STATEMENT

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Under Agenda Item 69, entitled “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights” Sub-item (b) and (c)
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Mr. Chairman,

Protection and promotion of human rights has an important impact on ensuring global peace and security and facilitating its development.

Today despite all the efforts by the international community, human rights violations are continuing in several countries and regions, giving rise to concern.

Under the pretext of “war on terror”, military invasion and occupation of sovereign states are leading to mass killing of innocent civilians.

Human rights abuses like racial discrimination, xenophobia, murder, rape, torture, violent crime, human trafficking, etc. have not yet been eradicated.

My delegation is of the view that due attention should be given to the following issues in view of further enhancing global efforts for protection and promotion of human rights.

*Firstly, the respect for national sovereignty and principle of non-interference into internal affairs should be strictly observed.*

Sovereignty is the life of a country and its nation. Therefore, with the absence of respect for sovereignty, protection and promotion of genuine human rights cannot be ensured.

Under the cloak of “war on terror”, western countries including the United States made invasion into sovereign states and are slaughtering civilians in outrageous violation of the principle of respect for sovereignty of states enshrined in the UN Charter. Such act should be strongly rejected.

At the same time, western countries foster social instability and disorder by interfering into internal affairs of other countries with different ideology and social system. They even instigate armed conflicts in these countries to overthrow their legitimate governments at any cost. This should never be tolerated as it is a violation of the principle of non-interference into other’s internal affairs and an act of hostility.
The prevailing reality gives us ever more serious lesson that once the national sovereignty is trampled down, it will inevitably allow violation of human rights of its people. In this respect, human rights are equal to sovereign rights.

Secondly, politicization, selectivity and double standards in international human rights arena should thoroughly be eliminated.

At present, in the international human rights field, dialogue and cooperation for the protection and promotion of genuine human rights has diminished while selectively naming individual countries with groundless accusations driven by political motivation is going unchallenged.

The United States and other western countries, behaving as if they are “human rights judges”, are targeting exceptionally those independent developing countries.

Western countries are imposing their own values upon developing countries for the mere reason that they are having different ideology and social system or they are offending. They are forcibly adopting “resolutions on human rights” against these countries. This is a typical example of politicization, selectivity and double standards in human rights motivated by political purposes.

Although western countries blame developing countries with so called “human rights record”, it is they who are the true and main culprit of human rights abuses such as racial discrimination, xenophobia, torture, maltreatment of indigenous people and immigrants, etc. that are causing serious global concern.

The reality shows clearly that western countries should above all improve their own poor domestic situation before blaming others’ “human rights record”.

Thirdly, human rights related crimes of the past should be settled by all means.

The outstanding past crime of human rights violation is a root cause for present and future human rights violations.

During its military occupation of Korea for over four decades in the last century, Japan committed extraordinary crimes against humanity such as forcible drafting and
abduction of 8.4 million Koreans, massacring over one million Koreans, and forcing 200,000 Korean women to sexual slaves for Japanese soldiers.

However, Japan has been persistently turning away from its obligation to liquidate its past human rights crimes till today.

Far from settling its past crimes against humanity, Japan is hell bent on refusing to admit its crimes, going as far as to praise its past history of aggression and massacre.

Japanese authorities can never evade its legal and moral obligation to settle its extraordinary past crimes against humanity which can never go unpunished in terms of international law.

We once again urge the Japanese authority to settle its past crimes against humanity.

Mr. Chairman,

Today under the wise leadership of respected Marshal Kim Jong Un, our government is in thorough application of human-centered Juche idea in all spheres and ensures that its policy and practice serve only for the continuous improvement of human rights of its people.

Despite constant political and economic pressure and military threat posed by hostile forces, our government has made its effort to protect human rights and promote welfare of the people without any interruption.

We will continue to make further efforts for economic development and improvement of people's living standard, thus ensuring human rights of our people and fulfill our obligations in the international human rights arena.

Thank you.