



May 10, 2017

**Statement by Yoshimitsu Kobayashi, Chairman of Keizai Doyukai
On Outcome of South Korea's Presidential Election**

1. Mr. Moon Jae-in, the former leader of The Democratic Party of Korea, South Korea's largest opposition party, won the presidential election, leading to the country's regime change. Following the dismissal of the former President Park Geun-hye, voters' voices seeking political renewal and reform are deemed to have determined the election result.
2. There remain various pending issues between South Korea and Japan such as the comfort women issue. Reflecting on the new president's stance to Japan so far, we cannot rule out the concerns over relations between the two nations going forward. However, the close partnerships and cooperation among relevant countries such as the U.S., South Korea and Japan has never been so important amid the tensions escalating in the region specifically due to the North Korean situation. With that in mind, we hope future-oriented new relations will be established through the constructive dialogue based on the historical asset of South Korea-Japan relations.

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