

**International Workshop on Environmental Contamination by Hazardous Substances
Closing Remarks**

Dr. KO Yunhwa
President, National Institute of Environmental Research

I'd like to thank all of you for delivering valuable presentations about environmental pollutions caused by toxic hazardous materials at this international workshop. The workshop enables us to identify key environmental issues relating to POPs and EDCs and related research areas of each other. In addition, we realized that we could learn many things from the accumulated research experiences of other countries.

Currently, we are witnessing rapid industrialization in line with eye-catching economic development. As a result, however, we are producing and using numerous toxic chemicals, which are being exposed to the environment and pose a threat to human health and ecosystem.

Accordingly, toxic chemical management including monitoring of POPs and EDCs relating materials in our environment, studies on environmental health and risk assessment are getting more important. At the view of point, having this workshop is meaningful and timely as it provides a venue for us to identify common environmental concerns and to exchange accumulated experiences, from which we may explore a joint research project to cooperate each other.

I strongly hope that the three research institutes will consolidate tripartite cooperation in order to establish toxic chemical management system, including development of test methods, monitoring of environmental exposures and their health effects.

Now, before I close my remarks, I'd like to extend my gratitude to all the speakers and moderators.

Thank you.