

**35th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES
(CDNL), QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, 13 AUGUST 2008**

TEMPLATE FOR COUNTRY REPORT

(Country reports will be made available on the CDNL website <http://www.cdnl.info>)

Please provide reports in English

Name of Country: Korea, Republic of

Name of Library: The National Library of Korea

Name of Chief Executive: Mr. Sung, Nam Gi

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2008

First, in the year 2007, the National Library of Korea set up the Korea Research Institute for Library and Information and the National Library Support Center for the Disabled within the library based on the completely revised law regarding libraries. The Korean Research Institute, the only one in Korea that 'develops, researches and studies policies of libraries' intends to advance the libraries and the librarians, and make the advancement of the libraries as part of the advancement of our society. For the challenged people's self-improvement and guarantee of their right of access to information in the libraries, the National Library Support Center for the Disabled is establishing, executing, and supporting the various service policies to enable the physically challenged people to use the facilities, data, and services as the non-challenged people do.

Second, the National Digital Library of Korea which is scheduled to be opened in the spring of 2009 is under construction. In September, 2007 the National Digital Library (hereinafter "NDL") Project Team was created and completed 14 projects. The NDL operations pilot project is the first step to materialize the National Digital Library of Korea and includes the work such as establishment of information service policy, research & development of user scenario, development of library identity, NDL guidelines for management system & feature standardization, NDL portal site model development, space strategy of NDL, the new paradigm of library services and research for the underprivileged people to access information. Through the NDL, the National Library of Korea will become a provider of high-quality knowledge and information portal services accessible to users anytime and anywhere. In addition, the National Digital Library of Korea will become the main source for national knowledge and information services that can effectively respond to the advent of a multicultural society and strengthen the public's information competitiveness by establishing spaces in which information can be shared and created.

Third, the National Library of Korea hosted 『The 1st Korea Library Festival』 with the theme of 'Small Libraries Around the Country' on both days, September 12th and 13th, 2007 to improve the interchange and cooperation among domestic libraries. This festival renewed people's awareness of libraries which are the leading institutions in an information-oriented society in the 21st century and was designed to make people feel that libraries are the intimate places in their lives. The festival, consisting of 108 indoor booths and 53 outdoor tents, developed various events such as the promotion of libraries, work-study programs, sharing and donating books,

meeting writers, and performances. It was an opportunity to let people experience libraries personally and know the efforts to promote the desirable culture of reading books.

Lastly, the National Library of Korea has been building 'the Collaborative Digital Reference Service(CDRS)' since 2006 for the purpose of offering knowledge and information service to the nation by strengthening the information service through its homepage that enables the systematic and comprehensive guidance through topical archives. In 2007, the library collected the information and built plans for the current question and answer service system, on-line reference information sources, and reading information sources. In addition, the foundation of information service for information sources and sharing labour was completed by writing the guidelines.

Address: 664, Banpo-ro, Seocho-gu, 137-702 Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Telephone: +82 2 590 0634

Fax: +82 2 590 0546

Web address of Library: www.nl.go.kr

Email contact for library: nlkpc@mail.nl.go.kr

e-mail address for submission of reports: secretariat@cdnl.info