# KOTRA launches FDI Think Tank, "Foreign Investment Policy Center"

Korea is now witnessing tectonic shifts in the investment environment, fueled mostly by uncertainties such as major reshuffling of the global value chain (GVC), the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the ever-intensifying risks stemming from the China-U.S. trade conflict.

Headed by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S., which enacted the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act (FIRRMA) last February, major economies have begun to join the recent move to impose tougher barriers to inward FDI. Aside from the unfavorable investment climate, there's rising demand for state-led policies and research work on FDI to meet the World Trade Organization's (WTO) commitment to the development of a multilateral framework on Investment Facilitation Agreement, currently in progress.

Against this backdrop, KOTRA has opened up a new think

tank entitled the "Foreign Investment Policy Center" with the aim to set strategies for attracting more FDI in Korea amidst the changing times. On September 2, KOTRA hosted a signboard-hanging ceremony for the launch of the new center at Invest KOREA Plaza (IKP), located at the agency's Seocho-gu headquarters.

The center will work to better understand the global FDI trends, investment environments at home and abroad, as well as various FDI policies. An expert group on foreign investment who will be stationed at the center, are planning to appoint industry-academia specialists as non-executive researchers and train them to enhance the center's capabilities.

KOTRA's President and CEO Kwon Pyung-oh said, "We will spare no efforts to help the Foreign Investment Policy Center play a pivotal role in studying and establishing FDI policies in Korea."

# **Invest KOREA's** Services

#### **Invest Korea Plaza (IKP)**



Invest Korea Plaza (IKP) is Korea's first facility dedicated to the incubation and investment of foreign investors. Each year, more than 40 foreign-invested companies rent out offices in the plaza and utilize IK's one-stop service.

#### **Foreign Investment Ombudsman**

The Office of Foreign Investment Ombudsman is an organization established in 1999 to provide close aftercare support and grievance resolution services for foreign-invested companies, and is dedicated to resolving any difficulties that foreign-invested companies face while doing business in Korea.

## **One-Stop Service for Foreign Investors**

The Inbound Investment Consulting Department not only

assists foreign investors and foreign-invested companies in the investment review and implementation stage, but also offers customized services to help foreign investors and their families get comfortably settled in Korea.

### **Invest Korea Market Place (IKMP)**

IKMP is a project aimed at discovering promising Korean SMEs seeking to attract foreign investment and matching them with foreign investors who have compatible needs. Projects looking for investment are posted on our website at www.investkorea.org.

#### **Job Fair for Foreign-Invested Companies**



IK organizes annual job fairs to help foreign-invested companies discover qualified local talent, and job seekers find employment through job consultations, on-site interviews, and more.