

27 May, 2011. **The Kingdom of Tonga will be represented at the inaugural Pacific Islands Foreign Ministers' Meeting hosted by the Republic of Korea next week.**

The Prime Minister of Tonga and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lord Tu'ivakano will leave tomorrow to attend the key summit, after accepting an official invitation in February.

The meeting is scheduled to begin on May 31 in Seoul.



Foreign Ministers from 13 Pacific Island Countries will gather for the first time to build stronger development cooperation with Korea, with a special focus on addressing environmental protection, sustainable development and climate change.

Participants include officials from Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Nauru, Tuvalu, Federated States of Micronesia, Tonga, Palau, Cook Islands, Kiribati and Niue, as well as the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Tuiloma Neroni Slade.

Ministers will pay a courtesy call on President Lee Myung-bak, who will also host a special luncheon, followed by a scheduled tour of Korea's major industrial facilities and cultural

complexes for guests to witness the nation's development first-hand.

The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Lord Tu'ivakano will return to Tonga on 6 June.

ENDS.

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