

Joint Statement of  
The Fifth Tripartite Health Ministers Meeting (THMM)  
13 November 2011  
Qingdao, China

We, the Chinese, Japanese and Korean Health Ministers met in Qingdao, China on the 13th of November 2011 and discussed issues of common concern to our three countries in health and medical fields. The discussion covered Non-Communicable Disease prevention and control, Health Response to Emergencies such as Natural Disaster, and other topics.

I. Non-Communicable Disease

Prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes is our common concern. We acknowledge the importance and need to exchange and cooperate in the field of Non-Communicable Disease prevention and control. We fully endorse the Seoul Declaration on Non-communicable Disease Prevention and Control in the Western Pacific Region made at the WHO Western Pacific Regional High-level Meeting in Seoul in March 2011, Moscow Declaration made at the First Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyle and Noncommunicable Disease Control in Moscow in April 2011 and Political Declaration made at the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases in New York in September 2011.

We decided to commit ourselves to actively engaging with all relevant sectors of governments in the follow-up to the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases. For that, we will hold ASEAN+3 Symposium on Non-Communicable Disease Prevention and Control today in Qingdao. We will share our efforts and experiences with ten ASEAN member states. We decided to have further cooperation and exchanges among us to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases.

II. Health Response to Emergencies such as Natural Disaster

The joint statement issued at the first THMM designated emergency preparedness and responses including disaster management as an area for tripartite health cooperation. Since then the exchange in this area has been conducted continuously. The International Symposium on Disaster Medical Management was held in Tokyo in March 2009. Two international conferences on health response to natural disasters were held in Chengdu China in April 2009 and September 2010. Experts and officials

from our three countries attended these conferences and symposiums.

In March 2011 Japan was hit by an unprecedented earthquake and tsunami disaster, which posed great challenge to health of the affected people. China and Korea expressed condolence and willingness to offer support through CJK health cooperation mechanism. Solidarity was manifested in response to the Post-disaster relief. To communicate the experiences of the Post-disaster health relief work, we held a small group meeting on health response to Fukushima nuclear accident in Beijing in October 2011. We reaffirmed our commitment to cooperating in the field of emergency preparedness and responses in the future.

### III Other Issues

#### 1. Pandemic Influenza

Joint response to pandemic influenza is the area in which the Tripartite Health Cooperation started. Since 2007, we have signed the Memorandum of Cooperation regarding Joint Response against Pandemic Influenza and the Joint Action Plan on Joint Preparedness and Response against Pandemic Influenza among the Ministry of Health China, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan, and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs of the Republic of Korea. On the basis of these documents, we carried out various cooperation activities including seminars and workshops. The Ministries have also shared pandemic influenza prevention and control information through their focal points. We decided to commit ourselves to continuing this cooperation and minimize any negative impact of pandemic influenza in our region.

#### 2. Food Safety

Food safety is one of the important areas under the framework of the tripartite health cooperation. We have signed the Memorandum of Cooperation on Food Safety in November 2009. Based on this document, we have strengthened cooperation by holding a tripartite food safety forum in Jeju in November 2010. We also discussed the food safety measures in the small group meeting on health response to Fukushima nuclear accident in Beijing in October 2011. We reaffirmed our commitment to continuing our cooperation in this field on the basis of the Memorandum of Cooperation signed in 2009.

#### 3. Clinical Trial

Tripartite cooperation on clinical trials has been one of our cooperation areas since the first THMM. We held the fourth Director-General level meeting in Tokyo in October 2011. Through these meetings we enhanced our tripartite cooperation in the area of clinical trial. We shared the view that we need to strengthen cooperation on clinical trials between the Ministries.

#### 4. Health-related MDGs

In the fourth THMM, we decided to work together in our efforts to implement the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health launched at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the Sixty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. We shared the view that improving health of women and children in developing countries is one of core elements in achieving health-related MDGs. We decided to continue our cooperation in this field. As part of the efforts, Korea will host the International Forum on Strengthening MCH Partnerships for Attaining MDGs on 15 November 2011 in Seoul, with a view to strengthening cooperation between our three countries in conducting programs for maternal and child health in developing countries.

#### IV Next Meeting

1. We reaffirmed the shared recognition that the Ministers Meeting is to be held on a regular basis and that all activities will be conducted on a basis of equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit, and should be in harmony with the activities and goals of other international health bodies, where applicable, and do not affect relations currently established between institutions or individuals of each country.
2. The next meeting will be held in Japan.