

## OKA Commissioner Kim states, 'We will go beyond connecting overseas Korean communities to strengthening solidarity'

'We will foster overseas Koreans' identity and expand tailored support, among other initiatives'



OKA Commissioner Kim Kyung-hyup delivers his inaugural address at his inauguration ceremony at the main office in Songdo, Incheon, on Sept. 10.

OKA Commissioner Kim Kyung-hyup said on Sept. 10, "Going beyond mere connection, we will strengthen solidarity with the overseas Korean community."

Speaking at his inauguration ceremony held in the main auditorium of the headquarters in Yeonsu-gu, Incheon, Kim said: "We will actively connect the experience, knowledge and global networks possessed by our overseas compatriots with our society in Korea. The government will support the private diplomacy activities of our compatriots and establish a solidarity platform enabling experts in various fields to collaborate with their homeland."

Kim further declared his commitment to actively nurture the identity of overseas Koreans, emphasizing, "We will significantly expand support for Hangeul schools to systematize Korean language education programs for the next generation of overseas Koreans."

### Emphasis on systematizing Korean language education programs for next generation of compatriots

"We will expand tailored support for overseas compatriots commensurate with our national stature while also meticulously preparing policies to ensure individuals from diverse backgrounds, such as children from multicultural families, adopted compatriots and those with unique historical circumstances, can feel a sense of

belonging as members of the Korean nation," Kim said.

Furthermore, he expressed his commitment to strengthening support for the increasing number of compatriots residing domestically while also attracting young overseas compatriots to Korea and supporting their settlement. This aims to actively utilize the capabilities of compatriots worldwide to contribute to securing future growth engines for the Republic of Korea.

Newly appointed Commissioner Kim served as a member of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, the Intelligence Committee and the Special Committee on Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation during the 19th, 20th and 21st National Assemblies. He currently chairs the Democratic Party of Korea's Special Committee on the Economy of the Korean Peninsula.

The presidential office has previously talked about the background of Commissioner Kim's appointment on Sept. 9, stating: "He is a foreign affairs and security expert with diverse political experience gained through his service as a three-term lawmaker and his activities on the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, Intelligence Committee and Special Committee on Inter-Korean Economic Cooperation. Notably, while serving as a lawmaker, he proposed the Framework Act on Overseas Koreans, which included the establishment of the Overseas Koreans Agency."