

Vision Statement for the 2020 Global Korea Convention:

Toward a World-Leading Nation Contributing to World Peace, Co-prosperity, and Sustainable Development

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global community is facing an unprecedented threat. The virus is spreading with no end in sight while economic crises are worsening. Inequality is widening both between and within countries and democracy is being eroded while power politics is resurgent. We can even observe states retreating into authoritarianism amid the growing momentum of strident self-centered nationalist, protectionist and populist movements. Even when confronted with the harsh reality of transnational, cross-cutting problems such as climate change, natural disasters, refugee and international migration issues, states have made little to no responsible collective efforts at resolving them.

In order to solve the current crises, we must resist the anachronistic temptation to reconstruct feudal barriers based on excessive nationalism. Multilateralism has been backsliding for some time, caused by a lack of international leadership and resurgence of hegemonic politics. The current COVID-19 global pandemic threatens to aggravate this trend. This critical moment should be used as an opportunity to revitalize multilateral international cooperation through collective leadership and solidarity among all countries. To overcome the challenges we face, we must denounce unilateralism and great power politics which are founded on the threat of violent force. Instead, it is imperative that we embrace an “inclusive multilateralism” which, for the sake of peace and co-prosperity, engages to the utmost extent all countries and the full breadth of their diversities in common governance.

In a short period of accelerated, successful growth, Korea has achieved an unprecedented economic development. This alone is an extraordinary accomplishment, but that it

occurred contemporaneously with a citizen-led transition to a democratic political system constitutes nothing less than a miraculous achievement. Korea's story is by now well known, and the peoples of many nations have sought it out seeking inspiration; in this, Korea bears no light burden. It is time for us to actively share our experiences and successes with the developing countries and to take a more active stance in supporting the countries in need.

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Korea is adequately controlling the spread of the virus through a protocol based on principles of openness, transparency and democracy. Concurrently, by promoting the Korean version of the New Deal, which comprises the Digital New Deal, the Green New Deal, and the New Deal for Regional Balance, we are stimulating economic recovery while simultaneously expanding the social safety net. We are moving forward to become a global leader that sets an example for the world and that actively assists the struggling countries.

This is the time for Korea to redefine its relationship with the world and to take on a new global role. This new role must represent a repudiation of the cautious, guarded pessimism we long held to prevent recapitulation of our unfortunate history. Our new role must not be grounded in the traditional, saber-rattling rhetoric of international power politics in which expansion and domination are the goal. Rather, we must base our new role on mutual respect for all nations and willingness to actively contribute to the international community by working towards peace and mitigation of climate change among other efforts to preserve and augment global public goods.

Accordingly, we participants in the 2020 Global Korea Convention, embracing a vision of Korea that contributes to world peace, co-prosperity and sustainable development, declare our principles and our future goals for international cooperation as follows:

First, the international community must join hands to establish a new international order to effectively confront the challenges including COVID-19. In seeking to restore the

international cooperation and solidarity, this new order must be built on the basis of INCLUSIVE MULTILATERALISM. Inclusion starts with the acknowledgement of different identities, a respect for our differences and divergent opinions and ultimately a celebration of our diversity regardless of discrepancies in power and wealth among the nations. The new international order should not be based on domination and coercion, or exclusion and discrimination, or war and destruction. Instead, it must pursue inclusion, peace, co-prosperity and sustainable development.

Second, we shall pursue SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT as an actionable agenda based on inclusive values and norms to alleviate confrontations and conflicts. Adding the values of preservation of our Planet and our Partnerships, along with the three Ps -- People, Prosperity, and Peace -- we must support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and strive to achieve them at home and abroad.

Third, we shall strengthen the international cooperation and pursue solidarity with other nations to protect and augment GLOBAL PUBLIC GOODS in the post-COVID-19 era. One relevant matter requiring urgent international cooperation is the recognition of the COVID-19 vaccine as a global public good, which must be made widely available so that all might be inoculated. Furthermore, we must pursue reforms in global governance to reduce inequality in healthcare and work to create shared prosperity. All stakeholders - governments, non-governmental entities, and civil societies - must collaborate in bringing into existence an international order of mutual and common prosperity so that global public goods are sufficiently produced and equally shared.

Fourth, we must promote GLOBAL SOCIAL VALUES centered on PEACE. The international community must undertake peace-building efforts and engender peaceful governance in all areas of multilateral cooperation and sustainable development. In particular, efforts to protect and improve the capacity of those who are often marginalized, including women, must be prioritized. The building and maintenance of international peace should be a core component of any post-COVID-19 agenda.

Fifth, we need to strengthen INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS based on MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY. Governments are not the only actors capable of promoting and performing acts of inclusive international cooperation and solidarity. Non-governmental organizations such as civic associations and private enterprises should also consider multi-stakeholderism and adopt inclusive attitudes in social and business activities. Inclusive partnerships, wherein various actors actively bear shared responsibilities and promote global public interests, will become the mechanisms through which global peace, common prosperity and sustainable development can be achieved.

Korea has attained luminous economic development and has successfully transitioned into a functioning democracy. Our success was in part due to the beneficence of other nations during the times of crisis. Now it is time for Korea to invest in world peace, co-prosperity and sustainable development. Predicated on this philosophy, the Republic of Korea will take a big step forward in building a new global community where prosperity is shared and sustainable development is promoted.