# Memorandum of Understanding



between the

## National Association of Insurance Commissioners

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Korea Financial Supervisory Commission Memorandum of Understanding between the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) and the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC)

The Financial Supervisory Commission, with its headquarters at 27 Yoido-Dong, Youngdeungpo-GU, Seoul, Korea, here represented by its Chairman, Mr. Yoon Jeung-Hyun, Financial Supervisory Commission Chairman, Financial Supervisory Service Governor, and the members of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners - NAIC, a non profit Delaware corporation, henceforth named NAIC, here represented by NAIC President Walter Bell (Commissioner of Insurance, Alabama) recognizing the increasing international activity in insurance markets and the corresponding need for mutual cooperation between the relevant supervisory authorities as a means for improving their effectiveness in administering and enforcing the insurance laws of their respective jurisdictions, have reached the following understanding, by the clauses and conditions set out below:

## CLAUSE 1 - DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Memorandum of Understanding, we comprehend by:

#### Parties or Authorities:

- $\bullet$  Korea Financial Supervisory Commission FSC, vested by the Financial Supervisory Acts with the task of performing broad supervisory functions in financial supervision, mainly licensing financial business and revising and drafting financial regulations, and instruction and supervision of FSS (Financial Supervisory Service).
- Financial Supervisory Service FSS, responsibilities of the FSS include the supervision and examination of all financial institutions in Korea. As the implementation body of the Financial Supervisory Commission by the laws relevant, the FSS of the Republic of Korea may accordingly participate in the implementation of this Memorandum.
- National Association of Insurance Commissioners NAIC, a non profit Delaware corporation, acting on behalf of its members, who are the chief insurance regulatory officers in each of the fifty States, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories.

Requested Authority: the Authority to whom a request under this Memorandum is addressed.

Requesting Authority: the Authority making a request under this Memorandum

Laws, regulations and requirements: the provisions of the laws, or the regulations and requirements enacted in Korea and the fifty States, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories, for the purpose of regulating the business of insurance.

## CLAUSE 2 - OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 This Memorandum of Understanding sets forth the basis upon which the FSC and the NAIC, acting on behalf of its members, propose to help insurance supervisors, in Korea and the United States, by providing a framework for co-operation, increased mutual understanding, the exchange of information and technical assistance, facilitating the performance of their insurance regulatory functions for the purpose of maintaining efficient, fair, safe and stable insurance markets for the benefit and protection of policyholders to the extent permitted by the respective laws, regulations and requirements of Korea and the fifty States, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories.
- 2.2 The Parties agree to appoint their respective liaison officers for the purpose of improving relations between insurance regulators in Korea and the United States of America; to exchange information and to educate members of the FSC and the NAIC on insurance regulatory practices in the respective countries; to foster open communication among regulators; and to encourage cooperation among regulators on matters of common interest.

#### CLAUSE 3 - SCOPE

- 3.1 The Parties agree to:
  - a. use their best efforts to provide the fullest mutual assistance, subject to applicable laws and overall policy, in the areas of administration and enforcement of the laws, regulations and requirements relating to the business of insurance; and
  - b. engage in consultations, as appropriate, on mutually agreeable approaches, designed to enhance the integrity and efficiency of their respective insurance markets and the exercise of insurance market supervisory functions.
- 3.2 All communications between the Authorities should be made through their respective liaison officers, listed in Annex # 1, unless otherwise agreed.
- 3.3 The Parties' liaison officers may meet when convenient for both authorities and the date should be decided at least one month prior to the meeting.
- 3.4 The Parties will provide language interpreters on an alternating basis, as necessary.
- 3.5 The Parties will provide mutual assistance periodically through:

- a. training held in the host country;
- b. participation in internships with specific educational focus;
- c. educational seminars held in the host country; and
- d. provision of training manuals/material.
- 3.6 The liaisons may establish an annual work program to focus on specific regulatory issues of mutual interest.
- 3.7 Information exchange, training, technical assistance programs and other related activities, should be conducted consistent with the work program and based on the availability of expert participants from the FSC, the NAIC, and NAIC members.
- 3.8 Additional work on issues of common interest that are identified by the liaisons will be conducted throughout the year as necessary.
- 3.9 The Parties recognize the need and the desirability of providing mutual assistance and exchanging information to assist each other in better understanding and otherwise coordinating compliance with applicable laws, regulations and requirements. However, assistance may be denied on the grounds of public interest.

## CLAUSE 4 - INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

- 4.1 Any individual request for assistance made under this Memorandum outside the annual work program will, wherever possible, be in writing, but in cases of urgency it may be oral and confirmed in writing within 10 (ten) days.
- 4.2 Any request for assistance made under this Memorandum shall be addressed to the Requested Authority's liaison, listed in Annex #1, or that individual's nominee.
- 4.3 In deciding whether to accept or decline a request, the Requested Authority will, in particular, take account of:
  - a. matters specified by the laws and regulations in the country or jurisdiction of the Requested Authority and its members;
  - b. whether the request involves an assertion of regulatory jurisdiction not recognized by the country of the Requested Authority or a member thereof;
  - c. whether it would be contrary to the public interest of the Requested Authority, or a member thereof, to give the assistance sought; and
  - d. the resources available to the Requested Authority to deal with the request.

#### CLAUSE 5 - CONSULTATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

5.1 The Parties will keep the operation of this Memorandum under continuous review and consult with a view to improving its operation and resolving any matters.

- 5.2 Where the specific conduct set out in the request for assistance may constitute a breach of law, regulations or requirements in either the territory of the Requesting or the Requested Authorities and/or its members, the relevant Authorities will consult in order to determine the most appropriate means for each Authority to provide assistance, considering that no provision herein shall be interpreted as superseding, amending, revoking or otherwise changing any law relating to FSC or in the fifty States, the District of Columbia or the U.S. territories.
- 5.3 Any of the conditions of this Memorandum may be amended or waived by mutual agreement.

## CLAUSE 6 - TERMINATION

- 6.1 This Memorandum will continue to have effect unless terminated by one of the Authorities.
- 6.2 The intent to terminate should be communicated by and through the appointed liaison officer giving 30 (thirty) days advance written notice to the other party that the understandings herein are no longer to have effect.

## CLAUSE 7 - ENTRY INTO EFFECT

- 7.1 This Memorandum will be effective from the date of its signature by the FSC and the NAIC.
- 7.2 This Memorandum does not modify or supersede any laws, regulations or requirements in force in, or applying to, the FSC or members of the NAIC, or the jurisdictions in which they are authorized to regulate the business of insurance, nor does it create directly or indirectly any enforceable rights.
- 7.3 Each party, when applicable and considered an indispensable condition to the applicability of this Memorandum, shall arrange to publish a summary in the official gazette of the relevant jurisdiction, according to its own regulations and deadlines established.

This Memorandum of Understanding is hereby entered into as evidenced by the signatures of the following representatives of FSC and the NAIC on the 2 (two) copies written in English with the same content.

Memorandum of Understanding Page 6 of 7

For the NAIC

Walter Rell

President, National Association of Insurance Commissioners, Alabama Commissioner of Insurance For the FSC

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Chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission

Governor of the Financial Supervisory Service

Date: 2000 - 06.22

Date: June 22, 2007



## Annex 1

#### NAIC Contact:

Mr. George M. Brady III NAIC International Counsel 444 North Capitol St. #701 Washington, DC 20001

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