

Statement on Inter-Korean Peace Summit

As North and South Korean leaders are preparing for a historic summit on the southern side of the truce village of Panmunjom on Friday 27th April 2018, the highest-level encounter during the past 11 years, the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) prays for a successful outcome of the summit. It is our fervent prayer and hope that the North and South Korean leaders will work out a suitable solution based on equality, mutual respect, mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. It is also our sincere hope that a successful inter-Korean meeting will pave the way for a highly anticipated encounter between the North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and the U.S. President Donald Trump.

President Trump's support to North and South Korea "to discuss the end of the war" is a significant turning point in international relations and diplomacy. However, sustained efforts to keep the momentum of the new enthusiasm are vital to pursue the spirit of the new initiative. As the two Koreas technically are still at war with each other, the relaxation of tensions between the two Koreas is long overdue.

CCA and its member constituencies in Asia are encouraged that the two Koreas are forging a path towards peace. The CCA unswervingly reiterates its support to the call by the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCCK) to replace the 1953 Armistice Agreement with a Peace Treaty. CCA urges its members and all peace-loving people around the world to pray for the success of the inter-Korean summit, as the leaders of both Koreas are committed to work together this week towards reconciliation and peaceful coexistence in the Peninsula.

Mathews George Chunakara
General Secretary, CCA