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| **Welcome Remarks**  **“Toward the Era of Green Transition”** |

2024. 8. 27. (Tue) 09:00, ECC 삼성홀

Good morning distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen! It is my honor and privilege to host the international conference, “Toward the Era of Green Transition” with the Financial Supervisory Service with the esteemed Governor Lee Bok-hyun.

I would like to welcome Chairperson Yoon Hanhong (윤한홍) of the National Policy Committee; Co-chairperson Kim Sang-hyup (김상협) of the Presidential Commission on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth; His Excellency Colin Crooks (콜린 크룩스), Ambassador of the United Kingdom; His Excellency Georg Wilfried Schimidt (게오르그 빌프리드 슈미트), Ambassador of Germany; His Excellency Peter Van der Vilet (페이터 반 더 플리트), Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Chairperson Philippe Van Hoof (필립 반 후프) of the European Chamber of Commerce; Chairman Lee Hoe Sung (이회성) of the Carbon Free Alliance; Chairman Yang Jong Hee (양종희) of the KB Financial Group; Chief Executive Officer Peter Kim (피터 김) of HSBC Korea; Chief Country Officer for Korea Oh Inhwan (오인환) of Societe Generale; and the Branch Manager Motoki Shinmachi (모토키 신마치) of Tokio Marine Holdings. Greetings to Her Excellency Maria Castillo Fernandez (마리아 카스티요 페르난데즈), Ambassador of the European Union in the Republic of Korea for sharing her congratulatory remarks on video.

On July 21 of this year, the global surface temperature reached the highest level in 70 years. Even when news about “record highs” are not very new, and we hear too often about abnormal climate episodes, it is critical that we raise awareness about climate change and its solutions.

It is also critical that we highlight the importance about financing that supports technological advancements for climate change solutions. And we must also focus on the institutions and individuals that enable the industry-government-academia cooperation for low-carbon transition and climate change response.

As the G20 financial leaders said, “the cost of inaction is greater than the cost of action,” I hope that today’s conference will contribute to exploring innovative and practical ways to respond to the climate crisis.

The 6th Future Finance A.I. Challenge will hint at what we can expect in the future of finance, which will be combined with artificial intelligence (or, AI). I would like to congratulate all the participants who have made it to the finals and encourage them to show their innovative ideas for the future of finance. I would like to extend my gratitude to the KB Financial Group for its support for the Future Finance A.I. Challenge.

There will be a youth recruitment briefing session with many domestic and international companies to support young people’s entry into the green and innovation sectors. It will provide an important opportunity for our next generation leaders to share their talents from participating companies includingKB Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Bank, Woori Bank, Hana Bank, NongHyup Bank, Industrial Bank of Korea, Hanwha Life Insurance, Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance, Mirae Asset Securities, Toss Securities, ING, HSBC, Societe Generale, Samsung Electronics, and Financial Supervisory Service.

I feel that Universities have a unique social responsibility to conduct research and to provide solutions to social challenges facing humanity including sustainable planet, which is today’s conference theme. Ewha Womans University is no exception, and Ewha will lead the efforts to conduct research, provide education and training, and collaborate with financial institutions for climate crisis and the environment to fulfill its social responsibility for a sustainable planet.

As part of this effort, Ewha was the first University in South Korea to establish a Major in Climate and Renewable Energy Systems Engineering in 2017. Ewha has been conducting world-class research through the Center for Climate & Environment Change Prediction Research, and has worked with the Financial Supervisory Service to develop an international climate risk management model.

Ewha established the Ewha ESG Committee to facilitate its implementation for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Ewha signed an MOU, ‘Ewha-Asan UniverCT, University x Climate Tech’ with the Asan Nanum Foundation to spread the culture of climate technology start-ups centered on universities and foster climate technology entrepreneurs with innovative technologies, business capabilities, and entrepreneurship, taking the lead in achieving carbon neutrality and seeking new growth opportunities among industry, government, academic, and research cooperation.

Working with the next generation is critical for climate change action. And since climate crisis requires global cooperation and mutual understanding, I would like to reaffirm that Ewha, as the home to global current- and next-generation women leaders, will continue to foster trailblazers, who will lead the green transition.

The Executive Secretary of the UN Climate Change Secretariat Simon Stiell said the following in his closing speech at the UN Climate Conference in June: “Don’t leave the hardest work to the eleventh hour. Business-as-usual is a recipe for failure, on climate finance, and on many other fronts, in humanity’s climate fight.” Thus, I hope, today’s conference will inspire everyone to work together, and to move urgently toward solving the climate crisis in the “Era of Green Transition.”

In closing, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the officials of the Financial Supervisory Service for organizing today’s conference. I would like to

encourage everyone to take advantage of this great conference for a better future for everyone for a sustainable future. Thank you very much!