

## 한국경제학회 창립 60주년 기념 제15차 국제학술대회 : 한국개발연구원 원장 만찬사\*

Oh-Seok Hyun (President, Korea Development Institute (KDI))

Good Evening, honorable Hwang-sik Kim, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, honorable Hyun-Jae Lee, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, Dr. Manwoo Lee, President of the Korean Economic Association (KEA), Dr. Christopher Sims, Professor of Princeton University, distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen,

Let me begin by expressing my warmest congratulations on the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean Economic Association, which has represented Korea's economics profession in the last sixty years and has worked as a focal point for economists in both the private and public sectors.

It is indeed a great honor for me to give a speech for this farewell dinner and to personally congratulate the successful conclusion of the KEA's 15<sup>th</sup> international conference on "Prospects for the Future: Shaping New Approaches and Issues in Economics."

Each KEA conference has provided opportunities to share information and

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\* 2012년 6월 20일(수) ~ 21일(목), 고려대학교 인촌기념관 및 국제관에서 개최된 한국경제학회 창립 60주년 기념 제15차 국제학술대회(주제: Prospects for the Future: Shaping New Approaches and Issues in Economics) 둘째 날인 6월 21일(목) 저녁, 롯데호텔에서 개최된 만찬에서의 현오석 한국개발연구원 원장의 만찬사임을 밝힙니다.

experience in various economic fields. Distinguished domestic and foreign scholars have been invited to join as well as researchers and policy-makers to exchange their insight and knowledge.

As you are aware, we are faced with the rapidly changing global environment. Endless challenges are arising and posing direct obstacles to the survival of each nation. I strongly believe that the KEA's enormous efforts will contribute to Korea's long-term economic growth and social progress by proposing policy alternatives on key national issues as well as promoting academic research.

KDI has maintained a close partnership with the KEA in these efforts ever since it was first established in 1971. We have co-hosted many conferences in various economic issues and have participated in joint researches and projects.

Last year marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of KDI. All these years, KDI has been committed to conducting in-depth analyses of the Korean economy and providing high-quality policy recommendations to the government. As the leading think-tank of Korea, KDI has performed research in extensive areas of social science, including macroeconomics, industry, trade, financial markets, education, social welfare, and the North Korean economy. Unlike other organizations in specific fields of study, KDI has always emphasized a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach in understanding Korea's socioeconomic conditions and developing policy options.

As of 2012, the KEA is sixty years old, which Koreans call *Isun*. The expression *Isun* is derived from Confucius' quote, "At sixty, my ear was obedient for the reception of truth", meaning that a person becomes more prone to truth and knowledge and keen on decision-making. I hope that the KEA will also open its ears to the changing environment which we live in and put its efforts in contributing to the betterment of the world.

In celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I hope that KEA's next 60 years to come will contribute more actively to diverse perspectives and ideas to enrich the future of Korean society and economy, and the integration of all to create synergies.

I do not want to keep you from your dinner since you had a full day of long discussion and debates. So, I would like to end my speech by saying thank you for your great contribution and surely your participation in this conference made the world of difference.

Again, congratulations on KEA's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Thank you.