



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by
H.E. Mr. PAK KIL YON
Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and
Head of Delegation of the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

At the General Debate of the sixty-sixth session of
the United Nations General Assembly
New York, 27 September, Juche 100(2011)



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Mr. President,

First of all, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, on your election as President of the 66th session of the United Nations General Assembly and I am confident that your able chairmanship will lead this session to a success.

My congratulations also go to the Republic of South Sudan on its admission into the UN.

Mr. President,

This year marks the 20th year of the UN membership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

The DPRK joined the UN proceeding from its desire to defend world peace and achieve common prosperity of the mankind together with all UN members and has since remained faithful to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter as it had pledged.

However, in the present international relations the logic of power and high-handed politics become all the more undisguised negating the principle of sovereign equality against the efforts and desires of the UN member states.

Few countries are engrossed in interference in internal affairs and use of force against sovereign states in an attempt to dominate the regions of their strategic interests under the signboard of protecting civilians and defending peace. Regrettably, the UN is misused in this process.

International law and order are violated and undermined by the arbitrary and high-handed acts of some big powers. Such a reality of today requires UN member states to reaffirm the principle of defending peace and sovereign equality enshrined in the UN Charter and to speed up the process of the UN reform including enhanced power of the General Assembly.

It is a long time ago that the UN General Assembly adopted the resolutions on dismantling the "UN Command" in south Korea and putting an end to the US blockade against Cuba, which have not been implemented until now. This is just a piecemeal example that highlights the urgent need to enhance the authority of the General Assembly.

For enhanced authority of the UN General Assembly it is necessary to put in place urgently a mechanism whereby the UN Security Council resolutions related to peace and security like those on sanctions and use of force are subject to approval of the General Assembly if they are to take effect.

We find yet another area where the logic of power is manifested more clearly in international relations. It is none other than the 3rd Committee of the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council.

Though it is said that reform was made to terminate politicization, selectivity and double standards in dealing with human rights issues, there still remains the prevailing reality where specific countries are selected for discussions on their human rights situations while major human rights violators are simply passed over in silence, all in accordance with the political objectives and interests of the west and the criteria of the western values.

It is our view that the reform process of the human rights bodies should be intensified in such a way as to complete the system which can ensure genuine freedoms and rights of the people of all countries, respecting diverse history and culture, ideas and systems of the world.

Meanwhile, some progress has been made in the field of sustainable development, one of the three goals set by the UN for the last two decades following the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. However, we are still faced with tremendous challenges.

We consider that the UN Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in 2012 should take practical steps for such issues as creation of peaceful environment for development, establishment of fair international economic and trade relations, removal of sanctions, implementation of the commitment to Official Development Assistance (ODA), transfer of environment-friendly technology and increased financial assistance to developing countries.

It is an inalienable right of the Palestine people to put an end to the Israeli occupation and create an independent state of their own. It is also an obligation of the international community to admit Palestine into a full-fledged UN member state.

The DPRK which recognized Palestine state in 1988 supports its UN admission and expresses its conviction that the aspirations of the Palestine

people will be translated into a reality.

Mr. President,

Now in the DPRK, general march is in full swing to realize the cause of building a powerful state under the wise leadership of the great General **KIM JONG IL**.

The DPRK Government concentrates all its resources on economic construction with main emphasis on significantly improving the people's livelihood, thus achieving unprecedented remarkable successes.

The economic construction in the DPRK will make a meaningful contribution to the efforts of the international community to bring about regional development and to attain the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In this context, a stable and peaceful environment is a vital prerequisite for the DPRK and its people today in their struggle for economic construction.

To our regret, however, the Korean peninsula is not yet provided with a lasting and stable peace mechanism.

The national division imposed by the outside forces and the fragile armistice with neither war nor peace have now persisted for more than half a century. This is a stark reality of the Korean peninsula.

Despite unanimous aspirations and desires of all the people at home and abroad who want peace and stability, arms build-up and nuclear war exercises continue to be staged one after another against the DPRK in and around the Korean peninsula. Due to this factor, there is a recycling of dangerous situation on the Korean peninsula which is often driven to a brink of war.

The prevailing situation not only poses a grave threat to the sovereignty and security of our Republic but also obstructs every effort of our people for peaceful development.

Had it not been for the Songun politics unfolded by the great leader of our people General **KIM JONG IL** and our powerful war deterrent, the Korean peninsula would have been turned into a theatre of war scores of times and our peaceful economic construction unimaginable.

The DPRK government remains consistent in its stand to secure peace and stability and move towards denuclearization of the Korean peninsula through dialogues and negotiations.

The present circumstances of the Korean peninsula require all the parties concerned to seize the opportunity of dialogue and take courageous decision to act boldly on solving the fundamental issues.

Continued existence of the tense situation on the Korean peninsula is attributable to the hostile relations between the DPRK and the United States that give rise to mistrust and confrontation.

As long as the hostility exists between the DPRK and the US as the parties to the armistice agreement leveling guns at each other, the mistrust and confrontation will not dissipate and the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula will find no way to its satisfactory solution.

It is from this intent that the DPRK proposed again last year to hold talks for replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement.

The signing of a peace agreement as a process of implementing the Resolution(3390) adopted at the 30th session of the UN General Assembly in 1975 is the most effective confidence-building measure of removing mistrust between the DPRK and the US, which will further serve as a driving force of ensuring the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Denuclearization of the whole Korean peninsula is the last instruction of the great leader of the Korean people President **KIM IL SUNG**.

The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula specified in September 19 Joint Statement of 2005 is a process of turning the whole Korean peninsula into a nuclear free zone based on complete removal in a verifiable manner of the actual nuclear threat to the Korean peninsula from the outside.

The issue of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula, to all intents and purposes, had originated from the hostile policy and nuclear war threat of the US against the DPRK. Such being the case, the US is the main party that is responsible for and capable of removing the root cause of the problem. The nuclear issue would have never been raised at all if the US refrained from deploying nuclear weapons in the Korean peninsula and threatening the DPRK with nuclear arms.

Under the present circumstances where the Korean peninsula stands at the crossroad of either relaxation of tension or the vicious cycle of aggravation of tension, the US should boldly abandon the hostile policy against the DPRK and move towards full-fledged dialogue, proceeding from its long-term strategic vision.

The DPRK will in the future, too, make strenuous efforts to establish a durable and lasting peace mechanism on the Korean peninsula and will continue to cooperate with all the parties concerned for unconditional resumption of the six-party talks.

Mr. President,

The inter-Korean relations had been developing favourably on the Korean peninsula since the publication of the June 15 Joint Declaration. However, it is extremely unfortunate that the north-south relations have now been aggravated in their worst state with widespread atmosphere of war and confrontation against the fellow countrymen after the present south Korean authorities took office.

There is a serious problem behind all this, that is, the issue of fundamental contradiction and antagonism in the approach towards reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Different ideas and systems exist now in the north and the south of Korea. Given this reality, the option for reunification method presents itself a vital issue which will lead either to national reunification or to national disaster.

The north and the south of Korea, through the June 15 Joint Declaration of 2000, recognized that there is a common ground in the federal formula proposed by the north and the confederal one by the south for reunification and agreed to orient the reunification along this direction in future.

This agreement between the north and the south enjoyed warm support and welcome from all the fellow countrymen as well as from the international community including the UN.

But the present south Korean authorities totally denied the June 15 Joint Declaration on the agreed reunification method and came up with what they called the theory of “unification through absorption” which presupposes the

collapse of the other party, and thus put the inter-Korean relations into a phase of touch-and-go confrontation and increased the danger of war with each passing day.

In view of the prevailing reality of the Korean peninsula, the so called “unification through absorption” is the road to war whereas the federal formula leads to peace.

The federal formula is a realistic proposal for reunification premised on co-existence and the best possible method of reunification that can prevent a war. It is also a reasonable proposal for reunification which accords with the interests of the region and the neighboring countries as it presupposes the neutrality of the reunified state.

If the present south Korean authorities truly want to see the relaxed situation of the Korean peninsula and the improved inter-Korean relations, they should escape from their confrontational attitude against peace and reunification and make a switchover of policy towards respecting and fully implementing the June 15 Joint Declaration and October 4 Declaration, agreed at the summit level between the north and the south.

Mr. President,

The DPRK will, in the future, too, further strengthen and develop friendly and cooperative relations with all the UN member states in accordance with its underlying foreign policy ideas of independence, peace and friendship and will do its level best to defend peace and security of the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world and to promote joint development and common prosperity of the humankind.

Thank you.