

# Opening Statement of Korea Meteorological Administration

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen,  
This is Jong seok Kim, the administrator of KMA.

I would like to welcome all of you to the Forty-eighth Session of the IPCC and the First Joint Session of the Working Group I, II, and III of the IPCC open here in Incheon.

Especially the host of this meeting, Chair of the IPCC, Hoesung Lee  
WMO Deputy Secretary-General, Elena Manaenkova  
Director of Science division of the UN Environment, Jian Liu  
Director of Adaptation Programme at the UNFCCC, Youssef Nassef  
Secretary of the IPCC, Abdalah Mokssit  
Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Eun-kyung Kim  
Mayor of Incheon Metropolitan City Nam-chun Park

and

Distinguished delegates,  
Honourable representatives from international organizations,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you know, until yesterday before you came, I was worried about the effects of the Typhoon Trami, moving northward. Fortunately, this fine weather started the session.

While you are staying in Incheon, I hope you are able to experience and enjoy the beautiful autumn weather of the Republic of Korea.

This is the second time for Korea to host the IPCC Session after in Busan, 2010.

Eight years later, after the 32nd Session,  
and marking the 30th anniversary of the IPCC,  
I am greatly privileged to host this event and welcome all of you once again here in Korea.

Just like many countries around the world,  
this year Korea also experienced the hottest summer  
since records began in 1973.

We had the highest number of heat wave days of 31.4 days.  
For the first time in Korean history,  
the highest temperature in the day exceeded  
40 degrees Celsius in some regions.

As well, the number of days with tropical nights,  
which refers to the lowest temperature of the day  
staying above 25 degrees Celsius, reached the highest record  
of more than 17 days, making it difficult for a lot of people to fall  
asleep.

Climate change is indeed happening right in front of us.  
It is threatening not the future generations,  
but all of us right now.

In respond to climate change,  
a close collaboration between government and private sectors is critical,  
and among others international cooperation is all the more required.

To this end, the IPCC has published five assessment reports to provide  
considerable scientific evidence for global climate change response and  
action over the last 30 years.

The latest, the Fifth Assessment Report published in 2014 served as a  
foundation for drawing up the Paris Agreement, which is the basis of a  
new global framework for tackling climate change

In 2015, 197 countries in the world agreed on the long-term temperature  
goal of 1.5 degree Celsius to raise awareness, respond, and address

climate change.

And today in 2018, 195 member governments of the IPCC gathered here to adopt “Special Report on global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways.”

By adopting this Special Report, we will be able to develop policies and strategies allowing the world to overcome climate change.

As a focal point of the IPCC,

the Korea Meteorological Administration has continued to contributing to the IPCC assessment process.

And as the 6<sup>th</sup> chair country of the IPCC, we will spare no effort to make more contribution.

Again, I would like express my warm welcome to all of you to the General Assembly .

I hope this event serves as a great opportunity for all of you to take the important step toward Post-2020 Climate Framework here in Korea.

Thank you.