



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

---

**2024/SOM3/CTI/006**  
Agenda Item: 7.d

## **Korea-Singapore Digital Partnership Agreement**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: Korea



**Third Committee on Trade and  
Investment Meeting  
Lima, Peru  
21-22 August 2024**

# Korea–Singapore Digital Partnership Agreement (KSDPA)

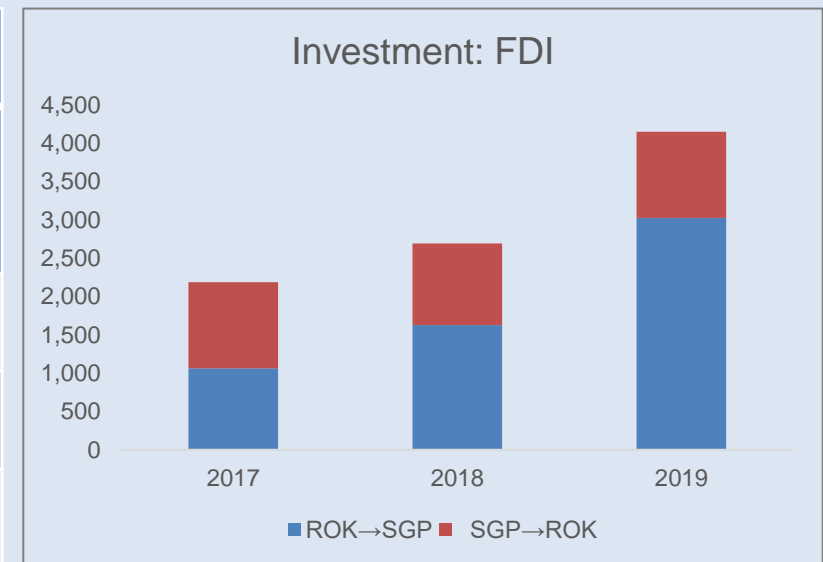


Ministry of Trade,  
Industry and Energy

# 1 Overview (1/2)

## Korea's Economic Relations with Singapore

Year	Export			Import		
	World (mil. \$)	Export (mil. \$)	Share (%)	World (mil. \$)	Import (mil. \$)	Share (%)
2017	573,694	11,652	2.0	478,478	8,905	1.9
2018	604,860	11,782	1.9	535,202	7,974	1.5
2019	542,233	12,768	2.4	503,343	6,660	1.3



# 1 Overview (2/2)

## Background

- ▶ **Changes in the trade environment due to the digital economy transition**
  - **Korea pursued its first digital trade agreement with Singapore**

\* (Singapore is an ASEAN digital hub)

- Co-chair members in the WTO e-commerce negotiations (May 2019),
- Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA, Singapore-New Zealand-Chile, June 2020),
- Australia-Singapore Digital Economy Agreement (DEA, August 2020).

## Main Progress of KSDPA

- ▶ (Jun. 22, 2020) Declaration of the start of negotiations
- ▶ (Jul. 2020–Dec. 2021) Ten official rounds of negotiations
- ▶ (Dec. 2021) Conclusion of negotiations

# 2 Main Contents (1/2)

## Overall Structure

- ▶ The agreement replaces the “Electronic Commerce” chapter of the existing Korea–Singapore FTA, and it is comprised of ① Preamble, ② main text, ③ Annex A, ④ Annex B, and ⑤ additional letter.

\* The Electronic Commerce chapter of existing KS FTA, which entered into force in 2006, includes only four articles: Definitions, Scope, Electronic Supply of Services, and Digital Products.

Overall Structure	Main Contents
① Preamble	Common vision and commitments related to the digital economy
② Main text	①Objectives, ②Definitions, ③Amendment of the K-S FTA, ④Cooperation, ⑤Entry into Force, ⑥Amendments, ⑦Electronic Signature
③ Annex A	<b>34 articles</b> containing substantive norms for digital trade and business facilitation
④ Annex B	Changes in chapter titles of the Korea-Singapore FTA
⑤ Additional letter	Interpretation of an article regarding non-discriminatory treatment of digital products, Recognition of government authority’s action

# 2 Main Contents (2/2)

## Key Provisions

- ▶ The agreement includes ① trade norms for cross-border transactions and ② cooperation in emerging digital technologies (e.g. AI and fintech).

Sectors	① Trade Norms	② Cooperation
<b>E-commerce Facilitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Paperless trading</li> <li>▶ Electronic authentication and signatures</li> <li>▶ No customs duties on electronic transmissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Electronic single-window systems</li> <li>▶ Express shipments, Logistics</li> <li>▶ Electronic invoicing and payments</li> </ul>
<b>Trustworthy Digital Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Personal information protection</li> <li>▶ Online consumer protection</li> <li>▶ Regulation on unsolicited commercial electronic messages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Cybersecurity</li> <li>▶ Online safety and security</li> <li>▶ Principles on access to and use of the Internet</li> </ul>
<b>Data Business Facilitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Location of Computing Facilities</li> <li>▶ Source Code</li> <li>▶ ICT goods that use cryptography</li> <li>▶ Non-discriminatory treatment of digital products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ AI technology and governance</li> <li>▶ Competition policy</li> <li>▶ Digital economy standards</li> <li>▶ Data innovation</li> <li>▶ Public data openness</li> </ul>

# 3 Expected Effects

① Increase in digital products and services trade between two members

E-commerce Facilitation



Reduction in transaction costs

Digital Business Liberalization



Establishment of a foundation for innovative businesses

Online Consumer Protection



Creation of a trustworthy digital economy environment

② Enhance global competitiveness

# THANK YOU!



Ministry of Trade,  
Industry and Energy