

**AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

The Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties"),

Being desirous of regulating the relationship between the two countries in the field of pension scheme, and

Wishing to prevent double coverage under the pension systems for nationals of the two countries working in their respective territories,

Have agreed as follows:

PART I

General Provisions

Article 1

Definitions

1. For the purpose of this Agreement:
 - (a) "national" means, as regards the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as "Korea"), a national of Korea as defined in Nationality Law, as amended, and as regards the Republic of Uzbekistan, a national of Uzbekistan according to the Law "About the Citizenship of the Republic of Uzbekistan";
 - (b) "legislation" means the laws and regulations specified in Article 2 of this Agreement;
 - (c) "Competent Authority" means, as regards Korea, the Minister of Health and Welfare, and as regards the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Minister of Labor and Social Protection of Population;
 - (d) "Agency" means, as regards Korea, the National Pension Corporation, and as regards the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Off-budget Pension Fund attached to the Ministry of Finance.

2. Any term not defined in this Article shall have the meaning assigned to it in the applicable legislation.

Article 2
Applicable Legislation

1. This Agreement shall apply to the following legislation:
 - (a) as regards Korea, the National Pension Act;
 - (b) as regards the Republic of Uzbekistan,
 - (i) the Law "About State Pension Security of Citizens",
 - (ii) the Law "About Foreign Investments".

2. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, the legislation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall not include treaties or other international agreements on social security that may be concluded between one Contracting Party and a third Party, or legislation promulgated for their specific implementation.

3. This Agreement shall also apply to future legislation which amends, supplements, consolidates or supersedes the legislation specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.

PART II
Provisions on Coverage

Article 3
General Provisions

1. Where a national who is subject to the legislation of a Contracting Party works in the territory of the other Contracting Party for a period that is not expected to exceed sixty calendar months, that person shall be subject only to the legislation on coverage of the first Contracting Party with regard to that work, as though that person still worked in the territory of the first Contracting Party.

2. In case the work continues beyond the period specified in paragraph 1 of this Article, the legislation of the first Contracting Party shall continue to apply upon the request of the worker, provided that the Competent Authorities of both Contracting Parties or the Agencies designated by them consent thereto.

Article 4
Members of Diplomatic Missions
and Civil Servants

1. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of April 18, 1961, or of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of April 24, 1963.

2. Subject to paragraph 1, where a person who is employed by the national or local Government Service, or treated as such of one Contracting Party is sent to work in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the legislation of the first Contracting Party shall apply to him as if he were employed in its territory.

Article 5
Modification Provision

The Competent Authorities of both Contracting Parties or the Agencies designated by them may agree to grant an exception to the provisions of this Part with respect to particular persons or categories of persons, provided that any affected person shall be subject to the legislation of one Contracting Party.

PART III
Miscellaneous Provisions

Article 6
Implementation Arrangement

1. The Competent Authorities of the Contracting Parties shall conclude an Arrangement that sets out the measures necessary for the implementation of this Agreement.

2. The liaison agencies of each Contracting Party shall be designated in the Arrangement.

Article 7

Exchange of Information and Mutual Assistance

1. The Competent Authorities and Agencies of the Contracting Parties shall, within the scope of their respective authorities:
 - (a) communicate to each other, to the extent permitted by the legislation which they administer, any information necessary for the application of this Agreement;
 - (b) communicate to each other, as soon as possible, information concerning the measures taken by them for the application of this Agreement and of any changes in their respective legislation which may affect the application of this Agreement.

2. The assistance referred to in sub-paragraph 1(a) of this Article shall be provided free of charge, subject to any exceptions to be agreed upon by the Competent Authorities of the Contracting Parties in the Arrangement concluded pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 6.

Article 8

Confidentiality of Information

Unless otherwise required by the national statutes of a Contracting Party, information about an individual which is transmitted in accordance with this Agreement to the Competent Authority or Agency of that Contracting Party by the Competent Authority or Agency of the other Contracting Party shall be used exclusively for purposes of implementing this Agreement and the legislation to which this Agreement applies. Such information received by a Competent Authority or Agency of a Contracting Party shall be governed by the national statutes of that Contracting Party for the protection of privacy and confidentiality of personal data.

Article 9

Language of Communication

1. The Competent Authorities and Agencies of the Contracting Parties may correspond directly with each other and with any person, wherever that person may reside, whenever it is necessary to do so for the application of this Agreement or the legislation to which this Agreement applies. The correspondence may be in any official language of either Contracting Party.

2. A certificate or document may not be rejected by a Competent Authority or Agency of a Contracting Party solely because it is in an official language of the other Contracting Party.

Article 10

Resolution of Disputes

Any disagreement regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be resolved by consultation between the Competent Authorities of the Contracting Parties.

PART IV

Transitional and Final Provisions

Article 11

Transitional Provision

In applying Article 3 in the case of nationals of one Contracting Party who are working in the territory of the other Contracting Party prior to the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the period of work referred to in that Article shall be considered to begin on that date.

Article 12

Entry into Force

This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month

following the month in which each Contracting Party shall have received from the other Contracting Party written notification that it has complied with all requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement.

Article 13
Period of Duration and Termination

This Agreement shall remain in force and effect until the last day of the twelfth month following the month in which written notice of its termination is given by either Contracting Party to the other Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Tashkent on the 10th day of May 2005, in the Korean, Uzbek and English languages, each text being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN