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FIRST VICE MINISTER LEE HYOUNG IL EXPLORES DIRECTIONS FOR KOREA-CENTRAL AMERICA ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH CABEI EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT

On November 21, First Vice Minister Lee Hyoungh Il held a meeting with Executive President of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)* Gisela Sanchez at the Government Complex-Seoul.

* A multilateral development bank established in 1960 to support balanced development and economic integration in Central America. It currently has 15 member countries.

The meeting was arranged on the occasion of the Executive President Gisela Sanchez's first visit to Korea since taking office in December 2023. During the meeting, she outlined the progress made in CABEI's governance reforms and highlighted recent achievements, including the Bank's upgraded credit rating*. VM Lee extended his appreciation for her commitment to enhancing operational transparency within CABEI and expressed his expectation for continued progress in bilateral cooperation.

* In November 2025, S&P raised CABEI's credit rating from AA to AA+.

On the occasion of the meeting, the two sides signed the amended agreement on the Korea-CABEI Technical Cooperation Trust Fund*. VM Lee expressed his expectation that the amendment will step up the efficiency of the Fund's operations, and requested the Bank's strong support so that Korean companies expand their presence in the Central American market through the Fund going forward.

* A fund established to support innovative technology projects and to share Korea's development experience, with the aim of promoting inclusive and sustainable growth among CABEI's Central American member countries.

In addition, VM Lee called for the bank's attention and support to expand the participation of Korean personnel at CABEI. In response, the Executive President emphasized that "hiring talented Korean professionals is an important priority for CABEI" and pledged to continue efforts in this regard.