

# **Congratulatory Remarks**

by

KCCI Chairman Sohn, Kyung-Shik

on the Occasion of the 21<sup>st</sup> CACCI Conference in Taipei, Taiwan

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, Grand Formosa Regent Hotel, Taiwan

Excellency Shui-Bian Chen, President of the Republic of China,  
Honorable Krishan Kumar Modi, Chairman of CACCI,  
Dr. Jeffrey L.S. Koo, Honorary Chairman of CACCI,  
Delegates and business leaders from member countries,  
Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

It is indeed my pleasure and privilege to stand here to give words of congratulations on the commencement of the 21<sup>st</sup> CACCI Conference in Taipei.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Jeffrey Koo for the kind invitation he delivered through visit to Korea, as well as for the warm hospitality he extends to us during our visit here.

As you all know, CACCI was first found 40 years ago here in Taipei by seven Asia-Pacific chamber representatives from Taiwan, Korea, Japan, India, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand. In just four decades, CACCI grew into the largest private economic organization in the Asia-Pacific region with primary members coming from 26 chambers in 24 nations.

In this period, the Asia-Pacific region has achieved a remarkable economic growth, with many countries, once trapped in poverty, now emerging as a source of vitality for the world economy. Now, the Asia-Pacific is becoming the most dynamic region in the world, and is moving into the center stage of prosperity.

The growth of CACCI and the economic development of the Asia-Pacific is closely linked.

As you will agree, the Asia-Pacific region is marked by enormous diversity. Countries in the region has effectively taken advantage of the diversity to develop international trade and investment, fuelling engine of economic growth.

CACCI has made significant contributions in this process. CACCI has played a key role in accelerating human exchange and information flow, which are essential to mutual understanding and collaboration.

CACCI has provided a valuable venue for business people of the region to share views on ways to design better future, face challenges, and lead economic progress.

In sum, CACCI has faithfully fulfilled its founding principles of advancing economic cooperation and promoting friendship among the Asia-Pacific chambers. Here, I would like to express respect and gratitude to the past Chairmen and officers of CACCI for their outstanding leadership.

Distinguished delegates,

The world economy and business environment is undergoing important changes.

Globalization is accelerating as trade and investment barriers break down with more and more countries seeking to conclude free trade agreements. Advances in information technology, life science and other areas are bringing new possibilities for economic development and prosperity. We also have other issues of growing importance, such as environment protection and sustainable growth.

Efforts to deal with these challenges and opportunities will create a new momentum for cooperation and co-prosperity in the region. And the role of CACCI, as the hub of Asia-Pacific business community, will become all the more important.

In this regard, I believe that we've come together at a most timely and meaningful occasion to discuss innovation for sustainable development of this region.

I do hope that we will create an outstanding blueprint that can guarantee future development of CACCI as well as continued growth of this region.

In closing, once again I would like to express my sincere congratulations on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CACCI and the commencement of the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference. And

Thank you for your kind attention