Korea's Parade for Greenwashing (P4G) Declaration to Urge Withdrawal From Constructing New Coal Power Plants in Vietnam and Indonesia

The P4G summit for "Green Future" will be held in South Korea from 30 to 31 May 2021. The Asian countries participating in the P4G are Vietnam, Indonesia, and South Korea. Despite its slogan, ironically, South Korea is exporting coal power plants to Vietnam and Indonesia. In 2020, the South Korean government approved investment in new coal power projects, Jawa 9 &10 coal power plant in Indonesia and Vung Ang 2 coal power plant in Vietnam. This swift closed-door decision was made on the same year South Korea's National Assembly declared a climate emergency and President Moon Jae-in promised carbon neutrality by 2050. Nothing can justify this hypocrisy.

During the Leaders Summit on Climate held last April, President Moon stated with confidence that "Korea will end all public financing for new overseas coal-fired power plants." However, the South Korean government has remained silent on the withdrawal from investing in coal power projects. Without stopping from all coal power plant projects, South Korea's "Green Future Summit" will remain "Green Washed Summit."

Particularly, 2021 marks the first starting year of the Nationally Determined Contribution of Paris Climate Agreement which represents the determination of 195 states to stop worst the climate crisis. Faced with an ecological and climate crisis, international solidarity and cooperation are more urgent than ever. Thus, we can no longer waste time with world leaders' lengthy and plausible speeches containing no concrete plans on how they will mitigate climate change. In a letter before P4G, former U.S. Vice-President, Al Gore, urged President Moon to demonstrate true leadership with its "ability to innovate and deliver smart technology solutions." If South Korea has a sincere willingness, the government can actively support and cooperate with developing states on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

However, due to its continued hypocrisy, the world will remember the shameful history of the South Korean government's insistence on exporting coal power plants while internationally proclaiming "Green Future." The Seoul P4G summit's official Korean slogan is "Action for Earth Before It's Too Late." Asia's climate change activists are urging the South Korean government to take action to withdraw from investing in new coal power projects before it's too late.

2021. 5. 24.

Hoping for the peace and the green transition of Asia, Youth Climate Emergency Action and other organizations (TBD)