Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Resolution adopted on 21 September 2012 during the ninth plenary meeting

The General Conference,

(a) Recalling previous reports by the Agency’s Director General regarding nuclear activities in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), as well as relevant resolutions of the Agency’s Board of Governors and General Conference,

(b) Recalling with deep concern the steps taken by the DPRK which led the Board of Governors to find that the DPRK was in non-compliance with its safeguards agreement and to report the DPRK’s non-compliance to the United Nations Security Council,

(c) Further recalling with grave concern the nuclear tests by the DPRK on 9 October 2006, and on 25 May 2009 in violation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1718 (2006),

(d) Conscious that a Korean Peninsula free of nuclear weapons would contribute positively to regional and global peace and security,

(e) Recognizing the importance of the Six-Party Talks, in particular all the commitments made by the Six Parties in the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement, and on 13 February and 3 October 2007, including the commitment to denuclearization,

(f) Noting with concern the DPRK’s recent announcement, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ memorandum to the United Nations Security Council on 31 August 2012, to totally re-examine its nuclear policy,

(g) Recalling the important role that the Agency has played in monitoring and verification activities at the Yongbyon nuclear facilities, including as agreed in the Six-Party Talks, contrary to the DPRK’s recent statement,

(h) Noting with deep concern the DPRK’s decision to cease all cooperation with the Agency, its demand on 14 April 2009 that Agency inspectors leave the DPRK and remove all Agency containment and surveillance equipment from its facilities, and the subsequent actions
announced by the DPRK, including the reactivation of all facilities at Yongbyon, reprocessing of spent fuel and weaponization of the extracted plutonium, and development of uranium enrichment technology,

(i) _Noting_ the report of the Director General (GC(56)/11) that the nuclear programme of the DPRK is a matter of serious concern, and that statements by the DPRK about uranium enrichment activities and the construction of a light water reactor in the DPRK continue to be deeply troubling, and _expressing concern_ regarding the DPRK’s claimed uranium enrichment programme and light water reactor construction,

(j) _Noting_ that the Agency unfortunately was not able to conduct monitoring and verification activities in the DPRK following the discontinuation of the DPRK’s invitation to the Agency, as noted in the Director General’s report,

(k) _Noting_ the Director General’s report that contrary to the requirements of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) and 1874 (2009), the DPRK has not abandoned its existing nuclear programme in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner or ceased all related activities, and

(l) _Having considered_ the Director General’s report contained in document GC(56)/11,

1. _Stresses_ its desire for a diplomatic resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue so as to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula;

2. _Supports_ the Six-Party Talks as an effective mechanism for dealing with the DPRK nuclear issue, _stresses_ the importance of the full implementation of the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement, and _underscores_ the need for continued efforts by all the parties concerned in this regard, with a view to a resumption of the Six-Party Talks at an appropriate time;

3. _Strongly urges_ the DPRK, in any nuclear policy review, to reaffirm its commitment to denuclearization and the 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks;

4. _Strongly urges_ the DPRK not to conduct any further nuclear test, to fully comply with all its obligations under United Nations Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), and other relevant resolutions, and to fulfill its commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks, including abandoning all its nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and immediately ceasing all related activities;

5. _Stresses_ the importance of all Member States fully implementing their obligations pursuant to United Nations Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) and 1874 (2009), including the DPRK’s non-proliferation obligations;

6. _Reaffirms_ that the DPRK cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon State in accordance with the NPT as stated in United Nations Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) and 1874 (2009), and the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT);

7. _Calls upon_ the DPRK to come into full compliance with the NPT and to cooperate promptly with the Agency in the full and effective implementation of Agency comprehensive safeguards, including all necessary safeguards activities provided for in the safeguards agreement, which the Agency has not been able to conduct since 1994, and to resolve any outstanding issues that may have arisen due to the long absence of Agency safeguards and the lack of Agency access since April 2009;

8. _Deplores_ the DPRK’s actions to cease all cooperation with the Agency, _strongly endorses_ actions taken by the Board of Governors, _commends_ the impartial efforts of the Director General and
the Secretariat to apply comprehensive safeguards in the DPRK, and encourages the Secretariat to maintain its readiness to play an essential role in verifying the DPRK’s nuclear programme, including the capability to re-establish implementation of safeguards-related activities in the DPRK;

9. Supports the international community’s peaceful efforts in all available and appropriate forums to address the challenge posed by the DPRK, and;

10. Decides to remain seized of the matter and to include the item “Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” in the agenda for its fifty-seventh (2013) regular session.