

BRIDGING THE PACIFIC

ssue LI - September 2005

News From KOREA

2015 Industrial Development Strategy **Targeting 1 Percentage Point Increase in Potential GDP**

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy (MOCIE) has set a goal to raise the nation's potential GDP growth rate 1 percentage point, from 4% to 5%, to rank among the world's top 10 nations and to achieve a US\$35,000 per capita GDP by 2015.

In a report on its industrial innovation strategy, the ministry highlighted new policies focusing on four key areas - new technology fusion industries and high-tech manufacturing sectors like semiconductors, digital home devices and biotechnology; enhancement of traditional manufacturing such as automobiles and shipbuilding; upgrade of infrastructure services including the environment and logistics; and development of advances in soft services like education and medical services.

The MOCIE initiative presents Korea's role as a "Global Industry Integrator," pursuing a win-win strategy and complementary partnerships in an international division of labor. In particular, the MOCIE report highlights China's rapid economic growth, forecasting that it will generate considerable opportunities for the Korean economy as well as the global economy.

In the fusion of new-tech and high-tech manufacturing industries, the MOCIE report says that Korea should reinforce its position as a global test bed.

The report also adds that maintaining supremacy in the traditional manufacturing area, Korea should focus on product differentiation and branding in advanced markets while solidifying a mid-tech market share in developing countries. In the area of infrastructure services, Korea needs to showcase its development expertise while strengthening a global logistics network based on IT superiority.

In the soft services fields, the initiative aims to introduce and facilitate basic market principles in the integration of the nation's trade expertise with Korean cultural exports, which are being promoted under the *hallryu*, or Korean wave, phenomenon.

Development Vision for Cutting-Edge Industries

Sector	2010 Vision	2015 Vision
Semi-	 World's 3rd-ranked country	 World's 2nd-ranked country
conductors	in general semiconductors World market share: 15%	in general semiconductors World market share: 20%
Digital	 World's 4th-ranked country	 World's 3rd-ranked country in
electronics	in digital electronics World market share: 8.4%	digital electronics World market share: 10.7%
Bio	 Engine for new growth of bio-industry Production: 25 trillion won 	 Becomes a top 5 cutting- edge bio-country Production: 60 trillion won
Electronic	 Secures competitiveness in	 Becomes a strong country in
medical	electronic medical equip-	cutting-edge medical equip-
equipment	ment industry World market share: 2.9%	ment World market share: 5.7%
Aerospace	 Secures competitiveness in international aerospace industry Production: 5 trillion won 	 Becomes a top 8 advanced aerospace country Production: 9.5 trillion won

In terms of well-defined roles of the private sector and the government in implementing the broad plan, MOCIE calls for enterprises to lead innovation under the slogan "From fast follow-up to rule creation."

In the early stages of Korea's economic development, the primary strategy was to benchmark and copy the successes of advanced countries. Today, Korea is oriented toward leveraging the competitiveness of its own unique characteristics and technological advances.

Enterprises are also charged with the responsibility of developing the fusion of goods, services and processes, for example, mobile banking, which integrates IT products and banking services.

Meanwhile, the role of the government will be to support enterprise innovation and flexibility through the establishment, revision and scrapping of regulations and practices to create an environment that encourages entrepreneurship. It is also responsible for building the infrastructure, both hard

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