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Opening Address

## Dr. Jae Eun Lee

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Dear ISCEM Members, Distinguished Scholars and Experts,

I am so delighted and honored to welcome you to the 18th International Conference on Crisis & Emergency Management. Since its beginning in 2005 at Chungbuk National University, ICCEM, our official annual conference, has been held every year for the past 18 years.

ICCEM has played a crucial role in sharing knowledge and insights on crisis & emergency management, disaster management, safety, risk, resilience, and vulnerability, and so on. Our discussions aim to build a safer and happier global society than yesterday. We have held the conference in various countries, such as Korea, Japan, China, the United States, Portugal, Switzerland, Singapore, Nepal, and Thailand. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued our mission through a hybrid format of online and offline sessions.

Our global community faces challenges from the climate crisis, the 4th Industrial Revolution, artificial intelligence, and space disasters, and so on. I am confident that ISCEM will keep contributing to the academic development of crisisology, disasterology ensuring our planet's safety and happiness.

As you know well, the main theme of the 18th ICCEM is "Responding to Extreme Disasters and Securing Human Dignity in the Era of Climate Crisis." This theme focuses on responding effectively to extreme disasters in the climate crisis era and seeking global cooperation to protect human dignity.

We aim to analyze the impact of climate change on disaster occurrence, discuss international standards and frameworks for disaster preparedness, and contribute to developing innovative strategies and policies in global crisis management.

I hope this conference will be a platform for sharing knowledge and fostering international cooperation to create a sustainable society. By protecting human dignity in the face of extreme disasters caused by the climate crisis, we aim to provide an opportunity for scholars and experts from international organizations like UNDRR and ADPC, and many countries to come together, adapt to the climate crisis era, explore innovative disaster management solutions, and develop strategies for a sustainable future.

Above all, I express my sincere gratitude to those who have taken the time out of their busy schedules to attend, present, lead discussions, and chair sessions. I also wish for the health and happiness of all the scholars and experts dedicated to advancing crisis management, disaster management, safety, and risk research and education.

Thank you.

July 12, 2024

Dr. Jae Eun Lee

Co-president, International Society for Crisis & Emergency Management

Co-chair, Organizing Committee of the 18th ICCEM