

Honorable chair,

Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of the UN-Habitat,

Members of the UN-Habitat Executive Board

Distinguished participants,

I would like to congratulate on the opening of the 2nd Session of the UN-HABITAT General Assembly here in the green city in the Sun, Nairobi.

It is indeed my great honor to speak at this General Assembly on behalf of the government of the Republic of Korea.

Due to global warming the world is experiencing heat waves earlier than ever before. In May, the World Meteorological Organization published a report showed that global temperature is likely to rise by more than 1.5 degrees Celsius over the next five years compared to pre-industrial level.

Today, we are here to unite and respond to an accelerating global crisis. As a city model for responding to the global crisis and creating a sustainable city, Korea proposes a 'carbon neutral city' and a 'smart city'.

The Korean government has declared carbon neutrality in

2050 and is striving for carbon neutrality of all spaces and means of transportation, which are the basis of people's lives, according to the 'Carbon Neutral Roadmap for Land Transport'.

First, we made a national carbon space map to manage spatially and diagnose how much carbon is emitted and absorbed in each city.

In addition, we will support cities to establish urban planning using the carbon space map and convert urban planning to carbon neutral.

Furthermore, the Korean government is actively pursuing a "Smart City Policy" that utilizes advanced technologies to respond to the global crisis at the city level.

We are combining our experience in developing new cities and cutting-edge ICT technologies to establish a unique Korean model for smart cities.

The Korea has been promoting the "K-city Network" program since 2020 to share Korean experiences and knowledge on smart cities with other countries and explore collaborative projects between governments.

Korea officially supported and pledged contributions to the National Urban Policy Program of the UN-HABITAT during the Habitat III in 2016. Since 2017, we have been providing support for the formulation of national urban policies in collaboration with UN-Habitat.

The Korean government is prepared to expand sustainable city models to cities worldwide and we welcome the active participation of nations interested in carbon-neutral cities and smart cities.

During the Assembly, I hope that our cities can benefit from a diverse range of insights and knowledge to continue maturing and progressing by sharing policy experiences implemented globally.

Thank you for your attention.