

Korea Investment Agreement

OUTLINE OF THE U.S.-ROK INVESTMENT AGREEMENT

1) Purpose-of the Agreement

U.S. investors face two major problems in Korea:

one is the imposition by Korean authorities, primarily through the informal foreign investment screening process, of various performance requirements on foreign investors;

the other is limitation on sectors in which foreign firms may establish in Korea.

The primary purpose and accomplishment of the May 19 bilateral agreement is removal of performance requirements on foreign investors in Korea. However, the agreement also provides for the opening of certain sectors to foreign investment. The United States will continue to pursue the establishment issue as needed.

The May 19, 1989 exchange of letters on investment between USTR Carla Hills and Korea's Ambassador Tong-Jin Park constitute a trade agreement between the United States and Korea.

2) Performance Requirements

Effective July 1, 1989 the Korean Government will not formally or informally impose any performance requirements on a foreign investor as a condition of permitting a foreign investment or in exchange for tax incentives. Nine performance requirements are identified in the agreement, among them exporting, technology transfer, local content, shifting production, marketing and distribution and local equity.

The only exception to this commitment is Korea's ability to impose, on a transitional basis, a local equity participation requirement on a foreign investment falling under:

- a) the "negative list" of sectors in which foreign investments are restricted or prohibited;
- b) "sunset" industries in which Korean firms are prohibited in investing (Article 7.2 of the Foreign Investment Guidelines -- FIG);
- c) retail and small and medium sized businesses and construction, non-life insurance and alcohol distilling U (Articles 6, 7.1 and 8 of the FIG); and
- d) under existing Korean laws which require such joint ventures until these laws are amended "on an expeditious basis".

After a foreign investment is established in Korea it will receive full national treatment except in two instances:

- a) national treatment can be denied based on exceptions in the U.S.-Korean Treaty of Friendship and Navigation, i.e. national security, land acquisition and exploitation; and
- b) even where Korea is imposing performance requirements on its own nationals, it will under no circumstances impose on foreign investors export performance requirements or any other requirements which have the effect of discriminating against foreign investors, and

if a performance requirement is imposed on a U.S. investors on a national treatment basis which impairs the investor's interests, the governments will consult, and the Korean government will eliminate the impairment within 90 days. U

The technical provisions in this treaty will be revised to eliminate the former informal authority to change the terms of the investment contract under the contract with the Korean Antitrust and Fair Trade Law -- however, the United States informed Korea that it may object to certain elements of Korea's Fair Trade Law.

By the end of 1989 Korea will develop provisions for the removal of previously imposed performance requirements on existing foreign investment.

3) Investment Nationality

Between 1991 and 1993 Korea will rapidly move to an investment nationality system under which an investor merely will notify the Korean government of his investment and will be able to proceed if the investment is not disapproved within 60 days.

This procedure applies to sectors which remain in the negative list restricted under the FIG (i.e. Article 6, 7 and 8 -- see below).

The new economic reform for the disapproval of U.S. investment will be virtually of Korea's Antitrust and Fair Trade Law.

In the interim, effective July 1, 1989, foreign investment will be approved or disapproved within 60 days.

4) Etbilment Liberalization

Korea will not delay sector to the "negative list" of the Foreign Investment Guideline and will continue liberalization of the "negative list" in an "expeditious" manner.

By 1991 foreign trade services will be fully open to foreign investment in Korea.

Foreign direct investment in services will be able to have majority equity participation by 1990 and 100 percent equity by 1991.

Foreign companies will be able to where pharmaceuticals in Korea effective July 1, 1989 and cosmetics effective July 1, 1990.

Local equity participation and local content requirements will be eliminated for foreign pharmaceutical companies by 1990.

Note: This is an outline -- please read the agreement for more details and the authoritative text.

GE rp; 5-5-89

202/395-6813

THE AMBASSADOR EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

TONG-JIN PARK

WASHINGTON, DC

MAY 19, 1989

The Honorable Mr. A. H.

The United States Trade Representative

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

600 Seventeenth Street, N.W.,

Washington, D.C. 20506.

Dear Ambassador H.:

e. (i) As of the date of this letter, only the following individual laws have been identified as relating to global equity participation: equity incentive programs of the following companies:

Petroleum Engineering Law

Mining Law

Fisheries Law

Photogram and Videotape Manufacturing Law

() The Korea Government will delete and make public by June 30, 1989, all other laws concerning or permitting local equity participation requirements or foreign investment.

. The Korea Government will take appropriate steps to phase out all local equity participation requirements and dual laws on a expedited basis, except for local equity participation requirements imposed for reasons of national acquisition, exploitation of land or other resources, or national security.

g () The Korea Government will ensure that application of Article 6 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment is consistent with its policy of liberalization of foreign investment.

() The Korea Government will ensure that the conditions of foreign investment sectors referred to Article 8 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment will be no less favorable than those stipulated in the Guidelines for Foreign Investment of January 1989.

() By December 31, 1989, the Korea Government will repeal Article 5.2 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment.

(v) The Korea Government confirmed that by September 30, 1989, it will eliminate the requirement to submit a technology transfer plan as part of the application for a "high tech" industry tax exemption. The Korea Government also confirmed that the export industry tax exemption has been eliminated.

4. Performance requirements are requirements to:

a. export goods or services;

b. substitute goods or services from Korea or imported goods or services or accord preference to goods or services produced in Korea;

c. use local contents;

d. accept or achieve a given level or percentage of local equity;

e. transfer or license, technology;

. restrict remittances related to investment;

g. limit manufacturing to prescribed product lines;

h. manufacture in Korea; or

. shift production, distribution or marketing activities or technologies to Korea nationals through government-imposed measures.

B. Liberalization Measures

1. The Korea Government will add to the negative list, or will move sectors from the restricted list to the prohibited list. Moreover, further liberalization of the negative list will continue on an expedited basis.

2. Sectors removed from the negative list or no longer subject to Articles 6, 7, and 8 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment or dual laws will not be subject to most of the performance requirements of new investment applications subject to the terms of paragraph A1.

3. By December 31, 1989, the Korea Government will develop a parallel equitable plan for the expedited removal of previously imposed performance requirements in order to promote liberalization of investment and so y

as not to disadvantage investors with respect to their ability to compete in the Korean market. Such plans also will be developed or substantially liberalized sectors.

C. Time frame for Approval of Investment Applications

Effective July 1, 1989, the Korean Government will approve or disapprove all foreign investment applications within sixty (60) days. If the investor's application is not complete, the Korean Government will inform the investor as soon as possible about additional information needed. If the 60-day period is not sufficient for the approval of the application because of the need for technical data (i.e., analysis of the environmental impact) or because the applicant is seeking tax exemptions in connection with his investment, the applicant will be informed within the 60-day period of the reasons for the delay in approval/disapproval and of the additional time which will be needed for a response.

D. Establishment Procedures

1. Effective January 1, 1990, the Bank of Korea will approve all foreign investments in the manufacturing sector (excluding services) not on the negative list or not seeking tax incentives with fifty (50) percent or more foreign equity. Effective January 1, 1991, the same investments and those with fifty (50) percent or more foreign equity will no longer be subject to Bank of Korea approval and will become subject to notification procedures as described in paragraph D3.

2. The Korean Government will develop and implement further procedures for foreign investment liberalization steps for both manufacturing and services during 1991 and 1992, including expanding the availability of the notification system and the Bank of Korea approval system.

3. Effective January 1, 1993, a foreign investor will be allowed to proceed with investments in both manufacturing and services sectors that are not on the negative list or are not referred to in paragraph A3 within sixty (60) days of notification to the Korean Government unless the investment is disapproved or on of the reasons specified in paragraph D4.

4. Reasons for Disapproval

- a. protection of national security;
- b. the maintenance of public order or protection of public health, morality or safety;
- c. the fulfillment of obligations relating to international peace and security;
- d. investment which will result in monopolistic or predatory practices in the domestic market; or
- e. violation of the Antitrust and Fair Trade Law.

5. By January 1, 1991, the Korean Government will remove industry classification number 71912, trade agency services, from the negative list, so that full foreign participation (i.e., one hundred (100) percent or more foreign equity) will be permitted. Foreign trade agencies will be accorded treatment no less favorable than that accorded domestic trade agencies with respect to all aspects of their operation.

6. The Korean Government will develop, by the end of 1989, a plan for improvement of the investment technical licensing notification system so that it will not include the authority (formal or informal) of the relevant ministry or commission to request changes in the terms of technical licensing arrangements between private parties, except where necessary to eliminate violations of the Antitrust and Fair Trade Law.

7. Advertisements

a. Effective January 1, 1990, the Korean Government will permit majority foreign equity participation (i.e., up to ninety-nine (99) percent or more foreign equity) in the advertising agency business. Effective January 1, 1991, the Korean Government will not require any local equity participation in foreign investments in the advertising agency business (i.e., subsidiaries and all other forms of establishment will be permitted). Effective January 1, 1991, the F

advertisi a e busi ess will be removed from the forei i vestme t " e ative I ist, a d i vestme t therei will be overed b the otifi atio s stem b Ja uar 1, 1993.

b. Firms i the advertisi a e busi ess whi h are partiall or full forei own ed will be a orded treatme t i all aspe ts of their operatio , a d i parti ular, i this deali s with the Korea Broad ast Corporatio (KOBACO) or a omparable su essor, o less favorable tha that a orded a Korea or other o Korea advertisi firm.

The Korea Gover me t will e sure that KOBACO or a omparable su essor will operate u der tra spare t pro edures.

8. Pharma euti als

a. B Jul 1, 1989, the Korea Gover me t will permit full forei parti ipatio (i.e., subsidiaries a d all other forms of establishme t will be permitted) i i vestme ts i the busi ess of wholesali pharma euti al produ ts.

b. B Ja uar 1, 1990, the Korea Gover me t will remove i dustr lassifi atio umber 35224, i "ma ufa ture of medi ame ts," from the e ative list so that forei pharma euti al ompa ies desiri to i vest i Korea will o lo er be subje t to requireme ts for lo al s thesis of produ ts or lo al equit parti ipatio (i.e., subsidiaries a d all other forms of establishme t will be permitted) -

. B Jul 1, 1990, the Korea Gover me t will permit full forei parti ipatio (i.e., subsidiaries a d all other forms of establishme t will be permitted) i i vestme ts i the busi ess of wholesali osmeti s a d toiletries.

E. Ge eral Provisio s

1. O e established, all forei i vestme ts will be a orded atio al treatme t subje t to the terms of this letter.

2. Nothi i this letter dero ates from the ri hts of either Part u der bilateral a reeme ts or multilateral a reeme ts to whi h both Parties adhere. Both Parties reserve their ri hts u der the Ge eral A reeme t o Tariffs a d Trade.

3. Both Parties a ree that the ter s a d o ditio s of this letter are to remai u impaired b restri tio s or requireme ts dire tl or i dire tl affe ti forei i vestme t.

4. Nothi i this letter prejudi es the positio s either Part ma take i the Uru ua Rou d of Multilateral Trade Ne otatio s.

5. Both Parties a ree to o sult at the request of either Part o er i - a matter relati to this letter.

This letter refle ts our mutual u dersta di of the a tio s that the Korea Gover me t has a reed to take with respe t to i vestme t i Korea.

Si erel ,

[si ature]

To Ji Park

Ambassdor"

THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Exe utive Offi e of the Preside t

Washi to . D.C. 20508

Ma 19, 1989

The Ho orable To Ji Park

Ambassador -

Embassy of the United States in Seoul, Korea.

2370 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador Park:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated May 19, 1989, concerning actions of the Korean Government as agreed to at the conciliatory discussions in Seoul. Your letter reads as follows:

"Dear Ambassador Hills:

I have the honor to refer to the consultations held

between the representatives of the Government of the United States of America (U.S. Government) regarding

actions of the Korean Government and the Government of the United States of America (U.S. Government) regarding investments in Korea. As a result of the consultations, the Korean Government has agreed to the following actions:

A. Performance requirements

1. Effective July 1, 1989, the Korean Government will not formally or informally impose performance requirements on foreign investors or as a term or condition of permitting an investment in its territory, or as a condition of receipt of any investment.

2. Once established, all foreign investments will be accorded national treatment subject to the following:

a. Exceptions to national treatment may only be applied for reasons of land acquisition, exploitation of land or other resources, or national security.

b. Performance requirements will not be applied formally or informally except as an imposition on a national treatment basis of performance requirements in exceptional circumstances and in a manner which will not generate significant distortions of international trade and investment is not a violation of the agreement, provided that such requirements do not discriminate against foreign investors nor are export requirements.

c. In the event a foreign investor or all goods do not be impaired as a result of the imposition of a performance requirement on a national treatment basis, the Korean Government agrees to consult with the U.S. Government upon the latter's initiative and to take steps to eliminate such impairment within ninety (90) days, if such impairment exists.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph A1, as a transitional period of temporary participation, foreign investments may be subject solely to local requirements for participation requirements, under Article 5.4 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment, investments for mission requirements in Articles 6, 7, and 8 of said Guidelines and under existing individual laws, subject to the following:

a. Implementation or amendment of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment will be in such a manner as to encourage rather than restrict foreign investment.

b. The Korean Government will limit application of Article 7.1 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment as a business covered as a data base is limited.

c. The Korean Government will limit application of Article 7.2 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment, which imposes local requirements for investments, to suns industries in which the Korean Government bans investments by domestic firms and will apply such provisions only in exceptional circumstances. The Korean Government will ensure a measure taken under the Article are not only actions taken to rationalize relations.

d. The Korean Government confirms the following immediate or removal of the following sectors from rationalization: W

Automobil ul 31, 1989

Engin for Ship ul 31, 1989

Silicon mangan f rro-allo ul 31, 1989

F rtiliz r ov mb r 30, 1990

Th Kor an Gov rnment will r duc ub tantiall th numb r of r maining ctor li t d in Articl 7.2 b
Dæ mb r 31, 1989.

. (i) A of th dat of thi l tt r, onl th following individual lawshav b n id ntifi d a containing local quit
participation r quir ment for for ign inv tment:

(ii) P trol um R fining

Law Mining Law

Fi h ri Law

Phonogram and Vid otap

Manufacturing Law

(ii) Th Kor an Gov rnment will id ntifi and mak public b un 30, 1989, an oth r lawsc containing or
p rmitting local quit participation r quir ment for for ign inv tment.

f. Th Kor an Gov rnment will tak appropriat t p to pha out all local quit participation r quir ment in
individual lawson an xp ditiou ba i , xc pt for local quit participation r quir ment impo d for r a on of
land acqui ition, xploitation of land or oth r r ourc , or national curit .

g (i) Th Kor an Gov rnment will n ur that application of Articl 6 of th Guid lin for For ign Inv tment i
con i t nt with it polic of lib ralization of for ign inv tment.

(ii) Th Kor an Gov rnment will n ur that th condition of for ign inv tment in ctor r f rr d to in Articl 8
of th Guid lin for For ign Inv tment will b no l favorabl than tho tipulat d in th Guid lin for
For ign Inv tment of 3anuar 1989.

(iii) B Dæ mb r 31, 1989, th Kor an Gov rnment will r p al Articl 5.2 of th Guid lin for For ign
Inv tment.

(iv) Th Kor an Gov rnment confirmed that b S pt mb r 30, 1989, it will liminat th r quir ment to ubmit a
t chnolog tran f r plan a part of th application for a "high t ch" indu tr tax x mption. Th Kor an
Gov rnment al o confirmed that th xpport indu tr tax x mption ha b n liminat d.

4. P rformanc r quir ment ar r quir ment to:

a. xpport good or rvic ;

b. ub titut good or rvic from Kor a for import d good or rvic or accord pr f r nc to good or
rvic produc d in Kor a;

c. u local cont nt ;

d. acc pt or achi v a giv n l v l or p rc ntag of local quit ;

. tran f r or lic n t chnolog ;

f. r trict r mittanc r lat d to inv tment;

g. limit manufacturing to pr crib d product lin ;

h. manufactur in Kor a; or N

i. shift position, institutional market facilities to enhance the Klean nationals through government-imposed measures.

B. Liberalization Measures

1. The Klean Government will announce to the negative list, and will it move separately from the restrictive list to the prohibitive list. Moreover, the liberalization of the negative list will continue on an experimental basis.

2. Separate from the negative list, in line with Articles 6, 7, and 6 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment in civil laws will not be subject to imposition of performance requirements in new investment applications subject to the terms of paragraph A1.

3. By December 31, 1989, the Klean Government will develop a fair and equitable plan for the experimental positively imposed performance requirements in the proposed liberalization of investment and as a result, a advantage existing firms with respect to their ability to compete in the Klean market. Such plans also will be developed for subsequently liberalized sectors.

C. Time Frame for Approval of Investment Applications

Effective July 1, 1989, the Klean Government will approve or disapprove all foreign investment applications within sixty (60) days. If the investor's application is not complete, the Klean Government will inform the investor as soon as possible about the additional information needed. If the 60-day period is not sufficient for the approval of the application, the applicant shall be a separate fee to handle the data (e.g., analysis of environmental impact) before the applicant is seeking tax exemptions in connection with his investment, the applicant will be informed within the 60-day period of the reasons for the delay in approval/disapproval and of the additional length of time which will be needed for a response.

D. Establishment Procedures

1. Effective January 1, 1990, the Bank of Klean will approve all foreign investments in the manufacturing sector (excluding finance) not on the negative list and not seeking tax incentives except those with fifty (50) percent more foreign equity. Effective January 1, 1991, these investments and those with fifty (50) percent foreign equity will no longer be subject to Bank of Klean approval and will be subject to notification procedures as established in paragraph D3.

2. The Klean Government will develop and implement for the progressive foreign investment liberalization steps for both manufacturing and services, starting in 1991 and 1992, in line with expanding the availability of the notification system and the Bank of Klean approval system.

3. Effective January 1, 1993, a foreign investor will be allowed to proceed with investments in both manufacturing and services sectors that are not on the negative list and are not affected in paragraph A3 within sixty (60) days of notification to the Klean Government unless the investment is disapproved for one of the reasons specified in paragraph D4.

4. Reasons for Disapproval

- a. protection of national security;
- b. the maintenance of public order, protection of public health, morality, safety;
 - . the fulfillment of obligations relating to international peace and security;
 - . investment which will result in monopolistic practices in the domestic market;
- e. violation of the Antitrust and Fair Trade Law.

5. By January 1, 1991, the Klean Government will remove in its classification number 71912, the agency services, from the negative list, so that all foreign participation (i.e., more than 100 percent foreign equity) will be permitted. Foreign agencies will be a separate treatment, less favorable than that of the domestic agencies with respect to all aspects of their participation.

6. The Ko e e me t will de elop, by the e d of 1989, pl fo imp o eme t of the existi tech ic l lice si g otific tio system so th t it will ot i cl de the tho ity (fo mal o i fo mal) fo the ele t Mi ist y o Commissio to eq est ch ges i the te ms of tech ic l lice si g g eeme ts betwee p i te p ties except whe e ecess y to elimi te iol tio s of the A tit st d F i T de L w.

7. Ad e tisi g

. Effecti e J y 1, 1990, the Ko e e me t will pe mit majo ity fo eig eq ity p ticip tio (i.e., p to i ety- i e (99) pe ce t fo eig eq ity) i o the d e tisi g ge cy b si ess. Effecti e J y 1, 1991, the Ko e e me t will ot eq i e y loc l eq ity p ticip tio i fo eig i estme ts i the d e tisi g ge cy b si ess (i.e., s bsidi ies d ll othe fo ms of est blishme t will be pe mitted). Effecti e J y 1, 1991, the d e tisi g ge cy b si ess will be emo ed f om the fo eig i estme t " eg ti e list," d i estme t the ei will be co e ed by the otific tio system by J y 1, 1993.

b. Fi ms i the d e tisi g ge cy b si ess which e p ti lly o f lly fo eig -owned will be cco ded t e tme t i ll- spects of thei ope tio , d i p tic l , i thei de li gs with the Ko e B o dc st Co po tio (KOBACO) o y comp ble s ccesso , o less f o ble th th t cco ded y Ko e o othe o -Ko e d e tisi g fi ms.

c. The Ko e e me t will e s e th t KOBACO o y comp ble s ccesso will ope te de t sp e t p oced es. o

8. Ph mace tic ls

. By J ly 1, 1989, the Ko e e me t will pe mit f ll fo eig p ticip tio (i.e., s bsidi ies d ll othe fo ms of est blishme t will be pe mitted) i i estme ts i the b si ess of wholes li g ph mace tic l p od cts.

b. By J y 1, 1990, the Ko e e me t will emo e i d st y cl ssific tio mbe 35224, "ma f ct e of medic me ts," f om the eg ti e list so th t fo eig ph mace tic l comp ies desi g to i est i Ko e will o lo ge be s bject to eq i eme ts fo loc l sy thesis of p od cts o loc l eq ity p ticip tio (i.e., s bsidi ies d ll othe fo ms of est blishme t will be pe mitted).

c. By J ly 1, 1990, the Ko e e me t will pe mit f ll fo eig p ticip tio (i.e., s bsidi ies d ll othe fo ms of est blishme t will be pe mitted) i i estme ts i the b si ess of wholes li g cosmetics d toilet ies.

E. e e l P o isio s

1. O ce est blished, ll fo eig i estme ts will be cco ded tio l t e tme t s bject to the te ms of this lette .

2. Nothi g i this lette de og tes f om the ights of eithe P ty de bil te l g eeme ts o m ltil te l g eeme ts to which both P ties dhe e. Both P ties ese e thei ights de the e l Ag eeme t o T iffs d T de. e

3. Both P ties g ee th t the te ms d co dtio s of this lette e to emai imp i ed by est ictio s o eq i eme ts di ectly o i di ectly ffecti g fo eig i estme t.

4. Nothi g i this lette p ej dices the positio s eithe P ty may t ke i the U g y Ro d of M ltil te l T de Negoti tio s.

5. Both P ties g ee to co s lt t the eq est of eithe P ty co ce i g y matte el ti g to this lette .

This lette effects o m t l de st di g of the ctio s th t the Ko e e me t h s g eed to t ke with espect to i estme t i Ko e . o

Si ce ely,

To g-Ji P k

Amb ss do " u

. I he eve ha he i eres s fa f reig i ves r are allege be impaire as a resul f he imp si i f a
 perf rma e requireme a a i al rea me basis, he K rea Gover me agrees sul wi h he U.S.
 Gover me up he la er's i i i a ive a ake s eps elimi a e su h impairme wi hi i e y (90) ays, if
 su h impairme exis s. C

3. Notwithstanding paragraph A1, the right to full foreign equity participation, foreign investment may be subject solely to local equity participation requirements, under Article 5. of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment, the investment permits requirements of Article 6, 7, 8 of the Guidelines under existing provisions, subject to the following:

a. Implementation of measures of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment will be implemented to encourage the free foreign investment.

b. The Korean Government will limit application of Article 7.1 to the re-embodiment covered by the letter.

c. The Korean Government will limit the application of Article 7.2 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment, which impose local equity requirements, to entities for which the Korean Government believes investment by domestic firms will properly provide only an exceptional circumstance. The Korean Government will ensure that measures under the Article relate only to the extent to which they relate to relevant sectors.

d. The Korean Government confirms the following timetable for removal of the following sectors from restriction:

Automobile July 31, 1989

Electricity July 31, 1989

Silicon and ferro- alloy July 31, 1989

Fertilizer November 30, 1990

The Korean Government will reduce substantially the number of remaining sectors listed in Article 7.2 by December 31, 1989.

e. (i) As of the date of the letter, only the following provisions have been identified concerning local equity participation requirements for foreign investment:

(ii) Petroleum Refining Law

Mining Law

Finance Law

Proclamation of the Protection of Mining Law

(ii) The Korean Government will identify and make public by June 30, 1989, any other laws concerning or permitting local equity participation requirements for foreign investment.

f. The Korean Government will take appropriate steps to phase out all local equity participation requirements in provisions so extensive, but, except for local equity participation requirements imposed for reasons of national security, exploitation of labor or other resource, or national security.

g (i) The Korean Government will ensure that application of Article 6 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment is consistent with the policy of liberalization of foreign investment.

(ii) The Korean Government will ensure that the conclusion of foreign investment treaties referred to in Article 8 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment will be on a favorable basis to the Guidelines for Foreign Investment of July 1989.

(iii) By December 31, 1989, the Korean Government will repeal Article 5.2 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment.

(iv) The Korean Government confirms that by September 30, 1989, it will eliminate the requirements to submit technology transfer plans for the application for "high technology" investment exemptions. The Korean Government also confirms that the export investment exemptions will be eliminated. 4

4. Perform the requirements to:

- a. export goods or services;
- b. substitute goods or services from Korea for imported goods or services or order preference to goods or services produced in Korea;
- c. use local outlets;
- d. export or receive level or percentage of local equity;
- e. transfer or license technology;
- f. restrict investments related to investment;
- g. limit foreign participation in production;
- h. foreign investment in Korea; or
- i. shift production, distribution or marketing facilities or technologies to Korea through government measures.

B. Liberalization Measures

1. The Korean Government will add sectors to the negative list, or will it move sectors from the restricted list to the prohibited list. Moreover, further liberalization of the negative list will continue expeditious basis.
2. Sectors removed from the negative list or altogether subject to Articles 6, 7. Article 6 of the Guidelines for Foreign Investment or individual laws will not be subject to imposition of performance requirements on new investment application subject to the terms of paragraph A1.
3. By December 31, 1989, the Korean Government will develop firm deductible plan for the expeditious removal of previously imposed performance requirements in order to promote liberalization of investment and so as not to distort existing firms with respect to their ability to compete in the Korean market. Such plans also will be developed for subsectorally liberalized sectors.

C. Timely Framework for Approval of Investment Applications

Effective July 1, 1989, the Korean Government will approve or disapprove all foreign investment applications within sixty (60) days. If the investor's application is not complete, the Korean Government will inform the investor as soon as possible about additional information needed. If the 60 day period is not sufficient for the approval of the application, the use of the period for technical delay (e.g., analysis of environmental impact) or the use of the application is seeking to exercise the right of veto with his investment, the application will be informed within the 60 day period of the reasons for the delay in approval/disapproval of the application. The length of time which will be needed for response.

D. Establish Investment Procedures

1. Effective January 1, 1990, the Bank of Korea will approve all foreign investments in the foreign exchange sector (regardless of value) not on the negative list or not seeking to exercise exemption those with fifty (50) percentage foreign equity. Effective January 1, 1991, these investments and those with fifty (50) percentage foreign equity will altogether be subject to Bank of Korea approval and will be also subject to notification procedures as described in paragraph D3.
2. The Korean Government will develop and implement further progressive foreign investment liberalization steps for both foreign and services during 1991 and 1992, including expanding the flexibility of the notification system and the Bank of Korea approval system.
3. Effective January 1, 1993, foreign investor will be allowed to proceed with investments in both foreign and services sectors that are not on the negative list or are not referred to in paragraph A3 within sixty (60) days.

of notification to the government unless the investment is disapproved for one of the reasons specified in paragraph D4.

4. Reasons for Disapproval

- protection of national security;
 - the maintenance of public order or protection of public health, morality or safety;
 - the fulfillment of obligations relating to international peace and security;
 - investment which will result in monopolistic or predatory practices in the domestic market; or
- violation of the Antitrust and Fair Trade Law.

5. By January 1, 1991, the government will move industry classification number 71912, television sets, from the negative list, so that full foreign participation (i.e., on a 100 percent foreign equity) will be permitted. Foreign television sets will be accorded treatment no less favorable than that accorded domestic television sets with respect to all aspects of the operation.

6. The government will develop, by the end of 1989, a plan for improvement of the existing technical licensing notification system so that it will not include the autonomy (formal or informal) for the relevant Ministry of Commerce to restrict foreign investment in technical licensing agreements between private parties except when necessary to eliminate violations of the Antitrust and Fair Trade Law.

7. Advertising

a. Effective January 1, 1990, the government will permit majority foreign equity participation (i.e., up to ninety-nine percent foreign equity) in the advertising agency business. Effective January 1, 1991, the government will not require any local equity participation in foreign investments in the advertising agency business (i.e., subsidies and all other forms of stabilization will be permitted). Effective January 1, 1991, the advertising agency business will be moved from the foreign investment "negative list," and investment therein will be covered by the notification system by January 1, 1993.

b. Firms in the advertising agency business which are partially or fully foreign-owned will be accorded treatment in all aspects of the operation, and in particular, in the dealings with the Chinese Broadcast Corporation (CBC) on any comparable success, no less favorable than that accorded any other non-Chinese advertising firms.

c. The government will ensure that CBC on any comparable success will operate under transparent procedures.

8. Patents

a. By July 1, 1989, the government will permit full foreign participation (i.e., subsidies and all other forms of stabilization will be permitted) in investments in the business of wholesaling pharmaceutical products.

b. By January 1, 1990, the government will move industry classification number 35224, "manufacture of medicaments," from the negative list so that foreign pharmaceutical companies desiring to invest in the area will no longer be subject to requirements for local synthesis of products or local equity participation (i.e., subsidies and all other forms of stabilization will be permitted).

c. By July 1, 1990, the government will permit full foreign participation (i.e., subsidies and all other forms of stabilization will be permitted) in investments in the business of wholesaling cosmetics and toiletries.

E. General Provisions

- Once stabilized, all foreign investments will be accorded national treatment subject to the terms of the list.
- Noting in the list the obligations of the Party under bilateral agreements or multilateral agreements to which both Parties are bound, the Parties shall give priority to the national government on A

Tariffs and Trade

Both Parties agree that the terms and conditions of this letter are to remain unimpaired by restrictions or requirements directly or indirectly affecting foreign investment.

4. Nothing in this letter prejudices the positions which either Party may take in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

5. Both Parties agree to consult at the request of either Party concerning any matter relating to this letter.

This letter reflects our mutual understanding of the actions that the Korean Government has agreed to take with respect to investment in Korea.

Sincerely,

Tong-Jin Park

Ambassador

I am pleased to confirm that this exchange of letters is a mutual understanding between our two governments concerning the actions that the Korean government has agreed to take with respect to investment in Korea.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Carla A. Hills

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 89-50

May 18, 1989 Contact: Clair Buchanan

(202) 95-2200

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES

TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

20506

HILLS: KOREA TO LIBERALIZE TRADE AND INVESTMENT

United States Trade Representative Carla A. Hills today announced that Korea has agreed to liberalize conditions for foreign investment and to eliminate significant import barriers. These agreements will be signed next week.

"Korea's market opening measures will bring real and substantial benefits to American and other exporters and investors," Hills said.

"These agreements create a useful precedent for the Uruguay Round and bilateral negotiations which will strengthen the global trading system. We remain committed to further market opening in Korea, especially in agriculture."

The investment agreement will result in removal of performance requirements on foreign investors in Korea and replacement of a screening system with a simple notification procedure for most foreign investments. Performance requirements, such as conditions that a producer export a certain portion of his production, have created significant distortions in the international trading system.

Korea also will fully open its market to foreign travel and advertising agencies and wholesalers of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. It also will remove requirements that pharmaceutical companies produce their products in Korea. A

Korea will enter a "border control" practice by the end of the year for the purpose of producing. Korea has
a duty-free zone for the purpose of requiring the burden of the cost of foreign pharmaceutical production
Korea. I will adopt a simplified procedure for the cost of food and agreed to recognize
a duty-free zone which requires for the purpose of the recognition of the mark.

The two governments have agreed to add to the list of agricultural products by 1991 of 243 agricultural products.
However, the United States is requesting further liberalization. GATT findings support the U.S.
and other countries' request for further liberalization of Korea's agricultural products.

OUTLINE OF THE U.S.-ROK LOCALIZATION AGREEMENT

The May 19 U.S.-Korea Localization Agreement addresses the issue of Korea's policies and procedures which
have adversely affected U.S. exports to Korea. Following a survey of some of the key elements of his trade
agreement:

"border control" -- Korea's Technology Development Promotion and Pharmaceutical Affairs Law will be revised in
1990 to eliminate the border control provisions which allow the local production of a few
products in Korea, to require the import of the products. A foreign border control measure will be
entered into by July 1990 -- the new border control will be implemented immediately;

"special laws" -- Korea's 39 industry specific laws will be made GATT-compatible and rationalized;

pre-importation -- industry association involvement in pre-importation will be eliminated;
procedure will be simplified and expedited;

customs procedure -- Korea's customs regulations, procedures and appeal process will be modernized
and rationalized and will be applied uniformly and expediently;

duty-free -- Korea will exempt from duty the products of the duty-free zone and duty-free zone from
the government-owned organizations for foreign countries; a review of Korea's duty-free zone procedure will be
undertaken with a view to harmonizing with the developed country procedure, including the certification;

food and drug -- for the purpose of requiring will be relaxed effective August 1990;

costs -- the foreign registration procedure will be revised and updated for costs by September 1990
and implemented by March 1990; by September 1990 separate foreign will be required for production;
where the foreign cost of the imported foreign participation in July 1990, foreign companies will have to
re-register their products in order to market them in Korea;

pharmaceuticals -- good clinical practice regulations will be revised and are under development.

Note: This is a preliminary reading of the agreement for more detailed and authoritative explanation.

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THE AMBASSADOR EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

TONG-JIN PARK WASHINGTON, D C

May 19, 1990

The Honorable Carla A. Hill

The United States Trade Representative

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

600 Seventh Street, N.W., 8

Bar Ambassador Hills:

I have the honor to refer to the recent consultations held between representatives of the Government of the Republic of Korea (Korean Government) and the Government of the United States of America (U.S. Government) regarding certain of Korea's practices with respect to border classification standards and testing requirements and customs procedures. As a result of these consultations, Korea has agreed to take the following actions:

A. Import Restrictions

1. By September 20, 1989, the Korean Government will submit amendments to its National Assembly to repeal border classification in the Technology Development Promotion Law Article 8-2 and the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law Article 72-4.

2. Upon passage by the National Assembly of amendments referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Korean Government will revise relevant regulations to implement these amendments by April 1, 1990.

3. The Korean Government will terminate all remaining border classification measures by July 1, 1990, and effective immediately will not invoke any new border classification measures. Upon receipt of Ministry of Health and Social Affairs (MOHSA) import registration, these products will be subject to simple import reporting/notification procedures. (See attachment for a list of products affected by border classification measures and the timetable for import liberalization.)

4. The Korean Government will do its utmost to ensure that the application of the safeguards provisions of Korea's Foreign Trade Law will be consistent with Article XIX of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

5. The Korean Government will apply the provisions of Ministry of Health and Social Affairs Notice 89-12, entitled "The Guideline for Manufacturing and Manufacturing Items regarding Pharmaceutical Products," solely to imports and manufacturing of Ginkgo leaf extracts and finished products containing such extracts. This notice will not be extended to apply to any other product.

6. The Korean Government will continue to review its "individual" laws in order to expediently identify and change those provisions and measures which are not consistent with its GATT obligations and to enhance transparency. In the interim, neither these laws nor their application will be made more restrictive.

7. Effective immediately, the Korean Government will ensure that any requirement for pre-import reporting or notification does not create any obstacles to trade.

8. Except for the purposes of public health, safety and environmental preservation by December 31, 1989, the Korean Government will draft and implement a plan to reduce or eliminate pre-import reporting/notification requirements and to phase out participation of industry associations in the pre-import reporting/notification system.

9. The Korean Government confirms that the pre-import fee for pharmaceutical products has been eliminated and that the only remaining pre-import reporting/notification fee collected by the Medical Service Manufacturing Association will be eliminated by July 1, 1989.

10. By October 1, 1989, the Korean Government will simplify documentation requirements for pre-import reporting/notification and will ensure that pre-import appraisal under such a system is issued expeditiously.

11. The Korean Government will ensure that its customs regulations, procedures and appeals process are transparent and apply in a uniform and expeditious manner.

B. Standards

1. The Korean Government will notify that the GATT Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade trade-related standards and technical regulations which are not based on well recognized international standards or which u

deviate from the standard.

2. Under the Industrial Product Quality Control Law, the Korean Government will exclude from product quality inspection internationally recognized standard certification marks and marks of well-known public organizations in foreign countries.

3. By August 1, 1989, the Korean Government will (a) accept a single indication for the product label concerning the "best before" date and (b) will permit use of "claim" and flavoring (e.g., "artificial claim") with the exception of the Yellow 5. The Korean Government will announce and publicize no later than June 30, 1989, its decision to accept such labeling effective on August 1, 1989. The Korean Government may prohibit use of claim, in addition to Yellow 5, if such claim appears to cause health problems.

4. a) By September 1, 1989, the Korean Government will notify the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO) regarding the testing and registration of electronic devices. In drafting such regulations, the Korean Government will take into account relevant international practices.

b) Such revised procedures will be implemented by March 1, 1990.

c) The Korean Government confirms that, effective immediately, where product testing is required, the number of samples required will be limited to the minimum necessary to perform adequate testing.

d) By September 1, 1989, EPA testing will not be required for variations in product color.

e) The Korean Government confirms that it denies the testing edict issued in the CMC, Tillet and Fagance Accidents (CTFA) Dictionary and, effective on July 1, 1989, will not be testing edicts contained in the CFTA "Letter of Intent to Publish in the Supplemental Edition of the CFTA Dictionary."

f) Effective July 1, 1990, foreign wholesale firms may distribute previously registered CMC product without limitation.

5. a) The Korean Government will review its Good Clinical Practices (GCP) regulations with a view to harmonizing with international practices and confirms that the implementation of the GCP adopted is suspended.

b) The Korean Government will notify the draft GCP regulations to the GATT Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade for participation.

c) The Korean Government confirms that, in the interim, it will continue to accept the following safety and efficacy conditions for importation and production of pharmaceuticals:

i) U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) certification for pharmaceuticals and FDA-approved test data; and

ii) Limited Phase III testing in Korea for drugs that have been marketed in foreign countries for at least one year and drugs that have been marketed only in the country where it was developed.

6. a) By the end of 1989, the number of subjects per type of product in the Electrical Product Safety Control Law will be reduced substantially and the type of product type approval will be subject to a minimum certification requirement. The type approval system will be simplified and foreign manufacturers will be able to obtain type approval.

b) The Korean Government will continue to review its quality inspection procedures with a view to harmonizing with developed country procedures.

C. General Provisions

1. Both Parties agree to consult each other to prevent any matter relating to this letter.

2. Both Parties agree to take the conditions of this letter as the basis for any unilateral or indirect action.

This letter sets forth mutual understanding of the conditions that the Korean Government has agreed to take with respect to border inspection, standards and testing requirements, and customs procedures.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Tong-Jin Park

The Honorable Tong-Jin Park

Ambassador

Embassy of the Republic of Korea

2370 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador Park:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter and its attachment dated May 19, 1989, concerning the conditions the Korean Government has agreed to take concerning its practices with respect to border inspection, standards and testing requirements, and customs procedures. Your letter and attachment read as follows:

"Dear Ambassador Hills:

I have the honor to refer to the understandings held between representatives of the Government of the Republic of Korea (Korean Government) and the Government of the United States of America (U.S. Government) regarding the Republic of Korea's practices with respect to border inspection, standards and testing requirements, and customs procedures. As a result of these understandings, Korea has agreed to take the following actions:

A. Import Restrictions

1. By September 20, 1989, the Korean Government will submit amendments to its National Assembly to repeal border inspection, i.e., in the Technical Development Promotion Law Article 8.2 and the Pharmaceutical Law Article 72-4.
2. Upon passage by the National Assembly of amendments referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Korean Government will revise relevant regulations to implement these amendments by April 1, 1990.
3. The Korean Government will terminate all remaining border inspection measures by July 1, 1990, and effective immediately, will not invoke any new border inspections. Upon receipt of Ministry of Health and Social Affairs (MOHSA) import registration, these products will be subject to simple import inspection/notification procedures. (See attachment of a list of products affected by border inspection measures and the timetable for import liberalization.)
4. The Korean Government will do its utmost to ensure that the application of the safeguard provisions of Korea's Foreign Trade Law will be consistent with Article XIX of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).
5. The Korean Government will apply the provisions of Ministry of Health and Social Affairs Notice 89-12, entitled "The Guideline for Manufacturing and Manufactured Items Regarding Pharmaceutical Products," solely to imports and manufactures of Ginkgo leaf extracts and finished products containing substances. This notice will not be extended to apply to any other product.
6. The Korean Government will continue to review its "individual" laws in order to expediently identify and change those provisions and measures which have not been consistent with its GATT obligations and to enhance transparency. In the interim, neither these laws nor their application will be made more restrictive.]

7. Effectively, the Korean Government will ensure that any requirements for pre-shipment reporting or notification does not create any obstacles to trade.

8. Except for the purpose of public health, safety and environmental preservation, by December 31, 1989, the Korean Government will refrain from implementing plans to regulate or eliminate pre-shipment reporting/notification requirements in the pharmaceutical sector of industry associations in the pre-shipment reporting/notification system.

9. The Korean Government confirms that the pre-shipment fee for pharmaceutical products has been eliminated and that the only remaining pre-shipment reporting/notification fee collected by the Medical Device Manufacturing Association will be eliminated by July 1, 1989.

10. By October 1, 1989 the Korean Government will simplify documentation requirements for pre-shipment reporting/notification and will ensure that pre-shipment procedures under such systems issue expeditiously.

11. The Korean Government will ensure that its customs regulations, procedures and appeals process are transparent and people are unfettered and expeditious manner.

B. Standards

1. The Korean Government will not fail to the GATT Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade trade-related standards in technical regulations which are not based on well-recognized international standards, or which derive from those standards.

2. Under the Industrial Products Quality Control Law, the Korean Government will exclude from prior quality inspection internationally-recognized standards or certification marks and marks from well-known public organizations in foreign countries.

3. By August 1, 1989, the Korean Government will () accept single indication of freshness on food product labels consisting of the "best before" term (b) will permit use of "classes" for colors and flavors (e.g., "bright colors") with the exception of the color Yellow 5. The Korean Government will announce a public notice no later than June 30, 1989, its decision to accept such labeling effect on August 1, 1989. The Korean Government hereby prohibits the use of classes for colors, notation to Yellow 5, of such colors are prone to cause health problems.

4.) By September 1, 1989, the Korean Government will not fail to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade related regulations pertaining to testing and registration requirements for cosmetics. In enforcing such regulations, the Korean Government will take into account relevant international practices.

b) Such related procedures will be implemented by March 1, 1990.

c) The Korean Government confirms that effectively, where product testing is required, the number of samples requested will be limited to the minimum necessary to perform equitable testing.

) By September 1, 1989, separate testing will not be required for variations in product color.

e) The Korean Government confirms that it does not test ingredients listed in the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association (CTFA) Dictionary, effective on July 1, 1989, will not test ingredients contained in the CTFA's "Letter of Intent to Publish in the Supplement I Elements of the CTFA Dictionary."

f) Effectively July 1, 1990, foreign wholesalers of cosmetics voluntarily submit pre-shipment testing of cosmetics products without expense.

5.) The Korean Government will review its Good

Chemical Practices (GCP) regulations with a view

to harmonization with international practice and

confirms that the implementation of the GCP is

drafted in accordance

b) The Korea Government will notify the draft GCP regulation to the GATT Agreement on Technical Barrier to Trade for parties concerned

c) The Korea Government confirms that, in the interim, it will continue to accept the following conditions for the approval of importation and production of pharmaceuticals:

i) U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) certification of pharmaceuticals and FDA approved test data; and

ii) limited Phase III testing in Korea of a drug that has been marketed in foreign countries for less than three years or a drug that has been marketed only in the country where it was developed

6 a) By the end of 1989, the number of items subject to type approval prior to importation under the Electrical Product Safety Control Law will be reduced substantially and those items exempted from type approval will be subject to a simplified notification of intent to import. The type approval system will be simplified and foreign manufacturers will be able to obtain type approval

b) The Korea Government will continue to review its quality inspection procedures with a view to harmonization with developed country procedures

C. General Provisions

1 'Both Parties agree to consult at the request of either Party concerning any matter relating to this letter

2 Both Parties agree that the terms and conditions of this letter are to remain unimpaired by direct or indirect restriction

This letter reflects our mutual understanding of the action that the Korea Government has agreed to take with respect to border closure, standards and testing requirements, and customs procedures

Sincerely,

To g-Ji Park

Ambassador"

I am pleased to confirm that this exchange of letters including the attachment thereto is a mutual understanding between our two governments concerning the action that the Korea government has agreed to take with respect to certain of its practices with respect to border closure, standards and testing requirements, and customs procedures

Carla A. Hill

ATTACHMENT

List of products for which border closure measures will be terminated and the timetable for each action'

HSK	Product Description	Date Planned to be Liberalized
2932909000	Racloxyfen Hcl	January 1, 1989

2941909090	Cef e ne N	e tembe 1, 1989
2842909000	Hyd t lclde J	Se tembe 1, 1989
2924219000	P glumide	nu y 1, 1990
2939901000	dl-Methyle h d ine Hcl J	nu y 1, 1990
2930909090	S-C b xymethylcystein J	nu y 1. 1990
2906132000	In sit l	nu y 1, 1990
2941909010	K n mycine Sulf te	nu y 1, 1990
2941909010	S luble K n mycine Sulf te J	nu y 1, 1990
2941909090	Rif mpicine	nu y 1, 1990
9602001000	Empty Gel tin C sule	nu y 1, 1990
3003300400	Medic ments cting n the Ci cul SystemJ	nu y 1, 1990
3507909000	Se ti e tid se	uly 1, 1990

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