

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**INFORMATION AND PRESS DEPARTMENT**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov Converses with Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Ban Ki-moon of the Republic of Korea**

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A conversation took place on April 10 between Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, Ban Ki-moon, who was on a brief working visit to Moscow.

The ministers discussed the prospects for Russian-Korean relations in 2006, and exchanged views on a number of topical questions of international politics, including settlement of the nuclear problem of the Korean Peninsula. Also, the situation evolving in relation to the upcoming appointment of a new Secretary General of the United Nations was touched upon during the conversation. Sergey Lavrov spoke in support of the Asian Regional Group at the UN, to which, in accordance with established practice, belongs the right to put forward its candidate for the post of the next UN Secretary General.

April 10, 2006