



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release

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Statement
by
Ambassador Kim Chang Guk
Deputy Permanent Representative of
the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the
United Nations

at the Third Committee of the
Sixtieth session of the UN General Assembly

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Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses its deep concern over the US and EU's misuse of human rights issues for their political purposes against developing small or weak countries and categorically rejects the "Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" A/C.3/60/L 48 submitted by the EU.

The EU's "resolution" reveals itself that the EU pursues interference in the internal affairs and regime change of the DPRK taking a ride in the anti-DPRK stifling policy of the US.

First, I would like to draw the attention of Member States to the fact that the "resolution" is based on falsehood and fabrications.

Last year, the US adopted the "North Korean Human Rights Act", and according to it allocates every year tens of millions of dollars to anti-DPRK maneuverings. The resolution carries fabrications and distortions all concocted by the US, Japan and certain EU countries and their ill-minded NGOs, in disregard of realities in our country.

The special rapporteur wearing the name of the UN is said to have met in south Korea with organizations which assist north Korean defectors.

They are the very organizations that engage in luring, abducting, brainwashing and converting our citizens into defectors. They are paid according to how many they bring and, what sort of and how many stories they cook. Now the western media are launching all-out human rights offensive against the DPRK, by mobilizing TV network and newspapers to propagate widely the stories fabricated by them.

We are surprised at the rapporteur's meeting with criminal organizations to discuss human rights, and have come to the conclusion that we were right to decide not to deal with him.

The delegation of the DPRK understands that human trafficking clearly constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and human rights.

Second, the "resolution" is intended to interfere in the internal affairs of the DPRK.

Recently, the Government of the DPRK has taken the decision not to receive the humanitarian assistance any longer from next year, given that the food situation has been notably improved. This would be helpful in reducing the burden of international community.

However, the EU, in its draft "resolution", expressed concern on the decision of my Government and urged it to continue accepting assistance and ensure the international organizations free and unrestricted access to all parts of the DPRK.

It is up to the DPRK, not the EU, to decide whether to receive the assistance or not.

The EU, US and Japan refused time and again humanitarian aids of food on political preconditions, when we were in urgent need of them, and now they are pressing us to receive aid when we declare that we stand on our own feet.

And it raises suspicion in our minds on whether they truly care for the humanitarian assistance to the DPRK or pursue any ill-minded purposes.

In this regard, we cannot but recall the incidents in Iraq in mid 1990's, when the US and UK employed UNSCOM for spying and military plots, as a member of the WMD inspection team revealed.

Third, the "resolution" is a typical manifestation of politicization, double standard and selectivity of human rights issues.

Even at this moment we are debating human rights issues in this room, the US and UK troops ruthlessly target innocent civilians and declare victory over insurgents. The US CIA is operating secret prisons across the world, where terror suspects are subjected to secret death by barbarous torture.

However, the EU keeps mum on these de facto realities but takes issue of human rights in developing countries. Is it really meaning to protect and promote human rights or just attempting to cover-up their own human rights violations?

We still vividly remember that the EU has rejected last April, the draft resolution tabled by Cuba on human rights issues of detainees in Guantanamo. This is a clear demonstration of double standard in EU's advocacy for human rights.

Mr. Chairman,

Human rights of individual countries are protected and promoted not by the US or the EU, but the respective Governments in conformity with their economic and social development and in accordance with their history, culture and tradition.

The Government of the DPRK stands consistent in its position that human rights constitute sovereignty and human rights that are not guaranteed by state sovereignty are nothing but a fiction.

This is the serious historical lessons that the people of the DPRK has learnt from 40 years of Japanese colonial rule and 60 years of sanctions and blockade under national division imposed by outside forces.

The delegation of the DPRK regards all draft resolutions tabled by the US and EU against the developing countries at the Third Committee of the current UNGA constitute a culmination of politicization, double standard and selectivity in the field of human rights.

Faced with the undeniable reality of today that the US and UK are arbitrarily branding those countries who do not share their values as human rights violators, while trampling down democracy and enforcing tyranny in the world, the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea raises the question of whether or not the principles of justice and equity are dead in the international relations, and appeal to the conscience of the world to give just and fair answer to it.

Thank you.