

**Statement of the Republic of Korea
UN Commission on Sustainable Development -18
Waste Management
5 May, 2010 New York**

Mr. /Madame Chairman, Distinguished delegates,

Let me congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this session and I also extend my delegation's congratulations to the other members of the Bureau.

The Republic of Korea believes the CSD provides us with a significant opportunity to share our perspectives and experience in order to respond the current global challenges and to promote sustainable development appropriately and timely manner. It is our great pleasure to contribute to the valuable exchange through introducing our experience to our colleagues during this session.

As recognized in the Secretary-General's report, effective waste management, particularly as an aspect of resource circulation, is essential to sustainable development. Sustainable waste management can be achieved under a new development paradigm in low-carbon green growth, or green economy, as mentioned in Agenda 21. Para.21.1. Low-carbon green growth, which my government has embraced as a national development strategy, is based on a 'resource circulation society.' It calls for efficient and sustainable consumption and production. It calls for recycling. It calls for energy recovery. It calls for advanced waste treatment. We need to change our traditional ideas about waste and its functional role in the resource use cycle. It truly changes everything.

To meet our goals in this area, Korea has focused on designing a national strategy with policies aimed at efficiently treating waste and turning it into useable energy. First, regarding efficient waste management measures, the Korean government has successfully implemented numerous policies, which include levying charges on toxic, hazardous, and non-reusable waste and implementing a volume-based waste fee system. We began implementing the volume-based fee system on food waste in 1995 and expect it to reduce waste by 20% by 2012. Along with traditional measures, we recently adopted new strategies including providing waste fee exemption incentives to manufacturers that sign and implement a voluntary agreement on the collection and recycling of waste plastic. The results have been very successful, with 69,213 tons of waste recycled, 23,532 tons of CO2 emissions mitigated, and USD68 million saved through 2008.

We have also successfully developed an online waste disposal management system, "Allbaro," which enables input, comparison, confirmation, analysis, and registration management of information on waste throughout the entire process, from waste generation to final treatment. While it began in 2001, since 2008, the application of the Allbaro system has become mandatory in every industry to promote a safe and transparent waste management system. As of 2008, about 260,000 businesses used the Allbaro system while around 17 million tons of waste was electronically managed by the system. Advanced IT technologies are also being utilized for management of medical waste.

Second, the Korean government is deeply interested in waste-to-energy policies. Developing waste resources and biomass energy can increase energy self-sufficiency and create jobs in a new industry. Our plans and policies for conversion of waste resources and biomass into renewable energy have recently been implementing, converting organic waste resources into biogas, combustible waste

into solid fuel, and landfill gas into energy. We have additional plans to build energy complex towns that minimize resources used to generate energy and maximize energy efficiency.

We also greatly value international cooperation's ability to enhance sound waste management at the national and regional level. As an example, Japan, China, and my government have been closely collaborating on environmental issues in the region through Ministerial-level meetings and development of concrete projects. We have exchanged perspectives on the common challenges of global waste management while also sharing policy experience and practices with each other. Korea is also willing to share those with other colleagues to promote better global waste management.

Thank you very much for your attention.

"On a separate issue, I would like to address a clerical matter in the Secretary-General's report. For the clear understanding of all delegations on the Korea's status, I would like to ask you to amend some data contained in the Secretary General's report: Figure 5 on page 9, "Estimated non-hazardous industrial waste per capita," shows that Korea produced about 2,000kg/inhabitant in 2002, but it should read 789.8kg/habitant. In 2002, the amount of non-hazardous industrial waste generated was 99,505 tons/day and the population was approximately 46 million, so the number should be 789.8kg/y per capita. We can provide you with more detailed information regarding the numbers if required.

Thank you."