

Letter of Commitment for Re-accreditation to the WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

Dear Members and Officials of the WHO Global Network
for Age-friendly Cities and Communities,

Warm greetings. My name is Yi-gang Kim, Mayor of
Seo-gu, Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special
Metropolitan City.

Seo-gu has consistently dedicated its efforts to
cultivating an age-friendly community where all
generations respect one another and coexist
harmoniously, ensuring a high quality of life for all
residents as they age.

As of July 2026, the proportion of residents aged 65 and
older in our district surpassed 20%, marking our
transition into a super-aged society. This demographic
shift calls for proactive adaptations and transformative
approaches across all areas of our community—including
elder care, public health, and social participation, as
well as the overall quality of life for older persons.

Building an age-friendly city is no longer merely a
matter of senior welfare; it has become a fundamental
imperative to create an environment where every

individual can lead a healthy, safe life and remain actively engaged in the community throughout the aging process.

Building upon our achievements and past experience, Seo-gu is committed to advancing toward a more progressive and resilient age-friendly city that effectively addresses the challenges of a super-aged society.

Under the 3rd Age-friendly City Master Plan, guided by the vision of “Together Seo-gu, Smart Age-friendly City,” our district will advance age-friendly policies anchored in three core philosophies: Active Ageing, Ageing in Place, and Intergenerational Solidarity.

To bring this vision to fruition, we have established four key strategic priorities:

- "A City of Fulfilling Lives"
- "A City Safeguarding Safety"
- "A City Promoting Health"
- "A City Sharing Happiness “

Through these initiatives, we will improve the living environment so that older adults can enjoy a healthy and vibrant later life in their familiar surroundings, while

actively expanding opportunities for social participation and intergenerational exchange.

Furthermore, we will continuously incorporate the voices of older adults and all residents into policy formulation and implementation. By regularly reviewing our policy outcomes in partnership with the local community, we will continue to refine tangible age-friendly initiatives that genuinely resonate with our citizens.

Through these concerted efforts, we will realize our vision of “Together Seo-gu, Smart Age-friendly City,” where all generations thrive together and where everyone can sustain a healthy, happy life in the community they call home.

We look forward to fostering continued exchange and close collaboration between Seo-gu, Jeonnam-Gwangju, and the WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities as we work together toward a better future.

Sincerely,

September 2026

Yi-gang Kim

Mayor, Seo-gu District

Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special Metropolitan City