

Joint Press Release of the 7th Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks

Seoul, August 14, 2002

The 7th Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks were held in Seoul from August 12 to 14, 2002

During the talks, the two sides confirmed their willingness to carry out faithfully the historic June 15 South-North Joint Declaration, consulted each other on measures to implement the April 5 Joint Press Statement and other matters of mutual concern, and agreed as follows:

- 1 The South and the North will hold the 2nd round of the South-North Economic Cooperation Committee meeting in Seoul from August 26 to 29.

During the meeting, the two sides will consult each other on issues relating to reconnection of the inter-Korean railroad and highway, construction of the Gaeseong Industrial Complex, anti-flood measures along the Imjin River and other economic cooperation issues. Regarding the railroad and highway reconnection works on the Seoul-Sinuiju Line and along the East Coast, the two sides will start construction work simultaneously; however, the final starting date will be determined later, taking technical problems into account.

- 2 The South and the North will take promptly the military assurance measures for the reconnection of the inter-Korean railways and roads and will hold a meeting between the military authorities at an early date.
- 3 POT a joint investigation of the Innam Dam at the Anbyeon Youth Power Plant, the South and the North will hold a working-level contact in the middle of September at Mt. Geumgang.
- 4 On the occasion of Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving Day), the South and the North will hold the 5th reunion of the separated families at Mt. Geumgang.

The size of the family groups and the procedures will follow the precedents of the 4th reunion of the separated families, and other details will be consulted at Panmunjeom. In addition, in order to resolve issues relating to the family reunion, the two sides will hold the 4th South-North Red Cross Talks between delegations headed by a top-level officer of each national Red Cross at Mt. Geumgang from September 4 to 6; at this time, the two sides will consult each other about such issues as the establishment and operation of family reunion facilities.

- 5 The South and the North will hold the second round of official talks from September 10 to 12 at Mt. Geumgang to revitalize the Mt. Geumgang tourism.
- 6 In connection with various working-level issues, including North Korea's participation in the 14th Asian Games in Busan and torch relays from Mt. Baekdu, consultations will be held from August 17 at Mt. Geumgang between the Busan Asian Games Organizing Committee and the North Korean Olympic Committee, and the South and the North will actively cooperate so that they will proceed smoothly.

- 7 The South and the North will actively cooperate so that the South-North Soccer match will be successfully held in Seoul from September 6 to 8.
- 8 The South and the North will proceed with exchanges of Taekwondo demonstration teams, and further agree that the Southern team will visit Pyongyang in mid-September and the Northern team will visit Seoul in late October, and that they will arrange meetings for detailed consultations between the concerned organizations.
- 9 A North Korean economic observation team will visit the South in late October.
- 10 The South and the North will hold the eighth Inter-Korean Ministerial Talks in Pyongyang from October 19 to 22.

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