**Committee:** United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia-Pacific **Country:** South Korea

Nearing the end of the twentieth century and since the beginning of the twenty-first century, South Korea’s efforts to push for economic and social stability have seen favorable acknowledgement. Today, South Korea proudly ranks 11th among the top economically thriving nations in the world, which without doubt, is largely due to the implementation of effective policies (World Bank).

South Korea’s economic prosperity is a fruitful reward for the efforts of all officials who worked together in implementing proper measures to oversee the development of infrastructure in the country. Since the 1960s, the government and private sectors have been involved in financing the construction and operation of various infrastructure projects and services. Undeniably, with the introduction of credit guaranteeing schemes, many local and foreign businesses have been able to trust their investment in South Korea, which in turn has appealed to the development of infrastructure. Moreover, having spent over 300 USD on transportation alone, which now expands from roads to subways, trains, airports and many more, South Korea has modernized infrastructure throughout (World Bank). Indeed, the development of sufficient infrastructure has allowed lessening the burden of a growing population by facilitating transportation services. Furthermore, the country has been able to get rid of problems concerning an increase in distribution and congestion costs. Thus, improving economic stability and alleviating poverty, South Korea has been able to evolve from the many war-affected unstable economies to the few advanced industrial economies of the world (Okyu Kwon).

At the same time however, there exists a social crisis that all countries within the Asia Pacific region must address with cooperative collaboration.

Primarily, the food stability and security crisis has been a serious issue and still affects all states in the Asia-Pacific region, including South Korea. Without doubt, South Korea’s food security has worsened since 2006 as the overall food security index has drastically declined from a peak of 100.9 (2006) to its lowest level of 95.2 (2010). Moreover, many reports suggest that South Korea’s crop output is greatly insufficient for it’s the consumption rate and that due to deterioration in overseas variables, import structures and food safety, South Korea’s export oriented policies must be managed differently (Muller). Indeed, it is because of comparable deterioration in the foreign states, that South Korea’s agricultural industry has collapsed and its annual crop yield has gradually declined. From a solid 5.55 million tons in only 2009, to 4.56 million tons in 2013, South Korea’s agricultural output has seen a large drop (Muller). Thus, state intervention must focus, not only on becoming independent and self sufficient for food, but also on increasing the production of other food sources in order to diversify the nation’s diet and improve nutritional quality. For sure, we must move toward the goal of realizing food sovereignty in South Korea in order to transform the food system and ensure self sufficiency. Furthermore, specific guidelines must be established to carry out the development of a food secure South Korea.

Nonetheless, a secondary social crisis of increased illegal immigration is becoming a major issue for security in many states.

Truly, this is not as much a problem for South Korea as it is a threat for countries in the south-east region of Asia. Certainly, with proper infrastructural development comes responsibility to maintain it, and that is why South Korea has been able to manage its population’s demands. Come what may, South Korea vows to cooperate and help introduce effective policies in allying countries in order to reduce security threats proposed by illegal immigration.

Analyzing the effects of illegal immigration in South Korea, the government introduced the Immigration Control Act in 2005 under which “No one is allowed to invite (or assist in inviting) a foreigner by illegal means (statements, false facts or false identity)” (Hiko). Certainly, strict legal punishments will be imposed on the person found guilty of such an act. Moreover, judgement may reason for the person found guilty, to be deported out of the country without being allowed to return. Thus, with the implementation of strict policies and proper infrastructural development South Korea has been able to avoid illegal immigration as it has been able to ensure the establishment of committees to handle related issues.

Summing up, South Korea faces many problems out of which the most prominent is the food crisis. Thus, it is in South Korea’s best favor to improve its food security by becoming self sufficient. However, the solutions tie back to economic prosperity in which foreign investment plays a large role. Thus, to improve infrastructure means to reduce transportation costs and increase expenditures in the areas of agriculture. In turn, this provides for a helpful increase in food output allowing self sufficiency as a means to resolve the current food crisis.

Finally, it is important for all countries belonging to the Asia-Pacific region, to realize the necessity of infrastructural development in order to tackle other problems with all doors open.

**Written By: Shahzeb Malik**

**Representing: John Abbott College**

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