

Official Letter from Mapo-gu District

Letter of Application for the Renewal of WHO Global Network for Age friendly Cities and Communities Membership

To the Esteemed Officials of the WHO Global Network for Age friendly Cities and Communities,

Greetings. I am Park Kang-su, Mayor of Mapo-gu District

As global aging progresses rapidly worldwide, we extend our profound respect and support for the endeavors of the WHO Global Network for Age friendly Cities and Communities to create environments where all generations can live together harmoniously.

Our Mapo-gu District is a central urban area of Seoul with over 70 years of history and tradition, a dynamic region where transportation, culture, and industry converge.

Mapo-gu has established "New Mapo, Better Mapo" as our municipal governance objective, and we have been advancing policies to create a city where all residents can age healthily and safely, and furthermore, where all generations can live together happily.

As of April 2025, among Mapo-gu's total population of 360,144 residents, approximately 60,000 individuals — representing 16.8% — are aged 65 and above, indicating our entry into an aged society. Accordingly, Mapo-gu recognizes its responsibilities as an age-friendly city and strives to respond proactively to these demographic changes.

Since our initial membership in the Age-Friendly Cities Global Network in 2020, Mapo-gu has established and implemented a three-year action plan, refined institutional foundations, and pursued region-specific policies. We have evaluated and supplemented these results to fulfill our role as a member city of the GNAFCC.

This second-phase age-friendly city initiative adopts the vision of "A New Era of 100-Year Life: , Smart Age-Friendly City Mapo" and establishes four strategic objectives for implementation:

- "Safe and Convenient Mapo"
- "Mapo with Intergenerational Communication and Empathy"
- "Healthy and Vibrant Mapo"
- "Mapo Combining Technology and Care"

Based on this vision and strategy, Mapo-gu is working to materialize policies that reflect WHO's eight domains and ensure that these efforts translate into substantive changes that incorporate the voices of our senior citizens.

Mapo-gu will continue to strengthen cooperation with member cities of the WHO Global Network for Age friendly Cities and Communities and work toward creating a city where everyone can live healthily regardless of age.

We hope that continuous exchange and cooperation between the WHO Global Network for Age friendly Cities and Communities and Mapo-gu will become increasingly active.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

June, 2025

Park Kang-su, Mayor of Mapo-gu District