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Promotion and protection of human rights**Letter dated 2 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

With reference to the letter dated 20 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which was circulated as a document of the General Assembly (A/61/97), I would like to express our regret that a request has been made once again to disseminate the letter based on unilateral and ungrounded allegations against Japan with unsubstantiated and exaggerated falsehood.

The letter alleges that "the Japanese authorities are seeking to isolate the Democratic People's Republic of Korea through the internationalization of the already resolved abduction issue". However, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has not provided us with a persuasive explanation of the fate of those victims, even though the Democratic People's Republic of Korea itself acknowledged the abduction. Japan once again emphasizes that the issue of the abduction of Japanese nationals remains unresolved and that the claim by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea cannot be accepted.

According to information from a number of sources, the abductees are not limited to Japanese nationals but include nationals of various countries. The acts of abduction constitute serious violations of human rights and are a grave concern to the international community. I would like to point out that in the Chair summary of the G-8 Summit held recently in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, the G-8 leaders requested "early resolution of the abduction issue".

Furthermore, as Japan has explained on various occasions, the claims of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with regard to the issues of the past are unsubstantiated. Our basic position on these issues is clearly reflected in the attached Pyongyang Declaration (see annex).

Japan strongly requests the Democratic People's Republic of Korea again not to threaten the peace and security of the Japanese people and to take sincere steps to achieve a comprehensive resolution of the abduction, missile and nuclear issues based on the Pyongyang Declaration and Security Council resolution 1695 (2006).

* A/61/150.



In addition, the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea should act in good faith and, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/173 on the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, accept a visit by the Special Rapporteur.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 66 of the provisional agenda of the sixty-first session of the Assembly.

(Signed) **Kenzo Oshima**
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 2 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Chairman Kim Jong-Il of the DPRK National Defense Commission met and had talks in Pyongyang on September 17, 2002.

Both leaders confirmed the shared recognition that establishing a fruitful political, economic and cultural relationship between Japan and the DPRK through the settlement of unfortunate past between them and the outstanding issues of concern would be consistent with the fundamental interests of both sides, and would greatly contribute to the peace and stability of the region.

1. Both sides determined that, pursuant to the spirit and basic principles laid out in this Declaration, they would make every possible effort for an early normalization of the relations, and decided that they would resume the Japan DPRK normalization talks in October 2002.

Both sides expressed their strong determination that they would sincerely tackle outstanding problems between Japan and the DPRK based upon their mutual trust in the course of achieving the normalization.

2. The Japanese side regards, in a spirit of humility, the facts of history that Japan caused tremendous damage and suffering to the people of Korea through its colonial rule in the past, and expressed deep remorse and heartfelt apology.

Both sides shared the recognition that, providing economic co-operation after the normalization by the Japanese side to the DPRK side, including grant aids, long-term loans with low interest rates and such assistances as humanitarian assistance through international organizations, over a period of time deemed appropriate by both sides, and providing other loans and credits by such financial institutions as the Japan Bank for International Co-operation with a view to supporting private economic activities, would be consistent with the spirit of this Declaration, and decided that they would sincerely discuss the specific scales and contents of the economic co-operation in the normalization talks.

Both sides, pursuant to the basic principle that when the bilateral relationship is normalized both Japan and the DPRK would mutually waive all their property and claims and those of their nationals that had arisen from causes which occurred before August 15, 1945, decided that they would discuss this issue of property and claims concretely in the normalization talks.

Both sides decided that they would sincerely discuss the issue of the status of Korean residents in Japan and the issue of cultural property.

3. Both sides confirmed that they would comply with international law and would not commit conducts threatening the security of the other side. With respect to the outstanding issues of concern related to the lives and security of Japanese nationals, the DPRK side confirmed that it would take appropriate measures so that these regrettable incidents, that took place under the abnormal bilateral relationship, would never happen in the future.

4. Both sides confirmed that they would co-operate with each other in order to maintain and strengthen the peace and stability of North East Asia.

Both sides confirmed the importance of establishing co-operative relationships based upon mutual trust among countries concerned in this region, and shared the recognition that it is important to have a framework in place in order for these regional countries to promote confidence-building, as the relationships among these countries are normalized.

Both sides confirmed that, for an overall resolution of the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula, they would comply with all related international agreements. Both sides also confirmed the necessity of resolving security problems including nuclear and missile issues by promoting dialogues among countries concerned.

The DPRK side expressed its intention that, pursuant to the spirit of this Declaration, it would further maintain the moratorium on missile launching in and after 2003.

Both sides decided that they would discuss issues relating to security.

Prime Minister of Japan
Junichiro Koizumi

Chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission
Kim Jong-Il

September 17, 2002
Pyongyang
