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Governor's Congratulatory Message

## Young Hwan Kim

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Distinguished Guests,

I am Young-Hwan Kim, Governor of Chungcheongbuk-do Province.

I would like to begin by expressing my sincerest gratitude to the International Association for Crisis Management and the National Crisis Management Research Institute of Chungbuk National University, as well as to all those involved, for their dedicated efforts in organizing the 18th International Crisis Management Conference.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the disaster management experts from various countries who have made the effort to join us despite the distances they have had to travel. I would also like to thank those who have participated as keynote speakers and panelists, who have done so despite their busy schedules.

The venue for this conference, Osong in Chungcheongbuk-do, is traversed by the Miho River, which is a national watercourse. This location holds a poignant memory for us, as it was struck by sudden torrential rains last summer, resulting in significant loss of life.

In light of this, Chungcheongbuk-do is taking steps to enhance its safety systems with a view to preventing such unfortunate incidents from occurring again. We are moving towards a prevention-focused framework, with thorough safety inspections to proactively prevent accidents and by reinforcing on-site disaster response systems. Furthermore, we have created the "Safe Chungbuk 2030 Vision and Strategy" to enhance our endeavours.

In light of the climate crisis brought on by extreme weather, we have also established the "Clear Water Project for the Miho River" master plan, which aims to create a harmonious coexistence between our citizens and nature. We are devoting our administrative resources to the transformation of the Miho River into an environment where safety and nature coalesce, with the aim of ensuring a sustainable future for our residents.

It is my sincere hope that this International Crisis Management Conference will contribute to improving disaster response systems in Chungcheongbuk-do and Korea, and that it will also offer effective strategies to address the global climate crisis faced by humanity.

We will be grateful for the valuable insights shared by all participants today and will do our utmost to incorporate them into our governance, with the aim of positioning Chungcheongbuk-do as the central hub of disaster safety in Korea. I would like to express my sincerest congratulations once again on the successful convening of this conference. I would also like to extend my heartfelt wishes for health and happiness to all the esteemed attendees and their families.

I would like to express my gratitude.

July, 2024  
Governor of Chungcheongbuk-do Province