



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by H.E. Mr. **Kim Song**

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Korea to the United Nations

*At the general debate of the First Committee of the 77th Session of the General
Assembly*

New York, 11 October 2022

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chair of the First Committee. I hope that under your able leadership, this meeting will round up with an excellent result.

Mr. Chair,

It is the unanimous desire of humankind to live peacefully in the world free of aggression and war.

But contrary to such aspirations and demand of the international community, arms races are fiercely underway on an unprecedented scale, worsening the security environment around them.

Today, the high-handedness and arbitrariness of the U.S. in its attempt to sustain hegemony serve as a root cause of triggering arms races in various parts of the world.

The U.S. is now forming politico-military blocs one after another such as “Quad” and “AUKUS” in the Asia-Pacific region under the pretext of “restoring democracy” and “strengthening alliance”. It is more deeply engrossed than ever before in its moves for increased military expenditure including transfer of nuclear powered submarine technology, deployment of nuclear strategic assets, reinforcement of forces and arms sales, thus totally destroying security balance.

The reality proves that general and complete disarmament is just a mirage, and peace and stability can never settle on the globe as long as there remain the forces that systematically threaten the security environment of other countries and regions, in desperate pursuit of hegemonic strategy by way of “predominance of power”.

The U.S. military expansion finds the clearest manifestation on the Korean peninsula.

This year alone, the U.S. made forward deployment of numerous strategic assets and cutting-edge hardware such as “B-52H”, “B-2A” and “F-35A” and handed over enormous arms equipment to the south Korean authorities.

In last August, it conducted the largest-scale “Ulji Freedom Shield” joint military exercise with south Korea by mobilizing tens of thousands of U.S. troops and south Korean army for the first time since 2017.

In late September, it also staged a war game around the Korean peninsula for the first time in 5 years with involvement of 20-odd warships such as the strike force of the U.S. nuclear aircraft carrier “Ronald Reagan” and nuclear submarines.

It is never-ending to enumerate the U.S. moves for military build-up.

This notwithstanding, the U.S. is embellishing its reckless military expansion, claiming that it is for “safeguarding peace”, “strengthening alliance” and “maintaining the rules-based international order”.

All these facts clearly prove that the failure for the Korean peninsula to get out of the vicious cycle of aggravated tension is attributable to the ceaseless aggressive war games and military build-up of the U.S. and its followers.

It represents the exercise of the basic right to self-defense clearly stipulated in the UN Charter and international law for the DPRK to arm itself with self-defensive means to counter the heinous hostility of the U.S. which has inflicted indescribable misfortunes and pains upon our people, persistently posing nuclear threat and blackmail

I take this opportunity to affirm explicitly that the main mission of our self-defense capability is to deter war by making the hostile forces give up their attempts of aggression and military attack. Accordingly, it never poses threat to the countries and peoples that are friendly to the DPRK and desire peace.

Mr. Chair,

The nuclear disarmament process, to which the UN has given priority since its founding, is now facing a serious challenge.

Today, the mastermind that undermines the foundation of the non-proliferation regime is none other than the U.S. which is indulged in nuclear threats and blackmail against sovereign states and even goes as far as nuclear proliferation, with a view to realizing its strategy of hegemony in flagrant infringement upon and violation of international law.

In order to realize the complete abolition of nuclear weapons, the United States, the first user of nuclear weapons and the biggest nuclear weapon state in the world, should take the lead in nuclear disarmament and refrain from provision of nuclear umbrella, sharing of nuclear weapons and transfer of nuclear technology.

For stability on the Korean peninsula, the U.S. must unconditionally root out the military threat against the DPRK including by stopping the arms build-up and joint military exercises with south Korea mobilizing the U.S. nuclear assets and dissolving the “UN Command” in south Korea.

Today, the revival of Japanese militarism and its rise to a military power are taking shape as one of the most serious threat to the regional peace and stability including the Korean peninsula, and there is a need for the international community to pay increased vigilance against it.

As a responsible nuclear weapon state, the DPRK will not deploy its nuclear weapons in the territory of other countries or share it with them. Neither will it transfer nuclear weapons and its related technology, equipment and weapon-grade nuclear materials.

DPRK also remains consistent in its position against the biological and chemical weapons, and opposes militarization and weaponization of outer space.

The DPRK will, as ever, continue to fully discharge its responsibilities and role for safeguarding peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and the world.

Thank you.