Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.
I am Keewon Hong, Ambassador for International Relations, of Incheon Metropolitan City.
I’m pleased to deliver my welcome address at the “2018 Executive training course.”

First of all, I would like to warmly welcome all of the participants to Incheon City. My thanks go to the Head of UNOSD, Jong Soo Yun for organizing this training course.

As it has been three years since the UN adopted and implemented the SDGs in 2015, the international community should redouble its efforts to achieve them.

In this sense, the “2018 Executive Training Course for Policymakers on the 2030 and the SDGs,” is very timely and relevant.

Incheon is the 3rd largest city in Korea in terms of population. Incheon is also Korea’s transportation hub, being home to the country’s largest airport and one of it’s major ports, well fitting its brand: “All Ways Incheon.”

For the past 12 years, Incheon has provided its full support to the fifteen international organizations, including the UNOSD, in the city. And I am delighted to see this Office contribute so much to Incheon, and the global community.

 Particularly, as the host city of the Green Climate Fund, Incheon has committed itself to climate change responses and set a clear vision for it.

As our city celebrates the era of 3 million citizens, we have promoted the “30 Million Trees Planting Campaign” along with the GHC (Green House Gas) Target Management System and measures to reduce fine dust.

I hope that this “2018 Executive Training Course” can provide a meaningful platform for sharing and disseminating success stories and lessons, learned by nations for the implementation of the 2030 agenda.

Once again, I would like to thank you all, and I wish you health and happiness.

Thank you.