

Ladies and gentlemen.

I am Seung-geun Paek, Chairperson of the Metropolitan Transport Commission of the Republic of Korea.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the UN Secretariat and the Chinese officials for your dedicated efforts in organizing the Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference.

Even though this event is taking place online, it gives me great pleasure to exchange ideas with the leaders from around the world. In recent years, extreme weather events such as heatwaves and floods have become more intense and frequent around the world.

All countries agree on the need to reduce carbon emissions to cope with climate change, and it is imperative to promote international cooperation to achieve this goal.

Korea has set an ambitious target to achieve carbon neutrality. Korea proposed raising its carbon emissions target from the initial 26.3% reduction to a 40% reduction compared to the 2018 level.

In particular, Korea aims to cut 37.8% of the emissions from the transport sector, which accounts for around 14% of the total carbon emissions.

To meet the adjusted goal, Korea will continue to work on reducing carbon emissions in the transport sector, such as by expanding the uptake of eco-friendly vehicles.

The Korean government has also been making efforts to accelerate the shift from internal combustion engine vehicles to more eco-friendly cars, such as by providing fuel subsidies for eco-friendly commercial vehicles.

These measures have contributed to a 48% increase in the number of electric vehicles on the road.

Furthermore, I believe it is noteworthy to share Korea's "Altteul Transport Card" policy, which has been implemented since 2018 to promote the use of public transportation. "Altteul" means "Cost-saving" in Korean.

This Cost-saving Transport Card allows the users to earn mileage points in proportion to the walking or cycling distance of the first and last mile sections in their trips using public transport. The mileage points earned by walking or cycling can be used to pay public transport fares.

As of now, some 260 thousand people are using the Altteul Transport Card in Korea, saving around 24% of their average monthly public transport expenses.

I hope that today's Conference will give all of us a valuable opportunity to share experiences and gather wisdom for our shared journey towards transport sustainability.

Thank you for your attention.