

Opening Remarks

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Honorable Roh Moo-Hyun, President of the Republic of Korea,
Distinguished guests at home and abroad,
Ladies and Gentlemen!

The 8th World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention marked its grand opening here in Seoul yesterday for a four-day event with the theme "Greater Ties with Chinese Entrepreneurs: Enhancing Global Peace and Prosperity".

On behalf of the 8th WCEC Organizing Committee and Korea Chamber of Chinese Commerce and Industry, I would like to wholeheartedly welcome 3,000 guests here in the audience from 28 nations.

It has been said that the 21st Century will be an era of Pax Asia. The Chinese economy has maintained rapid growth since it took the path of reform and began to apply opening-up policies. Also, the Chinese entrepreneur network connecting China and Southeast Asia has become a growth engine of the world economy. To keep this momentum, we need to discuss a new growth engine.

This convention has several sub-sessions on high technologies such as semiconductor, telecommunication, stem cell cloning, culture and digital contents, which Korea has shown its strengths, in order to enhance competitiveness of Asian companies.

As Korea has made active advancement into the Chinese market since Korea and China established the diplomatic relationship, China has become Korea's biggest export and investment market. However, Korea's investment environment has not been well promoted among overseas ethnic Chinese.

On the other hand, it can also mean that opportunities abound and that Chinese companies can be successful in Korea. Korean Investor Relations, Asia Venture Business Conference, One-on-One Business Meetings and exhibition will be opportunities for Chinese entrepreneurs to meet Korean companies and talk about the possibilities of direct trade and investment.

I truly hope that this convention will be a corner stone, and that Chinese and Korean entrepreneurs can take on a leadership role together to create mutual prosperity.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I'd like to use this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Korean Government and secretariat representatives of the World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention and The Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industries of Malaysia for their valuable advice and comments.

I hope you can also enjoy Korea's autumn charms and will leave with unforgettable memory and bountiful fruits for the duration of this convention.

Thank you!