Mr. President,

It is my honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Republic of Korea

First, I would like to congratulate you and all other members of the Bureau on your election as officers of the 8th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. I would also like to thank the government of the United Arab Emirates for its hard work and great generosity as host Government.

The Korean government has made steady efforts to
follow up the recommendations issued during the first review process in relation to criminalization, law enforcement and international cooperation.

For example, the Korean government enacted the Improper Solicitation and Graft Act in March 2015. The Act introduced criminal liability for both individuals and legal persons making improper solicitations or offering graft.

Korea also amended the Criminal Act in May 2016 to punish a public official or relevant person who, in return for an improper solicitation, helps a third party to get financial or other advantages, and to confiscate such advantages.

There were meaningful amendments to the Public Interest Whistleblower Protection Act as well. The amended Act introduced punitive damage for whistleblowers experiencing disadvantages as a result of whistleblowing. Proxy reporting by a lawyer was also included to prevent the risk of disclosure of
whistleblowers’ personal information.

The Korean government is actively participating in the second review cycle now. Through the cooperation with more than 10 relevant agencies, the ACRC submitted the Self-Assessment Checklist responses for Korea’s second review cycle, which started on Jun 2019.

And during the onsite visit in next year, Korea will bring together government agencies, civil society organizations and experts to discuss areas which need more government efforts.

Mr. President,

The Korea government set the fight against corruption as the top priority among 100 government policy tasks and launched Anti-Corruption Policy Council chaired by the President, which established the five-year National Anti-corruption Plan.

In addition, a society-wide forum to discuss anti-
corruption policy, the Public–Private Council for Transparent Society collects opinions from various sectors. Such opinions are presented to the Anti-Corruption Policy Council, ensuring the reflection of citizen opinions in policies. The Council monitors government’s implementation of such policies as well.

Now let me introduce you Korea’s efforts to join the global anti-corruption efforts in line with implementation efforts of UNCAC.

First, through cooperative MOUs with other countries, Korea has regularly exchanged anti-corruption capacity-building experiences and information with countries around the world.

Second, with UNDP Seoul policy center, we have provided technical assistances to the countries wanting to learn Korea’s experience.

In addition, every year, the ACRC provides an anti-corruption training program for anti-corruption practitioners from 15 countries around the world.
Mr. President,

In June 2020, in partnership with the TI, Korea will host the International Anti-Corruption Conference, which will bring together all stakeholders from the public sector, private sector, and civil society organizations around the world. Under the theme of Designing 2030: Truth, Trust, and Transparency, participants will discuss various topics on these three key-words.

In parallel with the IACC, Korea will hold the 9th session of the Assembly of Parties of the International Anti-Corruption Academy. This is to set the stage for communication to share anti-corruption efforts and practices. I would like to kindly ask for your interest and participation in this meaningful global anti-corruption conference.

I sincerely hope to see you all in June next year in Seoul at the IACC. Thank you.