

*Check against Delivery*

**Statement**

**by**

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**at**

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**the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty**

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Notwithstanding this progress and achievement, we note with concern that the Treaty has not yet entered into force although eleven years have passed since it was first opened for signature. With the prevailing aspirations of the international community, we today once again reiterate our solemn call for those States which have not signed or ratified the Treaty, particularly those remaining ten States listed in Annex 2, to do so without further delay.

We should be cautioned that the continuing stalemate in bringing the CTBT into force might debilitate our commitment to the Treaty, and lead to cascades of further unraveling of the nuclear non-proliferation regimes.

Madame and Mr. Co-Presidents,

From a global perspective, proliferation threats are still on the rise, while the existing mechanisms for dealing with these threats are under severe stress. Nuclear weapon technologies have continued to spread and the revelation of an extensive nuclear black market has brought home the real danger of fissile materials and weapons of mass destruction falling into the wrong hands. We also stress that a significant perception gap still exists between nuclear haves and have-nots regarding the qualitative and quantitative implementation of disarmament obligation.

Thus, all these challenges in the area of international nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament highlight the significance of the CTBT and the urgency of its early entry into force. We underline that all states should refrain from undermining the

September 19 Joint Statement," and positive developments have followed thereafter. I hope that these welcoming progresses will eventually lead to the complete dismantlement of all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in the DPRK. In this sense, the Six Parties are required to take further steps in a timely and appropriate manner in order to achieve the next phase of actions for the full implementation of the Joint Statement.

Once the Six-Party Talks achieve denuclearization and succeed in incorporating the DPRK into the global community, this experience will serve as a valuable lesson in dealing with other current and future global security challenges. In this process of implementation, we expect the DPRK to fully participate in the CTBT, which will represent its commitment to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and generate a real momentum for the long-awaited entry into force of the Treaty.

Madame and Mr. Co-Presidents,

The Republic of Korea is one of the original signatories to the Treaty and has long been a strong proponent of the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

Since the last Conference in 2005, the Korean Government has been actively involved in various initiatives of the CTBTO to promote the early entry into force. In October 2005, we hosted a Workshop on CTBTO International Cooperation in South East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East, in cooperation with the Provisional Technical Secretariat. In addition, the Republic of Korea has awakened the importance of early

endeavors in translating our original commitments and enthusiasm crafted eleven years ago into a reality.

Thank you. /End/