

DPR KOREA

'This is check Against Delivery'

Dear Madam ,

First of all, I would like to express my expectation that the sith United Nations Environment Assembly will round up with as resounding success under the able presidency of Ms. Leila Benali.

I would also like to express my thanks to Mrs. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UNEP and her secretariat and the government of Kenya for the efforts to ensure the success of the current Assembly.

Last year, we've all experienced the 'extreme hot summer' and the red0light lit climate change, biodiversity loss and environment pollution are imposing negative impacts not only on natural ecosystems but also on the health, well-being and socio-economic development of people.

In particular, the plastic waste discharges that continue to increase by the economic activities seriously threaten not only land but also marine ecosystems.

In this regard, I welcome the drafting of the international convention for the Fifth Assembly, and hope that this convention would be a legal framework to cope with the plastic pollution which is one of the planetary environmental issues.

Madam President,

Protecting the natural ecosystems, which is the cradle of life, reducing the dire consequences of climate change and preventing global environment pollution are parts of the most important tasks facing mankind at present.

However, the Japanese authorities have systematically discharged over one million tons of nuclear pollutants from the Fukushima Nuclear power plant to the Pacific ocean since last summer and this behaviour is no other than an unethical act which goes against the positive will of the international community to protect the environment. The Japanese authorities acts are driving the neighbouring countries and marine ecosystems to a catastrophe, besides jeopardizing the security and well-being of its own people. This is an intolerable mockery of human society and an unpardonable crime.

In this regard, the UNEP, in conformity with its own mission and responsibility for the environment protection of the earth , should strongly urge the Japanese authorities to stop gambling over the future destiny of mankind with their nuclear discharge.

Next, I think that the UNEP should pay primary attention to the adaptation to climate change and environmental protection in developing countries.

At present, climate change has serious impacts on different parts of the world, and it is an undeniable fact that developing countries, including small island countries(SIDS) suffer the greatest damage.

The UNEP should pay attention to climate change adaptation, environmental protection technology transfer, and capacity building in developing countries in order to bring about true environmental justice.

Madam President,

Under the wise leadership of the comrade Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the DPR Korea, the government has made a lot of successes in the field of protecting and improving ecosystems.

The recent major state meetings set forth detailed tasks for regularly analyzing and improving the change of ecological environment, including the quality of water and air,

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and vigorously pushing ahead with the preventive work to cope with the disaster crisis at all levels.

The socialist patriotic forest movement for turning all mountains of the country into golden mountains and treasure mountains is being launched vigorously and nearly over 1167 billion trees have been planted even during the global pandemic period from 2020 to 2022.

The state is further improving perfecting legal means such as updating environmental protection standards, amending laws and regulations such as Law on handling of wastes and the Law on conservation of useful animals in order to restrict the generation of wastes and its safe management, and conserve and improve the natural ecosystems.

The government is accelerating mapping out demium and long-term green growth plans reflecting the long term objectives and ways of transferring the national economy to the green economy in the near future and making full materials and technical preparations for its implementation.

We are also working out a flood control plan for taking measures to minimize the risk of flood damage by carrying out a project for erosion control and river improvement.

Madam President,

The work of environment protection is not only for our generation but also for the future and this is our due responsibility for the future.

The DPR Korea government, as a member state of the UN, will fulfill its responsibilities and role in the future too for global environment protection and further expand and develop regional and international cooperation in this regard.

Thank you.