

Joint Press Statement of the 2nd Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks

Pyongyang, September 1, 2000

The 2nd Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks were held in Pyongyang from August 29 to September 1, 2000.

Emphasizing anew the great significance of the June 15 Joint Declaration, the two delegations assessed that the declaration is bearing fruitful results. The two delegations reaffirmed their efforts to faithfully implement the Joint Declaration and have agreed as follows:

- 1 South and North Korea will hold two more rounds of reunion of separated families and relatives within this year. The two sides will hold a new round of Inter-Korean Red Cross talks soon to discuss the details. At the planned Red Cross talks, the two Koreas will discuss matters related to separated families including exchange of letters.
- 2 South and North Korea will work toward easing military tension and ensuring peace. To that end, the two Koreas will discuss to hold talks between South and North Korean military authorities at an early date.
3. South and North Korea will establish a legal framework for economic cooperation such as guarantee of investment and avoidance of double taxation. The two sides will hold working-level contact concerning this matter sometime in September. In addition, the South will review and proceed with food aid in loans to the North considering that the North continues to be afflicted by natural calamities.
4. South and North Korea will hold working-level contact to discuss groundbreaking schedule for connecting the railway between Seoul and Shinuiju and opening the road linking Munsan and Gaeseong.
5. South and North Korea will meet to promote joint flood prevention project on the Imjin River at an early date.
6. South and North Korea will exchange about 100 tourists from each side to visit Mt. Halla in the South and Mt. Paektu in the North between mid-September and early October.
7. South and North Korea will hold a third round of ministerial-level talks at Mt. Halla on September 27 to 30.

Source: *Peace and Prosperity: White Paper on Korean Unification 2005* (Ministry of Unification: Seoul, 2005)