30th June 2015

Dear WAO members.

We truly appreciate your attention and concern about the recent outbreak of MERS in South Korea.

In Korea, the MERS virus was first discovered in a Korean tourist who had traveled to the Middle East countries at the end of May. It was the first case of MERS infection in Korea and the Middle East countries’ response guideline on MERS could not take effect here due to Korea’s different natural environment and socio-cultural characteristics. So it was not easy for the government to control the outbreak of MERS in the initial stages.

However, as of June 30th, the central government, local governments and hospitals are doing their utmost to prevent further infections and the spread of MERS virus has been almost controlled. We expect this issue to be completely solved in a few weeks.

Therefore, we firmly believe that in coming October during the period of the WAC 2015 Seoul will be a much safer city through the stronger preventive measures and the lessons from this experience.

The WAC 2015 is composed of latest academic lectures from the world’s renowned speakers and various cultural events including K-POP performances. We believe that it will be a good opportunity for you to experience Korea’s tradition and dynamic and modern style of Korea.

We truly look forward to meeting you in Seoul in October.

Sincerely,

Hae-Ran Lee, the KAAACI President

Hee-Bom Moon, the LOC Chairman