

## **Joint Press Statement of the 4th Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks**

**Pyongyang, December 16, 2000**

The 4th Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks was held in Pyongyang from December 12 to 16, 2000.

During the talks, both sides assessed the projects undertaken during the last six months to implement the historic Inter-Korean Joint Declaration as a success. Having agreed to active implementation of the Joint Declaration in the year 2000, they have agreed on the following points:

1. To promote a balanced development and co-prosperity of the Korean national economy, the South and the North shall establish and operate Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation Promotion Committee. The joint Committee shall consist of a vice- ministerial level head of delegation and 5-7 members from each side. The first meeting of the Committee shall be held in Pyongyang around December 26, 2000. The two sides shall discuss and resolve such practical issues in pending economic cooperation as the supply of electricity, connection of railways and highway, construction of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex and promotion of the Imjin River flood prevention projects.
2. The South and the North agreed to cooperate in the fishing industry. The North offered a part of its fishing ground on the East Sea to the South. The two sides agreed that the people representing their fishery authorities should meet in the Mt. Geumgang area as soon as possible to discuss the matter.
3. The South and the North agreed to advise their respective Taekwondo organizations to meet with each other to discuss the exchange of exhibition teams between the two Koreas.
4. The South and the North shall promote address checks and exchange of letters between the members of separated families. The address checks shall be limited to one hundred people from each side both in January and in February. The exchange of letters shall be limited to about three hundred people from each side in March.
5. The South and the North shall exchange the third group of one hundred separated families at the end of February 2001.
6. The North shall send its Mt. Halla tourist delegation in March and economic mission during the first half of 2001.
7. The South and the North shall have each of the four agreements signed by the heads of delegation, related to investment protection, avoidance of double taxation, account settlement and business dispute arbitration, go through the necessary procedure for its effectuation and notify each other of the results.
8. The South and the North shall hold the fifth round of Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks in

consultation.

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