

**Statement of the Republic of Korea  
UN Commission on Sustainable Development -18  
Sustainable Consumption and Production  
6 May, 2010 New York**

Thank you, Chairman for the opportunity to share the perspective of the Republic of Korea.

As stated in the report of the Secretary General, low-carbon green growth is a national strategy established by our president with goal of de-coupling economic growth and environmental degradation.

In order to give it the highest priority, the Presidential Committee on Green Growth was launched in February 2009. In July 2009, the "National Strategy and 5-Year Plan for Green Growth" was announced after the committee's wide consultation with stakeholders.

The three main pillars of green growth are: adaptation to climate change and energy independence; creation of new growth engines; and improvement of the quality of life and raising of national status. It is expected that through these strategies, sustainable consumption and production patterns can be established.

In particular, development of green technologies, reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions of industrial complexes, and promoting a green revolution in lifestyles are included within the 10 major policy directions as concrete directions for action for achievement of sustainable consumption and production.

Korea's voluntary mid-term GHG mitigation target is in line with establishing low-carbon consumption and production patterns across all sectors of society and will be implanted through enactment and enforcement of the Basic Act on Green Growth during this year.

As mentioned in the Secretary General's report, the Korean government introduced, and is implementing, eco-friendly products mandatory purchasing system in which the government is the biggest consumer of the nation's economy and it can lead consumption and production patterns.

To boost green management of businesses, the Presidential Committee on Green Growth, the Ministry of Knowledge Economy, the Ministry of Environment, and the Small and Medium Business Administration jointly established the "Plan to Promote Green Management for Green Growth" in November 2009. In line with the plan, each entity has established, and is implementing, related policies.

The Ministry of Knowledge Economy set up a "headquarters for pursuing green management" led by the private sector, and is strengthening its support for businesses' green management. This includes development and distribution of green management evaluation guidelines, support for start-up of green ventures, and operating of a green management mentoring center.

To boost small businesses' green management, the Korean government is planning and carrying out green partnership and carbon partnership projects as well as regional eco-innovation projects with plans to continuously promote such projects.

To promote production, distribution, and purchase of eco-friendly products, the Ministry of Environment signed a voluntary agreement on green purchase and developed and distributed green purchase guidelines.

In order to induce voluntary environmental management, the Korean government is designating businesses that show significant achievements in green management as "Green Companies" to enable them to publicize their corporate image as a prestigious and environmentally-conscious company.

The Korean government is also implementing an environmental information disclosure system, which has both voluntary and regulatory characteristics.

For establishment of sustainable consumption and production patterns, it is necessary to reduce carbon emissions of all products. The carbon labeling system (carbon footprint labeling) is an effective policy that targets both consumers and producers. By showing the amount of GHG emissions calculated according to life cycle assessments of goods and services, the system can promote green consumption by consumers and production of green products of businesses.

With regard to the role of the private sector, which is emphasized in the Secretary General's report, the Korean government established a network of green consumption-related organizations and is carrying out green product promotion and education projects for consumers.

The Korean government is raising awareness of green lifestyles to encourage public participation by actively conducting the "Green Start" campaign, which is a nationwide campaign that involves the government, businesses and civic groups.

Both international and domestic measures are crucial to achieving sustainable consumption and production. By sharing our national experiences, we hope to contribute to a new way of growing.

Thank you