



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release

STATEMENT

by H.E. Ambassador Sin Son Ho

Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's
Republic of Korea to the United Nations

at the General Debate of the First Committee of
of the 63rd Session of UNGA

New York, 13 October, 2008

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me, first of all, to congratulate you on your election as Chair of the First Committee. I also extend my congratulations to the other members of the Bureau.

Mr. Chairman,

The long-cherished desire of humankind to build a peaceful and prosperous world is still confronted with serious challenges.

In particular, the regional situation of Northeast Asia surrounding the Korean peninsula remains strained, and regrettably, grave situations are occurring one after another in this region.

Behind the scenes of dialogue, large-scale joint military exercises envisaging preemptive nuclear strikes at the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) are staged in a more undisguised manner in parallel with a move to integrate the US-Japan and the US-south Korea bilateral military alliances on the other hand.

Mr. Chairman,

The DPRK is a country exposed to constant threats of the superpower. Our choice to possess a nuclear deterrent is due to the deep-rooted US hostile policy and nuclear threats, which continue for more than half a century.

The DPRK remains consistent in its position to resolve the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula peacefully through dialogue and negotiations.

Until recently, the nuclear facilities were being disabled at the final stage, a nuclear declaration submitted and even those measures scheduled for the dismantlement phase implemented in advance.

This is a clear expression of our sincere will for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

We will continue endeavoring to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula by firmly adhering to the principle of "action for action."

The denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, in its essence, is directly linked with the elimination of the US hostile policy and nuclear threat on the DPRK.

It is therefore that the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula requires the US to terminate its nuclear threat and hostile policy aimed at "overthrowing our system."

The DPRK has put forward, on numerous occasions, a proposal to replace

the present unstable armistice with a durable peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula, with a view to liquidating the remnant of the Cold War, the last of its kind.

Replacing the armistice with a peace mechanism is essential for peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, and peace and security of Northeast Asia and beyond.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to ensure world peace and security in a sustainable way, all nuclear weapons, among others, should be eliminated on the globe.

As long as there continue the attempts to monopolize nuclear weapons and threaten other countries with them, no progress can be expected from deliberations of overall disarmament issues, needless to say about nuclear disarmament.

The nuclear power politics based on double standards is a major factor rendering the NPT and other disarmament treaties ineffective and inciting a nuclear arms race worldwide.

These days, a number of countries are strengthening their own military capabilities for self defense because the existing arms control treaties such as the NPT provide no shield for the security of non-nuclear weapons states

It is entirely thanks to the independent politics, the Songun politics of the DPRK that we are now able to prevent a war danger and maintain peace on the Korean peninsula and in the region.

The DPRK will continue to make every possible effort for ensuring peace and security on the Korean peninsula and beyond.

Thank you.