

Costa Rica's Foreign Ministry celebrates 20th anniversary of FEALAC

San José, September 30, 2019.- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a conference to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Forum for East Asia – Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), which Costa Rica belongs to since 2001, serving as regional coordinator in 2015.

This discussion was centered on culture, the fundamental axis of knowledge between the countries of East Asia and Latin America. Certainly, culture constitutes one of the pillars of work of said organization and cultural diplomacy is part of the foreign policy's tasks.

The activity was attended by the Ambassador of Korea, Mr. Chan-Sik Yoon, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Heng Tang, and the Cultural Attaché of the Embassy of Japan, Mr. Hideo Kawamoto. Ambassadors from several Latin American member countries of FEALAC also attended.

The academic of Costa Rica's Universidad Nacional, Ms. Sylvia Arredondo, acted as moderator, and at the end of the discussion, highlighted the cultural elements of these nations that can be incorporated into Latin American cultures, such as teamwork, perseverance and efficiency.

Costa Rica participates in FEALAC with a clear purpose of strengthening bi-regional relations and cooperation. The speakers and guests agreed that this Forum recognizes culture as an important element to increase connectivity and friendship ties between Latin America and East Asia.

FEALAC is the broadest cooperation mechanism that involves East Asia and Latin America. It brings together 36 countries: 20 from Latin America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela) and 16 from East Asia (Brunei, Cambodia, China, Singapore, South Korea, Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Australia and New Zealand).