Annex 1

Opening Address by Vice-Minister for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Korea

Distinguished Mr. Greg Schneider, Chair of the OECD Committee for Fisheries, Mr. Carl-Christian Schmidt, Head of the Fisheries Policies Division of the OECD, Mr. John Davis, Chair of this workshop, and respected participants,

Welcome to Busan for the workshop on "The Economics of Adapting Fisheries to Climate Change".

It is my great honor to deliver an Opening Address at the Workshop in this Busan city, the largest port and the hub of Fisheries industry in Korea.

Distinguished participants,

Climate change is becoming more evident and we all understand that addressing climate change is one of the most pressing issues we face. Against this backdrop, the Korean government declared "Low-carbon, Green growth" as Korea's new national vision and has introduced Comprehensive Plan and National Action Plan to Adapt to Climate Change.

At the fisheries level, as sea surface temperature is increasing steadily, Korea has witnessed the impacts of climate change such as altering fisheries stock distribution and emerging sub-tropical fish spices in Korean waters.

To deal with the challenges of climate change, the Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has implemented strategic plans to adapt fisheries and aquaculture to climate change such as "Comprehensive Marine and Fisheries Policy Strategies for Climate Change". The details will be presented at Country case study of National Strategies to Adapting to Climate Change. In dealing with climate change, there is considerable uncertainty over how climate change will impact fisheries. In addition, the extent to which fisheries are likely to be affected by climate change is quite difficult to determine based on current information.

I hope this workshop will provide us with great ideas on strategies to prepare for the impacts from climate change. To this end, I urge your active participation to yield fruitful results through live exchanges of your experiences and ideas.

Once again, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for attending this workshop on the Economics of Adapting Fisheries to Climate Change and wish you have a wonderful and pleasant stay in Busan.

Thank you.

Yong-Jae Ha, Vice-Minister for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea



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