

Bio Information for Kurt W. Tong

Kurt Tong has served as Minister-Counselor for Economic Affairs at the United States Embassy in Seoul since August 2003. In that capacity, he is responsible for the overall management and promotion of U.S.-Korea relations in the areas of macroeconomic, financial and trade policy, as well as overseeing cooperation on the environment, science and health.

Prior to arriving in Seoul, Mr. Tong was Counselor for Environment, Science & Health Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing from 2000 to 2003. He was a First Secretary covering macroeconomics and finance at the U.S. Embassy Tokyo in Tokyo from 1996 to 1999, and a Visiting Scholar at the Tokyo University Faculty of Economics from 1995 to 1996. Previous Foreign Service experience includes working in the Office of Japanese Affairs at the State Department in Washington D.C., and at the U.S. Embassy in Manila. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Mr. Tong was an Associate with the Boston Consulting Group, K.K., in Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Tong has a B.A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and studied graduate-level economics at the U.S. Foreign Service Institute in Washington, D.C. He has also studied at the Beijing Institute of Education, Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies in Taipei, Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Tokyo, and International Christian University in Tokyo. Mr. Tong speaks and reads Japanese and Mandarin Chinese. He has published articles in *Foreign Policy*, *Nihon Keizai Kenkyu* (an academic journal of the Japan Center for Economic Research) and the *Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars* (now *Critical Asian Studies*).