**Oasis International School Model United Nations**

**Security Council**

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**Guiding Package**

**Topic 1:** The Issue of Nuclear Non-Proliferation and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

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# I.Abstract :

Since the United States’ possession of the Atomic Bomb in 1945, the latter has been the biggest threat to world peace and security. Followed by the cold war where a numbers of states built, developed and maintained arsenals of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as the materials to produce them notably: North Korea, India, Pakistan, United Kingdom, France, China, etc. Knowing that Nuclear weapons are the most dangerous weapons that this world had witnessed till this day, reducing its production and controlling its proliferation is a must.

However, controlling and reducing its proliferation has not been successful notably concerning the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. North Korea started its Nuclear program in the 1950. North Korea, which was the birth of a worldwide threat unpredictable until this day. North Korea had the support of the Soviet Union as well as the People’s republic of China to develop this program.

In December 1985, North Korea signed the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. However, in 2003, North Korea announced its withdrawal from the NPT and began massive nuclear tests till this day. North Korea’s program has been developing rapidly, this has enabled the country to possess intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM). North Korea has threatened to strike the United States of America which has led to the escalation of tensions between both countries for the last decade in 2017.

# II. Introduction

The Korean peninsula has witnessed numerous conflicts all along the last 60 years. Since the end of the second world war, the issue began with a civil war from 1950 to 1953 that led to the division of the Korean peninsula into two countries: the Democratic people's republic of Korea in the north, a communist state, supported by the Soviet Union and China and the republic of Korea in south supported by the United States of America and western countries.

North Korea began its nuclear program but had faced many difficulties and regulations with the international community notably concerning the NPT. However, it withdrew from the NPT in 2003 and developed its nuclear program in order to possess their first nuclear bomb. In 2006, North Korea possessed the power to launch its first successful nuclear test, thus putting the world in constant threat of nuclear attacks. Till today North Korea has developed its nuclear program more and more and they now have the capacity to launch an ICBM with a miniaturized nuclear head.

# III.Definition of Key terms:

1. ***Nuclear weapons:*** are bombs or missiles that uses nuclear energy to cause an explosion. For example: the atomic bomb and the bomb H.
2. ***Nuclear non-proliferation:*** is the action to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology.
3. ***Weapons mass destruction (WMD):*** is a nuclear, radiological, chemical, biological or other weapons that can bring a significant damage to a large number of humans.
4. ***Intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM)***: is a guided ballistic missile with a minimum range of 5,500 kilometers (3,400 mi) primarily designed for nuclear weapons delivery (delivering one or more thermonuclear warheads).
5. ***Non-ratification:*** is Confirmation of an act or agreement that was signed by the confirming party itself. For example, a treaty is not enforceable until the ratification process is complete.
6. ***Radiological:*** is any weapon that is designed to spread and diffuse radioactive material with purpose to kill and cause disruption.

# IV. Background information:

The Issue of Nuclear Non-Proliferation and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is an issue that dates back to the 1950s, where the first initiatives of developing a nuclear program in north Korea took place.

In 1963, north Korea asked the Soviet Union for aid in developing nuclear weapons, but the Soviet Union refused. However, the Soviet Union agreed to help north Korea to develop a peaceful nuclear energy program, including the training of nuclear North Korean scientists. Later, when china possessed nuclear weapons and began its nuclear test, they also refused the request of North Korea to aid them in developing nuclear weapons. Soviet engineers took part in the construction of the Yongbyon Nuclear scientific research Center and began the construction of an IRT-2000 research reactor in 1963.

North Korea did not give up its ambitions of maintaining nuclear weapons. In 1980, North Korea began to operate facilities for uranium fabrication and conversion and conducted high explosive detonation tests. After that in 1985 North Korea ratified the NPT, but did not complete the required safeguards agreement with the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) until 1992.In 1993, the IAEA concluded that there was strong evidence that North Korea declaration was incomplete and demanded an investigation visit to the two Nuclear scientific research Center in Yongbyon. North Korea rejected this demand, consequently the IAEA reported its non-compliance the UN Security council.

In 2003, North Korea announced its withdrawal from the NPT. and in 2005 it admitted to possessing nuclear weapons. Since this day north Korea has been developing its nuclear weapons strongly. The following year witnessed the first successful nuclear test by North Korea conducted on January the 6th 2007 t After the first test by north Korea the UNSC imposed sanctions on the country and released the first resolution concerning this issue (resolution 1718).

In violation of UN security council resolutions, North Korea continued its nuclear tests. It has conducted seven nuclear test till today (2003,2006,2009,2013,2016 and 2017) each one followed by a UNSC resolution that condemns the test and that imposes sanctions on North Korea. These test threaten world peace and security. The United States have strongly condemned North Korea which has escalated the tensions between them. On the 10th of August 2017, North Korea threatened to strike Guam with a nuclear missile.

Since 2003, the” Six party talks” have been held between North Korea, South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and the United States, which has the goal of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula. However, these talks have been suspended since 2009, because North Korea proceeded with its announced satellite launch, despite international pressure not to do so. That escalated the tensions between North Korea, South Korea and the United States and led the US president Barack Obama and South Korea to pursue heavier sanctions against North Korea.

# V. Major Countries involved:

United States of America:

The United States of America has been one of the major countries opposing North Korea ever since the Korean War. They proposed to the UNSC several times to impose sanctions against north Korea due to its nuclear tests. Also, tensions have escalated between the two countries in the last few years and US president Donald Trump said “They will be met with fire and fury like the word has never seen” on August 8th 2017. The US claimed that they would impose new sanctions that would prevent North Korea from earning 1 billion $ each year.

People's republic of China:

China is the most important ally to North Korea, its biggest trading partner and main source of food and energy. These relations date back to the 1950s, during the Korean war where china supported north Korea militarily and economically against South Korea. China has maintained a neutral position during the different periods of the North Korean crisis. However, after the fifth nuclear test by North Korea the relationship has been complicated, but yet China policies have done little to deter its neighbor’s nuclear ambitions.

Russian federation:

Russia is also an important ally to North Korea and a great source of economic and military support. However, Russia is also seeking peace in the Korean peninsula. Since North Korea's April 2017 ballistic missile tests, Russia has declared that its strategy of maintaining favorable relations with both north and south Korea is more peacefully to resolve the DPRK crisis than the US aggressive statements against North Korea.

Japan:

Japan is one of the US’s main allies that is strongly against North Korea. Tensions has also escalated between Japan and north Korea in the last few years.in August 2017 Japan threatened North Korea with military strikes following North Korea’s threat to launch a nuclear missile on Guam.

Republic of Korea:

South Korea is also an ally to the US, and since the end of the second world war in 1945 they have strongly opposed North Korea. South Korea had been threatened by North Korea many times in the last decade and always urges the international community and its allies to respond with higher sanctions and protection.

# VI. Major organizations involved :

***International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):*** “is an independent intergovernmental, science and technology-based organization, in the United Nations family, that serves as the global focal point nuclear cooperation”*[[1]](#footnote-1)*. This organization assists its members states, in the context of economic and social goals in use of nuclear science and technology for several peaceful purpose, also developing nuclear safety standards. IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano reported on the establishment of a team focusing on North Korea's nuclear programs.

***United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA):*** is a UN organ that promotes the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, support the disarmament of other weapons of mass destruction such as: chemical and biological weapons. The UNODA provides organizational support in the area of disarmament and that through the work with the General Assembly and the disarmament commission. The UNODA also supports the development and implementation of practical disarmament measures after a conflict. The UNODA is focusing on not letting the conflict escalate to nuclear war.

***Stockholm international peace research institute (SIPRI):*** is an independent international organization in Sweden, dedicated to research into conflict, armament, arms control and disarmament. This organization is focusing on calculating the amount of plutonium that North Korea may have produced, as well as gaining information about North Korean weapon design and fabrication skills.

***International Small Arms and Ammunition Guidance Platform (ISAP):*** Is made to collect and organize implementation efforts based on the goal that has to be achieved on arms and weapons management in response to user’s information feed. The ISAP has provided reports that helps to support assumptions that North Korea is an important source of supply for small arms, ammunition and production equipment

# VII. UN involvement:

The United Nations involvement is mainly involved through imposing of sanctions in response to the country’s nuclear There is seven major sanctions resolutions , the first two were passed after the nuclear test that was conducted in 2006 and 2009 followed, the first resolution (1718 ) adopted by the UNSC was in October 14 2006 and the second resolution (1814) was in June 12 2009.The third resolution (2087) was adopted In January 22 2013 came after the launch of a North Korean satellite in December 2012. The fourth resolution (2094) was passed in March 7 2013, after North Korea's nuclear test in February 2013. The fifth resolution (2270) and the sixth resolution (2321) were adopted in 2016 after a nuclear test in February 2013 and the seventh resolution (2371) was in August 2017 following two intercontinental tests. Each resolution condemns North Korea's latest nuclear and ballistic missile and Urges North Korea to stop its Nuclear activities that violates UN security council resolutions.

# VIII. Possible solutions:

The United nations security council should seek to economic political, or military solutions that are efficient and guaranteed to bring resolution of the issue. One of the solutions is the imposement of economic sanctions, which consists of penalties, reducing exports and cut in certain products exportation.

# IX. Guiding questions:

1. Why is North Korea threatening other countries? How should these countries respond?
2. What are the main aspects of this conflict that should be addressed by the UNSC?
3. Who are the main allies of North Korea? And what are the actions taken by them?
4. What countries are opposing North Korea? And what are the actions taken by them?
5. What is your country's policy regarding this topic?
6. What might be the effective measures that should be taken to insure long term and sustainable solutions?
7. How can the countries collaborate together towards maintaining world peace and a world without nuclear weapons?

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# X. Useful links:

* PHILIPP Elizabeth, “UN Security Council Resolutions on North Korea”,(August 9, 2017), available at : <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/UN-Security-Council-Resolutions-on-North-Korea> ,consulted on the 25 august 2017
* Quartz, “Why China and Russia stand between the world and a North Korean missile attack”,(July 05, 2017) , available at : <https://qz.com/1021800/north-korea-missile-test-china-and-russia-stand-between-the-world-and-a-war/> , consulted on the 25 august 2017
* KEARNY, Seamus, « China and Russia strike joint position on North Korea», (4th of July 2017), available at: <http://www.euronews.com/2017/07/04/china-and-russia-strike-joint-position-on-north-korea>, consulted on the 3rd of September 2017

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* Council on foreign relations, “North Korea crisis”,(October 4, 2017), <https://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!/conflict/north-korea-crisis> consulted on the 5 August 2017
* BRACKEN, Paul, ”The Biggest North Korea Threat of Them All: A Hydrogen Bomb”,(July 5,2017), available at: <http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/the-biggest-north-korea-threat-them-all-hydrogen-bomb-21421> ,consulted on the 10 August 2017
* BBC news, “North Korea's nuclear program: How advanced is it?”,(10 August 2017),available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-11813699>, consulted on the 20 August 2017
* The nuclear threat initiative, “North Korea”,(September, 2017), available at: <http://www.nti.org/learn/countries/north-korea/> consulted on the 20 August 2017
* CNN ,“North Korea Nuclear Timeline Fast Facts”,(September 4, 2017), available at: <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/10/29/world/asia/north-korea-nuclear-timeline---fast-facts/index.html>, consulted on the 25 August 2017

1. *This definition is based on the IAEA mission statement* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)