**The Response of the Republic of Korea**

**for the Preparation of the Report on Local Government and Human Rights**

**by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**I. General Information**

Local Governments of the Republic of Korea are classified into the following two types by their levels: a) Wide-Area (Metropolitan) Governments consisting of a Special Metropolitan City, Metropolitan Cities, Provinces (“Do”) and a Special Autonomous Province, and b) Basic (Primary) Governments consisting of Cities, Counties, and Districts. This response is based on the responses from Category A metropolitan governments of the Republic of Korea.

**II. Law, policies and programmes that have been explicitly developed by local authorities to promote and protect human rights**

A large number of local governments in the Republic of Korea have their ordinances on protection and promotion of human rights. The ordinances indicate general policy directions for protection and promotion of human rights, including the establishment of local human rights committees, the adoption of human rights action plans, and the implementation of campaigns to raise public awareness on the importance of human rights.

First of all, the establishment of local human rights committees is one of the most frequently used policies on human rights by local governments. The fundamental function of a human rights committee is to review the human rights action plan of its local government and to advise on local human rights issues. Local governments ensure that local human rights committees are established and operated through an inclusive and participatory process.

Second, local governments also have their own local human rights action plans in accordance with National Human Rights Action Plan (NAP), which are often drafted with the engagement of local human rights committees. Several local governments have such plans (See Table 1).

Table 1 Local Human Rights Action Plans

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| City/Province | Details |
| The Province of Chungnam(Chungcheongnam-do) | ▪The 1st Basic Plan for Human Rights Policy* Vision: Human Rights Chungcheongnam-do, where everyone is happy
* Goals: a) Promotion of human rights for social minorities, b) Improvement of (local) human rights mechanism, c) Human rights education/Human rights culture, and d) Cooperative system for human rights.
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| Gwangju Metropolitan City | * The 1st Basic Plan for a Human Rights City (2012-2016), 2nd Basic Plan (2018-2022) and Annual Action Plan
* The 2nd Plan was established after conducting a comprehensive survey on the human rights situation of the city, holding expert meetings on socially disadvantaged people, administering consultations with service units, and overseeing a review of the Citizen Committee of Human Rights Promotion.
* The annual action plan of the Basic Plan consists of 123 policy tasks in 6 areas, including i) promotion of human rights for social minorities, ii) human rights system and human rights administration, iii) formation of a human rights community culture, iv) establishment of a human rights cooperation system, v) strengthening the status of Gwangju as a human rights city, and vi) implementation of the Gwangju Human Rights Charter.
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| Seoul Special Metropolitan City | ▪ The 1st Action Plan(2013), 2nd Action Plan(2018)* The Seoul Government drafted the 2nd Action Plan by collaborating with a research team, the Human Rights Committee and the Human Rights Department of the Seoul Government as well as incorporating opinions from human rights organizations, citizens, and relevant bureaus of the Seoul Government.
* Vision: Seoul as an inclusive and participatory human rights city for all
* Goals: a) To improve human rights in citizens’ life, b) To create a human rights-friendly urban space, c) To develop a human rights culture that respects differences, and d) To enhance the human rights system and governance.
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| Ulsan Metropolitan City | * Basic Plan for Promotion of Human Rights
* The Plan proposed human rights promotion goals in 75 fields in 6 categories for the period 2016-2020.
* Based on the Plan, 15 departments of the city set up the detailed implementation plans every year and implement the planned projects.
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Third, there are also public events to raise public awareness on human rights as well as human rights education for various stakeholders including government officials and citizens (See Table 2).

Table 2 Public Events and Education for Human Rights

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| City/Province | Details |
| The Province of Chungnam(Chungcheongnam-do) | * Human Rights Education, Human Rights Week
* The Chungcheongnam-do Government has been offering a human rights education program (which is especially mandatory for public officials) since 2015, holding human rights-themed contests for essays, poems, posters and photographs, and commemorating the Human Rights Week which includes panel discussions, plays, movies, and talk shows.
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| Daegu Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Week
* The Daegu Government commemorates Human Rights Day (Dec. 10) by hosting various events as a part of the Human Rights Week, in which local organizations also participate. The events include human rights talk shows, film festivals, special lectures, public discussions, etc.
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| Daejeon Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Education, Human Rights Newspaper
* The Daejeon Government offers human rights education programs to citizens, government officials and social workers as well. Also, the Government nominates citizen reporters for human rights issues for the Human Rights Newspaper.
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| Gwangju Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Education
* In 2017, 275,079 people (including students from preschool to university, public officials, socially vulnerable groups, and employees in social service facilities) participated in human rights education programs of the Gwangju Government.
* Human Rights Neighborhood Project
* The project aims to create a human rights culture and improve the human rights environment at the neighborhood level, by providing funding to the neighborhoods selected through a public application process. The neighborhoods autonomously conduct human rights education, human rights mapping, neighborhood human rights surveys, human rights camps, human rights festivals, etc. In 2018, 15 neighborhoods received 120,000 USD in total.
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| The Province of Gangwon(Gangwon-do) | * Human Rights Education, Human Rights Week
* The Gangwon Government offers human rights education programs to citizens and public officials to promote human rights sensitivity and a culture of respect for human rights. Also, it commemorates Human Rights Week during the first week of December and hosts programs relevant to human rights, including art contests, film festivals, special lectures, photograph exhibitions, and public discussions.
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| Seoul Special Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Education
* The Seoul Government offers an annual human rights education program to public officials at its Human Rights Academy.
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| Ulsan Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Education
* The Ulsan Government offers human rights education programs to public officials and citizens including sub-district leaders, social workers, and children visiting local child centers.
* Human Rights Talk Concert
* The Ulsan Government holds human rights talk concerts for citizens around Human Rights Day as a part of its endeavor to spread the culture of respect for human rights.
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Another policy of local governments to promote and protect human rights at a local level is to support monitoring and assessment of local human rights situation (See Table 3).

Table 3 Monitoring and Assessment

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| City/Province | Details |
| Seoul Special Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Ombudsman
* In Seoul, Human Rights Ombudsman is an independent mechanism which investigates human rights violations that have occurred in organizations or facilities managed by Seoul City.
* Human Rights Protecting Group
* Human Rights Protecting Group at Demolition Sites is formed in cooperation with the Seoul Bar Association to protect residents at demolition sites through monitoring and preventing violation of human rights such as violence in the process of demolition.
* Human Rights Impact Assessment
* The Seoul Government will adopt Human Rights Impact Assessment, which is still at a trial stage. Similar to the impact assessment of gender or environment, the assessment will focus on analyzing and assessing a policy’s impact on human rights.
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| The Province of Chungnam(Chungcheongnam-do) | * Human Rights Survey
* The survey investigates and analyzes the human rights situation of vulnerable groups and utilizes the result as a policy feedback. The survey themes were children (2015), migrant workers (2016), older persons (2017), and personal mobility of persons with disabilities (2019).
* Human Rights Impact Assessment
* According to Article 9 of the Chungcheongnam-do Basic Ordinance on Human Rights, the governor may conduct human rights impact assessment on local ordinances, rules and policies.
* Human Rights Ombudsman
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| Daegu Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Ombudsman
* Consisting of 83 members in 6 fields (persons with disabilities, migrants, women, laborers, older persons, youth), the Human Rights Ombudsman of Daegu conducts activities for the protection of human rights, prevention of human rights violations, and improvement of human rights policy. The Daegu Government is planning to support capacity building of the Ombudsman by hosting workshops, lectures and field trips.
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| Daejeon Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Ombudsman
* Human Rights Ombudsman, which consists of civilians, monitors violations of human rights, especially those of vulnerable groups.
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| Gwangju Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Indicators(2012)
* The City of Gwangju developed the Human Rights Indicatorsto objectively assess the human rights situation of the City and to establish more coherent human rights policies based on those assessments. The Indicators take into account both universal aspects of human rights and local characteristics of the City. Gwangju went to great lengths to improve the objectivity and usefulness of the Indicators. Such efforts included the appointment of advisory experts, hosting of public hearings, meetings of administrative directors, advisory sessions with the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, as well as consultations from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. These steps led to a formulation of 100 indicators under 5 areas with 18 adjoining implementation tasks. There are 50 indicators currently being pursued while the other 50 have been accomplished successfully.
* Human Rights Ombudsman(2013)
* The City of Gwangju established the Human Rights Ombudsman system in April 2013. The institution focuses on relieving citizens experiencing human rights violations or discriminations in the administrative process. It consists of one standing ombudsman and six experts in various human rights areas designated as non-standing human rights ombudsmen. The ombudsmen, who are appointed by the mayor, perform multiple functions including investigations of human rights violations to make recommendations so that administrative actions can be taken to resolve the issues of human rights violations. So far, the Ombudsman office has provided 346 counseling sessions and registered 78 human rights violation cases in 2018. Some of the significant measures the office has undertaken include recommending appropriate measures for resolving human rights violations that involved the installation of CCTV in psychiatric facilities, denial of applications for water supply, limiting the rights of public officials to organize labor unions, physical violence against hospitalized patients, limited access of the citizens to City Hall, and privacy infringement of various citizens at the request of police.
* Human Rights Impact Assessment(2017)
* The Human Rights Impact Assessment System was initiated by the Human Rights Protection and Promotion Ordinance in July 2017. It provides the tools to conduct an effective human rights impact assessment on all new ordinances and regulations of the city when newly established or revised. The impact assessment made it possible for 49 out of 107 ordinances and regulations to be revised. Guidelines for the Assessment of Human Rights Impact on Public Buildings were established in March 2018, and an Impact Assessment Team began to operate to promote human rights-friendly public buildings. In addition, 22 out of 44 polling stations were renovated for easy access. The Gwangju Government is going to conduct human rights impact assessments on public events with the purpose of establishing event guidelines.
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**III. Effective methods to foster cooperation between local governments and local stakeholders for the promotion and protection of human rights, including reference to local government programmes**

To begin with, most of the above mentioned policies and programs of local governments to promote and protect human rights are based on the cooperation with local stakeholders, from the very beginning to the end. Local governments ensure the participation of the stakeholders in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programs.

Actual measures taken by local governments to foster cooperation with local stakeholders are generally aimed at leading the establishment of local human rights governance as well as supporting capacity building and networking of local stakeholders. Moreover, many local governments in the Republic of Korea cooperate with each other, forming a large-scale human rights network (See Table 4).

Table 4 Effective Methods to Foster Cooperation between Local Governments and Local Stakeholders

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| City/Province | Details |
| The Province of Chungnam(Chungcheongnam-do) | * Local Human Rights Protection Mechanisms
* The Chungcheongnam-do Government cooperates with local stakeholders in running local human rights protection mechanisms such as the Local Human Rights Committee, Human Rights Center, and Human Rights Ombudsman.
* Local Human Rights Governance
* The Government contributed to the establishment of human rights governance by signing MOUs with sub-local governments and relevant public institutions including the Provincial Police Agency, the Provincial Office of Education, the Provincial Assembly and an army division stationed in the Province.
* Human Rights Network
* The Government constitutes human rights network with the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the National Human Rights Commission.
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| Daegu Metropolitan City | * Cooperation with Local Public Institutions
* With 11 public institutions which were recently moved to Daegu, the Daegu Government had discussions on ways to cooperate in the field of human rights issues. The objective of the discussion was to foster a culture of ethical/human rights-based management of local public institutions. The Daegu Government is planning to sign MOUs on human rights-based management and host a workshop on human rights-based public administration.
* Furthermore, the Daegu Government cooperates with local public institutions and organizations for convening diverse events on human rights at the margin of Human Rights Week.
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| Daejeon Metropolitan City | * Cooperation with Other Local Governments
* The Daejeon Government strengthened the cooperation on human rights issues between local governments by participating in the consultative body for human rights cities. Also, the Government supported the consultative body of local human rights commissions, facilitated a joint response to local human rights issues, and participated in local human rights forums convened by other local governments.
* Local Human Rights Governance
* The Daejeon Government supported the collaboration of local civil society organizations and implemented joint projects on local human rights.
* Cooperation with Local Communities
* The Daejeon Government nominated local human rights libraries upon their application, which provided human rights education with the support of the Government.
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| Gwangju Metropolitan City | * Human Rights Improvement Citizen Committee Since 2009
* The City of Gwangju has diverse forms of human rights governance to stimulate citizen participation in promoting Gwangju as a Human Rights City. One example of good governance is the Human Rights Improvement Citizen Committee, co-chaired by the mayor and a prominent member of the civil society. The committee was prescribed in the Human Rights Ordinance in 2009 and has been in operation ever since. The committee consists of 20 members on a two-year term who, at the recommendation of city council, represent civil society and human rights organizations, are human rights activists, or are human rights experts. The Committee has sub-committee meetings and workshops in addition to four regular meetings each year in order to evaluate policies and provide advice to City Hall on the Human Rights Improvement Master Plan as well as the Implementation of Human Rights City Development Plan, among others.
* Human Rights Policy Joint Meeting Since 2012
* The City of Gwangju also holds Human Rights Policy Joint Meetings in collaboration with the private and public sectors. These gatherings are attended by human rights activists, academics, and officials from the Human Rights Office. The proceedings pay attention to monitoring human rights conditions of the city as well as identifying ideas and policies to address immediate human rights issues at the administrative level. The 69 meetings in the past seven years convincingly show the group is actively functioning as a model for the human rights governance system.
* Human Rights Roundtable Since 2011
* The City holds a Human Rights Roundtable with human rights experts and scholars to share current research trends from around the world with a focus on human rights. The Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda, for example, are topics discussed by the Roundtable. The meetings are held once a month and are open to the general public. These sessions are organized on an alternating basis by either City Hall, the Board of Education, the Gwangju Office of the Korea Human Rights Commission, the Gwangju Human Rights Council, or the Public Interest Law Center of Chonnam National University. There have been 66 meetings in the past eight years.
* Hosting of the World Human Rights Cities Forum Since 2011
* Gwangju has hosted the World Human Rights Cities Forum (WHRCF) every year since 2011, making it one of the longest human rights forums hosted by a local government. The forum provides opportunities for human rights cities and activists around the world to get together and share their experiences and expertise in promoting human rights in their own cities. The forum is also a good opportunity for Gwangju to share its own experiences with other cities while learning from them at the same time. In the past eight years, the forum has expanded both in quality and quantity. WHRCF 2018 was hosted in collaboration with the Korea Human Rights Commission and the Gwangju Board of Education, organized by the Gwangju International Center, UCLG CISDP, OHCHR, and RWI. The 2018 forum also attracted the largest number of participants from Korea and outside Korea as shown in Table 5. There were 38 participating organizations in WHRCF 2018: seven international including OHCHR, UCLG-CISDPDH, and RWI; 10 national including National Human Rights Commission, KOICA, and UNESCO; and 22 local including Gwangju Metropolitan City, Gwangju Metropolitan Board of Education, and Chonnam National University. The WHRCF has grown to be a representative international event of the city, a model of good governance, and an effective device of the globalization of the city.
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| The Province of Gangwon(Gangwon-do) | * The Workshop for Human Rights Officers
* The Gangwon-do Government hosted The Workshop for Human Rights Officers, in which local public officials in charge of human rights discussed the human rights system of the Province and proposed policy directions.
* Gangwon Human Rights Forum
* During the Gangwon Human Rights Forum, various agendas on human rights were discussed by the Provincial Government, the Provincial Office of Education, the local office of National Human Rights Commission and local civil society organizations.
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| Seoul Special Metropolitan City | * Interaction with civil society
* 1) Engaging with human rights organizations: the Seoul Government strives to form healthy relationships with human rights organizations by arranging meetings and promoting active communication.
* 2) Supporting human rights protection and promotional projects: the Seoul Government supports non-profit organizations and corporations that promote projects related to improving human rights of the citizens, in order to efficiently identify and discourage human rights violations.
* 3) Human Rights Protecting Group at Demolition Sites**:** The Group is formed in cooperation with the Seoul Bar Association to protect residents at demolition sites through monitoring and preventing violation of their human rights such as violence in the process of demolition
* Human Rights City Network Conference among Metropolitan Governments
* The Seoul Government began establishing a large-scale human rights network in 2015, along with the increased demand for execution of human rights policies at the local government level. In 2016, it established the Human Rights City Network to share tasks related to human rights administration among local governments and to discuss development methods.
* International Collaboration: Seoul Human Rights Conference
* Seoul City intends to hold annual international conferences, which began with the 2016 Seoul Human Rights Conference, in order to facilitate exchanges and cooperation among human rights governance organizations and local governments from Korea and around the world.
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| Ulsan Metropolitan City | * Local Human Rights Committee
* The Human Rights Committee of Ulsan, composed of citizens, human rights activist groups and experts, plays a role of public and private consultative body to draw agenda of on-site human rights and to improve them systematically. The Ulsan Government is making efforts to strengthen the rights and roles of the Human Rights Committee. In order to strengthen the role of the Human Rights Committee, the Ulsan Government supports the expansion of regular meetings, the strengthening of the committee’s functions so that it could deliberate and monitor the human rights policies, the workshops with committee members, public officials, and private organizations, and the organization of subcommittees by special field. The Human Rights Committee of Ulsan Metropolitan City has advised and deliberated on the human rights policies of the City, having held 13 meetings from 2014 to 2018.
* In addition, the City has held workshops on human rights promotion with the committee members, organizations, and public officials in order to share awareness on human rights and to build networks of public-private partnership.
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**IV. Ways in which local governments raise awareness about, and contribute, to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the New Urban Agenda, including by ensuring participation by local stakeholders**

Several local governments in the Republic of Korea have direct and indirect policies to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from setting local SDGs to convening relevant forums (See Table 5).

Table 5 Local Governments and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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| City/Province | Details |
| The Province of Chungnam(Chungcheongnam-do) | * Chungcheongnam-do local SDGs 2030
* In accordance with the Chungcheongnam-do Basic Ordinance on Sustainable Development, the local government set 17 goals and 62 indicators which were selected in the light of their linkage with UN SDGs. The local SDGs will be implemented in three phases (1st phase 2018-2020, 2nd phase 2021-2025, 3rd phase 2026-2030).
* Chungcheongnam-do Sustainable Development Committee
* Also in accordance with the Ordinance mentioned above, the local government nominated the members for the Sustainable Development Committee among civil society activists, academics, businesspeople, etc. The Committee advises on sustainable development, especially in the process of establishing a basic plan and a work plan.
* Chungcheongnam-do Sustainable Development Council
* Established in the spirit of Agenda 21, the Council is a private-public joint council for sustainable development which plays a facilitating and mediating role in the implementation of the local SDGs. It has four subcommittees and each subcommittee consists of 25 members from civil society, the private sector and the public sector.
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| The Province of Gangwon(Gangwon-do) | * PyeongChang Forum
* The PyeongChang Forum is a global agenda-setting platform to share the value of ‘peace and harmony’, which is the very achievement of the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games. With peace and human rights as the main theme, the Forum has four subsidiary forums: Earth and Future Forum (for environment and sustainable development), Disability Forum, Women Forum, and Human Rights Forum.
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| Gwangju Metropolitan City | * Gwangju Agenda
* Gwangju established the Green Gwangju 21 Committee in October 1995 according to the spirit and principles outlined in Agenda 21 adopted in the UN Conference on Environment and Development. For the following two years, NGOs, businesses, experts, and city officials gathered at the committee to devise a Gwangju Agenda and evaluation. Since its first establishment in 1997, the Agenda has evolved through an implementation and assessment process conducted every five years. Now the body has evolved into an effective system for incorporating various opinions and discussions from local communities and is currently creating successful results across many sustainable development fields including the City Forest Project, Water Recycling, and Neighborhood Community Building.
* Gwangju and the SDGs
* The City of Gwangju has also declared The Sustainable Development Vision in October 2015 and independently established the Gwangju Sustainable Development Action Plan (2016-2020) in December 2015. Also, Gwangju changed the name of Green Gwangju 21 Committee into the Gwangju Metropolitan City Sustainable Development Committee in January 2016 to establish the 5th Agenda of Citizen Action Plan (2017-2021) in February 2017, after a year-long discussion among NGO activists, businessmen, city officials, and experts for the sake of implementing UN SDGs.
* Gwangju Human Rights City Agenda 2030
* During the 2018 World Human Rights Cities forum (Oct. 18-21), both Korean and international human rights activists and experts gathered to discuss the draft of the Gwangju Human Rights Cities Agenda 2030. The Agenda will integrate the UN SDGs, UN Habitat New Urban Agenda (NUA) as well as the peace-building, sustaining peace, and migration agendas of United Nations General Assembly into one systematical task. More specifically, it will be an integrated implementation agenda which divides the characteristics of human rights cities into seven categories connecting each of them with existing norms, regulations, international human rights agendas, institutions, UN SDGs, and peace and migration issues related to human rights cities. In 2019, there will be more research and discussions with WHRCF partners as well as local and international human rights experts to establish the Gwangju Human Rights Cities Agenda 2030 before officially adopting the Agenda during the World Human Rights Cities Forum 2020.
* The draft characterizes a Human Rights City into seven categories: a peaceful, safe and resilient city; a just, transparent and accountable city; an inclusive, equitable and sharing city; a smart, digital and innovative city; a green, sustainable and eco city; a cultural diversity and learning city; and a global, responsible, and unified city.
* The draft will include the following components in defining Human Cities: i) human rights norms and standards with long-term vision of a human rights city based on human rights charters and human rights ordinances; ii) institutions and procedures such as a human right commission, an ombudsman, a human rights department; iii) policies and programs such as human rights indicators, action plans, education, and training; and iv) human rights projects and activities among others.
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**V. Ways in which local governments are connected with the United Nations human rights system, for example participation in the Universal Periodic Review and the work of the human rights treaty bodies and Special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and the implementation of their recommendations**

The reported connection of local governments with the United Nations has been conducted in indirect ways (See Table 6). It is expected that engagement of local governments in international human rights system would be improved further.

Table 6 Connection with the UN Human Rights System

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| City/Province | Details |
| The Province of Chungnam(Chungcheongnam-do) | * UNHRC Panel Discussion on “The Role of Local Government in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights”
* Chungcheongnam-do participated in the Panel Discussion of the UN Human Rights Council on the role of local government in the promotion and protection of human rights (Sep 4, 2017). In the Panel Discussion, the Chungcheongnam-do Government shared its best practices for the promotion and protection of human rights.
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| Gwangju Metropolitan City | * The Human Rights Committee and the World Human Rights Cities Forum
* The City of Gwangju has been hosting the World Human Rights Cities Forum (WHRCF) to publicize the importance of human rights around the world in collaboration with the OHCHR and other organizations such as the National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO APCEIU, and UCLG CISDP. Each version has been supported by the presence of one or two OHCHR officers and by the presence of the OHCHR Deputy High Commissioner in 2012 and 2018. The WHRCF contributed to the development and publicity of the concept of the Human Rights City as was specifically mentioned in A/HRC/27/59: "The concept was launched in 1997 by the People’s Movement for Human Rights Education, a non-profit international service organization. It was further developed, particularly as a normative concept, by the World Human Rights Cities Forum that takes place annually in the city of Gwangju (Republic of Korea)."
* Implementations of the UN Agendas
* The City of Gwangju has been actively engaged in implementing the provisions within agreements such as the UN’s SDGs and NUA by specifically establishing Gwangju SDGs based on the UN SDGs through relevant implementing organizations. The City established the Gwangju Human Rights Roundtable and the Gwangju Metropolitan City Sustainable Development Committee to create the 5th Agenda of Citizen Action Plan (2017-2021) with the involvement of NGO activists, businessmen, city officials, and experts for the sake of implementing the UN SDGs as mentioned previously.
* Proposal of the International HR Education Center(IHREC)
* The City of Gwangju has been promoting human rights protection in diverse ways with the belief that the propagation of the idea of human rights can be facilitated in Gwangju through its system and rich experiences as a human rights city. It is also planning to implement the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training adopted by the General Assembly in Resolution 66/137 in 2011. One of the ways of implementation is to establish an International Human Rights Education Center (IHREC), which fit well in Gwangju since it is promoting a "City of Happy Citizens" alongside human rights protection and democracy-centered policies with human rights education and training. The Center can make the most out of Gwangju’s historical experiences and systematic human rights programs in crafting curriculums for any prospective trainees of democracy and human rights. Establishing the Institute here with its concrete programs will surely greatly enhance the collaboration of human rights cities in the Asia-Pacific region while also providing support to the different needs of the individual cities.
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