Statement of Head of the DPRK Delegation

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Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), I would like to congratulate you on your election as Chair of this Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

The total elimination of all WMD on the globe is not only the aspiration of humankind but also one of the main objectives set forth by the United Nations at its inception.

As the world witnessed the nuclear calamities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, a resolution was adopted on nuclear disarmament as the first UNGA resolution in 1946 for the purpose of preventing self-destructive nuclear arms race that would result in the extermination of humankind.

Over 70 years have passed since then, but today the global nuclear arsenal has increased both in quality and quantity and the threat of use of nuclear weapons become more undisguised than ever before.

The United States, with its annual military expenditure of more than 700 billion US$, is developing state-of-the-art hardware including new-generation ICBMs, hypersonic
missiles, long-range precision guided weapons, while revising and updating operation plans for the use of nuclear weapons against its foes.

In recent years, bilateral and multilateral treaties that had promoted disarmament and confidence-building for several decades have been abrogated or reduced to names only one after another, drawing great disappointment and concern of the international community.

Most recently, the U.S. decided to transfer the technology of nuclear-propelled submarine to Australia, a non nuclear-weapon state, under the pretext of "security cooperation", revealing once again that it would not be bound by its non-proliferation obligations assumed before the international community if it befits its own interests.

Although the New START, the only remaining treaty between the U.S. and Russia, was extended with much difficulty early this year, the prospect of negotiation for its follow-up agreement is still uncertain.

The U.S. manoeuvres of undisguised rallying of forces, frequent military exercises and active movement of strategic assets aimed at maintaining its global hegemony are reminiscent of the cold-war backdrop of the past 1960s.

All these facts show that the grave security crisis facing the world today comes from high-handed arbitrariness and double standards of the U.S. and its followers that destroy the foundation of international peace and stability.

Mr. Chairman,

The Korean peninsula is one of the world hotspots that a vicious cycle of tension and confrontation is repeated periodically.

The root-cause of the aggravated tension on the Korean peninsula is the U.S. hostile policy towards the DPRK, which finds the most concentrated expression in its nuclear blackmail and threats against the DPRK.

The U.S. is threatening the DPRK through military demonstrations of intimidating nature by staging all sorts of war drills aimed at the DPRK in and around the Korean peninsula and deploying nuclear assets such as nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines to south Korea and its surroundings from time to time.

In the face of harsh external environment created by the US hostile policy and nuclear threats continued for over 70 years coupled with the double-standard acts of the hostile
forces, we were compelled to follow the arduous road to building up self-defensive deterrent.

We are bolstering our national defensive power to safeguard ourselves and reliably defend the security and peace of the country.

Given the U.S. and south Korea increase military threat against the DPRK with excessive arms buildup and alliance military activities, nobody can deny the legitimate right to self-defense for the DPRK to develop, test, manufacture and possess the weapons system equivalent to those possessed or developed by them.

It is a clear double standard and an intolerable hostile act that some countries are pointing their fingers at the DPRK's measures to bolster national defense power as «threats to international peace and security» while keeping silent about the large-scale joint military exercises with nuclear assests and frequent offensive weapons tests.

When it comes to safeguarding our national interests and sovereign rights, we would not concede or compromise even an inch.

The DPRK strongly condemns and totally rejects the double-dealing stick and the hostile policy that ignore and deny the sovereignty of the DPRK.

If the DPRK's bolstering of self-defensive deterrent is condemned as provocation while the US-south Korea military alliance activities are left unquestioned, it will entail asymmetrical and destructive imbalance on the Korean peninsula. In the long run, the continued threat of one side against the other will lead to an aggression when it exceed the limit.

The U.S.-south Korea alliance military activities are growing unrestricted to a dangerous level, including inter alia, the recent U.S. declaration of termination of the missile guidelines for south Korea.

It is a common law of matters that every action has a reaction and if the reaction is weak, it will bring about a physical change.

If only the DPRK's beefing up of the self-defensive national defence power is continued to be restrained like now, it will create imbalance in the Korean peninsula and northeast Asia, and thus accelerate the time second to the outbreak of a war.

**Kim Jong Un**, President of the State Affairs, stated that it is the top-priority right of a sovereign state to bolster national defence power and the existence and development of our style socialism would have been absolutely unthinkable without the steady strengthening of the national defence capability.
We will continue to consolidate our self-defensive deterrent for safeguarding the national security in the face of the geopolitical environment of the Korean peninsula and the balance of power in the region as well as ever-straining international relations.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to achieve total elimination of nuclear weapons, those who possess the largest nuclear arsenal should make sincere efforts for nuclear disarmament first.

Especially, in order to safeguard the international non-proliferation regime and ensure international peace and security, the double-standard acts of the U.S., the only user of nukes with the largest number of nuclear weapons in the world, should be brought to an end.

The U.S. should roll back its nuclear policy of designating sovereign states with different ideas and systems as enemy states and placing them on the list for preemptive nuclear strike. It should also stop sharing nukes with and transferring nuclear technology to its allies.

For the sake of maintaining peace and security of the Korean peninsula, the U.S. should withdraw its hostile policy and double standards vis-a-vis the DPRK and permanently refrain from conducting offensive military exercises and introducing various nuclear strategic assets in and around the Korean peninsula.

Mr. Chairman,

The deterrent of the DPRK does not target any specific country, nor will it be used unless the DPRK is attacked.

The DPRK, as a responsible nuclear-weapon state, will not misuse its nuclear weapons unless the aggressive hostile forces attempt to have recourse to their nuclear weapons against it, and sincerely abide by the duties of nuclear non-proliferation assumed before the international community.

We remain unchanged in our position against biological and chemical weapons and we oppose militarization and weaponization of outer space.

The DPRK will, in the future, too, fulfill its responsibility and role for defending peace and stability of the Korean peninsula and the rest of the world.

Thank you.