Press Release

Explanation of vote by the DPRK Delegation before the vote on L.54
“Towards a nuclear-weapon-free: accelerating the implementation of nuclear commitments” in the First Committee of the 64th UN General Assembly
October 2009

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of the DPRK would like to clarify its position with regard to the draft resolution A/C.1/64/L.54.

My delegation is in favor of the main thrust of the draft resolution since it aims at achieving global denuclearization wished by humankind and urging the nuclear weapon states to implement their nuclear disarmament obligations. Therefore, if this resolution had no paragraph concerning the DPRK in the resolution, we also would be able to support it like other delegations.

As everyone recognizes, NPT is discriminatory in content and unfair in implementation and application.

The nuclear weapon states are imposing non-proliferation obligations on the developing countries while they themselves are evading by all means their own obligations under the NPT. Some of them are attempting to deprive the developing
countries of their right to peaceful nuclear energy development under the pretext of non proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The area in which the NPT has been implemented and applied most unfairly is the Korean peninsula.

The DPRK acceded to the NPT in 1985, with the expectations that the treaty would prevent the US from introducing nuclear weapons into south Korea, remove its nuclear threat and provide benefits in the field of peaceful nuclear energy development.

Nevertheless, none of those expectations were met to our regret. The United States, by abusing the NPT, went as far as to infringe upon the supreme interest of the state. This is the major factor which compelled the DPRK to withdraw from the NPT.

Therefore, it is inconceivable for the DPRK to re-enter the NPT until our concern is completely dispelled.

Most countries are of the same view that it is not possible to prevent nuclear proliferation, far from nuclear disarmament, with the NPT as it stands now.

It goes without saying that a number of countries called for a new legally binding treaty for total elimination of nuclear weapons as well as for preventing their horizontal and vertical proliferation.

For these reasons, the delegation of the DPRK proposes that this draft resolution should be put to a vote and will vote against it.

Thank you.