



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. Choe Su Hon
Chairman of the Delegation of the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

At the General Debate of the
Sixtieth Session of the
United Nations General Assembly

New York, 22 September, Juche 94(2005)

Mr. President,

Please allow me to congratulate you on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on your election to the presidency of the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly as well as your predecessor His Excellency Mr. Jean Ping, Foreign Minister of the Gabonese Republic, on his commendable work as the president for the last one year, and look forward to a success of the current session.

My appreciation goes to the secretary-general of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Kofi Annan for his tireless efforts towards the UN reform aimed at realizing multilateralism centered on the UN in conformity with the demand of the changed current situation.

Mr. President,

Five years ago when the UN Millenium Summit adopted the declaration of peace, poverty eradication and respect for human rights, the humankind sincerely hoped that peace and prosperity would settle in this globe with the beginning of a new century.

However, despite the adoption of the declaration and aspiration of the humankind, the world is further being drawn into the vortex of instability and fear due to unilateralism and high-handedness of the superpower.

In one side of the globe, the voice of yearning for peace, poverty eradication and sustainable development is ever increasing whilst in other side, provocative acts such as armed invasion, threat of nuclear preemptive attack are openly committed against sovereign states.

In the northeast Asia alone with the Korean peninsula as its center, adventurous military attempts continue unabated aggravating the tension in the region; the strengthening of strategic military alliance, large-scale introduction of highly sophisticated weapons and operational equipment, establishment of missile defense system and "Ulzi Focus Lens-05" type military exercises for preemptive strikes.

The present situation getting ever more acute due to the arbitrariness on the part of unilateralist forces urgently require the member states to make a joint effort to realize multilateralism centered on UN on the basis of the principles of respect for sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and mutual benefits.

Mr. President,

As is well known, peace and stability on the Korean peninsula is directly linked to peace and security in the northeast Asian region and the rest of the world.

The situation on the Korean peninsula repeats the vicious circle of tension and détente as witnessed in recent years avoiding durable peace and stability. The primary cause of it lies in the national division forced by the foreign forces and the extreme hostile policy on the DPRK of the superpower.

The DPRK's Songun policy of placing importance on the military affairs is primarily aimed at coping with the United States attempts to suffocate the DPRK, which constitute a real threat.

The Songun policy administered by the respected General **KIM JONG IL** is the basic guarantee of safeguarding our sovereignty from the constant threat of the United States and preventing another war on the Korean peninsula, thus ensuring peace and security in the northeast Asia.

This year, the north and south of Korea jointly commemorated significantly the 5th anniversary of the announcement of the June 15 north-south joint declaration and the 60th anniversary of the Korea's liberation, setting a new stage in achieving great national unity and realizing the cause for national reunification independently and peacefully under the ideal of "our nation itself".

The Government of our Republic will, in the future too, make every possible effort to bring earlier the independent national reunification and achieve durable peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and the common prosperity of the nation by thoroughly implementing the June 15 north-south joint declaration.

Mr. President,

With a view to facilitating better understanding of the member states and making positive contribution to the work of the current session, I am going to mention about the principled position and sincere efforts of our Republic for a fair solution of the nuclear issue between the DPRK and the United States.

The Government of our Republic remains consistent in its position to address the nuclear issue peacefully through dialogue and negotiations.

As everybody knows, the nuclear issue is a direct product of the United States hostile policy on the DPRK extended over half a century.

As the United States, driven by extreme hostility towards the DPRK, went as far as to designate it as part of an "axis of evil" and a target of preemptive nuclear strikes, threatening militarily its security, the DPRK has been compelled to possess self-defensive nuclear deterrent as a means of safeguarding the national dignity and sovereignty.

Under the circumstances in which the United States, the only world superpower, is looking down upon us, threatening with nuclear weapons, the DPRK with a small territory and population has no alternative than to possess a strong legitimate self-defensive means.

As clarified time and again, the ultimate goal of the DPRK with regard to the nuclear issue is the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is the instructions of President **KIM IL SUNG**, the fatherly leader of our people. The north-south joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula of 1992 and the DPRK-US Agreed Framework of 1994 are the manifestations of the invariable political will of the Government of our Republic to denuclearize the Korean peninsula by all means.

During the recent 4th round of 6 party talks in Beijing, we approached the discussion seriously with magnanimity and principled, fair and above-board stand to achieve our consistent final goal of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, at any cost, thus enabling the talks to come up with an agreement on the principles to this end in broad framework, overcoming all the challenges.

The joint statement reflects our principled position on the resolution of the nuclear issue and at the same time clearly specifies the obligations of the United States and south Korea, responsible parties for the denuclearization of the whole Korean peninsula.

As already clarified more than once, there will be no need for the DPRK to keep a single nuclear weapon if the DPRK-US relations are normalized, bilateral confidence is built and the DPRK is not exposed to the US nuclear threat any longer.

What is most essential at this stage is for the United States to provide light-water reactors to the DPRK as soon as possible as evidence proving the former's substantial recognition of the latter's right to peaceful nuclear activities.

We will watch closely how the United States will move in actuality at the phase of "action for action".

The Government of our Republic will continue its best endeavor with patience for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Mr. President,

If the United Nations is to fulfill its mission for ensuring international peace and security and economic and social development, it should be reformed in conformity with the demand of the new century. This is the unanimous view of the international community.

What is important in this regard is to realize the multilateralism centered on the UN in line with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

To this end, efforts should be made, among others, to prevent unilateralism and high-handedness violating the UN Charter and international law and firmly ensure the pivotal functions and role of the United Nations in addressing major international issues.

Disputes should be resolved peacefully through dialogue and negotiations.

Unilateral use of force can never be justified in any case.

Such actions as authorizing specific countries to launch preemptive attacks on the pretext of preventing conflicts should not be construed as strengthening collective security system of the UN, and therefore should be rejected as they are dangerous attempts of ignoring the principle of non-interference in other's internal affairs and respect for sovereignty stipulated in the UN Charter.

Secondly, all the important international issues should be addressed fairly and reasonably in the interests of the overwhelming majority of member states, without allowing them to be dominated or dealt with by the superpower or a few powerful countries.

In this context, we consistently insist upon the establishment of a system, which mandates the General Assembly to review and endorse Security Council resolutions relating to sanctions and use of force that can affect the international peace and security.

The Security Council should be reformed on the basis of principle of ensuring full representation of the non-aligned and developing countries which make up the overwhelming majority of member states.

And we should never tolerate the permanent membership of Japan, who refuses to liquidate its past crimes against other countries, distorting its history of aggression and, drives the regional situation into confrontation.

The reform of human rights mechanism of the United Nations should be realized in conformity with the demand of the majority countries as well.

In reforming human rights mechanism, it should set as its pressing task and ultimate goal to put an end to infringement on national sovereignty, politicization of human rights, application of a double standard and selectivity, which are the most serious human rights violations at present. This reform should also be done, like the reform of the Security Council on the basis of the principle of ensuring full representation of non-aligned and developing countries that make up the overwhelming majority of the UN membership.

If this is ignored, the reform of human rights mechanism will remain only an empty talk. And worse still, if the establishment of the "Human Rights Council" is aimed at legitimizing the high-handedness of a few countries on the pretext of "human rights protection", the discussion itself will be meaningless at all.

Mr. President,

The Government of the DPRK will continue making active contribution to the efforts of the member states to build a new peaceful and prosperous world by further strengthening the friendly and cooperative relations with all countries respecting our national sovereignty in accordance with the ideal of independence, peace and friendship.

Thank you.