

Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Joint statement on addressing the North Korean nuclear challenge endorsed by Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, the Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and the European Union

We, State Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, continue to express our deep concern over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's continuous development of its unlawful nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, including ballistic missile launches in an unprecedented manner since 2022 and the so-called satellite launches using ballistic missile technology, which are in clear violation of multiple Security Council resolutions. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, as well as secondary proliferation, constitute a clear and grave threat to regional and international peace and security and undermine the global non-proliferation regime, which needs to be addressed urgently. We regret that the Security Council did not agree to renew the mandate of the Panel of Experts on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 28 March, making our ability to hold the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to account even more difficult. Moreover, we express our serious concern over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's continued irresponsible and destabilizing nuclear rhetoric in which it declares its pursuit for tactical nuclear weapons and claims it might use its nuclear weapons pre-emptively.

We condemn the continued escalatory actions taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea through unlawful ballistic missile launches, violating Security



Council resolutions, threatening the safety and sovereignty of neighbouring countries, and undermining regional and international peace and security. Furthermore, we strongly condemn the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's continued engagement in nuclear activities, as outlined in the most recent safeguards report of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and multiple statements over recent months, and call upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to halt such activities and any efforts to expand or modify its nuclear facilities. We express our grave concern over the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's statement that it will "exponentially increase" its nuclear weapons arsenal, and urge the Democratic People's Republic of Korea not to conduct any nuclear tests and to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and immediately cease taking further destabilizing steps in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions.

We continue to support all efforts towards sustainable peace on the Korean Peninsula, including through diplomatic engagement, and call upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to accept the repeated offers of dialogue put forward by all parties concerned, including the United States, the Republic of Korea and Japan. It is highly regrettable that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has not taken concrete, verified and irreversible actions towards denuclearization, but instead abandoned its moratorium on long-range ballistic missile testing, and has advanced its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

We urge the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to take concrete steps towards abandoning all nuclear weapons, ballistic missiles and related programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner and to immediately cease all related activities in accordance with all relevant Security Council resolutions. We call upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to engage in meaningful diplomacy and return to negotiations towards this goal. We are committed to working with all relevant partners to build a basis for sustainable peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.

We reiterate our steadfast commitment to the objective of the return by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at an early date to and full compliance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty and International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, as well as its international obligations in accordance with Security Council resolutions. Only through these concrete steps will we ensure the preservation of regional and international peace and security and that the international nuclear non-proliferation regime, of which the Treaty is the cornerstone, is upheld.

We deplore the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's actions to conduct nuclear weapons tests, and reaffirm that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea cannot and will never have the status of a nuclear-weapon State in accordance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty, as stated in Security Council resolutions [1718 \(2006\)](#) and [1874 \(2009\)](#) and in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

We reaffirm our commitment to the international non-proliferation regime and urge all States Members of the United Nations to exercise strict vigilance over potential proliferation to and from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We reiterate that we will continue to faithfully and scrupulously implement relevant Security Council resolutions and call upon all States Members of the United Nations to uphold their non-proliferation commitments and fully implement all Security Council sanctions. To this end, we commit to further strengthening international cooperation.