

## OKA and Chungbuk Province sign agreement to help local businesses and youth enter overseas markets

OKA Commissioner Lee to utilize overseas Korean business network to help Chungbuk companies expand overseas opportunities

The Overseas Koreans Agency (Commissioner Lee Sang-duk) and North Chungcheong Province (Gov. Kim Young-hwan) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on April 17 during the 23rd World Korean Business Convention (WKBC) in Atlanta, Georgia, United States, to cooperate to help local businesses and youth in Chungbuk successfully expand overseas.

Through this agreement, the two organizations will work together to strengthen the global capabilities of youth in the province by actively exploring overseas expansion opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises in the Chungbuk region through the use of overseas Korean networks around the world and providing internship opportunities at overseas Korean companies to outstanding talents in the region.

Every year, the OKA sends about 30 young Koreans to intern at overseas Korean companies around the world, and this year, as part of the follow-up to the 22nd WKBC, the organization plans to send 10 more students from North Jeolla Province through a pilot project with the region.



OKA Commissioner Lee Sang-duk (L) poses for a photo with North Chungcheong Province Gov. Kim Young-hwan after signing an MOU together on April 17.

## OKA discusses cooperation with Kazakhstan's Koryo community

Policy Director Lee Ki-sung meets with Shin Andrei, chairman of Almaty Koryo National Association

The Overseas Koreans Agency (Commissioner Lee Sang-duk) has begun gathering the opinions of the Koryo community to seek pathways for development and cooperation.

Lee Ki-sung, director of overseas Korean policy at the OKA, met with Shin Andrei, a member of the Almaty City Council and chairman of the Almaty Koryo National Association, at the OKA headquarters in Songdo, Incheon, on April 7 to learn about the current status of the Kazakh Koryo community and discuss future cooperation.

During the meeting, Shin said the Koryo community in Kazakhstan is active and explained the K-PARK project in Almaty, which is being promoted by the community, as well as the Koryo compatriots' homeland visit project.

Lee explained the projects that the OKA is implementing to support the Koryo diaspora and suggested that the OKA and the Almaty Koryo Central Committee continue to communicate and work together to ensure the stable resettlement of the Koryo diaspora.

Shin is the CEO of Shin Line Group and a member of the Almaty



Lee Ki-sung (R), director of policy at the OKA, met with Shin Andrei, a member of the Almaty City Council and chairman of the Almaty Koryo National Association, at the OKA headquarters in Songdo, Incheon, on April 7 to discuss cooperation.

City Council, and in September 2022, he became the chairman of the Almaty Koryo National Committee. Founded in 1989, the organization is actively engaged in preserving and inheriting Korean culture, promoting Korean language education, expanding exchanges and cooperation with South Korea, and promoting harmony among ethnic minorities in Kazakhstan.