

The DPRK announced late last night that it had conducted a nuclear test.

This act by the DPRK, combined with DPRK's buildup of ballistic missiles that may be capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, is a grave problem and raises extremely deep concern. This is a serious challenge to Japan's security, and is totally unacceptable. Japan firmly protests against the DPRK and categorically denounces its act. Japan is considering taking swiftly strict measures. The DPRK must be solely responsible for this situation.

The nuclear test by the DPRK poses a grave threat to the peace and security of not only Japan, but also of East Asia and the entire international community. This constitutes a serious challenge to the NPT regime, and violates not only Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration and the Joint Statement by the Six-Party Talks, but also UN Security Council resolution 1695 and the Presidential Statement of the Security Council dated October 7th this year.

The DPRK's nuclear test together with its ballistic missile buildup has significantly changed the regional security environment. We have entered a new and more dangerous nuclear age.

For this reason, Japan will address the issue in this First Committee as well as in the UN Security Council, together with the United States and the rest of the international community. As a member state of the UN, the DPRK is obligated to faithfully implement the UN Security Council resolution 1695. Japan once again strongly demands to fully implement the Joint Statement by the Six-Party Talks, in which the DPRK committed itself to abandoning all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and to returning, at an early date, to the NPT and IAEA safeguards.