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DPRK Proposes Official Talks with U.S.

Pyongyang, June 16 (KCNA) -- The spokesman for the National Defence Commission (NDC) of the DPRK issued the following crucial statement on Sunday:

The present U.S. administration is now asserting that the development of the situation depends on the DPRK, urging the DPRK to show the will for denuclearization first and stop "provocation" and "threats" in order to defuse tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The U.S. is misleading the public opinion and deceiving the world, trying to give impression that the DPRK is to blame for the tensions that have so far mounted on the peninsula.

The present south Korean authorities that have been accustomed to sycophancy and submission and the forces following the U.S. are dancing to its tune.

In this regard the NDC of the DPRK clarifies the following crucial stand upon authorization:

1. We state to the world once again that it is none other than the U.S. which has steadily strained the situation on the Korean Peninsula century after century and decade after decade.

It was the U.S. which provoked the war of aggression on the Korean Peninsula in the 1950s and it is again the U.S. which has systematically scrapped the Korean Armistice Agreement for the past six decades after the end of the war.

Entering into the first decade of the new century, the U.S. has persistently tried to ignite a war against the DPRK again.

From December last year, the U.S. has pulled up the DPRK, describing its legitimate and just satellite launch as a long-range missile launch and its military measures for self-defence to cope with the U.S. open aggression moves as sort of "provocation". This fully discloses its nature as the worst provoker and aggressor.

The gangster-like resolution on "sanctions" which the U.S. masterminded and all

the hostile acts that have been intensified following the adoption of the resolution were an intolerable and serious provocation against the army and people of the DPRK.

There is a limit to patience. The U.S. should no longer cling to acts of misleading the public opinion and deceiving the world while vociferating about the non-existent "provocation" and "threats".

It will be a foolish calculation for the U.S. to think that its arbitrary practices reminding one of a thief crying "stop the thief" will work on the bright world today.

2. We state to the world once again that the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is an invariable will and resolve of the army and people of the DPRK.

The denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula was behests of President Kim Il Sung and General Secretary Kim Jong Il and a policy task which the party, state, army and people of the DPRK have to carry out without fail.

The denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula does not only mean "dismantling the nuclear weapons of the north". It is the complete one that calls for denuclearizing the whole peninsula including south Korea and aims at totally ending the U.S. nuclear threats to the DPRK.

As for the possession of nuclear weapons by the DPRK, it is the strategic option taken by the DPRK for self-defence to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula.

The legitimate status of the DPRK as a nuclear weapons state will go on and on without vacillation whether others recognize it or not until the whole Korean Peninsula is denuclearized and the nuclear threats from outside are put to a final end.

Therefore, the U.S. should stop nuclear threats and blackmail and all forms of provocations including "sanctions" against the DPRK, before urging it to show first its sincerity regarding the will for denuclearization to open the phase for dialogue.

3. We propose senior-level talks between the authorities of the DPRK and the U.S. to defuse tensions on the Korean Peninsula and ensure peace and security in the region.

If the U.S. has true intent on defusing tensions on the Korean Peninsula and ensuring peace and security in the U.S. mainland and the region, it should not raise precondition for dialogue and contact.

The talks can have broad and in-depth discussions on defusing military tensions, replacing the armistice system with peace mechanism and other issues of mutual concern including the building of a "world without nuclear weapons" proposed by the U.S.

The U.S. can set the venue and date of the talks to its convenience.

Consistent is the stand of the DPRK to defuse tensions on the Korean Peninsula and ensure peace and security of the region.

If the U.S. truly wants to realize a "world without nuclear weapons" and bring detente, it should positively respond to the DPRK's bold decision and good intention, not missing the opportunity.

All the future developments entirely depend on the responsible option of the U.S., which has strained the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

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