

**2023 International Conference**  
**“Change the world with Green Finance”**

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**Welcoming Remarks**

**Eun Mee Kim**(President, Ewha Womans University)

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Lee San-bong Hall, Ewha Womans University

## Welcoming Remarks

### “Change the world with Green Finance”

Greetings from Ewha Womans University!

My name is Eun Mee Kim and I am the President of Ewha Womans University.

Welcome to all the guests and participants who have joined us at Ewha to participate in the International Conference on “Change the world with Green Finance.” It is a great honor to host the International Conference at Ewha with the Financial Supervisory Service since 2019.

I would like to welcome and thank Governor Lee Bok-hyun<sup>이복현</sup> and the officials of the Financial Supervisory Service for their support for today's conference.

I would like to welcome and thank His Excellency Colin Crooks<sup>콜린 크룩스</sup>, Ambassador of the United Kingdom; His Excellency Peter van der Vliet<sup>페터 반 더 플리트</sup>, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Her Excellency Sabrina Meersohn Meinecke<sup>사브리나 미어슨 마이네케</sup>, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Denmark; Chairman Yoon Jong Kyoo<sup>윤종규</sup> of the KB Financial Group; Chairman Jin Okdong<sup>진옥동</sup> of the Shinhan Financial Group; Chairman Ham Young-joo<sup>함영주</sup> of the Hana Financial Group; Chairman Yim Jong-Yong<sup>임종룡</sup> of the Woori Financial Group; Chairman Lee Seok-joon<sup>이석준</sup> of the NongHyup Financial Group; and President Choi Heung Jin<sup>최흥진</sup> of

the Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute; and ladies and gentlemen. Although unable to attend in person, I would give my warmest gratitude to Chairperson Back Hyeryun<sup>백혜련</sup> of the National Policy Committee; His Excellency former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon<sup>반기문</sup>; and Her Excellency Maria Castillo Fernandez<sup>마리아 카스티요 페르난데즈</sup>, Ambassador of the European Union in the Republic of Korea for sharing their congratulatory remarks on video.

We are reminded of the powerful forces of climate change as we have witnessed first-hand throughout the world, earthquakes, wild fires, heat waves, flooding, cyclones and typhoons that have devastated all corners of the world leaving many lives lost and livelihoods damaged. We pray for the people who lost their lives and their families most recently in the wild fires in Hawaii and Canada. Each year since 2019, we have come together at Ewha to discuss the challenges of climate change, and how we can mitigate the damages of climate change for a more sustainable society. However, we find that the threats of climate change to our lives are unfolding more rapidly than our efforts to address them.

In July 2023, the UN Secretary-General stated, "The era of global warming has ended and the era of global boiling has arrived." If we have contemplated seeking better directions and solutions during the era of global warming, we need to be more proactive in leading the change for a sustainable society during the era of global boiling.

At this juncture, Green Finance, which simultaneously pursues the transition to an eco-friendly social structure and the development of the financial industry through initiatives such as expanding ESG investments,

issuing green bonds, supporting low-carbon transformation companies and providing funding for renewable and sustainable ventures, emerges as a powerful tool and opportunity to respond to the challenges of the new era. This approach can propose a new paradigm across the entire social and economic system, leading to structural changes. Projects, investments, and financial innovations centered on a sustainable future can play a crucial role in addressing climate change. I hope that today's conference will serve as a time to reaffirm our commitment and serve as an opportunity to shore up our collective promise to work together.

The 5th Future Finance A.I. Challenge, the event which focuses on innovative ideas in future finance, will provide young participants with opportunities to gain new insights and find solutions with their creative ideas. I would like to congratulate all the participants who have made it to the finals, and encourage them to showcase their great ideas. I would also like to extend my gratitude once again to the KB Financial Group for its support for the Future Finance A.I. Challenge.

The MZ Job Fair, in which domestic and international companies participate to support young people's entry into the green and innovation sectors, will be a platform of opportunity for future leaders. I encourage you to focus on the insights shared by representatives from the participating companies including KB Financial Group, Shinhan Financial Group, Hana Financial Group, Woori Financial Group, NongHyup Financial Group, Industrial Bank of Korea, Hanwha Solutions, Hanwha Investment & Securities, Kakao Pay, Naver Financial, Toss Bank, Toss Invest, Viva Republica, ING Bank, and Financial Supervisory Service. Their presentations on their company's future growth prospects and role will offer

valuable insights into the sustainable society and future of finance that our students will lead.

Ewha Womans University is committed to fostering innovation across education, research, and industry-academia collaboration with the vision of establishing a “Creative and Innovative Platform Leading to a Sustainable Society.” Through initiatives such as the Ewha’s Frontier 10-10 Project, which aims to develop a world-class research infrastructure, we seek to take the lead in creating a better future society and nurturing the potential of tomorrow’s leaders, thereby fulfilling the role as a university that paves the way towards a sustainable society. Remembering Ewha’s pioneering history of 137 years, we are committed to follow the path of innovation and change as trailblazers, leading us into a new era amidst the uncertainties posed by climate change and the volatility of the global economy.

As the International Conference "Change the world with Green Finance" begins today, I hope that the discussions among international financial industry experts on ESG and green finance will be a catalyst in realizing a sustainable world and generating value for the future.

Once again, I would like to welcome all our distinguished guests for joining us today, hope that you will have a fruitful discussion and lead us toward a more sustainable future. Thank you very much!