Statement Delivered to the First Committee by H.E. Kim Kwang Il
on behalf of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

Right of Reply

October 18, 2006

The delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) rejects the allegations made yesterday by the US delegation on the DPRK.

Our nuclear test is entirely attributable to the US nuclear threat, sanctions, and pressure.

The DPRK has exerted every possible effort to settle the nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiations, prompted by its sincere desire to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

However, the United States responded to our patient and sincere efforts and magnanimity with sanctions and blockade.

The DPRK was compelled to substantially prove its possession of nukes to protect its sovereignty and right to existence from the daily mounting danger of war from the US.

The delegation of the DPRK would like to stress again that although the DPRK conducted the nuclear test because of the US, it still remains unchanged in its will to denuclearize the peninsula through dialogue and negotiations.