



# Democratic People's Republic of Korea

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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## Press Release

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Statement by H.E. Mr. PAK GIL YON  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the  
Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the UN

at the First Committee of 61<sup>st</sup> session of the UNGA

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Madam Chairperson,

At the outset, allow me to warmly congratulate you on your assumption of the chair of this Committee and wish you every success.

Madam Chairperson,

The hope for a nuclear-free world that people had built up along with the demise of cold war is gone, and the danger of a nuclear war is increasing with each passing day.

Dependence of nuclear powers on nuclear weapons is on the rise, far from decreasing.

Recently, the sessions of the United Nations Disarmament Commission and other multinational fora for disarmament failed to reach a consensus on disarmament issues including nuclear disarmament and have now come to a deadlock. This is mainly attributable to the nuclear domination policy pursued by some countries based on their selfish interests for world hegemony.

Nuclear weapons of the superpower are used openly as a means of threatening and blackmailing the sovereignty and security of sovereign states.

The reality shows that unless we stop the attempts to dominate nuclear weapons and the threat thereof, no progress can be expected in discussing disarmament issues as a whole, to say nothing of nuclear disarmament.

Madam Chairperson,

For the cause of world peace and security, nuclear disarmament should be put into practice above anything else, thus removing all nuclear weapons from the globe.

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation are inseparably related to each other. Of the two, the main target is nuclear disarmament.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) comes from the threat posed by existing nuclear weapons.

Unfortunately, however, some countries differentiate existence of nuclear weapons from their proliferation and persist with their assertions on the issue of non-proliferation only.

This, in fact, shows that their real intention is to evade disarming nuclear weapons. Non-proliferation apart from nuclear disarmament does not make any sense.

International order will undergo a noticeable and substantial change if the gangster-like logic that only big countries can possess nukes, and attack and threaten small countries with them is allowed or tolerated any more. Moreover, this will inevitably result in compelling non-nuclear states to possess their nuclear deterrent force.

Today, high-handed policy on nukes based on double standard reduces non-proliferation treaty on nuclear weapons (NPT) and other disarmament conventions to good-for-nothing dead documents without any binding force, the main factor for plunging the world into a nuclear arms race.

It can not be justified in any case that certain countries take issue with those countries they detest of their peaceful nuclear activities, while evading the obligations to disarm their own nuclear weapons. Peaceful use of nuclear energy is not a "privilege" conceded to specified countries, but a legitimate right of sovereign states.

Today many countries opt for building strong defense capabilities for self-defense. It is because any arms control treaty including NPT fails to protect the security of non-nuclear states.

All the nuclear powers should give up their nuclear doctrine based on preemptive use of nuclear weapons and commit themselves without condition to the non-use of nukes preemptively as

demanding by non-nuclear weapon states. And they should come to negotiation table to write an international convention on this.

Madam Chairperson,

The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula which has become an international focus is the outcome of nuclear threat policy based on the US hostile policy towards the DPRK pursued over half a century.

The US threatens the DPRK with its nuclear weapons and designated the latter as a target of preemptive attack, compelling it to possess the nuclear deterrent force as a self-defensive measure.

The past history and the present reality show us that only when a country has powerful force it can defend the national dignity and sovereignty as well as its independence.

It is the reality today that whether it is missile launch or nuclear test, as far as it is approved by the US, it is tolerated, and would not be brought to the United Nations.

In this regard, my delegation draws the attention of this Committee to the fact that during the general debate some countries turned away their faces from the substance of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

Those countries urged the DPRK to abandon its nuclear programme, neglecting the root cause of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. They only sought to flatter the United States by advocating the US hostile policy toward the DPRK, rather than genuine and fair resolution of the nuclear issue.

The logic in vogue nowadays is that the US's threat of preemptive nuclear strike against the DPRK is for peace and security, while counter-measures by the DPRK is threat to peace and security, which would not go down through with the DPRK and those who cherish justice.

In today's world where the law of jungle prevails, one can champion justice only when he is strong.

Today, thanks to the Songun policy of defending socialism and peace with army, we have been able to safeguard our sovereignty and prevent a war on the Korean peninsula up to now in spite of persistent political, military and economic moves of hostile forces to stifle the DPRK.

Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is our ultimate goal. We remain unchanged in our will to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula through dialogue and negotiation as we undertook in the September 19 Joint Statement.

However, nor sooner had the joint statement been made public than the US is applying economic sanctions against the DPRK and stepping up its pressure in every angle. In addition, the US stands in the way of implementing the joint statement by all means with such threats and blackmail as a large-scale military exercise targeted against DPRK.

The DPRK will make persevering efforts to remove the threat posed by outside forces and to ensure lasting peace on the Korean peninsula in the future, too.

Thank you.