

KOREAN CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL



Seung-soo Han

Dr. Seung-soo Han was born on 28 December 1936 in Chuncheon, Gangwon Province, Korea where he received his secondary education.

He received his B.A. degree from Yonsei University and went on to receive a Master's in Public Administration (MPA) from Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea. He holds a Ph.D. in economics, awarded in 1968, from the University of York, York, England, where in 1997 he also was awarded an honorary Doctor of University. His doctoral dissertation, entitled *The Growth and the Function of the European Budget*, was awarded the 6th European Communities Prize by the Commission of the European Communities in 1971 as the best doctoral thesis written on the European economic integration during the years 1967-69.

Dr. Han began his academic career as a professional economist in the United Kingdom, where he taught in the Department of Economics, University of York (1965-68), York, and later in the Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge, and Emmanuel College (1968-70), Cambridge. Upon returning to Korea in 1970, Dr. Han was appointed Professor of Economics at Seoul National University, where he taught until 1988. From 1974 to 1976, Dr. Han was on leave from Seoul National University to serve as Financial Adviser to the Government of Jordan, on a secondment of the World Bank. He was Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan for 1986-87 and Senior Fulbright Scholar at the Department of Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA for 1985-86. Over his long academic career, he has given seminars on public finance at several foreign universities,

including the University of Paris I (Pantheon Sorbonne) in 1982, at the invitation of Professor Christian de Boissieu.

Dr. Han left Seoul National University in 1988, when he successfully ran in the parliamentary election to represent home town, Chuncheon. He served three 4-year terms in the Korean National Assembly. During his political career, he was called upon to serve in various government posts, including the Minister of Trade and Industry (1988-90), Korean Ambassador to the United States (1993-94), Chief of Staff to the President (1994-95), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy (1996-97), and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2001-02).

As Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr. Han successfully led trade negotiations with the nation's major trading partners. In particular, he played a crucial role in resolving Korea-US trade friction arising from the Super 301 investigation. Through his successful Super 301 negotiations with Ambassador Carla Hills, then the USTR, Dr. Han was able to clear Korea of the unfavorable image of being an unfair trading nation and greatly advanced Korea on its path toward becoming a free and fair trading nation.

As Ambassador to the United States, through his active involvement, Dr. Han contributed to easing the tension caused by the first North Korean nuclear crisis and through close cooperation with the US administration was instrumental in concluding the October 1994 Geneva Agreed Framework. In that Framework, the US and North Korea (DPRK) agreed to cooperate in replacing the DPRK's graphite-moderated reactors and related facilities with light-water reactor power plants and to ensure its peaceful use of nuclear energy.

As Minister of Finance and Economy and the nation's chief economic policy maker, Dr. Han oversaw the negotiations for the accession of Korea to the OECD in 1996. As an enthusiastic proponent of Korea's accession to the OECD, Dr. Han pioneered various reforms, including capital market opening, and thus contributed to actively accommodating the policy framework in line with the global standards set by the OECD.

As Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Dr. Han was to assume the Presidency of the 56th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 11 September 2001. However, his election to the Presidency was delayed as a result of the confusion following the terrorist attacks on the United States. Soon after assuming his responsibilities as President, however, Dr. Han strove to mobilize the international community to address the issue of international terrorism. He also diligently handled other agendas entrusted to him, which included the reduction of poverty, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, overcoming the digital divide, achieving sustainable development, the Millennium Development Goals, the Special Session on Children, and others. Together with Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Dr. Han had the honor of representing the United Nations in receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo in 2001.

Dr. Han withdrew from domestic politics in June 2004 and is currently serving, among other capacities, as Chairman of the 2014 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games Bid Committee.

He has been decorated several times both at home and abroad, the most recent occasion being a knighthood (KBE) from HM Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom in 2004.

Dr. Han has written many books and articles, both in English and in Korean, mainly on the subject of economic policies. (See attached list of selected publications)

Dr. Han speaks fluent English and Japanese and intermediate-level French. His leisure time activities include mountain-hiking, collecting biographies, playing baduk. (Japanese *Go*, 6th dan) Dr. Han is married to Mrs. Hong (Han) Soja and has a son and a daughter, both married.

1. Detailed Career

- 1965~1968 Lecturer and Fellow in Economics at the University of York, York, England
- 1968~1970 Research Officer, Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, England
- 1970~1988 Professor of Economics, Seoul National University, Korea
- 1974~1976 Financial Advisor to the Government of Jordan on the Secondment of World Bank
- 1985~1986 Senior Fulbright Scholar at the Department of Economics, Harvard University, Mass., USA
- 1986~1987 Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo, Japan
- 1988~1990 Minister of Trade and Industry
- 1988~1992 Member of the Republic of Korea's 13th National Assembly(in Chuncheon City, Gangwon Province)
- 1993~1994 Korean Ambassador to the United States
- 1994~1995 Chief of Staff to the President of the Republic of Korea
- 1996~2000 Member of the Republic of Korea's 15th National Assembly(in Chuncheon City, Gangwon Province)
- 1996~1997 Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy
- 2000~2004 Member of the Republic of Korea's 16th National Assembly(in Chuncheon City, Gangwon Province)
- 2001~2002 Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- 2001~2002 President of the 56th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
- Present Chairman of the 2014 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games Bid Committee
- Distinguished Visiting Professor at Yonsei University, Korea
- Honorary Professor of Economics at the University of York, York, England
- Senior Fellow at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan
- Honorary President of the Korea-Britain Society
- President of the Korea-UK Forum for the Future
- Chairman of the Board, Chuncheon Foundation for Culture Industry and Chuncheon Water Forum
- Senior Advisor at Kim & Chang Law Firm, Korea

2. Publications

The Growth and Function of the European Budget (doctoral thesis, 1968)

Taxes in Britain and the EEC: The Problem of Harmonization (PEP & Chatham House, London, 1968, co-authored)

Britain and the Common Market: Effect of Entry on the Pattern of Manufacturing Production (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1971, co-authored)

The Health of Nations (Seoul Computer Press, 1985)

The Economics of Middle East; Foundation of Arab Renaissance (Korean, 1977)

Social Welfare in Great Britain (Korean, 1979)

The New Theory of Economic Policy (Korean, 1996)

There are other publications and many professional articles both in English and Korean.

3. Honors and Major Awards

Awarded the 6th European Communities Prize (economics section) by the Commission of the European Communities (1971)

Decorated with the Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de la Couronne (1989) by the Belgium Government

Decorated with the Order of Public Service Merit (Blue Stripes, 1990) and Order of Diplomatic Service Merit (Gwanghwajang, 2004) by the Korean Government

Awarded the Columbia Law School/ Parker School Award for Distinguished International Service (1997)

Conferred the Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca, Grado Collar by the Mexican Government (2001)

Bestowed an Honorary Knighthood(KBE) by HM Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom (2004)