



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

820 Second Avenue, 13th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10017

Tel: (212) 972-3105/3106 Fax: (212) 972-3154

Press Release

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Statement by H.E. Mr. KIM CHANG GUK
Deputy Permanent Representative of the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the UN

at the 2006 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission
(General Exchange of Views)

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Mr. Chairman,

I congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the 2006 Session of the UNDC, and look forward to the success of the current session under your skillful chairmanship.

At the same time, I feel a sense of relief that this meeting is possible after two years of setbacks in the United Nations disarmament course due to artificial obstacles.

Mr. Chairman,

It would be instructive for us to look back on the past debates on the nuclear issues in the international arena including the United Nations. As we are all aware, certain nuclear weapon states and their allies forced the debates to be conducted in terms of conflict of values to dominate the world, not in terms of world peace and security to save our planet and mankind from nuclear destruction. And for two years, the UNDC could not even agree on agenda, failing to contribute to the actual nuclear disarmament. This shows us that as long as there exists the ambition for nuclear supremacy, the efforts of international community for nuclear-free world would be in vain.

Today, military strength is practically being mobilized to spread "democracy" and "freedom" across the world, in which nuclear weapons play main role. The post cold war hopes for the nuclear-free world have all faded away, and threats of nuclear war have increased.

Whether we could show the world peoples that the debate on nuclear issues in the UN is not hypocrisy depends totally on the nuclear weapon states. If the nuclear weapon states respond positively to the calls of the non-nuclear weapon states for an agreement on prohibition of nuclear weapons, a big progress would be made in the process of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Mr. Chairman,

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation are inseparably related to each other, and nuclear disarmament has priority to non-proliferation.

At the Security Council and the UN disarmament machinery, the United States and its allies set nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation as separate issues from each other, and insist on their odd arguments that only nuclear proliferation is threat to international peace and security. In other words, if proliferation is contained, there would be no nuclear threats in the world, because their nuclear weapons are not posing any threats at all.

Their insistence on non-proliferation only reflects their ulterior intentions of avoiding nuclear disarmament.

As long as nuclear weapons and threats of their use exist, the logical conclusion is proliferation of nuclear weapons.

In this regard, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea considers that the nuclear doctrine of the United States is the actual obstacle to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

The United States has declared pre-emptive nuclear strike as its security strategy, is engrossed in developing new types of nuclear weapons and, is applying dual standards in its nuclear policy according to its relations with other countries and its strategic interests.

The US nuclear doctrine of use of nuclear weapons is the total negation of the NPT and actual threat to world peace and security. The development of new types of nuclear weapons, the threat of pre-emptive nuclear strike and dual standard policy would inevitably foil the effort for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and instigate nuclear arms race.

Mr. Chairman,

The nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula is a direct product of the hostile policy of the United States towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Bush administration is pursuing the ambition of “regime change” by “pre-emptive strike”, while calling the DPRK part of “axis of evil” and “tyrannical” state. The United States has designated the DPRK as a target of nuclear pre-emptive strike, and disclosed that it has made new types of nuclear weapons to attack the DPRK.

In these compelling circumstances, the DPRK had no choice other than nuclear deterrence to counter the US’s ever-growing threat of nuclear attack, which is a reasonable exercise of the sovereign rights to defend its territory, people and social system from the foreign invasion.

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea maintains consistent position of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The Beijing Joint Statement of 6 party talks of September last year clearly stipulates the obligations of the DPRK and the USA for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the principles of simultaneous actions to realize them.

However, the United States is demanding that the Democratic People’ Republic of Korea give up its nuclear program first, which not only contradicts to reason but also shows that the United States has no interest in finding realistic ways to the settlement of the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

How can the DPRK put down arms, when the US has not abrogated its hostile policy of defining the DPRK “ the main enemy”? How can the DPRK dismantle its nuclear weapons first, when the US is stepping up nuclear war exercises to pre-emptive strike the DPRK with nuclear weapons?

When the United States has a mind to co-exist with the DPRK by abandoning its hostile policy on it, the DPRK will have no need of a single nuclear weapon.

The United States should refrain from setting up obstacles to the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula any further, but show practically its will to implement the obligations under the Beijing Joint Statement.

Thank you.