

**Thematic Session
Disability**

Discussion Paper

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Hello, everyone. My name is Mok-Won Kim. I have intellectual disability. I am currently living in a place called 'Woori Ville' in Samgak-dong, Buk-gu in Gwangju. Based on the support from Gwangju Metropolitan City, 'Woori Ville' offers housing and residence coaching to the individuals with developmental disabilities for two years so that they will become independent from their parents and stand on their own feet. I am diligently receiving training here, aiming to become fully self-sufficient after two years.

I have worked for a company named 'Amkor Technology Korea' so far for five months, and my job here is to collect and discharge semiconductor waste.

Prior to working for Amkor Technology Korea, I worked as an assistant to the care workers at the 'Veterans Hospital', 'Eomma Nursing Hospital', and 'Donghaeng Nursing Hospital' under a job creation project for people with disabilities. I also received several field adaptation trainings through the job rehabilitation training course provided by the welfare center for people with disabilities. Last year, I was hired by a company named 'Cesco' under the supported employment program, and my job there was to manage the chemicals storage for one year. My employment contract with Cesco was terminated at the beginning of this year. Since then, the supported employment program offered by Korea Employment Agency for Persons with Disabilities helped me get a job at Amcor Technology Korea, which is my current company.

When I left the previous company due to the termination of employment contract, I wasn't feeling good and was lack of energy in my life. But I got excited after getting a new job, which is very helpful for me to become self-sufficient from my parents because I can earn money. I am also having a self-help gathering with my friends who are working in other different companies. We enjoy our leisure time together while maintaining a good relationship with each other.

As a person with disabilities, I have experienced several challenges while working at the current company. My company is a semiconductor component manufacturer. My job is to move around the production lines to collect the semiconductor waste, put them in a plastic bag and discharge them to outside the factory. But the semiconductor waste is quite heavy, and it is a bit hard to carry and move them to outside the factory.

Sometimes when some of the employees give me the same instructions repetitively, I feel frustrated. Then, I think to myself, 'I understood the instructions and I can do this by myself. Are they not trusting me?' But I am trying to overcome such challenges, believing that I am going through a process to grow as a member of the society and that other people might also experience such difficulties at work.

I am so grateful that I can work. Many people with disabilities around me have financial difficulties because they want to work but cannot get a job. I hope that they will be provided with an opportunity to work like me through diverse programs such as job rehabilitation and supported employment programs. I also wish that they will receive more job offers tailored to their needs. Last but not least, I hope that people with disabilities will be properly paid as much as they worked.

Thank you.