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THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

The attached text of the Statement by a Spokesman of the General Department of Atomic Energy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 24 March 1994 is being circulated to all Member States of the Agency at the request of the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

STATEMENT

BY A SPOKESMAN OF THE GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

24 March 1994, Pyongyang

At the recent meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the forces hostile to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea adopted an unreasonable "resolution" against it in defiance of the opposition of many countries and presented it to the United Nations Security Council.

This indicates that the IAEA Secretariat is further Internationalizing the DPRK's "nuclear issue" joining the hostile force in the efforts to stifle the DPRK, and is further widening its partiality, instead of rectifying it.

"The resolution" alleged that "the non-compliance with the safeguards agreement has grown in scope" because we did not allow some of the activities for the continuity of safeguards.

This is an assertion totally reversing black and white.

Now we are in a special status with the temporary suspension of the effectuation of the DPRK's declared withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

So, we are not under obligation to accept routine and ad hoc inspections under the safeguards agreement.

What we can allow at this moment is only an inspection for the maintenance of the continuity of safeguards.

The latest inspection by the team of inspectors of the IAEA was enough to fully confirm that nuclear materials had not been diverted at our nuclear facilities and definitely maintain the continuity of safeguards.

Therefore, no one can find fault with the results of the recent inspection, saying they are "not satisfactory", and charge the DPRK with "non-compliance with the safeguards agreement. "

We cannot but take a serious view of the fact that the "resolution" urged the DPRK to "immediately allow the IAEA to complete all requested inspection activities as the first step and to comply fully with the safeguards agreement."

During the recent inspection, we fully allowed all inspection activities needed for maintaining the continuity of safeguards in accordance with the Vienna agreement, and we have nothing more to "allow."

The Director General of the IAEA himself in this report and address at the meeting of the Board of Governors admitted that all inspection activities had been carried out satisfactorily as demanded by the IAEA Secretariat at most of the nuclear facilities.

As for the smear-taking in the glove box area at the Radiochemical Laboratory, with which the IAEA Secretariat takes an issue, it has nothing to do with the maintenance of the continuity of safeguards.

So, the insistence on smear-test in this area contradicts the Vienna agreement, which says that "this inspection does not include the verification of the completeness of the initial inventory of nuclear material. "

Moreover, the smear-taking at the area is a matter of relevance to "inconsistency", an outstanding issue between the two sides.

However, out of the spirit of co-operation, we proposed the method of taking samples of tracer liquid whereby to inspect more effectively the glove-box area.

The liquid is what the Secretariat of the IAEA had put into the three tanks in the glove-box area during their earlier inspection to freeze the outflow of nuclear material in the area.

Accordingly, solution samplings were enough to verify whether or not nuclear material had been diverted in the area.

The inspectors group itself agreed to our constructive proposal and took samples of tracer liquid there.

This notwithstanding, the IAEA Secretariat argued in a far-fetched manner that they could not "verify that no reprocessing activities had occurred at the Radiochemical Laboratory," simply because their request to make a few smear tests was not accepted.

This is unreasonable either from the scientific-technological point of view or in view of the Vienna agreement.

All the facts clearly prove that the purpose of the recent inspection by the IAEA Secretariat was not to verify whether nuclear materials had been diverted at our nuclear facilities, or not, but to pursue a sinister political aim from the beginning according to a pre-arranged script.

The IAEA Secretariat widened its partiality still further by adopting another unreasonable "resolution" at the meeting of the Board of Governors.

If the IAEA Secretariat really wants to see a fair solution to our "nuclear issue", it should take a measure to immediately withdraw its "resolution" based on the unjust assessment that the IAEA "could not draw any conclusion on whether nuclear materials had been diverted" at DPRK's nuclear facilities.