

## **Speech**

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at the Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy in Transport  
Session 1, 15 January 2009, Tokyo, Japan**

I am very glad that the Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy in Transport provides the valuable opportunity to share information and experience among the participating countries and to hold active discussions on what measures should be taken in the transport sector in a response to the climate change.

Climate change is one of the most grave threats posed to the mankind. In this respect, it is high time that we should develop new measures to effectively address this massive challenge.

In line with such global efforts, the Korean Government sets the ‘Low Carbon Green Growth’ as the new national development strategy, and establishes the Comprehensive Plan to Combat Climate Change in last September by elaborating the strategy.

‘Low Carbon Green Growth’ is a new development paradigm decoupling economic growth and the GHG emissions. The Government of Korea has made such paradigm shift with an aim to transform the crisis of climate change into an opportunity of

economic growth.

‘Low Carbon Green Growth’ sets its basic policy direction as the creation of jobs and new growth engine based on the Green Technology and clean energy in order to achieve green growth and thus improve patterns of economic development and eventually enhance quality of lives.

To this end, the Government of Korea recently determined to implement 36 new Green Projects including Green Transport, Green Technology Development, and Rivers Improvement projects. It plans to invest about KRW 50 trillion in such projects by 2012, to create 1 million new jobs.

In particular, Korea plans to increase the transport shares of relatively low-carbon transport modes such as railroad and coastal shipping from 8% to 15% and from 18% to 22% respectively by 2012.

In order to attain this goal, it will expand climate-friendly infrastructures by increasing the railroad investment from 27% to 37%.

It also plans to enact the Act on the Sustainable Transport and Logistics Development, which prescribes a wide range of measures including the provision of government subsidies for modal shift, voluntary establishment of local traffic cap and entailing incentives, and development of eco-friendly vehicles (EFV).

In this context, the Korean Government expresses its agreement with the necessity of mutual cooperation among countries and the international organizations including IMO and ICAO, which aims to attain the long-term global vision of realizing Low-Carbon Low-Pollution Transport Systems.

The Korean Government supports the comprehensive process committing to combat climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol.

I believe that for more effective implementation, it is critical to take comprehensive and flexible approaches so that as many as countries are encouraged to participate in the global efforts of reducing GHG emissions.

In addition, it is also significant to maintain the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities by reflecting the differences and characteristics of the transport system in respective countries.

In particular, I support that advanced countries share their experience, technology and research results with relatively less developed countries in terms of transport system, eco-friendly transport modes and facilities, and transport technologies.

In addition, I call on the developing countries to participate in the

global efforts of GHG emission reductions as soon as possible.

The overall Global economy has faced the difficulties caused by the financial crunch. However, I believe that such economic crisis will not prevent us from committing ourselves to resolving the climate change issue, but providing a valuable opportunity to facilitate Low-Carbon Green Growth where we are able to address both climate change and economic difficulties at the same time.

I am confident that this MEET provides a significant venue to discuss and develop concrete implementation measures in the context of such global efforts. I hope this meeting would yield the fruitful outcomes in this respect.

Thank you.