

‘Expanding one-stop digital integrated civil services for convenient compatriot lifestyle’

Making it easier for overseas Koreans to use digital services in Korea

This year, we will provide more convenient civil services for overseas Koreans. Following a pilot run in November last year, the Overseas Korean Authentication Center was recently launched officially and will allow overseas Koreans without a Korean mobile phone to conveniently use e-government services, as well as domestic online services, after verifying their identity through non-face-to-face identification.

Identity verification is one of the biggest complaints of overseas Koreans, which is expected to be dramatically improved through the provision of the authentication center’s services. In addition, overseas Koreans who have difficulty visiting overseas diplomatic missions will be provided with a non-face-to-face video consulate service, and they will be able to use the apostille civil service on their mobile phones.

The Incheon branch of the OKA Unified Civil Service Support Center, which opened last December, will also provide a service for receiving and handling complaints at Incheon International Airport. In addition, we will revise the Enforcement Decree of the Overseas Korean Registration Act to simplify the documents for overseas Korean registration and actively promote it to increase the registration rate of overseas Koreans.

Lastly, people can directly experience improvements in their lives through the OKA’s implementation of its 2025 priorities.

❶ (Domestic Compatriots) Compatriots living and working in Korea can become full-fledged members of our society and receive systematic support.

Compatriots living in Korea can take customized educational programs by age group for each stage of settlement with a focus on strengthening their capabilities. In addition, local governments provide support for residency resources, life skills enhancement, industrial and life safety, and social integration, depending on the characteristics of each region. In addition, support for Korean compatriots from private organizations in Korea will be further strengthened.

❷ (Sakhalin compatriots) Sakhalin compatriots can return to Korea permanently with all their children and settle down happily and safely in Korea without the pain of separation.

Beginning in 2025, all children of Sakhalin compatriots will be able to apply for permanent return, not just one direct relative. In



OKA Commissioner Lee Sang-duk (6th from L) and other participants press the Overseas Korean Authentication Center pilot service launch button at a ceremony to mark its launch at Diplomatic Town in Seocho-gu, Seoul, on Nov. 28, 2024.

addition, a survey on the lives of Sakhalin compatriots who have returned permanently and are settling in Korea and their accompanying families will be conducted for the first time in 2025, which will be reflected in the establishment of effective policies in the future.

❸ (Domestic Businesses) Through the World Korean Business Convention and connections with compatriot businessmen, they will gain confidence in entering overseas markets and developing sales channels, and gain a wide range of export opportunities.

❹ (Overseas Koreans) Compatriots living abroad can now use domestic online services even without a Korean cell phone.

Overseas Koreans without a Korean mobile phone will be able to issue a private electronic signature certificate through the Overseas Korean Authentication Center, a non-face-to-face identity verification system using their e-passport and overseas residence information, without visiting an overseas diplomatic mission. With the certificate, they will be able to use various online services, such as domestic e-government services, finance, health care, education and shopping easily and conveniently without verifying their identity through a Korean cellphone.

❺ (All compatriots) No matter where you are in the world, you can easily access news, policies and K-content from your home country anytime and anywhere. Beginning in 2025, a new platform for communication with overseas Koreans (tentatively named Overseas Koreans TV) will be launched and operated 24 hours a day. Overseas Koreans TV will provide various content related to the government’s policies for overseas Koreans according to their daily schedules. [창](#)