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Statement

by the Head of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
to the Sixty-ninth Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
of the United Nations

Mr. Chairman,

Ms. Executive Secretary,

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I would like to congratulate you on your election into the chairmanship of this session. I am convinced that your able leadership will lead this session to a success.

My appreciation also goes to Ms. Executive Secretary and the Secretariat of the ESCAP for their efforts to make this session successful.

Mr. Chairman,

The current session provides a significant occasion in formulating the common denominators of views and positions of the regional countries concerning the directions of development after 2015 making the end of the timeframe for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The session is all the more important in the sense that it is enabling the member states to discuss with open minds and come up with consensus agreement on various policy issues to address the challenges such as natural disasters and economic crises, that are having negative impacts on the efforts of regional countries for sustainable development.

Having said this, my delegation wishes to highlight the following views with regard to the above-mentioned issues.

Firstly, there is a need for each and every country to set up an early warning and monitoring system, draw up an integrated plan of response and take relevant measures including resilience building, so as to be active- positioned for natural disasters and major economic crises.

In parallel with this, practical measures should be taken for enhancing cooperation and exchanges in this field among member states in the region.

Natural disasters and economic crises of the present days have no boundaries and therefore, are difficult to be properly counteracted by a country alone.

Asia and the Pacific region has great potentialities and comparative advantages for intensifying cooperation and exchanges such as huge population and natural resources, a long history of development and rich experiences .

A series of measures to fully utilize them, if taken one after another, will substantially improve the resilience of the region to natural disasters and economic crises.

In this regard, it is essential for the ESCAP to be a center and steadily enhance its coordinating role.

The ESCAP should make further efforts for improving the research institutions such as the Poverty Alleviation Centre, Technology Transfer Centre and Farm Machines Centre in the Asia and the Pacific, and continue taking more practical measures for pushing ahead with the projects of south-south cooperation,

These efforts need to be further activated by invigorating environmentally friendly technical cooperation in the fields of the building of economic infrastructure, low carbon technology development and renewable energy development that are now underway in various regional countries.

Secondly, there is also a need to ensure that the post 2015 development goal and direction reflect fully the aspirations and demand of each and every country.

The socio-economic development level is different from country to country and so is the environment and conditions for development.

In particular, the prime responsibility for development lies on each country and the development work itself is also undertaken with each national state as a unit, which is why the successful implementation is possible only when adopting the goal and direction of development to be reflective of aspirations and demands of different countries.

Thirdly, due attention should be paid to creating environment favorable for sustainable development.

All kind of unjust and discriminative economic, financial and trade measures, which are incompatible with sustainable development, should no longer be tolerated and coercive acts

disrupting the regional situation such as the use of power and the threat of its use, and sanctions, brought to an end.

Mr. Chairman,

Today, dynamic endeavors are being made for the building of an economically powerful country in the DPRK under the wise leadership of the respected Marshal KIM JONG UN.

It is the firm will of the respected Marshal KIM JONG UN to enable our people, who overcame all difficulties and ordeals, to fully enjoy a happy life in the thriving powerful socialist state.

Recently, the Government of our Republic set forth a line of consolidating the country's defense capability with war deterrent as its backbone and simultaneously giving impetus to the economic development under the circumstances of ever intensifying nuclear war threat of the super power against the country.

Having already put in place the strategy for economic development, and sectorial and phased goals, suitable for specific conditions in the country, the Government is making all efforts for their full implementation while endeavoring to finalize the economic management method of our style.

Several measures have been taken to develop tourist zones in various areas, designate economic development zones as well in every province and develop them to be distinctive from one another.

Such efforts are conformity with the trend for inclusive sustainable development in the region and the rest of the world, conducive to creating environment favorable for regional cooperation.

The Government of the DPRK will continue joining actively the regional countries in their efforts for common prosperity and well-being of the region and develop multi-sided cooperation and exchanges.