



Korea Communications Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Date: April 24, 2020

Contact:

Consumer Policy Coordination Division

Director Pan Sang-kwon (02-2110-1510)

Deputy Yoon Woong-hyun (02-2110-1511)

KOREA AND FRANCE TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION ON COVID-19

- KCC chairman and French ambassador to Korea share examples of Korea's ICT usage -

On April 24 at 10 AM, Korea Communications Commission(KCC) Chairman Han Sang-hyuk met with the ambassador of France to Korea, Mr. Philippe Lefort, and shared examples of how Korea has used ICT to contain the spread of Covid-19. During the meeting, the two sides agreed to cooperate to overcome the global crisis together.

This meeting was part of follow-up measures to the phone call between the heads of state of Korea and France in March, where the two leaders agreed to cooperate in responding to Covid-19. It took place as part of other activities to share examples of broadcasting and communications use in response measures.

During the discussions, Chairman Han commented, "Korea was able to respond effectively to Covid-19 through public awareness and the commitment of medical staff. Korea's broadcasting and communications services played an important role as well."

He added, "Through its world-class broadcasting and communications infrastructure, Korea relayed reliable

information in a swift and transparent manner so the public could respond proactively. Korea is utilizing its innovative ICT systems throughout the entire containment process of testing, tracing and treating.”

Ambassador Lefort added, “We commend Korea’s Covid-19 response model, and are aware of how Korea has strived to balance privacy protection with an effective tracing process.”

Noting the WHO’s warning about the serious infodemic of fake news surrounding Covid-19, Chairman Han stated, “blocking the spread of fake news is an important component of overcoming the pandemic.”

“In responding to Covid-19, we now fully understand that all members of society, in addition to the government, must monitor for fake news.”

Chairman Han explained, “There is an organic framework of cooperation in place which plays an important role in quickly providing accurate information to the public. Korean broadcasters fact check information before reporting, and Internet operators provide reliable information from the government and media on their services.”

Chairman Han added his regret that MIPTV, which was scheduled for March this year, was cancelled. Korea was to be celebrated as the Country of Honour at MIPTV 2020. He stated that Korea would also cooperate towards a successful MIPCOM in the autumn following a decline of Covid-19.

Furthermore, Korea and France agreed on the need for policy coordination in broadcasting and communication between the two sides on various issues such as responding to the circulation of unlawful information online and regulatory imbalance between domestic and overseas operators. In the meeting, the two sides agreed to cooperate further on these issues.”

###