

**Speech of Mr. C.M. Shun, Director of the Hong Kong Observatory  
in the Ceremony of the Signing of Memorandum of Understanding  
with the Korea Meteorological Administration  
(31 May 2012)**

Dear Administrator Cho, distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

I am very delighted to be here to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Korea Meteorological Administration and the Hong Kong Observatory. It gives me particular pleasure to visit KMA Headquarters for the first time and to meet with Mr. Cho and KMA friends again after their visit to Hong Kong just over a month ago.

The Observatory has collaborated closely with KMA over the years. Apart from mutual exchange visits of meteorological personnel, and sharing of airport windshear detection techniques, KMA and the Observatory also joined hands in a number of pilot projects of the World Meteorological Organization, WMO, including a project to provide city-specific numerical forecast support for developing countries in the region. Building on the success of this project, we are now working together in another project to raise the capability and cooperation of the meteorological services in the region in numerical weather prediction. This project has established the Asian Consortium on Numerical-weather-prediction Forecast (ACNF), and will launch a web portal later this year. This will soon be followed by an international training workshop.

Today's signing of the MOU will surely break new grounds in furthering our collaboration. Apart from jointly contributing towards cooperation projects of the WMO, we will collaborate further on meteorological science and technological exchanges. KMA, having recently launched the Communication, Ocean and Meteorological Satellite, known as COMS, have much expertise in the use and interpretation of satellite data and development of meteorological products for disaster risk reduction in the region. At the same time, the Observatory has accumulated experience in the application of remote-sensing instrumentation to support safe and efficient flight operations, in particular airport windshear detection based on the state-of-the-art LIDAR technology. We are

happy to share our experience and expertise.

Today's signing of the MOU marks a new chapter in the history of the Observatory, which, by the way, will be celebrating its 130 year anniversary next year. I sincerely hope that together we will be able to foster further development of weather services to reduce the impact of severe weather and climate change to the society in the years to come. This cooperation is particularly timely and pertinent within the background of continual global warming and the increased occurrences of extreme weather as a result. We are seeing this happening in many regions and countries, for example, the record-breaking rainstorm in Republic of Korea just last summer, the heat waves in Russia in summer 2010, and the repeated setting of new heavy rain records at higher frequencies in Hong Kong in the recent two decades. These are clear signs of the impact of climate change and I hope that the increased cooperation between KMA and the Observatory will be able to address them, contributing towards the betterment of the society. I also hope that this cooperation will serve as a role model of meteorological cooperation under the framework of WMO.

I wish we will be able to see that our cooperation will make a difference in meteorological science and technologies as well as regional and global development of weather services in the coming decade!

Thank you very much!