

**LETTER DATED 1 MARCH 2004 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA ADDRESSED TO THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT  
TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY THE SPOKESMAN FOR  
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON SIX-WAY TALKS IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION  
PUT BY THE KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY ON 29 FEBRUARY 2004  
IN BEIJING**

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of statement by the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in response to a question put on 29 February 2004 by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) as regards the six-way talks on the nuclear issue between the DPRK and the U.S. held in Beijing from 25 to 28 February 2004.

I would be grateful if this text could be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to the delegations of all Member States of the Conference and Non-Member States participating in its work.

*(Signed):*

Ri Tcheul  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of DPR of Korea

Annex

**Statement by the DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman on Six-way Talks in response to a question put by the Korean Central News Agency**

(29 February 2004)

1. The six-way talks on the nuclear issue between the DPRK and the U.S. took place in Beijing from February 25 to 28.
2. We attended the talks with expectation that a frank discussion on ways of seeking a solution to the nuclear issue between the DPRK and the U.S. would open a certain prospect of settling the issue.
3. Hence, we showed greatest magnanimity, clarifying its transparent will to scrap its nuclear program according to a proposal for a simultaneous package solution aimed to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and advancing fair and flexible proposals for implementing measures for the first-phase actions.
4. China, Russia and other participants in the talks, therefore, expressed support and understanding of our reasonable proposal.
5. However, the U.S. again insisted on its old assertion about the DPRK's abandoning its nuclear program first, saying that it can discuss the DPRK's concerns only when it completely scraps its nuclear program in a verifiable and irreversible manner. This threw a big hurdle in the way of the talks. It also absurdly asserted that it can not normalize relations with the DPRK unless missile, conventional weapons, biological and chemical weapons, human rights and other issues are settled even after its abandonment of all its nuclear programs.
6. The attitude of the U.S. side towards the talks increased our disappointment.
7. The U.S. side unhesitatingly said that it was not willing to negotiate with the DPRK, far from showing any sincere intention to settle the issue. The head of its delegation only read the prepared script without stammering and showed no sincerity, giving no answer even to the questions raised.
8. The U.S. did not show any stand to co-exist with the DPRK in peace as it did during the six-way talks held in August last year but once again disclosed its ulterior aim to persistently pursue its policy of isolating and stifling the DPRK, wasting time behind the scene of the dialogue.
9. The U.S. seems to calculate that the DPRK will collapse of its own accord if it wastes time, putting pressure upon the DPRK undergoing economic difficulties. This is little short of a behaviour of a bat-blind person who knows nothing of the DPRK.

10. The socialist system of Korean style which is guided by the Juche idea and where the entire army and all the people are single-heartedly united, true to the Songun politics, will never shake in any tempest.
  11. The U.S. seems to waste time in a bid to attain its political purpose but any delay in the solution of the nuclear issue would cause nothing unfavourable to the DPRK.
  12. This would give us time to take all necessary measures with an increased pace.
  13. Any further six-way talks will not prove helpful to the solution of the nuclear issue between the DPRK and the U.S. unless the U.S. shows its will to make a switchover in its policy toward the DPRK.
  14. In spite of this situation we consented to the time to open the next round of the six-way talks and to the issue of organizing a working group proceeding from the sincere and patient stand to seek a negotiated peaceful solution of the nuclear issue at any cost.
  15. It is difficult to expect that any further talks would help find a solution to the issue.
  16. The settlement of the nuclear issue will entirely depend on the change in the U.S. attitude.
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