

Aid Effectiveness & Regional Economic Integration

Seminar on Challenges in Cooperation and
Communication for Development in Southeast Asia

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WELCOME SPEECH

DELIVERED BY Mr. KWON SAE YOUNG

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Excellencies, His Excellency Mr. Vo Hong Phuc, Minister of Planning and Investment, Mr. Mario Amano, Deputy Secretary General of the OECD, His Excellency Mr. Mituso Sakaba, Ambassador of Japan to Vietnam, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to be here today as one of speakers for this seminar on "Aid Effectiveness and Regional Economic Integration"

It is opportune, I believe, for all of us here have this meaningful seminar when regional economic integration is most in need for overcoming global economic crisis and narrowing development gap.

Meanwhile, Vietnam, chair country of ASEAN+3 Summit Meeting this year, is playing a significant role in speeding up regional economic integration.

In this regards, I would like to thank all agencies, officials and diplomats from Japan, Vietnam and other countries, especially OECD Development Center.

The Republic of Korea, based on its experience as a recipient in the past and a donor country currently, has served a unique role as a bridge between donors and their development partners.

This year, the ROK just got the OECD DAC membership and, as you all are well aware, the ROK is the host country to the fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF – 4) next year.

As an OECD DAC member, the ROK is trying to make its development cooperation policy more advanced and to increase its ODA volume significantly.

Regarding to our preparation for the fourth High Level Forum (HLF-4), I believe, my colleague from Seoul will give a briefing to you today.

I believe this seminar will offer us excellent suggestions that will be useful in encouraging and improving Aid effectiveness and Regional economic integration.

Once again, I would like to express my special thanks to all of you here. Thank you very much.