

**Joint Statement of the Special Video Conference of Tripartite Health
Ministers' Meeting (THMM) on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
Response
(15 May 2020)**

WE, the Health Ministers of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, discussed on 15 May 2020 through a special video conference the ways forward in enhancing preparedness, prevention, detection and response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the unprecedented and severe challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the well-being, livelihood and safety of our peoples and its adverse impact on the socio-economic development of our respective countries and the world at large;

EXPRESSING deepest condolences and sympathies for the loss of life and suffering caused by the pandemic;

EMPHASIZING our gratitude and support to all medical professionals, healthcare workers and other frontline personnel who have been working with all their hearts and minds to fight the pandemic, saving people's lives;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of people's participation in preventing and controlling COVID-19;

SUPPORTING the call by the United Nations Secretary-General for all nations to respond decisively, innovatively and collectively to suppress the spread of the virus and address the socio-economic impact of COVID-19;

WELCOMING the commitment expressed by the Special ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) statement of 14 April 2020 to present a united front against the common threat of COVID-19;

NOTING the efforts by three countries in responding to COVID-19 from its early outbreak.

REAFFIRMING our shared commitment to strengthen solidarity, enhance cooperation and mutual support among our three countries to control and contain the spread of the pandemic, addressing the adverse impact of the pandemic on our societies and economies.

To this aim, we hereby resolve to

1. support and commit to further strengthen the WHO ' s mandate, particularly in WPRO, in coordinating the international fight against the pandemic, including the protection of front-line health workers, delivery of medical supplies, especially diagnostic tools, treatments, medicines, and vaccines. We call for a global response and a sustainable solution to the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize that the COVID -19 pandemic response requires worldwide solidarity and urgent global effort. We encourage all countries and donors to contribute to all relevant global health security mechanisms.
2. agree to enhance free, open, transparent and timely sharing of information, data and expertise on prevention, detection, control and response measures, epidemiologic surveillance updates, risk assessment results, epidemiological, clinical, virological, and laboratory characteristics on COVID-19, treatment experience, including diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, vaccine and technical guidelines.
3. commit to continue to further the exchange and cooperation between our technical institutions to strengthen the preparedness, surveillance, prevention, detection and response mechanisms of our three countries on public health emergencies. We recognize the importance of sharing the information and experience in order to prevent and control the COVID-19.