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Memory of the World Asia Pacific Regional Register Nomination Form

1 Title of Documentary Heritage Item or Collection (max 10 words)

The Archive of Taeon Oil Spill Experiences: The Narrative of the Incident and Recovery

2 Summary (max 200 words)

This archive is a detailed record of an oil spill of 10,900 tons after a tanker collision off the Taeon Peninsula of the Republic of Korea on December 7, 2007 and the recovery from the oil spill.

Although oil spills are an universal event, the Taeon oil spill is distinguished in the number of people who voluntarily participated in its recovery process. Upon the accident, people from all across South Korea rushed to the site and participated in the cleaning-up process, which lasted for seven months. The total number of volunteers taking part in the effort to remove the oil slick along the coast of Taeon reached 1.23 million. Efforts for the environmental and social recovery of the area continued after the oil spill cleanup, and the legal process for paying out compensation for damage was completed in 2019.

This archive is noticeable in terms of the volume of component documents and its temporal comprehensiveness covering the entire process of an oil spill from the occurrence of a spill through the cleanup to the recovery process. If inscribed, this archive will be the first example of documentation on an oil spill that is represented on the Memory of the World Register.

Comprised of 222,129 materials on the massive recovery effort by countless volunteers, the compensation procedures, and the establishment of effective countermeasures in various forms such as hardcopies, electronic files, photographs, videos, publications, and oral records, this archive is important heritage for all humanity.

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3 Nominator/s Contact details

3.1 Name of nominator/s (person/s or organisation/s)

Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government

3.2 Relationship to the nominated documentary heritage

Among the materials being nominated, the Province of Chungcheongnam-do holds those produced by the Province itself and those donated to the Province by individuals in its collection. The Province obtained consent on the nomination from the owners of other materials produced by central administrative agencies, local governments, NGOs, and individuals in the process of recovery from the Taean oil spill.

Appendix 1. Written permission for nomination of this item from the Owners

3.3 Contact person/s

Kim Dae-hyun, Maritime Policy Division, Maritime and Fisheries Bureau,
Chungcheongnam-do

3.4 Contact details

Name Kim Dae-hyun	Address 21, Chungnamdae-ro, Hongbuk-eup, Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041) 635-4771	Email dhyunny23@korea.kr

4 Declaration of Authority

I certify that I/we have the authority to nominate the documentary heritage described in this document to the Asia Pacific Regional Memory of the World Register. All nominators must sign here. (A signed support letter from the nominators' National Commissions is required when the nomination is from two or more Member States. See Section J in the Process document for more details)

Name Yang seung-jo	Position Governor of Chungcheongnam-do
Address 21, Chungnamdae-ro, Hongbuk-eup, Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do	Email dhyunny23@korea.kr

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Signature/s of nominator/s

양승조

5 Legal Information

5.1 Owner/s of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different from the nominator/s)

Name Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government (Taeon Oil Spill Restoration Memorial)	Address 21, Chungnamdae-ro, Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do (120, Cheollipo 1- gil, Sowon-myeon, Taean-gun, Chungnamdae-ro)
Telephone 041-635-4771 (041-670-2925)	Email dhyunny23@korea.kr

Name Ministry of Environment	Address Government Complex Building 6, 11, Sejong, Doum 6-Ro, Sejong-si
Telephone 044-201-6221	Email arabee@me.go.kr

Name Taeon-gun	Address 1, Guncheong-ro, Taean-eup, Taean-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-670-2925	Email lus0712@korea.kr

Name Dangjin City	Address 1, Sicheong 1-ro, Dangjin-si, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-350-4292	Email red-pink17@korea.kr

Name Buan County	Address 91, Dangsang-ro, Buan-eup, Buan-gun, Jeollabuk-do
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Telephone 063-580-4759	Email xmamx85@korea.kr
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Name Seosan Branch of Daejeon District Court	Address 24 Gongrim 4-ro, Seosan-si, Chungcheongnam-do (600 Yecheon- dong)
Telephone 041-660-0634	Email jmjy82@scourt.go.kr

Name Korea National Park Research Institute (Maritime Research Center)	Address 1138, Okpa-ro, Wonbuk-myeon, Taean- gun, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-675-9670	Email bkjeong@knps.or.kr

Name Taean-gun Health Center (Taean Environmental Health Center) ※ Transferred to Blue Sky Planning Division of Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government	Address 21, Chungnamdae-ro, Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-635-4436	Email ggaburi327@korea.kr

Name Taeanhaean National Park Office	Address 9, Gwisil-gil, Taean-eup, Taean-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-672-9737	Email rhs_7861@knps.or.kr

Name Korea Volunteer Center	Address 39, Sejong-daero 21-gil, Jeong-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul
Telephone 02-2129-7512	Email dlwgus215@v1365.or.kr

Name ROK Army (Army Archival Information Management Group)	Address PO box 501-25, Gyeryongdae-ro, Sindoan- myeon, Gyeryong-si, Chungcheongnam-do
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Telephone 042-550-3911	Email josunin3@army.mil
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Name Taeon Branch of Hebei Social Cooperative	Address 724-10, Nammun-ri, Taeon-eup, Taeon-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-675-6996	Email taeon1207@nate.com

Name Seosan-Taeon Federation for Environment Movement	Address 34 Beonhwa 2-ro, Seosan-si, Chungcheongnam-do
Telephone 041-667-3010	Email st@kfem.or.kr

Name Korean Diakonia	Address Korea Church 100 Junyeon Memorial Hall, Daehak-ro 3-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul
Telephone 02-747-1225	Email kdkd1225@hanmail.net

Name Kim Do-gyun	Address KEI, Building B, Sejong National Research Complex 370, Sicheong-daero, Sejong-si
Telephone 044-415-7438	Email dkkim@kei.re.kr

Name Bang Dong-gap	Address Director for Audit and Inspection, Daejeon High Court, 45, Dunsanjung-ro 78 beon-gil, Seo-gu, Daejeon,
Telephone 042-470-1135	Email 6807@scort.go.kr

Name Seok Bok-gi	Address 227-40, Pyeongcheon-gil, Taeon-eup, Taeon-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
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Name Lee Pyeong-ju	Address 1119, Seokseong-ro, Pogok-eup, Cheoin-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do
Telephone 031-323-3502	Email gaetmaul@hanmail.net

Name Im Mi-yeong	Address 131 Expo-ro, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon
Telephone 042-281-1101	Email mylim114@naver.com

5.2 Custodian/s of the documentary heritage (name and contact details if different from the owner/s)

Name	Address
Telephone	Email

Please note: Written permission for nomination of this item from the Owners and/or Custodian/s if different from the nominator **must be attached** to this Nomination Form.

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5.3 Legal status

All the legal and administrative responsibilities for the preservation of the nominated documents lie with the owners listed in the Section 5.1 above.

5.4 Accessibility

Among the nominated documents, those in the collection of public organizations are available to anyone in accordance with 'Public Records Management Act' and 'Official Information Disclosure Act.'

Nominated Documents housed in Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government can be searched and browsed at the Taean Oil Spill Restoration Memorial in accordance with 'Public Records Management Act,' 'Official Information Disclosure Act' and 'Rules for Records Disclosure' of Chungcheongnam-do Province.

Documents housed in public organizations can be searched and browsed by visiting the website or place of the relevant organization in accordance with 'Public Records Management Act,' 'Official Information Disclosure Act' and 'Rules for Records Disclosure' of the relevant organization.

Use of records owned by private groups or individuals may be limited depending on the intention of permission of the owner of the relevant records.

5.5 Copyright

Copyrights to the nominated documents lie with the document owners listed on Article 5.1 above.

6 Details of the Nominated Documentary Heritage

6.1 Exact title of the documentary heritage

Title of the documentary heritage

The Archive of Taean Oil Spill Experiences: The Narrative of the Incident and Recovery

Owners of the nominated items

Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government, Ministry of Environment, Taean-gun, Dangjin City, Buan County, Seosan Branch of Daejeon District Court, Korea National Park Research Institute (Maritime Research Center), Taean-gun Health Center (Taean Environmental Health Center), Taeanhaean National Park Office, Korea Volunteer Center, ROK Army (Army Archive Information Management Group), Taean Branch of Hebei Social

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<p>Cooperative, Seosan-Taeaeon Federation for Environment Movement, Korean Diakonia, Kim Do-gyun, Bang Dong-gap, Seok Bok-gi, Lee Pyeong-ju, Im Mi-yeong</p> <p>Name of nominating institution Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government</p>
<p>6.2 Type of documentary heritage</p> <p>The materials of the nominated item include hardcopy and electronic files, photographs, videos, publications, and oral records.</p>
<p>6.3 Catalogue or registration details . Refer to Appendix 2.</p> <p>(1) Documents on response to the accident (Types) Documents on overall disaster management situation, reports on the accident and pollution situation, reports on countermeasure meetings and results of the meetings, minutes of countermeasure meetings, daily records of emergency operations by administrative units of <i>eup</i> (town) and <i>myeon</i> (township), media reports, photos of damage, etc. (Forms and quantity) 844 pieces in total comprising 521 photos, 231 documents, 22 videos, and 70 files (Contents) The documentary heritage contains documents produced by public organizations to identify the cause of the accident and record how the oil spread and includes many different types of reports and daily records, plans, reports on results, and minutes of countermeasure meetings for response to the accident. Photographs of contaminated sites taken by public organizations and individuals are also included. This documentary heritage contains precise data on the scope and degree of contamination, which was closely monitored. This documentary heritage also shows the type and structure and activities of the countermeasure headquarters organized under the central and local governments to respond to the accident.</p> <p>(2) Documents on clean-up activities (Types) Reports on progress of the clean-up, list of workers, daily log of workers, daily record of emergency operations by accident control unit, photos on the clean-up effort (Forms and quantity) 370 pieces in total comprising 13 photos, 173 documents, and 184 files (Contents) The documentary heritage contains records on clean-up activities conducted in four phases from December 8, 2007 to October 10, 2008, methods of oil spill clean-up and daily manpower mobilized, and progress in oil spill clean-up for specific types of contaminants.</p>

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(3) Documents on volunteer service activities

(Types) Certificates of volunteer work, certificates of tax credit for volunteer work, records of volunteer allocation, photos of volunteers, oral records of experiences of volunteers

(Forms and quantity) 2,082 pieces in total comprising 1,772 photos, 256 documents, 20 videos, 7 oral records, and 27 files

(Contents) The documents were produced by public organizations and individuals from August 2007 to June 2008, when volunteer service was discontinued.

Comprised of certificates of volunteer service activities, certificates of tax credit for volunteer work and records of allocating volunteers, these documents provide evidence that about 1.25 million volunteers participated in oil spill recovery work. Because photos of volunteer works taken by organizations and individuals who participated in the volunteer service and oral records on their experiences in the volunteer work are included, this documentary heritage contains views of volunteer workers on the Taean oil spill.

(4) Documents on compensation

(Types) Record of formation of damaged residents' association and a report form, minutes of meetings on applying for oil spill claims, a list of applicants for compensation and a list of those qualified, a list of victims in fisheries who reported damages, records on negotiations between Samsung and affected residents, a document about regional allocation of funds including the Regional Development Fund of Samsung Heavy Industries (original copy)

(Types of court documents) Individual verification statements of compensation for damage, Limited claims for damage document, Appraisals of compensation for damage issued by the Seosan Branch of the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative, documents on limited liability cases such as liability for damages to ships and oil.

(Forms and quantity) 159,395 pieces in total comprising 436 photos, 158, 425 documents, 533 files, and 1 written agreement

(Contents) Administrative documents produced by Chungcheongnam-do and Taean-gun to support residents who suffered oil pollution damage reveal the types of business of residents damaged by oil pollution, methods of compensation for victims of various types, and payment procedures for compensation for damage. Documents produced during the trial on damages from oil pollution caused by the *Hebei Spirit* oil spill at Daejeon District Court comprise the proceedings from the start to the final ruling of the trial.

(5) Documents on disaster recovery

(Types) Project plans, project reviews, reports, documentary composition proposals, press releases

(Forms and quantity) 569 pieces in total comprising 208 photos, 149 documents, 16 videos, 192 files, and 4 publications

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- Records produced during the process of governmental support to resolve economic loss and conflicts of local residents incurred due to oil pollution, comprising documents on projects to revitalize economy of damaged areas, projects to improve image of damaged areas, and a project to improve the environment of fishing waters of damaged areas.
- Records produced during the process of the Taean Oil Spill Restoration Memorial establishment from the conception and planning stages to completion of construction, which were intended to commemorate the whole process of recovering from the super oil spill by joint efforts of the central and local governments, NGOs, and individual volunteers.

(6) Documents on environmental and social recovery

(Types) Surveys, reports, original copy of maritime data gained from long-term monitoring of impacts on ecosystems, consent to health check-ups of local residents, questionnaires

(Forms and quantity) 57,784 pieces in total comprising 1,676 photos, 56,004 documents, 3 videos, 14 files, 86 oral records, and 1 certificate

(Contents)

- Records produced during the execution of the Project for Monitoring of Long-term Impacts on Ecosystem due to the Hebei Spirit Oil Spill conducted by the National Park Research Institute.
- Records produced by the Taean Environmental Health Center, including consent on health check-ups of residents and questionnaires of residents. The records include data accumulated through surveys and analyses of the impact of the oil contamination on ecosystems and local residents done regularly over ten years after the Taean oil spill.

(7) Documents on international cooperation

(Types) Photos, plans for events, collection of conference materials, outcome reports, certificates of MOUs

(Forms and quantity) 1,085 pieces in total comprising 1,081 photos, 2 documents, and 2 certificates

(Contents) Records produced during recovery after the incident including plans for events, information materials for events, reports on events and photos, which were produced during the process of academic exchange such as the Taean International Environment Forum, the 'Hebei Spirit Oil Pollution International Conference, the Hebei Spirit International Oil Spill Symposium, and the International Conference on Crisis & Emergency Management hosted by Chungcheongnam-do and the Taean Environmental Health Center, the Korea National Park Research Institute, and the Taean Seashore National Park.

6.4 Images of the documentary heritage.

Refer to Appendix 3.

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6.5 History/Origin/Background/Provenance

The nominated item is a collection of records of the public and private sectors. All the records were created and collected by organizations officially in charge of the Taean oil spill response or individuals and NGOs who participated in the recovery effort.

Records in the collection of the central administrative agencies were created during the initial response to the accident and the rendering of compensation for damage, and during the policy formulation process to restore areas damaged by the accident.

Records in the collection of the local governments were created when affected local governments directly engaged in preventive efforts and volunteer service and supported the recovery effort.

Records in the collection of NGOs and individuals were created during their direct volunteer works and during participation in recovery work.

- (1) The Taean Oil Spill Restoration Memorial has records produced by Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government during the Taean oil damage recovery process and records donated by volunteer workers. The Memorial preserves records produced by Chungcheongnam-do Provincial Government and donated records.
- (2) Records produced by central administrative agencies (such as Ministry of Environment, National Park Research Institute, Korea Volunteer Center, and Taean Seashore National Park) are kept at and preserved by respective agencies in accordance with the Public Records Management Act.
- (3) Records produced by local governments (such as Taean-gun, Taean Environmental Health Center, Dangjin City, and Buan County) are kept and preserved by respective governments in accordance with the Public Records Management Act.
- (4) Records created by the Seosan Branch of Daejeon District Court are preserved at the Seosan Branch of Daejeon District at present. Upon being included on the register, the records will be transferred to the Judicial Archives Center for permanent preservation in accordance with the Public Records Management Act and the Judicial Records Management Regulations.
- (5) Records created by NGOs (such as Hebei Social Cooperative Association, Taean Branch of Hebei Social Cooperative Association, Seosan-Taean Federation for Environmental Movement, and Korean Diakonia) are preserved at respective NGOs.
- (6) Records in private collections (owned by Bang Dong-gap, Lee Pyeong-ju, Im Mi-yeong, or Kim Do-gyun) are preserved by respective owners.

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6.6 Bibliography

- Chungcheongnam-do, *White Paper on Recovery from Hebei Spirit Oil Spill*, 2018.
- Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs, *Studies on Environmental Impact Assessment on Oil Pollution and Recovery of Environment*, 2011.
- Korea Environment Institute, *Policy Measures in Response to Marine Oil Spills based on their Mid and Long-term Impacts I*, 2009.
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- Kim Gyo-heon, Kim Su-hyeon, Gwon Seon-jung, *Changing Patterns of Psychological Maladaptive Symptoms after Hebei Spirit Oil Spill for Three Years: Focused on a Damaged Regional Comparison*, Korean Journal of Health Psychology, Vol. 17, No. 4, pp.1045-1065, 2012.
- Kim Moonkoo, Yim Un Hyuk, Hong Sang Hee, Jung Jee-hyun, Choi Hyun-woo, An Joon Geon, Won Jongho & Shim Won Joon, *Hebei Spirit oil spill monitored on site by fluorometric detection of residual oil in coastal waters off Taean, Korea*, Marine Pollution Bulletin 60(3), MARINE POLLUTION, 60(3), 383-389. doi:10.1016/j.marpolbul.2009.10.015, 2009.
- Park Seong-won, *Legal Issues Arising from the Hebei Spirit Oil Pollution Case*, Journal of Korea Maritime Law Association, Vol. 40, No.2, pp. 93-149, 2018.
- Jung Kee-Hyun, Kim Moonkoo, Yim Un-Hyuk, Ha Sung Yong, An Joon Geon, Won Jong Ho, Han Gi Myung, Kim Nam Sook, Richard F. Addison & Shim Won Joon. *Biomarker Responses in Pelagic and Benthic Fish over 1 Year Following the Hebei Spirit Oil Spill (Taean, Korea)*, Marine Pollution Bulletin, 62 (8), 1859-1866. doi:10.1016/j.marpolbul.2011.04.045, 2011.
- Jeong Jong-gwan, *Measures for Ecological Restoration of the Areas Polluted by Hebei Spirit Oil Spill*, Journal of Disaster Prevention, Vol. 10, No. 1, pp. 35-43, 2008.
- Jung Hye-jin, *An Analysis on the Economic Resilience of Taean after the Hebei Spirit Oil Spill*, Journal of the Korean Regional Development Association, Vol. 29, No. 5, pp. 133-153, 2017.
- Yu Hyeon-jeong & Lee Jae-eun, *Quality of Life in Taean Community after Hebei Spirit Oil Spill from the Viewpoint of Job*, Korean Review of Crisis and Emergency Management, Vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 63-85, 2010.
- Lee Gwang-won & Gwon Gyeong-deuk, *A Study on the Conflict Structure of the Hebei Spirit's Oil Leakage Accidents: Focusing on Kingdon's Policy Stream Model*, Korean Association for Local Government Studies Symposium, pp. 349-380, 2014.
- South Korea Cleans Up Big Oil Spill:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/10/world/asia/10skorea.html>
- South Korea fights huge oil spill: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/7135896.stm>

6.7 Names, qualifications and contact details of experts

Kim Do-kyun	Associate researcher, KEI	Address: Email: dkkim@kei.re.kr Phone: 010-2216-2645
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[Redacted]	[Redacted] Member of Oil Spill Arbitration Committee under Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (2008-2020)	Address: [Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted] Church (Local volunteer) Leader of Volunteer Service Group 'Heunjeok'	Address: [Redacted]

I certify that the above named experts have given their written permission for their names and contact details to be used in connection with this nomination to the Memory of the World Asia Pacific Regional Register.

Signature

양승조

Full name (Please PRINT)

Yang Seung-jo

Date : June 15, 2022

7 Authenticity and Integrity

7.1 Authenticity and Integrity

The nominated item is a collection of records created through the entire process of the Taean oil spill starting with initial response to the accident to completion of compensation for the oil spill damage, and it includes records produced in both the public and private sectors.

The nominated item has been preserved by the creators, and the original forms have been kept intact. Some of the hardcopy records in the collection of public organizations were digitized. Both the original and the digitized records are being preserved.

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The nominated item holds integrity in two respects.

- First, it holds integrity as a collective record detailing the entire process of the Taeon oil spill, starting from the time of the oil spill and proceeding to the initial response to the accident, efforts by public organizations and volunteers to counter the spill, the rendering of compensation for damage, restoration of the maritime environment, and to monitoring of the impact of the oil spill on ecosystems over a period of more than 10 years.
- Second, it is a collection of records created by public organizations, NGOs, and individuals during the process of restoration from damage caused by the oil spill.
- There exist more records on the Taeon oil spill at a number of public organizations and NGOs and held by individuals that are not included in the nominated item. Nevertheless, the records in the nominated item include those produced by representative organizations involved in formulation of the response measures and direct execution of such measures. Therefore, the nominated item documents the entire process of recovery from the Taeon oil spill.

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8 Primary criteria: Regional Significance

8.1 Historical Significance

- (1) Valuable provider of information about the recovery process and prevention of an oil spill

The nominated item contains information on the legal, administrative, and economic aspects of problems easily caused by an oil spill, such as serious environmental pollution caused by the oil spill at sea and the rendering of a huge amount of compensation and restoration of affected areas.

According to UNCTAD, the total volumes of maritime transport of crude oil and petroleum products amounted to 59.53 billion tons in 2019. Due to the low biodegradability of oil spilled at sea, the environment and especially marine zones are adversely affected. In this regard, the nominated item containing records accumulated over 10 years from the oil spill to recovery is of material significance as it serves as an information resource for areas affected by oil spillage and the residents of such areas for recovery from the oil spill and disaster prevention.

Medium and large oil spills have been all too common, not only in East Asia including South Korea but in Southeast Asia, and they require effective response. With the rapid economic growth of Southeast Asia, there have been sharp rises in energy exploration, energy production, and transport volume in the region. Marine exploration and exploitation first began in Southeast Asia in the 1960s, and 80% of oil production of the region came from offshore wells by 2011. In line with this development, Southeast Asia is experiencing a remarkable shift of the economic locus to maritime from land-based activity. Accordingly, the number and capacity of ships that transport crude oil and petroleum products have been steadily increasing. Southeast Asia, where the Indian and Pacific oceans join, serves as a nodal region that connects Europe, Asia, and Australia. All these factors increase the risk of oil spills at sea. In 2018, state members of the ASEAN adopted the Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan (ROSCP) to enable joint response to oil spills. However, much remains to be done to make joint response to oil spills in Southeast Asia as effective as it should be.

The nominated item offers an opportunity for areas at risk of oil spills to learn about these disastrous events and prepare for and prevent them. The nominated documents include laws, policies, and manuals that South Korea has drawn up through the process of dealing with the Taean oil spill. These documents reflect our experiences and the lessons we have learned from them. The nominated item will contribute to boosting awareness of the importance of establishing an effective marine oil spill prevention system.

- The Special Act on Assistance to Residents Suffering Damage from the Hebei Spirit Oil Spill Accident and Restoration of the Marine Environment, etc. was

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enacted in 2008 to render compensation for oil spill damage. Based on the law, residents suffering damage from the Taean oil spill could organize a victims' association and obtain fair compensation. In the case of those conducting fishing with their bare hands, however, the compensation process took a longer time. As the International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) did not originally recognize the damage to manual fishery carried out by those without a certificate of business registration, lawsuits ensued regarding this matter. It took a long time to resolve these lawsuits, and the compensation process for manual fishery was completed only in 2019.

- In the initial stage of responding to the Taean oil spill, there was some confusion regarding which agency was in charge of the situation. The need was raised to establish a clear chain of command with regard to pollution-induced maritime disasters. Accordingly, the head of the Korea Coast Guard was designated the person in charge of responding to a disaster at sea through a revision of the Marine Environment Management Act in August 2009. Chungcheongnam-do also took notice of the problems caused by confusion concerning who is supposed to give commands and has accordingly developed the Standard Manual on Crisis Management in Case of Large-Scale Marine Pollution Accidents, setting forth measures on specific types of accidents, establishment of an organizational system to respond to spills, and response to each phase of a crisis.
- The initial phase of response was also complicated by problems with the management of volunteers. There was no effective system to coordinate the many volunteers coming from across the country. The process of assigning roles was confusing, communication between the field office and volunteers was not smooth, and volunteers had to do the cleaning of oil without proper equipment. Issues were raised regarding the lack of sanitation standards on the site and potential damage to the health of volunteers as well.
- The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries established the Regulations on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, requiring double hulls for oil tankers of 5,000 DWT or larger to prevent oil spills.
- The nominated item containing countermeasures against oil spills can be informative to Southeast Asia for its joint response to marine oil spills as it can be used as a reference to prevent needless trial and error in handling spills, not to mention sharing of valuable experience.

(2) Model case of recovery from environmental disaster

Marine pollution is widely recognized as one of three biggest threats to the ocean. The other two are habitat destruction and overexploitation of marine resources. In this regard, chemicals, plastics, and oil leaked from ships are harmful ecologically, socio-economically, and culturally. Due to the low biodegradability of oil, an oil spill causes great damage to the environment, including fatal damage to marine zones. The nominated item is a collection of records of the process to minimize such harm.

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- The nominated item contains records created during the recovery effort of over the 10 years after the accident, such as information on the severity of the oil slick from the Taean oil spill spreading along the coastline of Taean, the presence of residual oils in organisms and sediments, the extent of damage to ecosystems, and the degree of delay in ecosystem recovery. Also included is a huge volume of data obtained from surveys among local residents that have been conducted since 2009, such as the Survey of the Impact on Mental Health and the Survey of the Impact on Living Environment.
- The nominated item contains records of a survey of natural resources conducted in 2008 of specific islands in the affected region. Based on the results of the survey, the long-term monitoring project for the impact of the ecosystem from the oil spill has been conducted since 2009, and the massive volume of data gained from the project is also contained in the nominated item.

The efforts to restore the ecosystems of the accident area were a tremendous success. The once black-oil covered Taean Seashore National Park was, in fact, upgraded to Category V (Protected Landscape/Seascape) from Category II (National Park) of IUCN protected area categories. Such a case of restoration can be used in research on the marine environment restoration of areas affected by oil spills.

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8.2 Form and Style Significance

The archive is a collective record produced by the public sector (central administrative agencies, local governments) and private sector (NGOs, individuals) regarding the entire process of the major oil spill off the Taean Peninsula of the Republic of Korea on December 7, 2007 from its occurrence to the response to the accident and to the complete recovery from the damage.

The archive comprises a total of 222,129 records in diverse forms including hardcopies, electronic files, photos, videotapes, publications, and oral records.

- Textual records: Administrative documents produced during the occurrence of the accident and the recovery process are in the form of hardcopies and electronic files. All of the documents produced during the trial between the victims and the owner of the *Hebei Spirit* are hardcopies.
- Audiovisual records: Photographs and videotapes vividly showing the state of pollution and clean-up work of volunteers at the time of accident, which were produced by public organizations, NGOs, and individuals, are all in the form of digital files.
- Oral records: Stories told by volunteers who participated in the clean-up operation, which were recorded by the Korea Volunteer Center, and interviews with locals done in a sociology research program are all in the form of digital files.

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8.3 Social Community or Spiritual Significance

The Korean people responded actively to the Taean oil spill. They made tremendous efforts to recover from the disaster and restore the ecosystems and communities. Countless volunteers poured into the area from all over the country. In fact, the response involved far more people than only a limited number of local residents in the affected area. The fact that the clean-up of 10,900 tons of crude oil floating on the sea was completed in only seven months was attributable to the widespread volunteer spirit.

An oil spill can impact an entire country rather than just the immediately impacted area. Because the locus of economic activity in Southeast Asia is shifting from the land to the ocean, environmental pollution can directly affect the whole region, not only the damaged area. In this respect, the case of Taean, where a marine disaster was overcome by voluntary participation and service of civil society is of great value and holds important lessons and insights for South Asian and Southeastern Asian countries, where dependence on the sea is very high due to the natural environment, as well as other countries.

- Volunteers removed oil from the damaged foreshores using beach cleaners, payloaders, and shovels. Absorbent cloth and waste clothes were used as oil sorbents to soak up oil adsorbed into terrain features. The participation of so many volunteers meant that there were not enough sorbents for all of them to use, and this necessitated assistance from China and Japan for supply of raw materials needed for sorbent production. Besides direct volunteer service, there was a steady stream of donations of necessities such as used clothes, ramen, bread, and potable water.
- There were 23,282 volunteers in action on average on any given day in December 2007. On one day, there were 44,511 volunteers. Civilians from religious groups accounted for the largest percentage of all volunteers with 379,707, followed by policemen and soldiers with 297,452. Besides these groups, there were also numerous public officials, businesspeople, students, financial institution workers, Saemaul Undong (“New Village Movement”) members, fire fighters, women’s groups, foreigners, and groups for people with disabilities All were very active in the clean-up operation. Many volunteers participated in the clean-up of areas affected by the Taean oil spill over and over again.
- By the time the oil spill had been completely cleaned up, awareness of volunteer service by civilians had greatly increased and volunteerism had become commonplace, which in turn led to the greater organization of volunteer service including the establishment of regional volunteer service associations and the Korea Volunteer Center. In 2010, the Korea Volunteer Center was founded and the central government opened a volunteer service portal www.1365.go.kr where people who want to participate in volunteer service can find and apply for volunteer activities. Chungcheongnam-do completed construction of a database on volunteers in 2008, and the participation in volunteer service for the Taean oil

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spill can be confirmed through the website of the Taeon Oil Spill Restoration Memorial.

- At the time of the oil spill in 2007, there were neither public organizations nor private sector volunteer service organizations that could organize and support volunteer work in a systematic way in South Korea. Even so, as many as 1.23 million volunteers flocked to the accident area. This can be attributed to the Korean tradition of community solidarity: the Koreans have helped each other in crisis since ancient times and have acquired a mature sense of citizenship as a result of the development of democracy.

The Taeon oil spill shows a good example of how to respond to and recover from a disaster. Notwithstanding the areas South Korea excelled in, however, there are some points where the country did not perform well. These areas in need of improvement can also serve as lessons for those to deal with potential disasters in the future.

- First, the delay in initiating response measures for the Taeon oil spill should be noted. The importance of prompt response in disaster management cannot be overemphasized. However, it was only three hours and 35 minutes after the occurrence of the oil spill at Taeon that response measures were initiated. Bad weather conditions further delayed the response process as well. There was no sophisticated system to anticipate where the spilled oil would spread.
- Second, the lack of clarity in who was in command of the situation should also be brought to attention. When dealing with a disaster, it is desirable to have a clearly established chain of command with each agency assigned with specific roles. However, there was some confusion in giving and receiving commands for responding to the Taeon oil spill. Accordingly, it was made difficult to coordinate roles and duties of different agencies and, more importantly, to seek advice from local residents and tap into their knowledge. Securing supplies and equipment and distributing them in the initial phase of response was not efficiently carried out.
- A thorough analysis of these mistakes South Korea made during the Taeon oil spill is expected to make significant contributions to enhancing disaster-preparedness capacities. The sharing of South Korea's experience including its mistakes will help other countries to establish an effective standard operating procedure for a disaster.

The traditional Korean custom of mutual help and solidarity in times of crisis together with the mature understanding of citizenship brought by the development of democracy stand as a new exemplar of culture in Asia. The Korean people, by dint of their tremendous, voluntary efforts, made the process of recovery from the Taeon oil spill a new model of recovery from a crisis, based on autonomy and cooperation.

9 Regional Significance: Comparative criteria

9.1 Uniqueness or Rarity

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The nominated item is a collection of records on a wide range of problems caused by an oil spill at sea and the problem-solving process, which unfolded over a substantial period of time and now stands as a model for the world for similar situations.

Although there have been numerous oil spills, big and small, all around the world before and after the Taean oil spill, no comprehensive and well organized records on them are available. Inscription of the nominated item containing records on the accident recovery process from the moment of the oil spill and response to the formulation afterwards of permanent countermeasures on the Memory of the World Asia Pacific Regional Register would make the nominated item an example for posterity.

Other major oil spills around the world include the following:

- The Torrey Canyon oil spill in 1967 contaminated the south coast of the United Kingdom and the Normandy coast of France when 113,000 kiloliters of crude oil leaked from a supertanker. The Royal Navy attempted to mitigate the damage by using dispersants to disperse the oil, but because the tanker had sunk, the UK decided to set fire to the vessel and the surrounding oil slick to minimize the ocean pollution. The decision entailed the dropping of bombs several times. It was impossible for volunteers to participate in the clean-up operation in such a situation.
- In the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989, 41,600 kL of crude oil were released into Prince William Sound in Alaska. An area of 28,200 km² along the 2,100 kilometer long coastline was contaminated. Only a small number of local residents could assist in the clean-up effort due to its remoteness and low population density. The area could only be reached by plane or boat. Also, the preventive operation joined by local residents was not properly conducted. Even today, 30 years after the disaster, some residue oil remains.
- The Nakhodka oil spill in January 1996 saw the release of 6,200 kL of heavy oil and contaminated 400km along the coastline of Mikuni City, Fukui Prefecture. The Japan Coast Guard Marine and shipowner took charge of the marine prevention operation, and local governments and the Self-Defense Forces provided equipment. Some 300,000 volunteers participated in the marine prevention operation. Although the participation of such a great number of volunteers in such a short period of time was dubbed the Miracle of Mikuni, no records on the overall process of the prevention operation were made.
- The Erika oil spill in 1999 released 19,800 kL of heavy fuel oil, contaminating 400km of the coastline of Brittany, France. Each of five local governments took exclusive charge of a specific zone and mobilized 5,000 residents for the prevention operation. No detailed records on the prevention operation remain.

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- The Prestige oil spill occurred off the coast of Galicia, Spain in November 2002, caused by the sinking of the tanker. A total of 63,000 kL of heavy fuel oil was released into the water. The spill polluted the coastline and beaches on the Spanish, French, and Portuguese coasts. Having acquired approval from the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), the Greek-owned *Prestige* was chartered by Russian shipping company and was on route to Singapore with cargo loaded in the United Kingdom. There were numerous legal disputes among the involved countries over liability for the damage, pointing to the urgent need for management of records to identify cause of such an accident and render compensation related the prevention operation.

Despite the occurrence of major oil spills, there are neither detailed records on the response and prevention operation inscribed on the list of the Memory of the World as documentary heritage nor any systematically organized documentary information available anywhere. Korean government officials visited the site of the Taean oil spill, collected information, sorted the collected information, and left extensive documentation. This is truly testimony to the significance of documentary heritage, and it did much to raise the awareness of the Korean public of the importance of volunteerism.

The International Oil Pollution Compensation (IOPC) and the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited (ITOPF) in charge of identifying causes of oil spills and rendering payment of compensation for the damage caused by oil spills constructed and manage a huge database on tankers' oil spills, and they apply the principle of no payments for compensation when the cause-and-effect relationship is not clearly demonstrated. Accordingly, international organizations concerned with oil spills emphasize the management of such records as the nominated item.

A marine oil spill causes extremely extensive damage to the marine environment and a great number of stakeholders. What is more, the legal settlement can go on for years due to the difficulty in precisely identifying the responsible parties. Given that the nominated item contains detailed information on the roles, activities, communications, and cooperation of the central and local governments, experts both at home and abroad, local residents, and volunteers who participated in recovery effort, the nominated item is a comprehensive record that can provide information beneficial to all stakeholders involved in marine oil spills in the future.

- The nominated item carries viewpoints of diverse stakeholders as it contains all records produced by major public institutions that participated in the accident response and records produced by NGOs and individuals who participated in the marine pollution prevention effort.
- The nominated item provides information on the entire accident response process from 2007 to 2019, including the circumstances when the accident happened, pollution prevention, recovery of environment, commemorative projects, compensation procedures, and reconciliation of conflicts among members of the local communities.

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- The nominated item clearly indicates what government agencies, local governments, NGOs, and volunteers did in response to the marine disaster, and it now stands as a model of how to respond to a marine disaster through public-private partnership. Such a case of recovery from disaster by the public and private sector joining hands can be used to effectively respond to various types of disasters anywhere around the world.

10 Gender

The nominated item provides an example of the recognition of women workers' rights.

- The Taean oil spill occurred in an area where the sea and foreshore are the primary source of livelihood. Small family-run businesses account for most of the economic activity in the area affected by the accident, and women's labor is extremely important to the regional economy. According to the labor statistics of 2007, women accounted for 51.4% of the total workforce in fisheries in Chungcheongnam-do. Most women's labor on the coast of the affected region is in manual fishery and sea harvesting that involves diving into the sea. Residents engaged in manual fishery and sea harvesting had been initially categorized as "not eligible for compensation" as they could not properly prove the damage caused by the oil spill. After years of efforts, they finally received compensation, sometimes much more than those in other affected businesses.
- The amount of compensation varied depending on the type of business. The standard amount was in the range of KRW 789,000 – KRW 3,781,000 won with manual fishery at KRW 3,301,000 won and sea harvesting at KRW 3,437,000 won. These amounts were higher than those for fishing vessel fishery at KRW 2,111,000 and combo fisheries at KRW 3,154,000. This is a case where the value of women labor was appropriately recognized.
- Some female divers in the Taean area, in particular, were paid compensation of KRW 7,300,000 per person on average from the IOPC Fund for being unable to work due to oil pollution. This amount was much higher than the compensation of KRW 3,301,000 won paid to manual fisheries because each female diver had recorded the types and volume of seafood harvested by date in detail in a daily work log, which meant that they could provide extremely accurate individual work logs as evidence for claims for compensation.

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11 Statement of Significance

The nominated item is a collection of records of the public and private sectors. The Taean oil spill, response to the disaster, prevention operation, compensation procedures, restoration of the damaged areas and ecosystem over a long period of time were recorded using diverse media. Most of these records are kept by the public organizations, NGOs, and individuals who produced them.

- The nominated item details the initial response to the oil spill and the pollution prevention process and measures to assist the affected residents and restore the environment. The nominated item can, therefore, offer information on the experience of the response to a major oil spill to avoid needless trial and error in the response to a future disaster.
- The nominated item contains data obtained by monitoring the impact of oil pollution on ecosystems and local residents from diverse perspectives over a long period of time beginning from the moment of the oil spill. For this reason, the nominated item can be used for study on cases of effective recovery from oil pollution.
- The Taean oil spill is the first of its kind in South Korea where such a large number of volunteers participated in a public-private partnership to counter a disaster. The nominated material can provide detailed information on the process by which activities of volunteers, establishment of organizations for management of volunteers in the years following the disaster, and construction of a volunteer service application portal were conducted.
- The nominated item is an archive of records on the whole process of the Taean oil spill from the moment of its occurrence through the response and follow-up to it produced directly by public organizations, NGOs, and individuals. It is a collective memory describing the process in detail by which a major oil spill was countered by national solidarity between the government and the people. Also, given the excellent results of the recovery effort, the nominated item is a record with value for the entire world. It contains important insights into accident prevention and ecological, social, and economic recovery, and further regional development.

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12 Risk Assessment

12.1 Condition

Records in the collection of the Taean Oil Spill Restoration Memorial of Chungcheongnam-do and public agencies (Ministry of Environment, Taean-gun, Dangjin-si, Buan-gun, Daejeon District Court, National Park Research Institute, Taean Seashore National Park, Korea Volunteer Center, Republic of Korea Army, etc.) are housed in conditions of rigorous temperature and humidity control and under heavy security.

Materials in the collections of NGOs and individuals are stored in varying conditions. There are few cases in the private-sector collections where materials benefit from systematic management.

12.2 Threat/Risk

There is no threat to the facilities for preservation of the records at public organizations. However, records may be disposed of depending on their lifecycle. Public organizations need to freeze the disposal of them.

Given that records in the collections of NGOs and individuals are not kept in optimal conditions and are, therefore, at risk of loss and damage, efforts should be made to encourage the owners of those records to donate them or place them under the custodianship of the Taean Oil Spill Restoration Memorial.

13 Preservation and Access Management Plan

Management Plan

Are there management plans to preserve and provide access to the nominated documentary heritage?

YES

If the nominated item is listed on the Memory of the World Asia Pacific Regional Register, they will all be put into better preservation conditions and made more accessible in phases.

- Phase 1: Chungcheongnam-do will digitize the records in its collection to construct a digital archive of records on recovery from the Taean oil spill for online search and view.
- Phase 2: NGOs and individuals will be asked to donate or grant custodianship of the records in their possession for better preservation and to increase accessibility.
- Phase 3: Aiming at increasing accessibility to the nominated item, Chungcheongnam-do will further digitalize records in consultation with other public organizations, NGOs, and individual collectors. A integrated system will, thereby, be constructed to allow anyone to retrieve and view the records through the Digital Archive of Taean Oil Spill Damage Recovery Records.

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14 Consultation with Stakeholders

Chungcheongnam-do invited volunteers who participated in the recovery and prevention operation at the time of Taean oil spill and are registered on the volunteer database constructed in 2004 to various events commemorative of the recovery from the oil spill, where the volunteers shared their experiences in the recovery from the Taean oil spill and their trial and error during the process.

In 2019, Chungcheongnam-do organized a team to facilitate registration of the nominated item on the UNESCO Memory of World. The team set the scope of records to be included in the nomination, analyzed the records to generally define their value, and established categories of major records to prepare for registration.

In 2020, Chungcheongnam-do held a national campaign for the registration, through which it received donations of records held by volunteers. Chungcheongnam-do checked the preparation procedures for nomination by hosting an international conference on nomination and had consultations with government agencies and local governments as well as NGOs and individuals about the nomination.

As a result of such efforts, Chungcheongnam-do received consent forms signed by ten public agencies, four NGOs, and five individuals.

15 Other Information to Support the Nomination

Videotapes on Taean Oil Spill Accident

Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=panziMwjlfA>

South Korea Hebei Spirit Oil Spill (For the Revival of the Yellow Sea Documentary):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGlSevidcJw>