

16th Session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA)

24 to 28 April 2017

Written Statement by Korean Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD)

Agenda item 3: Ensuring effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through leadership, action and means

For a compelling implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the endeavor and willingness of policy decision makers from the United Nations, governments, enterprises, NGOs and other sectors to put these goals into effect is a necessity. We, Korean Association supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD), have poured considerable effort into accelerating the implementation of the SDGs among such group of members of the National Assembly.

The National Assembly of the 193 the United Nations member states functions as the primary source in carrying out the SDGs as it is in charge of the national budget and legislation. The National Assembly exists as the representation of all citizens and it establishes various systems. Accordingly, all members of the National Assembly must acknowledge the necessity of the SDGs and make positive effort to align those goals with the budget and legislation. This is a precondition for achieving the SDGs until 2030. Enterprises are also an important group in this process. These organizations possess the largest human infrastructure and technology on earth, which can have an appreciable impact on the overall economy and society. Education and participation of the SDGs are essential because the diverse industries, which enterprises invest in, are a requirement to attaining the SDGs. It is, in fact, impossible to achieve the SDGs without the substantial sources of enterprises in the field of environment, manufacturing, distribution, circulation, service, IT, BIO, food and more.

Like such, our association has made an enormous effort to underscore the awareness and implementation of the SDGs to members of the National Assembly and enterprises, which can eventually enhance the participation of the major groups performing the SDGs and its diffusion. We have proudly established the Korea National Assembly UN SDGs Forum (NSD), being the first among member states of the United Nations, and it became an official institution of the National Assembly consisting of approximately 40 members of the National Assembly. The forum is recognized as an important legislative model of the SDGs to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) major committee, and the written statements were adopted 4 times. Especially during 70th Session of the UN General Assembly, the official starting point of the SDGs, we visited the United Nations headquarters and developed a bond of sympathy with Amina J. Mohammed, the current Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations through a conversation concerning the Korean National Assembly and enterprises as a participation model in the implementation of the SDGs.

Furthermore, we developed Sustainable Development Goals Business Index (SDGBI) that goes beyond a mere form of donation. SDGBI is a numerical index that illustrates the efforts made by businesses that minimizes the pitfalls and negative impacts and at the same time maximizes the optimistic fallouts in their activities. Along with the emergence of Sustainable

Development Goals Business Index (SDGBI), we have surely provided the justification to consider and spread the SDGs. Moreover, we have offered a more practical accessibility by managing a variety of initiatives and projects in consideration of each business' industrial characteristics and new growth engines.

The leadership pertaining to an effective diffusion of the SDGs is not limited to the heads of the United Nations member states nor a few high-ranking the United Nations officials. The SDGs embrace vast topics related to humans and the environment on earth. Thus, it must assure the participation of stakeholders and agents of all different fields. The core essentials of the SDGs (society/environment/economy/governance), in particular, will be the vital standard for the policy makers of the National Assembly, enterprises, and private sectors to realize powerful leadership and eventually achieve the SDGs. It is also important to forge leadership and common interests between the major countries of the international society including the United States and developing countries.