(Opening Remarks)

Good afternoon.
Honorable Chair,
Distinguished delegates and colleagues, 안녕하세요.

I am deeply honored and proud to be part of the ‘Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.’

Population ageing is an unavoidable global phenomenon that is or will be experienced by many Asia-Pacific countries, including ROK, and countries would have to devise solutions to the problems stemming from this phenomenon. In this regard, I’m convinced this is a very timely meeting.

MIPAA has been a guideline for many countries on the establishment and implementation of ageing related policies.

As this is also the case for Korea, I would like to take this opportunity to briefly introduce its ageing related policies.

(Korea’s Policies for Older Persons)

First, to encourage older persons to be active members of the society, Korea is increasing community-based volunteering opportunities and seeking ways to develop and promote age-friendly jobs.
Second, Korea is supporting various jobs and activities offered by both public and private sectors to provide supplemental income and ensure a healthy and meaningful life for older persons.

Third, for vulnerable older adults including those living alone, the National Elderly Care Service Program offers services such as learning activities, mobility assistance and housekeeping.

Fourth, Korea offers smart technology based services through the National Emergency Safety and Security Service Program to ensure the safety of the older persons.

As such, Korea is making keen efforts to encourage older adults to make social engagements, and prevent them from being exposed to the risk of dying alone due to isolation or alienation.

(Concluding Remarks)

Honorable delegates,
Korea will continue to establish and implement policy responses to population ageing in accordance with MIPAA.

I sincerely hope this three-day meeting will serve as a great opportunity for countries to share their various policies, experiences, and valued wisdom.

Thank you. 감사합니다.