC”)

(Significance)

- Financial support for media contents, which are difficult to be supplied voluntarily, to contribute to social cohesion and enhance awareness of a multicultural society

(Current status)

- Supported Education Broadcasting System’s (EBS) programs on multiculturalism.
- Supported IPTV subtitle services from 2010 to improve the understanding of Korean culture within multicultural families.

(Future plans)

- Invite projects to be supported, screen, select and support the project, and review the final report on the project.
- EBS is scheduled to make 182 programs under five projects.
- Support subtitle services.

(2) Provide media education to support multicultural families and improve understanding of multi-culture

i. Development of teaching materials for multicultural media education and support for media education activities geared towards multicultural families (KCC)

(Significance)

- Through media education geared towards multicultural families, seek to help these families adapt to the Korean society, gain a proper understanding of the Korean culture, and successfully achieve social cohesion.

(Current status)

- Development of teaching materials (Title of textbook: Multiculturalism and Media Education)
 - Develop teaching materials that will help multicultural families adapt successfully to the Korean society in reflection of the fact that multicultural families are on the rise in the country.
- Support Media Education targeting multicultural families (2009)

(Future plans)

- Encourage media education projects on multicultural families, and select one to be supported. (2011)
- Run a separate project by the Korea Radio Operation Agency.

5. Other areas of activities

A. Migrant workers

(1) Guarantee human rights for migrant workers

i. Implement the “Act on Foreign Workers’ Employment” (Ministry of Employment and Labor, hereafter MEL)

(Significance)

- “Act on the Foreign Workers’ Employment” clearly prohibits discrimination towards foreign migrant workers to protect their rights

(Current status)

- “AWFE” guarantees that migrant workers under the “EPS” enjoy the same rights as applied to domestic workers. Decrees specifying the rights are as follows: Labor Standards Act, Minimum Wage Act and Occupational Safety and Health Act.
 - Under Article 6 of the “Labor Standards Act,” an employer cannot discriminate workers by gender, nationality, faith, or social status.
- Accident Compensation Insurance and Health Insurance are applied on equal terms to both foreign and domestic laborers.
- Return Cost Insurance, a migrant workers-only insurance that provides fares in case they return home and the Obligatory Accident Insurance, which gives provisions against illness outside the workplace, will guarantee migrant workers’ their rights, safe stay, and journey back home.

(Future plans)

- For the efficiency of the AFWE, a periodic inspection will be conducted to make sure that business owners abide by the labor conditions, pay appropriate wages, and do not discriminate against migrant workers or breach the Labor Relations Act.

ii. Periodic labor supervisions of businesses with numerous foreigners (MEL)

(Significance)

- Periodically supervise businesses to continuously control working conditions and the payment of wages to foreign laborers
 - In particular, businesses that have employed migrant workers in grand numbers will be supervised to ensure that the labor conditions of migrant workers are protected.

(Current status)

(as of February, 2011)

By Year	Workplaces supervised	Violation cases	Violation cases related to..			
			Employment permit system	Working conditions	Minimum wage	Immigration Control Law
2005	2,770	483	323	31	121	8
2006	3,508	872	564	186	95	27
2007	4,338	869	646	65	126	32
2008	4,935	1,343	3,170	168	107	119
2009	4,146	1,122	2,393	119	98	79
2010	4,287	1,686	2,400	256	43	112

(Future plans)

- In 2011, plans have been set to intensively supervise 1,800 workplaces with many foreign laborers as employees.
 - In accordance with the Employment Permit System, supervision will look into detail every issued report/claim and whether duties have been performed or not in appropriate terms and manners.
 - Supervision will look into labor conditions such as liquidation of money and valuables, violation of minimum wage, and sexual harassment

- Supervision will look into the violation of the Immigration Control Law such as Illegal employment.
- Following up on investigation in late 2009, investigations will be made on whether the employer has taken away the employee's passport and therefore violated his/her human rights.
 - a. According to Article 17 Section 1 of the Immigration Control Act, foreigners staying in Korea must hold onto their own passports.
- Consultation on the system and other difficulties of business owners and foreign laborers.

iii. Reinforcement of the safety and health management for migrant workers (MEL)

(Significance)

- In the case where the migrant worker has trouble adapting to the different Korean culture, understanding, or communicating, or lacks work capacity, he/she is understood to be weak in regard to health and safety and thus,
 - Safety and health management programs must be reinforced to ensure the foreign laborer's safety and health and thereby his/her human rights.

(Current status)

- Safety and health education for migrant workers has been conducted.
- Supported development and distribution of materials for education.
 - Teaching plans, posters, stickers, and animations about accident cases (51 types in total)
 - Development of teaching materials/textbooks on safety and health in 13 mother languages (4 types in total)
 - a. Chinese, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Bangladesh, Pakistani, Thai, Mongolian, Sri Lankan, Uzbekistani, English, and more

(Future plans)

- Continue developing education contents and carrying out safety and health education for multicultural families, with the help of Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency.

(2) Better treatment for migrant workers, and support for social integration

i. “Korea Migrants Support Center” (MEL)

(Significance)

- Translation service is provided to migrant workers for their smooth transition into the Korean society. Migrants Centers has been installed to provide translation, counseling, and education of the Korean language.

(Current status)

- In seven regions, where migrant workers are concentrated – large centers and 29 small centers have been installed and are being operated.

(Future plans)

- Intend to diversify support centers for migrant workers and to install a more adhesive consumer-centered support system.
- Make a call-center to provide counseling services.
- In areas with poor support services for migrant workers, services such as monthly labor counseling and free medical treatment will be provided to the migrant workers.

ii. Support for the cultural life of migrant workers (MEL)

(Significance)

- Support migrant workers’ health and stability during their stay in Korea, by providing different community-centered cultural activities depending on the migrant workers’ country of origin.

(Current status)

- In cases where foreigner workers organize cultural events, the MEL partially sponsors them.
 - In 2010, the MEL sponsored six countries, including Sri Lanka and Bagladesh.

(Future plans)

- The MEL will select cultural activities to support, and will support the organizing of these events.

B. Interfaith dialogue

(1) Enhance interfaith understanding

i. Utilize allied religious organizations to support activities that enhance interfaith understanding (MCST)

(Significance)

- Contribute to encourage a sound religious mind and understanding of other religions.

(Current status)

- Support allied religious organizations, such as the Korean Council of Religious Leaders, the Korean Conference on Religion and Peace (KCRP), the Asian Conference on Religion and Peace (ACRP), and the United Religious Initiative of Korea (URI-ORE).
- Sponsor projects that aim for inter-religious understanding, such as Joint Seminars between Christianity and Buddhism, Inter-religious Dialogue Camps, Courses for understanding other religions and so on.
- Reciprocal pilgrimage conducted from 2007 and onwards, amongst the leaders of the seven main religious bodies: Buddhism, Catholicism, Protestantism, Won Buddhism, Confucianism, Cheondogyo, and the Religion of a People.

(Future plans)

- Stronger support for projects aimed at understanding other religions, such as Inter-religious Colloquium, Religious Peace Forum, Seminar on Islam and Korean Religions, Programs for International Religious Cooperation, Joint Pilgrimage of religious leaders and so forth.
- Strengthen cooperation among allied religious organizations, by expanding budget for organizations established with such purposes.

ii. Support for cultural events of Religious Organizations (MCST)

(Significance)

- Care for the vulnerable and create a chance to promote religious cooperation.

(Current status)

- Support cultural events such as religious culture festivals, culture camps for multicultural families and Symposium for the Media.
- Help each religion fulfill its role as a facilitator for social integration by establishing hot-lines for suicide prevention and encourage “Sharewill” campaign (a religious campaign in Buddhism, aimed at spreading out hope).

(Future plans)

- Support cultural events to embrace the vulnerable.
- Help religious organizations in solving various social problems including polarization and conflicts in a multicultural society.
 - Support mental health and stability of the vulnerable by running websites for preventing suicide and various campaigns spreading out hope.

(2) Implement programs in advance to prevent potential interfaith conflicts

i. Operation of activities that seek to prevent religious discriminative acts by public officials (MCST)

(Significance)

- Maintenance of religious neutrality by activities such as preventive education activities on the religious discrimination for public officials.
- Encourage public officials to focus on fairness.

(Current status)

- Improvement of law and policies for eradicating acts of religious discrimination by public officials.
 - Revision of Article 4 of the “Regulations on State Officials’ Duties,” and establishment of new clauses that prohibit religious discrimination (Sep. 18th, 2008)
 - Revision of Article 6 of “The Code of Conduct for Public Officials”, and establishment of new clauses that prohibit religious discrimination (Nov. 5th, 2008)
 - Revision of the “State Public Officials Act” and “Local Public Officials Act,” and establishment of clauses that prevent beforehand religious discrimination by public officials (Feb. 6th, 2009)
 - Plan to provide a manual to prevent religious discrimination by state officials and improve religious education.
- Promotion of policies that seek to eradicate acts of religious discrimination by public officials.
 - Establishment of a “Report Center for Religious Discrimination by Public Officials” (Oct., 2008), and development of preventive activities by receiving reports.
 - Operation of the Advisory Committee on the Religious Discrimination of State Officials.
 - Research done to prevent religious discrimination.
- Reinforcement of preventive education on religious discrimination for public officials.
 - Training Guide for Public Officials, 2009 included preventive education on religious discrimination.

- Workshop for local governments, local education authorities, and related public officials implemented twice in 2009, with 334 participants.
- Support for teaching materials and instructors to expand preventive education on racial discrimination to public officials of all levels.
- Distribute teaching materials and develop case studies to public officials at each level to prevent racial discrimination.
- Dispatch professional trainers for preventive education on religious discrimination.
- Develop on-line course packages and create and distribute comic book contents on the issue of preventing religious discrimination.

(Future plans)

- Continuous promotion of policies that will prevent religious discrimination by public officials.
 - Continuous hosting of the Advisory Committee to deal with reported cases.
 - Work on education and public relations plans, and distribute Preventive Guide on Religious Discrimination by Public Officials.
 - Prepare a draft on ways to improve religious education and consult with relevant government bodies.
- Deliver training courses to more public officials on this issue, with revised and improved manuals, joint workshops and professional trainers.

C. Intercultural and inter-religious dialogues in regional and international forum

(1) Enhance mutual understanding and exchange with countries in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa

i. Korea-Arab Society (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- To improve the current Korea-Arab relationship, which is based on economic cooperation, to be based on omni-directional political and cultural cooperation, diverse cooperative programs have been pursued to enhance the relationship, including the cooperative nonprofit organization established in 2008.

(Current status)

- Arab Cultural Festival (held in Korea) hosts various programs, such as the performances by Arab troupes, exhibitions and Arab film festivals to introduce diverse Arabic cultures.
- Korea-Arab Friendship Express Caravan (held overseas) introduces Korean culture to the Arabic region, by sending a delegation to host events such as Taekwondo, break-dancing, and “Samulnori(Korean traditional musical instruments)” performances and korean food festivals.

(Future plans)

- Continue hosting the Arab Cultural Festivals and the Korea-Arab Friendship Express Caravans, as well as other various programs to improve relations between Korea and the Arabic countries.

ii. ASEAN-Korea Centre (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- As an international organization that seeks to increase regional cooperation, the ASEAN-Korea Centre functions as a window of exchange which seeks to increase mutual understanding and essential cooperation between the two via enhancement of commerce, expedition of investments, cultural exchanges, and promotion of tourism.
- Korea and 10 ASEAN member states have agreed to set up the organization on March 13th, 2009.

(Current status)

- 19 ongoing projects in the areas of trade/investment, culture/tourism, and informational science.
- 8 projects in the area of trade/investment, such as investment seminars, delegations and exhibitions of goods.
- 7 projects in the area of culture/tourism, such as cultural performances, exhibitions, and lectures targeting the public.
- 4 projects in the area of information science, such as the operation of websites and multimedia contest exhibitions.

(Future plans)

- Intend to reinforce projects in the area of cultural and personal exchanges to raise mutual awareness between Korea and ASEAN and to encourage active exchanges.
- Take advantage of the Korean wave through utilizing Korean soap operas and movies that are popular in Southeast Asia, and prepare diverse exchange programs that will increase the public's participation.
- In addition, to increase the awareness of ASEAN in Korea, prepare exchange programs that will introduce the cultures of ASEAN member states to the Korean public.
 - Promote programs such as ASEAN Cultural Tourism Forum and ASEAN Youth Exchange Program.

iii. Korea-Africa Forum (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- As a follow up to the "Korea Initiative for Africa Development," announced during the Korean President's visit to Africa, "Korea-Africa Forum" was initiated as a regular form of dialogue. (Nov., 2006)
- Willing to strengthen ties with Africa, Korea expects to share its experience, contribute to improve life-standards and find areas of mutual interest through the Forum.

(Current status)

- The 1st Korea-Africa Forum (Nov., 2006, Seoul)

- Korea-Africa Forum, Inter-Sessional Forum (Nov., 2007, Johannesburg, South Africa)
- Korea-Africa Forum, Inter-Sessional Forum (Oct., 2008, Mohammed 5th University, Morocco)
- The 2nd Korea-Africa Forum (Nov., 2009)
 - Co-hosted by the South Korean government and the African Union
- Korea-Africa Forum, Inter-Sessional Forum (Dec., 2010, Adisababa)

(Future plans)

- The next-term forum to be hosted in 2012.
 - The Inter-Sessional Forum to be held in 2011.

iv. Two-way Cultural Exchange Project (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- Introduce cultures from Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia that the Korean public is not familiar with and help them understand and raise awareness of other cultures.

(Current status)

- Caravan to Africa (Dec., 2007, Seoul); Arab Cultural Festival (June, 2008, Seoul); Silk Road Cultural Festival (Nov., 2008, Jeju and Seoul), Korea-Central Asia Cultural Festival (May, 2009); Latin American Cultural Festival (Jul.-Aug., 2009); ASEAN Culture & Tourism Fair (2009, Seoul, Gyeongju, Yongin); 2010 Indian Film Festival (Seoul); Black Sea Cultural Festival (2010, Seoul); Korea-Mongolia Arts Festival (2010, Jeju)

(Future plans)

- Find and host cultural events about Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia, so that the Korean public can raise awareness and understanding about other cultures.

(2) Participate in intercultural and interfaith dialogues and

discussions at regional cooperation organizations

i. Participation in the ASEM Interfaith dialogue (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- Launched with its first conference in Indonesia (July, 2005), to seek ways to enhance inter-faith and inter-cultural understanding.
 - Lack of inter-faith and inter-cultural understanding was pointed out as one of the main causes of international security issues such as terrorism.

(Current status)

- 1st conference: Indonesia, 2005
- 2nd conference: Cyprus, 2006
- 3rd conference: China, 2007
- 4th conference: Netherlands, 2008
- 5th conference: Republic of Korea, 2009
 - The 5th ASEM Inter-faith dialogue
 - a. on Bridging Divides through Interfaith Dialogue (Sep., 2009, Seoul)
 - a) Reinforce social cohesion to fight the financial crisis.
 - b) Practical contributions by religions for a better multicultural society.
 - 6th Conference: Spain, 2010

(Future plans)

- Encourage relevant government bodies and religious/academic groups involve in the ASEM interfaith Dialogue.

ii. Participation in intercultural and interfaith dialogues held at CICA(Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia) (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- Enhance interfaith, intercultural, interracial understanding via

CICA which encompasses diverse cultures such as Central Asia, Southwest Asia, and the Middle East.

- At the 2nd CICA Ministerial Meeting, “human dimensions” was selected as one of the spheres in which it seeks to build credibility, including expedition of inter-alliance, intercultural, and interfaith dialogues.

(Current status)

- Kyrgyzstan a seminar titled “Dialogue of Confessions – A Path to a Stable Society.” (March, 2009, Bishkek)

(Future plans)

- Plan to participate in the “human dimensions” talks and related seminars.

iii. Participation in the inter-cultural dialogue at the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- ACD aims for regional cooperation that brings together 31 Asian states and embraces diverse cultures within.
- ACD promotes as one of its cooperative businesses “Cultural Dialogue,” plans to increase mutual understanding among diverse cultures, and reinforce “Asian Connectivity.”

(Current status)

- As a contribution to the ACD Cultural Compendium, an article entitled “Outlook for Korea’s Traditional Medicine” was included in the ACD Cultural Compendium.
- As part of the cultural project selected as the 20th ACD cooperative project in 2008, Thailand published an ACD cultural handbook publication titled, “Innovating Asian Wisdom for the Modern World.”

(Future plans)

- Continue participation in the inter-cultural dialogue.

(3) Participate in intercultural and interfaith dialogues and discussions at international organizations

i. Participation in intercultural dialogues held at UNESCO (MOFAT)

(Significance)

- As a UN organization was established to contribute to peace and security with education, science and culture. UNESCO has chosen spreading the “Culture of Peace” through enhancing cultural diversity and promoting education for international understanding.
- In particular, UNESCO was given a leading role in preparing the celebration of the UN “International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures.”
- In accordance with the objective above, Korea intends to participate in intercultural and interfaith dialogue discussions and in projects related to the processes of norm-formation to contribute to the development of a culture of peace.

(Current status)

- As a member of the Executive Board(2007-2011), Korea ratified the UNESCO “Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.”
- Involved in the special session discussions on culture education and rapprochement of cultures at the 2010 UNESCO World Cultural Art Forum.
- Engaged in inter-cultural dialogues at various occasions in major UNESCO meetings.
- The Korean National Commission for UNESCO held the 2010 Global Forum on Civilization and Peace with the Academy of Korean Studies. (June, 2010, Seoul)

(Future plans)

- Seek to participate in discussions and projects related to inter-cultural dialogues held at UNESCO.
- Intend to promote culture diversity and operate education

projects that increase international understanding by utilizing domestic UNESCO institutions such as the “Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding” and the Korean National Commission for UNESCO.

/END/