Press Release

Explanation of vote by the DPRK Delegation
before the vote on L.47 “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty”
in the First Committee of the 64th UN General Assembly
October 2009

Mr. Chairman,

Ever since the first nuclear test by the United States in July 16, 1945, over two thousand tests were conducted and the number of nuclear weapon states increased to nine. Among them, the United States recorded the greatest number of nuclear tests amounting to more than one thousand. This notwithstanding, the U.S.’s nuclear tests have never been made an issue in the Security Council.

This country divided Korea into two parts, inflicting immeasurable sufferings of national division on Korean people for over half a century and blackmailing the DPRK with nuclear weapons pursuant to the deeply rooted hostile policy on the DPRK. Her attempt has gone the length of depriving the DPRK of the right to peaceful space development.
The DPRK's second nuclear test was a self defensive reaction to such extremely hostile acts as the above-mentioned on the part of the United States.

We have never recognized Security Council resolutions 1718 and 1874 and take this opportunity to reiterate our strong rejection to them.

The DPRK does not pursue the nuclear arms race. Denuclearizing the world including the Korean peninsula is our consistent stand. While possessing the nuclear weapons, the DPRK will act in a responsible manner in the management, use, non-proliferation and disarmament of nuclear weapons.

For these reasons, my delegation suggests that the draft resolution should be put to a vote and will vote against it as a whole.

Thank you.