

Inaugural Meeting
GOPAC Northeast Asian Chapter

May 25-28, 2003

Lotte Hotel
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Welcoming Remarks from Hon. Yong Hwan Kim, MP

Today marks a significant starting point for all of us, as the GOPAC North-East Asian Chapter is officially launched in Seoul. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the members of the delegation from China, Japan, Mongolia and Korea for your most valued participation. My particular thanks goes to Mr. John Williams, Chair of the GOPAC Headquarters, for gracing today's meeting with even more significance.

Today's globalized world requires transformation and reform of all nations, including those in the Asian region accustomed to Confucian culture. And this is what the Northeast Asian nations' aggressive anti-corruption drive is all about—an effort to adapt themselves to the evolving history. The motivation behind founding the GOPAC North-East Asian Chapter is to stand at the forefront of the change to establish a strong defense line against the worldwide phenomenon of corruption. In this regard, I believe today's meeting is a first step in the right direction.

Corruption is the humanity's common enemy that lived with us throughout the history. This is what makes its eradication even daunting. And this is where our challenge, commitment, passion and dedication come in. Now more than ever, our courage and conviction is urgently called for.

It has often been said in Korea that May is 'the queen of seasons.' Let me add another name to the month of May—"the Month of Anti-Corruption"—with a number of international conferences aimed at driving out corruption taking place here in Seoul. I am convinced that, by taking place in tandem with other international anti-corruption conferences on both government and private-sector levels, the inaugural meeting of the GOPAC North-East Asian Chapter, incorporating parliamentarians in the region, would be an excellent opportunity not only to put the GOPAC on the global anti-corruption map, but also to reinforce our commitment towards eliminating corruption.

In closing, I hope your stay in Korea will be pleasant and meaningful.

May 25, 2003

Yong Hwan Kim, MP
National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
Member of the GOPAC Board and
Executive Committee

1. Purpose

The purpose of the meeting is for parliamentarians from China, Japan, Mongolia and Korea to come together to officially launch the North-East Asian Chapter of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC), which was established in October 2002 at Ottawa, Canada, with a view to facilitating cooperation and exchanges of knowledge, information and experiences on anti-corruption drive among parliamentarians, and promoting anti-corruption activities on a parliamentary-level, including legislative activities.

2. Date and Venue

- May 25 (Sun.)—28(Wed.), 2003
- Conference Room, Lotte Hotel, Seoul, Korea

3. Participants

- 2-3 from China(unconfirmed)
- 5-6 from Japan
- 3 from Mongolia
- around 15 from Korea
- Delegation led by Mr. Williams from Canada

4. Guests : Ambassadors of the respective nations in Korea

5. Program

Date	Time	Program	Remarks
May 25 (Sun.)		Arrival & registration	
May 26 (Mon.)	10:00 AM	Informal tea time	
	11:30 AM	Courtesy call on Speaker of the National Assembly & Luncheon	National Assembly building
	14:00 PM	Session I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greetings by Hon. Yong Hwan Kim, MP • Introduction • Congratulatory remarks by Mr. Williams, Chair of GOPAC 	
	15:30 PM	Coffee break	
	16:00 PM	Session II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion & adoption of the Constitution • Composition of Board of Directors and Executive Body • Discussion of other issues 	
	18:30 PM	Dinner hosted by Prime Minister	Official residence of Prime Minister
May 27 (Tue.)	09:30 AM	Attend the IACC conference	Volunteers only
	12:00	Luncheon hosted by Hon. Yong Hwan Kim, MP	Lotte Hotel
	14:30 PM	Visit to the LG Electronics plant	Volunteers only
May 28 (Wed.)		Departure	