

## S. Korea, Peru announce defense technology deal

May 24 2012

South Korea's Foreign Minister Kim Sung-hwan agreed Thursday to grant technology transfers to Peru to help strengthen the Latin American nation's navy and air force.

"Through technology transfer, <u>South Korea</u> will support Peru in areas of joint production of training planes and navy ships," Kim told reporters after meeting Peruvian President Ollanta Humala in Lima.

Kim, who is on a tour of Latin America countries, said relations between South Korea and Peru were now at the status of a full <u>strategic</u> <u>partnership</u>, following Humala's trip to Seoul earlier this month.

Humala, a former army officer who won Peru's presidential election in a run-off vote in 2011, was posted to South Korea as a military attache in 2004.

Kim will also visit Colombia, Chile and Brazil during a tour of the region aimed at promoting greater <u>economic cooperation</u>.

Peru and Chile are the only Latin American countries with which South Korea has bilateral free trade agreements.

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