



Security Council

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Letter dated 1 December 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that, under the presidency of Japan, the Security Council plans to hold a briefing on Friday, 15 December 2017, on threats and challenges posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to international peace and security under the item "Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea".

In this regard, Japan has prepared the attached concept note (see annex). I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Koro **Bessho**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 1 December 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Concept note for the Security Council briefing on the theme “Non-proliferation/Democratic People’s Republic of Korea: “threats and challenges posed by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to international peace and security”, to be held on 15 December 2017

Introduction

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea has continued its provocative actions throughout 2017, including its sixth nuclear test in September, which the country purports to be a hydrogen bomb test and the scale of which is far greater than its previous tests, and the launching of 17 ballistic missiles, including intercontinental ballistic missiles and those that flew over Japan. Most recently, on 29 November, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea launched yet another ballistic missile with the range of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

The Security Council has repeatedly adopted resolutions in which it condemns in the strongest terms these provocative actions by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, which are in violation and flagrant disregard of its relevant resolutions. The Council has also clearly expressed that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea must not conduct any further provocations and that the international community will not accept the country as a nuclear State. In this context, the Security Council has repeatedly demanded that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea immediately abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner, immediately cease all related activities and abandon any other existing weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons, as well as ballistic missile programmes.

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, however, has neither shown its intention nor taken concrete actions towards the abandonment of weapons of mass destruction, their delivery means and related programmes. The country now poses an unprecedented, grave and imminent threat to the peace and security of the region as well as to the international community.

The Security Council is expected to keep the actions of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea under continuous review, noting that the Council has expressed its determination to take further significant measures in the event of a further nuclear test or launch by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. It is imperative at this juncture that the Security Council and its members renew and demonstrate their shared determination to strongly urge the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, by exerting maximum pressure, to change its course of action towards the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the abandonment of all other existing weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programmes, in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner.

Focus of the discussion

1. Threats and challenges posed by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to international peace and security
 - Nuclear and missile development programmes
 - Other weapons of mass destruction (chemical and biological weapons, etc.)

- Other related threats and challenges
2. Ways and means to maximize pressure to change the course of action of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea towards the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula
- Full implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions
 - Additional sanction measures in response to further provocations

Date and format of the briefing

A minister-level open briefing is planned for Friday, 15 December, at 10 a.m. The meeting is open to Security Council members and countries concerned according to rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

Briefers

The briefer is the Secretary-General.

Outcome

No outcome document is envisaged.
