

HILLS PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chairman of Advisory Board, Ambassador Seung-soo Han Named Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea

SEOUL, January 28, 2008 – South Korean President-elect Lee Myung-bak announced that he has nominated Ambassador Seung-soo Han to become Prime Minister. Previously Ambassador Han served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and President of the 56th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. He is currently the Chairman of the Hills Governance Center's Advisory Board at Yonsei University.

BIOGRAPHY – Ambassador Seung-soo Han

Ambassador Seung-soo Han was born on 28 December 1936 in Chuncheon, Gangwon Province, Korea where he received his secondary education.

He received his B.A. degree from Yonsei University and went on to receive a Master's in Public Administration (MPA) from Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea. He holds a Ph.D. in economics, awarded in 1968, from the University of York, York, England, where in 1997 he also was awarded an honorary Doctor of University. His doctoral dissertation, entitled *The Growth and the Function of the European Budget*, was awarded the 6th European Communities Prize by the Commission of the European Communities in 1971 as the best doctoral thesis written on the European economic integration during the years 1967-69.

Ambassador Han began his academic career as a professional economist in the United Kingdom, where he taught in the Department of Economics, University of York (1965-68), York, and later in the Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge, and Emmanuel College (1968-70), Cambridge. Upon returning to Korea in 1970, Ambassador Han was appointed Professor of Economics at Seoul National University, where he taught until 1988. From 1974 to 1976, Ambassador Han was on leave from Seoul National University to serve as Financial Adviser to the Government of Jordan, on a secondment of the World Bank. He was Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan for 1986-87 and Senior Fulbright Scholar at the Department of Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA for 1985-86. Over his long academic career, he has given seminars on public finance at several foreign universities, including the University of Paris I (Pantheon Sorbonne) in 1982, at the invitation of Professor Christian de Boissieu.

Ambassador Han left Seoul National University in 1988, when he successfully ran in the parliamentary election to represent home town, Chuncheon. He served three 4-year terms in the Korean National Assembly. During his political career, he was called upon to serve in various government posts, including

the Minister of Trade and Industry (1988-90), Korean Ambassador to the United States (1993-94), Chief of Staff to the President (1994-95), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy (1996-97), and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2001-02).

As Minister of Trade and Industry, Ambassador Han successfully led trade negotiations with the nation's major trading partners. In particular, he played a crucial role in resolving Korea-US trade friction arising from the Super 301 investigation. Through his successful Super 301 negotiations with Ambassador Carla Hills, then the USTR, Ambassador Han was able to clear Korea of the unfavorable image of being an unfair trading nation and greatly advanced Korea on its path toward becoming a free and fair trading nation.

As Ambassador to the United States, through his active involvement, he contributed to easing the tension caused by the first North Korean nuclear crisis and through close cooperation with the US administration was instrumental in concluding the October 1994 Geneva Agreed Framework. In that Framework, the US and North Korea (DPRK) agreed to cooperate in replacing the DPRK's graphite-moderated reactors and related facilities with light water reactor power plants and to ensure its peaceful use of nuclear energy.

As Minister of Finance and Economy and the nation's chief economic policy maker, Ambassador Han oversaw the negotiations for the accession of Korea to the OECD in 1996. As an enthusiastic proponent of Korea's accession to the OECD, Ambassador Han pioneered various reforms, including capital market opening, and thus contributed to actively accommodating the policy framework in line with the global standards set by the OECD.

As Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ambassador Han was to assume the Presidency of the 56th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 11 September 2001. However, his election to the Presidency was delayed as a result of the confusion following the terrorist attacks on the United States. Soon after assuming his responsibilities as President, however, Ambassador Han strove to mobilize the international community to address the issue of international terrorism. He also diligently handled other agendas entrusted to him, which included the reduction of poverty, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, overcoming the digital divide, achieving sustainable development, the Millennium Development Goals, the Special Session on Children, and others. Together with Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Ambassador Han had the honor of representing the United Nations in receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo in 2001.

Ambassador Han withdrew from domestic politics in June 2004 and is currently serving, among other capacities, as Chairman of the 2014 Pyeong Chang Olympic Winter Games Bid Committee. He has been decorated several times both at home and abroad, the most recent occasion being a knighthood (KBE) from HM Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom in 2004. Ambassador Han has written many books and articles, both in English and in Korean, mainly on the subject of economic policies. (See attached list of selected publications) Ambassador Han speaks fluent English and Japanese and intermediate-level French. His leisure time activities include mountain-hiking, collecting biographies, playing baduk. (Japanese *Go*, 6th dan) Ambassador Han is married to Mrs. Hong (Han) Soja and has a son and a daughter, both married.

Detailed Career

1965~1968	Lecturer and Fellow in Economics at the University of York, York, England
1968~1970	Research Officer, Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, England
1970~1988	Professor of Economics, Seoul National University, Korea
1974~1976	Financial Advisor to the Government of Jordan on the Secondment of World Bank
1985~1986	Senior Fulbright Scholar at the Department of Economics, Harvard University, Mass., USA
1986~1987	Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo, Japan
1988~1990	Minister of Trade and Industry
1988~1992	Member of the Republic of Korea's 13th National Assembly(in Chuncheon City, Gangwon Province)
1993~1994	Korean Ambassador to the United States
1994~1995	Chief of Staff to the President of the Republic of Korea
1996~2000	Member of the Republic of Korea's 15th National Assembly(in Chuncheon City, Gangwon Province)
1996~1997	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy
2000~2004	Member of the Republic of Korea's 16th National Assembly(in Chuncheon City, Gangwon Province)
2001~2002	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
2001~2002	President of the 56th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
Present	Chairman of the 2014 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games Bid Committee
	Distinguished Visiting Professor at Yonsei University, Korea
	Honorary Professor of Economics at the University of York, York, England
	Senior Fellow at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan
	Honorary President of the Korea-Britain Society
	President of the Korea-UK Forum for the Future
	Chairman of the Board, Chuncheon Foundation for Culture Industry and Chuncheon Water Forum
	Senior Advisor at Kim & Chang Law Firm, Korea

Publications

- The Growth and Function of the European Budget (doctoral thesis, 1968);
- Taxes in Britain and the EEC: The Problem of Harmonization (PEP & Chatham House, London, 1968, co-authored);
- Britain and the Common Market: Effect of Entry on the Pattern of Manufacturing Production (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1971, co-authored);
- The Health of Nations (Seoul Computer Press, 1985);
- The Economics of Middle East; Foundation of Arab Renaissance (Korean, 1977);

- Social Welfare in Great Britain (Korean, 1979);
- The New Theory of Economic Policy (Korean, 1996);
- There are other publications and many professional articles both in English and Korean.

Honors and Major Awards

- ❖ Awarded the 6th European Communities Prize (economics section) by the Commission of the European Communities (1971);
- ❖ Decorated with the Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de la Couronne (1989) by the Belgium Government;
- ❖ Decorated with the Order of Public Service Merit (Blue Stripes, 1990) and Order of Diplomatic Service Merit (Gwanghwajang, 2004) by the Korean Government;
- ❖ Awarded the Columbia Law School/ Parker School Award for Distinguished International Service (1997);
- ❖ Conferred the Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca, Grado Collar by the Mexican Government (2001);
- ❖ Bestowed an Honorary Knighthood (KBE) by HM Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom (2004).ⁱ

ⁱ Biography of Ambassador Seung-soo Han obtained from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) website: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/37/12/35144130.pdf>