**[ the Second Seoul City Human Rights Action Plan (2018-2022) ]**

**Introduction : the Blueprint for Seoul City’s Human Rights Policies**

In 2012, Seoul City enacted a human rights ordinance and installed the Human Rights Department. In 2013 the City established the First Human Rights Action Plan, the first comprehensive plan that incorporated the value of human rights into public administration.

In 2018, Seoul City has conducted the monitoring of the first five-year Human Rights Action Plan and established the Second Human Rights Action Plan, a blueprint for the direction of Seoul City’s human rights policies for the next five years, from 2018 to 2022.

The first plan laid the foundation for human rights-based public administration by incorporating the value of human rights into it for the first time in Korea and addressing issues related to human rights blind spots in everyday life. And the second plan will take a step further towards achieving an ‘inclusive human rights community’.

**Planning Process : ensuring participation**

Seoul City started formulation of the Second Human Rights Action Plan in April, 2017 and completed it in ten months by working with the research team, the Human Rights Committee of Seoul City and the Human Rights Department, and by incorporating opinions from human rights organizations and citizens from all walks of life, and relevant bureaus and departments of Seoul City.

In doing so, Seoul City held meetings with civil organizations and conducted Delphi surveys, focus group interview, human rights policy meetings, public hearings, and meetings with relevant departments and bureaus.

In these processes of ensuring participation, an inclusive and feasible plan could be established and awareness of human rights could be more raised.

**Details**

The vision of the plan is ‘Seoul as an inclusive and participatory human rights city for all’. The plan consists of 4 policy goals, 10 core tasks, 37 projects, and 100 subprojects (30 ongoing and 70 new projects). The details are as follows.

**The first policy goal is to improve human rights in citizens’ life**.

Seoul will identify social minorities who live in human rights blind spots and suffer from social prejudice and provide them with counseling, support victims of human rights violations, and stage campaigns designed to raise social awareness of human rights for them.

Part-time youth workers tend to work in poor working conditions both physically and legally. In order to address the issue, Seoul City plans to monitor part-time youth workers and provide them with education on labor rights and counseling services for the protection of their human rights and promotion of respect for labor.

Furthermore, the city will protect and support victims of dating violence and serious cybersex crimes, who have fallen through the cracks of the legal system, by running the Women’s Safety Service program.

In addition, the City will provide single parents and unwed mothers with customized counseling services in partnership with the Outreach Community Center.

The ‘Human Rights Watchdog in Demolition Sites’, which consists of a group of lawyers and public officials, will monitor the human rights of street vendors and individual shop owners as well.

**The second policy goal is to create human rights-friendly urban space**.

Seoul City also plans to push the policy designed to create urban environments in which people with disabilities can live as valuable members of the community and improve the right to housing for precarious workers.

While Seoul stressed the creation of independent living training centers and deinstitutionalization for people with disabilities in the First Human Rights Action Plan(2013-2017), it takes a step further to speed up deinstitutionalization and the renovation of residential facilities as part of a paradigm shift in the welfare of people with disabilities.

In addition, the city will create barrier-free environments for mobility disadvantaged people such as children, people with disabilities and the elderly, as well as people carrying heavy loads and travelers with luggage, to have easy access to their destination.

**The third policy goal is to develop human rights culture to respect differences.**

The city will disseminate a human rights culture with respect for difference by staging campaigns designed to raise public awareness of diversity and the value of inclusion, and combat sexism and hatred against social minorities.

In accordance with the demand for measures to address sexism and deepening hatred, Seoul City will make an effort to raise public awareness of sexual equality through education and citizen-participatory campaigns.

In order to promote diversity while combating prejudice against social minorities, Seoul City, a global city with a population of over 10 million people, plans to formulate a policy designed to promote diversity not as a reason for conflict but as a driving force behind city competitiveness.

**The forth policy goal is to enhance human rights system and governance.**

Seoul City will also adopt the Human Rights Impact Assessment, similar to the impact assessment of gender, environment, and transportation, which analyzes and assesses the potential impact of a policy on human rights.

As the first local government that gives human rights education to public officials once a year at the Human Rights Academy, Seoul City plans to expand the education both qualitatively and quan titatively.

In addition, Seoul City will increase citizen’s participation in policy making processes on human rights.

**These policies are connected to the provisions of the 2030 Agenda.**

These policies are expected to contribute to SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reducing inequalities), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), etc.

**Closing remarks**

Seoul City has conducted the monitoring of the first five-year Human Rights Action Plan and established the Second Human Rights Action Plan. As it was pointed out that the first Plan lacked sustainability, Seoul City has decided to create a monitoring system, ensure the sustainability of the plan by training the relevant public officials, and hold a human rights policy meeting led by mayor of Seoul once a year.

As it has also been pointed out that changing roles may hamper the continuity of the plan, Seoul City plans to educate the relevant public officials on a regular basis and reflect problems and revisions for the improvement of the continuity and efficiency of the plan.

To ensure the effectiveness of its human rights policy, Seoul City will gather opinions from citizens, human rights activists, and experts about human rights-oriented public administration, to resonate with citizens and actively protect citizens’ human rights.

Seoul City expects that the second Action Plan will ease social tension and conflicts, and contribute to shaping Seoul into a human rights community for all.

**[ Cooperative System ]**

**Implementation System of Human Rights Administration**

Seoul’s human rights policy is being carried out by a team of experts including the officials working in the human rights division, the “Human Rights Ombudsman” which investigates human rights violations filed by citizens, and the “Human Rights Commission,” which combines public and private expertise.

Human Rights Governance

**Interaction with the civil society**

1) Engaging with human rights organizations

Seoul City strives to form healthy relationships with human rights organizations by arranging meetings and promoting active communication.

2) Supporting human rights protection and promotional projects

Seoul City supports non-profit organizations and corporations that promote projects related to improving human rights of the citizens, in order to efficiently identify and discourage human rights violations.

3) Human Rights Protecting Group at Demolition Sites

The Human rights Protecting Group at Demolition Sites is formed in cooperation with the Seoul Bar Association to protect residents at demolition sites through monitoring and preventing violation of their human rights such as violence in the process of demolition.

**Human Rights City Network Conference among Metropolitan Governments**

Seoul City began establishing a large-scale human rights network in 2015, along with the increased demand for execution of human rights policies on the local government level. In 2016, it established the Human Rights City Network to share tasks related to human rights administration among local governments and to discuss development methods.

**International Collaboration, Seoul Human Rights Conference**

Seoul City intends to hold annual international conferences, which began with the 2016 Seoul Human Rights Conference, in order to facilitate exchanges and cooperation among human rights governance organizations and local governments from Korea and around the world.

**< Attachment >**

Introduction to Seoul Human Rights Governance (including law, system, 2nd Action Plan, programs, etc.)

The First Seoul City Human Rights Action Plan

Evaluation Report on the first Action Plan(summary)

Program Book of Seoul Human Rights Conference 2016 - 2018