Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: Addressing the North Korea's nuclear challenge

Statement open to all States Parties to the NPT

We, States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), stress that the nuclear tests, including the latest on September 3rd 2017 and the launches using ballistic missile technology, in particular of intercontinental range, conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), are in clear violation of multiple unanimously agreed United Nations Security Council Resolutions, and reiterate the international community's strong condemnation of these actions as expressed in the relevant Security Council Resolutions.

The DPRK's nuclear weapon and ballistic missile programmes and the extent of the progress achieved by the regime pose a grave and increasing threat to regional and international peace and security.

The pursuit by the DPRK of military nuclear and ballistic missile programmes also constitutes a grave threat to the international non-proliferation regime, of which the NPT remains the cornerstone. We remain determined to preserve the non-proliferation regime and to strengthen the NPT.

We acknowledge the DPRK's recent statement announcing the suspension of nuclear tests and ballistic missile launches, and the closing of its nuclear test site as a first step towards complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We welcome the inter-Korean Summit held on April 27th 2018 and the "Panmunjeom Declaration". We emphasize the importance of the DPRK taking concrete actions and express our hopes for progress at the scheduled U.S.-DPRK Summit and through ensuing efforts by all relevant parties.

We continue to urge the DPRK to return to the NPT and IAEA Safeguards at an early date, and abandon its nuclear weapon and ballistic missile programmes in a complete, verifiable, and

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irreversible manner.

To this end, we reaffirm that we will faithfully and scrupulously implement and enforce the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and will further strengthen international cooperation./.