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Economic Cooperation between Russia and Republic of Korea: Problems and Prospects

러-한 경제협력 : 과제와 전망

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Key Words : Russian-Korean cooperation, trade and investment, TKR and TSR, natural resources, gas and oil

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Ⅰ. Introduction

The beginning of official political contacts between Russia and Republic of Korea (RoK) was put with bilateral meeting at the summit in San Francisco in June, 1990. During the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of two countries in New York in the September of the same year diplomatic relations are established. By present time the necessary legal base of bilateral cooperation is created. It includes agreements on trade, about guarantees of investments, on fishery, on prevention of the double taxation, about cooperation in military-technical sphere, about cooperation in the field of atomic energy peace use, about a cultural exchange and other areas are concluded.

For eighteen years, passed from the date of an establishment of diplomatic relations with RoK, presidents of two countries met 18 times. By present time bilateral relations left on level of many-sided confidential partnership. Great value for the Russian-Korean cooperation had official visit to Russia by RoK's President Roh Mu Hen in September, 2004. In May, 2005 Roh Mu Hen has taken part in celebrating the 60 anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War in Moscow. In November, 2005 the President of Russia Putin has taken part in APEC summit in Busan for which his working visit to RoK has been dated. The next meeting of two countries leaders has taken place on the fields of APEC summit in Sydney (September, 2007). Whether elected president of RoK Ri Men Bak has received invitation to visit Russia with official visit.

In October, 2006 Chairman of the Russian Government Fradkov has taken official visit to Seoul, and in January, 2007 the Speaker of National Parliament of RoK Ri Chhe John has taken official visit to Russia. On 6th of March, 2007 the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of RoK Son Min Sun has visited Russia with working visit during which the negotiations of heads of foreign policy departments of two countries have taken place. In June, 2007 Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs Lavrov was in RoK with working visit, and in August, 2007 Son Min Sun has visited Moscow again.

2007 year has been noted by intensive Russian-Korean contacts at all levels which testified to a steady course of RoK's Government on the further deepening of many-sided confidential partnership with Russia. Such approach has been confirmed during President Putin's meeting with Korean President Roh Mu Hen during APEC summit in Sydney (September, 2007).

In 2007 8-th session of the Russian-Korean Joint Commission on Economic and Scientific and Technical Cooperation (December, 2007, Moscow), and also sessions of branch committees

and the commissions, in particular, the Far East and Siberia commission (April, 2007 - Moscow, October, 2007 - Seoul), on power and mineral resources (December, 2007, Moscow), on environment protection (November, 2007, Seoul), on a fishery (December, 2007, Moscow), on a science and technologies (November, 2007, Seoul) have taken place.

It is necessary to allocate visit of the President of Republic Sakha (Yakutia) Shtyrov to RoK (September-October, 2007) which promoted attraction of Korean business circles to natural resources exploration and development in the Eastern Siberia and the Far East of Russia, and also visit of St.-Petersburg's Governor Matvienko (December, 2007), who's signed the agreement with Hyundai Motor Group on building the automobile factory in St.-Petersburg. The president of Russian Chamber of Commerce visits Korea and carrying out the 8-th Russian-Korean forum in Seoul in May, 2007 were promoted and strengthened business contacts.

Also scientific and technical cooperation became more active in 2007. After six years break 9-th session of the Russia-Korean Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation is taken place in Seoul during which the perspective directions of further cooperation between centers of science and universities of two countries have been planned. There has been begun discussion of the Protocol on principles of protection and distribution of the intellectual property rights in the field of science and technique.

During the visit of the Head of Federal Space Agency of Russia Perminov to RoK in October, 2007 priority directions of cooperation have been planned for 2008 in the field of an outer space exploration, including finish of building of the Korean space-rocket complex (KSLV), flight of the Korean cosmonaut to the international space station, establishing joint venture on certification of the element base.

In December, 2007 12-th session of Joint Coordinating Committee on Atomic Energy has taken place in Moscow during which 18 directions of cooperation in this area have been discussed.

The bilateral exchanges in education field successfully developed. 25 government grants for training in high schools of Russia have been allocated to RoK's citizens for 2007-2008 years. Direct teaching and student's exchanges proceeded. Now about 150 Russian students are trained in RoK and about 60 Russian teachers work at Korean universities under long-term contracts.

The military-technical cooperation (MTC) has received further development. The volume of military goods supply in 2007 has amounted about 50 mln USD. The Russian side has

practically finished the obligations under the most significant contracts signed earlier and now MTC of two countries concerns mainly custom research and development (Korea side is most interested in them), supply of spare parts and after-sale services of the Russian arms and the military techniques. Signing in December, 2007 (Seoul) the Memorandum of understanding in the MTC field providing preparation of the corresponding Program into which will enter the co-coordinated nomenclature of deliveries of end production of military and civil appointment, and also research and development themes became an important point. Along with cooperation on a commercial basis possibility of the Russian deliveries on account of partial repayment of a public debt of the former USSR to RoK is provided.

In 2007 contacts in the field of tourism proceeded. In June, 2007 (Seoul) the representatives of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of RoK and Federal Tourism Agency of Russia have carried out consultations on the questions connected with development of tourist exchanges, the Russian delegations have took part in tourist exhibitions and fairs in RoK.

The important place in bilateral relations belongs to trade and economic cooperation. It develops accruing rates. In 2007 the trade turnover between Russia and RoK has increased on 54.5% and amounted to 15.065 bln USD (in 2006 - 9.8 bln USD). The Russian export has reached 6.977 bln USD (growth on 52.6%), and import - 8.088 bln USD (growth on 56.1%). Russia stands on tenth place among main trading partners of RoK. In 2007 Russia has risen from 12-th to 8-th place in the list of the main buyers of Korean production, remaining thus the most dynamically developing market for RoK. The relative share of Russia in foreign trade turnover of RoK remained insignificant - about 2%, continued to decrease, and a share of machine-technical production in the Russian export fall from 4.7% in the first half 2006 up to 2% for the same period of 2007. At the same time the share of machine-technical production in the Russian import from RoK has reached 80%. Increasing import of Korean drilling equipment for oil-and-gas projects in Sakhalin, tankers, cars, mobile phones and accessories became the major factor in bilateral trade growth. On preliminary estimations, in the first quarter of 2008 the trade turnover between Russia and RoK amounted to 4.239 bln USD (growth on 72.1% in comparison with the similar period of 2007). Thus export amounted to 1.744 bln USD (growth on 91.7% in comparison with the first quarter of 2007), and import - 2.495 bln USD (growth on 60.6% in comparison with the first quarter of 2007).

The important role in the development of bilateral relations belongs to Russia-Korean Joint Commission on the Economic and Scientific and Technical cooperation, including ten branch committees and subcommittees.

In the economic view the relations between Russia and RoK are characterized by distinct complementarities. Russia possesses oil and other energy reserves and various mineral resources deposits, including various nonmetallic metals which are the basic raw materials for the newest industries. The RoK has achieved high level competitiveness in the world in the infrastructure creation, in the manufacturing industry, in the petrochemical industry, in the development of information technologies and a number of other fields. Besides, Russia deservedly is proud of a world level of fundamental sciences development and technologies of creation of new materials and optics, and RoK possesses high technologies and experience in its commercialization, highly educated human resources in such areas, as manufacture of semiconductors, computers and information technology and communications.

In 2005 the governments of two countries have accepted the Russian-Korean Joint Plan of action in the field of trade and economic cooperation which realization will promote active expansion and deepening of economic relations and interactions between two states. This Plan is considered on long-term and strategic cooperation of two countries not only in economy (trade and investments), but also in scientific and technical area, in energy and mineral resources exploration and development. Cooperation of two countries actively extends in such basic directions, as a fuel and energy complex, transport, science and technologies, ocean researches, the space industry, natural resources development, a science and techniques, information technologies, communication, fishery, regional cooperation. Thanks to it today's bilateral relations leave on level of many-sided confidential partnership.

Further we will stop on economic cooperation of two countries in trade and investments in more details, and also we will show dynamics of cooperation between Russian East regions (the Far East and Transbaikalia) and Republic of Korea.

Ⅱ. The present economic cooperation

1. The Russian-Korean economic cooperation in trade and investments

Last years the trade turnover between Republic of Korea and Russia grows fast rates (Table 1). In 2007 the trade turnover between our two countries has grown on 54.5% and amounted to 15.065 bln USD (in 2006 - 9.8 bln USD).

Table 1. Trade between Republic of Korea and Russia (bln USD)

Indicator	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Export	0.94 (19.0)	1.07 (13.6)	1.66 (55.7)	2.34 (41.0)	3.86 (65.2)	5.18 (34.0)	8.088 (56.1)
Import	1.93 (-6.3)	2.22 (14.9)	2.52 (13.7)	3.67 (45.6)	3.94 (7.,2)	4.57 (16,2)	6.977 (52.6)
Trade turnover	2.87 (0.7)	3.28 (14.5)	4.18 (27.3)	6.01 (43.8)	7.8 (29.8)	9.75 (25.0)	15.065 (54.5)
The foreign trade balance	-0.99	-1.15	-0.86	-1.33	-0.08	+0.61	+1.111

Source : compiled from the Korean Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) data

Notice : growth rates in per cent indicates in parentheses

According to the data published by KOTRA on the basis of customs statistics, the volume of RoK's export to Russia in 2007 has exceeded 8 bln USD, that more in one and a half time (on 56.1%) higher than indicator in 2006. The comparable indicator on 52.6% characterizes growth of Russian import to RoK which has amounted almost 7 bln USD.

The main items of RoK's export to Russia are cars (40%), chisel platforms, synthetic pitches, wireless communication equipment, automotive spare parts, electronics, and synthetic materials from plastic fibers.

The main items of RoK's import from Russia are crude oil, petrochemical products, aluminum, alloys and a breakage of ferrous metals, coal, nickel, fish and seafood, timber, uranium.

On preliminary estimations, in the first quarter of 2008 the trade turnover between Russia and RoK amounted to 4.239 bln USD (growth on 72.1% in comparison with the similar period of 2007). Thus export amounted to 1.744 bln USD (growth on 91.7% in comparison with the first quarter of 2007), and import - 2.495 bln USD (growth on 60.6% in comparison with the first quarter of 2007).

According to the Russian statistics the amount of Korean investments in Russia in 2007 has increased to 131.9 mln USD against 52 mln USD in 2006. By the end of 2007 the cumulative amount of Korean investments into Russian economy has reached 515.2 mln USD in 305 projects (in 2006 - 312.1 mln USD). The cumulative volume of Russian investments in Republic of Korea by present time amounts only about 22 mln USD in 302 projects. According to Eximbank of Korea data (differing from the Russian data in the big party) it is possible

to track, that investment activity of Korean companies in Russia has been growing last years, that while it is impossible to say about their Russian partners (Table 2).

Table 2. The Russian-Korean investment cooperation (mln USD)

Year		Investments into Korean economy (by June, 2007)	Investments into Russia (by March, 2008)
2004	Number of projects	39	72
	Amount	1.8	25.34
2005	Number of projects	34	85
	Amount	2.5	34.717
2006	Number of projects	35	76
	Amount	2.4	102.533
2007	Number of projects	15	132
	Amount	1	227.804
2008	Number of projects	-	39
	Amount	-	53.852
Total	Number of projects	302	762
	Amount	21.8	650.85

Source : Export-import Bank of Korea

According to table 3 it is possible to track investment preferences of the Korean investors in Russia. Substantial amounts of Korean investments into a manufacturing industry of Russia are connected basically with realization of projects in automotive, food and electronic industries and construction.

Last years Korean automotive and other companies were actively carried on negotiations for participation in creation of co-productions in Russia.

Table 3. The cumulative amount of Korean investments into Russian economy by industry (by the end of March 2008)

	Number of projects	Amount (mln USD)
Agriculture and forestry	191	39.043
Fishing	24	4.108
Mining and quarrying	25	89.589
Manufacturing	248	249.474
Construction	24	10.814
Wholesale and retail trade	111	103.917
Hotels and restaurants	42	46.689
Transport	8	4.395
Post and telecommunications	21	28.103
Financial institutions and insurance	1	20.879
Real estate and renting and leasing	42	44.365
Business activities	13	7.53
Recreational, cultural and sporting activities	4	1.234
Other community, repair and personal service activities	8	0.71
Total	762	650.85

Source : Export-import bank of Korea

So, there have been realized and begun following investment projects:

- 2005, September - KOYA Company has put in operation the factory on manufacturing of fast preparation noodles (investment in amount of 20 mln USD);
- 2006, June - Orion Chekwa Company has constructed the factory on manufacturing of confectionery production (20 mln USD);
- 2006, September - LG Electronics Company has put in operation the factory on manufacturing of consumer equipment and home appliances in the Ruza (150 mln USD);
- 2007, June - Pomhan Fantos Company has finished building of the logistical centre in

the Moscow area (10 mln USD);

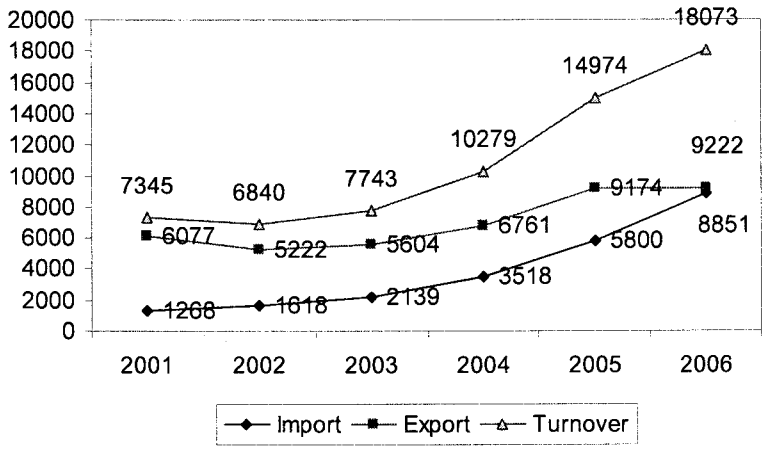
- 2007, September - Lotte Company has constructed department store and business centre building in Moscow - the first stage of the trading and hotel Lotte complex (300 mln USD, and by the end of 2008 it plans to put in operation this hotel (200 mln USD);
- 2007, September - Samsung Electronics Company has started building Russian factory in the Kaluga area (110 mln USD);
- 2007, October - Hyundai Company has started building of the logistical centre «Mobis Parts CIS» (35 mln USD);
- 2008, February - Russian AK BARS bank has signed with Korean petrochemical company KP Chemical the agreement on building the factory (capacity is 300 thousand tons) for polyethylene terephthalate manufacturing in Elabuga. Initial investments into this project will make not less than 150 mln USD. It's supposed to start this factory in two-three years;
- 2008, May - Hyundai Motor Company has started building the factory on manufacturing of cars near St.-Petersburg. Within three years it will invest 330 mln Euros, and also will create about 4 thousand workplaces. The first cars (under Hyundai and Kia trademarks) will be on sale in the beginning of 2011.

The realization of join investment projects in energy sector, petrochemical industry, automotive industry and other sectors will allow increasing amounts of bilateral trade and investments substantially.

2. The Russian-Korean economic cooperation in the Eastern Russia regions

The dynamics of foreign trade turnover of the Russian Far East and Transbaikalia territories in 2001-06 is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. The Foreign trade turnover of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories in 2001-2006 (mln USD)



The huge share of foreign trade turnover of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories was carried out with the Asia-pacific countries, which covers more than 80% of its amount. The trade and economic relations of the Russian Far East territories with Northeast Asia countries are the important factor of social and economic development of region.

So, in 2007 the positive dynamics of foreign trade development only in the Far East Federal District (FEFD, i.e. Russian Far East territories without Transbaikalie) has remained. The FEFD's foreign trade turnover has reached 21.3 bln USD, that on 32.6% higher that its level in 2006. Following in the text, tables and figures indicators of the Russian Far East foreign trade volumes and its structure are based on data of the Far Eastern Branch of Federal Custom Service of the Russian Federation, with including the data about legal export of fish and seafood outside Russia customs border, the amount of the diamond complex export of Republic Sakha (Yakutia) and precious metals.

Foreign economic relations of the Russian Far East territories are traditionally focused on Japan, Republic of Korea and China. In 2007 the leading position in foreign trade of the Russian Far East belonged to Japan which has the share of 28.7% in the regional foreign trade turnover, covering 30.1% of regional export and 26.3% of regional import (Table 4).

The volume of FEFD's export to Japan in 2007 has increased in 2.7 times in comparison with 2006 at the expense of increase in supply of crude oil, raw timber and timber products, fish and seafood. The growth of import volumes from Japan (on 18.9%) was provided at the expense of production of a machinery industry. However, it has not brought essential changes

in commodity structure of import. Still, the basis of import from Japan is made by machine-technical production (93.6%), including goods of investment appointment (16.1%), vehicles, including cars (83%).

The second major trading partner of the Russian Far East by turnover amount is the Republic of Korea. In 2007 the RoK's share in the regional foreign trade turnover was 27.5%. Nowadays, the Korean market is the leading destination for the FEFD's export by its amount. The RoK's share in regional export is 33.6%.

Table 4. Geography of the Russian Far East foreign trade in 2006-07 (mln USD, %)*

	2006			2007		
	Export	Import	Turnover	Export	Import	Turnover
Total	9065.8	6983.3	16049.1	13533.4	7747.6	21281.0
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Japan	1534.7	1710.7	3245.4	4070.1	2034.2	6104.3
	16.9	24.5	20.2	30.1	26.3	28.7
Peoples Republic of China	2573.1	1701.8	4274.9	1981.1	2540.8	4521.9
	28.4	24.4	26.6	14.6	32.8	21.2
Republic of Korea	1185.4	1603.3	2788.7	4552.5	1292.4	5844.9
	13.1	23.0	17.4	33.6	16.7	27.5
USA	300.5	426.8	727.3	354.8	501.1	855.9
	3.3	6.1	4.5	2.6	6.5	4.0
Vietnam	90.4	30.3	120.7	88.1	45.9	134.0
	1.0	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6
Germany	47.2	175.9	223.1	38.8	206.5	245.3
	0.5	2.5	1.4	0.3	2.7	1.2
India	22.6	10.4	33.0	111.7	24.8	136.5
	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.6
Israel	259.4	23.3	282.7	283.4	7.0	290.4
	2.9	0.3	1.8	2.1	0.1	1.4
Canada	0.8	120.9	121.7	2.3	106.1	108.4
	0.0	1.7	0.8	0.0	1.4	0.5
Great Britain	617.7	106.3	724.0	391.2	193.5	584.7
	6.8	1.5	4.5	2.9	2.5	2.7

Belgium	670.6	12.2	682.8	860.7	29.4	890.1
	7.4	0.2	4.3	6.4	0.4	4.2
CIS countries	27.2	26.1	53.3	50.7	18.4	69.1
	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3
Other countries	1736.2	1035.3	2771.5	748.0	747.5	1495.5
	19.1	14.9	17.2	5.5	9.5	7.1

Source : compiled on the basis of customs statistics (including export of production of diamond complex, precious metals and products)

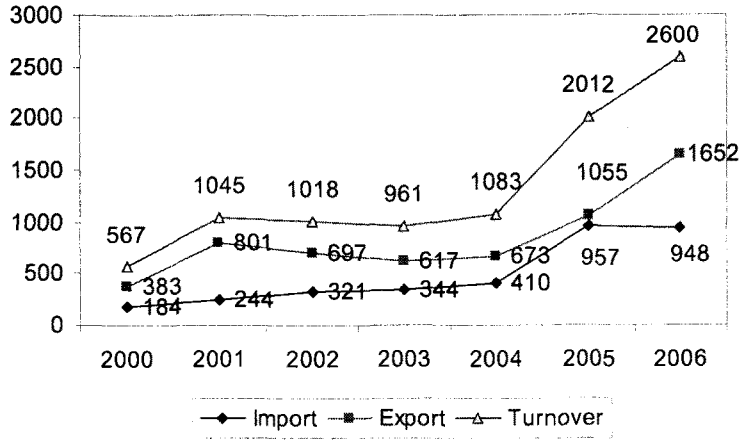
Notice: * - without import and export of services, supply of bunker fuel

Almost 90% of the FEDF's export to Korea is presented by crude oil (77.8%) and fish and seafood (12.1%). The structure of the FEDF's import from Korea is in many respects similar to the commodity structure of Japan's export to FEDF.

China continues to bring the considerable contribution to development of trade and economic cooperation of the Far East with foreign countries. In 2007 the Chinese market covers 14.6% of the Far East export in which structure traditionally the timber products, fish and seafood, and also oil products prevailed. A basis of imports from China (unlike Japan and Republic of Korea) was the consumer goods (55.2%), mainly the manufacturing consumer goods.

In Figure 2 the foreign trade turnover dynamics of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories with Republic of Korea in 2000-2006 is presented.

Figure 2. The foreign trade turnover of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories with Republic Korea in 2000-2006 (mln USD)



The regional structure of the Far East foreign trade turnover with Republic of Korea in 2006-07 is presented in table 5

Table 5. The regional structure of the Russian Far East trade with Republic Korea in 2006-07 (mln USD, %)

	2006			2007		
	Export	Import	Turnover	Export	Import	Turnover
Republic Sakha	84.8	0.6	85.4	92.7	0.4	93.1
	7.1537	0.0374	3.0624	2.0362	0.031	1.5928
Primorky Kray	259.9	391.6	651.5	325.7	366.5	692.2
	21.9251	24.4246	23.3621	7.1543	28.3581	11.8428
Khabarovsky Kray	402.8	40.9	443.7	197.3	61.7	259.0
	33.9801	2.551	15.9106	4.3339	4.7741	4.4312
Amurskaya oblast	2.3	1.6	3.9	0.5	2.8	3.3
	0.194	0.0998	0.1399	0.011	0.2167	0.0565
Sakhalinskaya oblast	180.7	1152.8	1333.5	3650.3	841.8	4492.1
	15.2438	71.9017	47.818	80.1823	65.1346	76.855
Kamchatsky kray	227.5	10.3	237.8	250.2	11.8	262.0
	19.1918	0.6424	8.5273	5.4959	0,913	4.4825
Magadanskaya oblast	26.9	5.3	32.2	35.4	6.9	42.3
	2.2693	0.3306	1.1547	0.7776	0.5339	0.7237
Chukotka AO	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.9
	0.0422	0.0125	0.0251	0.00	0.0387	0.0154
Total	1185.4	1603.3	2788.7	4552.5	1292.4	5844.9
	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: see table 4

The Sakhalinskaya oblast is the leader in the foreign trade turnover with Republic Korea in 2007 by its amount of 4.4 bln USD (increase in comparison with 2006 in 3.3 times). An export volume has grown in 20 times and has reached 3.6 bln USD. So, oil and mineral oil, a

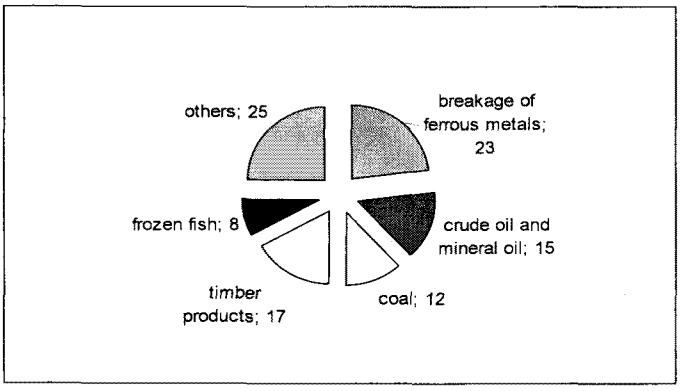
breakage of ferrous metals, frozen fish were basic items of export in 2007. An import volume of the Sakhalin area from Republic Korea in 2007 in comparison with 2006 has decreased on 27% and has reached 842 mln USD. The main items of import were mining equipment; pumps, compressors, fans.

The foreign trade turnover of Primorsky kray with Republic of Korea in 2007 reached 692.2 mln USD, that on 6% higher that it was in 2006. The export volume in 2007 has increased on 25% and amounted to 325.7 mln USD. The main export items to Korea were raw timber products, a breakage of ferrous metals, fish and seafood. The import volume in 2007 amounted to 366.5 mln USD, which has decreased on 6%. Import from Republic of Korea is presented, basically, by items of food and raw materials for their manufacture, production of the chemical industry, machinery products. The third place in the foreign trade turnover volume with Republic of Korea in 2006 was occupied by Khabarovsky kray (in 2007 it has conceded its to Kamchatsky kray). The foreign trade turnover of Khabarovsky kray with Republic of Korea in 2007 has decreased in 1.7 times and has reached 259 mln USD, thus export has decreased almost in 2 times (to 197.3 mln USD) and import has grown in 1.5 times (to 61 mln USD). The main items of export were timber and products from it; coal; crude oil and mineral oil; ferrous metals.

The foreign trade turnover of Kamchatsky kray with Republic of Korea in 2007 has reached 262 mln USD. The import volume has grown slightly (to 11.8 mln USD) in comparison with 2006, thus export has grown on 10% and amounted 250.2 mln USD.

The main export items of the East Russia territories (Far East and Transbaikalie) to Republic Korea in 2006 are presented in Figure 3.

Figure 3. The export of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories to Republic Korea by product in 2006 (%)



So, in 2006 the greatest share of export to Republic of Korea has taken by metals and products from them (mainly breakage of ferrous metals) - 23%, raw timber products - 17%, crude oil and mineral oil - 15%, coal - 12%. The dynamics of crude oil and mineral oil export to RoK is presented in Table 6.

Table 6. The dynamics of crude oil and mineral oil export from the Far East and Transbaikalia territories to Republic of Korea in 2001-2006 (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
372.1	308.3	141.8	47	111.82	115.04

The share of crude oil and mineral oil in total amount of export to Republic of Korea in 2006 was 15%, which increased on 2% in comparison with the previous year and reached 115.04 mln USD.

In 2006 fish and seafood have been exported to Republic of Korea in the sum of 63.22 mln USD that on 20% (Table 7) is less in comparison with 2005.

Table 7. The dynamics of fish and seafood export from the Far East and Transbaikalia territories to Republic of Korea in 2001-2006 (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
109.1	107.8	120.8	62.61	79.83	63.22

The share of a breakage of ferrous metals in the Far Eastern export has reached 23% in 2006 (178.16 mln USD). In comparison with 2005 there was a decrease on 24% (Table 8).

Table 8. The dynamics of the breakage of ferrous metals export from the Far East and Transbaikalia territories to Republic of Korea in 2001-2006 (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
50	44.2	65.1	170.29	233.5	178.16

In 2006 the Eastern Russia territory exported to Republic of Korea coal in the sum of 91.5 mln USD that on 10% (Table 8) is less than indicator of previous year.

Table 9. The dynamics of coal export from the Far East and Transbaikalia territories to Republic of Korea in 2001-2006 (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
12.4	21.1	33.7	68.27	101.13	91.5

The leading positions in timber products export from the East of Russia to Republic of Korea have been covering by raw timber for a long time. In 2006 the Eastern Russia territories exported to Republic of Korea the raw timber in the sum of 128.15 mln USD, which exceeded previous year indicator on 29% (Table 10).

Table 10. The dynamics of raw timber export from the Far East and Transbaikalia territories to Republic of Korea in 2001-2006 (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
123.5	129.8	165.1	90.09	99.1	128.15

It is necessary to notice, that above mentioned estimation of a geographical direction of commodity export flows of the Russian Far East to the NEA countries are based on data provided by Federal Custom Service (FCS) of the Russian Federations which only partly reflect real volumes of trade which more higher by separate items of export. This conclusion is made on the analysis of data compiled by FCS with customs statistics of the NEA countries, which gained in Department of Economic Globalization in the Economic Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (the Head - Devaeva E.). The results of similar research were repeatedly reflected in the institute's monographs[1] and at the international conferences.[2]

In Table 11 we show the results of this comparison. We can see that the highest deviation towards increase in volumes of Far East export is characteristic for deliveries of fish and seafood to Japan and China, timber - to China, Japan and Republic Korea, a breakage and a waste of ferrous metals - to Republic of Korea.

1) *Economic Cooperation between the Russian Far East and Asia-Pacific Countries.* Edited by P.A. Minakir. Khabarovsk, RIOTIP, 2007.

2) For example, the International Scientific Conference «Economic cooperation of the Russian Far East and t Asia -Pacific countries», on 27-28th of February, 2007 in Khabarovsk

Table 11. The deviation of export volumes from the Russian Far East to NEA countries according to the difference in their and Russian statistics in 2005 (mln USD)

Export items	China	Republic of Korea	Japan	NEA countries
Fish and seafood	+547.2	+49.4	+756.1	+1352.8
Timber and timber products	+107.3	+30.0	+57.0	+192.1
Metal and scrap metal	+4.3	+73.5	0.0	+77.9

The received results of higher volumes of Far Eastern export allow paying attention again, on the one hand, to presence in foreign trade of the Far East the business which is carried out outside the legal field. On the other hand, to receive a real estimation of competitive niches for Far Eastern production in the markets of NEA countries, that is important from the point of view of a substantiation of prospects of development of trade and economic cooperation in the region.

Table 12. The Far Eastern export production share in import of the NEA countries by products in 2005 (%)

Export items	China	Republic Korea	Japan	DPRK
Fish and seafood	34.7	17.1	9.6	-
Timber and timber products	17.4	15.6	15.2	58.6
Coal	2.7	1.4	2.2	0.0
Mineral oil	7.3	0.3	0.1	55.1
Metal and scrap metal	0.4	8.1	0.0	0.0

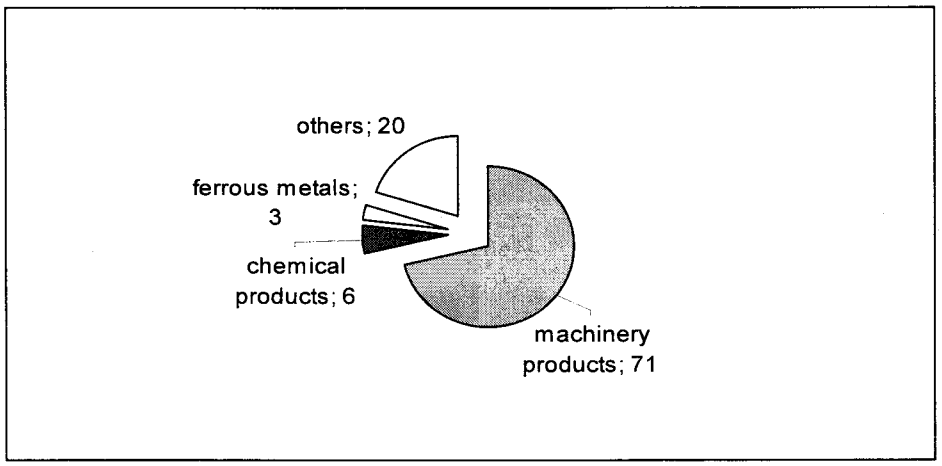
The share indicators in Table 12 of separate items of Far Eastern export production in import of the NEA countries give the basis to assume, that in the mid-term perspective by preservation of dynamics of demand in these countries on production of primary sector, export production of these resources in the structure of the Russian Far East foreign trade will continue dominate (Table 13). The prospective dynamics of the Russian Far East trade with NEA countries will be substantially connected with realization of export-oriented projects in energy sector.

Table 13. The forecast of export volumes from the Far East to the NEA countries in 2010 (mln USD, in 2005 prices)

Export items	Japan	Republic Korea	China	DPRK	NEA countries
Crude oil	5801	878	957	-	7636
LNG	3024	630	252	-	3906
Coal	305	146	16	-	467
Timber and timber products	299	155	700	2.6	1154
Fish and seafood	298	556	281	-	1135

From export we will pass to Russian Far East import from Republic of Korea. The main import items are represented by machinery products - 71%, including the mining equipment - 41%. The main items of import of Eastern Russia regions from Republic of Korea are presented in figure 4.

Figure 4. The import structure of Far East And Transbaikalia territories from Republic of Korea by product in 2006



In 2006 there was an essential growth (in 3 times) in import volumes of machinery products from Republic of Korea, which amounted to 1.14 bln USD (Table 14).

Table 14. The dynamics of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories import of machinery products from Republic of Korea in 2001-2006гг. (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
20.32	18.14	27.2	72.5	385.6	1143.6

The tendency of growth in import of chemical products from Republic of Korea was observed. The growth rate in comparison with previous year was 11% (Table 15).

Table 15. The dynamics of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories import of chemical products from Republic of Korea in 2001-2006 (mln USD)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
32.9	84.4	70.1	60.23	78.21	86.98

In 2006 there was a considerable decrease (in 2.6 times) in metals import from Republic of Korea (Table 16).

Table 16. The dynamics of the Far East and Transbaikalia territories import of metals products from Republic of Korea in 2003-2006 (mln USD)

2003	2004	2005	2006
5.01	15.13	120.5	45.3

Thereby, the Republic of Korea brings the considerable contribution in the development of trade and economic cooperation of the Far East with foreign countries and continues remain one of the leading foreign trade partners of the Russian Far East economy.

Unlike the Russian-Korean trade bilateral investment cooperation has unidirectional character (with prevalence of the Korean capital investments in Russian economy, more exactly in its western regions). So, only in 2007 the Korean investments in the Far East economy have considerably grown almost to 99 mln USD, thus almost 80% of investment amount have been enclosed in the Sakhalinskaya oblast (Table17), which together with Primorsky kray, Khabarovsky kray and Kamchatsky kray become the main recipients of Korean investments in the Russian Far East.

Table 17. The Korean investments in the Russian Far East in 2006-07

	2006		2007	
	mln USD	%	Mln USD	%
The Far East, total	42.7	100	98.7842	100
Republic Sakha (Yakutia)	2.3	5.32	3.0828	3.12
Primorsky Kray	4.9	11.51	7.8538	7.95
Khabarovsky Kray	4.0	9.37	4.028	4.08
Amurskaya oblast	-	-	-	-
Kamchatsky kray	23.2	54.39	5.0955	5.16
Magadanskaya oblast	1.0	2.32	-	-
Sakhalinskaya oblast	7.3	17.09	78.7241	79.69

So, positions of the leading countries-investors in the Russian Far East economy in 2007 have not changed essentially (Table 18). Republic of Korea stands only on 8-th place in this list.

Table 18. The foreign investments in the Russian Far East by leading Countries-investors in 2007

Country	Total	
	mln USD	%
The Far East, total	6260.0956	100.0
Netherlands	3462.4327	55.3
Great Britain	782.5506	12.5
Bahamas	400.6582	6.4
Japan	350.9124	5.6
Luxembourg	286.3707	4.6
India	222.003	3.5
France	150.0	2.4
Republic of Korea	98.7842	1.6
Other countries	506.3838	8.1

Also as well as in previous years, overwhelming amount of foreign investments in 2007 has arrived from the Netherlands (55.3%). On the second place there was the Great Britain

(12.5%), pressed with it the Bahamas, and increased twice its share in total amount of foreign investments (6.6%) in comparison with 2006. Inflow of the Japanese investments in 2007 reached only 65% from volumes of 2006, thus it allowed to lift up to fourth place in the list of leading foreign investor of the Far East economy with shares in 5.6% of total foreign investment amount in 2007. It was not observed any essential changes for group of four countries-investors (USA, Japan, China, Republic of Korea). The investments from them covered about 8% from total amount of foreign capital inflow in 2007 (Table 19). Notice that in 2007 also as well as in 2006 the leader among this group of countries in amounts of investment in the Far East economy was Japanese investors.

Table 19. Foreign investments by countries in the Far East regions in 2007

Region	Total		Including:									
			Japan		USA		China		Republic of Korea		Other countries	
	mln USD	%	mln USD	%	mln USD	%	mln USD	%	mln USD	%	mln USD	%
The Far East	6260.0956	100	350.9124	100	19.214	100	29,514	100	98.7842	100	5761.671	100
Republic Sakha (Yakutia)	832.1412	13.3	7.5926	2.16	1.9361	10.08	-	-	3.0828	3.12	819.5297	14.22
Primorsky Kray	31.3093	0.5	6.0669	1.73	0.6535	3.4	2.5986	8.8	7.8538	7.95	14.1365	0.25
Khabarovsky kray	248.8063	3.9	1.4398	0.41	9.3354	48.59	3.0618	10.37	4.028	4.08	230.9413	4.01
Amurskaya oblast	130.6104	2.1	-	-	-	-	2.9027	9.83	-	-	127.7077	2.22
Kamchatsky kray	37.9386	0.6	2.3	0.65	-	-	6.8456	23.19	5.0955	5.16	23.6975	0.41
Magadanskaya oblast	14.3240	0.2	0.0150	0.0	2.4043	12.51	11.9047	40.34	-	-	-	-
Sakhalinskaya oblast	4963.7616	79.3	333.4981	95.04	4.8847	25.42	1.0003	3.39	78.7241	79.69	4545.6544	78.89
Jewish autonomous oblast	1.2042	0.1	-	-	-	-	1.2003	4.07	-	-	0.0039	0.0

Further we will consider the promotion dynamics of the main Russian-Korean cooperation

projects, and also we will assess their prospects.

Ⅲ. The major cooperation projects: condition, problems and prospects

1. The connection the Trans-Korean railway (TKR) with the Trans-Siberian railway (TSR)

This project has great value for building the transport and cargo centre in Northeast Asia. During meetings at the summit between leaders of Republic of Korea and Russia (February, 2001) both heads of Russia and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (August, 2001, August, 2002) carried out the intention to the project of connection TKR with TSR and it has been confirmed. Working consultations between representatives of Republic of Korea and Russia and Russia and the DPRK are carried out and preliminary feasibility study of the project was made. In November, 2002 at the negotiations of ministers of a railway transportation of Russia and the DPRK two parties have discussed a variant of railways connection, financing scheme of the project and a question on carrying out of a tripartite meeting of representatives of railway ministers of RoK, DPRK and Russia. The arrangement on carrying out of tripartite consultations between the research organizations of RoK, DPRK and Russia has been reached at the Summit of leaders of Republic of Korea and Russia during APEC Forum (October, 2003). In April, 2004 first meeting of experts of RoK, DPRK and Russia is spent. In March, 2006 the tripartite meeting of representatives of railway ministers is spent. The arrangement on reconstruction of a division of North Korean railway (Rajin-Khasan) is reached. There is a further study on the questions connected with a route of passage of North Korean territory, feasibility study and sources of financing. On July 21-25, 2006 the president of "Russian Railways Company" Yakunin has discussed with the North Korean party the questions concerning TKR-TSR project during his visit to the North Korea. Russia has agreed with the North Korea on modernization of Rajin-Khasan railway division. In June, 2007 railway departments of Republic of Korea and Russia have signed the Memorandum of understanding, concerning Rajin-Khasan railway division project. In 2007 it

was conducted the study on trial container transportation on a Busan-Rajin-Khasan-TSR route.

In April, 2008 "Russian railways' and the ministry of railways of DPRK have signed the agreement on joint building the infrastructure of Rajin port.[3] Partners will reconstruct Khasan —Rajin railway division (54 km) and build the container terminal in the port, and then together maintain both objects.

The Khasan—Rajin railway division is the first part of the global project of TKR's restoration which would provide Trans-Siberian Railway loading. This project will be carried out by the joint company created for the term of 49 years by subsidiary of the Russian Railway monopoly «Trading house RZhD» and Rajin port. The Russian share in the company will make 70% and DPRK - 30%. The joint venture will attract foreign investors. The terms of realization of the project and amount of investments were not declared by RZhD because the business plan is not ready yet. According to the head of "Ingosstrah-investments" analytical department Evgenie Shago, this project will cost 100-120 mln USD on building of the railway and 40-60 mln USD - on the terminal in the port.

RZhD has estimated that the project will provide 55-80 thousand TEU of container transportations a year, i.e. 10-15% of a container flows between Republic of Korea and Europe. Further it is planned to pass through Rajin about 200 thousand TEU annually. They will arrive to North Korean port from Republic of Korea. The director of department of FBK Co. Igor Nikolaev considers that TKR can take such volume of cargo transportations - now all cargo from South East Asia is transported by maritime transport, but time of delivery by rail will be reduced twice.

Earlier it was spoken and about the possibility of use of this transport corridor for the Russian exports through Rajin, in particular, 5-6 mln tons of crude oil a year which would be processed on a local oil refinery, which nowadays preserved.[4]

Thus, whether the former president of Maritime Research Institute of Republic of Korea Ri Chun Uk considers that forecasts about the huge cargo traffic which will come on the Trans-Siberian Railway from the Korean peninsula, is too optimistic. In its opinion, the volume of a cargo transportation will be limited, as far not all Korean cargo owners will want to take advantage of a railway corridor instead of a sea way. Also, the deterrent in project realization

3) "RZhD doedet do Rajina". Vedomosti, April 25, 2008, №76 (2098) - in Russian
4) "Doroga dlinoi v sem let". Kommersant, April 27, 2008. - in Russian

is incessant confrontation of DPRK with the USA and Japan.

2. The exploration of the Russian natural resources and import of natural gas and oil

Through participation in exploration and development of oil and gas deposits the Republic of Korea aspires to provide stable deliveries of energy resources to the country. The main efforts are directed on maintenance of energy resources supply from the Russian Far East and Eastern Siberia regions.

In May, 2003 GAZPROM and the Korean Gas Corporation (KOGAS) have signed the agreement on strategic cooperation for a period of five years.

According to the arrangement reached in September, 2004 during President of Republic of Korea Roh Mu Hen visit to Russia, the intergovernmental cooperation agreement between Republic of Korea and Russia in gas sector has been signed on 23 of October, 2006. On the basis of this Agreement the work on strengthening of cooperation of two countries in gas sector and promotion of the projects directed on maintenance of deliveries of pipeline gas from Russia to Republic of Korea is actively conducted. It is planned to supply from Russia 10 BCM of gas annually by 2012-13 year.

In September, 2004 the memorandum of understanding between ROSNEFT and Korean National Oil Company (KNOC) has been signed. It was provided creation of joint ventures for carrying out of exploration works on oil and gas deposits within the shelf of the Kamchatka peninsula. Actual achievements in sphere of energy cooperation between two countries are presented by following accomplished and prospective deals.

In October, 2006 GAZPROM affiliated company "Gazprom Marketing and Trading" has supply to Korea the first part of LNG during the deal of resale. Besides, KOGAS has the contract with the operator of the Sakhalin-1 project "Sakhalin Energy Company" on supply of 1.5 mln t of LNG annually in the 20 years perspective.

Besides, in the end of 2007 contacts and negotiations between KOGASs and GAZPROM on entering in the Sakhalin-3 project became more active.[5] The deposit interesting Koreans was then in a Federal Reserve Fund of deposits and in the first half of 2008 has already got by the Russian gas monopoly. Strategic partnership of two companies on a shelf is very

5) "Sakhalinskii shekf stal blije k Koree". Kommersant, December 13, 2007. No. 230 (3806). - in Russian

realistic and both parties are interested about its prospects that we can see in works of expert s.[6] KOGAS can become GAZPROM's partner in exploration of the Kirinsky block within the Sakhalin-3 project. This project covers exploration of four blocks on a shelf of Sakhalin: East Odoptinsky, Ajashsky, Veninsky and South Kirinsky. The license for exploration of the Veninsky block owns by ROSNEFT together with Chinese Sinopec. Total reserves of Sakhalin-3 deposits are estimated in more than 600 mln t of equivalent fuel, the reserves of the Kirinsky block exceed 75 BCM of gas. Thus Natural Resources Ministry of Russia carries the Kirinsky block of Sakhalin-3 to the objects of federal reserves having strategic value for gas supply in Russia. Under the law about gas supply in Russian Federation in 2008 the government has transferred the Kirinsky block without competition to the organization which have carried out at own expense its investigation, - but on the Kirinsky block it was not spent. Also deposits could get without competition to the owner of uniform system of gas supply, namely GAZPROM.[7] It is planned to distribute strategic deposits not earlier than 2009-2010. However, KOGAS and GAZPROM have already agreed to prepare the feasibility study of natural gas supply to Republic of Korea. Earlier the interest to the Kirinsky block was spoken by Russian ROSNEFT and LUKOIL, and also Indian ONGC. But experts are assured that KOGAS has a good chance to enter the project. Ekaterina Kravchenko from "Brokercreditservice Investment Company" considers, that GAZPROM is interested in strategic partnership with the Korean company as it will allow to guarantee gas export to the market of Asia-Pacific countries. According to Konstantin Guljaev from "Region investments company" KOGAS can be the minority shareholder in this project (having received no more than 15%) in avoidance of "essential influence". But, according to an analyst, even in such form it is important to Korean company to participate in the projects which supply gas to home market.

Russian-Korean Consortium including ROSNEFT, KNOC and some more large Korean companies is created for prospecting exploration on the shelf of the Kamchatka peninsula. In February, 2005 partners have entered into the intermediate financial agreement on conditions of financing of exploration activity within license area. In May, 2007 the Consortium declared about opening the large oil field.[8]

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6) Sokolov D. The Perspectives on Russian-Korean Cooperation in the Sakhalin-3 Gas Project // Northeast Asia Energy Focus. 2008. # 2. P.42-46

7) "Gazprom silnee Rosnefti". RBCdaily, May 7, 2008. - in Russian

8) "Koreitsi podschitali kamchatskuyu neft чатскую нефть" Kommersant - Khabarovsk, June 6, 2007. №97. - in Russian

Actually supply of the Russian energy resources to Republic of Korea looks like this:

- Oil export: in amount of 850 mln USD (2006) - correspond with 1.3% from total RoK's oil import for the sum of 66.9 bln USD. Russian export of oil in 2006 was 1.9 mln t and in 2007 - already 5.2 mln t.
- Gas export: since 2008 within 20 years it is planned to export to RoK 1.5 million tons of LNG annually from Sakhalin.

It is currently evident that while general political, economic, and institutional factors do not pose harsh and insuperable constraints and obstacles for establishing energy cooperation in NEA, the initiatives to translate the plans to reality have been far fewer than the expectations of the parties concerned.

This is partly due to the fact that the energy and economic situation in Russia imposes comparatively high risks and huge costs for cooperative energy initiatives. This is because of a low degree of exploration for oil and gas, severe conditions and remoteness of the fields, absence of infrastructure in the areas involved, poor legislation for private investment into new fields and protection of foreign investors, insufficient domestic demand, and unclear strategy for participation in NEA energy cooperation. On the other hand, this could be explained by the policies of leading NEA countries toward regional energy cooperation, which is characterized by the following.[9)]

Thus far, the region has neither a common energy market nor joint institutions to organize energy cooperation. It does not even have general institutional agreements and unions, such as EU and ASEAN.

Leading NEA countries have declared their interest in multilateral energy cooperation in the region; however, they still prefer contacts with Russia on a bilateral basis.

The NEA countries view the development of Russian energy resources as a conventional "resource." Thus far, there have not been any notable bilateral or multilateral initiatives or integrated designs for cooperation between Russia and NEA countries in the energy sector.

The North Korean issue is a separate and complicated one, which needs to be resolved in order to facilitate the energy cooperation between Russia and the Korean Peninsula.

The oil sector appears to be the only factor that has immense potential for promoting cooperation in NEA. However, natural gas and electricity projects are not easy to implement, taking into account factors such as distance, costs, and market access. Its prospects rely heavily

9) Kalashnikov V.D., Gulidov R.V. Russia's Energy Cooperation with NEA Countries: The Current Situation and Problems // Northeast Asia Energy Focus. 2008. # 2. P.16-24

on how NEA countries will define the efficiency and environmental soundness of the power projects, balancing their domestic priorities and regional opportunities with the Kyoto Protocol. One of the main problems is price disagreement.

Nevertheless, the problem of the absence of a framework for NEA energy cooperation may be alleviated by a clear statement of unambiguous priorities/principles for the cooperation put forward by each country concerned. The strategy for cooperation between Russia and NEA in the field of energy can be enhanced through an integrated approach guided by the following principles[10]:

- A comprehensive framework of cooperation that simultaneously involves issues of oil, natural gas, coal, electricity, fuel processing, and the economic development of Russian regions must be constructed;
- Strategic alliances for joint exploration and development of oil and gas fields in East Siberia and the shelf of the Sea of Okhotsk should be established;
- Joint infrastructure for energy resource transportation should be formed;
- "Asset swapping" principles should be followed;
- DPRK's participation in the "Russia - Korean Peninsula" energy cooperation should be multilaterally advocated;
- There should be joint participation in the regional Russian Far East development projects, primarily in construction the projects for oil and gas processing facilities, electricity-intensive plant building, renewable deployment, and energy-efficiency improvement.

3. The scientific and technical cooperation

According to the Agreement on scientific and technical cooperation (it's concluded in December, 1990, come into force in December, 1991) 9 sessions of the Korean-Russian joint committee on scientific and technical cooperation (at level of assistants of ministers) are spent.

Activity of four Korean-Russian centers of cooperation in the field of a science and techniques is organized for participation in the development project of the International Science and Technology Centre (ISTC).

Cooperation in the field of space includes the Cooperation agreement signed in 2004 in the field of research and space use for the peace purposes. The cooperation project in creation of

10) Kalashnikov V.D. Energy sector of the Russian Far East. In *Economic Cooperation between the Russian Far East and Asia-Pacific Countries*. Edited by P.A. Minakir. Khabarovsk, RIOTIP, 2007. P. 104.

a space rocket complex with a carrier rocket of easy class (KSLV-1) is realized with lasting cooperation in preparation of South Korean cosmonauts. On July 28, 2006 developed in Republic of Korea second multi-purpose artificial satellite's start is made by means of the Russian carrier rocket from "Plisetsk" cosmodrome.

Held 11th session of the Korean-Russian joint coordinating committee on atomic energy (December, 2006) is directed on cooperation promotion in the field of peace use of the nuclear energy.

Ⅳ. Conclusion

Without traditional conclusion it would be desirable to mention in brief some results of passed more recently (on May 29-30, 2008) in Moscow IX Russian-Korean forum "Power cooperation and security in Northeast Asia in the context of the Russian-Korean relations" which, in our opinion, have pragmatically estimated current situation (from a Russian point of view) and prospects of the Russian-Korean economic cooperation. Its basic perspectives, first of all, connected with realization of joint energy projects and trade in energy resources. So, with the presentation ("Estimation of current condition of Russian-Korean energy cooperation") at the forum the chairman of the Russian part of the Russian-Korean Joint Commission on Economic and Scientific and Technical Cooperation Konstantin Pulikovskty has reported.

It has been noticed by him, that if "at the beginning we (the Russian Federations and Republic of Korea) looked narrowly to each other, now concrete negotiations on various directions of realization of mutually advantageous contracts are carried on".[11] The energy cooperation and security issues are one of the central themes in the Russian-Korean relations and the major factor of steady economic development and political stability in Northeast Asia as a whole.

The cooperation in the energy complex between Russia and RoK is conducted in several directions. And practically Russian Far East regions to the some extent majority of them are involved in that (first of all Primorsky Kray, Khabarovsky kray and Sakhalinskaya oblast). The unique geographical situation of regions gives chance for economy growth by the carrying out

11) "Vse dorogi v Koreyu idut cherez Primorye". PrimaMedia, June 10, 2008. - in Russian

energy flows through their territory. It is planned to use this transport corridors as much as possible with full loading of seaports and navigable lines. The railway division from station Baranovsky to the Tumannaya River is reconstructed, now works will proceed in the DPRK's territory. The automobile road from Razdolnoe till boundary with China and DPRK takes its modern conditions. But it is only the beginning in comparison with realization of forthcoming projects.

Besides, in June, 2007 the Russian governmental commission has approved the program about the creation of uniform system of extraction, transportation of gas and gas supply in the Eastern Siberia and in the Far East with taking into account the possible gas export to the markets of Asian-Pacific countries. This program has the concept of an export policy of gas supply to the Asia-Pacific countries, including Republic of Korea. The main guiding principles of this program include realization of a uniform export policy with the account of agreements in force on production sharing projects (in Sakhalin). It will allow to provide stage-by-stage involvement of foreign investments into exploration of the gas resources in the Eastern Siberia and the Far East and to establish the proved export prices. The KOGAS with understanding concerns plans of Russia on development in the east of uniform system of gas supply and preservation of the uniform export channel of the Russian natural gas supply. With a view of preparation of long-term programs of supply of the Russian natural gas in Republic of Korea the cooperation agreement is planned signing. Thereupon GAZPROM and KOGAS form working group on study of the questions connected with natural gas supply to Republic of Korea by a gas pipeline. The gas pipeline will be laid on the Primorsky Kray territory. These are new tax revenues, workplaces, and the ecological and social problems solution. The part of "blue fuel" supply will remain in the region for population needs, housing and communal services and energy companies. It will lower energy tariffs for light and heat that will positively affect social well-being of people and thoroughly will help region economy.

Once again we will note accruing cooperation between ROSNEFT Company and KNOC which is mutually realized advantageously by participation in new potential projects in exploration and development of energy resources deposits in the Russian Far East and Siberia (for example, on belonging ROSNEFT a license site of the West Kamchatka shelf). According accepted in September, 2004 the memorandum of understanding it is planned to make active cooperation in development and supply of crude oil and gas from the Russian Far East and to study questions of the Republic of Korea possible participation in works on a construction

of an oil pipeline Eastern Siberia - Pacific Ocean.

Necessary measures for cooperation development in coal industry are undertaken. It concerns a question of possible participation in the project of Elegestsky deposit of coked coals exploration in Republic Tuva. For an establishment of strategic partnership the negotiations between the government of Republic Tuva and the largest Korean steelmaking corporation POSCO have been carried on. As a result, the Korean party has declared interest in Elegestsky deposit development.

In 2007 during the negotiations spent with representatives of LG International Corp the interest in participation in the project and in realization of coal supply from the Elginsky deposit of Yakutia to the Korean energy and metallurgical companies has been confirmed. This fuel resources flow also will go by the Trans-Siberian Railway through Primorsky Kray and ports in the south of it.

Besides, it is necessary to note some projects concerning electricity sale to RoK which can be made in the Russian Far East. Negotiations on this question are conducted fruitfully. All interested parties support plans of joint study in electric power industry, including building of transmission lines between Russia, Northern and South Korea. According to the Russian "United Power Systems Co", the North Korean party has confirmed the intention to participate in realization the electricity project "Russian Federation - Democratic People's Republic of Korea - Republic of Korea" and to cooperate with Republic of Korea within tripartite negotiations. The preliminary consent of the government of DPRK to passage electric power transmission line on its territory is available. Considering presence of stable solvent demand and interest of the Korean party in electric power transmission line building as economic basis of political settlement on the Korean peninsula, the project of electric power export to Republic of Korea is represented more perspective and economically proved.

It is possible to declare with confidence, that the Republic of Korea and Russia have already achieved significant development of bilateral relations in many areas, including a policy, economy, culture, scientific and technical sphere and other areas. It is necessary to note, that, despite of significant positive shifts in the Russian-Korean attitudes last years, the serious potential of bilateral cooperation is not used to the full. Questions on an establishment of strategic dialogue in the field of energy between two countries and about priority directions of cooperation in fuel and energy complex are discussed. By preparation of the concept of strategic dialogue in the field of energy it will be enough given attention to questions of strategy, forecasting, an investment climate in both countries, harmonization of the legislation.

Corresponding structures of two countries are connected in this work, i.e. time has come to completely realize potential of bilateral cooperation.

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국문요약

러-한 경제협력 : 과제와 전망

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러시아와 한국간의 공식적인 접촉은 1990년 6월 샌프란시스코에서 개최된 정상회담이다. 동년 9월 뉴욕에서 개최된 양국의 외무장관 회담에서 러시아와 한국의 외교관계가 수립되었다. 그간 양국간에는 협정을 통한 협력의 법적기반이 조성되었는데 주요 분야를 보면 무역, 투자보장, 어업, 이중과세방지, 군사기술분야, 원자력의 평화적 이용, 문화교류에 관한 협정들이 있다.

역시 양국간의 주요 관심사항은 무역과 경제협력 분야이다. 2007년도 러시아와 한국의 무역액은 150억 달러를 초과함으로써 전년도에 비해 55.5% 증가하였다. 러시아의 한국으로의 수출은 약 70억 달러로서 전년도에 비해 52.6% 증가했고 한국으로부터의 수입은 80억 달러를 초과함으로써 전년도에 비해 56.1% 증가하였다. 그리하여 러시아는 한국의 10대 교역국으로 성장하였다.

가스와 오일 프로젝트 추진과 관련하여 사할린지역에서 사용하기 위해 한국으로부터 수입하는 드릴기계장비, 탱커, 자동차, 휴대전화는 한국과 러시아 양국간 경제성장의 주요 요인이 되고 있다. 2008년 1/4 분기 양국간 무역액은 42억 달러를 초과했는데 이는 전년도 동기와 비교해서 72.1% 증가한 것이다. 이 중 한국에의 수출은 17억 달러를 초과했는데 이는 전년도 1/4분기에 비해 91.7% 성장한 것이다. 한국으로부터의 수입은 약 25억 달러로서 전년도 1/4 분기와 대비해서 60.6% 성장했다. 러시아와 한국간의 경제교류가 크게 증대하게 된 배경에는 러-한경제과학기술협력공동위원회가 큰 역할을 담당했다.

이 논문에서 필자는 무역과 투자측면에서 본 양국간 경제협력의 특징을 고찰하는 한편 러시아의 동부지역(러시아 극동 및 바이칼횡단지역)과 한국과의 협력과 관련된 역동성과 과제를 제시하는데 연구의 목적을 두었다. 한국은 외국기업과 함께 러시아 극동지역의 무역과 경제협력 증진에 상당한 공헌을 함으로써 러시아 극동경제권에서 주요 무역파트너가 되고 있다.

또한 본 연구에서는 한국과 러시아간의 주요 협력프로젝트에 관하여 고찰하는 한편 앞으로의 전망을 제시하였다. 이 문제는 무엇보다도 한-러간의 공동 에너지프로젝트 및 에너지자원의 무역과 관련되어 있다.

한국과 러시아는 이미 많은 분야에서 상당한 정도로 상호 협력관계를 발전시켜왔다. 여

기에는 정책, 에너지, 경제, 문화, 과학기술 분야가 포함되어 있다. 현재 러시아와 한국간에는 에너지 분야에서의 전략적 대화채널 구축에 관한 문제와 함께 연료 및 에너지공단 건설과 관련하여 협력문제가 논의되고 있다. 에너지 분야에서의 전략적 대화개념 구축을 위해서는 전략, 예측 및 투자환경의 문제가 양국간에 집중논의 되어야 하고 법제상의 조화문제도 논의되어야 한다.

주제어 : 러-한 협력, 무역 및 투자, 한반도 및 시베리아 횡단철도, 천연자원·가스 및 오일