



# **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-seventh session of**

**The United Nations General Assembly**

**New York, 1 October, Juche 101 (2012)**

Mr. President,

Allow me to congratulate you, Mr. Vuk Jeremic, on your election as President of the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and I expect your proficient stewardship will lead this meeting to a success.

Mr. President,

Upon authorization, I would like to begin by expressing profound gratitude to the Heads of State and Government and people of the member states of the UN, Mr. Secretary General, Mr. President of the 66<sup>th</sup> session of the UNGA, representatives of the UN organizations and many countries to the UN for having extended deep condolence over the demise in December last year of the great leader of our people General KIM JONG IL.

General KIM JONG IL devoted tireless efforts until the last moment of his life to firmly safeguarding dignity and sovereignty of the country, prosperity and happiness of the people as well as to accomplishing the cause of global independence and the world peace and stability.

Today, having held dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN as the supreme leader of the Party, State and Army, our people are striving to build a prosperous and powerful socialist state.

Dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN safeguards peace and stability of the Korean peninsula by succeeding the Songun politics of General KIM JONG IL in good faith and wisely leads the general advance march for developing economy and improving people's livelihood, elucidating the development strategy of our own style and innovative methods, with his insight into the world.

Our dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN is firmly determined to make our people who have overcome manifold hardships enjoy happy life to their heart's content in a prosperous socialist state.

Dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN is implementing independent foreign policy and is opening up a new chapter in the development of relations with other countries that are friendly to the DPRK, not bound by the past.

Our people are following dear respected Marshal KIM JONG UN with absolute trust in him and are vigorously advancing to the final victory with full conviction in and optimism about the future, single-heartedly united behind him.

Mr. President,

The founding of the United Nations in the last century gave hope to the mankind, who went through a tragic world war, the hope that it would achieve common prosperity by ensuring peace and security and developing cooperation between states on the principle of sovereign equality.

Over the time and even today after elapse of the first decade of the new century, the desire of the mankind has yet to be achieved.

In the current international relations, high-handedness and arbitrariness are becoming ever more undisguised and the use of force and acts of state terrorism aimed at infringement of sovereignty, interference in internal affairs and regime change are continued under such pretext as “non-proliferation” and “humanitarian intervention”.

We are now witnessing the resurrection of the outdated international relations of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when a handful of great powers dominated the world by resorting to force, and this resurrection tarnishes the credibility of the UN whose mandate is to ensure global peace and security.

The fact that the theme “Bringing about Adjustment or Settlement of International Disputes or Situations by Peaceful Means” was chosen for the current session shows the seriousness of the current international situation.

The most serious issue in the international arena at present is a flagrant violation of the principles of respect for sovereignty and equality.

Unless the high-handedness and arbitrariness of certain countries are not eliminated thoroughly, it’s hard to say that the UN is playing its function and role as a centre for coordinating cooperative relations between states based on the principle of sovereign equality as enshrined in the UN Charter.

The unjustifiable interference, pressure and use of force that violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria and the right to self-determination and existence of Palestine should be rejected.

Democratization of the UN and, in particular, strengthening the authority of the UNGA are an urgent issue for enhancing the central role of the UN in international relations.

The UNGA resolution adopted long ago on dismantling the so-called “United Nations Command” stationed in south Korea and the resolution adopted annually on ending the US blockade against Cuba remain unimplemented. These are typical examples that show the necessity of strengthened authority of the UNGA.

It is quite natural for the UNGA that represents the general will of all the UN members to supervise overall activities of the UN. In particular, the UNGA should be given the authority to undertake final review of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions related to peace and security such as sanctions and use of force.

The abuse of the UNSC as a tool for pursuing strategic interests by a handful of countries should never be overlooked.

In last April, the United States (US) took issue with our legitimate and peaceful space launch that followed the universal international law and forced the UNSC to adopt an unjust statement. It alone shows how the UNSC is abused.

The UNSC reform which is at the core of the overall UN reform is a matter that brooks no further delay and it should be carried out in such a manner that it guarantees responsibility, transparency, impartiality and objectivity in its activities and ensures full representation of developing countries in its composition.

Other UN bodies where the theory of force and double standards is extremely manifested are the Third Committee of the UNGA and the UN Human Rights Council.

Politicization, selectivity and double-standards in deliberations of human rights should be put to an end and we should never allow the continued situation where the human rights situations of selected countries are either called into question or simply ignored in accordance with the political purpose and interests of the West and the western standard values.

In the field of sustainable development which is now one of the three targets set by the UN, the agreement reached in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development held in last June in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, should be implemented. Practical measures should be taken to solve such issues as establishing fair international economic and trade relations, fulfilling the commitment to Official Development Assistance (ODA), transferring environmentally clean technologies to developing countries and strengthening financial support.

Mr. President,

Today, due to the continued US hostile policy towards the DPRK, the vicious cycle of confrontation and aggravation of tension is an ongoing phenomenon on the Korean peninsula, which became the world's most dangerous hotspot where a spark of fire could set off a thermonuclear war.

At the root of the US hostile policy against the DPRK that has continued for over half a century lies its intention to destroy the ideas and system chosen by our people and to occupy the whole of the Korean peninsula to use it as a stepping-stone for realizing its strategy of dominating the whole of Asia.

From the first day the DPRK was founded, the US designated the DPRK as her enemy and refused to recognize its sovereignty. Since then, it has pursued all sorts of sanctions, pressures and military provocations against the DPRK for more than half a century.

The US hostile policy towards the DPRK is most deeply rooted in military field.

No precedent can be found in modern history like the one in which the DPRK and the US remain as warring parties for over 60 years even after the war.

With a view to eliminating the DPRK by dint of force, the US already finalized different Korean War scenarios and it is waiting for a chance to implement them that outlined plan of imposing military rule after military invasion in case of contingency.

According to these military operation plans, the US has been continuously staging various joint military exercises just under different names in and around the Korean peninsula for several decades. A typical example is the combined military exercise "Ulji Freedom Guardian" staged at the end of last August with huge armed forces, which drove the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war.

It is none other than the DPRK's patience and self-defensive war deterrent that prevented the continued military provocations of the US from turning into an all-out war on the Korean peninsula.

However, the DPRK's patience does not mean it has no bound.

Peace and stability are precious to our people with their general goal of building a prosperous and powerful state. But all the more precious is the dignity of the nation and the sovereignty of the country.

It is our principled stand to react to the aggressors' reckless provocations with immediate corresponding strike in defense of the nation's dignity and the country's sovereignty and confront the war of aggression with a just war of reunifying the country.

The reality on the Korean peninsula proves that we have been absolutely right to have built war deterrent for self-defense by tightening our belt on the road of Songun and independence.

Our war deterrent is a mighty weapon that defends the country's sovereignty and a powerful means that prevents war on the Korean peninsula as well as a strong guarantee that enables us to concentrate efforts on economic construction and improved people's livelihood.

The only way to prevent war and ensure lasting peace on the Korean peninsula is to put an end to the US hostile policy towards the DPRK.

The US hostile policy is the root cause that turned the Korean peninsula into the world's most dangerous hotspot and the main obstacle to the lasting peace and security. The nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula is also the product of the US hostile policy.

Not a single problem including the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula can be resolved without elimination of the hostile policy of the US which regards the DPRK as a target of hostility and tries to stifle it at any cost. This is the sum-up of the process of our dialogue with the US and a lesson we have drawn from our practical experience.

Mr. President,

At the turn of a new century, there have been north-south summit meetings on two occasions amid joyful enthusiasm of all the fellow countrymen, by which the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and October 4 Declaration were adopted. They created an atmosphere where the desire for reconciliation, cooperation and reunification reached its climax between the north and the south.

However, soon after taking office, the incumbent south Korean authorities completely negated all inter-Korean agreements including the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and October 4 Declaration which enjoyed full support and warm welcome from the entire Korean nation and the international community including the UN. Furthermore, they drove the inter-Korean relations to the worst state with the confrontation of fellow countrymen and systems.

The south Korean authorities rubbed salt into wounds of our people who suffered the greatest national loss and insulted our supreme dignity even with political terrorist acts, thus bringing the inter-Korean relations into a total bankruptcy. History will bring them to justice.

The DPRK government will join hands with anyone who truly wants reunification of the country and reconciliation and prosperity of the nation and make every effort with responsibility and patience to accomplish the historic cause of national reunification by frustrating interference of the outside forces and any

attempt of the anti-reunification forces for permanent national division, relying on concerted effort of the nation.

Mr. President,

The DPRK will continue to further strengthen and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with all countries that respect its sovereignty, pursuant to its foreign policy ideas of independence, peace and friendship, and actively join the efforts of the UN member states to secure world peace and stability and achieve sustainable development.

Thank you.