Statement by H. E. So Se Pyong, Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
at the CD Plenary Meeting
(Geneva, 27 February 2013)

Madame President,
Let me take this opportunity once again to express our warm congratulations to you on your assumption of the Presidency of the Conference and to assure you of our full support. I sincerely wish you every success in your endeavours.
Madame President,
Today, the delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) would like to call attention of the Conference to the intensified US hostile policy toward the DPRK.
The recent nuclear test carried out by the DPRK was a resolute step for self-defence to cope with the US hostile acts of wanton violation against the legitimate right of DPRK to launch satellite for peaceful purposes.
By nature, the DPRK had neither a plan to conduct the nuclear test nor need to do so.
The US, however, deterred the DPRK from focusing its efforts on developing the economy and improving the people’s living standard under the peaceful and stable circumstances.
Such ill intention of the US was concentrically manifested when the DPRK launched satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 in December last year.
The satellite launch was the exercise of the legitimate right of a sovereign state under international law.
But the US repeated to abuse the authority of the UN Security Council while pulling up the DPRK only over its satellite launch.
The DPRK was compelled to make an important decision under the grim situation where the US hostile policy toward the DPRK entered a grave phase and the DPRK was barred from staging in peace a drive for developing the economy and improving the standard of people’s living.
This was the very reason why it conducted the nuclear test.
The US is to blame for the situation on the Korean Peninsula which is inching close to an unpredictable phase.
It is an illogical nonsense and trick on the international community to assert that the DPRK poses a "threat to the international peace and security" because it used "ballistic missile" technology as the US alleges.
Among UN member states the US launched most of satellites including military satellites. It is also the US which launched most of nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missiles in the world. It is in accordance with the US logic to assert that the US is the biggest threat to the world peace and security and it should be the first coming into question.
The US which carried out the most nuclear tests and satellites launches in the world insists on the prohibition against the DPRK only from conducting nuclear test and launching satellite. It is a violation of international law and height of double-standards. The US should no longer be allowed to seriously infringe upon the independent right of the DPRK to use the space for peaceful purposes nor should it be allowed to abuse the UN Security Council as a tool for executing its hostile policy toward the DPRK.
The US, though belated, should choose between the two options: To respect the DPRK's right to satellite launch and open a phase of détente and stability or to keep to its wrong road leading to the explosive situation by persistently pursuing its hostile policy toward the DPRK.
I would like to make it clear once again that the third nuclear test was carried out as part of the practical countermeasures for defending the country's sovereignty and security to cope with ruthless hostile behaviors of the US which wantonly infringed upon the DPRK's legitimate right to satellite launch for peaceful purposes.
I am convinced that the Conference will pay due attention to a hard fact that the essence of the situation created on the Korean Peninsula is a serious issue of whether the sovereignty of a UN member state is respected or violated.
I thank you, Madame President.