

Written Speech to the 3rd Panel on Peace and Security of Northeast Asia  
Workshop

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With the beginning of New Year 2018, a new light of dialogue and reconciliation has begun to permeate through the Korean peninsula and northeast Asia, pushing away the darkness of mistrust and confrontation of the past.

Thanks to the DPRK's peace-loving proposal and initiative measures, the north and the south could see a dramatic atmosphere of reconciliation.

In his New Year Address 2018, **Kim Jong Un**, Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK set forth policies for improving inter-Korean relations and for achieving national reunification, and took practical measures for their implementation.

Thanks to the measures, DPRK high-level delegations, sports teams, art and cheer groups participated in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Winter Olympic Games and completely brightened up the atmosphere and turned the Games into Peace Olympics.

Due to the political situation of 2017 which reached the worst level of mistrust and confrontation in the Korean peninsula, the Olympic Games ticket sales rate reached only 61% until end of the year and the success of the Olympic Games was very slim.

Chairman **Kim Jong Un** stated in his New Year Address that it is natural for the DPRK to share the pleasure over the auspicious event of compatriots and help them. And he expressed his will to take measures necessary for the success of the Games including dispatch of DPRK delegation. This totally changed the fate of the Games.

The emotional scenes, unfolded during the Winter Olympic Games, proved the fact that the north and the south are of one blood and deeply touched the heartstrings of the Korean nation and the world.

The atmosphere of dialogue and reconciliation became more amicable after Chairman **Kim Jong Un** met the delegation of the special envoy of President Moon Jae In and south Korean art troupe during their visit to Pyongyang.

The historic summit at Panmunjom between Chairman **Kim Jong Un** and President Moon Jae In marked a significant occasion which opened up a new era of national reconciliation and unity, peace and prosperity.

The scene of the top leaders of the north and the south freely crossing the Panmunjom demarcation line hands in hands was recorded as an outstanding and moving scene in the history of the nation.

Journalists who captured this historic scene on their cameras as well as audiences

watching TV cheered with high applause in tears of emotion.

Through the Panmunjom Declaration, the top leaders solemnly declared before the 80 million Koreans and the whole world that there would be no more war on the Korean peninsula and a new era of peace has come.

The adoption of Panmunjom Declaration marked a new milestone of great significance in reconnecting the severed blood vessel of the nation and in bringing earlier national co-prosperity and independent reunification.

After the historic summit, Chairman **Kim Jong Un** saw to it that Pyongyang time was reset so as to unify the standard times of the north and the south, as a first practical step for reconciliation and unity of the nation.

The two leaders of the north and the south met again at Panmunjom, a historic place, just after 29 days since the announcement of Panmunjom Declaration and had candid talks on important pending issues and reached a satisfactory agreement.

The 4<sup>th</sup> north-south summit was another historic event that opened up a new page in inter-Korean relations and gave new hope and vitality to the Korean nation.

These dramatic changes in the inter-Korean relations prove that as long as there is a will to respect each other and bring issues to a peaceful settlement, there is a way to find solutions together that would meet the interests of all parties.

Year 2018 also witnessed dramatic changes in DPRK's external relations.

DPRK-China summits took place for two times in a short period of over forty days, which served assignificant occasions in actively promoting the DPRK-China friendship, a strategic option of the two countries, as required by new era.

The DPRK-China summit meetings and talks would positively contribute to ensuring closer strategic cooperation between the two countries and securing durable peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and the region.

Chairman **Kim Jong Un** took proactive and positive measures with the desire and will to newly develop the present hostile and distrustful DPRK-US relations.

He met Pompeo, U.S. secretary of state during his visit to DPRK and exchanged views of both supreme leaderships on DPRK-U.S. summit and took important and broad-minded steps for peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and over the world.

It is the common desire and demand of humankind to live in a peaceful and stabilized world free from nuclear weapons.

The recent Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Worker's Party of Korea clarified once again the Party's peace-loving stand to make positive contributions to the building of the world free from nuclear weapons in conformity with the aspiration and desire common to mankind, since the DPRK's might has now been put on the level wanted by it and it has become possible to reliably guarantee the security of the state and the safety of the people.

Pursuant to the decision made at the plenary meeting, DPRK stopped all nuclear test and inter-continental ballistic rocket test-fire starting from April 21<sup>st</sup> and dismantled the northern nuclear test ground on May 24<sup>th</sup> to ensure transparency of discontinuance of nuclear test.

All told, it was thanks to Chairman **Kim Jong Un**'s bold decisions and will and energetic activities that the climate of dialogue and détente now prevails on the Korean peninsula and the northeast Asia.

However, some countries are misleading the public opinion, arguing as if the DPRK's good intentions and generosity are the result of so-called "sanctions and pressure".

Bolton, White House national security adviser, and other high-ranking officials from White House and the State Department are have let loose the assertions of so-called Libya mode of nuclear abandonment, "complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization", "total decommissioning of nuclear weapons, missiles, biochemical weapons" etc, while talking about formula of "abandoning nuclear weapons first, compensating afterwards".

This is not an expression of intention to address the issue through dialogue. It is essentially a manifestation of awfully sinister move to impose on our dignified state the destiny of Libya or Iraq which had collapsed for yielding the whole of their countries to big powers.

The U.S. and south Korea even openly carried out military exercises targetting their dialogue partner.

The U.S. and south Korea staged large-scale "2018 Max Thunder" joint air combat drills throughout south Korea from May 11<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> in a bid to make a preemptive air strike on the DPRK and gain the air supremacy.

The DPRK-targeted drill staged across south Korea is an undisguised challenge to the Panmunjom Declaration and a deliberate military provocation to the trend of the favorably developing situation on the Korean peninsula.

The north and the south agreed in the Panmunjom Declaration to make joint efforts to defuse the acute military tension on the Korean peninsula and substantially remove the danger of war.

But right after the agreement, they have staged the military exercise. How could this be interpreted?

The latest U.S.-south Korean military exercise puts many doubts on us.

The U.S. seemed much free and competent in unilaterally withdrawing from multilateral agreements it had adopted together with the international society including UN Security Council.

But does the U.S. not have the guts or will to cancel the plan when it comes to unilateral military drill which they argue were planned before ?

The U.S. also argues it is defensive drill. Then what makes them so threatened? Are they threatened by the DPRK's proposal for dialogue and reconciliation or do they feel other threats ?

The reckless remarks and dangerous military maneuvers of the U.S. and south Korea make us ponder over their true intention of whether they sincerely seek peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and the region.

DPRK has expressed its will for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and made it clear that U.S. withdrawal of hostile policy and nuclear threat is its precondition.

The U.S. and south Korea should stop all the maneuvers that go against the DPRK's good will and efforts to ensure durable peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and the region.

It is the invariable standpoint of the DPRK to promote inter-Korean relations and catalyze dialogue and cooperation with other countries, thus contributing to the peace and stability of the region.

Expressing my confidence that when we join our will and efforts together, we can make contributions to addressing today's challenges characterized by crisscross of wisdom and absurdity, trust and mistrust, light and darkness, I take this opportunity to call upon all participants in today's workshop to make active efforts to maintain the hard-won atmosphere of dialogue and détente with impartial viewpoints on the situation of the Korean peninsula.

Last but not the least, I would like to express sincere gratitude to the organizers of this workshop for having allowed me to present in written form my views on peace and security of the Korean peninsula and the northeast Asia.

Thank you.