Thank you Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the Korean delegation, I would like to express my appreciation for having us in the 59th (FIFTY-NINTH) Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) by the UNODC secretariat.

It is a great honor and pleasure for my delegation to participate in the meaningful Special Segment in preparation for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the world drug problem (UNGASS) in 2016. There is not a doubt that the upcoming UNGASS will contribute in addressing various international narcotic issues around the world.

I would like to say at the outset that the Korean Government has put forth much effort to fulfill the anti-narcotic commitments of the political declaration and have strongly supported UNODC and INCB with their leading roles in the fight against illicit narcotics and precursors, following major international drug control treaties.

Mr. Chairman,

The Korean Government established the National Drug Control Strategy in 1999 in the belief that the most effective way to address the drug issue is through policies aimed at rigorous supply control and demand reduction. In addition to comprehensive education and campaigns to protect youth from drug abuse, the Korean government provides full support for rehabilitation and treatment programs by funding hospitals and providing direct support to individual drug addicts.

Mr. Chairman,
The ROK Supreme Prosecutors' Office has been organizing a drug conference, the 'Anti-Drug Liaison Officials' Meeting for International Cooperation (or short for ADLOMICO)', since 1989 to share drug criminal information with more than 20 member countries. Drug law enforcement agencies in the Asia-Pacific region convene in this important event, to exchange information about drug trafficking organizations and their illicit activities, and establish a network for regional cooperation in order to tackle cross-border drug crimes.

In addition, as one of the ROK-ASEAN multilateral response to drug crime, the Asia-Pacific Information and Coordination Center for drug crime (APICC) was established by nine drug law enforcement agencies of ASEAN countries in 2012 with the objective of conducting a joint operational work against transnational drug crime in the region.

My delegation hopes that these anti-drug initiatives led by the Korean government at the national and regional levels will prove to be successful in fighting drug-trafficking and money-laundering. Furthermore, we hope for the continued support from neighboring countries and other member countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Before closing, I would like to once again reiterate that international cooperation is essential in all drug-related fields, and hope that the UNODC and INCB will continue to develop and carry out creative and meaningful initiatives in combating illegal drugs.

Thank you very much.

Republic of Korea