

Statement by H.E. Mr. Lee Kyu-hyung
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Thank you, Madame Chairperson.

1. It is my great honour and privilege to participate as a discussant in this roundtable meeting.
2. First, allow me to congratulate the Co-chairs. Under your able leadership, I am confident that this gathering will have a useful and constructive outcome.
3. As the second discussant today, I am pleased to have heard the enlightening presentation of Professor Jeffrey Sachs who is well-known in Korea. We are all aware of his longstanding dedication to helping developing countries address the issue of development. For this, I would like to extend to him my deepest appreciation.
4. Within the limited time available to me, I would like to confine my remarks to discussing the primary engines for success in Korea's development. As you can see, Korea has transformed itself from one of the most under-developed countries in the 1960s to the 11th largest economy in the world today. If I may simplify the matter, development is the use of human resources under an official policy or strategy for national growth and economic betterment. Korea's experience of achievement within a relatively short time testifies to several of the most important elements of development, which are:

- First, the political will of national leadership to spare no effort in being free of corruption, and works mainly toward a national agenda, not for personal or political gain.
- Second, the willingness and readiness of people to form a national consensus for achievement through education, job training, and most importantly, through a “can-do” spirit.
- Third, a successful government policy implemented through a timely and relevant mobilization of national resources and, under an effective legal arrangement, with international assistance.

5. Before ending, I would like to stress the necessity of the ODA’s increase for helping developing countries implement a development strategy. With this in mind, and with our determination to join in enhancing global partnerships, Korea has pledged to double its development assistance by 2009. It recently announced a Korean “Initiative for African Development,” which includes plans to triple its development assistance to Africa and to expand its human resources development programs there. I am pleased to note that Korea is now favourably considering a domestic arrangement for establishing innovative sources of development financing.

Madame Chairperson,

6. I would like to conclude by referring to a phrase in the Monterrey Consensus: “... to build a global alliance for development will require an unremitting effort.”

I thank you very much.