



# Democratic People's Republic of Korea

## PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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## Press Release

**Statement by the Representative of  
the Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
at the 2008 Substantive Session of the UN Disarmament Commission  
(April 8, 2008)**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like, first of all, on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to congratulate you on your election into the chairmanship of the 2008 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission.

Before referring to the agenda items now on the table, please allow me to express our view on the present situation of the Korean peninsula and the resolution of the nuclear issue, which become a major concern worldwide.

Recently, extremely tense situation is now in the making on the Korean peninsula due to the reckless acts of anti-DPRK and anti-reunification forces at home and abroad.

As well known to the world, the United States-south Korea Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises were conducted throughout south Korea in early March this year.

In light of their scale and nature, these maneuvers, for which latest military hardware including the nuclear-powered ultra-large carrier Nimitz and nuclear-powered guided missile submarine were mobilized, are a nuclear war rehearsal to attack the DPRK by force of arms.

Furthermore, most recently, violent remarks to preemptively strike the nuclear base of the DPRK were openly made by the south Korean high ranking military official.

It is regrettable, indeed, that these attempts are aimed at putting back to a confrontation phase the situation of the Korean peninsula, which had been positive till last year moving towards reconciliation and cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

A peaceful resolution of the nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiations is the consistent stand of the DPRK.

Our ultimate goal in its resolution is to denuclearize the Korean peninsula as a whole.

With this goal in mind, we have made every possible effort with patience to implement the joint statement of September 19, 2005 and its consequent agreements of February 13 and October 3, 2007.

The disablement of Nyongbyon nuclear facilities has already reached over 90% and a report on the nuclear declaration was worked out and informed to the U.S. side in November last year.

An exceptional measure was taken as well on our part for allowing the United States experts to see even sensitive military objects and providing them with samples with a view to clarifying the issue of "suspected uranium enrichment" raised by the United States.

As requested by the United States, we also reconfirmed our commitment not to proliferate the nuclear technology when the latter was the first to raise the issue of the "suspected nuclear cooperation".

In other words, we have been doing what we are supposed to do far beyond our obligations.

The fundamental principle for the resolution of the nuclear issue is the simultaneous action, which was agreed upon at the six party talks.

However, the United States has not yet honored its commitments to remove the DPRK from the list of terror-sponsors and terminate the application of The Trading with The Enemy Act.

If the United States is sincere in its attitude towards the denuclearized Korean peninsula, it should prove the abandonment of its hostile policy on the DPRK through practical actions as it has pledged to do so, refraining from laying obstacles to the resolution of the nuclear issue by antagonizing the DPRK with such acts as joint military exercises with South Korea.

The South Korean authorities also should behave properly in conformity with the historic Jun 15 joint declaration and October 4 declaration rather than taking a confrontational path against the same nation.

This is the only way for achieving a common prosperity of the Korean nation and ensuring peace and security on the Korean peninsula and beyond.

The DPRK government will remain unchanged in its position to develop the inter-Korean relations and achieve independent reunification, peace and prosperity in conformity with the historic June 15 Joint Declaration and October 14 Declaration.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation is of the view that the current session should be seized as an opportunity of making tangible contribution to realizing the earnest desire of the entire human kind for a nuclear free world.

The root cause of proliferation of nuclear weapons, so much concerned over by certain countries including the United States is the existence of nuclear weapons and the threat to use them.

Therefore, the nuclear weapon states particularly the United States with the largest nuclear arsenal in the world need to make due contribution to achieving the objective of this session by committing themselves to nuclear disarmament towards eventual total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Thank you.