



European Union

**EU Statement on
Agenda item 4(b): Application of Safeguards in the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

**Board of Governors
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

Vienna, 24-26 November 2021

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. The following countries align themselves with this statement: [Turkey[§], the Republic of North Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia*, Albania*, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Iceland+, Liechtenstein+, Norway+, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and San Marino.]

The EU, as a strong supporter of the international nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, urges all parties to maintain a high level of engagement on this issue ahead of the upcoming Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The indications of ongoing nuclear activities in the DPRK, as reported by the Director General, including, inter-alia, the operation of the 5MW(e) reactor and activity at the Radiochemical Laboratory and other facilities are deeply troubling. UN Security Council resolutions make clear that the DPRK must abandon its existing nuclear programme and immediately cease all related activities. The launches of ballistic missiles by the DPRK since September clearly violate UN Security Council resolutions and together with the launches of other new types of missiles undermine regional and international peace and security.

The DPRK's assertion of its intent to further develop its nuclear weapons and their means of delivery at the 8th Party Congress in January and the display of apparent new weapons at the Defence Science Exhibition in October 2021 raise serious concerns. The EU strongly underlines that the actions taken by the DPRK cannot confer the status of a nuclear weapon State in accordance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) or any special status whatsoever.

[§] Candidate Country

* Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania as well as potential Candidate Country Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein are members of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

The EU urges the DPRK to take concrete steps towards complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization as required by the UN Security Council resolutions leading to the verification of the exclusively peaceful nature of the DPRK's nuclear programme in which the IAEA needs to play a key role.

It is essential that the DPRK now refrains from actions that undermine the prospects for resuming dialogue. We call on the DPRK to respond constructively to the readiness for dialogue expressed by the United States and to engage in meaningful discussions with all relevant parties to achieve lasting peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.

We urge the DPRK:

- to continue refraining from testing nuclear weapons and to immediately implement a full moratorium on all types of ballistic missile launches;
- to return to full compliance with its obligations under the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon State and the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and to bring into force the Additional Protocol to that Agreement;
- to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)
- and in this context, to abandon its delivery systems programmes.

Until the DPRK takes these concrete steps and comes into compliance with all relevant Security Council Resolutions, the EU and its Member States will continue to strictly enforce existing sanctions. We call on every UN Member State to fully and effectively implement international sanctions decided by the UN Security Council and address the risk of weapons of mass destruction proliferation from the DPRK as an urgent priority. It is important that all States uphold their international obligations and implement relevant sanctions by ensuring they do not trade with the DPRK in nuclear and ballistic missile technologies and other restricted commodities and services.

Mr. Chairman,

We reiterate our appreciation for the continued efforts of the IAEA's DPRK Team to monitor the nuclear situation in that country. Any verification efforts would benefit from technical assistance by the IAEA and, as appropriate, the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) and would need to take due account of non-proliferation requirements.

We strongly call on the DPRK to reengage in talks with the aim of reaching a political agreement that will serve as a basis for further steps towards the Agency's return to the DPRK.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the IAEA General Conference decided that the IAEA should remain seized of the matter. The EU requests the Director General to keep the Board of Governors informed of this issue and to maintain this item on the agenda of its future meetings.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.