Congratulatory Comment

Congratulatory comment from Korean Medical Association

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Daezip Choi

President of Korean Medical Association

My deepest and most sincere congratulations on the inaugural publication of the *Journal of Global Health Science (JGHS)*.

I would also like to express my respect and gratitude to Dr. Sung Tae Hong, Chairman of *JGHS*, Dr. Jaewook Choi, Director of *JGHS*, Dr. Juhwan Oh, Editor-in-Chief of *JGHS*, and all the members of the *JGHS* for their contribution to the publication.

International healthcare is critical in official development assistance and international development cooperation, and its level of importance will continue to grow. The government and civil society are also expected to play an increasingly greater role in its participation.

As the international development cooperation trend is expected to increase in quantity, the level of importance of Korea's international development cooperation will gain more ground in the international community. However, concerns have been raised including fragmentation of aid as Korea, an official donor country, has a short history and lacks experience.

The founding of the Korean Society of Global Health, in 2013, adds great historical significance as it provides opportunities for training, research and sharing of findings with experts, researchers, policy makers and specialists from different fields such as the academic society, the civil society organization, the aid agencies, and governments.

Since its inception, we have implemented our mandate by hosting 2 annual academic conferences and addressing issues in diverse fields; global health status, health, health care policy, international relations, and governance. I would like to take this moment to thank you for your endeavors in leading the development of Korea's international healthcare.

Korea, a country that successfully transitioned from a recipient to a donor is becoming one the most prominent countries in the field of healthcare as a leader in international cooperation.

Despite the challenges and short history of culminating valuable experiences and excellent manpower resources in the healthcare field, we hope to promote health and contribute to the establishment of health care system around the world.

Looking forward, the implementation of a sustainable and effective international healthcare cooperation requires a more systemic research and education environment. In order to take

a leap further we will need to establish a more robust foundation based on theories with principles and directions.

In that sense, I believe that the *JGHS* was founded based on those same principles. Once again, congratulations. All the best in becoming the channel of communication between the international healthcare community in Korea and the international community through your academic activities.