

Dear Sir/Madam

It is my pleasure to express our respect and gratitude to the WHO, which operates the Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, to satisfy the desire for healthy and happy old age of the elderly around the world.

Uiryeong-gun is an agricultural city located in the center of the southern end of Korea, and is a beautiful small city with a population of about 26,000.

It includes a beautiful natural environment and various traditional cultures that have been inherited throughout the long history of the city.

The proportion of the elderly population aged 65 or older in our city reached 38.6% as of the end of February 2022, and the proportion of the elderly population is rapidly increasing by more than 1.3% each year.

Since the continuous increase and aging trend of the elderly population has a great influence on the social, economic, cultural aspects, medical, and health sectors of Uiryeong-gun, it is time to establish a long-term and continuous aging policy and create an elderly-friendly city where all generations can live regardless of age.

Our city has been implementing various policies for the better welfare of the elderly, however, we feel the need to change the countermeasures of the elderly society more dramatically and systematically, and we expect that WHO's "joinment of the World Aging City Network" will make it possible.

As a preliminary effort to this end, our city enacted the Age-Friendly City Ordinance in cooperation with the city council, and conducted research on the creation of an age-friendly city over the past six months.

First of all, we surveyed about 300 residents based on the eight areas presented in the WHO's Age-Friendly City Guidelines and conducted FGI(Focus Group Interview) for age-friendly diagnosis with a group of experts, formed an Age-Friendly City Development Committee with public officials and civic groups, and established a three-year (2023-2025) implementation plan.

Our city would like to set the vision of an age-friendly city as “100 years old city that wants to live together, Uiryeong, a hometown of loyalty,” and take a step toward the future with “creating a safe and livable infrastructure” , “creating a happy and warm community” , and “a vital and healthy life for the elderly.”

In line with the WHO's guide, our city will discover and implement policies that properly respond to the aging of the citizens and create a city where all citizens can live a good life. We will spare no passion for reorganizing and redesigning the physical and social environment.

We are very happy to apply for the designation of the WHO's Age-Friendly City Global Network, and we hope our city will comply with the WHO's guide, share information with all other member cities, and give us a great opportunity to grow into a true age-friendly city.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

Respectfully submitted,

2022. 9.



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Tae wan Oh

Mayor of Uiryeong-Gun, Gyeongsangnam-do, Republic of Korea