

## Welcoming Remarks

**Dr. Yu-Mi Seo**

**Director**

**Ministry of Education & HRD of Korea**

*Mr. Hur, Nam Sik*

*Mayor of Busan Metropolitan city,*

*Dr. Kim, Inn-Se*

*President of Pusan National University,*

*Dr. YoungHwan Kim*

*Chair of the APEC Future Education Consortium,*

*Steering Committee members of the Consortium,*

*Mr. Francisco Benavides*

*Education Analyst of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and  
Development,*

*Distinguished guests, ladies, and gentlemen!*

*On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources  
Development of Korea, I have the honor to extend my warm welcome to  
you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> APEC Future Education Forum, the 4<sup>th</sup> International  
ALCoB Conference, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of APEC e-Learning Training  
Program in Busan, Korea.*

*Most of all, I would like to express my appreciation for your presence  
even though the weather has been extremely cold since around the end of  
this month.*

*In addition, I am also appreciative of earnest support of Dr. YoungHwan Kim, chair of the APEC Future Education Consortium and president of the Institute of APEC Collaborative Education as well as the staffs of the IACE for the success of these meaningful events.*

*Last year, as you might be aware, Korea was the host economy of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting 2005 under the theme of 'Towards One Community: Meet the Challenge, Make the Change.' All of member economies were together to carry the perspective into practice based on the consensus on longing for shared prosperity in the APEC region.*

*I believe that all of us already put our ideal into practice as a pioneer in dreaming of ideal future education.*

*With the launching the Consortium for APEC Cyber Education Cooperation (ACEC), we set up the APEC Learning Community Builders, ALCoB which is regarded as one of prominent group for international cooperation in education.*

*Based on the outcomes of the ALCoB, 15 participating member economies have agreed to crystallize the vision of future education as a key to open the door called as 'bright future' and implemented the projects like APEC ICT Model School Network, APEC Future Education Forum, and the APEC Future Education Report in establishing the APEC Future Education Consortium at the 3<sup>rd</sup> APEC Education Ministerial Meeting.*

*In addition, we are successfully implementing the APEC e-Learning Training Program which was recognized at the 27<sup>th</sup> APEC Human Resources Development Meeting in 2005 for narrowing the digital divide in the APEC region through e-Learning.*

*As one of participating member economies, Korea has contributed to fostering and enhancing educational and cultural exchanges for mutual understanding and theoretical and practical cooperative activities between member economies in supporting knowledge and information of IT and HRD. In particular, the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development of Korea has continued to promote the campaign of 'globalization of e-Learning' as one of these efforts.*

*Distinguished guests!*

*I remember that you were here in Busan to carry out the ways to materialize the vision of shared prosperity in the APEC region at the 1<sup>st</sup> APEC Future Education Forum and the 3<sup>rd</sup> International ALCoB Conference and now see that you are here in Busan to make the plans of last year come true and plan a new step forward bright future for our next generations.*

*Today, I am confident that all of you can get precious results from these events and enlarge those outcomes for all of APEC member economies. In addition, I will remember this moment and realize our continuous*

*efforts for accomplishing the vision of the APEC Shared Prosperity in the next year.*

*Once again, I would like to deliver my gratitude to you and pray for the success of each event.*

*Thank you.*