

Good morning!

I am Nam Choon Park,

Mayor of Incheon Metropolitan City.

Along with all three million Incheon citizens,

I would like to give a warm welcome

to our distinguished guests from home and abroad.

It is very significant for the 48th Session of the IPCC
to be held in Incheon for the first time.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Hoe sung Lee,
Chair of the IPCC, and his team
for your excellent work in preparing for this event.

I also thank

Ms. Elena Manaenkova,

Deputy Secretary-General of the WMO,

Mr. Jian Liu,

Director of the UNEP's Science Division,

Mr. Youssef Nassef,

Director for Adaptation of the UNFCCC,

Mr. Abdalah Mokssit, Secretary of the IPCC,

and all other delegates from 195 countries
who are visiting Incheon after such a long journey.

Also, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to
Minister Eun Kyung Kim, of the Ministry of Environment of Korea,
Administrator Jong Seok Kim, of the KMA,
and many other guests
for joining us this morning despite your busy schedule.

Ladies and gentlemen,
This summer, Korea experienced record-breaking heat waves.
As a result, many citizens suffered pain and damage.

Threats reaching the level of disasters,
stemming from drastic climate change, including heat waves
are not just a challenge for Korea,
but also a challenge for the whole world.

Disasters Preparedness is necessary.
More than anything,
we need to have fundamental counter-measures to climate change.
Voices calling for stronger actions against global warming
are becoming louder around the world.

Distinguished guests,

Incheon has become a global hub addressing climate change issues, inviting many international organizations, including the GCF, and supporting their activities.

Fully accepting a strong duty and responsibility, Incheon, with all citizens, will continue strive to make itself a city of low-carbon and green climate that contributes to climate recovery.

As you see, Incheon has the optimal conditions for international meetings and conferences that tackle the environmental issues such as climate change.

In order to host many important climate-related conferences such as the IPCC Session, Incheon will continue to spare no effort and support.

I hope all of you will achieve valuable outcome at this Session such as adoption of the Special Report through in-depth deliberations and discussions.

I wish you a pleasant stay here in the eco-friendly city of Incheon.
Thank you!